

APPENDIX 3 – CONSULTATION

Public Questionnaire 2007 Section 1 – Trees in the City

How much tree coverage do you think there is in the following areas of Exeter?		Too much %	About right %	Too little %
Your street	Public Consultation	1	49	45
	Wavelength 16	2	52	46
Your ward	Public Consultation	1	37	53
	Wavelength 16	1	57	42
Trunk roads leading into Exeter, such as Heavitree Road	Public Consultation	0	30	66
	Wavelength 16	1	44	55
Foot/cycle paths	Public Consultation	2	45	44
	Wavelength 16	2	66	32
City parks	Public Consultation	0	54	42
	Wavelength 16	10	72	28
Green spaces in the city	Public Consultation	0	33	64
	Wavelength 16	1	57	42
Industrial areas in the city	Public Consultation	1	15	80
	Wavelength 16	1	22	77
The city as a whole	Public Consultation	0	19	77
	Wavelength 16	0	50	50

Which are the three most important places to have trees?		%
Your street	Public Consultation	29
	Wavelength 16	22
Your ward	Public Consultation	36
	Wavelength 16	29
Trunk roads leading into Exeter, such as Heavitree Road	Public Consultation	50
	Wavelength 16	39
Foot/cycle paths	Public Consultation	14
	Wavelength 16	22
City parks	Public Consultation	52
	Wavelength 16	63
Green spaces in the city	Public Consultation	65
	Wavelength 16	77
Industrial areas in the city	Public Consultation	51
	Wavelength 16	40

How high a priority should providing trees for the city be for the Council?		%
Highest	Public Consultation	15
	Wavelength 16	9
High	Public Consultation	56
	Wavelength 16	39
Medium	Public Consultation	23
	Wavelength 16	45
Low	Public Consultation	2
	Wavelength 16	6
Lowest	Public Consultation	0
	Wavelength 16	1

Please rank the following functions of trees in order of priority (1-7: the highest being 7)		1 %	2 %	3 %	4 %	5 %	6 %	7 %
Amenity	Public Consultation	4	6	22	13	23	13	9
	Wavelength 16	9	16	15	17	20	8	11
Wildlife habitat/biodiversity	Public Consultation	10	13	9	10	11	20	17
	Wavelength 16	15	13	10	9	8	23	19
Climate moderation (including pollution absorption, wind shelter, shade, storm water absorption, reduced soil erosion)	Public Consultation	11	16	7	10	9	12	25
	Wavelength 16	12	12	9	6	11	16	31
Production of useful products	Public Consultation	27	17	8	8	8	14	9
	Wavelength 16	17	16	10	11	13	17	11
Increased economic prosperity	Public Consultation	18	28	7	6	6	10	15
	Wavelength 16	26	17	9	8	9	9	18
Increased sense of well-being/reduced anti-social behaviour	Public Consultation	10	6	18	18	17	10	10
	Wavelength 16	8	9	21	18	18	11	12
Screening of unpleasant views	Public Consultation	9	4	20	24	16	10	7
	Wavelength 16	6	9	17	26	19	11	8

Section 2 – Street Trees

Would you like to see more trees in your street / ward?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	88
	Wavelength 16	75
No	Public Consultation	7
	Wavelength 16	25

If the Council were to plant more trees in your street / ward, which of the following trees would you most like to see?		%
Small – height of gutter on two-storey house, such as Rowan	Public Consultation	30
	Wavelength 16	38
Medium – height of rood on two-storey house, such as Silver Birch	Public Consultation	60
	Wavelength 16	55
Large – such as Lime or Beech	Public Consultation	32
	Wavelength 16	13

Do you think the Council should spend extra money moving services, improving soil or building tree pits in the road in order to establish street trees		%
Yes	Public Consultation	81
	Wavelength 16	NA
No	Public Consultation	14
	Wavelength 16	NA
Depends	Public Consultation	1
	Wavelength 16	NA

