

Appendix 2 - Co Wicklow PPN Survey for the County Tree Management Strategy

Responses received to question:

Is there anything else you would like us to raise in our submission to Wicklow County Council's Tree Management Strategy?

- 1 Please plant more trees in urban areas, even if this means cutting down on parking space
- 2 Planting more trees is the easiest, cheapest tool we have to reduce CO2. Incentivise private landowners too, to plant lines of native trees along all non-roadside hedgerows.
- 3 Mapping of important/specimen trees should be carried out and results of survey made available through HeritageMaps.ie and/or biodiversitymaps.ie
- 4 This is very comprehensive. TreesforBray a collaborative group including Wicklow Greens & Tidy Town with expertise from Tom Curtis have completed a tree mapping, recording and photographing exercise. We began this exercise in 2017/2019. It is currently in first draft and with the arborist for amending. I suggest that if and when council are replanting they should not only consider native species but a variety to include hawthorn and cherry. These trees have provided immeasurable pleasure and amenity to the community during Covid. We need to increase the fine for destruction of trees that carry tree protection orders. We need to consider lands due for development as developer fail to adequately ensure a comprehensive tree and hedgerow protection strategy. Voluntary Tree monitors or tree wardens should be available countywide with direct access to an expert arborist. Please keep me informed regarding this issue & I'm please to see such a comprehensive list of proposals.
- 5 Better guidance on site suitability with relation to tree species. This could prevent the need to remove trees or engage in site management that damages trees. Better maintenance guidelines should be developed and adhered too in order to maintain good tree health avoiding the use of mechanical flailing on individual trees. Replacement of trees in urban landscapes should be permitted where the intent is to maintain or increase tree cover while planting trees that are more suited to their urban context. Tree planting schemes should include larger native trees where sites are suitable as these will have most climate and biodiversity impact.
- 6 it is essential that other bodies come under the policy of the WCC Tree management strategy. Felling of trees, and felling out of season in particular should carry large fines paid into a fund to promote bio-diversity and tree planting. All mature trees should be protected under law, including those on sites zoned for development. eg. At Three Trouts bridge where hedging and trees have just been ripped out during nesting season.
- 7 Enforcement by the gardai of cutting off season and burning never seems to happen, we need to do more to raise awareness and enforce harsh penalties for those who operate in a manner that endangers our environment for whatever reason - farmers / BBQs / idiots on quad bikes etc
- 8 This strategy seems excellent. I was unsure if it also covers hedgerows. If not, an equally comprehensive strategy is needed for hedgerows, including a policy regarding cutting that supports biodiversity
- 9 The use of power tools (leaf blowers without a vacuum/mulching action in particular) in managing public open space should be drastically reduced.
- 10 I would like to see an increase in the areas in forest and that these are protected as parks. These should all be planted with native species only.
- 11 Yes. Very old trees should not be felled as part of any planning permission as their character and ecological value should be considered a higher priority than housing. A development being build in Delgany cut a lot of very old trees at the early stage this has destroyed the habitat of birds and is an unnecessary destruction of a beautiful part of nature. New trees can never replace the character and beauty of the old ones.
- 12 Just do it!
- 13 Contact with different groups in WICKLOW to, involving them with planting ie men's sheds schools tidy towns ect
- 14 I would like to see Wicklow CC also engage with Coillte designate some of their Wicklow properties as purely for recreation such as they have done for Co. Dublin.
- 15 I would strongly support a submission to Wicklow County Council to allocate land for allotments in all communities in Wicklow. The numbers interested in growing produce locally has grown substantially since COVID-19 hit. Allotments are one of those rare proposals that are good for pretty much everything - mental health, physical health, food poverty, sustainability, the climate, biodiversity, preventing loneliness, etc.

References to allotments are as follows: in the current county development plan (2016 - 2022), the Wicklow food & beverage strategy 2019 - 2021, the 2001 local government act, and the 2010 planning & development act.

Other information which may be useful are contained in our recent submission to the 2021-2027 county development plan:

https://www.wicklow.ie/Portals/0/Documents/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Submissions/C15_Blessington%20Allotment%20Campaign.pdf
- 16 A strong public information campaign should be implemented to educate the population of Wicklow on the benefits of mature trees, hedgerows etc in the context of the climate and biodiversity emergencies. This should include a strong schools programme. Perhaps schools could "adopt" local mature trees/hedgerows to study and monitor?

