



## Sheffield Street Tree Partnership

**Action notes of meeting held on Tuesday 18th February 2025**

<b>Attendees</b>	
Nathan Edwards	Chair of SSTP (NE)
Nik Baker	SSTP partnership Manager (NBak)
Mohamed Edroos	Sheffield City Council (ME)
Nicky Rivers	Sheffield City Council (NR)
Lisa Welton	Sheffield City Council (LW)
Carl Ellison	Amey (CE)
Christine King	Street Tree Action Groups/Street Tree Warden (CK)
Sarah Shorley	Street Tree Warden (SS)
Richard Ward	Sheffield Action Group (RW)
Richard Eyre	Sheffield City Council (RE)
Douglas Fraser	Sheffield Hallam University (DF)
<b>Additional Attendees</b>	None
<b>Apologies</b>	
Colleen Eccles	Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust (CE)
Rebecca Boyd	Sheffield City Council (RB)
Amanda Preston	Sheffield City Council (AJP)
David Wain	Sheffield City Council (DW)
Nicola Dempsey	University of Sheffield (ND)
Camilla Allen	University of Sheffield (CA)

		<b>ACTION WHOM</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b><u>Welcome and apologies</u></b>	
	<p>NE welcomed and thanked all for attending.</p> <p>Dates have yet to be confirmed for the rest of the year - NB to arrange these.</p> <p>April Away-day may be disrupted by Easter and school holidays that fall outside. Look at holding at Centre in the Park.</p>	<b>NB</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b><u>Notes of last meeting and updates</u></b>	
<b>2.1</b>	RB to talk to Business Sheffield to look for opportunities around a constitution. This has been done and is now with SCC's legal team.	<b>RB</b>
<b>2.2</b>	Palette update: Meeting was held with NE, ND, CE and the two tree inspectors at UoS to review the current / emerging species list (copy in January Minutes Folder). NE reminded everyone to please take a look for errors and missed opportunities.	<b>ALL</b>
<b>2.3</b>	Kenwood Park Road: all agreed that CK was to receive the information she had requested about root investigations, ME to make sure there are no remaining barriers to relaying this information. Ongoing.	<b>ME</b>
<b>2.4</b>	Annual report: NE needs to consider a foreword inputting his information. All Outcome chapters are on the drive for everyone to access and proofread. Document will be sent to the designer in the next couple of weeks, so all additional information needs to be provided asap.	<b>ALL</b>
<b>2.5</b>	ITreeEco - CE is working with the Amey procurement team to progress this.	<b>CE</b>
<b>2.6</b>	LBAP - see below in section 5.	
<b>2.7</b>	Tree City of the World application status - NB to chase for an update.	<b>NB</b>
	Notes approved and updated.	
	NB to publish to website.	<b>NB</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Strategy Refresh - Review of Outcome 1</b> <b>'Our street trees are sustainably and carefully managed and maintained in accordance with best practice.'</b>	
	<p>It was agreed that careful redrafting of the strategy should include metrics that will aid future reporting and transparency.</p> <p>It was discussed and agreed that an overarching statement, emphasising transparency would be added to the strategy introduction. A section setting out ongoing actions will also be added.</p>	

