

## Proposed changes to Policy EV5

- The Planning Inspectors requested that the proposed buffer to ancient woodland should be the same size buffer that is set out in [national standing advice](#) published by Natural England and Forestry Commission;
- Therefore the council are proposing to change the wording in policy EV5;
- The proposed wording changes to policy **EV5** are set out below – **new text** or ~~removed~~

### **EV5: Trees, woodland and hedgerows**

The council recognises the wider benefits of trees, woodlands and hedgerows and therefore development proposals will be supported where they:

**a** propose on or off-site tree planting, using the council's Tree Planting and Management Strategy as a guide to planting the right type of tree in the right place;

**b** retain trees, woodlands and hedges on site wherever possible, especially where they are of high amenity;

**c** avoid direct and indirect harmful impacts on trees, woodlands and hedges, and where this is not possible adequate mitigation must be provided;

**d** provide at least a ~~50-metre~~ **15 metre** buffer between new development and ancient woodland. Where assessment shows impacts will extend beyond ~~50-metres~~ **15 metres**, larger buffers will be required, and any buffer should contribute to wider ecological networks and become part of the green infrastructure for the area.