

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 April 2022 18:30  
**To:** [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: Nova/Robroyston Asda (OFFICIAL)  
**Attachments:** Tree Felling in Scotland - Getting Permission flyer.pdf

Hi [REDACTED],

Thanks for flagging this up to us. Your enquiry has been passed on to me as I was already looking into the matter following a prior report which we received from a member of the public.

We have investigated the felling, including site visitation undertaken by two of our Woodland Officers yesterday. Unfortunately there was no measurable timber left on site to measure, only a large pile of stumps and branches. However based on our site assessment and investigation we believe that the felling was exempt from requiring permission from Scottish Forestry.

The legislation which relates to tree felling in Scotland is the Forestry & Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018 and within this legislation there are a number of exemptions to requiring permission which may apply in a given scenario. I have attached our [Tree Felling in Scotland guidance](#) which explains this in more detail, however if an exemption applies unfortunately we have no locus under the legislation to act.

It is my understanding that there is a planning application in place for the site, with planning approval in principle being granted (Ref: 18/01794/PPP). This formed part of our investigation as while Planning Permission constitutes a valid exemption, Planning Permission in Principle does not.

The specific exemptions which we have found to apply in this scenario are:

- Exemption 1: Up to five cubic metres of timber can be felled within any calendar quarter.
- Exemption 2: Any trees with a diameter of 10cm or less measured 1.3 metres from the ground.

Despite drawing a conclusion that the felling did not require permission in this instance, we have however provided an advisory letter to the landowner as a reminder of the need for a felling permission, unless a valid exemption applies.

We have also highlighted to the landowner that where felling is carried out under an exemption, it is their responsibility to prove that the exemption applies by keeping appropriate records and that felling without a valid Felling Permission and where exemptions or directions do not apply, is an offence and may result in prosecution, a fine and a criminal record for anyone involved. The Act considers the felling of each tree a separate offence with a maximum penalty of up to £5,000 per offence.

The member of the public who reported the felling was, as you were, also concerned about the impact to wildlife however this related to deer, fox and birds rather than water vole and it was advised that disturbance to these species would be a matter covered by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and should be reported directly to Scottish Police as the competent body via their Wildlife Crime Liaison Officer rather than Scottish Forestry.

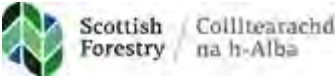
[REDACTED]rds,

[REDACTED]  
*Technical Officer*  
Scottish Forestry

☒ Central Scotland Conservancy | Bothwell House | Hamilton Business Park | Caird Park | Hamilton | ML3 0QA  
☎ Direct: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@forestry.gov.scot

Website: [forestry.gov.scot](http://forestry.gov.scot)  
Twitter: [@scotforestry](https://twitter.com/scotforestry)



Scottish Forestry is the Scottish Government agency responsible for forestry policy, support and regulation.

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 27 April 2022 16:59  
**To:** Scottish Forestry Conservancy, Central Scotland <[centralscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot](mailto:centralscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** FW: Nova/Robroyston Asda (OFFICIAL)

