

Applicant: Gordon Hudson & Co, Friars Entry, Oxford

Details of former Tree Preservation Grant Scheme

Trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) are generally large, significant trees of public amenity value which are located on private land. A TPO does not mean that the owner is not allowed to carry out any work on the tree, on the contrary, some people think the name should be changed to a Tree Management Order, so that the trees are well-maintained.

Some years ago the District Council agreed to help towards the maintenance of these important trees by giving grant aid to approved works to trees which were the subject of a TPO. This has been an excellent incentive to have the trees maintained and for the work to be carried out to the proper British Standards.

When an application is received it is evaluated by the Council's Arboricultural Officer to establish its suitability. In the past up to 40% grant aid was offered on approved tree surgery work that was carried out to BS 3998. The completed work is inspected by the Arboricultural Officer to ensure it meets the standard before a grant request is submitted to the Area Committee.

Outline of work

The owners of Shelley Court, Abingdon were awarded a grant of £200 under delegated authority from the Abingdon Area Committee. They are seeking an additional award towards carrying out works to various trees located around the Court which are covered by Tree Preservation Orders in view of the size of the trees, their nearness to the properties and the resulting high maintenance cost

Financial Information:

Total cost of work: £2,062.13

Under the Tree Preservation Grant Scheme grants were awarded on the basis of up to 40% of the cost of eligible works.

Officer Comment (George Reade, Arboriculture Officer):

This group of trees forms a valuable public amenity around Shelley Court. The cedar tree requires quite a lot of safety works.