



**Sheffield Street Tree
Partnership**

Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Working Strategy

Consultation Feedback – You Said, We Did

March 2021

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is a summary of how the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership (SSTP) dealt with feedback from the consultation on the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Working Strategy¹ that ran for 12 weeks from Thursday 16th July until Thursday 8th October 2020.
- 1.2 The Working Strategy was approved by the representative organisations on the Sheffield Street Tree Strategy Development Group in March 2020. A designed version of the Working Strategy was finalised by the group and published in July 2020 to coincide with the launch of the consultation.
- 1.3 The Street Tree Strategy Development Group would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who responded to the consultation and for taking the time to provide their views, ideas, and suggestions.

This supplementary document refers to the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Working Strategy Consultation Feedback Report published in January 2021 (the ‘Consultation Feedback Report’).

For more detail about the specific comments made by individuals and organisations, the Consultation Feedback Report is available here:

<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s43127/STWS%20Consultation%20Feedback%20Report%20070121.pdf>

¹ <https://www.wildsheffield.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/FINAL-Sheffield-Street-Tree-Partnership-Working-Strategy-July-2020.pdf>

2 HOW THE SSTP PROCESSED COMMENTS ON THE WORKING STRATEGY

- 2.1 A qualitative analysis of the responses received through the open consultation was carried out. Responses were grouped together where the content related to a similar issue or a common theme. Specific comments relating to minor edits, corrections or additional references were also reviewed but shall not be highlighted within this document.
- 2.2 Suggestions provided through the consultation were reviewed and processed by the SSTP against **five criteria**:
1. Falls within the scope of the strategy – *Accepted*
 2. Falls within the scope of the strategy – *Not accepted*
 3. Does not fall within the scope of the strategy – *Not included, dealt with by SSTP*
 4. Does not fall within the scope of the strategy – *Not included, dealt with outside the SSTP*
 5. *Already included*
- 2.3 This section sets out how the SSTP processed comments on the Working Strategy by:
- ◆ Addressing comments on:
 - The vision (section 6 of the Consultation Feedback Report)
 - The outcomes to promote and enhance Sheffield’s street trees and their long-term benefits (section 7 of the Consultation Feedback Report)
 - The actions to deliver the outcomes (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report)
 - ◆ Deciding on a response to the comment against the criteria set out in 2.2 above
 - ◆ Recording a reason for the decision taken.
- 2.4 In this report, extracts from the Consultation Feedback Report are included for reference (*boxed*).
- 2.5 Table 1 sets out the SSTP response to comments received on the vision (section 6 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

<p>6 VISION</p> <p>6.1 The vision as set out in the Working Strategy is:</p> <p>‘We want to see a network of street trees that Sheffield can be proud of: well-maintained and cared for; resistant to the threats of disease and climate change; and delivering many benefits for people and our environment. These benefits include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Supporting our wildlife B. Enhancing our city C. Cleaning the air that we breathe D. Improving our health and wellbeing E. Helping to reduce our carbon emissions F. Helping combat the effects of climate change such as flash floods and rising temperatures.’ <p>6.2 Question 5 of the consultation asked:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are there other benefits provided by street trees that could be included in the vision?</p>
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Table 1 – Feedback on the vision

Comment	Ref.²	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Respondents questioned the order of the benefits listed in the strategy vision. It was suggested that benefits such as improving our health and wellbeing and combatting the effects of climate change should be listed first.	6.3	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to reorder the vision benefits, bringing health and wellbeing, and climate related points up the list (see 2.6 below).

² This column provides a reference for the relevant section in the Consultation Feedback Report.

<p>Street trees can create wildlife corridors within the urban realm.</p>	<p>6.4 A</p>	<p>2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i></p>	<p>This point was acknowledged, and the Partnership shares the ambition to create wildlife corridors, but it was agreed that it did not constitute a separate <i>benefit</i> in this vision section.</p> <p>The opportunity to create wildlife corridors is being considered by the Council’s Parks & Countryside Team, who are working to identify areas for planting which might join up and extend woodland habitats.</p> <p>Nature highways and byways were recognised in section ‘11.1 – Other Issues’ of the Consultation Feedback Report, which identified areas for internal and external engagement.</p> <p>The issue of protecting and supporting biodiversity came out strongly through the consultation. The Partnership agreed to add an action under Outcome 5, “<i>explore ways to enhance biodiversity and bio-abundance across our street trees</i>”.</p>
<p>Street trees can contribute to improving a city’s status as a ‘green city’ and that trees do and could further enhance Sheffield’s reputation.</p>	<p>6.4 B</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>It was agreed that the vision benefit “<i>enhancing our city</i>” be expanded to reflect these points, see 2.6 below.</p>
<p>Street trees can bring benefits by generating economic value, opportunity, and attracting investment.</p>	<p>6.4 B</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>It was agreed that the vision benefit “<i>enhancing our city</i>” be expanded to reflect these points, see 2.6 below.</p>
<p>Street trees bring benefits to physical and mental health and wellbeing, by providing a connection to the natural environment for people on their doorsteps.</p>	<p>6.4 D</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>It was agreed that the benefit “<i>improving our health and wellbeing</i>” be expanded to explicitly list physical and mental health, see 2.6 below.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the benefit “<i>providing a connection for people to the natural environment on their doorsteps</i>” would be added, in addition to the already listed benefit “<i>improving our health and wellbeing</i>”.</p>
<p>Planting street trees would “offset” rather than “reduce” Sheffield’s carbon emissions.</p>	<p>6.4 E</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>This correction was accepted by the Partnership.</p>

