

Trees, Planning and Development A Guide for Delivery Briefing Note 01:

Legislation, policy and guidance on trees and development throughout the UK



Primary Partners



Securing the protection, planting and management of trees in developments is strongly supported by legislation policy and guidance throughout the UK.

Significant commonalities exist across the four nations on the duties placed upon local planning authorities to consider trees when granting planning permission and care for biodiversity in all their actions. There are differences in how these duties and the associated implementation powers are worded as well as in the policy context in which they are being applied. There are also differences in the planning policy frameworks and in the way they address trees but they all have outcomes that support the integration of trees in the built environment.

Note: This briefing note offers an overview of each national context.

It has been prepared for guidance only and should not be taken as an authoritative statement of the law. Legislation, policy and guidance are subject to change and should always be double-checked prior to action.

How to use this section

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England

Key Legislation

Duty to secure appropriate tree provision in planning permissions

Section 197 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Local planning authorities have an express duty to ensure that adequate provision is made for the preservation or planting of trees when granting planning permission.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/197

Tree protection: tree preservation orders (TPOs)

Sections 198-210 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Local planning authorities have the power to issue TPOs to protect individual trees, groups of trees or woodland of amenity value in their area.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/198

See also Clause 192 of the **Planning Act** (2008).

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/notes/division/6/54/14>

Tree protection: conservation areas

Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Trees found in conservation areas are subject to similar controls to those applied to trees protected by a TPO, subject to some minor exemptions.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/211

Tree protection: hedgerows

Hedgerow Regulation 1997

Protection is afforded to hedgerows of more than 20 metres in length or which join other hedgerows, provided they adjoin agricultural land, forestry, paddocks, common land, village greens, a site of special scientific interest or a local nature reserve.

www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1997/1160/contents/made

Tree protection: felling licenses

Sections 9-17 of the Forestry Act 1967 (as amended)

Pre-emptive felling, ie the practice of clear felling a site for the purpose of turning a land into a potentially buildable site without having previously secured a felling license is an offense, unless an exemption applies.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1967/10/part/II/crossheading/restriction-of-felling>

Tree protection: roosting and nesting of protected wild animals

Sections 1 and 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Causing injury to or destroying wild birds' active nest or the nesting or roosting sites of other protected wild animals such as bats, is an offense, unless an exemption applies.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/contents

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

Part 6, Environment Act 2021, Clause 102

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/section/102/enacted>

Biodiversity net gain (BNG) is a way to contribute to the recovery of nature while developing land. It is making sure the habitat for wildlife is in a better state than it was before development. This will apply from November 2023 for developments in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, unless exempt. It will apply to small sites from April 2024.

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-biodiversity-net-gain#:~:text=Biodiversity%20net%20gain%20\(%20BNG%20\)%20is,Planning%20Act%201990%2C%20unless%20exempt](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-biodiversity-net-gain#:~:text=Biodiversity%20net%20gain%20(%20BNG%20)%20is,Planning%20Act%201990%2C%20unless%20exempt)

National planning policy and guidance

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The NPPF (2021) is undergoing a further update following consultation and it is understood that there will be additional changes once the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill becomes law.

The 2019 revision added the requirement in section 12, Clause 131 (below). This was retained in 2021 and it is understood will remain as part of the current update.

“Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined 50, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.”

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) (2016 with periodic updates)

This includes a wide range of categories, the most relevant for trees are:

- Natural environment (2019) which includes
 - Agricultural land, soil and brownfield land of environmental value.
 - Green infrastructure.
 - Biodiversity, geodiversity and ecosystems.
 - Landscape.
- Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

National Design Guide (NDG)

This is part of the planning practice guidance and illustrates how to achieve well-designed places that are beautiful, enduring and successful.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

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Biodiversity Metric

The latest revision is 4.0 (2022) Natural England/Defra.

This is a biodiversity accounting tool that can be used for the purposes of calculating biodiversity net gain.

<https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6049804846366720>

Nature Recovery Network (NRN) (2022) Natural England

The NRN will be a national network of wildlife-rich places. Our aim is to expand, improve and connect these places across our cities, towns, countryside and coast.

