

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 5 February 2018. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request seems to be primarily aimed at Local Authorities. Please note that the GLA is London's strategic government and does not operate in the same way as local authorities. Details about the GLA's role can be found at <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work-london>

We do not hold most of the information that you have asked for but we do hold some related information, which we publish on our website. Our response to your request is as follows;

1) What assessment has the council made of the potential impact of ash dieback (Chalara) in the authority area and what strategy does it have to cope?

The Greater London Authority (GLA) does not have day-to-day management responsibility for London's trees and woodlands, which are the responsibility of London boroughs and many other public and private landowners. The Forestry Commission and The London Tree Officers Association provide advice on issues related to tree health, pests and diseases in London.

However, officers from the GLA are in regular contact with The Forestry Commission and the LTOA. They produced information and guidance for managing ash dieback in London in 2015. This estimated that Ash trees make up less than 5% of London's trees. See;

[www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/A4_London_chalara_FINAL.pdf/\\$FILE/A4_London_chalara_FINAL.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/A4_London_chalara_FINAL.pdf/$FILE/A4_London_chalara_FINAL.pdf)

2) How many mature ash trees are close to roads for which the council is responsible or public areas in the council's control where those trees have the potential to impact on public safety if they become infected, whether in the council's ownership or privately owned?

The GLA does not hold information on the day to day management of most of London's street or highway trees as this is the direct responsibility of London's 33 boroughs and Transport for London (TfL). With regard to the day to day management, operational and resourcing aspects of TfL's tree management you should contact TfL's information access team using FOI@tfl.gov.uk. You can find contact details for the London Borough councils at www.london.gov.uk/in-my-area

The GLA does hold some information about the number and species of trees managed by TfL and some boroughs, which is available online here:

www.london.gov.uk/WHAT-WE-DO/environment/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/trees-and-woodlands/london-tree-map.

You can find related data on the London Data Store - please note the age of the data and the comments about the information we received:

<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/local-authority-maintained-trees>

3) How many of those trees are on council-owned land, and how many of those are 'street trees' in residential areas.

The GLA does hold some information in relation to this request. As above in answer to question 2, information about the number and species of trees managed by TfL and some boroughs is available. It does not include a breakdown of public/private property. The London Boroughs and TfL may be able to provide this information.

4) How many of those trees are on non-council-owned land?

The GLA does hold some information in relation to this request. As above in answer to question 2, information about the number and species of trees managed by TfL and some boroughs is available. It does not include a breakdown of public/private property. The London Boroughs and TfL may be able to provide this information.

5) What is the estimated cost to the council of felling and/or otherwise dealing with all trees in question 2 and over what timescale is that cost estimated?

The GLA does not hold this information.

6) How much of that cost does the council expect to recover from third parties?

The GLA does not hold this information.

7) How many trees has the council committed to plant specifically to replace trees lost to Chalara?

The GLA does not hold this information. The Mayor has committed to a major tree-planting programme in London and more information about this can be found on our website:

www.london.gov.uk/greener-city

Any Mayoral grant funding for tree planting asks grant applicants to consider the latest Forestry Commission advice related to tree pests and diseases.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this email.

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>