

TREES AND HEDGEROWS

Email from the Public Realm Dept – BMSDC - Cathy Aubertin

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Dear Town and Parish Clerks

As part of the Districts' commitment to support and enhance biodiversity, I am writing on behalf of Cabinet Members Cllrs Elizabeth Malvisi and Jessica Fleming (Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils, respectively) to let you know that we are currently working, with partners, on mapping both districts so that we can identify where wildlife corridors need to be established or improved to link up sites.

In addition, we are seeking to plant more trees and hedgerows in order to encourage more wildlife, and not necessarily on our own Councils' land.

A Member task force group has been considering this initiative and the results of those meetings and discussions will be the subject of a Cabinet report in November, and will detail the steps that both Councils wish to take in the future.

Something that has become clear as a result of this work is that, aside from two or three small areas, neither district has much land available for tree planting so I am writing to ask if you own any land on which you would like the District Council to plant trees or hedgerows? There may be funding available next year for hedgerow planting from DEFRA but we are awaiting confirmation of this. It may be possible for trees to be planted with the purchase and planting costs borne by the District Council, although we would ask that your town or parish be responsible for future maintenance.

At this stage, I just want to establish the appetite across both districts for both initiatives, so please would you let me know if this would be something of interest to your Council?

Many thanks and best wishes – Cathy

Cathy Aubertin
Public Realm Interim Manager

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