



TREE PLANTING POLICY

The City of Ely Council is currently only responsible for trees planted on land owned by the City of Ely Council. If a request to either plant a new tree, or replace a tree that has been felled is received, then the following criteria should be considered.

1. Who owns the land on which the tree is to be planted? A request to plant or replace a tree will be considered if the City of Ely Council is not the land owner. If the land is owned by Cambs County Council and is on the highway, then a request can be considered but no planting can be carried out until the City of Ely Council had obtained a license from Cambs County Council. The Council must also ensure that the replacement tree is covered under the Council's insurance.
2. When a tree is removed from the Highway, Cambs County Council has a responsibility to replace the tree, but not necessarily in the same location. Consult with Cambs County Council regarding trees that are being removed and whether these are being replaced, before considering replanting. It may not be appropriate to replace this tree in the same location, which may be why Cambs County Council has replaced in a different location.
3. A site survey of potential underground services must be carried out by the appropriate authority before any tree can be planted.
4. Consider if funds are available to cover the requested planting and maintenance in perpetuity and for any damage or injury caused by the tree.
5. A tree should not be planted where it could cause an obstruction on a footpath, in front of windows or access gates, CCTV cameras, street lighting, road signage, sight lines for road users at junctions, pedestrian crossings, traffic lights, vehicle entrances, crossovers and garages. A tree should not be planted where there is potential interference to underground services or structures.
6. The tree should be of a size that would not cause undue light restrictions, encroachment or subsidence problems.
7. Trees with excessively large, sticky or prolific fruits will be avoided
8. Trees with poisonous fruit, bark or wood will be avoided. Trees with large spiny trunks or trees known to shed branches easily will be avoided.

9. Requests will be prioritised according to the number of trees already on a street or open space, including those in front gardens and or on adjacent land.

10. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Reviewed and approved 9th March 2020

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Cllr M Rouse - Chairman of the Council