There are environmental benefits street trees can bring by providing shade and shelter, calming traffic, and reducing verge and pavement parking.	6.4 F	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	It was agreed that greater emphasis could be put on these benefits. A new benefit would be added to the vision section, see 2.6 below.
Street trees can protect people from high winds.	6.4 F	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	It was agreed that this did not warrant a separate benefit and that the “ <i>environmental benefits</i> ” listed in the new point added in the row above included this point within.
Street trees have cultural value and provide several benefits in terms of enhancing the local community, fostering a sense of belonging and being part of the heritage and history of an area.	6.5	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	It was agreed that this was missing from the original list. A benefit would be subsequently added to the vision section, see 2.6 below.
Street trees improve the aesthetics of a place.	6.5	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	It was agreed that this was missing from the original list. A benefit would be subsequently added to the vision section, see 2.6 below.
Street trees provide a source of food for local people.	6.5	4 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with outside SSTP</i>	It was agreed that this point did not fit into the scope of the strategy for street trees on the highway network, but rather was relevant to trees within parks or green spaces. As such, this point falls within the scope of the Council’s Parks & Countryside Team, who are aware of the issue.
The issue of protecting biodiversity came out strongly throughout the consultation feedback received. As such the Partnership considered how this might be reflected within the existing vision statement.	7.3	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	It was agreed that the benefit “ <i>supporting our wildlife</i> ” be expanded to include “ <i>supporting and protecting the city’s biodiversity and wildlife</i> ”.

2.6. Based on the feedback received from the consultation, the list of benefits of street trees as set out in the vision has been revised in the final strategy to read: [**new additions in bold**]:

- A. **Enhancing Sheffield’s ‘green city’ reputation and contributing to a sense of place**
- B. Improving our **physical and mental** health and wellbeing (re-phrased)
- C. Cleaning the air that we breathe
- D. Contributing to **offsetting** our carbon emissions (re-phrased)
- E. Helping combat the effects of climate change such as flash floods and rising temperatures.’
- F. **Providing a connection for people to the natural environment on their doorsteps**

- G. Bringing communities together, fostering a sense of belonging, and being part of the heritage and history of an area**
- H. Making the city more attractive to encourage students, visitors, and businesses to come to Sheffield and help boost the local economy**
- I. Supporting and protecting the city’s biodiversity and wildlife (re-phrased)
- J. Providing local environmental benefits like shade, natural traffic calming and reducing verge and pavement parking**

2.7. Table 2 sets out the SSTP response to comments received on the outcomes (section 7 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

<p>7 OUTCOMES</p> <p>7.1 In support of the Sheffield City Council Trees and Woodland Strategy 2018-33, six outcomes are proposed in the Working Strategy that are intended to promote and enhance Sheffield’s street trees and their long-term benefits for the public, wildlife, and the wider environment. The six outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 1 – Our street trees are sustainably and carefully managed in accordance with best practice <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 2 – Our street trees are more resilient through the type and age of trees we plant and how we manage the current street tree stock <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 3 – Increase the value and benefits that flow from our street trees <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 4 – Contribute to a more equal distribution of urban forest across the city to promote health and wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 5 – Increase street tree canopy cover <input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 6 – The wider community is involved in caring for and valuing street trees <p>7.2 Question 6 of the consultation asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Are there other outcomes that you feel are particularly important to achieving the vision?
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Table 2 – Feedback on the other outcomes proposed

Comment	Ref.	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Improve understanding and public awareness across all ages of the value of trees through education.	7.3	1 – Within scope, Accepted	It was agreed that this was missing from the original list of outcomes. However, the Partnership felt that it would be best added to complement the existing Outcome 6 text, rather than warranting a separate outcome. It felt that education would be

			<p>integral to all wider community engagement within the city.</p> <p>The Partnership subsequently agreed to change the Outcome 6 text to reflect this change, placing emphasis on the wider community “<i>of all ages</i>”, see 2.8 below.</p>
Support and protect biodiversity and wildlife	7.3	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	<p>This was not accepted as a separate outcome, but the Partnership agreed to bring this out more clearly throughout the strategy itself, through the following edits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the vision statement, by expanding “<i>supporting our wildlife</i>” to “<i>supporting and protecting the city’s biodiversity and wildlife</i>”. - Additional actions were added, for more details, see Table 3 under 2.9 below.
Value and preserve mature trees	7.3	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	<p>This was not accepted as a separate outcome, as it is already addressed broadly under Outcome 1 “<i>Our street trees are sustainably and carefully managed in accordance with best practice.</i>”</p> <p>The Partnership agreed with the point made, recognising that there is not only a need to manage - but also to maintain existing tree stock to the highest standard possible.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to reflect this through the following edit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outcome 1 text to be expanded to state “<i>our street trees are sustainably managed <u>and maintained</u> in accordance with best practice</i>”

2.8. Based on the feedback received from the consultation, the list of outcomes has been revised in the final strategy to read: [**new additions in bold**]

- Outcome 1** – Our street trees are sustainably and carefully managed **and maintained** in accordance with best practice
- Outcome 2** – Our street trees are more resilient through the type and age of trees we plant and how we manage the current street tree stock

- Outcome 3** – Increase the value and benefits that flow from our street trees
- Outcome 4** – Contribute to a more equal distribution of urban forest across the city ~~to promote health and wellbeing~~ *
- Outcome 5** – Increase street tree canopy cover
- Outcome 6** – The wider community **of all ages** is involved in caring for and valuing street trees

*The Partnership chose to remove “to promote health and wellbeing” from Outcome 4’s text, not to diminish this aspiration which is already enhanced within the vision section and remains addressed within the actions under this outcome, but because it recognised that promoting health and wellbeing would be addressed in a number of different ways not exclusively through Outcome 4 alone.

2.9. Suggested new actions proposed were considered for inclusion in the final strategy. Table 3 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

8	ACTIONS
8.1	Question 7 of the consultation asked:
	<input type="checkbox"/> If you have suggested any new outcomes in response to question 6, what actions would you propose to help deliver that outcome?

