

COUNCIL MEETING –11TH SEPTEMBER 2019

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A2 TO WP2	10/9/19	10/9/19

Submitted by:	Councillor Lisa Mulherin
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development)
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

Remove all after “tree planting and maintenance” and replace with:

“This Council notes it has planted over 80,000 trees in the last 5 years with plans to plant millions more by 2030. Council is working with the University of Leeds to survey and better understand canopy coverage in the city and identify how best to expand it to meet our targets. Council is also in conversations with the Woodland Trust around securing funding for schools to carry out tree planting, so a new tree is planted for every young person in Leeds.

Council also notes that new woodland areas will double tree canopy coverage in the River Aire catchment as part of the innovative Natural Flood Management approach taken by this Council with the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Council will continue to use its local leadership role to work with landowners, community groups and businesses through the White Rose Forest partnership to increase tree cover in the Leeds City Region by a third, as part of work towards the creation of the new Northern Forest stretching from Hull to Merseyside.

However, Council notes that most land in the Leeds metropolitan district is in private ownership and believes national Government should find ways to encourage farmers and other land owners to make further land available for tree and woodland planting to increase the tree canopy.

Council deeply regrets that Conservative and Liberal Democrat imposed austerity has so far cut the council’s budget by £266m a year, with the direct impact that many valued council services have been stretched to breaking point including tree management, with no end to the cuts in sight.

Council therefore calls on the Government to reverse cuts to council funding, adopt the council’s ambitious target of carbon neutrality by 2030 as opposed to 2050, and provide significant funding to enable further tree planting to help meet the carbon neutrality target.”

Full motion will then read:

“This Council notes that it declared a Climate Change Emergency this year with a commitment to make the City of Leeds carbon neutral by 2030.

This Council also notes the recent report from the Committee on Climate Change which calls for doubling the current number of trees planted annually in the UK in order to achieve the Government's target to be carbon neutral by 2050.

The desire for carbon offsetting will also see further demand for tree planting and maintenance.

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Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
- Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
