

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: -

4th April 2006

REPORT OF DIRECTOR FOR REGENERATION

SERVING OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 9/2006 ON PROPERTIES BETWEEN 180 to 228 Thornhill Road, Streetly.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the authority to serve the Tree Preservation Order No 9/2006.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Authorise the Walsall Tree Preservation Order No 9/2006. A plan showing the Tree Preservation Order is attached to this report.
- (ii) Support the reason for making the Tree Preservation Order set out in paragraph 1.2.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Within Budget. In general, new Tree Preservation Orders generate additional applications for consent and increase officers' workload.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Within Council policy - YES

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The owners and future owners of this site will be required to apply for Council permission if they wish to fell or prune any tree protected by the Tree Preservation Order. Failure to do this renders anyone carrying out unauthorised works to trees liable to criminal proceedings.

6. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

NOT APPLICABLE

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The management of Walsall's tree cover through the administration of the Tree Preservation Order system has positive implications in protecting trees for their visual and environmental benefits. Removal of protected trees is often necessary because trees have a finite lifespan and may also cause nuisance or damage. In these instances the Council has to decide whether the removal of protected trees is justified. In the event that felling a tree is permitted, the Council can secure replacement planting to maintain tree cover.

8. WARD(S) AFFECTED

The Tree Preservation Order 9/2006 is located within Streetly Ward.

9. **CONSULTEES**

Owners and near neighbours will be sent copies of the Tree Preservation Order and invited to make representations to the Council in both opposition and support of this Tree Preservation Order. Any responses will be described within the future report for the confirmation of this order.

10. **CONTACT OFFICER**

Ian McDermott - Extension: 2453

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

File TPO 9/1981 being replaced in part by relating to Tree Preservation Order No 9/2006

Tim Johnson,
DIRECTOR FOR REGENERATION

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SERVING OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.

1.0 **REPORT DETAIL.**

- 1.1 The trees, the subject of this Order, are situated in the front or rear gardens of properties between 180 and 228 Thornhill Drive. In the past the trees have been protected under TPO 9/1981 which was recently reviewed. The outcome of which was that changes within the area covered by TPO 9/1981 and changes to the population protected by that TPO coupled with the unwieldy size of that order merit the creation of three new orders offering more easily managed units. The trees selected for new or continued protection in TPO 9/2006 are prominent in the street scene and are protected for the following reasons:
 - The trees form a prominent landscape feature in the local area and will continue to contribute to landscape quality in the future.
 - The tree(s) adds to the amenity and visual diversity of the immediate area.
 - There is considerable development activity in the area with opportunities for infill development the Tree Preservation Order will discourage the premature removal of important trees.
 - The Preservation of trees in the area needs re-inforcing. Created due to local residents concerns over mature tree losses in the area TPO 9/1981 covered the land between Chester Road and Thornhill Road.to a northern boundary running approximately between 149 Chester Road and 180 Thornhill Road. Of the original 200 protected trees in this order 81 have been lost (mostly without record of permission) with only 12 replacement plantings identifiable.
- 1.2 The Committee is therefore recommended to authorise the making of Tree Preservation Order No 9 of 2006.