Table 3 – Feedback on new outcome actions suggested

Comment	Ref.	Decision criteria <i>(as set out in 2.2 of this report)</i>	Decision taken by SSTP
<i>Suggested outcome:</i> Improve understanding and public awareness across all ages of the value of trees			
Since this outcome was combined with the existing Outcome 6, please see 2.15 for more details on how actions and ideas put forward around education and wider community engagement were processed.	8.2	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The various actions and ideas put forward under 2.15 shall be considered through the development and delivery of a new action added to Outcome 6, “ <i>develop an engagement and outreach programme to encourage children, young people, families, and adults to learn about and value their local trees</i> ”.

<p><i>Suggested outcome:</i> Support and protect biodiversity and wildlife</p>			
<p>More clearly recognise the ecological/habitat importance of tree species and factor into the selection process</p>	8.2	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	<p>The Partnership agreed to add “<i>Wildlife friendly</i>” to the list of criteria for which remaining species would be ranked through the species selection process.</p> <p>Going beyond this, the Partnership agreed to an additional commitment to “<i>explore ways to enhance biodiversity and bio-abundance across our street trees</i>”. This will be added to the list of actions under Outcome 5.</p>
<p>Leave deadwood for its biodiversity value where it is safe to do so</p>	8.2	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	<p>The Partnership agreed to revise Appendix 5, to include “<i>in some low risk or rural areas, stems of dead trees may be retained at a suitable height for their wildlife habitat value.</i>”</p>
<p>Train Street Tree Wardens to identify and monitor biodiversity on street trees</p>	8.2	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	<p>The Partnership agreed to add an action under Outcome 3: “<i>Training Street Tree Wardens to monitor biodiversity supported by street trees</i>”</p>
<p>Erect bat and bird boxes on a number of street trees and train Street Tree Wardens to monitor them</p>	8.2	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	<p>The erection of bat boxes to street trees significantly complicates the ability to conduct maintenance works to trees on the network due to the additional inspections and licences required to proceed. It was agreed that this suggestion would reduce Amey’s ability to sustainably and carefully manage and maintain street trees – a central pillar of the Strategy – and was therefore not accepted.</p>

<p>Look at street lighting glare directly into the higher parts of street trees, and identify any sites where lights need to be adjusted to benefit bats</p>	<p>8.2</p>	<p>4 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with outside SSTP</i></p>	<p>Street lighting is designed to provide an appropriate lighting class. Pruning works are carried out to ensure this level of lighting class service is maintained. Amey is already instructed not to plant within 5m of an existing streetlight to give the tree the best chance of survival and to prevent the street tree from reducing the lighting class provided. The Partnership did not agree to any additional actions beyond these existing arrangements.</p>
<p>Consider biodiversity and ecology, both of trees and the other fauna and flora that live and grow alongside them. Identify a measure for biodiversity and include amongst the measures</p>	<p>8.2</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed to commit to “<i>explore ways to monitor biodiversity across our street trees</i>”. This will be added to the list of actions under Outcome 5.</p>
<p><i>Suggested outcome:</i> Value and preserve mature trees</p>			
<p>No additional actions suggested</p>			<p>The Partnership recognised that there is not only a need to manage - but also to maintain existing tree stock to the highest standard possible.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to reflect this through the following edit:</p> <p>- Outcome 1 text to be expanded to state “<i>our street trees are sustainably managed <u>and maintained</u> in accordance with best practice</i>”</p>

8.3 Question 8 of the consultation asked:

- **Are there other actions that could be included under the six outcomes proposed in the Working Strategy?**

2.10. Table 4 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions to deliver Outcome 1 of the Working Strategy (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

Outcome 1
Our street trees are sustainably and carefully managed and maintained in accordance with best practice

Table 4 – Feedback on suggested actions to deliver Outcome 1

Comment – Additional Actions	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
The UK Forestry Standard should be considered in relation to the Strategy	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	<p>The UK Forestry Standard and the Forestry Act 1967 form the basis for legal and sustainable forestry management.</p> <p>The national forest certification standard for the UK is the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS). This was designed to ensure that it reflects the requirements of the Government’s UK Forestry Standard.</p> <p>The Partnership, alongside other stakeholders, is collaborating with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, to produce a new pioneering certification standard for “<i>Trees Outside Forests</i>” (a draft is at time of writing (Feb 2021) open for consultation).</p> <p>This will create a new standard for certification specifically for trees in an urban environment. It will become an appendix to the UKWAS.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: https://www.pefc.co.uk/news_articles/pefc-trees-outside-forests-consultation</p>
Apply the Green Flag Award to Sheffield’s street trees and include a measure of the proportion of street trees covered by a Green Flag Award	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	<p>The Green Flag award is the benchmark national standard for publicly accessible parks and green spaces in the UK.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed that the PEFC collaboration removes the need to consider The Green Flag Award for inclusion within the Strategy.</p>

