

Independent Tree Panel for Sheffield

Simon Green
Executive Director of Place
Sheffield City Council

By email

DATE

Dear Simon

Marstone Crescent

The Independent Tree Panel has reviewed the Council's plan for 11 trees on Marstone Crescent. 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 5 February 2016. We re-inspected two trees on 31 May 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 11 trees you propose to remove and replace are evenly spaced along the street. There are other trees on the street. There are 58 households on Marstone Crescent. Five responded to the survey, all of which objected to the proposed removal and replacement of the trees.

Trees already removed

The tree outside number 14 has already been removed and replaced. The tree outside number 23 has been reduced to a 1.7m stump. We advise that the Council should take steps to prevent trees being removed and replaced whilst the Panel is reviewing the Council's plans.

Trees which are healthy and for which no other action appears to be needed

The tree outside number 6 is in good condition. It does have a limb that should be removed. It is causing no damage or disruption. We advise that there appears to be no reason to remove and replace this tree, but that one limb should be removed.

Trees which are diseased or damaged

The tree outside number 29-31 has some damage and decay. We could see no such fault. This tree is causing no damage or disruption. We advise that if the Council would be justified in removing and replacing these trees.

The tree outside number 65 is in declining condition, the tree outside number 75 has a structural fault that will lead to decline, and the tree outside number 77 is diseased and decaying. We advise that it would be prudent to remove and replace these three trees.

Trees which are healthy

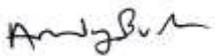
The trees outside numbers 5, 30, 43 and 69 are cherries in reasonable or good condition, with 10 to 20 years life expectancy. These trees are causing some damage to the pavements.

The tree outside number 69 may be causing some damage to neighbouring property. We advise that the Council should check whether this is the case; should this be the case, the Council would be justified in removing and replacing this tree.

We have therefore considered whether there are engineering solutions that would prevent the need for removal and replacement of the trees outside numbers 5, 30 and 43. We believe that it may be feasible to retain these trees and renew the pavement by a combination of root pruning and excavation beneath the roots (solutions 8 and 10). This would require excavation, the removal of soil and other material, the selective pruning of roots, depressing the remaining roots and replacing the soil and other material, all to industry standards. We therefore advise that the Council could reconsider the plan for these trees.

I have enclosed a tabulated summary of our conclusions.

Yours sincerely



Andy Buck
Chair

Copy:
Dave Caulfield
Andrew Walshaw
Independent Tree Panel members

Fell Ref	Tree Position	Road	Existing Tree	Already removed	Dead, diseased, damaged - remove	Damaging - remove	Damaging - alternative solution	No identifiable issue
12019654	O/S 29-31	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan		YES			
12019660	O/S 75	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Malus sp		YES			
12019662	O/S 77	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan		YES			
12019666	O/S 6	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan					YES
12019650	O/S 23	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan					
12019656	O/S 43	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan				ADVISE CONSIDER	
12019648	O/S 5	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan	YES			ADVISE CONSIDER	
12023484	O/S 65	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan		YES			
12019664	O/S 69	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus Kanzan			CHECK REQUIRED	ADVISE CONSIDER	
12019658	O/S 30	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus sp				ADVISE CONSIDER	
12019652	outside 14	MARSTONE CRESCENT	Prunus x hilleri spire	YES				