

Page	Relevant Section	Feedback	Solution	Actioned
All	All	Feedback received regarding 'stock' photos and request to include photos of Wokingham Borough Trees instead.	Officers working with WDVTA to use photos collected from across the Borough	Y
5	Strategy Objectives	Strategy should encourage and support individuals and local voluntary environmental organisations to contribute to the maintenance and enhancement of the treescape.	New objective added to page 5 and additional action plan goal included to support this.	Y
9	Legal Framework	The additional protection to veteran and ancient trees within the NPPF should be highlighted in section 3d) National Planning Policy Framework and guidance	Additional paragraph added to page 9 section 3d to reflect this.	Y
10	Legal Framework	Residents raised that there was limited information found on Circular 36/78 Trees and forestry and requested further detail on this document.	Further detail added to the origin of 'Circular 36/78 Trees and forestry'.	Y
11	Legal Framework	Strategy to reference / acknowledge ELMS. A good proportion of the land in Wokingham borough is agricultural and some of the fastest mechanisms to increase tree cover may turn out to be to work with the agricultural community once ELMS is up and running. The strategy should acknowledge this and allow itself room to adopt such new priorities.	Strategy has been adapted to include details and benefits of ELMs for landowners/farmers to investigate schemes available to them. Links to further Government guidance on ELMs has been included.	Y
19	Tree Report & Canopy Cover Survey	46% agreed that appropriate survey work had been completed however a further 36% neither agreed or disagreed with this statement. To account for this, it was agreed that further detail on the Canopy Cover Survey and Tree Report's that were completed as part of the strategy development should be added to the strategy.	More key statistics from the BlueSky survey have been included. Page 19 has been clearly separated into two summaries for: Tree Survey (Bluesky NTM) and Canopy Cover. Borough level (WBC land) and Borough level (all land) canopy cover maps to be included and reference made to the full canopy cover survey carried out in summer 2022.	Y
20	Value of Trees	Greater emphasis should be made to the shading and cooling benefits of urban trees and how urban trees should be incorporated into the designs of developments at an early stage.	Further detail added regarding these benefits in Section 6. Value of Trees.	Y

22	Value of Trees	Further consideration to be given to the benefits of incorporating SuDS in designs.	Further detail added to page 22.	Y
23	Value of Trees	Feedback received regarding the 11 boundary trees listed in the 'WDVTA Commemorative and Special Inventory'.	Text in the Strategy written by T&L currently states 'Trees are mentioned as boundary markers in various Anglo-Saxon charters. It is not known whether any such trees survive in Wokingham although this is unlikely, if they do, they would be confined to the longer- living species such as yew and oak.' It is not known if the 11 trees listed by WDVTA meet this criteria and therefore changes to this section have not been made.	N
25	Value of Trees	Greater detail to be included regarding the previous work carried out by WDVTA and partnership working.	Included reference to the Diamond Jubilee work carried out in partnership with WDVTA	Y
32	Management and maintenance of trees on Council owned land	Veteran trees are the most likely to contain a broad range of species, particularly those involved in the recycling of dead and decaying wood. There needs to be a clearer policy on saving dead wood. it may be that public safety requires some branches to be cut out, but these should be left on the ground around the tree. It would be good to have the policy of retaining most wood waste from aboricultural work on all trees in public open spaces (not street trees) and let the materials decay naturally. Very little discussed on the maintenance of decaying and dead wood. Retained dead wood is highly important for the biodiversity and function of saproxylic organisms that are in significant decline worldwide but especially in Europe. If dead trees need to be cut down for safety reasons then the dead wood should be left to lie not "tidied up" for aesthetic reasons, or at least left as log piles and should definitely not be sold for firewood.	The Council aims to retain safe, sizeable wood from trees that have been pruned or felled in safe habitat piles, where appropriate. Additional paragraph added to page 32.	Y

34	Management and maintenance of trees on Council owned land	A link to the 2022 Association of Tree Officers Trees and Telecommunication Guidance report https://www.ato.org.uk/images/ATO-Trees-and-Telecoms-2022-web.pdf should be included in the strategy to cover current best practice for balancing the needs of tree retention, planting and pruning with telecommunication equipment siting.	Additional paragraph added to page 34 in relation to telecoms and guidance that will be followed in accordance with ATO. Link provided for further detail.	Y
49	Tree Planting	Examples of volunteer groups already doing relevant tree work are WDVTA, Holt Copse Conservation Volunteers, Friends of Ruscombe Woods, Friends of Highwood, Woodley, Earley Environmental Group, Freely Fruity all of which the council does already support in one way or another.	There are many volunteer and community groups supporting planting initiative across the Borough and as these can change, it is not considered appropriate to include a list of the known groups. WBC is supportive of local volunteer groups and will continue to work with groups who are interested in the planting, monitoring and maintenance of trees across the borough. This has been covered in the Action Plan and as an additional sentence on page 49.	Y
53	Hedgerows and Hedge Planting	Hedge trees or standards within hedges needs to be much more prominent in the strategy. These trees have a very high biodiversity net gain as well as significant aesthetic value. They are included right at the end of section 5, but it looks, feels and reads as a 'last minute inclusion'.	The section on hedges in the Strategy is not a last minute inclusion and 68% strongly agreed or agreed that the Strategy sets clear expectations and guidance around appropriate hedgerow planting. It is not recommend not moving its position in the Strategy as it is linked to Section 13. Before it on tree planting. There is also an additional Appendix in relation to hedgerow planting guidance and a short-term action plan to update the guidance.	N
55	Risks and Biosecurity	Further detail to be included regarding specific species related tree disease issues on prevalent borough species	Greater detail included within page 55 and reference made to the Tree Inspection Frequency.	Y

58-60	Action Plan	Greater detail requested for goal timeframes.	Included a timeframe range for Short, Medium and Long-term goals.	Y
58-60	Action Plan	<p>The Tree Council is referenced with respect to their guidance on the management of ash die back. However they should be included as a stakeholder.</p> <p>WBC does have a Tree Warden network, which should be working with the Council and helping them achieve some of their goals. They should be asked to help achieve the first two goals listed, as well as helping to water (where practical) newly planted trees and report on problems. There should be a Goal of "Enlisting more Tree Wardens and working more closely with them". The Strategy is an opportunity to include and promote the voluntary role of Tree Wardens within the Borough.</p>	<p>The Tree Council has not been directly involved in the development of the strategy and therefore inclusion as a Stakeholder would not be appropriate. Comments regarding the utilisation of existing tree wardens and enlisting further volunteers to the scheme have been noted and included within the Action Plan.</p>	Y