<p>Highway tree management: operations note 51 should be embedded into the Strategy</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed this would add value to the Strategy and agreed to add this to the existing list of “<i>British standards and codes of practice pertaining to the management of trees</i>” listed under Appendix 9.</p>
<p>Set out a robust replacement policy on street trees, witnessing one mature tree replaced with at least three to five new trees</p>	<p>2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership recognises the need for “equivalent planting” (see actions under Outcome 3).</p> <p>More information about the decision-making process is listed in Appendix 5 of the Working Strategy. Under 5.4 it states, “<i>any street tree removed will be replaced on at least a 1:1 basis (depending on the circumstances) with a suitable species for the location in as close to the original site as possible unless there are good reasons to do otherwise.</i>”</p> <p>This at least 1:1 replacement guarantee is stipulated within the Streets Ahead contract between the Council and Amey. This signals an ambition to go beyond 1:1 and allows for appropriate flexibility to plant additional replacement trees where it is possible to do so.</p>
<p>Create a Supplementary Planning Document for developers that extracts or cross references to the relevant sections of the Strategy to ensure appropriate species selection, tree pit design, aftercare etc.</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed to add the following action under Outcome 1:</p> <p><i>“Consider Planning Reforms and ways to influence planning/development in the city e.g., through developing a Supplementary Planning Document, with reference to the Environment Bill.”</i></p>
<p>Grant the public clear and transparent access to records about the condition and management of Sheffield’s tree stock, preferably in the form of an interactive map</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership welcomed this suggestion and agreed to add a new action around creating an interactive map under Outcome 1.</p> <p>The Partnership also agreed that an independent accreditation would be a good step forward to ensure transparency. This was the basis for collaborating with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification to produce a new pioneering certification standard for “<i>Trees Outside Forests</i>” (a draft is at time of writing (Feb 2021) open for consultation).</p>

		<p>For more information, please visit: https://www.pefc.co.uk/news_articles/pefc-trees-outside-forests-consultation.</p>
<p>Keep the public informed of the criteria used to make tree management decisions</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>This principle remains at the heart of what the Partnership is trying to achieve through the Strategy. The Council will be publishing the new decision-making process to coincide with the launch of the Final Strategy.</p> <p>The Partnership also agreed to revise Appendix 5 of the Strategy to make this new decision-making process fully transparent.</p> <p>It agreed to recognise this by adding to the revised Appendix 5: <i>“Feedback from the consultation on the Working Strategy included a call for decision making processes and decisions taken to be made transparent, and for public feedback loops to be established. In response, operational aspects of the decision process, including things like timescales, method of consultation, and publication of decisions were developed and tested by Amey and the Council with input and guidance from the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership.”</i></p> <p>Please also consider the points in the row immediately above, in addition to the comments and responses made below, 2.15, under Outcome 6 – around wider engagement with the community.</p>
<p>Establish specific standards for anyone working in the vicinity of street trees to adhere to, monitor compliance, and set out consequences for infringement</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed to add the following action under Outcome 1:</p> <p><i>“Explore ways to promote existing standards for working in the vicinity of street trees and encourage adherence by all contractors.”</i></p>
<p>Install decent sized tree pits around all existing established trees</p>	<p>2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i></p>	<p>The Strategy’s approach to street tree management <i>“is rooted in retaining street trees where possible by using a flexible combination of highway engineering solutions.”</i> These engineering solutions include the option of installing tree pits. Street trees are assessed on a case-by-case basis and decisions taken are based on the requirements of the tree.</p>

<p>Emphasize need to better maintain existing trees, including regularly cleaning and sweeping roads of leaves to ensure there are no drain blockages</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>One of the key points emerging out of the strategy consultation was the need to recognise the legitimate problems that trees can cause and more clearly communicate ambitions to reduce these negative side effects when seeking to increase the many benefits that street trees bring to Sheffield.</p> <p>To reflect this, the Partnership agreed to edit the text for Outcome 1 to add renewed emphasis on the maintenance of street trees: <i>“Our street trees are sustainably and carefully managed and maintained in accordance with best practice”</i>.</p>
<p>Protect properties from damage from trees</p>	<p>5 – Already included</p>	<p>The Partnership agreed to recognise the challenges of managing street trees in a revised Appendix 5.</p> <p>The Working Strategy already states that, <i>“the Council’s legal duty of care is to make sure that...people and property are protected from any danger caused by hazards on the highway. This duty is delivered through the Streets Ahead highways maintenance contract”</i>. It continues, <i>“this makes sure that all identified tree-related risks to people and property are reduced or eliminated”</i>.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to add to Appendix 5 principle 3. This principle outlines the reasons why a proposal to remove or replace a street tree might be made. The Partnership agreed to add <i>“to prevent the tree or its branches falling and injuring people or damaging property”</i> to the list of possible reasons.</p>
<p>Replace older trees before they damage pavements and roads</p>	<p>2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i></p>	<p>Mature trees provide significant benefits, made clear under the vision statement.</p> <p>This suggestion sits at odds with Outcome 2, which already states, <i>“we must work towards the protection and retention of the existing tree stock”</i>.</p>

<p>Validate street tree strategy implementation plans by an independent panel of experts whose advice is published and followed</p>	<p>2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i></p>	<p>This suggestion was not accepted. However, the Partnership agreed that an independent accreditation would be a good step forward in ensuring transparency and independent approval. This was the basis for collaborating with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, to produce a new pioneering certification standard for “Trees Outside Forests” (a draft is at time of writing (Feb 2021) open for consultation).</p> <p>For more information, please visit: https://www.pefc.co.uk/news_articles/pefc-trees-outside-forests-consultation</p> <p>Please also note that Appendix 5 already states, <i>“in cases where Amey recommend removal and replacement as essential and the Council disagrees, a view would be sought from a third-party independent tree surveyor and/or further evidence would be examined”</i>.</p>
<p>Consider the needs of those with limited mobility in Partnership decision making</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership is particularly interested in engaging with representatives from the disability community in Sheffield. This interest emerged in part as result of comments made within the Working Strategy consultation, which highlighted the potential mobility issues that can be experienced because of tree maintenance issues. The Partnership agreed to explore engagement options as it expands.</p>
<p>Identify new spaces for planting</p>	<p>5 – Already included</p>	<p>This is already included. Areas where new street trees could have the most impact in terms of promoting health and wellbeing are being considered under Outcome 4. The Council’s Parks & Countryside Team are also constantly looking for new planting sites across the city.</p>
<p>Stipulate that an environmental impact study be carried out every time a proposal is put forward to fell a healthy street tree</p>	<p>5 – Already included</p>	<p>The removal and replacement of a street tree is considered on a case-by-case basis. A proposal might be put forward for a <i>healthy</i> tree to be removed and replaced if it has become a dangerous obstruction to the carriageway (see revised Appendix 5 for more information) or if there is no way of retaining it through a new development proposal.</p>

