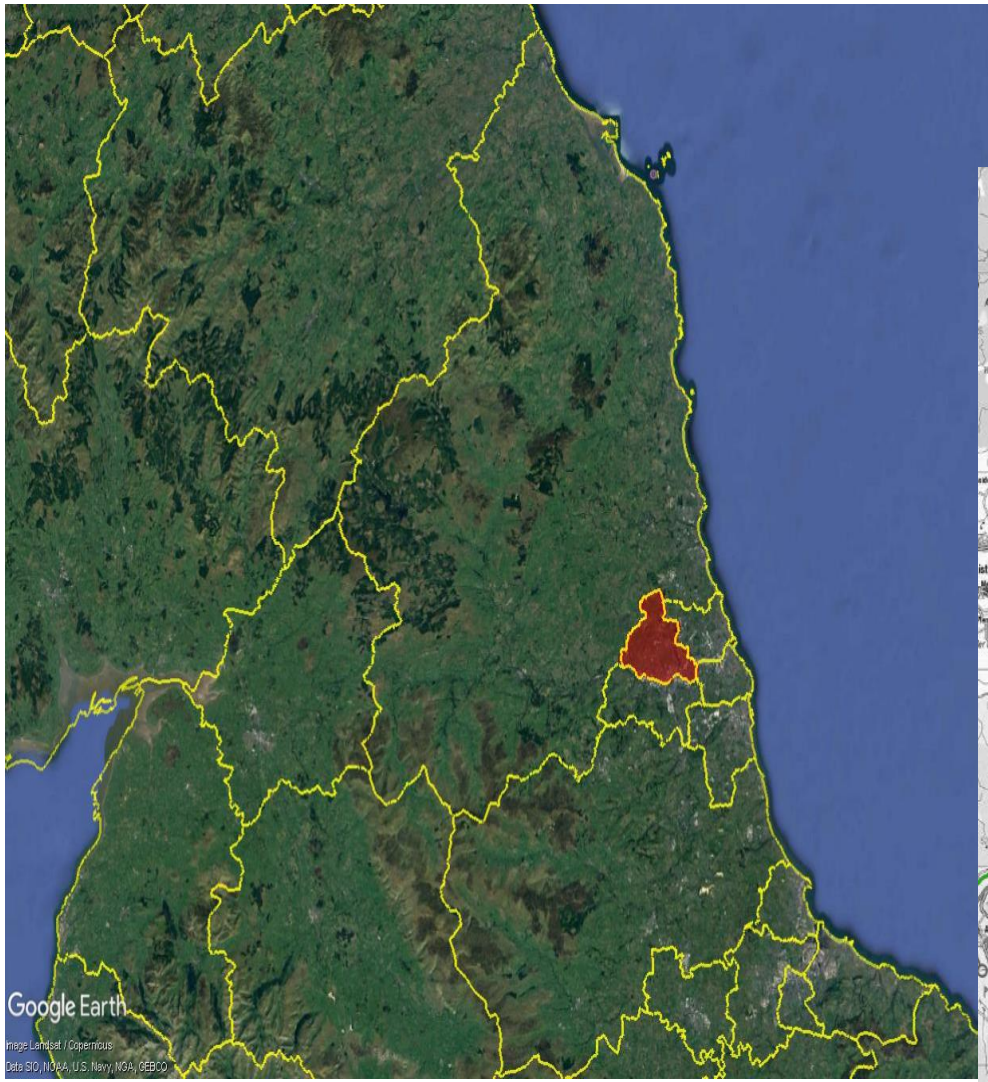
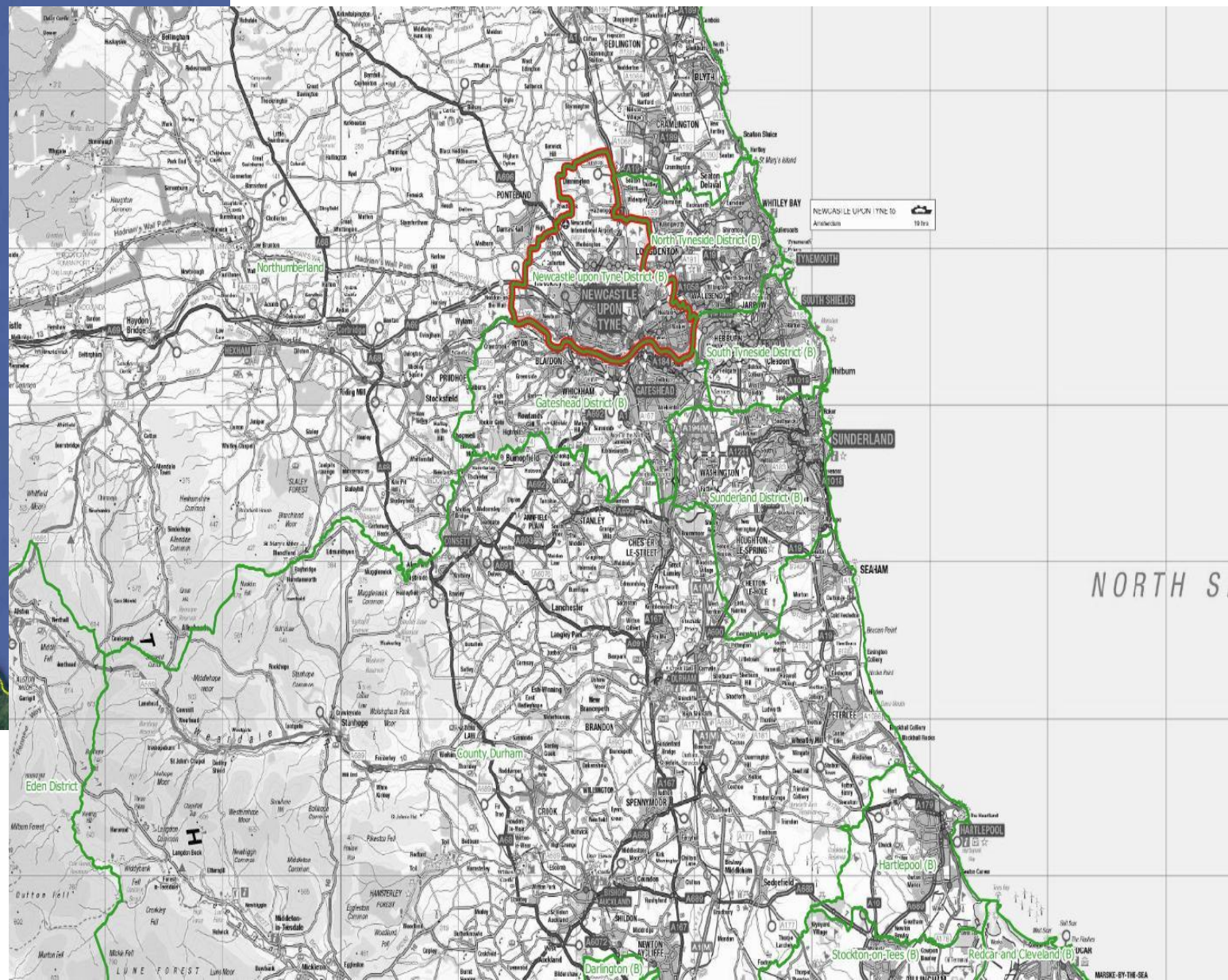
Richard Barnes
City of Newcastle upon Tyne


