

THE DEMISE OF CAMDEN'S STREET TREES

ADDENDUM

Since release of the report 'The demise of Camden's street trees', Camden's cabinet member for the Environment has written to say that the answers to some of the freedom of information (FOI) questions provided by Camden council were incorrect. In regard to subsidence claims he explains that they were not correctly checking and combining reports of claims held by different departments. Furthermore, he said only 'notified' claims were to be considered valid.

As a result the numbers of claims 'notified' between 2010 and 2018 have risen.

Notwithstanding this unfortunate error in record keeping we calculate the alteration makes almost no difference to the overall picture. However, since this error was only discovered after the release of the report, the reliability of past claims numbers and the long term historical record has now to be seriously questioned.

In addition, Camden council reports that the figure provided by Westminster council for the total number of street trees is in error and is in fact half that stated in the original FOI answer. If this is actually the case then the statement 'Camden has the least number of street trees' should be revised to the second least number.

Lastly, Camden council said the figure originally given for the total budget of the trees department was incorrect but the amended figure still remains the largest of the four councils to whom we sent FOI requests.