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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **London Trees and Woodlands Award for Excellence**

This year the London Borough of Bromley, a member of the London Tree Officers Association (LTOA), have won the London Trees and Woodlands Award for Excellence by or for a public body. This award is judged by representatives from the Forestry Commission, Woodland Trust, Royal Parks, Greater London Authority and the LTOA.

The award recognises good practice in all aspects of tree and woodland management by or for a public sector organisation. And is judged under the following criteria:

- Active management of individual trees and woodland
- Tangible evidence of collaboration with local people and groups, with demonstrable community gains
- Evidence of long term management and co-operation that will ensure the sustainability of the project
- Can include work by a contractor or consultant working on behalf of a public body

Dave Lofthouse, chair of the LTOA, said 'Quite often there seems to be an assumption that London Boroughs and tree officers take a delight in removing trees. It is good for a change to see tree officers getting praise for their championship of trees. Taking care of trees is what we do'.

Jim Smith, from the Forestry Commission's London Regional Office, said 'Before the London Tree and Woodland Awards started there was no way of formally recognising all the fantastic work done every year to promote and care for London's trees and woodlands. The Forestry Commission in partnership with the Mayor is very pleased to be able to support this event and help encourage this vital work by recognising the efforts of local authorities, community groups and individuals'.

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors**

The London Tree Officers Association (LTOA) provides an information network for the exchange of views, experiences and ideas on trees and their management. The Association dates back to 1982 and aims to enhance the management of the Capital's trees and woodlands. It involves local authority Tree Officers in all 33 London Boroughs from which there are approximately 130 members and an associate membership scheme of approximately 55 members. The LTOA is funded by London Borough subscriptions and an associate member scheme. For more information take a look at the LTOA website at [www.ltoa.org.uk](http://www.ltoa.org.uk).

### **For further information please contact:**

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