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**From:** Squire, Sandra  
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**To:** Localdevelopment  
**Subject:** East of Gamston/North of Tollerton SPD Consultation

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Thank you for consulting the Forestry Commission on this Supplementary Planning Document.

We note plans include significant areas of woodland planting, especially on the edge of the proposed development, including woodland edge and scrub habitat. The Forestry Commission is supportive of plans for woodland creation, and an increase in tree canopy cover as this aligns with the Government objective to increase the net area of tree canopy and woodland cover to 16.5% of total land area in England by 2050.

Paragraph 136 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Dec 2024) states:

*"Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined<sup>52</sup>, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible."*

Urban trees and forests are much more than their visual amenity, they are an important source of ecosystem services in towns and cities. They improve air quality by reducing air pollution levels, they cool the air, can reduce flooding and provide rich habitats for a range of wildlife. Planting trees, including street trees, and small woodland copses throughout the site could link the outer woodland edges with the more developed areas. This would increase habitat connectivity throughout the whole site and can be used as part of a package of nature based solutions to reduce any potential flood risk.

Long term management and maintenance of all newly planted trees and woodland will also need to be considered.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Sandra

*Sandra Squire*

**Local Partnership Advisor  
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**Tel:**



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