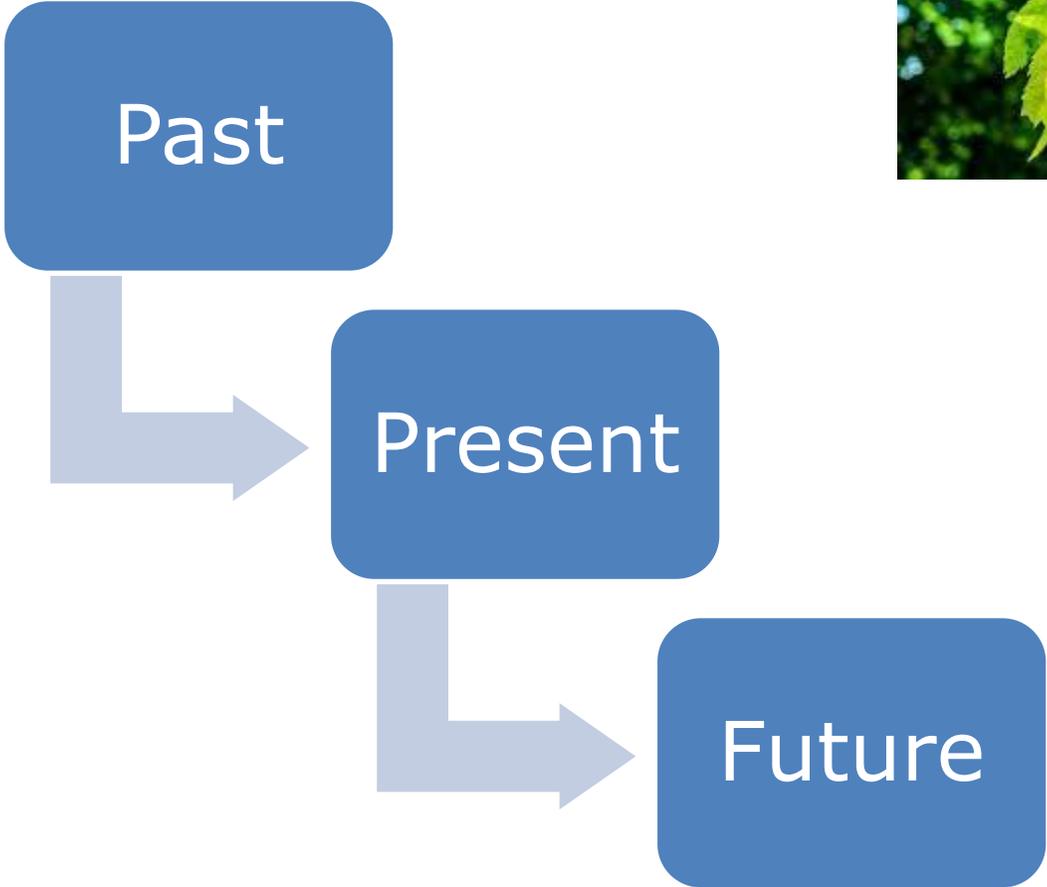
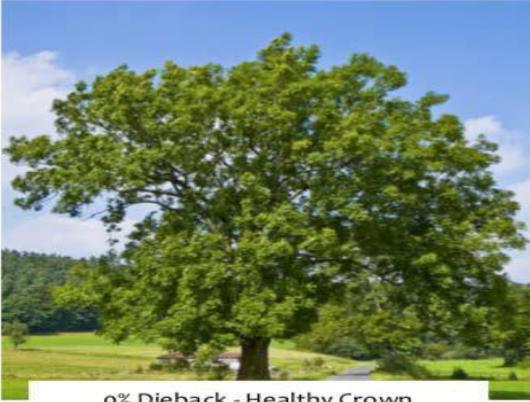


Ash Die Back:



What is Ash Die Back



- The pathogen causes leaf loss, crown dieback and blocks water transport systems within the tree.
- The nature of the infection results in tissue death and branch failure, which in turn, often causes health and safety implications.