Do you feel that street trees should be planted in shared cycle / footpaths, if the path is wide enough?		%
Yes – all the cost	Public Consultation	80
	Wavelength 16	NA
Yes – share the cost	Public Consultation	15
	Wavelength 16	NA

Do you think the Council should pay to plant and maintain trees on private land where there is no scope to plant trees?		%
Yes – all the cost	Public Consultation	15
	Wavelength 16	15
Yes – share the cost	Public Consultation	62
	Wavelength 16	55
No	Public Consultation	17
	Wavelength 16	28

Section 3 – Parks

Which of the following parks do you use and what do you think of the tree coverage in them?		Use %	Too much %	About right %	Too little %
Belle Isle Park	Public Consultation	30	0	24	13
	Wavelength 16		1	70	29
Belmont Park	Public Consultation	30	0	26	12
	Wavelength 16		3	66	32
Bull Meadow	Public Consultation	12	0	10	10
	Wavelength 16		1	61	38
Bury Meadow	Public Consultation	15	0	15	8
	Wavelength 16		2	64	35
Heavitree Pleasure Ground	Public Consultation	28	0	17	22
	Wavelength 16		3	59	38
Northernhay Gardens	Public Consultation	47	1	37	24
	Wavelength 16		2	58	40
Rougemont Gardens	Public Consultation	49	1	53	11
	Wavelength 16		2	73	25
Pinces Gardens	Public Consultation	13	1	11	9
	Wavelength 16		3	42	56
St Thomas Pleasure Ground	Public Consultation	17	0	12	11
	Wavelength 16		2	57	41

There are two options available for the maintenance of the areas under trees. Which would you prefer?		In all areas %	Only in informal areas %
I would prefer short grass under trees, although it can have a negative effect on the water and nutrients supplied to the tree	Public Consultation	11	9
	Wavelength 16	55	45
I would prefer the tree to get more nutrients and water from the soil by leaving longer grass. Although it will look more untidy	Public Consultation	51	35
	Wavelength 16	49	50

Do you think the Council should improve wildlife habitat by leaving more dead and fallen trees in some parks and open spaces?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	81
	Wavelength 16	68
No	Public Consultation	8
	Wavelength 16	19
Don't know	Public Consultation	4
	Wavelength 16	13

Section 4 – Woodland

How much woodland do you think there currently is in Exeter?		Too much %	About right %	Too little %
	Public Consultation	0	24	69
	Wavelength 16	0	44	55

What would encourage you to use woodland more?		%
More seating	Public Consultation	34
	Wavelength 16	37
Signposted walks	Public Consultation	52
	Wavelength 16	67
Information on plants of interest	Public Consultation	45
	Wavelength 16	43
Information about where the woodland sites are	Public Consultation	70
	Wavelength 16	78

Do you feel the Council should...?		%
Create more native woodlands in Exeter	Public Consultation	65
	Wavelength 16	52
Play a leading role in encouraging the planting and facilitating the generation of a new native woodland in and outside the city	Public Consultation	81
	Wavelength 16	74
Acquire new land specifically to create new urban woodland	Public Consultation	54
	Wavelength 16	41
Convert some of its open green land into native broadleaved woodland	Public Consultation	58
	Wavelength 16	47
Do nothing	Public Consultation	3
	Wavelength 16	5

Section 5 - Education

Do you feel the Council should invest resources in developing educational woodland?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	72
	Wavelength 16	67
No	Public Consultation	13
	Wavelength 16	17
Don't know?	Public Consultation	11
	Wavelength 16	16

What sort of educational woodland would you like to see the Council develop?		%
Edible – educate people about food from trees	Public Consultation	44
	Wavelength 16	41
Working – use of trees to produce things like fence post, hazel rods	Public Consultation	53
	Wavelength 16	47
Orchard – conserve threatened species and provide information to encourage use	Public Consultation	70
	Wavelength 16	57