		<p>In this first scenario, this is likely to be remedied through pruning the obstructing branches. In some circumstances when trees reach a certain size their trunk may begin to obstruct the highway. When this happens a road safety audit would be carried out to establish whether the tree can be retained or needs to be replaced.</p> <p>In the second scenario, Environmental Impact Assessments are already a requirement under the Town and Country Planning Act, which applies to developments seeking planning permission under Part III. This directs the developer to assess the likely effects of development on the environment.</p> <p>In terms of the tree stock, the Partnership, alongside other stakeholders, is collaborating with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification to produce a new pioneering certification standard for “Trees Outside Forests” (a draft is at time of writing (Feb 2021) open for consultation).</p> <p>This will explore integrating assessments of environmental impacts into the urban forest tree stock certification process. Please note that the certification is still being developed and has not yet been finalised.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: https://www.pefc.co.uk/news_articles/pefc-trees-outside-forests-consultation</p>
<p>Stipulate that the loss to the environment must be compensated for close to the location of the felled tree</p>	<p>5 – Already included</p>	<p>The Partnership recognises the need for “equivalent planting” (see actions under Outcome 3).</p> <p>More information about the decision-making process is listed in Appendix 5 of the Strategy. Under Principle 4 it already states, <i>“any street tree removed will be replaced on at least a 1:1 basis (depending on the circumstances) with a suitable species for the location in as close to the original site as possible unless there are good reasons to do otherwise.”</i></p>

Widen the pavement area along street tree-lined paths	4 – Not within scope, <i>Others are dealing with this</i>	<p>Amey and the Council’s Highways team are working to improve pavements across the city. This falls under the Streets Ahead contract. <i>“The Council’s legal duty of care is to make sure that the city’s roads and pavements are safe and accessible for all members of the public, and that people and property are protected from any danger caused by hazards on the highway.”</i></p> <p>This suggestion was not accepted since it does not relate directly to the maintenance or protection of street trees.</p>
Extend cycle networks alongside street trees to attract more cyclists	4 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with outside SSTP</i>	<p>This suggestion was not accepted since it does not relate directly to the maintenance or protection of street trees.</p>
Survey trees annually to ensure that they continue to be well managed	5 – Already included	<p>Under Outcome 2, there is an existing commitment to conduct an annual review of the Sheffield street tree stock, including tree condition, age classification, and diversity of tree type.</p> <p>However, in terms of inspecting every tree on the network the commitment remains to conduct <i>“cyclical tree inspection of at least once every 3-5 years – with inspection frequency increasing with worsening condition and risk”</i>.</p> <p>Under Outcome 3, there is an existing commitment to recalculate the tree stock’s I-Tree value in spring every year so that progress can be monitored – to be reported as a five-year moving average.</p>
Assign a task force to ensure management and maintenance is proactive	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	<p>The Council’s Highways team and the Partnership will ensure that the management and maintenance of street trees through Streets Ahead is proactive.</p>

2.11. Table 5 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions to deliver Outcome 2 of the Working Strategy (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

Outcome 2
Our street trees are more resilient through the type and age of trees we plant and how we manage the current street tree stock

Table 5 – Feedback on suggested actions to deliver Outcome 2

Comment – Additional Actions	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Embed the overall vision and objectives of the strategy into the Sheffield Local Plan in relation to Aim 1 “An Environmentally Sustainable City”	3 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with by SSTP</i>	When the Local Plan is drafted, it will take account of all relevant policy documents and strategies, including the Sheffield Street Tree Working Strategy. The strategy will be considered when determining Local Plan strategic and development management policies, drawing up policy area designations and proposing site allocations.
Use the Urban Tree Manual when developing policies around “Right Tree in the Right Place”	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to add this, under Outcome 2, to the list of resources considered beside the action, “ <i>Develop a thorough species selection process for replacements and replanting, with reference to best practice</i> ”.
Ensure that all newly sourced trees must adhere to biosecurity best practice	5 – Already included	<p>The Partnership is committed to making Sheffield’s tree stock as resilient and future-proof as possible.</p> <p>The current suppliers of street trees used all have rigorous biosecurity policies. All street trees purchased are disease free and UK grown. No imported street trees are to be planted.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out its tree stock resilience goals under Outcome 2 – <i>Our street trees are more resilient through the type and age of trees we plant and how we manage the current street tree stock.</i></p>
Establish or upscale the supply of trees from a local municipal tree nursery	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership shares this ambition. At present there are no local nurseries that can supply the quantity and quality of trees required. A long-term action was therefore added under Outcome 2, “ <i>support the establishment of a network of local provenance tree nurseries</i> ”.

