



Tree Policy

Daventry District Council is committed to sustainable environmental practices and declared a Climate Emergency in February 2020. The Council recognises the important role that trees have in enhancing the environment and combatting climate change by absorbing carbon from the atmosphere. Trees also contribute to biodiversity and health and wellbeing by providing attractive green spaces.

This policy sets out the key commitments relating to tree management and planting. Existing policy documents including the West Northants Joint Core Strategy, Part 2 Local Plan and Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document will be used to support implementation of this policy.

This Council will:

1. Commit to replacing every Council owned tree removed. Where this is not possible in the original location due to site constraints or disease, a tree will be planted in the nearest possible suitable location.
2. Continue to ensure sustainable management of the existing tree cover utilising its powers of Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) to retain trees which are of significant amenity value.
3. Aim to double tree cover in the local authority area by 2030.
4. Explore enhancing underused land owned by the Council to plant additional trees and explore innovative ways of doing so.
5. Support and encourage community groups to carry out tree planting on land owned by Parish Councils or private residential land and provide guidance on the Council website for communities.
6. Support and promote tree planting on private estates in Daventry District and provide guidance on the Council website for landowners.
7. Use the position of the Council as the local planning authority to encourage and influence developers to create large tree coverings on any new developments where practicable.
8. Seek to influence the policy position of the impending West Northamptonshire Council in relation to tree planting and management.
9. Seek to ensure an ambitious target is set for increasing tree cover in West Northamptonshire from 2021 onwards.