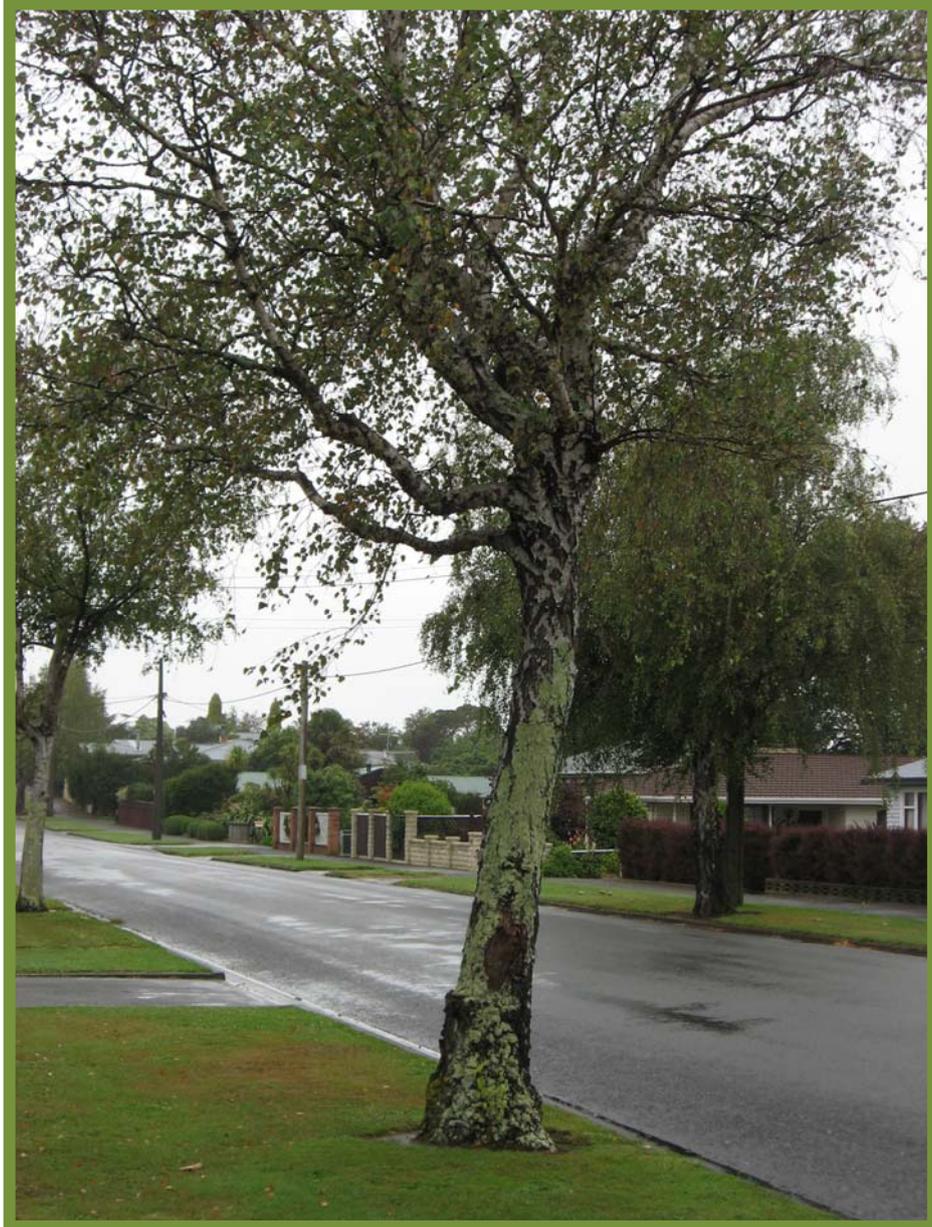


## STREET TREE STRATEGY 2015-2017



Parks and Recreation Department  
6/3/2015

## Strategy for 2015 to 2017

### Background

In 2006 Masterton's street tree population consisted of approximately 1446 trees belonging to 27 different genera. The total street tree population is composed of the following age class: 75% are classed as mature; 7% are classed as Juvenile and 18% are classed as young. It is clear from these statistics that the population is predominantly an ageing one; therefore the focus for street tree planting should be renewal of the aging tree population.

