

**TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER(S) DECISION- 03-2021**

**LEADER:** Cllr Alan Connett

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER(S):** Cllr Jackie Hook  
Cllr Andrew MacGregor

**PART A – FOR OFFICER COMPLETION**

**SUBJECT:** Tree Strategy (2021-2026) for Teignbridge

**DATE:** 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**REQUEST OF:** Lorraine Montgomery

**REQUEST TO:** Cllr Jackie Hook (EXECUTIVE MEMBER for Climate Change Coastal Protection and Flooding) and Andrew MacGregor (Executive Member for Sport Recreation and Culture)

**PART I**

**PROGRESS BOX**

Stage number	Stage description	<b>Progress</b> - requesting officer to mark with <b>completed</b> or <b>current</b> if “live” stage	Date
1	First draft	Completed	24.04.21
2	BL/BM consultation	completed	24.04.21
3	Discussion with EM	completed	24.04.21
4	Initial local members / Chair(S) O&S comments	completed	08/06/21
5	MO/151 consulted	Completed	20.05.21
6	Check – any objections from stages 4 & 5		08/06/21
7	EM approved for consultation?		08/06/21
		Democratic Services to complete subsequent stages	
8	All Councillors consulted	completed	08/06/21
9	Call in completed	Completed	16/06/21
10	Originating Officer advised	Completed	16/06/21
11	Filed and placed on web	Completed	16/06/21
12	Signed copy filed		

## TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### 1. PROPOSED DECISION

The consent of Cllr Jackie Hook and Cllr Andrew MacGregor is sought to authorise the approval of a Tree Strategy (see Appendix 1) for the council and permission to place the strategy on the Council Website to invite comment. I do not consider this a key decision and suggest you consult the chair/ vice chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

### 2. BACKGROUND

In April 2019 Teignbridge District Council (TDC) declared a 'climate emergency' and in September 2020 the Council brought forward a further motion on a Climate and Ecological Emergency. One of the actions pledged was to complete a Tree Strategy for Teignbridge.

This strategy sets out how the Council will work with its partners to drive community action to increase tree canopy cover and quality in Teignbridge, focus on *'the right tree in the right place'*, promote best practice in terms of tree management and increase local engagement and interest in trees in their area.

The aims of the Councils tree strategy are to provide a framework for the management of the Councils tree asset by:

1. Increasing the tree cover on Council owned land to help exceed the 19% canopy cover target recommended by the Woodland Trust and increase the current Teignbridge tree cover from 22% to 25%.
2. Promoting the improvement and increase in tree cover within the District by providing advice to Town and Parish Councils along with other landowners.
3. Maintaining a diverse tree stock by improving age and species diversity to reduce impacts from climate change and potential disease outbreaks.
4. Maximising the wildlife and habitat benefit provided by the Councils tree stock.
5. Updating the strategy for managing the risks posed by Council owned trees including inspection types and frequency.
6. Undertake management works of the council's trees in accordance with current best practice and to minimise long-term costs.
7. Promoting good management of privately owned trees.

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### 3. MAIN IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant additional resource implications. Officers will endeavor to deliver the aims set out in the strategy within existing Council budget and resources. An approved strategy will aid any bids for additional funding to external funding streams should they become available.

### 4. GROUPS / INDIVIDUALS CONSULTED

- Executive Member for Climate change, Coastal Protection and Flooding
- Executive Member for Sport Recreation and Culture
- Planning Officers
- Greenspaces Team
- Action for Climate in Teignbridge
- Woodland Trust

### 5. TIME-SCALE

Approval requested as soon as practicable. The Tree strategy will then be placed on the Council website and comment invited for a period of 4 weeks. A further Executive Member decision will then be prepared to propose the adoption of the strategy.

### 6. JUSTIFICATION

The publication of a Tree Strategy will reinforce the Council's commitment to climate change and the ecological emergency. It will be an information document for Town and Parish Councils and community groups contributing to the agenda in the District.

**Lorraine Montgomery**  
**Head of Operations**

<b>Wards affected</b>	All
<b>Contact for more information</b>	lorraine.montgomery@teignbridge.gov.uk
<b>Background Papers (For Part I reports only)</b>	
<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>In Forward Plan</b>	No
<b>In O&amp;S Work Programme</b>	No

## **PART B (TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES)**

**Decision No.....**

**Date of Implementation ..... Subject to call in**

## **PART C FOR MEMBER COMPLETION**

**DECISION:** I confirm the decision as set out in paragraph 1 above

**REASONS FOR DECISION:** I agree with the justification set out in paragraph 6 above.

I have no conflict of interest in making this decision having considered the provisions of the Teignbridge Code of Conduct.

Signed..... Dated: .....

**Cllr ..**  
**(EXECUTIVE MEMBER for ..)**

**Appendix 1- Tree Strategy 2021-2026 - The right tree in the right place**

**TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**