



Decision Duty to Consult on Felling Street Trees

The period of consultation has ended. This is a notification that the trees proposed to be removed will be retained. This decision notice meets the duty to consult and notify when removing street trees set out in section 115 of the Environment Act 2021

Notice Date: 28/01/2026

Reference: PMC010 – Walpole Gardens, Structural Footway Maintenance Scheme

Parish/Ward: Town Close, Norwich

Location: Walpole Gardens, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1RU
Outside number 27, What3Words: oasis.landed.arrow

Position: Outside number 23, What3Words: lace.assets.vows
Outside number 21, What3Words: comet.erase.across
Outside number 1, What3Words: toger.tanks.jump

Species: 4x Liquidambar Styraciflua (Sweet gum)

Summary of responses: 36 responses were received in total regarding tree felling at Walpole Gardens. 34 responses were opposed to tree felling. 2 responses were in favour, however, even those respondents said they would prefer alternative solutions if possible.

Residents repeatedly emphasised how important the mature trees are to the area. They provide shade, cooling, wildlife habitat and air quality benefits, as well as the way they improve the look and feel of the estate.

A major theme in the responses is the belief that the path can be repaired or redesigned without removing any trees with respondents suggesting a range of alternatives.

Respondents also acknowledge that the current path is uneven and difficult for some users. However, most feel that accessibility improvements can be achieved while keeping the

trees, as there is enough space to redesign the route in a more sympathetic way.

Overall, the community's view is clear that residents want the mature trees to remain, and they urge Norfolk County Council to look at alternative engineering solutions that improve accessibility without removing them.

Decision summary: Following the consultation, Norfolk County Council has decided **not to proceed** with the proposed tree felling. Instead, the council will explore alternative engineering solutions that allow the scheme to be delivered while retaining the existing trees.

While the final design is still to be confirmed, the preferred approach is now expected to use a narrower surfaced area alongside a revised pavement design that can better accommodate root heave.

The scheme will now be redesigned and brought forward at a later date, replacing the earlier proposal.

For further information about Council tree management please visit our website at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/trees>.

Facilities are also available to view this notice online at libraries.

Alternatively, Norfolk County Council may be contacted by post to Stuart Blake, Norfolk County Council Highways, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 2UD.

The trees previously identified for removal will be retained.