Newcastle upon Tyne


Google Earth
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

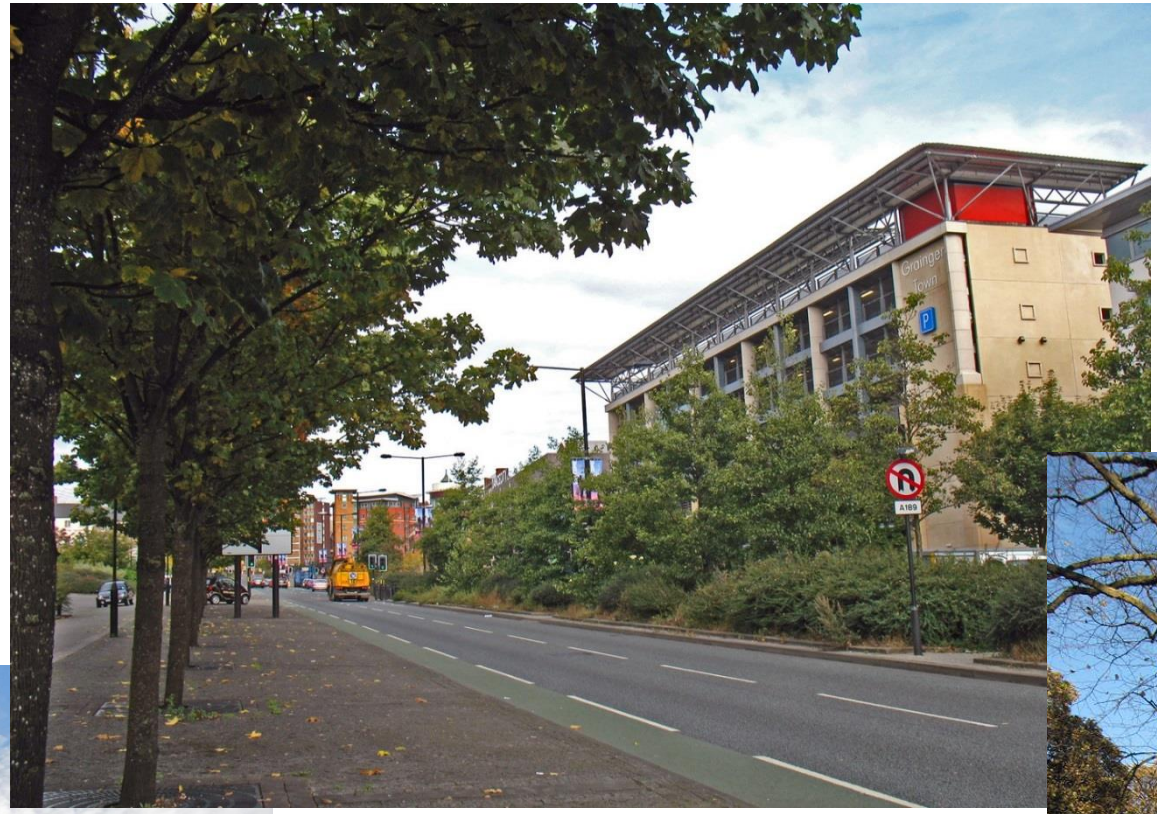

Northumberland
North Tyneside District (B)
Newcastle upon Tyne District (B)
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
South Tyneside District (B)
Gateshead District (B)
Sunderland District (B)
SUNDERLAND
County Durham
Eden District
Hartlepool (B)
Stockton-on-Tees (B)
Redcar and Cleveland (B)
Darlington (B)
NORTH SEA

‘Newcastle fells more trees than any other UK Council’

‘Newcastle …the tree felling capital of the UK’

as reported by the Sunday Times, June 2018

The article stated:
‘City felled 8,414 trees, out of an estimated total tree population of 800,000, over the last three years’.



Estimated tree population across the area of the City – 1.2m+.

Of the 8.5k –

- 218 storm damaged
- 480 – dead, diseased and stumps
- 202 ‘conifers’ inc. Leylandii hedges
- 3.5k woodland management, self-seeded and suppressed specimens
- Over 2000 were shrubs!

