

## Place

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Mr D Long  
(Letter sent via email)

Thank you for your email dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016. I believe you are making the following points which I will respond to individually in the table below:-

<b>Your point</b>	<b>Council response</b>
Amey and Sheffield City Council have neglected to commission or draught any alternative highway engineering specifications for consideration for use as an alternative to felling	There are 25 sensitive engineering options available to retain a tree that is causing damage. The Council has not needed to commission any alternative engineering solutions as they represent a comprehensive collection of different solutions to different situations.
Most trees are scheduled for felling because Amey predict that their damaging working practices will cause such severe damage that the trees will become infected by pathogens and structural integrity will become so compromised that felling will be the most sensible step to take	Only trees that meet one or more of the 6D's criteria are considered for replacement. Only trees that are either Dead, Dying, Dangerous, Diseased, Damaging or Discriminatory are considered for replacement
Compliance with current good practice guidance and recommendations would ensure that most, if not all, healthy, mature highway trees currently scheduled for felling – particularly those associated with damage to footways, kerbs and drains – could be safely retained, long-term	Where a tree is Damaging the sensitive engineering options are considered by both aboricultural and highway experts before a final decision is made. Highway experts make final decisions regarding damage to footways, kerbs and drains taking into account the Councils duty under legislation including the Highways Act.

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<p>The Council lied about having more trees, apparently, to increase DfT funding</p>	<p>The Council has an accurate database of its street trees and whilst the number will vary slightly due to trees dying and additional replant the number has been consistent. There is no reason for the Council not to provide accurate information about its street trees. The business case for DfT funding contained the same number of street trees as the Council is currently stating that it has.</p>
<p>Citizens have not had any opportunity to comment on a draft tree strategy</p>	<p>The Tree and Woodland Strategy had its first consultation at scoping stage and as you note you were involved. The next stage was to draft the Strategy and that is now complete and we will shortly commence a further consultation on its contents and you and any other interested citizen are welcome to comment at that stage</p>

In addition I do not accept your characterisation of the approach to street trees or your condemnation of Amey and Council experts, some of which you will know from your time as a Council employee.

Yours sincerely



Simon Green  
Executive Director, Place