		<b>ACTION WHOM</b>
	<p><b>Action 1:</b> <i>Work towards an independent accreditation of street trees.</i></p> <p>It's been an ambition to achieve PEFC Managing trees outside forestry award on a permanent basis. The initial survey was on a trial basis by PEFC, who were awaiting ratification to roll out and make available, All agreed that we need to follow up where this has got to. CE has had difficulty contacting PEFC, and it is a possibility that this program has been terminated. CE to follow up.</p> <p>SSTP were helping to trial and develop the standard, despite obvious delays in it being rolled out, all agreed that the development of this can be seen as an achievement but that it would be a shame if it did not proceed.</p> <p>If PEFC is no longer an option then an alternative should be sought if this action is to be retained.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> CE/NE to have a conversation with PEFC to establish position.</p> <p>This will need to be revisited.</p> <p><b>Action 2:</b> <i>Promote and have oversight of the city's approach to street tree management.</i></p> <p>Wording within the introduction needs to reflect that this is now embedded in day to day practice and will be ongoing.</p> <p><b>Action 3:</b> <i>Review, refine and publish the decision-making process for managing Sheffield's street trees.</i></p> <p>Wording needs to reflect that this is also embedded in day to day practice and therefore ongoing.</p> <p><b>Action 4:</b> <i>Update contract methods statements and management documents.</i></p> <p>Most contract method statements are not public documents - some have commercial sensitivities. RE agreed that method statements should be reviewed and made available to the Partnership and potentially to the wider public. RE noted that he was committed to a greater level of transparency.</p> <p>Further discussion needed to determine what specifically can go into the new strategy, and whether this group is able to look at documents that wouldn't necessarily be available to the public.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> RE to review with SCC legal team.</p>	<p><b>CE &amp; NE</b></p> <p><b>ALL RE</b></p>

		<b>ACTION WHOM</b>
	<p><b>Action 5:</b> <i>Consider ways to influence planning and development e.g. through a Supplementary Planning Document.</i></p> <p>We need to be clear about what we are trying to achieve with this action and how it would be measured and reported. What would be the objective?</p> <p>Discussions to be held around separating development control and forward planning and potentially replacing this action with several more specific action points.</p> <p>There is a potential opportunity to work more closely with SCC's Planning Dept. to view upcoming schemes and consultations and have a positive influence on planning applications and policies.</p> <p><b>Action 6:</b> <i>Explore ways to promote existing standards for working in the vicinity of street trees and encourage adherence by all contractors.</i></p> <p>All agreed that the current wording doesn't aid progress reporting . Partners discussed the work that TDAG are currently doing in this area, and agreed that the SSTP should determine what opportunities there would be to get involved and feed-in to these forums?</p> <p>Patterns discussed a refocus of this action around advocacy for change.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> SS, CK, NE and CE to determine whether the SSTP could have stronger links to TDAG and to get involved in current discussions.</p> <p><b>Action 7:</b> <i>Develop an online, user friendly, interactive and live tree map to aid tree management and community reporting.</i></p> <p>Partners discussed if this was still something the SSTP should do as there are potentially considerable costs associated with this both in terms of development and ongoing maintenance. There would also be licence and commercial use issues to rolling out interactive maps to the public.</p> <p>All agreed however that there are significant engagement opportunities to be gained by producing an interactive map as evidenced by Oxford's experience.</p> <p>Partners discussed if this could involve Sheffield Hallam students? A brief would be established and agreed - headlines to include SSTP ownership of the data, a shareable platform, and easily updateable. DF agreed that this was feasible and that this could be developed in the 2025 - 26 academic year. Further discussions to be undertaken by CK, SS, CE &amp; DF.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> DF to explore opportunities at Sheffield Hallam to pursue this action.</p>	<p><b>SS, CK, NE &amp; CE</b></p> <p><b>DF</b></p>

