

# **The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea**

## **Results of the public consultation on introduction of Tree Pits in Grenville Place and Prince of Wales Terrace**

### **Report by the Senior Traffic Engineer**

**26 August 2025**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This paper summarises the responses received to the recent public consultation proposing to introduce carriageway tree pits in Grenville Place and Prince of Wales Terrace, funded via a wider Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) bid for tree pit schemes in Queen's Gate ward worth £40,000. The tree pit schemes in Queen's Gate Terrace and Elvaston Place have already been delivered.
- 1.2. The consultation was run in parallel with ground investigation works to explore the technical viability of the proposals. This was done at risk, in order to reduce the length of the programme and enable the possibility of planting during the 25/26 planting season. Unfortunately, the site investigations showed that there were a number of underground services present in all the proposed locations along Grenville Place. Due to these services, none of the proposed locations on Grenville Place are viable for tree pits. Of the four proposed locations in Prince of Wales Terrace, two may be viable for trees, provided that a root barrier is installed to protect the low-pressure gas main that was identified.

#### **2. Consultation**

- 2.1. Following a successful application by a resident of Queen's Gate ward for NCIL funding to introduce more trees in the ward, the Council consulted local residents on proposed carriageway tree pit schemes in Grenville Place and Prince of Wales Terrace.
- 2.2. The proposal was to install between four and six tree pits in Grenville Place and four in Prince of Wales Terrace.
- 2.3. Details of the consultation can be found here:  
<https://consult.rbkc.gov.uk/communities/grenvilleplace-princeofwalesterrace/>
- 2.4. The consultation ran for six weeks between 16 June and 27 July 2025.
- 2.5. Letters were delivered to 238 addresses in the vicinity of Grenville Place and 119 in the area around Prince of Wales Terrace, a total of 357 letters.
- 2.6. Officers also placed notices adjacent to the tree pit locations, emailed local residents' associations and posted on social media platform 'NextDoor'.
- 2.7. There were 12 responses to the consultation.

### **3. Consultation Results – Grenville Place**

- 3.1. Ten (eighty-three per cent) of the respondents supported the proposed carriageway tree pits in Grenville Place, one (eight per cent) supported the proposal in part and one (eight per cent) had no opinion. There were no objections to the proposals.
- 3.2. All the responses are provided in Appendix 1.
- 3.3. The main reason given for supporting the scheme was that additional trees would make the area more pleasant for residents and visitors.
- 3.4. One of the supporters asked for the proposed tree scheme to extend further south along Grenville Place, towards Cromwell Road.
- 3.5. The respondent who supported the scheme in part asked for further information on the types of trees that may be planted on Grenville Place.
- 3.6. The species of tree is yet to be determined. The Arboricultural Officer will make the final selection and ensure that it will be hardy species that can thrive in a carriageway tree pit, while remaining in keeping with the other tree stocks in the vicinity. Generally, varieties with narrow upright canopies are selected, to reduce the likelihood that tree branches will overhang the carriageway, requiring more maintenance.

### **Consultation Results – Prince of Wales Terrace**

- 3.7. Eleven (ninety-two per cent) of the respondents supported the proposed carriageway tree pits in Prince of Wales Terrace and one (eight per cent) supported the proposal in part. There were no objections to the proposals. All the responses are provided in Appendix 1.
- 3.8. The main reason given for supporting the scheme was that additional trees would make the area more pleasant for residents and visitors.
- 3.9. The respondent that supported the scheme in part asked for further information on the types of trees that may be planted on Prince of Wales Terrace.
- 3.10. As with Grenville Place, the species of tree is yet to be determined (see 3.6).

### **4. Ground Investigations**

- 4.1. Unusually, the consultation was run in parallel with ground investigation works in Grenville Place and Prince of Wales Terrace to explore the technical viability of the proposals. This was done at risk, in order to reduce the length of the programme and maintain the possibility of planting during the 25/26 planting season.
- 4.2. The site investigations showed that there were a number of underground services present in all the proposed locations along Grenville Place. Due to these

services, none of the proposed locations on Grenville Place are viable for tree pits.

- 4.3. Of the four proposed locations in Prince of Wales Terrace, two may be viable for trees, provided that a root barrier is installed to protect the low-pressure gas main that was identified.
- 4.4. The two potentially viable locations are 'Tree 2', on the eastern side of the road at its northern end and 'Tree 3', on the western side of the road at its southern end. All tree pit implementation is subject to final excavation on site, so it is not yet certain that even these pits will be viable.

## **5. Next Steps**

- 5.1. The response rate to the consultation was very low, but of those responses there was a high level of support for new trees in both of the streets.
- 5.2. Considering the results of the ground investigations, officers recommend to the Director of Highway and Regulatory Services that:
  - the tree planting scheme in Grenville Place **does not** proceed as the proposed locations are not viable.
  - the tree planting scheme in Prince of Wales Terrace **does** proceed at two of the four tree pits initially proposed, subject to final investigations.