

Press Release

Datganiad i'r Wasg

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SCORES of new trees are being planted along a key gateway in and out of Swansea city centre this week.

The elm trees, being planted along Quay Parade and Victoria Road between the river bridges and Wind Street, form part of the boulevard project that's now nearing completion.

The type of elm chosen is a medium-sized tree that can grow up to 14 metres high and is guaranteed against Dutch Elm Disease for their lifetime. The trees, which are the same variety as those planted in London's Olympic Park, have been picked because of their appearance, longevity and suitability for the location.

New trees will also be planted close to Victoria Road's junction with York Street to replace a number that were vandalised earlier in the year.

A Swansea Council spokesperson said: "One of the key aims of the boulevard project is to greatly improve the appearance of a major gateway in and out of Swansea city centre. The planting of scores of new trees will be a major contributory factor in helping us reach that goal.

"It's unfortunate that a few trees planted earlier this year were vandalised, but CCTV cameras are now in place and we will take action if someone is caught doing this in future.

"The overall boulevard project is still on schedule to be finished during early November. It will generate better links between the city and waterfront and make Quay Parade and Victoria Road more pedestrian-friendly by introducing wider pavements and high-quality crossing points at key locations."

Night-time road closures on Quay Parade and Victoria Road will continue to be in place for the next week or so to allow surfacing work and the installation of signs and streetlights. The work, which is heavily weather-dependent, means closures are in place from about 6.30pm to the early hours of the morning. Well-signed diversions have been introduced for motorists but access for residents, emergency services and businesses like Sainsbury's will be maintained. Bus operators have also been informed.

The boulevard project is funded by the Welsh Government's Regeneration Area programme, the European Regional Development Fund and Swansea Council.