- 17 We should investigate disease problems in Ash and Elm and develop a plan on how best to manage and eradicate those diseases to ensure that we don't lose those very popular native species.
- 18 No, I think all the questions in the survey cover everything and would be great to see implemented.
- 19 Thank you for conducting the survey. I hope the submission goes well.
- 20 Where retention of existing hedge rows are stipulated in planning permission conditions; This should be policed and severe sanctions imposed for non compliance. This is never done at present resulting in the ruin of hedge rows.
- 21 Green corridors and urban woodland/ecosystems should be developed with associated pedestrian/wheelchair access.
- 22 There should be fines for unlawful cutting of hedgerows/trees not authorised. Also privately owned landowners should be held to account for above.
- 23 Pressure must be put on Coillte to adhere to similar guidelines. In particular, their use of harsh chemicals and pesticides which have polluted our once pristine waterways and are killing wildlife.
- 24 An in depth plan to take control of alien invasive species in woodland areas needs to be put in place and implemented. Surveys of woodland areas to this end need to be taken. I organised and took part in a great many alien invasive species surveys in Kerry and the extent was far more serious than any of us had imagined. I expect we would find the same problem in Wicklow, particularly along rivers streams and roads. Setting up a permanent body to train surveyors and oversee and protect our natural heritage would be a good start.
- 25 Heretofore one could argue that certain actions by WCC, added in certain circumstances to some forms of pollution, this must be more policed and accountable.
- 26 Local Community groups and associations could help identify areas that could be utilised for replanting.
- 27 1) I've considerable expertise in this area, working in one of the very few local authorities that has a Parks+Landscape Services department (none in Wicklow Co.Co - no qualified Landscape Architects, Arborists or Parks Professional). I understand the proposed WCC Tree Policy is being prepared by two no. staff with no qualifications, expertise or experience in Arboriculture or Urban Forestry. That is not acceptable.
- 2) Wicklow Co.Co. should follow Best International Practice in the preparation and methodologies employed of Tree Policies and Urban Forestry policies and strategies, e.g. London (U.K), Melbourne (Aus.), New York (USA), Manchester (U.K). Typically a period of 12-24 months is required to produce a professionally-prepared, comprehensive Tree Strategy in any jurisdiction, for a 10-20 year strategy. Dlr (DunLaoghaire-Rathdown Co.Co. Parks+Landscape Services) is currently reviewing and updating that council's ground-breaking 2011 dlr TREES Strategy for the period 2021-2031. Dlr is adapting Best International Practices, including an Urban Forestry Canopy approach. The draft will be informed by with diverse stakeholder engagement, including a formal Public Consultation period. Similarly, Fingal, South Dublin and Dublin City adopted similar approaches. It is apparent that, unfortunately, Wicklow Co.Co. seems to be departing from Best International Practice
- 3) Wicklow Co.Co. should draft its policy+strategy - using appropriate, qualified professional expertise - and put it out for full Public Consultation, to ensure complete buy-in from all stakeholders. Otherwise it will simply be a top-down approach.
- 4) There is little point in producing a document, unless its key actions are fully implemented and delivered by in-house, appropriately-qualified staff. Therefore, Wicklow Co. Co. should recruit a full-time Tree Officer. This is the case in most EU Members States, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, at local government/municipal levels.
- 28 People who live within a 1 km area should be consulted at least 2 months before felling of a tree.
- 29 Farmers and other landowners should be informed about and invited into an integrated strategy of tree management in the county. They could provide relevant and valuable insights into the planting, management and protection of trees, the understory and hedgerows.
- 30 WCC should strongly consider converting forests/woods from commercial to recreational use starting with Kindlestown Wood in Delgany.
- 31 Why is a whole tree filled 200-400 year old hedgerow (with walls) allowed be demolished, during nesting season (Killincarrig/Farankelly on the Kilcoole side of 3 Trouts Bridge)? It's been replaced by hoarding while the site is being built. Sad. On the one hand, we're aware to keep bees happy w native flowers v smash up elder, Hazel, old soil and root mycohazal networks... Environmental and Housing/Planning sections of the council aren't able to work together?

32 Red listed plants should be included. A poster should be made to educate all people and schoolchildren to be able to identify red listed plants as well as a tree importance/habitats of animals plants in a tree poster..