Section 6 – Waste

Do you think the Council should invest resources in converting tree 'waste' to usable timber products?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	71
	Wavelength 16	50
No	Public Consultation	12
	Wavelength 16	24
Don't know	Public Consultation	13
	Wavelength 16	26

Section 7 – Heritage

Would you like to see the Council play an active role in conserving and promoting Exeter's tree heritage?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	91
	Wavelength 16	85
No	Public Consultation	2
	Wavelength 16	6
Don't know	Public Consultation	4
	Wavelength 16	9

Are you interested in becoming a tree warden for your area		%
Yes	Public Consultation	31
	Wavelength 16	9
No	Public Consultation	58
	Wavelength 16	91

Section 8 – Tree Preservation and Conservation

Do you own any trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	4
	Wavelength 16	4
No	Public Consultation	89
	Wavelength 16	90
Don't know	Public Consultation	NA
	Wavelength 16	7

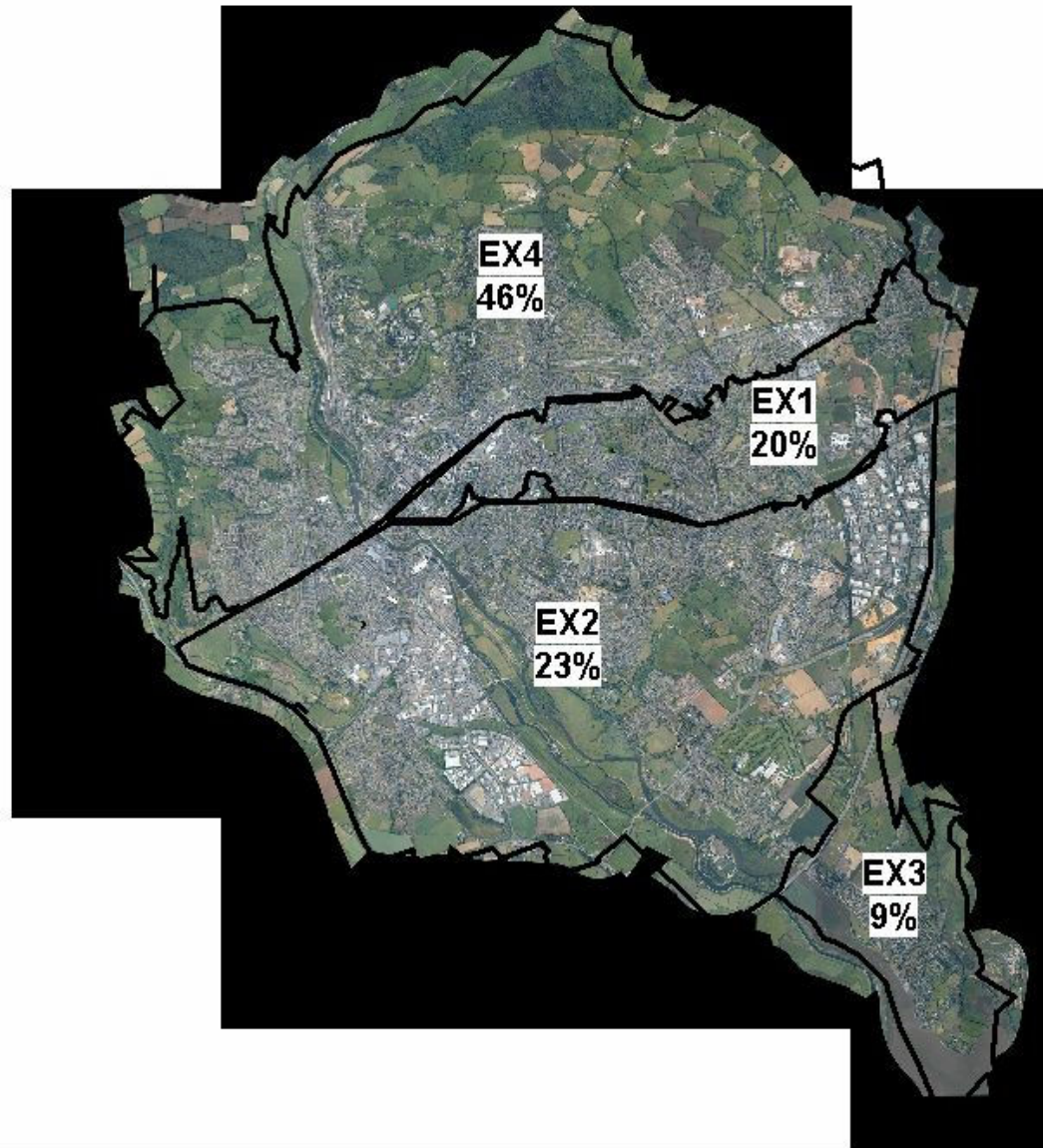
If yes, do you know you need Council consent prior to working on your tree?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	15
	Wavelength 16	57
No	Public Consultation	5
	Wavelength 16	43

