



Reference: RFI 1802012

Request:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information ('council' refers to your authority):

- 1) What assessment has the council made of the potential impact of ash dieback (Chalara) in the authority area and what strategy does it have to cope?

Chalara is not evident within the borough to date. In 2012 the Council introduced a protocol to respond to alerts and inspect any reported potential evidence of Chalara within the borough. Employees have been briefed and are aware of the national guidelines relating to the disease and how to identify the symptoms.

- 2) How many mature ash trees are close to roads for which the council is responsible or public areas in the council's control where those trees have the potential to impact on public safety if they become infected, whether in the council's ownership or privately owned?

Data is currently not available. However, a borough wide survey is underway to collate tree data including a record of condition.

- 3) How many of those trees are on council-owned land, and how many of those are 'street trees' in residential areas.

Unknown

- 4) How many of those trees are on non-council-owned land?

Unknown

- 5) What is the estimated cost to the council of felling and/or otherwise dealing with all trees in question 2 and over what timescale is that cost estimated?

Unknown

- 6) How much of that cost does the council expect to recover from third parties?

Unknown

- 7) How many trees has the council committed to plant specifically to replace trees lost to Chalara?

We do not have any evidence of Chalara being present within the borough. The Council has a policy to replant two trees for any tree removed.

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