



DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: –

22nd April 2008

REPORT OF DIRECTOR FOR REGENERATION

SERVING OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 6 of 2008 on land at 134 to 152, Walsall Road, Walsall, Aldridge, WS9 0JT.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the authority to make Tree Preservation Order No 6 of 2008, and subject to the confirmation of TPO 6 of 2008 to revoke Tree Preservation Order 10 of 2004.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Authorise the making of Walsall Tree Preservation Order No 6 of 2008. 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 2.
- (iii) Revoke Tree Preservation Order 10 of 2004 subject to Tree Preservation Order 6 of 2008 being confirmed within 6 months of the Order being served.

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 6 of 2008 is located within the Aldridge Central and South 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**

Andrew Cook - Extension: 2447

11. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

File PDI/17/667 relating to Tree Preservation Order 10 of 2004.

Steve Lewis
HEAD OF REGENERATION-DELIVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: –

1 April 2008

SERVING OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 6 OF 2008 ON LAND AT 134 TO 152, WALSALL ROAD, WALSALL, ALDRIDGE, WS9 0JT.

REPORT DETAIL.

1. The trees, the subject of this Order, are situated in the front and rear gardens of residential properties at 134 to 152, Walsall Road, Walsall, Aldridge, WS9 0JT. At present all the trees are protected under TPO 10 of 2004 which was recently reviewed at the request of the residents. The outcome of the review means that the new TPO 6 of 2008 details individual trees which are specifically protected and consequently gives residents of the properties more freedom to manage the trees that have been excluded from the order. The exclusion of certain trees from the new order will also reduce Council Officers workload by reducing the number of applications.
2. The trees selected for continued protection under TPO 6 of 2008 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 trees add to the amenity and visual diversity of the immediate area.*
 - *There is considerable development activity in the area with opportunities for infill development and the Tree Preservation Order will discourage the premature removal of important trees.*
3. The trees in question are worthy of protection for their contribution to the local landscape, particularly in breaking up the visual street front and roof-scape. The trees are a component part of the quality of the local landscape. They will, in the future, also provide a mature visual and wildlife amenity feature that will add quality directly to the local area along with other trees. It is therefore considered expedient in the interests of the long-term amenity of the area to ensure the continued retention of the trees by replacing Tree Preservation Order 10 of 2004 with a new order that more accurately represents current site requirements.