TREES • NEWCASTLE

A Tree Strategy for Newcastle upon Tyne

PART ONE

Action Plan

April 2002

Newcastle Gateshead Buzzin

Newcastle City Council

1

TREES • NEWCASTLE

A Tree Strategy for Newcastle upon Tyne

PART TWO

Tree Policy

April 2002

Newcastle Gateshead Buzzin

Newcastle City Council

2

TREES • NEWCASTLE

A Tree Strategy for Newcastle upon Tyne

PART THREE

Tree Management Guidelines

April 2002

Newcastle Gateshead Buzzin

Newcastle City Council

3

Set out three aims – protect the trees we have; care for them; plant more trees

Newcastle City Council

Highway Tree Design Guide

Newcastle City Council

STANDARD DETAILS & SPECIFICATIONS

for

HIGHWAY TREE PLANTING

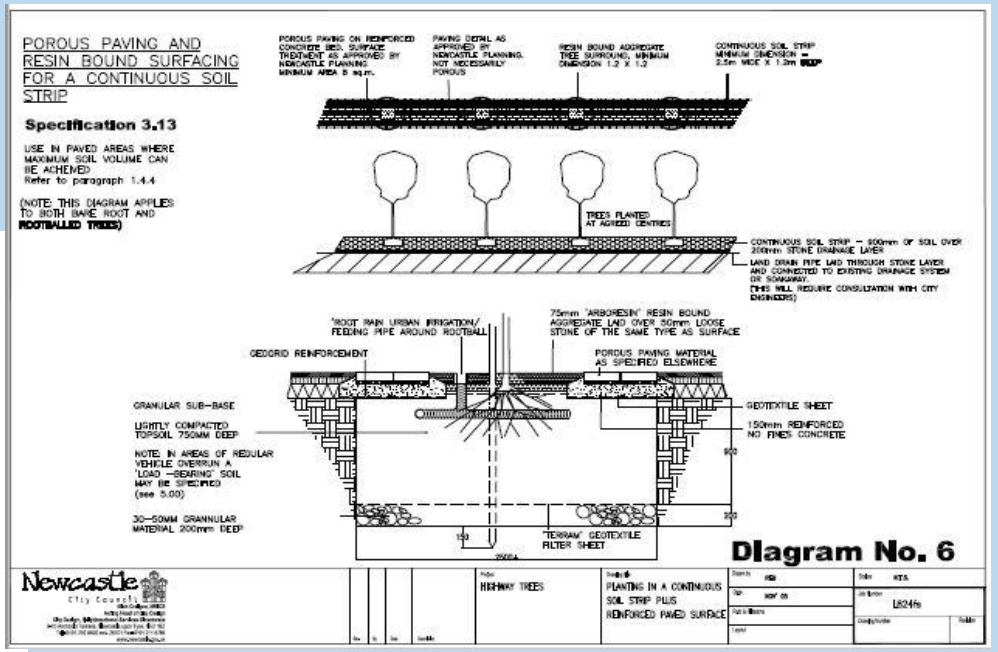
Formally Adopted by the Executive of

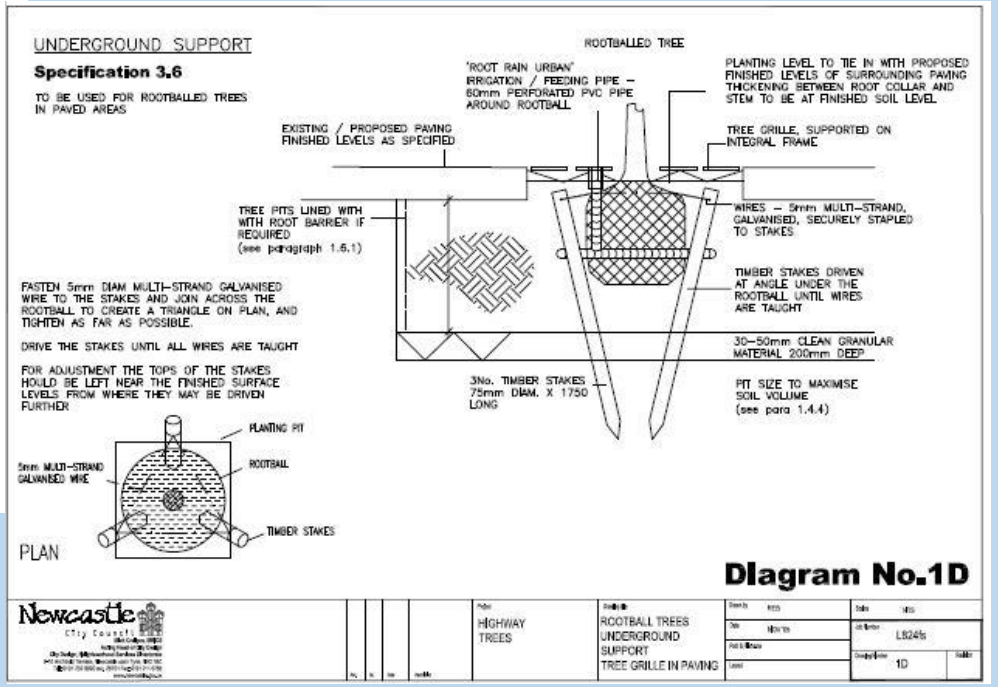
Newcastle City Council

on 17 May 2006

Newcastle City Council

CITY Design

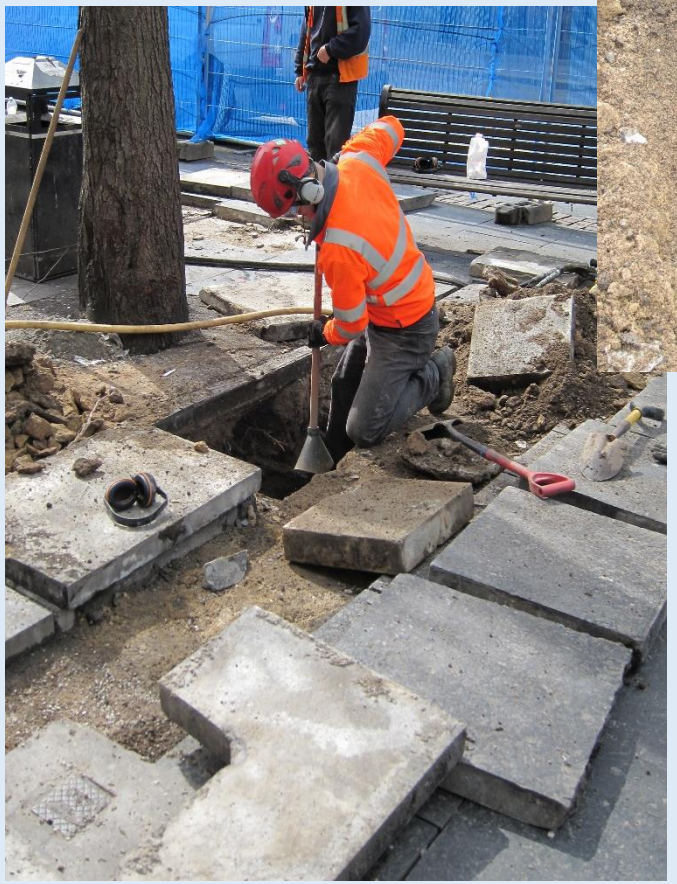




Bigg Market

planted March ‘97 at 30 – 35cm girth – now 1.8m

in 2:1 soil : stone ‘fruitcake mix’ (as Prof Nina Bassuk)