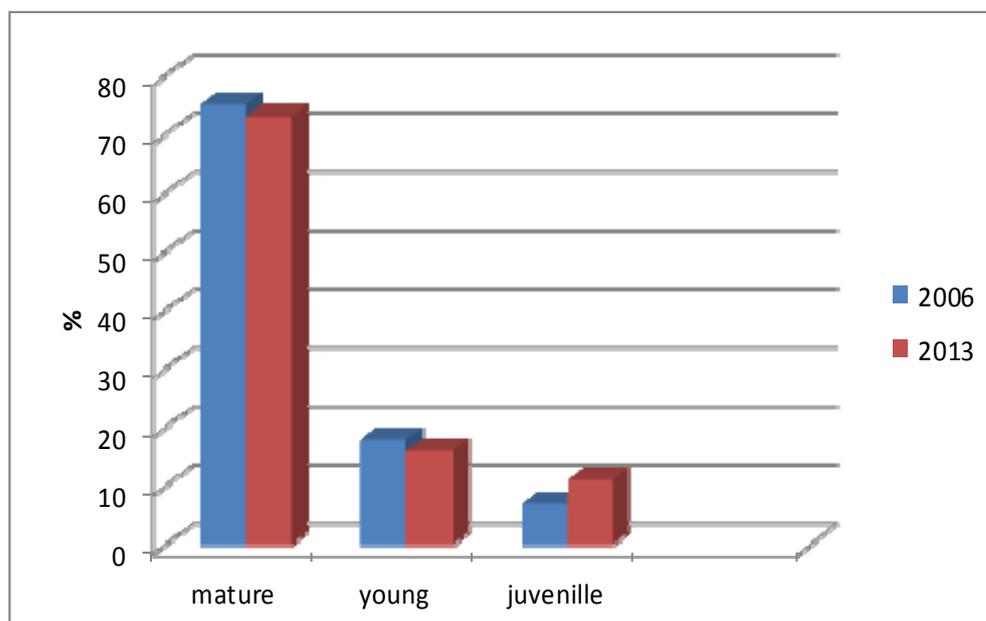
In 2010 a report highlighting this fact and made recommendations to start renewing this population which was presented to the Street Tree Advisory group (STAG). These recommendations were approved by STAG and the renewal process of the street tree population was initiated in 2012. This focused on the following streets:

1. replacements trees in Essex street
2. replacements trees in Perry street
3. replacements trees in Cambridge Terrace
4. replacements trees in Macara Street

The street tree population today consists of approximately 1433 with a slight shift in age class. The tree population is now made up of: 73% mature trees; 16% young trees and 11% juvenile trees. Figure 1. Shows the change in age class over the last seven years. Note the increase in Juvenile tree population, with the initiation of the renewal strategy.

This strategy for 2015-2017 is to continue the work undertaken during the 2012-2014 strategy, and begin to renew ageing populations in the streets identified, with a high number of priority removals (see figure 1.).

