

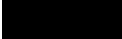


13061 / 3928 / 377 / 00014

Ms P Chitty



February 2018

Supporter No: 

Dear Ms Chitty

Let's 'root' trees and woodland into the new London Plan

I'm sure you already appreciate the many wonderful trees and green spaces in our capital. It is increasingly clear how hard trees of all ages work in urban spaces like London. As the city grows, trees and green spaces will become even more beneficial to the city's health, wealth and happiness.

So it's important the contribution they make is properly recognised in the next London Plan. You may already know that the Mayor, Sadiq Khan, is consulting on the 2018 edition of this key strategic document, which will also steer how development happens near you.

Please help us show the Mayor how much London's trees and woods matter.

Our simple online form makes it easy for you to support our main asks (which you can also find overleaf). Please go to woodlandtrust.org.uk/londonplan and have your say before the consultation ends on **2 March**.

Alternatively, you should find a copy of the London Plan in your local library. The address to post a response (or to request a copy) is overleaf.

To help you respond I've set out the main things the Trust wants to see in the final version, and some tips about the benefits of trees and woods to London.

It's particularly crucial the Mayor sees public support for proposals around protecting and enhancing woods and trees. While many Londoners would consider existing trees and wooded areas to be crucial elements of a healthy and resilient city, some organisations and developers can consider them as "restrictions" on development and will object to their inclusion.

I hope you can take some time to stand up for trees and woods as the new London Plan develops. Thank you for your continued support of our work; we can't achieve any of our aims to plant, protect and restore the UK's woods and trees without you.

Warm regards,



London's woods and trees are worth around **£133 million** per year for the benefits they provide¹



Air pollution removal by London's trees alone has been valued at **£126 million** per annum¹



Trees mean **nature is closer** than you think

For several purposes to carry out the UK. We don't currently hold you by post about our work and the you like to know more? Visit our **erests**.

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26-2-18

Paula Chitty

To the
Mayor of
London -
Please include
these ideas in
your tree plan.
P. Chitty.



WTML/PETER DENCH

The easiest way to take part is online at woodlandtrust.org.uk/londonplan. Otherwise, please consider including the following points in a letter to the Mayor. These are listed as they appear in the consultation. You may also wish to comment on other aspects of the plan.

Paragraph 1.3.3 Recommend an addition (in red) to the following sentence: "Access to green and open spaces, including waterways and trees, can improve health, but access varies widely across the city."

Paragraph 3.9.5 Support the inclusion of "Protection for trees" as an issue in the amplification of potential negative impacts of large-scale basement development beneath existing buildings.

Policy H1 Increasing housing supply Recommend that Sentence B2)d is clarified so that "public sector owned sites" will not include woodland, parks and open spaces.

Paragraph 4.2.9 Support the principle of "no net loss of overall green cover" as a result of small housing developments, and support "off-site provision such as new street trees" in order to achieve this principle.

Recommend an addition (in red) to the following sentence: "Loss of existing biodiversity or green space, as a result of small housing developments, should be mitigated through measures such as the installation of green roofs, the provision of landscaping that facilitates sustainable urban drainage, or off-site provision such as new street trees in order to achieve the principle of no net loss of overall green cover. Rainwater attenuation features should be incorporated to achieve greenfield run off rates. Loss of any public green space will be compensated for with alternative accessible sites."

Policy S4 Play and informal recreation Support section B2)d, that residential development proposals for schemes that are likely to be used by children and young people should incorporate good-quality, accessible play provision for all ages, of at least 10 square metres per child that: "incorporates trees and/or other forms of greenery".

Policy G1 Green infrastructure Support this policy, and subsequent narrative that mentions the important role of trees.

Policy G5 Urban greening Support this policy, including the recommended Urban Green Space Factor, and subsequent narrative that mentions the important role of trees.

Support the inclusion of the role and weighting for woodland and trees in Table 8.2 - Urban Greening Factors.

Recommend including a reference to *Residential Development and Trees* (Woodland Trust, 2015, woodlandtrust.org.uk/residentialdevelopments).

Policy G6 Biodiversity and access to nature Support this policy.

Recommend that Sites of Metropolitan Importance and all ancient woodlands are added to the categories of planning applications that must be referred to the Mayor.

Policy G7 Trees and woodlands Support this policy.

Recommend that **Section B)1** is strengthened as follows (amendments in red): "give the strongest possible protection to 'veteran' trees and ancient woodland, especially where these are not already part of a protected site".

Support the subsequent narrative on the role of trees, particularly paragraphs 8.71 – 8.73.

Recommend referring London boroughs to guidance on ancient woodland and veteran trees: *Planners' manual for ancient woodland and veteran trees* (Woodland Trust, 2017, woodlandtrust.org.uk/plannersmanual).