

From:
To: [Future Merton](#)
Subject: Merton Plan
Date: 22 March 2024 10:32:05

Good morning .

Merton Plan must include far faster engagement at Outline Planning stage for Developers Highways and Planning dept with a substantial increase in the use of Planning Obligations to protect Historic trees and locations and boost the tree component of any and all development consents with new trees with both On Site and Off Site obligations to increase Tree Canopy cover inline with Merton Tree Strategy 2023.

Significant gains in tree canopy cover can be achieved by early engagement with developers and clear guidance should be given by Merton to give development financiers a full picture of the requirements before consent is granted.

This will avoid the previous situations of poor planting as an afterthought with no follow on maintenance leading to minimal tree cover .

Planning and Highways depts must be taking a lead at earliest opportunity to secure this. Post Planning improvements will never reach the potential on offer with Town And Country Planning Act .

Kind regards,