

Duty to Consult on Street Tree Removal: Consultation

Under Section 115 of the Environment Act 2021, Richmond Council has a Duty to Consult members of the public prior to felling a street tree, this is where an exemption under the Act does not apply.

Notice Date	07/10/2025
Reference	DTC006
Ward	North Richmond
Site	Sheendale Road, TW9 2JL
Position	Outside 15-17
Species	2x Acer platanoides (Norway maple)
Reason for tree removal	These 2x trees' roots have damaged the public footway grown onto neighbouring property and risk damage to the boundary wall & footpath. Regrettably, we are unable to prune these trees' roots without making them unhealthy or unstable. We also are unable to install a root barrier in a residential street due to the number of underground pipes and cables that run into properties, as these break the barrier and easily allow roots to grow through again.
The way forward	A sustainable option is proposed which involves the removal of the trees, reprofiling of the pavement to make it a flat surface and replacement tree planting into a bespoke tree pit that contains a root deflector designed to direct roots downwards and minimise the risk of similar damage occurring in future.
Consultation period & process	Council tree experts and highways engineers assess every tree and footway individually, with tree retention always our first priority. This enables the majority of Street Trees to be retained. Very occasionally, we reluctantly must remove a tree that is causing damage, where an engineering solution that retains the tree and maintains the footway in a safe condition for all, is not workable. A consultation opened on Tuesday 7th October 2025 and will close after 28 days on 4th November 2025. This allows members of the public to submit any objections or supporting comments for the Council's consideration.

Once the consultation period has closed the Council will consider the responses and make a final decision whether to remove this tree. The decision will be made clear in a notice that will be published and attached to this tree and will remain in place for 28 days thereafter. Please note that any tree removed will be replaced in accordance with our adopted tree management policy: richmond.gov.uk/media/sbgcak2l/tree_policy.pdf.

(Note that this Duty does not apply to all trees that the Council manages as there are exemptions in place, including for the removal of trees deemed to be dangerous or trees that are on the classified road network or within parks and open spaces. A comprehensive schedule of the exemptions are available within the Government Guidance: <https://www.theihe.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Duty-to-Consult-Guidance-for-Local-Authorities-FINAL.pdf>

If you wish to submit comments outlining an objection or support for the proposed tree removal, you can do so by contacting our consultation webpage at: <https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/richmondcs/richmondst-25/> or scanning the QR code in the bottom right-hand corner of this notice.

For more information on how we manage and plant our trees, please visit our website: www.richmond.gov.uk/services/parks_and_open_spaces/trees or contact us at: Trees@Richmond.gov.uk.

Tree Section
Parks & Open Spaces
Civic Centre
44 York Street
Twickenham, TW2 7PU



Image 1:



Image 2:



Image 3:

