

P-04-439 : Ancient veteran and heritage trees of Wales to be given greater protection

Petition wording:

We believe that the ancient, veteran and heritage trees of Wales are a vital **and irreplaceable part of the nation's environment and heritage.**

We call on the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to provide greater protection for them, for example by:

- Placing a duty on the new Single Environmental Body to promote the conservation of such trees by providing advice and support for their owners, including the grant aid where necessary;
- Amending current Tree Preservation Order legislation to make it fully fit for purpose in protecting ancient, veteran and heritage trees, in line with proposals by Coed Cadw (the Woodland Trust);
- Incorporating the database of trees recorded and verified through the Ancient Tree Hunt project as a dataset in any successor to the **Wales Spatial Plan, recognising these as 'Trees of Special Interest' and** providing this information to Local Planning Authorities in Wales so that it can be incorporated into their GIS system, for information.

Petition raised by: Coed Cadw Cymru

Date petition first considered by Committee: 4 December 2012

Number of signatures: 5,320