Estate agents, landscapers and professional gardeners should be made aware of rare plants and tree preservation laws. Most people can't recognise the rare red listed plants which might be found in rural lawns. Before a house is put up for sale, its garden should be surveyed for rare plants and trees. Such to be mapped and preservation orders put in place and current owner, estate agent and all prospective buyers be advised of their ongoing care requirements including procuring a licence required to fell, ban on systemic and other weedkiller etc. . This should include a bat survey of any house for sale. It's important that a plant survey takes place before the estate agent orders improvements to a garden or house in preparation for a sale. Many people moving to new houses, particularly rural one offs or building rural houses just kill everything on a site without knowing if they are causing plants to become extinct.

A person should be appointed to Wicklow council to be a tree officer whose remit is to support tree etc retention in Wicklow. A hotline should be in place as tree felling almost invariably take place at weekends. Currently if we see a tree about to be felled we are powerless to stop it, or ascertain if the felling is legal, or know who to call about making a complaint so trees are cut and nothing happens. NPWS, Wicklow council and a Garda should all be working as one in this issue. One of the problems in supporting trees is that no one seems to have authority to stop such a happening or as it's about to occur. An Garda seem unaware of laws around tree felling and reluctant to act. NPWS are understaffed and hard to contact. The council don't answer the phone at weekends. All of these conditions are fully known and exploited by those wishing to remove trees. Those conditions should be removed by closer working arrangements should be made regarding tree and endangered plant protection should be in place between AGS, NPWS and WCOCO.

There needs to be a stronger deterrent in place to discourage felling or removal of rare plants. Such plants should be mapped and people who own that land be informed of their presence duty of care towards same. A list of positive actions towards preserving the plant or tree should be issued as part of a preservation protocol, or even an order should be issued to them. If the plant 'disappears' strict adherence to a protocol of prosecution and fining and even imprisonment should be looked at.

33 I strongly disagree with the use of Glyphosates such as Roundup being used to maintain any public area, this must be eliminated.

34 Yes, just that the exception clause of health and safety needs to be more clearly defined and specific as I feel a lot of trees/hedgerows are cut unnecessarily whereas there could be road signage warning drivers / pedestrians if there is a protected tree for example.

35 Tree and shrub planting in older estates is neglected due to retaining ease of grass cutting issues. Which is pointless as the standard of the maintenance done can be quite haphazard.

36 We should be looking to ensure the preservation of the last greenway left in Bray. This area runs from the Bohall Rd and follows the stream down to the river Dargle. It cuts across Bray Town on the west side, and is the last remained untouched wildlife stronghold. It would be sad not to ensure it is preserved. As I think there might be plans for some residential development in the future. I feel we cannot afford to lose it.

37 Subsidies for farmers to plant riparian buffers to prevent nitrates from running off the land and causing eutrophication in our rivers.

38 Yes I would like to see a lot more trees planted on waste/spare ground

39 Arklow has become treeless..only this week the council were in cutting trees in our estate and it upset every one ..only cut them if they are diseased or are a danger...please stop cutting down our trees

40 protection of the trees and hedgerows from illegal hedgecutting practices and especially the ones in our ancient townland boundaries which were constructed in some cases up to 1000 years ago, I have a friend who is documenting them for historical purposes and protection he is an archaeologist

41 I believe that if the rules of cutting down trees and hedgerows is broken there needs to be consequences and sufficient replanting done to make up for the damage done. Also in the building of houses that gardens are encouraged to build gardens sympathetic to wildlife such as the movement of hedgehogs between gardens.

42 If trees or hedges are deemed to block transport or be dangerous they should be dealt with no matter the time of year. If someone needs to fell a tree but does not want to replant they could give a fee to place a tree somewhere else where it may be needed

43 Trimming branches unnecessarily in mature trees in estates should be banned also

44 All trees to be planted should be grown in Ireland and not imported.

45 Stop landowners cutting out of season

46 Actively encourage/reward farmers to maintain and replace hedgerows between fields

47 I think environmental impact assessments should be carried out by independent bodies not council employees to ensure the reports/assessments are independent and not biased.

I don't think trees/forests should be cut down to provide car parking.

I think the council should look for alternative sites for car parks that don't require felling large numbers of trees.

And where trees are being felled in large numbers the local residents should be consulted at the very start of proposed planning not when decisions have been made.

