Stirling Council submission of 25 July 2022

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

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

Potential breaches would usually be reported by phone or e-mail to Stirling Council Planning Services/Tree Officer for investigation. A site visit would be undertaken, photos would be taken as a record and findings would be discussed with Manager, agreeing action required. A reply to initial enquirer would be made by phone/e-mail.

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

These are rare. Stirling Council has 69 TPO's most of which are for individual, groups or area TPO's in urban areas, many are adjacent to development, rather than rural woodlands. Breaches have been:

- Pruning works were being done to TPO trees. As it was the same tree work as previously undertaken, advised/met the Tree Contractor/owner on site and to remind them that the trees are TPO'd.
- There was a case of a diseased Beech tree with Kretschmaria being removed without going through the TPO application process a few years ago and a replacement tree was requested. Tree work was being undertaken 'urgent to abate a nuisance', whilst a road was closed, although council should have been advised beforehand.

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

Stirling Council Planning, have not taken forward any cases for prosecution, noting part of Stirling Council area is within the remit of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Planning.

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

There have no occasions where there has been a breach of a TPO has not proceeded to prosecution.