The NRN is a major commitment in the government's 25 Year Environment Plan and enacted by the Environment Act 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nature-recovery-network/nature-recovery-network>

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)

A new mandatory system of spatial strategies for nature established by the Environment Act 2021. They are designed as tools to encourage more coordinated practical and focused action and investment in nature. The county-based LNRS which will cover the whole of England and will help to map the NRN locally and nationally.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/part/6/crossheading/local-nature-recovery-strategies/enacted>

Other national policies and plans

A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (25YEP) (2018)

www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan

Environmental Improvement Plan (2023)

The Environment Act 2021 requires the 25YEP to be refreshed every five years. This document is the first such review and it reinforces the intent of the 25YEP. Where the 25YEP set out the framework and vision, this document sets out the plan to deliver.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan>

Forestry Act (1967)

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1967/10>

The Forestry Commission is the government department responsible for forestry in England.

Changes to the Forestry Act (1967) as part of the Environment Act, are:

- Felling trees without a felling licence, where one was required, will carry the penalty of an unlimited fine - up from the current limit of £2,500 or twice the value of the trees felled;
- Failure to comply with a Forestry Commission Enforcement Notice and a subsequent court-ordered Restocking Order (meaning any trees felled must be replanted) will put offenders at risk of imprisonment, in addition to an unlimited fine;
- Restocking Notices and Enforcement Notices will be listed on the Local Land Charges Register, making them visible to prospective buyers of the land - potentially reducing the land's value.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-powers-to-crack-down-on-illegal-tree-felling>

Flood and Water Management Act (2010), Schedule 3

The recommendation is to make sustainable drainage systems mandatory to new developments in England and so regulations and processes for the creation of sustainable drainage systems at new developments will now be devised, through the implementation of

Schedule 3. Implementation of the new approach is expected during 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-approach-to-sustainable-drainage-set-to-reduce-flood-risk-and-clean-up-rivers>

Wales

Key Legislation

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Sections 198-210 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Local planning authorities have the power to issue TPOs to protect individual trees, groups of trees or woodland of amenity value in their area.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/198

See also **Planning Act (2008)**

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/part/9/chapter/2/crossheading/trees>

Tree protection: conservation areas

Section 211 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Trees found in conservation areas are subject to similar controls to those applied to trees protected by a TPO, subject to some minor exemptions.

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Pre-emptive tree felling, ie the practice of clear felling a site for the purpose of turning a land into a potentially buildable site without having previously secured a felling license is an offense, unless an exemption applies.

Felling licenses are free and issued by Natural Resources Wales.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1967/10/part/II/crossheading/restriction-of-felling

Tree protection: roosting and nesting of protected wild animals

Sections 1 and 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

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www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/contents

Biodiversity duty

Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 aims to promote a more proactive, sustainable and joined-up approach to the management of natural resources in Wales. Section 6 of the Act places a statutory biodiversity and ecosystem resilience duty on all public bodies.

www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Section-6

Well-being duty

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

All Welsh public bodies, including local authorities, are under a legal duty to work towards a common aim for the public sector: to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales and to meet the needs of residents today, without compromising those of future generations.

www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/contents/enacted

National planning policy and guidance

Town and Country Planning Act (1990) applies in Wales but amendment by the Planning Act (2008) are not yet in force and the 1999 Regulations still apply.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents>

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1999/293/contents/made>

New Planning (Wales) Act, expected c. 2025 (including *Planning Act 2008* changes and recommendations by the Law Commission.

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-launches-reforms-to-planning-law-in-wales/>

Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (2021)

This is the development plan for Wales. It influences all levels of the planning system in Wales and will help to shape Strategic and Local Development plans prepared by councils and national part authorities.

<https://www.gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040>

This should be read alongside:

Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (PPW11) (2021)

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. It is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TANs), Welsh Government Circulars, and policy clarification letters, which together with PPW provide the national planning policy framework for Wales.

https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf

TAN 5 Nature Conservation and Planning (2009)

Any new development proposal must fully consider the potential impacts it may have on natural environment conservation, and encourages local planning authorities to use planning conditions to secure the protection of existing trees and hedgerows as well as new landscaping (paragraph 4.6.2).

