

Independent Tree Panel for Sheffield

Simon Green
Executive Director of Place
Sheffield City Council

By email

22 July 2016

Dear Simon

Chelsea Road

The Independent Tree Panel has reviewed the City Council's plans for two trees on Chelsea Road. We have taken into the account the technical information provided by the Council and the concerns raised by residents in their response to the household survey. We inspected the trees on 24 June 2016 and 11 July 2016. We have referred to the engineering solutions, as presented to the Highway Tree Advisory Forum on 2 September [2015] which are referred to in section 3.2 of the Streets Ahead Five Year Management Strategy 2012 – 2017 dated January 2016.

Household survey

The two trees that you propose to remove and replace are at the lower (south eastern) end of Chelsea Road

There are 106 households on the street. 12 responded to the household survey, of which eight objected to the proposed removal and replacement of the trees. We noted that there are very few households on the short stretch of the street close to the two trees.

Trees which are healthy

The two trees are in good condition and have good life expectancy. We advise that there is no arboricultural need to remove these trees.

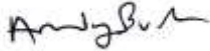
We have therefore considered whether there are engineering solutions that would prevent the need for removal and replacement of these trees.

The tree outside number 2 is a London Plane. It is causing significant disruption to the pavement, and some disruption to the kerb. There is an adjacent gully and a utility cover. We do not believe this disruption can be acceptably resolved. We therefore advise that this tree should be removed and replaced.

The tree adjacent to number 111 Union Road is a Huntingdon Elm (and not an English Elm), a notable and rare species, which we advise there is a strong arboricultural case to retain. The tree is causing some disruption to the pavement, and to the carriageway, where there are

numerous utility covers. We nevertheless believe that a combination of engineering solutions could be used to retain this tree, install dropped kerbs, and render the pavement and carriageway satisfactory and safer at all parts of the Chelsea Road and Union Road junction. We recognise that this may incur additional costs. We therefore advise the Council to reconsider its plan for this tree with a view to retaining it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Buck', written in a cursive style.

Andy Buck
Chair

Copy:
Andrew Walshaw
Independent Tree Panel members