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Tree Planting
Briefing for Climate & Environment Panel
20 March 2024



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Oxford's urban forest

- C250,000 trees – 10,000 planted over past decade
- Total Oxford canopy cover = 22.3%
 - Exeter (23%), London (21.9%), Bristol (14%)

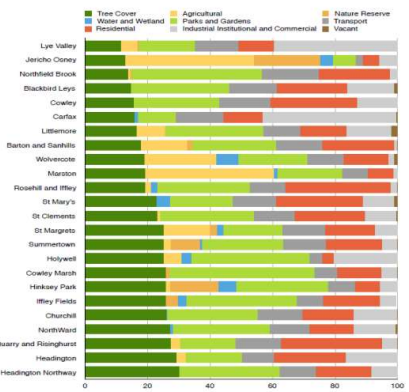



Figure 1 - % Land Use by Ward
Source: Treecomics | Tree Canopy Cover Assessment 2015



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Objectives and principles for planting

From *Urban Forest Strategy 2021*

- Protect, improve and manage existing trees
- Improve biosecurity and manage pests
- Increase canopy cover: right tree, right place
- Increase species diversity to boost resilience
- Prioritise nature recovery and low canopy areas

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Tree planting winter 2023/24

Oxford City Council

- 74 trees planted in parks, recreation grounds, and other locations
- Treemails mini-series of newsletters for residents on tree planting – 19% of Oxford land is private gardens

Oxfordshire County Council

- 2 for 1 replacement programme following removal of c70 street trees at end of life – c40 planted this winter
- All the trees have a watering and aftercare programme for three years

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Tree planting winter 2024/25

The below wards are being considered for planting in the forthcoming financial year:

- Kidlington (HRA Properties)
 - Wolvercote
 - Cutteslowe & Sunnymede
 - Summertown
 - St. Margaret's
 - Walton Manor
 - Osney & St Thomas
- Oxfordshire County Council will conclude its planting of c100 street trees

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