<https://gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-5-nature-conservation-and-planning>

TAN 10 Tree Preservation Orders (1997)

Comprehensive guidance on the use of TPOs by local planning authorities. These are considered to be out of date.

<https://www.gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-10-tree-preservation-orders>

TAN 12 Design (2016)

New developments must respect the surrounding environment, and design site layouts that integrate existing mature trees and hedgerows while also providing opportunities for the introduction of new planting schemes appropriate to the area (paragraph 5.11.3).

<https://www.gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-12-design>

Forestry Act (1967)

As in England but with Natural Resources Wales (Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru) in place of the Forestry Commission.

Other national policies and plans

Woodlands for Wales: The Welsh Government's Strategy for Woodland and Trees

This sets out a long-term vision and strategy for all woodlands and trees in Wales.

<https://gov.wales/woodlands-wales-strategy>

The Active Travel (Wales) Act (2013)

This places a duty on local authorities to plan for, improve and promote routes for walking and cycling for everyday journeys.

Active Travel Act Guidance (2021) is available.

<https://www.gov.wales/active-travel-act-guidance>

Other Guidance

Site and Context Analysis Guide: Capturing the Value of a Site (2016)

This guide sets out an approach, endorsed by the Welsh Government and the Design Commission for Wales, for undertaking relevant and informative site analysis to support all development proposals.

<https://gov.wales/planning-developments-site-and-context-analysis-guide>

Scotland

Key Legislation

Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

The Act makes provision about how land is developed and used. Planning now has a defined statutory purpose: “to manage the development and use of land in the long- term public interest” and includes a new statutory requirement for the six outcomes of the National Planning Framework (NPF), one of which is to “secure positive effects for biodiversity”.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/13/contents/enacted>

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

The 1997 Act requires that all areas within Scotland are covered by a comprehensive and up to date Development Plan, the purpose of which is to guide future patterns of development, to strike an appropriate balance between competing demands for development and to protect environmental assets.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/8/contents>

Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation Order and Trees in Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Regulations 2010

These Regulations make provision regarding the making of tree preservation orders under section 160 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

Scottish Planning Series: Planning Circular 1/2011 Tree Preservation Orders

This Circular set out Scottish Government Policy on TPOs and trees in conservation areas contained in the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation Order and Trees in Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Regulations 2010 (SSI 2010/434). This circular is intended to provide an overview of the new TPO procedures, explaining how the requirements from the Act and Regulations fit together.
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/planning-circular-1-2011-tree-preservation/>

High Hedges (Scotland) Act 2013

The High Hedges (Scotland) Act 2013 came into effect on 1 April 2014 and allows the owner or occupier of a domestic property to apply to the relevant local authority for a High Hedge Notice requiring the owner of a hedge on adjacent land to maintain the hedge at a specified and/or reduced height.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2013/6/contents>

Forestry and Land Management (Scotland Act) 2018

Provides the legislative framework to enable delivery of a package of other policy initiatives that the Scottish Government is introducing to increase forestry’s contribution to the Scottish Ministers’ economic, environmental and social ambitions.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2018/8/contents/enacted>

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Enacted primarily to implement the Birds Directive and Bern Convention in Great Britain and additional legislation. The Wildlife and Countryside Act is considered to be the main mechanism for legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 has been amended on numerous occasions, with the most significant recent changes made by the **Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011** (commonly known as the WANE Act) which introduces legislation affecting the way land and the environment is managed. It came into force on 1 January 2012 and introduced a requirement for all public bodies to make a report publicly available on their compliance with biodiversity duty. Biodiversity duty reports are required every three years.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69> and
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2011/6/contents/enacted>

Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004

This places a statutory duty on all public sector bodies in Scotland to further the conservation of biodiversity. “It is the duty of every public body and office holder, in exercising any functions, to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as it is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions”.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2004/6/contents>

Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

This details The Scottish Government's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 and creating a low carbon economy. The Act also places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. In 2015 the Scottish Government also introduced a Statutory Order requiring larger public bodies to submit an annual report detailing their compliance with the climate change Public Bodies' Duties to reflect the expectation that the public sector will lead by example in addressing climate change. The Act makes further provision about mitigation of and adaptation to climate change; to make provision about energy efficiency, including provision enabling council tax discounts; to make provision about the reduction and recycling of waste; and for connected purposes.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2009/12/contents>

Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019

This amends the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to make provision setting targets for the reduction of greenhouse gases emissions and to make provision about advice, plans and reports in relation to those targets, with the objective of Scotland contributing appropriately to the world's efforts to deliver on the Paris Agreement reached at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/15/enacted>

National planning policy and guidance

National Planning Framework 4 (2023)

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is a long-term spatial plan for Scotland to 2045 that sets out where development and infrastructure is needed. NPF4 differs from previous NPFs in two ways: It incorporates Scottish Planning Policy and the NPF into a single document and will form a part of the statutory development plan. Unlike NPF3, the (six) outcomes of the NPF4 now form a statutory duty under the ***Planning (Scotland) Act 2019*** one of which is to "secure positive effects for biodiversity".

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/>

Other policies and guidance

Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (2022)

The original strategy – *Scotland's biodiversity: it's in your hands* – was published in 2004. In 2013, it was supplemented by the 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity. The two documents together now constitute The Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. The 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity sets out the major steps needed to improve the state of nature in Scotland. The work needed to deliver this is, however, complex and challenging. This strategy emphasises the need for an ecosystem approach to biodiversity conservation and that people are part of these ecosystems, benefitting from the services they provide.

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/biodiversity/scottish-biodiversity-strategy/>

Environment Strategy for Scotland (2020)

Overview of the Environment Strategy for Scotland's long-term vision and supporting outcomes to restore Scotland's natural environment.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/environment-strategy-scotland-vision-outcomes/>

Scotland's Forestry Strategy 2019–2029

The strategy presents the Scottish Government's 50-year vision for Scotland's forests and woodlands and sets out the long-term approach to expanding, protecting and enhancing Scotland's forests and woodlands, so that they deliver greater economic, social and environmental benefits to Scotland's people, now and in the future with a commitment to "increase forest and woodland cover to 21% of the total area of Scotland by 2032".

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-forestry-strategy-20192029/>

Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy

This document provides policy direction for decisions on woodland removal in Scotland. There is a strong presumption in favour of protecting Scotland's woodland resources.

<https://forestry.gov.scot/publications/support-and-regulations/control-of-woodland-removal/285-the-scottish-government-s-policy-on-control-of-woodland-removal>

Getting the Best from our Land: A Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016-2021

The strategic vision and objectives and the long-term goal of the strategy are to achieve well integrated sustainable land use delivering multiple benefits to all of society.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/getting-best-land-land-use-strategy-scotland-2016-2021>

Pollinator Strategy for Scotland 2017-2027

aims to address the causes of decline in populations, diversity and range of our pollinator species, and sets out how Scotland can continue to be a place where pollinators thrive.

<https://www.nature.scot/doc/pollinator-strategy-scotland-2017-2027>

Northern Ireland

Key Legislation

Duty to secure appropriate tree provision in planning permissions

Section 121 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Daera) and District Councils have an express duty to ensure that adequate provision is made for the preservation or planting of trees when granting planning permission. To exercise this duty, Daera and District Councils have the power to impose planning conditions and serve tree preservation orders.

www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2011/25/section/121

Tree protection: tree preservation orders (TPOs)

Sections 122-126 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Daera and District Councils have the power to issue TPOs to protect individual trees, groups of trees or woodland of amenity value in their area. TPOs cannot be placed on hedgerows but can be placed on existing trees as well as trees to be planted where such planting is required by conditions attached to a planning permission (provisional TPOs).

www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2011/25/section/122

Tree protection: conservation areas

Section 127 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Trees found in conservation areas are subject to similar controls to those applied to trees protected by a TPO subject to some minor exemptions.

www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2011/25/section/127

Tree protection: felling licenses

Section 15 of the Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010

Pre-emptive felling, ie the practice of clear felling a site for the purpose of turning a land into a potentially buildable site without having previously secured a felling license is an offense, unless an exemption applies.

