

Ref: EIR / 6206

17th February 2026

Environmental Information Regulations Request - Number of Tree Preservation Orders in Council Area

I refer to your Freedom of Information request of 12th January 2026 and apologise for the delay in replying. As your request relates to environmental information, it has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Request:

I currently looking into a proposed Tree Protection Bill coming before the Assembly, particularly Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) under the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

As part of my research into this area, I would be interested in getting information on a number of areas:

- The Total number of TPO currently in place in your council?
- The number of TPO that have been violated in your council area since the introduction of the 2011 Act?
- The cost associated with applying for a TPO, the cost to the council to investigate a TPO application, monitoring of Trees that have a TPO and any other associated costs in the TPO process?

Response:

1. At the time of writing, the total number of TPOs in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area is:
 - 68 confirmed
 - 1 provisional

Derry

C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253
info@derrystrabane.com
www.derrystrabane.com

f Derry City & Strabane District Council
@dcsdcouncil

2. It is unclear what is meant by 'violated', Council does not hold any information that specifically relates to 'violated' TPOs. You may wish to provide further clarification on the information you are seeking in this request, and Council will be happy to assist you further as necessary.
3. There is no fee to apply for a TPO to be made or to apply for consent to carry out works to a tree under TPO, therefore Council does not hold this information.

The Council does not hold definitive information about the cost to the Council to investigate a TPO application, monitoring of Trees that have a TPO and any other associated costs in the TPO process.

Other costs associated with TPO assessments may include the procurement of a professional arboriculturist, if required.

In respect of monitoring TPOs, the Council does not hold specific information regarding the cost of monitoring of TPOs. For clarification, the Council does actively monitor each TPO site through normal resources available within the Planning Department. Therefore, a site will only be reviewed where there is a specific reason to do so, for example where a complaint is received alleging unauthorised works taking place. In such an instance, the Planning Enforcement Team would investigate.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly, our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie

Chief Executive

Derry City and Strabane District Council

98 Strand Road

Derry BT48 7NN

Tel: 028 71253253 or email: john.kelpie@derrystرابane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would however advise that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Isobel Heaney

Senior Planning Officer

Local Development Plan