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DECISION NOTICE

DUTY TO CONSULT ON FELLING STREET TREES

Reference: A6023 Doncaster Road / Pastures Road junction improvement scheme

Notice was given under section 115 of the Environment Act 2021 and section 96A of the Highways Act 1980 that this tree is proposed to be felled.

Consultation period: 09/06/2025 to 09/07/2025.

Consultation outcome:

City of Doncaster Council has a duty as the Highways Authority to make improvements to the highway through the Highways Act 1980.

There is an issue with the current capacity of the junction of A6023 Doncaster Road and Pastures Road resulting in frequent congestion to the network. This issue is evidenced by traffic data, including a 24 hour-a-day study recording vehicle movements in the area during October 2024. 75 residents also requested for action to be taken to address congestion at this junction during public consultation and engagement on Mexborough Town Centre Regeneration in 2024.

The feasibility of a range of alterations to the highway were explored. Several of these were discounted as not being viable for reasons including impact on nearby homes, available space on the highway, proximity to Banbury Bridge, differing land levels, costs and the need to divert utilities infrastructure. The preferred option was progressed to further modelling and development which has shown that the layout will provide the efficiency improvements required and within the available budget and timescale.

To construct the new junction layout requires the felling of two trees and so a public consultation was conducted during which two objections were received.

These objections raised the following points:

- The two trees are established trees and so replacements will take time to reach the same level of maturity.
- Other options for the design of the junction should be considered which avoid the need to remove the trees.
- There are existing access and noise issues for residents living in the area.

It is acknowledged that the replacement trees will not be as mature when planted as those which are felled. This will be mitigated by replanting more trees (4) than the number that are removed (2). Two of the trees will be planted in the remaining grass verge, with a further two planted in another suitable location in Mexborough.

Strategic Transportation

City of Doncaster Council, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU

As stated above, several options for the design of the junction have been considered. The preferred option provides the required efficiency improvements with the least impact to the surrounding land and residents.

The improvements to the junction aim to alleviate congestion in the area which should have a positive impact on the access and noise issues currently experienced by residents. The preferred option also has the least impact on residents in terms of access and noise than others which were considered.

In conclusion, based on the reasons stated above the decision is to proceed with the felling of the two street trees identified to enable the junction improvements to be delivered.

Replacement planting of four birch trees will be carried out in the next available planting season after the highway improvements have been completed.



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