

Sheffield Street Tree Partnership (SSTP) Quarterly Meeting



Away Day Notes & Actions held on Tuesday 4th November 2025 at Amey

Attendees	
Nathan Edwards	Chair of SSTP (NE)
Ruth Nichols	SSTP partnership Manager (RN)
Catherine Nutgens	SSTP Strategic Project Lead (CN)
Rebecca Boyd	Sheffield City Council (RB)
David Wain	Sheffield City Council (DW)
Nicky Rivers	Sheffield City Council (NRi)
Carl Ellison	Amey (CE)
Christine King	Data Lead (CK)
Mohamed Edroos	Sheffield City Council (ME)
Helen Mcllroy	STAG (HM)
Nicola Dempsey	University of Sheffield (ND)
Additional Attendees	
Dr Jill Edmondson	Urban Tree Observatory
Apologies	
Douglas Fraser	Sheffield Hallam University (DF)
Camilla Allen	University of Sheffield (CA)
Richard Eyre	Sheffield City Council (RE)
Isabel O'Leary	STAG (IO)
Susan Davidson	SRWT (SD)
Lisa Welton	Sheffield City Council (LW)

Sheffield Street Tree Partnership Hosts Annual Away Day to Shape Future Strategy

Tuesday 4th November 2025 marked a key milestone for the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership (SSTP) as members gathered for their annual Away Day to reflect, refresh, and realign the partnership's strategy for the next five years.

Held in a collaborative and forward-thinking spirit, the day began with a warm welcome from Nathan Edwards, who introduced new members to the partnership:

- **Ruth Nicholls**, SSTP Manager
- **Catherine Nuttgens**, SSTP Strategic Project Lead
- **Helen McIlroy**, representing STAG

The morning featured two insightful presentations.

Dr Jill Edmondson from the Urban Tree Observatory shared findings from ongoing research into Sheffield's changing climate, highlighting data collected via a sensor network established in 2020/21. Her talk sparked discussion around the implications of climate trends on urban tree management and the potential for student-led research to support SSTP's work.

Following this, Christine King presented the latest iTree Eco report, which revealed changing trends in species and notable increases in the value of sheffields street trees. Christine clarified that the report focuses exclusively on street trees, excluding those in social housing areas, prompting a thoughtful conversation about data scope and interpretation.

Strategy Refresh: Reflecting and Reimagining

The bulk of the day was led by Catherine Nuttgens - newly appointed SSTP Strategic Project Lead . Catherine facilitated a series of group exercises targeted at reviewing the current strategy outcomes. Partnership members worked in small groups to assess:

- What has worked well
- What hasn't worked and why
- What improvements are needed

Groups then explored which outcomes should be retained, modified, added, or omitted. A key takeaway was the suggestion to move already-achieved outcomes—particularly those related to management—into an appendix to streamline the strategy.

NE stressed the importance of maintaining ambition whilst focussing on what was to be delivered over the next 5 years.

Further discussions focused on the effectiveness of current working groups and how well they align with strategic goals. Catherine guided the partnership through an action planning session, encouraging the development of SMART objectives. These were shared and reviewed collectively, with members identifying priorities for the refreshed strategy. Catherine will compile these insights into a report for future planning.

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Communications and Engagement: Looking Ahead

The day concluded with a presentation by Ruth Nicholls - SSTP Manager on communications planning. Ruth outlined ideas for a website revamp, enhanced engagement strategies, and a social media presence. Her session sparked a lively discussion on how best to connect with the public and stakeholders moving forward.

Nathan Edwards closed the day by thanking everyone for their contributions and commitment to shaping the future of Sheffield's street trees. Nathan also acknowledged the significant input of Sarah Shorley who is stepping down from the Partnership. On behalf of the Partnership Nathan thanked Sarah for her commitment, insights and leadership of the Wardens during her time on the Partnership. A collection is to be taken with thanks.

Actions

Action	By Whom
The minutes from the May and July meetings were agreed as a true record. These can now be added to the website	RN
A collection to be organised for SS	RN
New mailing list to be circulated	RN
Compile insights from Strategy Sessions into a report	CN
Send out questionnaires re Social Media & Website revamp	RN