

Wiltshire Council

Council

10 July 2018

Notice of Motion No. 9 – The Inclusion of Tree Planting in Future Planning

Councillors Pat Aves and Brian Mathew

Wiltshire is currently undergoing a huge amount of new house building.

We believe that Wiltshire Council should consider following the example set by Conservative run Wycombe District Council, who now require developers to plant a minimum of 25% tree coverage (by canopy) on all new housing estates, and that this should be included in Wiltshire Council's Local Plan Review of its Core Strategy.

We believe that this would help to improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of these new estates in a multiplicity of ways, leading to a happier, healthier population.

There is now overwhelming evidence of the benefits of trees to people's physical and mental health as detailed in the references below.

Therefore we ask that the meeting consider the following motion:

That Wiltshire Council consider including the adoption of a policy that requires developers to plant a minimum of 25% tree coverage (by canopy) on all new housing estates, and that this should be included in Wiltshire Council's Local Plan Review of its Core Strategy.

References:

Manchester's City of Trees Project <http://www.cityoftrees.org.uk/why-trees-health-wellbeing>.

The Forestry Commission's:

[https://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/IntroducingUrbanForest_FINAL_Sept16.pdf/\\$FILE/IntroducingUrbanForest_FINAL_Sept16.pdf](https://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/IntroducingUrbanForest_FINAL_Sept16.pdf/$FILE/IntroducingUrbanForest_FINAL_Sept16.pdf)

Forest Research - Kieron J. Doick and Helen J. Davies:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/311582274_What_are_urban_forests_and_how_beneficial_are_they