

# ENVIRONMENT UPDATE REPORT

## AGENDA ITEM No. 7

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**MEETING:** ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024

**REPORT BY:** WORKS AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGER

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### **1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to bring Members up to date regarding issues relating to the environment.

### **2.0 Tree Management**

2.1 Contractors have been employed to remove three mature Ash trees with significant Ash Dieback Disease on land bordering Burn Lane in Woodham Burn.

2.2 A lane closure and traffic management will be required to complete the removal of two of the trees.

### **3.0 School Aycliffe Wetlands**

3.1 Initial works have been completed to cut back the promoted walkway with a view that the surface improvement works will commence in the near future once Works Department staff have sufficient capacity.

3.2 The board walks have been cleared of encroaching vegetation and the information board has been cleaned.

### **4.0 Invasive Species**

4.1 Japanese knotweed continues to be treated at Aycliffe Village. Only 4-5 stems have regrown in the past month so retreatment will continue to weaken the plant. It appears that the early treatment of Giant Hogweed via stem injection has proved highly successful with no plants reported over the past few months.

### **5.0 Bus Shelters**

5.1 The two bus shelter roofs which were proposed to be replaced over the reporting period along Williamfield Way were postponed due to the significant tensions in the local community in which the shelters are situated. Work will commence when the scaffolding company has rearranged availability.

### **6.0 Recommendations**

6.1 It is recommended that Members:

- i) Receive the report.

**Works and Environment Manager**