<p>Consider the Tree Design Advisory Guide (TDAG) when developing an approach to species selection</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed to add this, under Outcome 2, to the list of resources considered alongside the action, <i>“Develop a thorough species selection process for replacements and replanting, with reference to best practice”</i>.</p> <p>The Partnership also agreed to integrate the TDAG into its tree selection, tree planting and aftercare guidelines to be outlined in Appendix 9 – British standards and Codes of Practice.</p>
<p>Move further towards greater diversity than already proposed, including using non-native trees to “future proof” Sheffield as global warming increases</p>	<p>2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership is committed to making Sheffield’s tree stock as resilient and future-proof as possible.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out this goal under Outcome 2 and aspires to shape the current species diversity position towards a profile of 10% 20% 30% - details are outlined under Appendix 3. The Partnership did not agree to commit to move beyond this proposal at this stage.</p> <p>However, please note that there is already a commitment within the Strategy in the “Development Actions” table under Outcome 6, <i>“to develop and evolve the strategy over time in response to the needs of the people of Sheffield, the climate and ecological emergency”</i>.</p> <p>The Partnership also agreed to add <i>“ability to cope with climate change”</i> to the list of criteria for which remaining species would be ranked through the species selection process under Appendix 2, point 5.</p>
<p>Prevent inappropriate tree replacements, carefully consider the type planted in each area</p>	<p>5 – Already included</p>	<p>The Strategy already reflects a <i>“right tree in the right place”</i> approach including within Appendix 2: <i>“Factors to consider when selecting tree species”</i>.</p>
<p>Carefully consider which locations would be appropriate for planting edible species</p>	<p>4 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with outside SSTP</i></p>	<p>It was agreed that this point did not fit into the scope of the strategy for street trees on the highway network, but rather was relevant to trees within parks or green spaces. As such, this point falls within the scope of the Council’s Parks & Countryside Team, who are aware of the issue.</p>

2.12. Table 6 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions to deliver Outcome 3 of the Working Strategy (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

Outcome 3
Increase the value and benefits that flow from our street trees

Table 6 – Feedback on suggested actions to deliver Outcome 3

Comment – Additional Actions	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Include the Amenity and Appropriateness adjustments in the Capital Asset Valuation of Amenity Trees (CAVAT) measurement to reflect attributes such as streetscape contribution, heritage value, biodiversity, and veteran status	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	The full CAVAT value is calculated when an individual tree is assessed under a proposal for removal. However, when calculating the present financial value of the entire tree stock – as the Strategy endeavours to do under Outcome 3 – it is not possible to make the proposed adjustment en masse, as cultural value will vary by tree. The cultural value of trees is already considered under the Appendix-2-listed specific considerations relating to species selection, under “ <i>b) Consideration relating to National Parks, Conservation Areas, Important Landscapes, Memorial Trees, Veteran Trees, Woodland</i> ”
Train Street Tree Wardens to identify and monitor biodiversity on street trees	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to add the action “ <i>Training Street Tree Wardens to monitor biodiversity supported by street trees</i> ”
Commit to best practice planting (trees from nursery to independence in the landscape)	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership, alongside other stakeholders, is collaborating with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification to produce a new pioneering certification standard for “Trees Outside Forests” (a draft is at time of writing (Feb 2021) open for consultation). This will explore integrating assessments of environmental impacts into the urban forest tree stock certification process. Specifically, this could include a requirement to consider robust planting designs and the development of planting

		<p>plans to mitigate the risk of damage from natural hazards. This will give new trees the best possible chance of survival. Please note that the certification is still being developed and has not yet been finalised.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: https://www.pefc.co.uk/news_articles/pefc-trees-outside-forests-consultation</p>
<p>Consider biodiversity and ecology, both of trees and the other fauna and flora that live and grow alongside them. Identify a measure for biodiversity and include amongst the measures</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed that actions could be included to increase the biodiversity supported by street trees on the highway network. The following strategy edits were made:</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to commit to “<i>explore ways to monitor biodiversity across our street trees</i>”. This will be added to the list of actions under Outcome 5.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to add the following action: “<i>Training Street Tree Wardens to monitor biodiversity supported by street trees</i>”</p> <p>It agreed to revise Appendix 5, to include “<i>in some low risk or rural areas, stems of dead trees may be retained at a suitable height for their wildlife habitat value.</i>”</p>
<p>Choose trees that flower to improve mental health and wellbeing through improved sensory experience</p>	<p>5 – Already included</p>	<p>The strategy seeks to understand where street trees could have the most impact in terms of promoting health and wellbeing. To this end, it already includes an action under Outcome 4 “<i>analyse the contribution of all trees across the city to further refine the main opportunities for trees to contribute to health and wellbeing</i>”.</p> <p>There are a whole range of factors to consider when selecting tree species in Sheffield. The Partnership agreed to add “<i>Strong community preference/residents’ views</i>” to the list of specific considerations to consider when selecting species, under Appendix 2, point 3.</p>

		New processes put in place, under Appendix 5, will enable the public to offer their views when a proposal is put forward to remove a tree. This new consultative process will be hosted on Citizen Space, the Council’s online public consultation hub <i>every time</i> a tree is recommended for removal and replacement. This will provide opportunity to express a preference - for example - for trees that flower.
Conduct a regular opinion survey via independent pollsters to measure public satisfaction with the management of street trees	<i>Under consideration</i>	This will be considered as part of the overall performance management approach.
Recognise that the benefits of air pollution removal, carbon storage and sequestration, and storm water alleviation are predicted, rather than measured	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to make this change within the Outcome 3 “Baseline Figures” table.
Look at street lighting glare directly into the higher parts of street trees, and identify any sites where lights need to be adjusted to benefit bats	4 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with outside SSTP</i>	Street lighting is designed to provide an appropriate lighting class. Pruning works are carried out to ensure this level of lighting class service is maintained. Amey is already instructed not to plant within 5m of an existing streetlight, to give the tree the best chance of survival and to prevent the street tree from reducing the lighting class provided. The Partnership did not agree to any additional actions beyond these existing arrangements.
Erect bat and bird boxes on street trees on the highway network	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	The erection of bat boxes to street trees significantly complicates the ability to conduct maintenance works to trees on the network due to additional inspections and licences required to proceed. It was agreed that this suggestion would reduce Amey’s ability to sustainably and carefully manage and maintain street trees – a central pillar of the Strategy – and was therefore not accepted.