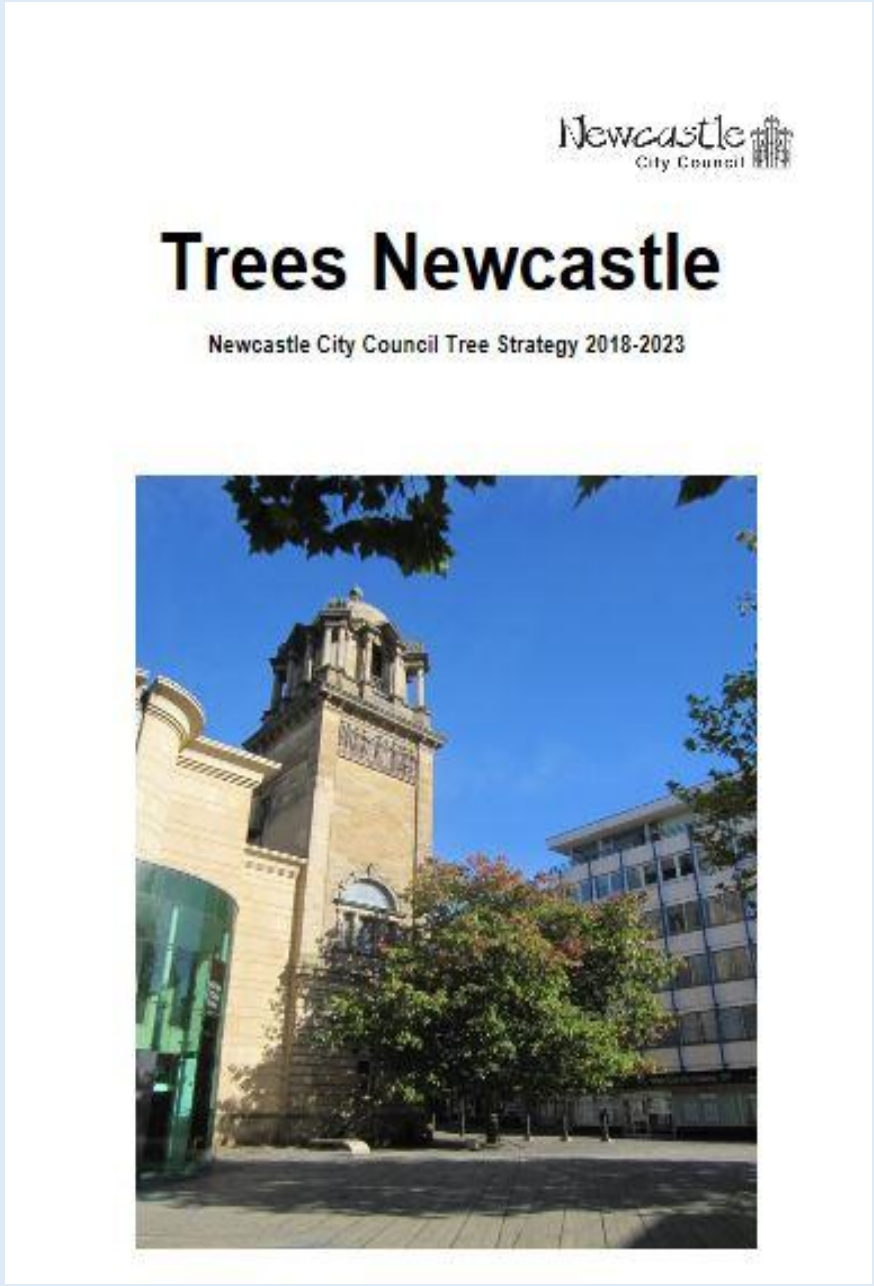
Laing Sq – in Thomas Heatherwick's 'Blue Carpet'

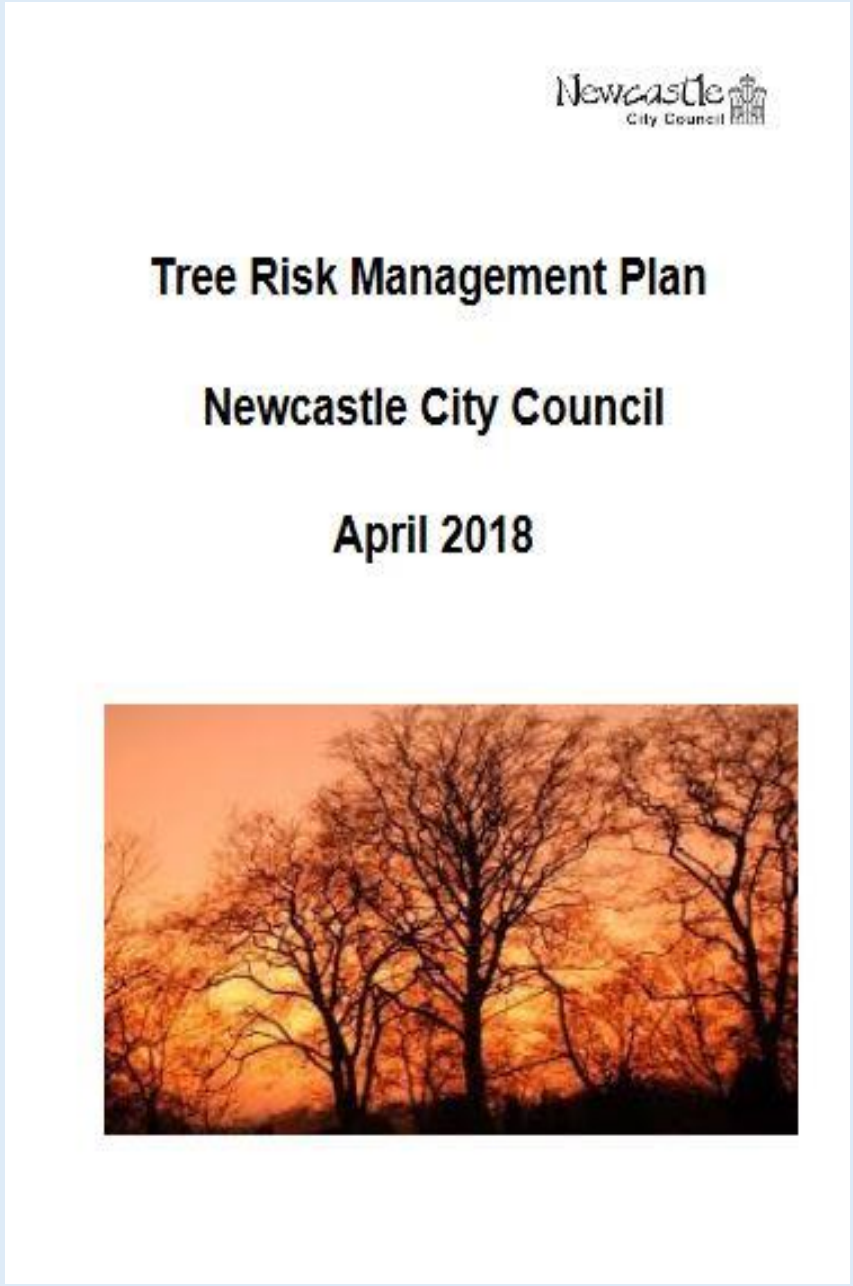
Planted December 1998 , the largest tree (Plane) 16m high / 75cm girth in 'Amsterdam soil' - now measures 1.6m girth

