

PRESS RELEASE

SHEFFIELD TREE ACTION GROUPS

18 August 2017

STAG has learned that the three defendants in Case No: D92LS739, brought by Sheffield City Council, have decided that they will not pursue an appeal against the judgment handed down by Mr. Justice Males on 15 August 2017.

It should be noted that the court ruling focuses on a specific point of law in relation to trespass and is not a judgment on our campaign. This was made explicit in the judge's comments. Sheffield City Council's approach to street-tree management, notably with regard to the felling of thousands of otherwise healthy street trees on at best debatable grounds, remains open to a number of avenues of challenge and should remain subject to the fullest public scrutiny. We will continue pursue this.

STAG remains committed to lobbying for the adoption in Sheffield of nationally and internationally recognised best practice in the management of highway trees. STAG firmly believes that such measures as the use of flexible paving (not tarmac), the employment of the 14 engineering solutions funded within the Streets Ahead contract, minor relaxation of over-stringent contract specifications, and the acceptance of nationally and internationally recognised approaches to proportionate risk management could still save many valuable street-tree assets.