2.13. Table 7 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions to deliver Outcome 4 of the Working Strategy (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

Outcome 4
 Contribute to a more equal distribution of urban forest across the city

Table 7 – Feedback on suggested actions to deliver Outcome 4

Comment – Additional Actions	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Target planting in local centres, district centres, and the city centre	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to add the action “ <i>Influence others to consider additional planting in local centres, district centres, and the City centre</i> ”.
Consider measures to mitigate the risk that community planting schemes increase planting in wealthier parts of the city, thus making the distribution of trees across the city more uneven	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to add the action “ <i>Develop measures to ensure that community funded tree planting will lead to a more even distribution of trees across the city.</i> ”
The Council’s planning department should incorporate more green space into urban design	3 – Not within scope, <i>dealt with by SSTP</i>	This is a matter of internal engagement within the Council and has been noted under the Consultation Feedback Report 11.1 “ <i>Other Issues</i> ” section.
Plant more trees in more deprived areas of the city with lower canopy cover	5 – Already included	This is absolutely the ambition of Outcome 4, reflected in the existing action “ <i>Target additional planting in areas of low canopy cover, poor air quality, and lower Living Environment and Health Deprivation Indices</i> ”

2.14. Table 8 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions to deliver Outcome 5 of the Working Strategy (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

Outcome 5
Increase street tree canopy cover

Table 8 – Feedback on suggested actions to deliver Outcome 5

Comment – Additional Actions	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Set a specific commitment or target for this increase	2 – Within scope, <i>Not accepted</i>	<p>The Partnership recognised the need for accountability and ambition, two themes already included within the existing Strategy. However, it agreed not to accept introducing targets.</p> <p>In the case of canopy cover, a target would not recognise progress made to protect the existing tree stock by removing trees with diseases such as ash dieback.</p> <p>The general points were made that progress in terms of delivering the Strategy Outcomes could be made in many ways without registering an increase in a particular measure, for example, through significant changes in approach.</p> <p>It was agreed that targets could become distracting by incentivising progress on that which is measurable above all other opportunities to progress in other important areas which are not measurable.</p>

2.15. Table 10 sets out the SSTP response to suggestions for new actions to deliver Outcome 6 of the Working Strategy (section 8 of the Consultation Feedback Report) with reference to the decision criteria.

Outcome 6
The wider community of all ages in involved in caring for and valuing street trees

To recognise the number of comments received around education and wider community engagement, the following text was added to the Foreword at the start of the Strategy:

“The most significant change we have made is to emphasise and further develop Outcome 6 in order to specifically recognise the need for wider education and engagement with people of all ages in looking after our street trees.”

Table 10 – Feedback on suggested actions to deliver Outcome 6

Comment – Additional Actions	Decision criteria (as set out in 2.2 of this report)	Decision taken by SSTP
Engage with children and young people around learning about street trees	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to add the following actions: <i>“Develop an engagement and outreach programme to encourage children, young people, families and adults to learn about and value their local trees.”</i> <i>“Arrange an annual celebration to raise awareness among residents of the value and benefits of street trees and acknowledge the volunteers who support the management of street trees.”</i> All ideas put forward will be considered by a designated collaborative stakeholder working group, once established.
Engage with schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, hospices, care homes, and local businesses	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	As above.
Create tree walks / trails	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	As above.
Empower residents to care for trees, wildflowers, and wildlife, also through watering or reporting vandalism	5 – Already included	This is already included through the existing action <i>“Support the Street Tree Warden scheme for Sheffield”</i> set up <i>“to provide a structured approach, as part of a national scheme, to engage local people in looking after street trees.”</i> See Appendix 6: Street Tree Warden Scheme for more details. The Partnership agreed to explore additional ideas around local resident empowerment as it develops its engagement and outreach programme.

<p>Continuously consult the local community on street tree issues</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership agreed with the importance of community consultation going forward. In particular, the Partnership agreed to look to identify community groups underrepresented in the Working Strategy Consultation to engage with and consult throughout the next stage of strategy delivery.</p> <p>Street Tree Wardens will co-ordinate local volunteer networks and feedback to the Partnership.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to put processes in place, under Appendix 5, that enable the public to offer their views when a proposal is put forward to remove a tree. This new consultative process will be hosted on Citizen Space, the Council's online public consultation hub <i>every time</i> a tree is recommended for removal and replacement.</p>
<p>Ask Street Tree Wardens to identify trees needing tree pits</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>This falls under the responsibilities of Street Tree Wardens as listed under Appendix 6, particularly around being <i>“eyes and ears on the ground to report and tree issues or concerns.”</i></p>
<p>Remain transparent and communicate with residents about any proposed changes to tree management</p>	<p>1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i></p>	<p>The Partnership welcomed this suggestion and agreed to add a new action around creating an interactive map under Outcome 1.</p> <p>The Partnership also agreed that an independent accreditation would be a good step forward in ensuring transparency. This was the basis for collaborating with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification to produce a new pioneering certification standard for <i>“Trees Outside Forests”</i> (a draft is at time of writing (Feb 2021) open for consultation).</p> <p>For more information, please visit: https://www.pefc.co.uk/news_articles/pefc-trees-outside-forests-consultation</p> <p>All changes to tree management practices will be published on the Council's website and additionally communicated through the engagement programme to be developed.</p>

Create an interactive map to publicly share information about the tree stock and inform the public of proposed works, identify new planting sites	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	As in the row above.
Enable individuals and businesses to sponsor local tree planting	1 – Within scope, <i>Accepted</i>	The Partnership agreed to develop a community funded planting scheme. This will become a new Appendix 11. More information will be released on the Council and Partnership websites when this scheme is launched.

4 SHEFFIELD STREET TREE PARTNERSHIP

4.1 Based on the consultation responses, the Street Tree Strategy Development Group has considered options for the arrangements and membership of the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership. Appendix 4 of the final strategy sets out the terms of reference for the Partnership.