2000 – two years after planting

2010 – twelve years after planting

St James Boulevard – trees planted winter 98/99 at 30 -35cm girth in ‘structural soil. Now up to 100cm girth.





Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The Tree Landscape and Development SPD will ensure trees and landscaping are fully considered as part of development proposals and promote best practice for the provision of high quality landscaping. It will set out clear procedures for the retention and protection of existing landscape features and increase the provision and diversity of landscaping... It is planned to have the SPD adopted by 1 April 2019.

Tree Management Guidelines

These describe in broad terms where we will consider pruning, felling or other forms of tree management work for our own trees which will be carried out by the Arbor Team in Operations Division. This document is especially useful for discussing and agreeing tree work with residents. Residents raising tree related queries via the Contact Centre or website will be signposted to this document.

The Policies

The following policies which form this Tree Strategy aim to allow Newcastle City Council to retain healthy trees, increase canopy cover and ensure species and age diversity across the City. This will be done through use of legislation, through the good practice contained in our Tree and Hedge Management Guidance and Supplementary Planning Guidance in addition to working in partnership with landowners and developers to encourage good practice.

Policy	Tree Policy Detail
T1	Healthy trees and woodlands will be protected, retained and managed to ensure healthy growth, development and species diversity. No tree will be felled or pruned without good reason as set out in our Tree and Hedge Management Guidelines.
T2	Newcastle's tree stock and canopy cover will be increased to give greater species and age diversity to ensure a healthy, balanced, tree population.
T3	The Council will use its powers to prevent unnecessary damage to trees within all construction/development in accordance with the current version of BS5837 and pursue enforcement action where appropriate if trees are damaged or destroyed.
T4	Using powers available under the Town and Country Planning Act, related legislation and/or lease clauses, Newcastle City Council will, in the interests of amenity, protect trees and woodlands that are of acknowledged value where they are visible to the public, are in reasonable health and condition and where there is a threat.
T5	Where Council land containing trees is to be sold, the trees will be assessed to determine whether protection via a TPO or restrictive clause in a lease is appropriate to ensure retention for the benefit of the wider population.
T6	**The Council will engage with partners, the public and other landowners to raise awareness of tree protection, maintenance, planting and establishment best practice.**
T7	The Council will seek compensation from any external organisation responsible for significant damage to or removal of any council owned tree(s) to the value as calculated by CAVAT.
T8	Hedges that are of visual amenity, archaeological or nature conservation value and are in reasonable health and condition will be retained, protected and managed to ensure healthy growth as set out in and Tree and Hedge Management Guidance.
T9	Newcastle City Council will seek to regenerate and increase traditional, locally native hedgerows with inclusion of hedgerow trees.
T10	In conjunction with the Tree Team, land holding departments and teams will ensure appropriate management of their hedges. Requests for work to hedges on Council land will be assessed in accordance with legislation and the Tree and Hedge Management Guidelines.

Tree Strategy - the next steps:

- Monitor and review strategy annually to ensure action are being met and progress is being made on actions identified.
- Production of annual report :

To ensure the number of trees and level of canopy cover is being maintained and increased the report will include -

- A comparison of the felling rate against replacement tree planting rate
- A summary of new planting included in both public and private development schemes (including highways)

To ensure our own trees are properly looked after and the quantity and species variation is improved the report will include

- The level of tree loss among trees planted over the year
- A table outlining the number and type of trees planted.
- A summary of the inspection and surveying work undertaken over the year

To assess how private land owners have been encouraged to manage their trees in accordance with the strategy and tree protection legislation the report will include

- An assessment of changes in the tree canopy cover over a 5 year period
- The number of applications to fell TPO'd trees approved over the year
- A summary of enforcement actions taken following reported contraventions