- 48 Maybe plant some fruit trees too
- 49 I think ensuring public awareness is critical. Perhaps something like a dedicated social media Platform where updates, maps, regulations etc are published - this could also show various projects undertaken within the county that are enhancing our native Tree & Hedgerows
- 50 The green areas by roads should not be mowed, but rather loosely managed just to ensure that no unwanted trees or large plants have seeded
- 51 If someone cuts down a tree they should be made plant two in its place (within the local region)
- 52 Neighbourhoods should have a say in what happens to the trees in them.
Green spaces should be recognised as a vital part of any town or village.
- 53 This strategy is extremely urgent & I would ask that it be prioritised. There has been major in season clearing of hedgerows and trees, while birds have been nesting this year. The trees had stood for years but now - during lockdown - it was apparently urgent & WCC had confirmed that the work should be carried out. This was like any country road or land across the whole of the county. Also the spraying of verges (totally unnecessary) is a major problem and should be banned. This work seems to be being carried out by a certain generation who seem ignorant about the damage they are doing. An education campaign is urgently needed so that people cant plead ignorance and WCC should be post a notice if they think a tree is an imminent danger so that the public know it is a real situation and that the owner of land hasnt just given that excuse.
- 54 I believe WCC should try to replace evergreen trees with more native varieties where possible. I would love to see more native forest planted in Wicklow on WCC Lands and this should be open as amenity areas for attracting visitors and for local recreational (walking/running) activities.
- 55 Why is there a car park going into Mullinavogue without planning permission?
- 56 All planting of shrubs and flowering to attract different varieties of birds butterflies Bees ect
- 57 Developers ought to be specifically prevented from felling trees / site clearing.
- 58 Introduce resident managed spaces: that is, green spaces in your council estates that could be tree planted and or planted with pollinators and possibly wildlife ponds.
- 59 Trees are a life force , protect at all costs .
- 60 There should be Tree Preservation Orders for some historic trees or for trees that have a significant importance in the community
- 61 Please retain as many trees in towns as possible
- 62 With regard to planning permission, please advise properly about trees in a site. Trees that are eventually going to affect
sewage systems
drainage
shade / light
infringement on neighbours
overhead wires and cables
Thank you
- 63 Calculation of the carbon capture and urban canopy (cooling) that trees provide per location
- 64 It might be an idea if residents had an opportunity to plant trees on their estate
- 65 I strongly agree that this approach is needed. It should also cover residential development where planning is granted and removal of trees is required- this should be overseen by the council rep to ensure further damage is not done.
- 66 A balanced approach is needed.
THERE MUST BE A STRATEGY TO ELIMINATE GIANT HOGWEED.
- 67 i would love to protections put back on all trees ... and i would love to see the above not only considered but implemented. there is no use easting time and money on surveys like this and then they are put back in a drawer. the public need to be more informed on closed season regulations through local radio and newspapers.
- 68 The strategy should cross cut sections of WCC and relevant strategies, eg planting for new estates, heritage, tourism, disability/access etc.
- 69 Hedge cutting within the season of nesting birds in holiday parks on a large scale.
- 70 The stumps of trees already felled should be left in an attractive manner. It should be investigated how they can be used to re-wild or replant they area. I would plead that native foliage is used in all circumstances.
- 71 Why were a lot of Trees cut down in the car park just outside the Convent ground? I noticed not long after a new ESB/transmitted pole was erected in the very same area
- 72 If you did the above it would transform our county. Thanks