		<b>ACTION WHOM</b>
	<p><b>Action 8:</b> <i>Identify important existing and future 'Treescapes' in the city to inform tree officers' management and planting decisions.</i></p> <p>This ultimately will be replaced by the planting palette, which is measurable and therefore reportable.</p> <p><b>Action 9:</b> <i>Submit applications for Tree City of the World recognition.</i></p> <p>This should be an annual/ongoing process; could be replaced by an action to maintain certification?</p>	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Darnall Planting Project - progress update</b>	
	<p>NE set out that capacity, funding and engagement are the 3 critical strands to this project.</p> <p>Initial survey with Amey tree inspectors has now been completed and 70 specific locations have been identified, including species recommendations. So far surveys have centred around primarily non-residential, arterial routes (Staniforth road, Shepcot Lane), where the benefits will target reduced urban heat and improved air quality. It was discussed that there will also potentially be planting on verges in the Prince of Wales estate where suitable locations have been identified.</p> <p>It was noted that although current surveyed streets have largely been non-residential and that as a consequence reduces the need for resident consultation, it was acknowledged that the greatest benefits, in terms of Climate Change adaptation, would be realised within residential streets. As such further discussions should examine how to approach broadening out planting to include residential areas either for this or future projects.</p> <p><u>EON – Blackburn Meadows District Heating Network</u> A meeting has now taken place with BurroHapold, EON's consultant; attended by DW, CE and NB. It was agreed that a further meeting would be scheduled.</p> <p>There was confirmation that 8 street trees will need to be removed. BurroHapold are to provide the red-line boundary for their site works so that it can be established whether it falls within our planned planting areas.</p> <p>Burro-Hapold are also to confirm the number of BNG units their project requires in terms of street trees. It was felt that SSTP should be presenting our locations as early as possible, as their red-line boundaries are not confirmed until a planning application has been sought.</p> <p>During the meeting it was agreed that CE would share the identified new street tree locations associated with the Darnall project.</p>	<p><b>CE</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>CE</b></p>

		<b>ACTION WHOM</b>
	<p>NB to coordinate with Michael Eaglestone in the SCC planning dept. And Chris Smith from SCC Ecology Unit.</p> <p>RE &amp; NE discussed arranging a meeting with the SYMCA to discuss priorities and funding as additional sources of funding need to be secured.</p> <p>Engagement: STAG and Tree Wardens don't have any current links in Darnall at present. NE, SS, CK &amp; RW to make contact with the LAC.</p> <p>SRWT and Community Forestry have been working in the area lately, and have had some successes.</p>	<p><b>NB</b></p> <p><b>NE, RE</b></p> <p><b>NE, SS, CK, RW</b></p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Short updates</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	The annual report is moving ahead and is now in the final stages. The plan is for everyone to enter their information within the next week, before NB will proof-read and send to designer.	<b>ALL</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<p><b>CIP</b> New working group close to being established. The plan is now to examine streets based on the ward. The task and finish group will be attended by a core group (chair, SCC, Mot MacDonald, Amey, Arborist, Civil Engineer) with additional local representation (NESST and Cllrs) invited to the sessions that examine their area, i.e. Cllr representation for each ward concerned. Cllrs from the Waste and Streetscene committee have also been approached to engage in the process.</p> <p>Terms of reference have now been drafted and NE has commented on them. All agreed that CK and NB will be the SSTPs representatives.</p>	
<b>5.3</b>	<p><b>LBAP</b> A workshop has now been set up for 24th Feb, to be lead by Sarah Simmons, Amey's ecologist.</p>	
<b>5.4</b>	<p><b>Town Hall Plaque</b> Is moving forward and the wording has been agreed. Now working on where the plaque will go and what imagery it will include.</p>	
<b>5.5</b>	<p><b>Membership</b> NE discussed that moving forward he would be seeking a deputy chair, and ideally this would be someone from outside the Partnership. NE asked partners to suggest candidates so that NE can approach them for an initial conversation.</p>	
		<b>ALL</b>

		<b>ACTION WHOM</b>
<b>5.6</b>	<p><b>Comms</b></p> <p>It's clear that SSTP doesn't have a significant media profile, and it's not something that we're currently doing well / consistently.</p> <p>LW discussed a recent prosecution for destruction of woodland, and the press release that SCC are putting out in a couple of days and the opportunity that this presents SSTP to supply a comment.</p> <p>LW to share finished article with everyone so that it can be shared through various social media channels.</p>	<p><b>LW</b></p> <p><b>LW &amp; ALL</b></p>
<b>8.0</b>	<b><u>Any Other Business</u></b>	
	None	
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Date of next meeting TBC</b>	