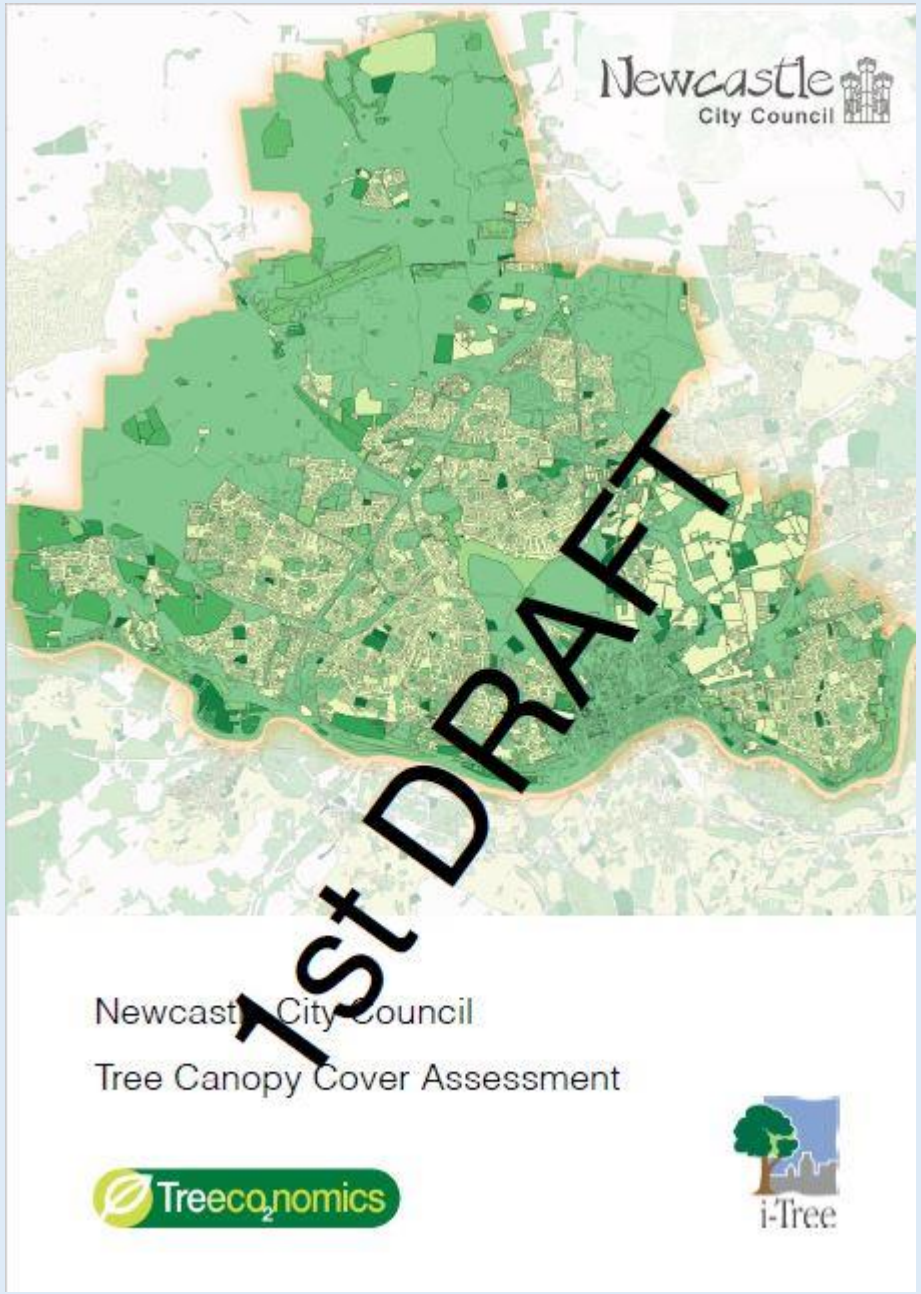
The canopy cover will be assessed through an i-Tree study using the data from the 2018 study as a comparator.

iTree Canopy Cover survey - completed June 2018

Why – measuring the tree canopy cover provides the means to help planners, designers, managers of urban trees and communities consider trees as a distinct and essential part of the infrastructure of the built environment.

'Trees and urban tree cover are implicitly linked to key concepts emphasised and highlighted within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Sustainability, ecosystem services and green infrastructure are all dependent on the significant contribution that trees in the urban forest make. Of the 13 sections of the NPPF trees are able to contribute to meeting the objectives of 11 of them.'
(Extract from Treeconomics NCC Canopy Cover Assessment report)

'Trees, and the benefits which they provide are crucial to securing economic, social and environmentally sustainable development' and 'trees also contribute to positive improvements in the quality of the built and natural environment' – NPPF Introduction.



Newcastle upon Tyne - Tree canopy cover as at June 2018

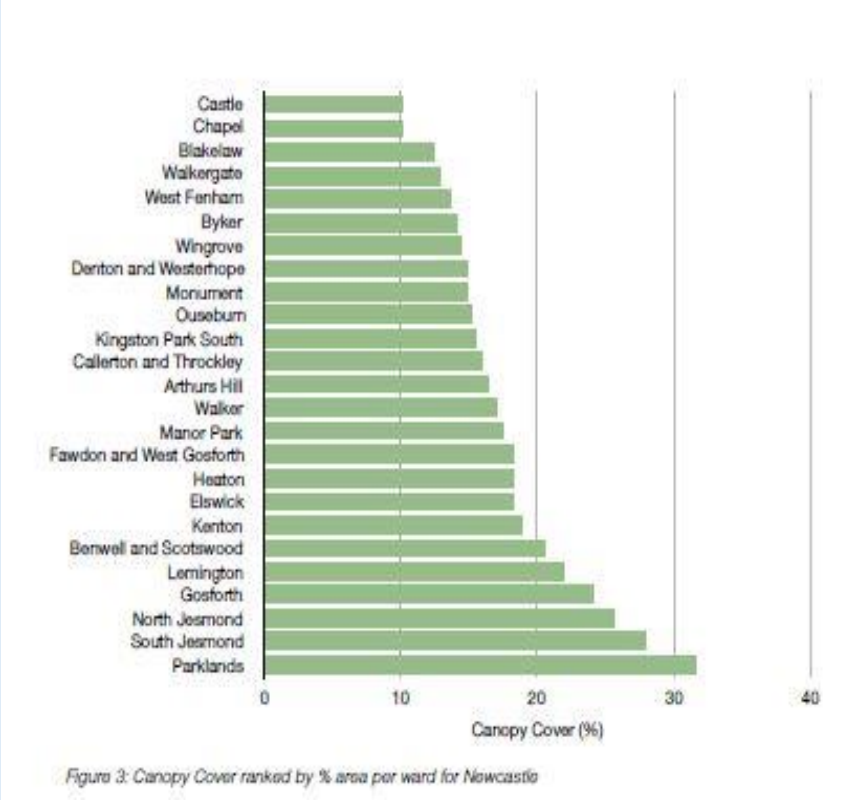
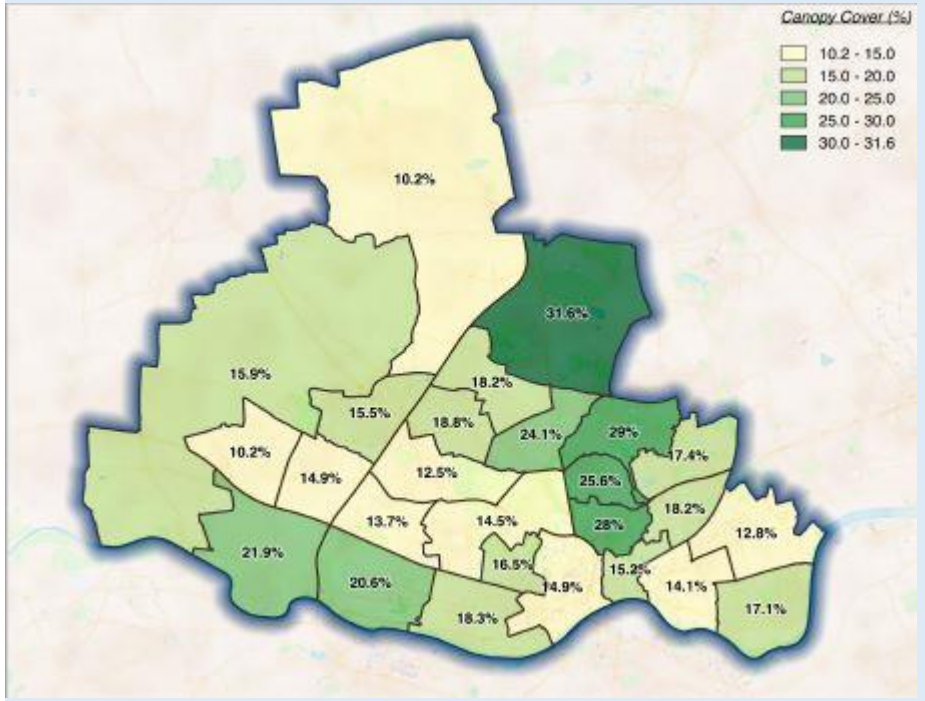