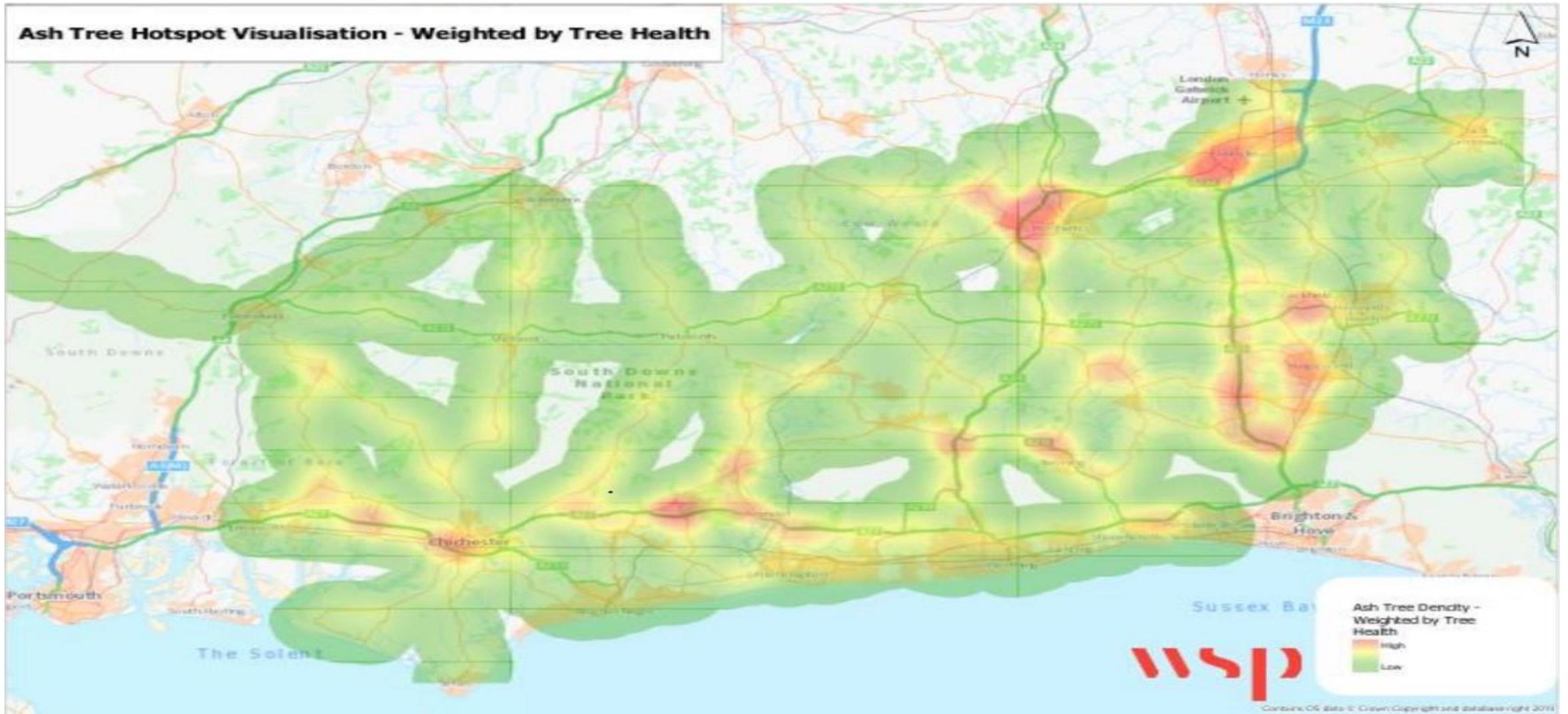
Risk of ADB in West Sussex

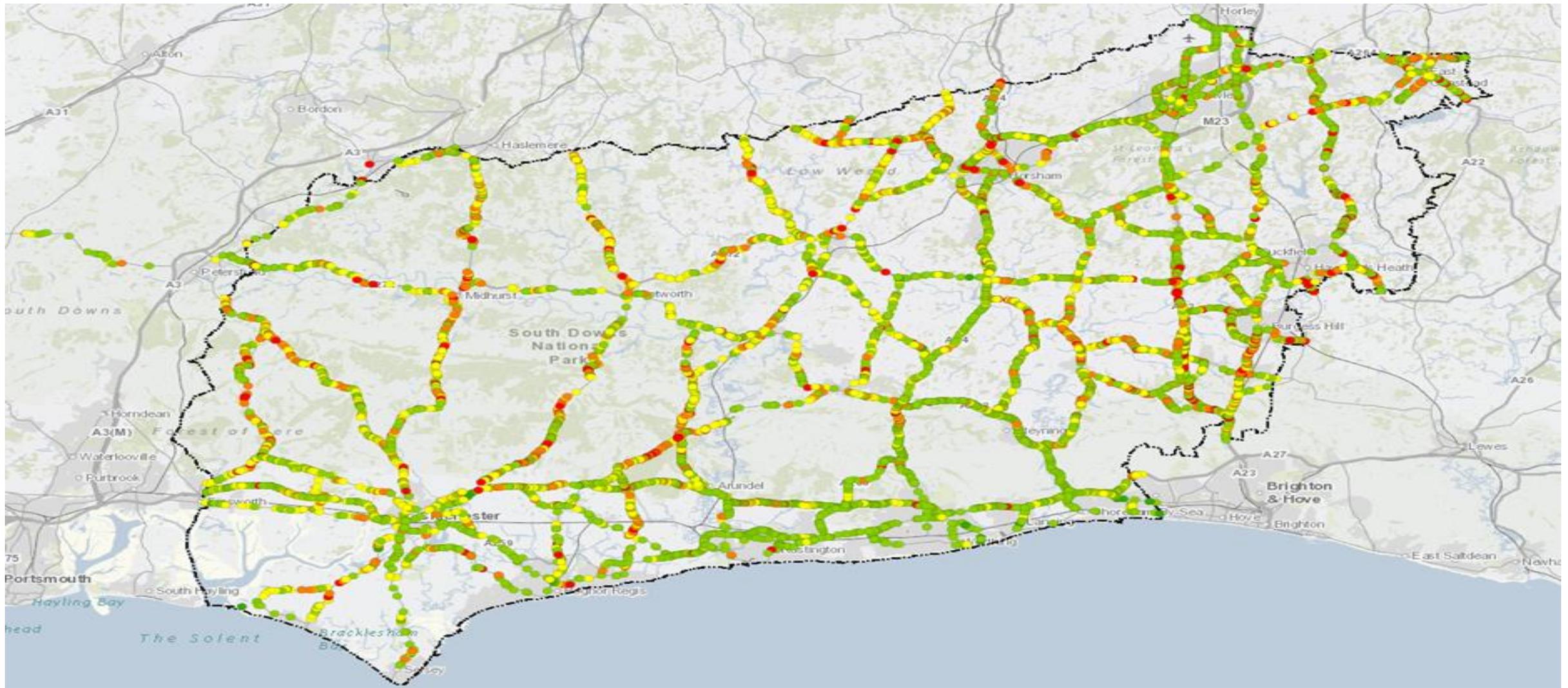


Understanding the impact

- Surveys undertaken on A and B and rural C network.
- Tree health assessed in line with Tree Council guidance
- Health assessed as 0-25% - 25 to 50% - 50 to 75% - 75% to 100% canopy cover
- Trees identified and geo-referenced for precise location
- Report provided indicating locations and level of die back at each
- In the region of 30,000 trees identified as being a risk to the highway
- Works delivered based on priority

Ash Tree Hotspot Visualisation - Weighted by Tree Health





Highway Mass Felling



- Euroforest delivering the works
- Approximately 5000 trees removed last year.
- £1.5 million of works delivered
- Contractor returned £65,000 due to value of arisings.
- Works completed with minimum disruption on the network.
- Works undertaken on A24, A272, A285 and A286.

Collaboration / Co-operation

- In the region of 250 individual letters sent to responsible landowners to request action is taken to mitigate risk.
- They are a combination of information, legal warnings and legal notices.
- 81 at risk trees on private land have been removed as a result of this work.
- Working with significant landowners such as Leconfield Estate, West Dean Estate and Norfolk Estate.
- Proactive communications at the planning stage.
- Contract accessible to third parties to ensure collaboration where possible.