- 73 Given that numerous studies have been done showing a correlation between higher property prices and the presence of trees near or on the property, I find it striking that the most aggressive tree felling and ugliest pruning undertaken in Arklow by the council has seemingly been in lower income areas.
- While at the same time large, mature trees in more scenic, higher income areas have been spared the chop.
- I'm not saying the council are themselves conscious of this disparity, merely pointing it out.
- <https://www.greenblue.com/na/how-trees-increase-property-values/>
- 74 I have been planting native trees on council land bordering our estate for the past 9 years, Is there any way these trees could be mapped and preserved for the future and to avoid their destruction from groundworks etc being carried out from time to time?
- 75 As many edible trees as possible please for community orchards etc
- 76 More tree planting in all housing estates rather than just grass and also to include wildflower meadows or areas
- 77 Plant as many as possible
- 78 Any and all tree waste, pruned branches etc, could be shredded and used in allotments free of charge to the public. and big pieces like big branches and tree trunks should be used for wood crafts, wood turning, wood carving, sculptures, and given to schools or enthusiasts free of charge. Nothing should go to land fill its all good for something. Thank you.
- 79 Is it necessary perhaps to make reference to the fact that some older trees may be at risk of falling down during increasingly frequent and violent storms as a result of climate change. It is important therefore to recognise that unsafe trees made need to be felled to protect lives and property.
- 80 Very important that county council staff especially roads section are unskilled in relation to trees and tree protection. Also planners need to realise that in asking people to site houses close to trees and hedgerows for visual impact reasons this can result in the loss of the tree down the line as it is deemed unsafe, blocks light, roots impacting on services, leaves blocking gutters etc.
- 81 The public should be involved in planting new trees to enable training, involvement and pride in our trees. It will aid long term care.
- 82 This strategy is extremely urgent & I would ask that it be prioritised. There has been major in season clearing of hedgerows and trees, while birds have been nesting this year. The trees had stood for years but now - during lockdown - it was apparently urgent & WCC had confirmed that the work should be carried out. This was like any country road or land across the whole of the county. Also the spraying of verges (totally unnecessary) is a major problem and should be banned. This work seems to be being carried out by a certain generation who seem ignorant about the damage they are doing. An education campaign is urgently needed so that people cant plead ignorance and WCC should be post a notice if they think a tree is an imminent danger so that the public know it is a real situation and that the owner of land hasnt just given that excuse.
- 83 Allotments for seniors. Free fruit trees to schools and kids. Give prizes of trees for awards. Better control of hedgerow trimmings.
- 84 PLEASE, don't wait with the introduction and enforcement of procedures. County Council should have special supervision over developers of new housing estates - they are the ones that cause the biggest damage! Permits for felling of any tree should not be issued! Please take a look at this investment: <https://eastmount.ie/> at the Chapel Road (Greytsones/Delgany) whose owners write on their website: "Benefiting from stunning mountain views and set amongst mature trees", meanwhile they cut out ALL the trees in the area !!! I reckon they should be heavily punished. The potential investment plans, IF accepted, should be created with a strong consultation with the County Council, in the way that no tree suffers any construction! New plantings will not replace century-old trees! Enough of destroying our nature!
- 85 WCC should have to report to members any trees it has cut down at each monthly meeting, with an explanation as to the necessity to fell.
- 86 It's all very well working with An Taisce but WCC should be working with NPWS, IFI and the Forest Service first
- 87 More biodiversity and preservation of nature in the area whenever possible.
- 88 i would be careful about some of the possible points for inclusion:
 EIA for example is an expensive process, intended for large-scale projects - https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/environment/environmental_protection/environmental_impact_assessment.html.
 Why align with An Taisce in particular - there are other Environmental NGOs too, and I don't think a local authority is likely to align with them.
 Re final question - are there endangered tree species in Wicklow, or is this referring to endangered species in general?
 I think a lot of the points are quite technical, i don't understand the ramifications that they would all have in practice. I would avoid being prescriptive unless we have had the input of a forester or ecologist who understands what the implications of the suggestion might be. If the PPN's suggestions are not well-informed it could undermine the credibility of the overall submission. i don't have time at the minute to look into the background of this, i.e. how much land the Council owns, whether the Council's Tree Strategy can influence practice within other organisations etc.
 There are times when felling of the Trees by the Council could bring public benefit - I believe quite a lot of conifers are slated for felling to develop the Blessington Greenway, however if the Council offsets that by planting native trees in a publicly accessible place that could be beneficial overall.
 I think the PPN submission should express the importance to people of trees as features of our local landscape, the value of trees for biodiversity, their role in carbon sequestration and how upsetting it is for people who are doing their best to be environmentally responsible, garden for wildlife etc to see the Council cutting hedgerows along straight roads, especially if during the nesting season (this has happened along the N81 in recent years). We want our council to value trees, demonstrate best practice in protecting trees and hedgerows, create more native woodland, plant more trees in amenity areas etc.
 Best get back to work now!
- 89 The planting of the entire Wicklow Mountains with local species. A massive project but we need to be thinking big to reverse the impact on the environment.

