



Julia Lopez MP & Emerson Park Conservatives have received many complaints about Network Rail felling trees on the Upminster to Romford line.

While it is necessary to keep the railway safe, we are concerned about the failure to consult with residents, your MP or Local Councillors.

The concerns raised include:

- Loss of privacy
- Noise pollution (up to 15dB noise increase).
- Using pesticides may harm pets, particularly if done without prior notice to keep them indoors.
- Removing trees may increase the risk of flooding and subsidence.
- Loss of wildlife habitat, including for protected species, (railbanks are a key resource for nature).



Julia and Local Conservatives have been raising these issues with Network Rail since October. We've received various assurances, but concerns remain, particularly over the removal of mature trees.

As a result Dominic Swan, Chairman of Hornchurch and Upminster Conservatives (HUCA), and Emerson Park Councillor Roger Ramsey attended a further community meeting with residents and Network Rail on Monday. At that meeting, Network Rail:

- Apologised for the lack of consultation, and promised to halt removals until this can be carried out.
- Promised that trees would be pruned rather than removed where possible.

This is good, but not enough. HUCA are therefore calling on Network Rail to:

1. **Consult with residents in each street**, reaching agreement as to which **individual trees** need to be removed, before taking any further action.
2. **Publish their original aerial survey** identifying which particular trees needed to be cut down, so that residents can comment, and check that only those ones have been taken.
3. **Replace any trees removed** using railway friendly species to restore privacy and sound-proofing.

If you back our requests, or want to provide any additional feedback, please sign the petition on our website. Or use this QR code.



You can also contact Julia, Roger or Dominic. Details are below. Julia and her team will also be updating those residents who have been in touch with her office directly.

## Emerson Park Conservative Action Team

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