

From: Jarvis, Neil [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 August 2021 10:14
To: Planning Policy <planning.policy@tendringdc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Public Consultation: Tendring District Local Plan Section 2 Proposed Main Modifications

Dear Mr. Guiver,

Thank you for consulting the Forestry Commission. As a Non Ministerial Government Department we provide no opinion supporting or objecting to Local Plans, rather we provide information on the potential impact that proposed development would have on ancient woodlands. Having reviewed the Local Plan it is clear that the Council acknowledges the importance of the need to protect ancient woodlands and veteran trees.

With regard to the Section 2 Proposed Main Modifications, Schedule of Proposed Map Modifications, page 13, Clacton, area Y. The area has a 'Mixed Use Allocations' designation. That area extends up to the edge of Hartley Wood (grid reference TM 1509 1772), which is an ancient woodland. The government guidance on ancient woodlands has a section on the need to buffer wildlife habitats such as ancient woodlands. Full details can be found on GOV.UK The section on buffer zones is as follows;

Use of buffer zones

A buffer zone's purpose is to protect ancient woodland and individual ancient or veteran trees. The size and type of buffer zone should vary depending on the scale, type and impact of the development. For ancient woodlands, you should have a buffer zone of at least 15 metres to avoid root damage. Where assessment shows other impacts are likely to extend beyond this distance, you're likely to need a larger buffer zone. For example, the effect of air pollution from development that results in a significant increase in traffic. A buffer zone around an ancient or veteran tree should be at least 15 times larger than the diameter of the tree. The buffer zone should be 5m from the edge of the tree's canopy if that area is larger than 15 times the tree's diameter.

Where possible, a buffer zone should:

- contribute to wider ecological networks
- be part of the green infrastructure of the area

It should consist of semi-natural habitats such as:

- woodland
- a mix of scrub, grassland, heathland and wetland planting

You should plant buffer zones with local and appropriate native species. You should consider if access is appropriate and can allow access to buffer zones if the habitat is not harmed by trampling. You should avoid including gardens in buffer zones. You should avoid sustainable drainage schemes unless:

- they respect root protection areas
- any change to the water table does not adversely affect ancient woodland or ancient and veteran trees
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I hope the above information is useful and can be included in the Main Modification details.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Neil Jarvis
Local Partnership Advisor

East and East Midlands



My working days are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.