From:	Ben Murray
To:	Paula Harrison
Subject:	Registering your council as a Tree Charter Branch
Date:	21 February 2019 16:31:48
Attachments:	TreeCharterBranch_and_ChampionForm_June_2018 (002).pdf

Dear Paula,

I am emailing from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), the only national body representing the interests of the 10,000 local (parish and town) councils in England.

I am emailing in regards to our Tree Charter, a joint project with the Woodland Trust and the National Union for Students which aims to embed the ten principles of the Charter for Trees, Woods and People (the Tree Charter) within communities across the UK.

The call for a Tree Charter was initiated in 2015 by the Woodland Trust in response to the crisis facing trees and woods in the UK. Before the launch of the charter there was no clear, unifying statement about the rights of people in the UK to the benefits of trees, woods and forests.

NALC believes that local councils have a key part to play in protecting trees and woodland and believes they can do this by embedding the ten principles from the Tree Charter into their everyday practice.

Part of NALC's campaign is to get as many local councils as possible registered as a charter branch. The charter branch network includes parish councils, schools, community woodland groups, artists and campaigners. Charter branches are the grass root movement who are actively embedding the principals of the Tree Charter. We noticed from local press that your council is already doing this: https://www.swindonadvertiser.co.uk/news/17389137.volunteers-and-west-swindon-parish-council-in-westlea-plant-saplings-for-community-woodland/

We would like to invite you to join the other 240 local councils and become a charter branch. As you are already carrying out work to protect, promote and sustain your local trees there won't be any extra burden for you to take on. We would simply ask you to promote the Tree Charter at any of your local events and encourage residents to sign the charter in support. Signing up as a charter branch will also mean you will receive newsletters from ourselves and the Woodland Trust highlighting what charter branches have been doing. I have included relevant links below and would be interested in having a chat with you if you are interested in getting involved. I have also attached a registration form in case you are interested.

www.treecharter.uk
www.nalc.gov.uk/treecharter

Kind regards,

Ben Murray
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