
Appendix 2.

Enquiry History of River Walk

Over the past years there have been multiple enquiries from the residents of River Walk in relation to the blocking light, encroachment over the garden, low branches and other safety related issues.

Where possible, whilst taking in to account the city councils policy on removing or heavily pruning healthy trees for blocking light, work has been undertaken to relieve the issues raised. The City Council have continued to maintain the trees for Health & Safety in accordance with the agreed risk management system STORMS (Southampton Tree Operational Risk Management System)

November 2003. A letter was sent to all residents of River Walk to gain the opinion of residents over the proposal to remove alternate trees along the length of River Walk.

December 2003 – A letter was sent to all residents informing them of the outcome of the November consultation. From the 25 letters sent, there were 12 replies. 4 Residents wanted to have trees felled and 8 wanted to leave the trees as they were. As the majority of responses were in support of not felling the trees, this was the relayed back to the residents.

2005 – 2013. There were further requests from residents requesting that trees be removed or reduced so as to allow more light to the properties, along with other H&S issues. Where appropriate, work was undertaken to resolve the issues raised.

2009 – The trees to the front of number 4 to 11 had the canopies reduced back away from the properties and reduced to give space between adjoining trees.

October 2013 – TPRA contacted the City Council with a request that something be done with the trees (Confirm ref 50011603). It was considered that the best approach was to have the matter addressed at a Planning & Rights of Way Panel as the City Council tree team do not have the delegated power to remove healthy trees.