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EDDC Tree, Hedge & Woodland Strategy Public Consultation

We received 35 comments in total on the draft Tree, Hedge & Woodland Strategy. The responses below are from Treeconomics and East Devon District Council. All responses are anonymous the responses are dated with when the first comment was made by the consultee/resident, with the earliest comment being first in the list. Consultee comments are not made public for privacy reasons. All respondents who allowed response via commonplace have been replied to on commonplace. If you are unable to find the response to your comment in the list or would like your response emailed to you personally. Please email engagement@eastdevon.gov.uk

Treeconomics and EDDC response	Consultee comment submission date
<p>1. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Treeconomics have developed other Tree Strategies for Local Authorities, for example Birmingham and Belfast. Both of these have led to securing of funding for the actions outlined in the strategy. Our intention is for East Devon District Council to replicate that success. The important first step of setting goals in a comprehensive strategy will enable East Devon to make progress in funding the actions set out - without such a strategy the options become significantly more limited. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12 19 T17:43:07.593Z</p>
<p>2. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Treeconomics have developed other Tree Strategies for Local Authorities, for example Birmingham and Belfast. Both of these have led to securing of funding for the actions outlined in the strategy. Our intention is for East Devon District Council to replicate that success. The important first step of setting goals in a comprehensive strategy will enable East Devon to make progress in funding the actions set out - without such a strategy the options become significantly more limited. Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12 19 T19:05:25.299Z</p>
<p>3. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. This Strategy focuses on actions to achieve over a period of time. Planting techniques and</p>	<p>2024-12 19 T20:03:44.723Z</p>

<p>establishment are important to the success of any planting program and this will be addressed as an operational issue in the management plans for individual sites.</p> <p>Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	
<p>4. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The strategy will be reviewed in 1 year and progress will be benchmarked. Actions set out in the Strategy vary on timescale and further reviews will be at appropriate intervals to continually monitor progress.</p> <p>Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-19 T20:57:18.103Z</p>
<p>5. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The lessons learnt from Cranbrook and the aspiration to achieve 3-30-300 in new developments will prevent this happening again in future.</p> <p>Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-19 T22:46:54.592Z</p>
<p>6. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-20 T11:17:23.025Z</p>
<p>7. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Longevity of the Trees and Woodlands across East Devon is a key feature of this strategy as is climate change and the potential impacts this poses. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-20 T12:09:47.086Z</p>
<p>8. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We agree with you that the basic need of establishing and retaining trees is fundamental to a healthy treescape and an effective strategy. This is addressed over the course of the strategy and goes</p>	<p>2024-12-20 T19:13:38.545Z</p>

<p>hand-in-hand with other actions identified to strengthen every part of East Devon's approach to managing trees, hedges and woodlands. This strategy is supported by an action plan which details how and when these targets can be met to ensure progress is made on each Key Performance Indicator.</p> <p>Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	
<p>9. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-21 T06:01:04.007Z</p>
<p>10. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. This Strategy focuses on actions to achieve over a period of time. Planting techniques and establishment are important to the success of any planting program and this will be addressed as an operational issue in the management plans for individual sites.</p> <p>The same can be said for protection against grey squirrels or any other non-native invasive species. Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-21 T08:23:03.268Z</p>
<p>11. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Included in this strategy is a section on natural regeneration and habitat restoration. Here we highlight the importance and added benefits of allowing hedges to mature into linear woodland and become green corridors between existing woodlands. A part of this Strategy is to map suitable areas for natural regeneration where this can be encouraged if appropriate to the site.</p> <p>Due to your comments we have included a note on hedge flailing in the strategy</p> <p>Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-21 T17:25:21.951Z</p>
<p>12. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The EIE dataset doesn't allow for distinction</p>	<p>2024-12-21 T17:57:15.368Z</p>

between types of woodland - the coupling of EIE data with National Forestry Inventory can give some insights into woodland type and will be considered for future reviews of the strategy and any in depth canopy assessments undertaken by EDDC. Targets for improving age diversity will be addressed in any Tree Establishment Strategies. Due to your comments we have reworded the reference to Santamour's diversity rule to make it clearer to readers.

Due to your comments we have specified the Tree Establishment Strategy will aim to take into account other factors beyond climate resilience scores. Each action in this strategy requires a budgeting exercise which will take into consideration staff resource, this is normal practice for all council activities before undertaking work. Unfortunately remote imaging such as the EIE data doesn't allow us to identify species.

Due to your comments we have changed the action of T7 to signpost to relevant and pre-existing online advice on tree, hedge & woodland management. Mapping locations where natural regeneration is suitable is only the first stage and all actions taken by EDDC will be with the express intent not to cause negative consequences to existing habitat. Due to your comments we have included your suggestion about extending the tree warden network.

Due to your comments we have included your suggestion about tree care in the community involvement section

Again we would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.

2024-12-22
T12:05:28.589Z

13. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Outside the scope of Tree Protection Orders and Conservation Areas East Devon District Council and the planning system has limited influence on privately owned trees. Therefore, this Strategy has specific actions to assist private landowners manage their trees according to best practice - this best practice will generally always recommend protection of trees in good health and don't put people or property at risk.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.