Do you live in a conservation area		%
Yes	Public Consultation	27
	Wavelength 16	17
No	Public Consultation	39
	Wavelength 16	51
Don't know	Public Consultation	30
	Wavelength 16	33

If yes, do you know you need Council consent prior to working on your tree?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	26
	Wavelength 16	53
No	Public Consultation	11
	Wavelength 16	47

Would you like further information about Tree Preservation Orders, or trees in Conservation Areas?		%
Yes	Public Consultation	34
	Wavelength 16	28
No	Public Consultation	46
	Wavelength 16	72

Breakdown of respondents by postcode



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Stakeholder Questions

Introduction

Trees and woodlands are an increasingly vital resource in urban areas such as Exeter. In addition to the visual splendour they offer, urban trees and woodland are a prime absorber of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), provide vital habitat for birds, butterflies and fungi, relieve symptoms of modern day life such as stress, and have even been shown to help increase economic prosperity and house prices.

In Exeter trees and woodlands work in conjunction, and sometimes compete, with other space uses, such as housing, roads, schools, commerce, parks and other open spaces. The Council is preparing a new strategy for managing Trees and Woodlands in Exeter. As a stakeholder, you can play an important part in shaping and implementing the strategy.

Opportunities exist for stakeholders to:

- Help design tree and woodland landscapes
- Sponsor tree and woodland planting
- Help plant small trees and woodlands
- Promote good tree care

To this end, we are:

- Seeking your views as to how we can influence the future tree cover of the city; and
- Gauging stakeholders' interest in being involved in changing the city's treescape.

Name of organisation	
Nature of organisation	
Address	

How do you feel about the balance of tree & woodland cover in Exeter?	More trees needed	<i>More woodland needed</i>	<i>More trees and woodland needed</i>	<i>About right</i>	<i>Too much</i>

Would you like to see more tree and woodland cover in your area?	Yes – both	Yes – trees	Yes – woodland	No

Would you like to be involved in shaping the future treescape of Exeter?	Yes – design	Yes – sponsor	Yes – planting	Yes – promotion	No

Street Trees

Street trees are defined as those growing in a footpath or a grass verge. They are often the only “green” presence in some areas. Their proximity to the main emitters of CO₂ in Exeter – vehicles and household boilers – means they are the chief absorbers of CO₂. In some areas street trees are the only refuge for wildlife.

Perceived disadvantages of street trees include a negative affect on light levels at properties, and conflict with infrastructure such as drainage and walls. These conflicts can usually be managed via careful species choice and pruning regimes.

Are there any street trees in your area?	Yes	No

If yes, do you like them?	Yes	No	Don't know

If no, would you like some street trees for your area?	Yes	No	Don't know

If yes what kind of tree would you like?	Small	Medium	Large

Other comments on tree choice

It can often be difficult to find space or suitable soil in modern footpaths and verges to plant and grow street trees. This is due to the presence of underground services, such as electricity, water, telephone and cable TV, and the lack of soil under the surface. Where street trees are desired in such settings, extra resources are required to improve the soil, move underground services or even build special tree “stations” in the road.