**OFFICIAL**

Hi,

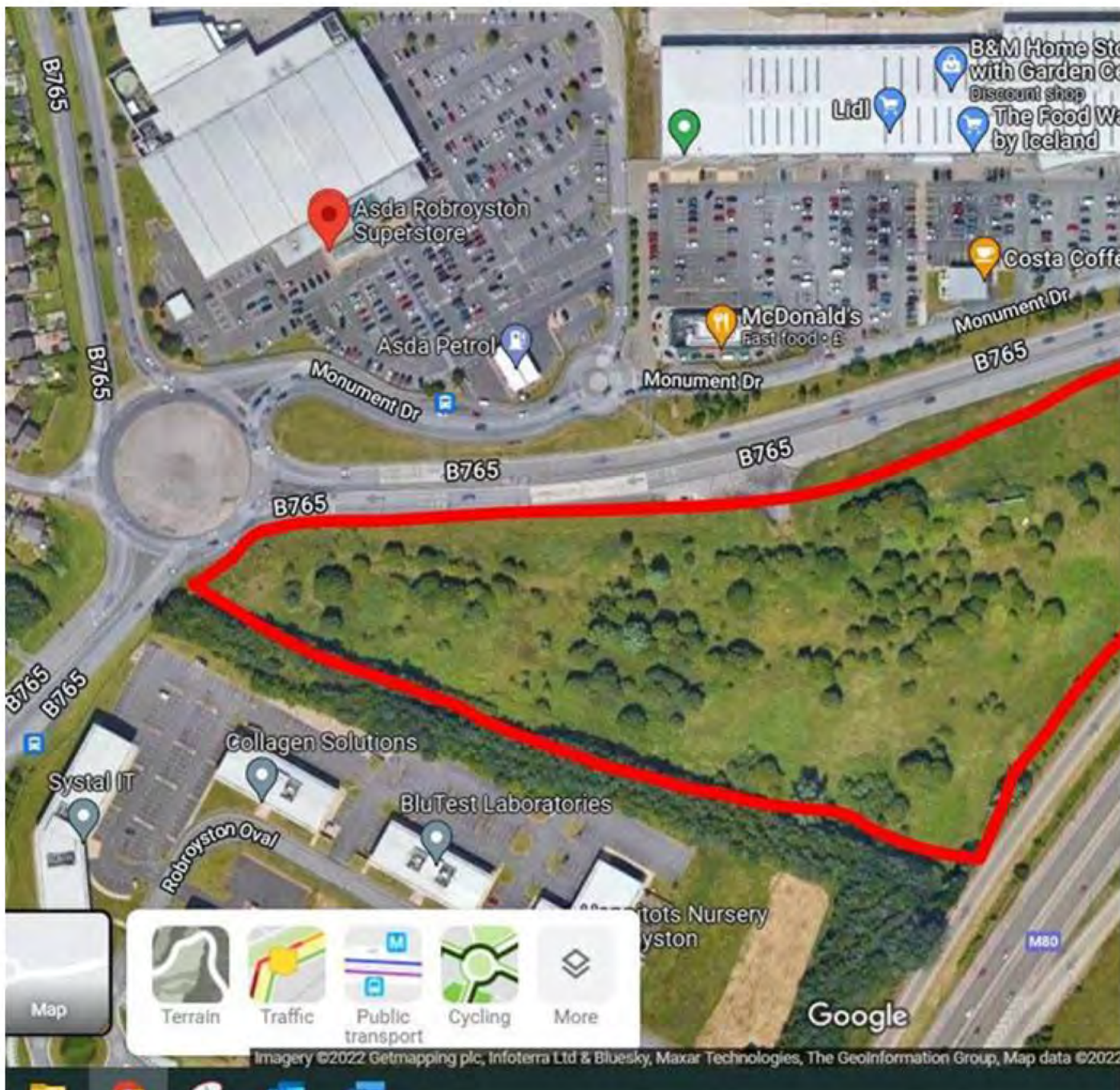
I would like to report evidence of tree felling at the location in map below and check if a felling licence is in place.

I have already checked with the Planning Officer (see email below) and there is no planning application in place, or under consideration.

The location is shown in map below and is opposite the ASDA at Robroyston at Grid Reference NS 63549 68383. And a photo is attached of what I saw on site yesterday 26/04/2022..  
For clarification I did not witness the trees being felled, but I witnessed a huge pile of trees/brush. And they are currently being chipped so the pile is disappearing quickly. There is evidence of tracking across the site to indicate that the trees came from this location, and presumably tree stumps in the ground.

Hopefully there is a tree felling licence in place and all is ok, but I thought I should check.  
I also have concerns about protected species as this is within a known water vole area, but maybe checks have been carried out and they are absent here, as well as checks for other protected species.

[REDACTED]



Natural Environment Officer  
(Biodiversity and Ecology)  
Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability  
Parks Development  
Glasgow City Council  
231 George Street  
Glasgow G1 1RX  
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Email [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk  
[www.glasgow.gov.uk](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk)

NB: Due to Covid-19 restrictions I am currently working from home

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From: [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk>  
Sent: 27 April 2022 09:28

To: [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Nova/Robroyston Asda (OFFICIAL)

**OFFICIAL**

[REDACTED]

There is no planning permission in place for this site, nor applications under consideration.

I understand that the trees and vegetation are not covered by a TPO, or another designation. Under such circumstances there is no requirement for planning permission.

However, if the Council own the land, permission will be required as landowner to remove trees.