Corporate Estate/Countryside/PROW

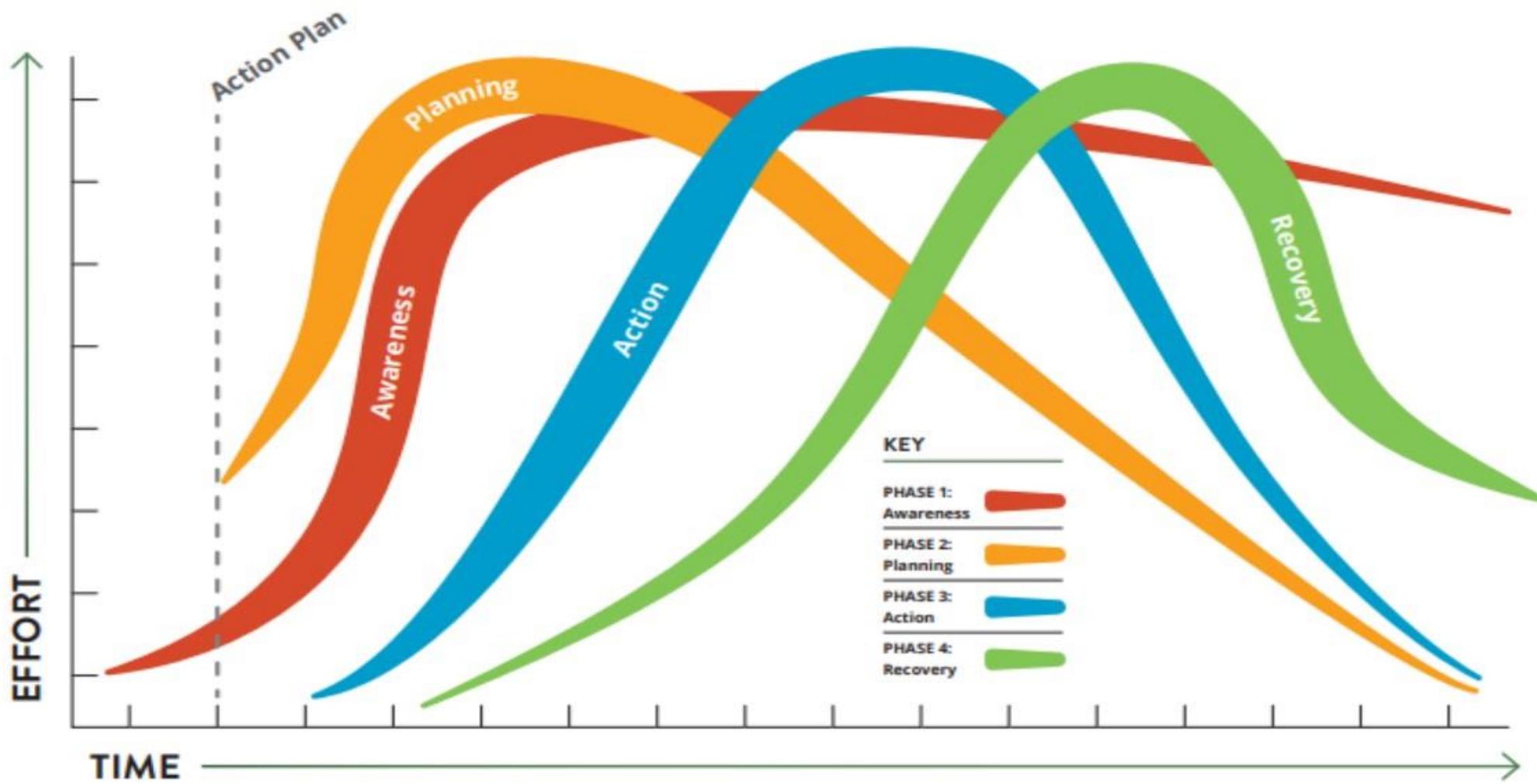
- Schools were notified initially in 2019 and have had a several reminders since.
- Many schools took action as soon as they were made aware and were offered the opportunity to enter into a tree SLA.
- ADB team to establish better, more accurate details of which school has completed the works so that we can close gaps.
- 231 corporate estate sites have been surveyed resulting in works on 9 trees.
- 7 countryside sites surveyed with removal works completed in 2022 and will continue into 2023/24.

Alignment with the plan:

- Ash Die Action Back working group in place to review progress and ensure the Action Plan is up to date.
- Formulated a risk-based approach.
- We have captured data using real world surveys of A, B and rural C roads.
- Felling programme in place to mitigate risk to people/buildings
- Will introduce surveys at large sites to understand impact on biodiversity
- Use data to consider what recovery looks like in West Sussex.
- Explore funding options for large scale re-planting at future date



Stick to
the plan!



Recovery Phase



- Currently monitoring a number of sites where re-planting would not be possible to understand how it naturally regenerates.
- Exploring funding opportunities for replacement planting – Tree Health Pilot Scheme, Local Authority Tree Fund and via the felling contract.
- Considering the use of corporate land parcels to for compensatory planting.
- Retaining trees that indicate some resistance and monitoring (300 approx).

Natural regeneration – Beeching Way

March 2023



June 2023



Questions?