Do you think the Council should spend extra money moving services, improving soil, or building tree pits in the road in order to establish street trees?	Yes	No	Don't know

Would you be interested in helping to financially support such a scheme if it meant street trees could be planted in your area?	Yes	No

In some streets there is simply not the space to plant and grow street trees. In such situations, it may be feasible for the Council to plant trees in adjacent private space, such as a private garden or an industrial unit. Responsibility for and ownership of a tree would always rest with the land owner, although the Council could share planting and maintenance costs.

Would you be interested in working with the Council to plant new trees on your land/premises?	Yes	No

Woodlands

Native broadleaved woodland is a vital and threatened habitat in England. Urban native woodland confers all the benefits already outlined. It can provide an excellent living resource, helping residents to escape the city and connect with nature, and helping schoolchildren to learn about woodland and its inhabitants. There is no significant mature woodland in Exeter, and very little native woodland in the nearby countryside. It is possible for the Council to play a leading role in planting, encouraging the planting, and facilitating the generation of new native woodland in and outside the city.

Do you feel the Council should create new native woodlands in Exeter?	Yes	No	

Are you interested in working with the Council to plant & establish new woodlands?	Yes – sponsor	Yes – plant	No	Don't know

One difficulty in creating significant new woodlands in and around Exeter is the lack of available land. Options available to the Council include acquiring low-value land, such as disused pasture land, or converting sites such as a major park, or leased pasture land, into native broadleaved woodland.

Would you like help to create and establish new woodland on land you own or manage?	Yes	No	Don't know

Education

The Council has the possibility to use some land to provide tree-based educational resources. Examples could include the development of an “edible” woodland, whereby a mixture of native and exotic crop-producing trees are grown for the purpose of educating people about food from trees. Another possibility could be the creation of a traditional working woodland using coppiced and standard trees to produce woodland crops such as chair legs, fence poles, pea sticks, hop poles. Another possibility is to create an orchard of local fruit varieties with the objective of conserving threatened species and educating people.

Are you interested in working with the Council to develop educational woodland?	Yes	No	Need more info

If yes, do you have a preference for the type of woodland you would like to help the Council to develop?	Edible	Working	Orchard	All three

Sustainability

It is possible for the Council to grow woodlands for bio-fuels, and use this crop to then heat those buildings not yet sufficiently insulated. Such woodlands, although mostly comprising non-native species, could also be a public recreational and educational space.

Are you interested in working with the Council to grow woodlands for bio-fuel?	Yes	No	Need more info

If yes, are you interested in using bio-fuel at your premises?	Yes	No

Waste

Tree management in urban areas generates considerable “waste” in the form of stems, logs and woodchip. Whilst all woodchip is re-used on our sites, re-use of the stem and logwood is currently minimal, due to the high cost of processing individual trees. Much usable wood is also converted into woodchip. The Council could dry and process tree “waste”, converting into useful by-products such as planks for buildings and path edging, or stakes to support newly planted trees.

Are you interested in working with the Council to converting tree “waste” to usable timber?	Yes	No	Need more info

If yes, are you interested in using the products of tree "waste"	Yes	No	Need more info

Heritage

Exeter has a rich history of introducing new exotic plants, and breeding many new and unusual plants and varieties. The activities of Exeter's nationally renowned nurseries such as Veitches and Lucombe & Pines has bequeathed many fine and unusual species of tree, many of which can be seen throughout the city. Examples include the numerous 'Lucombe' Oaks and Exeter Elms. These trees are a resource that the Council can play an active role in conserving and promoting.

Would you like to work with the Council to conserve and promote Exeter's tree heritage?	Yes	No	Don't know

Would you like to plant some Exeter heritage tree species on your land?	Yes	No