*Figure 1: Change in Age Class over the last seven years*



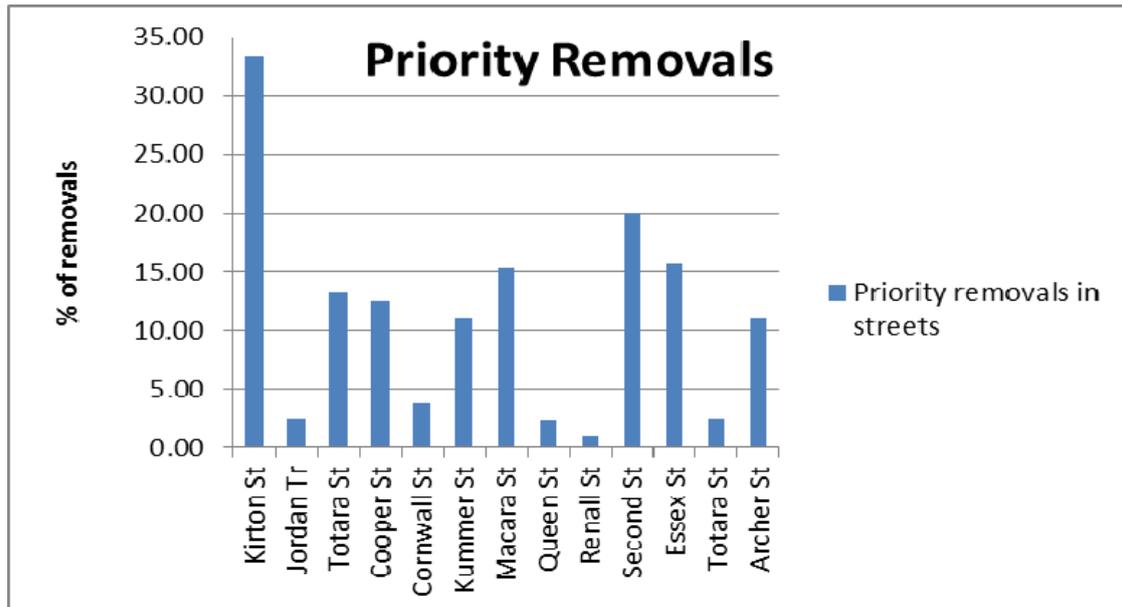


Figure 2. Priority tree removals according to 2013 reported tree condition

### Introduction

The purpose of this programme is to ensure the focus of renewing the aging street tree population is implemented on an annual basis through the street tree strategy. This will be done by identification of declining trees in the annual street tree report and establishing numbers of new trees required according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. It is recommended that the older trees still considered in good condition, remain in the street until the new trees establish, being removed gradually to lessen the visual impact of mature tree removal.

At the end of the three year programme a review process will be necessary. The strategy to be used will mean streets will be revisited in the future, perhaps more than once, as older trees show signs of decline and require replacement.

This programme has been applied according to the annual street tree budget of fifteen- thousand dollars (see Table 1.). It should be noted that tree removals have not been accounted for in this budget. Any removal costs are considered maintenance and should be accounted for in the applicable street tree maintenance budgets.

It is recommended that all streets except Queen Alexander and Jordan Terrace are planted with cage structures to protect the trees for the first 2 to 3 years of their life. The tree cages can then be removed and used for newly planted trees that require protection.

Table 1. Summary of the expenditure 2015-2017

	<u>replacements</u>	<u>number</u> <u>s</u>	<u>costs</u>	<u>plant</u>	<u>protectio</u> <u>n</u>	<u>Total</u>
			85	70	300	
<b>Year</b>						
<b>2015</b>	Perry/essex	5	425	350	1500	2275
	Kirton	11	935	770	3300	2736
	Second	9	765	630	2700	4560
	Macara	9	765	630	2700	4095
	Queen alexander	2	170	140		310
						<b><u>13976</u></b>
<b>2016</b>	Perry /essex	4	340	280	1200	1820
	Kirton	11	935	770	3300	5005
	Second	9	765	630	2700	4095
	Macara	9	765	630	2700	1395
	Queen Alexander	4	340	280		620
	Jordan terrace	4	340	280		<b><u>620</u></b>
						<b><u>13555</u></b>
<b>2017</b>	kirton	12	1020	840	3600	5460
	Second	10	850	700	3000	4550
	Cole	12	1020	840	3600	5460
	jordan terrace	2	170	140		310
						<b><u>15780</u></b>

## Discussion

### 2015

#### ***Kirton Street***

Kirton Street currently has a small population of mature Kowhai. There are 12 of these in total from fair to poor condition.

#### *Strategy*

Start a succession planting programme concentrating on gaps where trees have been removed and not replaced, which will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. The focus will be between numbers 1 and 11. Recommended replacement species are Melia azedarch on the western side of the road only to avoid conflict with overhead lines on the eastern side of street.

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 1 to 11 that are causing a concern due to decay. Reference priority removals listed in the April 2015 Street tree report.

### ***Second Street***

Second Street currently has a population of mature silver birch. There are 10 of these in good to fair condition.

#### *Strategy*

Start a succession planting programme concentrating on gaps where trees have been removed and not replaced, which will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. Recommended replacement species are *Betula nigra* on the north side of the road only, to avoid conflict with overhead lines on the eastern side of street.

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 1 to 9 that are causing a concern due to decay. Reference priority removals listed in the April 2015 Street tree report.

### ***Macara Street***

Macara Street currently has a small population of *Malus*. There are 13 of these in fair to poor condition

#### *Strategy*

Continue with succession planting programme started in 2014 concentrating on gaps where trees have been removed and not replaced, which will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. The focus will be from numbers 10 to 19. Recommended replacement species are *Malus tschonoskii*

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 10 to 19 that are causing a concern due to decay. Reference priority removals listed in the April 2015 Street tree report.