4.2 The purpose of the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership is to:

- ◆ Oversee delivery of the actions in the Sheffield Street Tree Strategy
- ◆ Work in partnership to contribute and secure skills, resources, and funds to deliver the actions in the Strategy
- ◆ Develop and evolve the Strategy over time in response to the needs of the people of Sheffield, the climate and ecological emergency
- ◆ Encourage and direct donations with reference to this strategy, including funds for new tree planting and to support the retention of existing trees.

4.3 The structure of the Partnership is intended to support delivery through collaboration and ensure input from a wide range of stakeholders. It comprises the following:

- ◆ *Core Delivery Group* – Responsible for overseeing and driving delivery of the actions in the Strategy; comprises an independent, elected chair and representatives from the main organisations involved in the management and maintenance of Sheffield’s street trees.
- ◆ *Street Tree Partners* – A wider group of partners interested in engaging with and supporting the delivery of the actions in the Strategy, and able to offer expertise, ideas, and resources.
- ◆ *Street Tree Wardens* – A group of volunteers assigned to different parts of Sheffield who have committed to help care for the street trees and/or be the eyes and ears for their ‘patch’.

- 4.4 To address specific issues or develop areas of work, task & finish groups will be set up by the Core Delivery Group as required. These groups will be drawn from the representative partners outlined in 4.3 and will be set clear objectives, linking directly to the Strategy outcomes and actions. Once objectives have been met, the groups will be dissolved.
- 4.5 As this is a new partnership, the terms of reference and structure will be reviewed after a year to ensure that it remains fit-for-purpose.

5 OTHER ISSUES

- 5.1 The consultation highlighted other issues related to the ambitions of the street tree strategy that were not specifically about street trees.
- 5.2 The table below summarises these issues and the current actions to address them.

Issue	Comments/actions
<p>Environmental policy Several respondents requested that environmental concerns are embedded within Council policies, in particular, transport, planning and education, to ensure that all policies address climate change, biodiversity, and air pollution in their delivery</p>	<p>A climate emergency was declared in Sheffield in January 2019 and a new commitment was made to bring forward the city's carbon neutral target from 2050 to a minimum of 2030. Carbon emissions are the biggest contributor towards climate change in the city and primarily come from burning fossil fuels such as petrol, diesel, and natural gas. Work is now concluding on a city decarbonisation pathways report which sets out where emissions can be reduced in the city. The report has been developed over the last nine months by Arup and Ricardo, in partnership with Sheffield City Council and the Green City Partnership, a group of local stakeholders with representatives from local businesses, Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, both universities, and campaign groups including the Sheffield Climate Alliance.</p> <p>Over the coming months we will be aiming to engage and work with people across the city to help to both raise awareness as well as develop actions that will help to support our ambition to become a net zero carbon city.</p>

Issue	Comments/actions
<p>Low traffic neighbourhoods Some respondents mentioned the opportunity to introduce low traffic neighbourhoods in the city</p>	<p>Low traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) could offer the opportunity for tree planting or planters to help slow the flow of traffic as well as providing spaces for community and social activity. In summer 2019 the Council introduced an LTN in Kelham Island on an experimental basis, closing certain roads to through traffic using planters. The LTN in Kelham will be reviewed to determine whether the closures should be introduced permanently. Should this be the outcome, it may offer the potential for permanent improvements to the street scene, including the potential for tree planting. The introduction of two further LTNs during 2021 is currently in development.</p>
<p>Nature highways and byways Concerns around the ability of wildlife to move around the local environment were raised</p>	<p>Solid fencing in housing/other developments can inhibit the free movement of small animals. Alternatives to solid fencing could be considered and this is an issue for further discussion with relevant Council teams.</p>
<p>Sheffield Local Plan A recommendation was made that the overall vision and objectives of the Sheffield Street Tree Working Strategy and the current and future stock of trees in Sheffield is reflected and embedded in the forthcoming Sheffield Local Plan particularly in relation to Aim 1, 'An Environmentally Sustainable City' and Aim 7, 'A Green City'</p>	<p>When the Local Plan is drafted, it will take account of all relevant policy documents and strategies, including the Sheffield Street Tree Working Strategy. The strategy will be considered when determining Local Plan strategic and development management policies, drawing up policy area designations and proposing site allocations.</p>
<p>Verge parking Some respondents expressed dissatisfaction towards parking on road verges and concern about the damage this can cause</p>	<p>Parking on grass verges is recognised as a challenge – it is not illegal and the number of cars in the city outweighs the available off-street parking. The Council is running a project to look at some options, including parking restrictions adjacent to verges and the use of alternative materials to limit the damage.</p>
<p>Wildflowers Some respondents expressed interest in planting wildflowers on road verges across the city or enabling residents to do so</p>	<p>The creation of wildflower verges is on the Council's agenda. A paper is being prepared with a view to a rollout in spring 2021. As the Council is the Highway Authority, an executive decision is required to enact a new approach to the creation of wildflower verges.</p>

6 SHEFFIELD STREET TREE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

6.1 This ‘You Said, We Did’ report demonstrates how feedback from the consultation has been used to inform the final Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Strategy and help shape the future arrangements for a new Sheffield Street Tree Partnership.

6.2 It will also be used to:

- ◆ Help shape the future programme of work for the Partnership.
- ◆ Inform and help shape Council policies and processes.

6.3 The final Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Strategy will be published in Spring 2021.

6.4 Although the consultation on the Strategy has concluded, the ongoing way of working will be to continue to engage with stakeholders and communities on the outcomes, actions, and programme of work of the new Street Tree Partnership. The Strategy and actions will be kept under review and updated as circumstances evolve or change, and every five years as a minimum.

6.5 It is proposed that progress on the delivery of the actions in the Strategy will be published in the form of annual report produced by the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership. In addition, to monitor progress, options under consideration include providing regular updates on progress against baseline outcomes, setting clear timescales for delivering actions, and establishing targets where this might be helpful in achieving measurable change.

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