Figure 3: Canopy Cover ranked by % area per ward for Newcastle

Ward	Tree Canopy Cover (%)
Arthurs Hill	16.50
Benwell and Scotswood	20.60
Blakelaw	12.50
Byker	14.10
Callerton and Throckley	15.90
Castle	10.20
Chapel	10.20
Dene and South Gosforth	29.00
Denton and Westerhope	14.90
Elswick	18.30
Fawdon and West Gosforth	18.20
Gosforth	24.10
Heaton	18.20
Kenton	18.80
Kingston Park South	15.50
Lemington	21.90
Manor Park	17.40
Monument	14.90
North Jesmond	25.60
Ouseburn	15.20
Parklands	31.60
South Jesmond	28.00
Walker	17.10
Walkergate	12.80
West Fenham	13.70
Wingrove	14.50
City of Newcastle Average	**18.10**



The average canopy cover across the City is calculated at **18.1%** - ranging by ward from 10.2% - 31.6%
The national average, of 320 towns and cities surveyed is 17%.
Newcastle's ranking is therefore **#112 of 320**.

Results of iTree Canopy Survey compared against information from ONS:

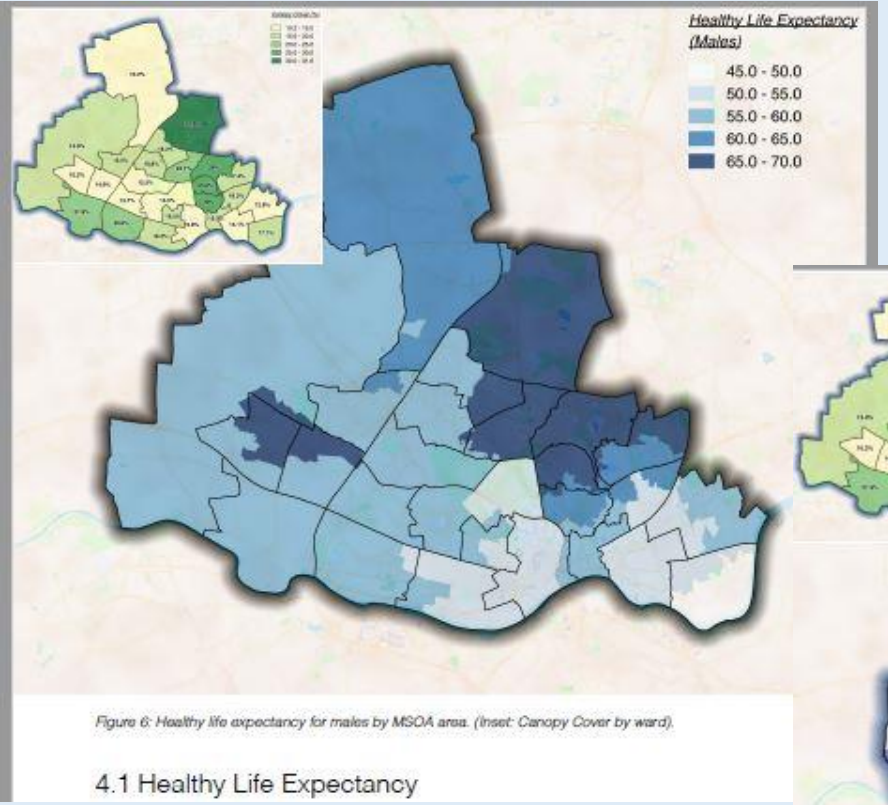


Figure 6: Healthy life expectancy for males by MSOA area. (Inset: Canopy Cover by ward).

