

Overview and Scrutiny Tree Policy Task and Finish Group Report

Addendum

Community Safety

Where the condition of a tree is directly related to a clear and foreseeable threat to the personal safety of residents or visitors or to a property, action should be taken to minimise that risk. In further support of this approach Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 clearly states that Local Authorities should take into account in their decision making any issues that may impact upon crime and disorder.

Examples of where action should be taken to address issues of community safety include where street lighting on footpaths is rendered ineffective due to dense foliage, or where clear sight lines across footpaths and open spaces are obscured by low-growing tree canopies or epicormic growth from the trunks.