

# IMPACT AND VALUE ASSESSMENT

**Report Title:** Tree Planting Policy

Where the Impact & Value Assessment has identified a likely impact in relation to the committee proposal, detailed evidence is provided below.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

### Corporate Plan

Working in partnership with communities? - YES.

Tackling poverty? - NO.

Tackling climate change and supporting sustainable places? - YES.

Developing as resilient, stronger and greener local economy? - YES.

Enabling our children & young people to achieve their full potential? - NO.

Protecting and caring for our most vulnerable people? - NO.

Supporting and promoting physical and mental wellbeing? - YES.

### Legal and Governance

Legal implications identified? - NO.

Governance implications identified? - NO.

## RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

### Finance

Financial implications identified? - YES.

By using available assets more effectively and efficiently we will save money

### Workforce

Workforce implications identified? - NO.

### Asset Management

Asset Management implications identified? - NO.

## CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

### Consultation

Internal or external consultation? - NO.

### Communications

Communications plan? - YES.

The Policy will be briefed out if passed to Community Greenspace and various Voluntary bodies

## **POLICY CHECKLIST**

This report represents a new policy or a change to an existing policy document.

### **Corporate Risk Assessment**

Corporate risk implications identified? - NO.

### **Equality & Fairness Impact Assessment (EFIA)**

Protected equality characteristics impact? - NO.

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Human Rights impact? - NO IMPACT.

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Inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage impact? - NO IMPACT.

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Inequalities of outcome in relation to Communities of Place or Communities of Interest impact? - NO IMPACT.

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### **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

This proposal does not qualify for SEA.

### **Climate Change Impact Assessment**

Business, Industry & Supply Chain impact? - NO.

Energy, Buildings & Infrastructure impact? - NO.

Land Use & Land-Use Change impact? - YES.

Trees are essential in providing habitats for wildlife and maintaining biodiversity, which is under significant threat due to factors such as climate change, development and other human impacts. Worldwide, biodiversity is declining faster globally than at any other time in recorded human history. With climate change and the need to reduce CO2 as the climate warms, trees are playing a vital role in air quality, flood mitigation, erosion control, shade provision and overall health and wellbeing. Trees have an important role to play in sequestering carbon and providing habitat for wildlife, with different species creating 'niches' that may be relied on for both fauna and other flora. Increases in extreme weather events and damage to trees from storms as well as diseases such as Ash dieback, have resulted in significant and continued tree loss. Increased tree planting is needed to replace and restore areas that have suffered losses as well as improve canopy cover. Between 2022 and 2025 the Council planted over 6300 trees. More efficient tree planting including the right tree in the right place will increase canopy cover and carbon capture. Riverside planting will assist in reducing bank erosion as well as providing essential shade over redding beds and sanctuary for smolts. Prevention of soil erosion, considered succession planting in heritage parkland

Transport & Connectivity impact? - NO.

Waste & the Circular Economy impact? - NO.

Climate Resilience & Engagement impact? - YES.

Increased shading in urban areas. Flood mitigation in areas prone to increased flooding. Reduction in effects of pollution. Encouraging planting and learning about carbon sequestration in schools. Engage communities in planting

projects. Regeneration of woodland areas and promoting community orchards. Promotion of climate change education through planting projects.

### **Child Rights & Wellbeing Impact Assessment**

Impact based on the GIRFEC wellbeing indicators? - YES.

Increased physical and mental wellbeing from enhanced Greenspace. Also encouraging physical activity

### **Sustainable Procurement & Supply Impact Assessment**

Resource use and consumption impact? - NO.

Social wellbeing impact? - NO.

Environmental wellbeing impact? - YES.

Planting stock to be sourced in the main from Council raised trees in Westbank. Increased awareness of sensitive sites. Ensuring correct succession planting takes place in environmentally sensitive areas using suitable native species Majority of stock to be from Council raised trees in controlled environment. Any externally sourced stock to have the relevant plant passport documentation.

Economic wellbeing impact? - NO.

### **Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)**

Impact related to personal data/information? - NO.