### ***Queen Alexandra Street***

#### *Strategy*

Continue succession planting programme concentrating on gap where trees have been removed and not replaced, which will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. Recommended replacement species are *Platanus* 'autumn glory'. Monitor health of mature trees.

### ***Essex Street/ Perry street***

#### *Strategy*

Go back and fill in gaps with recommended replacement tree species in these streets as old trees are removed.

#### *Expenditure*

Table 2. summarises the expenditure for 2015 with a breakdown in streets. The total proposed is **\$13, 976.**

*Table 2.. Expenditure for 2015*

<b>location</b>	<b>numbers</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Essex/Perry	10	2275
Kirton	11	2736
Second	9	4095
Macara	9	4560
Queen alexandra	2	310



Photo1. Michelia  
planted in Perry st  
2012-2013

## **2016**

### ***Kirton Street***

Continue with replanting the street with Melia, numbers 12 to 23. This will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility service.

#### *Strategy*

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 12 to 23 that are causing a concern due to decay. Remove priority removals as listed in the April 2016 Street tree report.

### ***Second Street***

Continue with replanting the street with Betula nigra, numbers 10 to 19. This will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services.

#### *Strategy*

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 10 to 19 that are causing a concern due to decay. Reference priority removals listed in the April 2016 Street tree report.

### ***Macara Street***

Continue replanting the street with Malus tschonoskii, numbers 20 to 27. Establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services.

#### *Strategy*

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 20 to 27 that are causing a concern due to decay. Remove priority removals as listed in the April 2016 Street tree report.

### ***Queen Alexandra Street***

#### *Strategy*

Continue succession planting programme concentrating on gap where trees have been removed and not replaced, which will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. Recommended replacement species are Platanus 'autumn glory'. Monitor health of mature trees.

### ***Essex street/ Perry street***

#### *Strategy*

Go back and fill in gaps with recommended replacement species in these streets as old trees are removed

### *Expenditure*

Table 3. summarises the expenditure for 2016 with a breakdown in streets. The total proposed is **\$13555**

Table 3. *Expenditure for 2016*

<b>location</b>	<b>numbers</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Perry/essex	?	1820
Kirton	11	5005
Second	9	4095
Macara	9	1395
Queen Alexander	2	310

## **2017**

### ***Kirton Street***

#### *Strategy*

Continue with succession planting in Kirton street, numbers 24 to 34 concentrating on gaps where older trees have been removed. This will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services.

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 24 to 34 that are causing a concern due to decay. Reference priority removals listed in the April 2017 Street tree report.

### ***Second Street***

#### *Strategy*

Continue a succession planting, numbers 20-28 concentrating on gaps where older trees have been removed. Establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services.

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 20 to 28 that are causing a concern due to decay. Remove priority removals as listed in the April 2017 Street tree report.

### ***Macara street***

#### *Strategy*

Go back and fill in any gaps left following the removal of old trees

## **Cole street**

### *Strategy*

Cole street currently has a small population of mature Tilia trees. There are 30 of these in total from good to fair to poor condition. As this is a long street initially the focus will be from numbers 11 to 60

Start a succession planting programme concentrating on gap where trees have been removed and not replaced, which will involve establishing final numbers according to site constraints e.g. entrance visibility and utility services. The focus will be between numbers and 11 to 23. Recommended replacement species are Platanus orientalis on the northern side of the road only to avoid conflict with overhead lines on the south side of street.

Remove any of the older trees from numbers 1 to 11 that are causing a concern due to decay. Reference priority removals listed in the April 2015 Street tree report.

### Expenditure

Table 4. summarises the expenditure for 2017 with a breakdown in streets. The total proposed is **\$15780**

*Table 4. Expenditure for 2017*

<b>location</b>	<b>numbers</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Kirton	11	5460
Second	9	4550
Cole	9	5460
Queen Alexandra	2	310

## **In Summary**

It is recommended that we continue with street tree renewal programme for the next 3 years, to ensure consistent decision making regarding the management of Mastertons street tree population.

The proposed programme is a guideline to ensure the focus of renewing the aging street tree population is implemented on an annual basis. However there may be some variation to this should other issues be highlighted in the annual street tree report or other means of assessing the street tree population. The Street Tree Policy is to be used as the guiding document for all decision making regarding street tree management and should be referred to when needed by the group.