

Email Update from 14 April 2022 on the Removal of 78 Hectares of Trees in Portsmouth  
Hi Susan and ,

Apologies, I replied on the 16<sup>th</sup> March but for some reason it hasn't arrived or sent. Please see what I put in the email below.

Since then, we have met on site separately with a contractor, haulier, highways and council to discuss upgrading Carr Road. We have decided that this is potentially our only option. I am trying to arrange a meeting there with the owner, haulier, contractor and highways at the same time so we can get exact details of what needs to be done, what can be done and if were allowed. The person from the council is currently on leave until the end of the month, hopefully I can arrange something then. We should then be able to get an engineer to draw up some plans and push forward with the upgrade. Only then will we be able to safely fell the infected Larch.

Unfortunately, the Larch trees must be removed due to the SPHN. If they can't be removed, they will be felled and left as waste on site. This would look awful in the landscape and then obviously no trees would be put back in their place. It's vital that the timber is removed, and the site restocked. We are currently doing everything we can to solve the access problem and I'm hoping Carr Road will be the solution. If the trees are left as diseased, the disease could easily spread to nearby sites meaning more trees will need to be felled too early.

We always leave the roots in place following felling. The only time the roots are removed, are in wet conditions to help the forwarder drive across site. Very few are turned over. We use improved stock so the trees grow much quicker. We also use fertilizer which helps put on 70% more growth in the first year.

I will keep you updated as things progress.

Many thanks

Tilhill Trees