

# Islington Tribune

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**Letters to the Editor**  
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## LETTERS: Trees too precious to be axed for short-term profit

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• ALMOST 40 years ago, when *The Guardian* newspaper moved from Manchester to 119 Farringdon Road, Islington Council's arboriculturalists caused a line of London plane trees to be planted among the paving slabs along the entire length of the building. I note with dismay that these precious trees are now under threat from development.

Trees are protected by law against removal with good reason. Tree protection orders should not be supplanted in the name of short-term profit. The mature trees in Farringdon Road are a significant asset of community value in a public highway that has far fewer trees than most other roads in our borough.

Replacements will take decades to provide the canopy cover we already have. The proposed fastigate oaks simply can't match the London plane for breadth.

Mature trees require almost no maintenance and provide us with a range of benefits, not least in removing carbon from our atmosphere. Survey after survey shows that people in Islington not only appreciate our trees, they actively want more planted and none destroyed.

For our own good and that of future generations I ask residents to object strongly to any plans to interfere with the trees outside 119 Farringdon Road. Please contact the friends group attached to your nearest park to join us in helping plant more trees throughout our borough and protect the ones we already have.

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