4.1 Healthy Life Expectancy

Healthy Life Expectancy

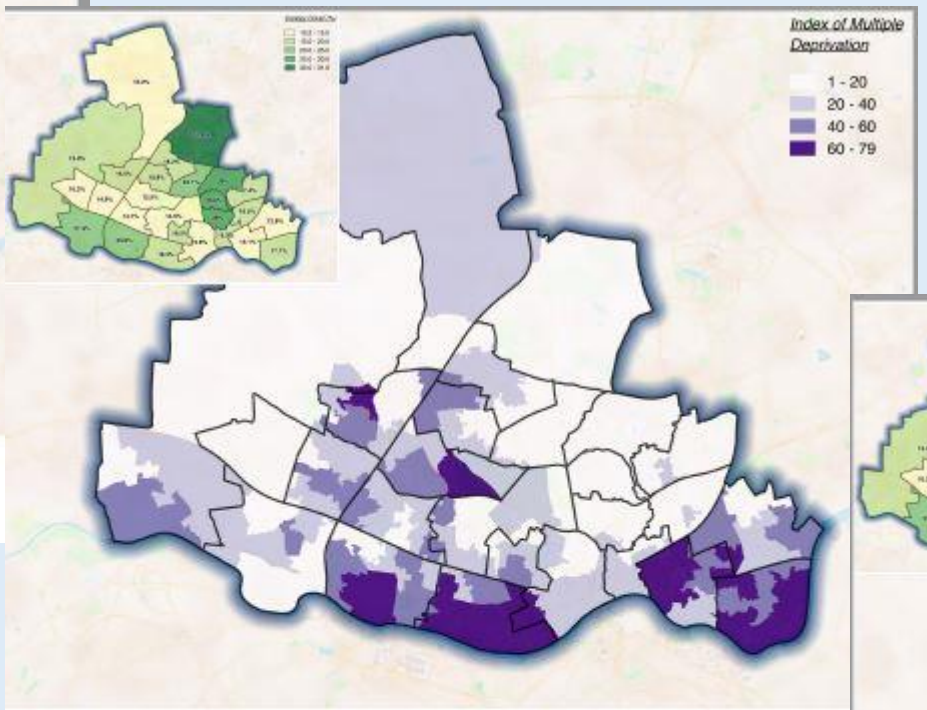


Figure 11: Index of Multiple Deprivation by LSOA area. Ward boundaries shown. (Inset: Canopy Cover by ward).

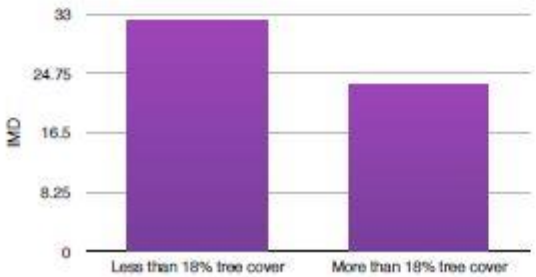


Figure 12: Index of Multiple Deprivation and average tree cover.

Index of Multiple Deprivation

House Prices

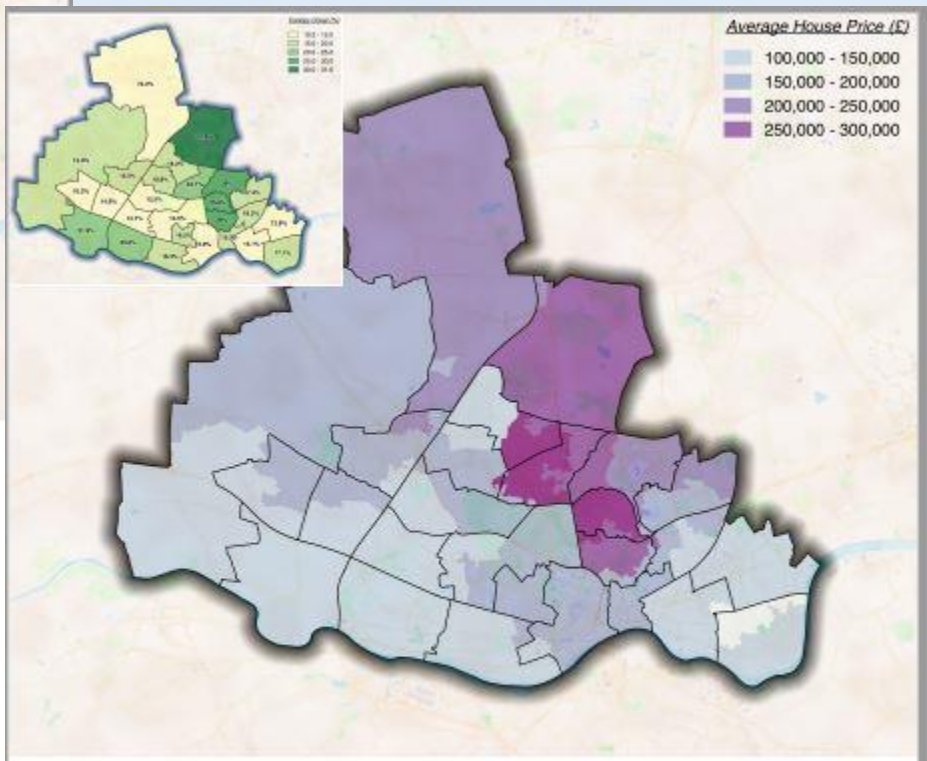


Figure 15: House Price data by MSOA area. Ward boundaries shown. (Inset: Canopy Cover by Ward).

4.5 House Prices

Potential Plantable Space –

Ward	Potential Plantable Space (%)
Arthurs Hill	27.1
Benwell and Scotswood	22.1
Blakelaw	44.0
Byker	13.7
Callerton and Throckley	66.7
Castle	75.6
Chapel	45.8
Dene and South Gosforth	16.7
Denton and Westerhope	23.0
Elswick	16.7
Fawdon and West Gosforth	15.0
Gosforth	18.0
Heaton	12.1
Kenton	21.6
Kingston Park South	30.3
Lemington	36.0
Manor Park	19.9
Monument	3.9
North Jesmond	5.3
Ouseburn	7.5
Parklands	29.1
South Jesmond	3.7
Walker	17.3
Walkergate	14.0
West Fenham	26.0
Wingrove	48.0
City of Newcastle Average	**25.3**

iTree – the next steps –

- Identify areas for tree planting to achieve the 20% canopy cover target by 2050.
- Undertake iTree Eco Survey using City Council staff resources and Treeconomics working with volunteers to under the survey work. The Woodland Trust are to assist with this work.

The outcome of the iTree Eco Survey will provide data that will assist in making effective resource management decisions, develop policy and set priorities for a town's trees and greenspaces.
In addition the study will give a fiscal value to the ecosystem benefits Newcastle's trees provide for:

- Storm water attenuation and assess their current value.
- Annual carbon storage and value
- Annual amount of carbon sequestered and value
- Amount of pollution removed annually and value
- Energy savings attributed to trees in relation to buildings.

The study will identify areas to be considered in future planting programmes and will provide information which policy makers can use to take full account of trees in future development management decision making.

Target date for completion and publication of report December 2019.