<p>14. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The Strategy has specific actions for managing trees which are on public land and to help landowners manage their trees according to best practice. We acknowledge that, by its very nature, the boundary of public and private property will be harder to manage. These cases will be addressed as an operational issue in the management plans for individual sites.</p> <p>We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-22 T16:16:27.856Z</p>
<p>15. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2024-12-31 T07:34:59.085Z</p>
<p>16. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Tithebarn is included as part of the Broadclyst Parish which is one of 30 parishes in East Devon. Whilst it is unfortunate we can't address every residential area individually, we can assure you that the Strategy is for the whole of the District and applies equally across the area.</p> <p>Increase in canopy cover is a goal throughout the strategy and while addressing specific sites is beyond the scope of this document, our aim is that the actions taken as a result of this strategy will help bring about the benefits you describe.</p> <p>We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-04 T23:06:52.673Z</p>
<p>17. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-05 T11:19:06.071Z</p>
<p>18. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Treeconomics have developed other Tree Strategies for Local Authorities, for example Birmingham and Belfast. Both of these have led to securing of funding for the actions outlined in the strategy. Our intention is for East Devon District</p>	<p>2025-01-05 T11:46:45.426Z</p>

<p>Council to replicate that success. Certainly having a plan is an important first step.</p> <p>This strategy is focussed on East Devon as a whole landscape but your important feedback on this individual site has been shared with the EDDC team.</p> <p>We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	
<p>19. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The development of a Tree Establishment Strategy is identified as part of the action plan which accompanies this document. This will address aspects such as tree maintenance which you have raised here.</p> <p>We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-05 T13:19:04.267Z</p>
<p>20. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The Strategy has specific sections regarding Tree Protection Orders which does include a review. Hedge maintenance is featured throughout the document and the Strategy aims to promote appropriate maintenance and to find opportunities to restore habitat around hedgerows.</p> <p>We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-06 T14:46:12.787Z</p>
<p>21. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We will be considering very carefully how we can engage with our local communities going forward and the Tree Champion scheme being proposed in the Strategy is a good example of how we wish to do that.</p>	<p>2025-01-09 T10:47:11.904Z</p>
<p>22. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-10 T10:22:03.279Z</p>
<p>23. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The Strategy does address tree maintenance and climate change - the individual cases you have</p>	<p>2025-01-13 T22:26:23.879Z</p>

<p>highlighted here would be an operational issue for individual site plans. Thank you for highlighting these specific issues.</p> <p>We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	
<p>24. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-15 T19:07:11.500Z</p>
<p>25. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-17 T15:52:21.822Z</p>
<p>26. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. The final published strategy will include review dates for each Key Performance Indicator. The Strategy as a whole will be reviewed periodically so that actions, those responsible and the timelines can be adjusted if necessary. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-18 T10:20:24.821Z</p>
<p>27. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Thank you for highlighting the issue in this area. This Strategy is for the whole landscape of East Devon and so individual sites fall outside the scope of this document. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-18 T10:51:05.597Z</p>
<p>28. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Thank you for highlighting the issue in this area. This Strategy is for the whole landscape of East Devon and so individual sites fall outside the scope of this document. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-19 T16:39:45.878Z</p>

<p>29. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team</p>	<p>2025-01-20 T17:04:03.109Z</p>
<p>30. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Part of the strategy is being able to measure and quantify trees and hedgerows, the planning system should therefore take into account the value of trees in East Devon and where appropriate protect them. However, this strategy cannot specifically make policy for the planning system. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-21 T14:50:55.138Z</p>
<p>31. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Thank you for highlighting the issue in this area. This Strategy is for the whole landscape of East Devon and so individual sites fall outside the scope of this document. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-22 T16:21:03.188Z</p>
<p>32.</p>	<p>2025-01-23 T23:46:13.812Z</p>
<p>33. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. This strategy is supported by an action plan which details how these targets can be met, and at what point within the project to ensure progress is made on each Key Performance Indicator. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-24 T13:26:33.678Z</p>
<p>34. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Thank you for highlighting the issue in this area. This Strategy is for the whole landscape of East Devon and so individual sites fall outside the scope of this document. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.</p>	<p>2025-01-24 T20:46:50.746Z</p>
<p>35. Thank you for your comments - they have been duly considered and shared with the project team. Planting techniques and establishment are important to the success of any planting program and this will be addressed as an operational issue</p>	<p>2025-01-25 T18:59:21.263Z</p>

in the management plans for individual sites. Treeconomics have developed other Tree Strategies for Local Authorities, for example Birmingham and Belfast. Both of these have led to securing of funding for the actions outlined in the strategy. Our intention is for East Devon District Council to replicate that success. The important first step of setting goals in a comprehensive strategy will enable East Devon to make progress in funding the actions set out - without such a strategy the options become significantly more limited. We would like to thank you for taking the time to respond and we encourage you to continue to do so in the future - input from varied experiences improve our work and reflect the District's priorities.