

England Tree Strategy

DEFRA Consultation Draft

Draft England Tree Strategy

- Currently out for consultation until **11 September 2020**
- Comments will inform the Government's final Strategy - to be published in late 2020
- Questions ask what the barriers are to increasing tree planting – practical, financial and regulatory
- Strategy is based around four 'pillars':
 - Protecting the trees we have
 - Expanding tree cover
 - Engaging people
 - Supporting the economy

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Expanding and Connecting trees and woodland	Protecting and Improving our trees and woodland	Engaging people with trees and woodland	Supporting the economy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing more trees and woodlands and ensuring they are resilient to our future climate, pests and diseases• Addressing barriers to woodland creation• Creating space for nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protecting our trees and woodlands• Managing woods to recover biodiversity and increase resilience• Developing our domestic nursery capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing access to trees in and around towns and cities• Education and engagement with woodlands• Enabling investment in and protection of green infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversifying rural economies• Enabling agro and energy forestry• Supporting our timber industry• Increasing forestry skills

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Problems identified:

- Biosecurity and capacity of nursery sector
- Climate change
- Damage by pests and spread of disease
- Street trees - maintenance and impacts of infrastructure/services
- Lack of skills in forestry sector
- Unlicensed felling and outdated legislation
- Lack of a market for forestry products
- Lack of incentives for tenant farmers

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Ideas and potential solutions put forward:

- Nature for Climate Fund and Environmental Land Management Scheme
- Partnerships on a landscape-scale – Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)
- Possible requirement for Woodland and Tree Strategies
- Planting on existing public land, e.g. schools and hospitals
- Expand public estate – buy more public land for tree planting
- Making use of derelict land / landfill sites

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Ideas and potential solutions put forward:

- Legislative reform and review of Tree Preservation Orders
- Requirement for net biodiversity gain in new developments
- Stimulating the market for timber frame construction, agroforestry and biomass fuels
- Developing skills through apprenticeships

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- Responses to technical points being sought from council's Grounds Maintenance specialists and Tree specialist
- Does the Working Group consider that a formal council response is needed?
- What points need to be set out in the response?

Questions?