Felling licenses are free and issued by Daera's Forest Service.

www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2010/10/section/15

Tree protection: roosting and nesting of protected wild animals

Sections 4 and 10 of the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985

Causing injury to or destroying wild birds' active nest or the nesting or roosting sites of other protected wild animals, such as bats, is an offense – unless an exemption applies.

www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1985/171/article/4 www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1985/171/article/10

Biodiversity duty

Section 1 of the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

(WANE Act)

Government departments and public bodies, including district councils, have a duty to further the conservation of biological diversity when carrying out their functions.

www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2011/15/section/1

Sustainable development statutory duty

Section 25 of the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006

Government departments and district councils have a statutory duty to promote the achievement of sustainable development in the exercise of their functions.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/33/section/25

Community plan to improve local social, economic and environmental wellbeing

Section 66 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

District councils are required to produce a community plan to improve the long-term social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the district.

www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2014/8/section/66

National and regional policy

Regional Development Strategy 2035

Department of Regional Development (2010).

This provides an overarching strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide the public and private sectors. It promotes the link between environment, health and wellbeing and recognises the importance of accessible green infrastructure.

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/regional-development-strategy-2035>

Supported by the **Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS)**

Department of the Environment (2015).

The provides a new set of overarching core planning principles to underpin the delivery of planning reforms. It has a statutory basis under the Planning Act (NI) 2011 and it outlines the importance of green infrastructure.

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/strategic-planning-policy-statement>

Sustainable Water – A Long Term Water Strategy for Northern Ireland (2015 – 2040)

Department for Regional Development (2016).

This promotes the use of green and blue infrastructure to sustainably manage flood risk.

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/sustainable-water-long-term-water-strategy-northern-ireland-2015-2040>

Planning policy statements

PPS 2 Natural Heritage (2013)

Summarises key legislation that protects natural resources. This includes the protection that can be afforded to trees of special value in terms of amenity, history or rarity through the use of TPOs, and the limitations placed on tree felling.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/retained-planning-policy

PPS 7 Quality Residential Environments (2001)

This states that “*planning permission will only be granted for new residential development where it is demonstrated that the proposal will create a quality and sustainable residential environment*”.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/retained-planning-policy

PPS 8 Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation (2004)

This includes a range of policies relating to protection of existing spaces (POS1) and delivery of new spaces (POS2). It requires that, in general, 10% of site area should be given to open space for new residential development, rising to 15% for strategic sites over 300 units or 15 hectares.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/retained-planning-policy

PPS 21 Sustainable Development in the Countryside (2013)

This emphasises the need for new buildings in the countryside to be “*visually integrated into the surrounding landscape*” (CTY13). Proposals that fail to “*blend with the landform, existing trees, buildings, slopes and other natural features*” will be deemed unacceptable.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/retained-planning-policy

Living Places: An Urban Stewardship and Design Guide for Northern Ireland (2014)

Supplementary planning guidance (SPG) support, clarify and/or illustrate by example planning policy statements and plans. This can take the form of design guides such as *Living Places: An Urban Stewardship and Design guide for Northern Ireland*.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/living-places-urban-stewardship-and-design-guide-northern-ireland

Other guidance

The Biodiversity Duty: Guidance for Public bodies (2016)

The guide makes specific reference to the importance of tree retention in development design and management.

www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/biodiversity-duty

Trees and Development: A Guide to Best Practice (2003)

This provides an overview of the benefits from integrating trees to new developments and identifies key considerations for success at each stage of the design, construction and completion process.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/trees-and-development-guide-best-practice

Tree Preservation Orders: A Guide to Protected Trees (2011)

This provides advice to tree owners about protected trees.

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/tree-preservation-orders-guide-protected-trees

Acknowledgements

With many thanks to Sarah Dodd, Director at Tree Law, for reviewing this document.

www.treelaw.co.uk