- 90 Look at some of the trees in estates in Riddlesford which are very overgrown, so much so branches overhang footpaths. It's difficult to walk on the footpaths as branches are too low - only the trees closest to the estate entrance were lopped. Some trees close to houses blow dangerously in high winds and are close to houses
- 91 No tree should be felled based on a single individual's request. All other households in the area should be consulted in advance
- 92 A Climate Change & Biodiversity Emergency was declared last year by Wicklow County Council & the government. It is vital that EVERY tree is protected now with a focus on rewilding areas & native species only going forward. This is not what has been seen throughout Wicklow since this emergency was declared. Contracts for felling given out constantly on council land this past year - business as usual - providing employment. This MUST stop now. We have witnessed it continuously with the usual reply when we stop to ask the tree surgeons/workers why felling/work is being done in and out of season - safety every time. It is a useful phrase but we can see this is not the real reason in all these cases. It cannot be business as usual going forward and all this cutting back, felling, pruning, spraying, just constant maintaining has to stop - now. Thank You for the opportunity to contribute to this.
- 93 Get more education out there regarding trees.
- 94 Thanks for your work!
- 95 Council tenants should be made aware in their tenancy agreement.
- 96 Perhaps prune or top trees that have become extremely tall and might endanger people or property during high winds, especially in urban areas.
- 97 Any hotline needs to be 24/7
- 98 The amount of trees that have been felled by both Arklow /Wicklow county council and indeed the railway is phenomenal and my only hope is that for everyone felled one is planted but I have my doubts
- 100 The amount of trees felled by both the council and the railway in Arklow is phenomenal and I don't suppose for everyone felled another has been planted ??
- 101 Encourage appropriate deciduous planting where possible.
- 102 Do not always replace large roadside trees with easily managed small trees
- 103 I find it disheartening and upsetting to see the extent of biodiversity destruction and habitat loss happening in County Wicklow. As someone who lives and works in the county, I believe that we can do far more to preserve and enhance our rural and urban areas, creating a haven for pollinators, insects, birds, and all other native animals currently under threat from our behaviour.
- 104 Serious substantial penalties and restoration orders for any breaches of the rules.
- 105 An awareness campaign about the value of trees to society, health, economy, biodiversity and general ecology should be carried out. Trees need to be seen as they are - some of the most valuable assets that our country is sorely lacking.
- Organised tree planting drives should be carried out across the county, with information and supply chains being organised and efficiently available.
- 106 Varied tree-planting could include some non-native species that add to biodiversity? Fruit trees could also be included?
- 107 I would be happy to help support the protection of our trees and hedgerows and fully support working to re-wild and nurture these areas.
- 108 Like Dublin City Council appoint a professional qualified tree officer
- 109 Stop the proposed carpark at Roundwood reservoir
- 110 Educate the public. Trees reduce flooding and clean our air. Coillte planting non native trees with shallow roots is a farce.
- 111 WCC should offer generous grants to local Community groups organisations and individuals to establish, improve and maintain native Irish woods/trees and hedgerows in the county.
- 112 Returning to native wild in suitable areas needs to be encouraged among tidy towns, sporting groups with outdoor facilities and other voluntary groups responsible for parkland and hedgerow. Funding and education should be available from Co. Councils.
- 113 Options to object and stop tree felling be made easily accessible to the public - how to do it and a process that can stop it immediately if not approved
- 114 Planting of trees in general is welcome but not if it compromises the existing biodiversity on a particular piece of land, for example grassland rich in species. It is important to maintain and conserve a mosaic of all types of habitats such as woodland, grassland, scrub, wetland etc and not focus on and provide resources for just one of them.
- 115 Broadleaf native trees and hedges for a healthy and wealthy environment to be proud of. Especially in the Garden of Ireland. Win Win for everyone and everything. You know it makes sense.
- 116 As above, important to have a direct link or number for people to report illegal felling
- 117 People should be invited to log certain trees if not in Wicklow a county log of beautiful trees so that people will trust that they will never be felled

- 118 There seems to be a lot of unnecessary excessive pruning of trees in Florence rd, Galtrim rd, Meath ed leaving amputee stumps very hostile to bird life and very aesthetically depressing. Sidmonton Square has seen so many of the large beech trees and horse chestnuts, and hawthorn felled in the last few years - some legitimately needed felling after storm damage, others such as the beech felled absolutely unnecessarily. I have had the large beech tree of about 150-200 years felled without any warning or discussion although it was one of the reasons I chose to make this my home. Nothing has been replanted despite my attempts to contact relevant party and promises made at the time of the felling. I would like to see more planting of hardwood trees such as oak and beech and not see these constantly replaced with small rowans etc I would like to see more new planting in so many areas of Bray. Why has Greystones planted so many Scots pine that will make for a stunning future landscape while Bray has just a few scrawny sycamores. Both do well in seaside locations in my understanding. I would like to see much more investment in replanting and protection
- 119 Would love to see miniature woodlands planted in accordance with the www.urban-forests.com, the Japanese miyawaki method, spring up on small patches of unsightly land all over Wicklow. Very quickly, the densely planted, local species-rich mini woodlands planted in Europe shelter and feed a great biodiversity of plants and animals. It's said the method grows trees at least x10 faster, denser and sequesters much more Carbon for x20 more biodiversity....