

# Independent Tree Panel for Sheffield

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Simon Green  
Executive Director of Place  
Sheffield City Council

By email

15 June 2016

Dear Simon

## **Rushley Close**

The Independent Tree Panel has reviewed the Council's plan for three trees on Rushley Close. 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 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 three trees you propose to remove and replace are evenly spaced along the street. There are 19 households on Rushley Close. One responded to the survey and objected to the proposed removal and replacement of the trees. This is a low response rate.

## **Trees which are healthy**

The three trees are all in good condition. 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 five trees.

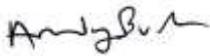
The tree outside number 11 is causing significant damage to the neighbouring boundary wall. We advise that the Council would be justified in removing and replacing this tree.

The tree at the side of number 89 Rushley Road is causing some disruption to the pavement and possibly some damage to neighbouring property. We advise that the Council would be justified in removing and replacing this tree.

The tree outside number 12 is a Swedish white beam in very good condition. Its trunk does, though, mean that the pavement is very narrow at this point, and the pavement is somewhat disrupted. However, the footfall towards this end of Rushley Close, which is a cul-de-sac, will be very low, and there are dropped kerbs and an ample pavement opposite. The disruption to the pavement could be overcome by use of suitable engineering options. We therefore advise that the Council could consider retaining this tree.

We recognise that in considering this advice the Council will take into account the low response rate to the household survey, with only one of 19 households objecting to the Council's plans.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Buck', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andy Buck  
Chair

Copy:  
Dave Caulfield  
Andrew Walshaw  
Independent Tree Panel members

<b>Fell Ref</b>	<b>Tree Position</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>Existing Tree</b>	<b>Already removed</b>	<b>Dead, diseased, damaged - remove</b>	<b>Damaging - remove</b>	<b>Damaging - alternative solution</b>	<b>No identifiable issue</b>
12019739	O/S 11	RUSHLEY CLOSE	Prunus Kanzan			YES		
12019741	O/S 12	RUSHLEY CLOSE	Sorbus intermedia				ADVISE CONSIDER	
12019737	Side of 89 Rushley Rd	RUSHLEY CLOSE	Prunus padus			YES		