

Midlothian Council submission of 20 July 2022

PE1812/MM: Protect Scotland's remaining ancient, native and semi-native woodlands and woodland floors

Midlothian Council's response to the four points on which information is sought is below:

- **The mechanisms in place for reporting a potential breach of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), including how such information is recorded and analysed.**

Details are contained on the Council's website about how to report a breach of planning control which includes alleged unauthorised work to trees protected by a TPO.

- **The number of potential breaches of TPOs reported to you between 2012-22, broken down by year.**

No record available

- **The number of prosecutions you have undertaken in relation to Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) between 2012 – 2022; broken down by year**

One – action taken in 2019.

- **The number of occasions where a breach of a TPO has not proceeded to prosecution, and the reasons for not pursuing prosecution.**

No record available

While TPOs may only be a small part of the petition, there are range of other matters in protecting ancient and semi-ancient woodland than TPOs. It is likely much of the ancient and semi-ancient woodland stock is not protected by TPOs. Therefore other policy mechanisms will be more important in many instances/locations.