This should at least clarify the planning position.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk>

Sent: 26 April 2022 17:31

To: [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@glasgow.gov.uk>

Subject: Nova/Robroyston Asda (OFFICIAL)

Importance: High

**OFFICIAL**

[REDACTED]

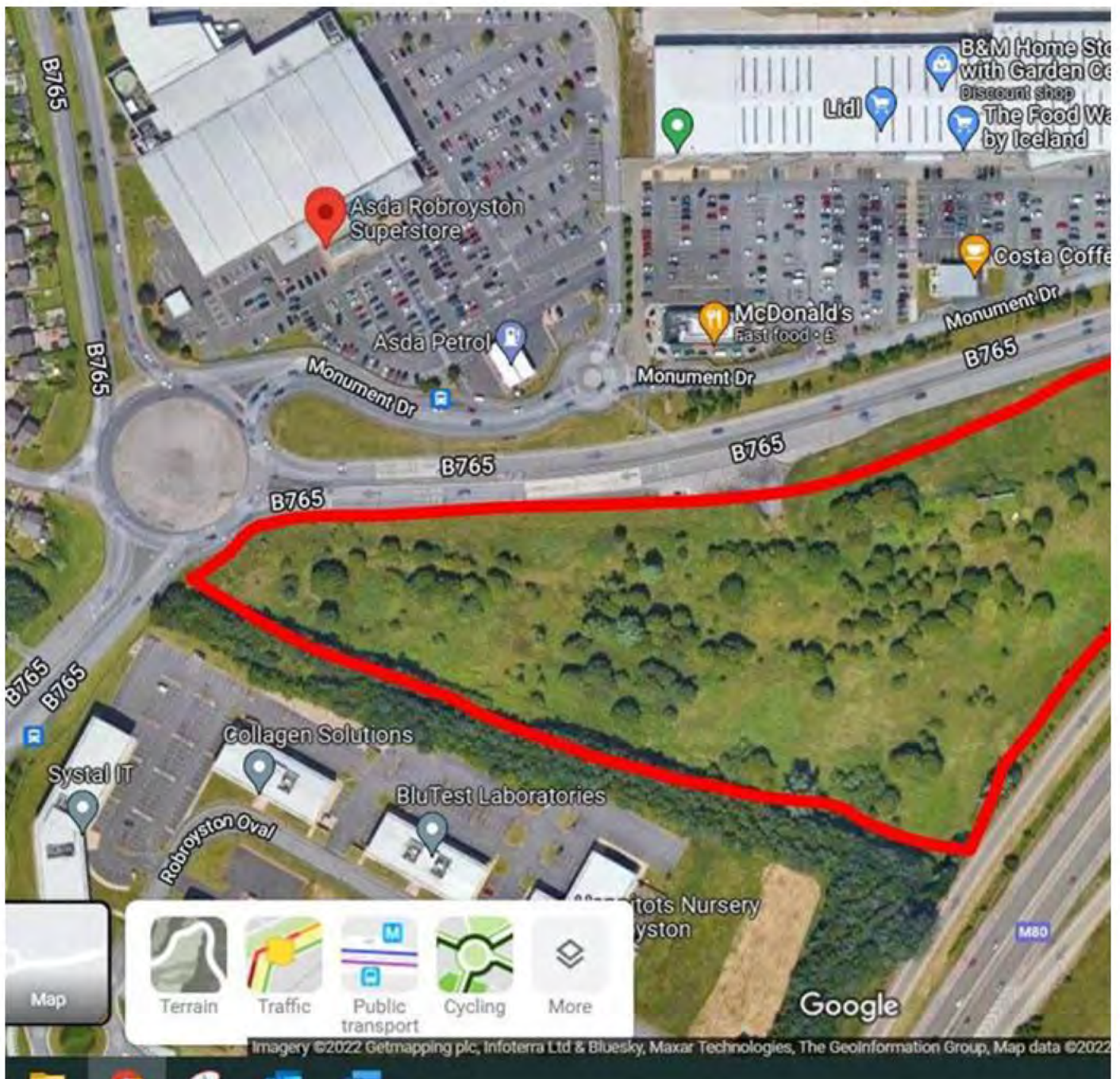
This could all be in hand, but flagging it up to see what checks have been carried out and what planning permission is in place.

Can you advise what planning permission is in place and the planning application number?

The reason I ask is because I drove passed today and trees have been cut down and are currently being chipped/removed.

Harper Collins is further south so I am unsure what is happening here, and with the map function not working in the Planning Portal it isn't easy to check.

[REDACTED]



Natural Environment Officer  
(Biodiversity and Ecology)  
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Parks Development  
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NB: Due to Covid-19 restrictions I am currently working from home

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