

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 as amended by the PLANNING ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2006

TOWN AND COUNTY PLANNING (TREE PRESERVATION ORDER AND TREES IN CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2010

STATEMENT OF REASONS for the making of the SUNDRUM CASTLE ESTATE, CASTLE DRIVE, COYLTON, AYR (No. 1) TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 2026

This is an area of mixed coniferous and deciduous woodland of various ages of trees, approx. 2.25 acres in size, adjacent to Castle Drive, Sundrum Estate, Coylton, close to the entrance to the Estate from the A70.

The Council considers that the woodland is of high amenity value and is a prominent landscape feature, which is easily seen by the public from Castle Drive and from the A70. As it is adjacent to the entrance to Castle Drive, and therefore into the wider historic Sundrum Castle Estate, there is an added significance to the woodland as a gateway feature. The woodland contains a number of mature and attractive trees including oak, and also 5 significant Giant Sequoia and a Chilean Pine. The environmental and habitat value is also high due to the good mix of size and species of trees, which will support a variety of other flora and fauna.

The 5 Giant Sequoia are particularly prominent and well-established in the local area and as such they have significant landscape and biodiversity value. *Sequoiadendron giganteum* is very recognisable and can live over 3,000 years. The species was introduced to Scotland approximately 200 years ago and are quite valuable as they are under threat in their native habitat. The surrounding woodland provides wind shelter and protection to these 5 trees which helps to increase the lifespan of the trees.

It is also noted that other areas of trees further into the Estate on Castle Drive are designated within the Ancient Woodland Inventory. By making this Order, it would help maintain the high biodiversity value of the nearby long established ancient woodland.

For the reasons stated above, the Council has decided to make a Tree Preservation Order for the woodland identified as W1 on the plan attached to the Order.

Kevin Braidwood

Director of Housing, Operations and Development

South Ayrshire Council

5 May 2026