

North Somerset Council

Report to the Place Policy & Scrutiny Panel

Date of Meeting: 8/3/23

Subject of Report: Ash Dieback Update

Town or Parish: All

Officer/Member Presenting: Esther Coffin-Smith, Natural Environment Manager

Key Decision: N/A

Reason:

For information only.

Recommendations

For the panel to consider the latest update on ADB (Appendix A).

1. Summary of Report

Update on the NSC Ash Dieback programme.

2. Policy

Ash Dieback Action Plan 2022.

3. Details

Appendix A provides details on our ash dieback programme during 2022-23 and the proposals for 2023-24.

4. Consultation

We consulted on our approach to dealing with ash dieback as part of producing our Ash Dieback Action Plan in 2022.

5. Financial Implications

An update on the current financial position is included in Appendix A.

6. Legal Powers and Implications

The Council has an obligation to manage the risk from trees on its land.

7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

Where possible we will mitigate the loss of the ash trees through both replanting and natural regeneration. Where it is safe to do so, infected trees will be left in situ where they can continue to provide habitat for wildlife. We will also seek advice prior to the removal of trees to identify any risks to nesting birds and bats

8. Risk Management

The Ash Dieback Action Plan addresses the risks associated with ash dieback.

9. Equality Implications

No, this update is for information only.

10. Corporate Implications

The Council has a legal responsibility to reduce risk to the public and property from diseased ash trees and this update explains how we have been achieving this.

11. Options Considered

N/A

Author:

Esther Coffin-Smith, Natural Environment Manager

Appendices:

Appendix A: Ash Dieback Update

Background Papers:

Ash Dieback Action Plan: [North Somerset Council Ash Dieback Action Plan \(north-somerset.gov.uk\)](http://north-somerset.gov.uk)