

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Vicki Wood.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/01312/TPO	Row of Conifer - Reduce row by approx 6m to previously topped height	Land At Horace Gay Gardens Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4XP

Submitted Plan Nos

Location plan

1.0 Policies

1.0 Planning Practice Guidance

- 1.1 Tree Preservation Orders and Trees in Conservation Areas 2014
- 1.2 Hertfordshire County Council Tree and Woodland Strategy 2022–2030
- 1.3 North Hertfordshire Council Tree Strategy 2017

2.0 Relevant Site History

- 2.1 14/02444/1TPO - Reduce height of row of Leylandii Trees by approximately 3 metres. Conditional Consent.

3.0 Representations

- 3.1 LGCHF – None received.

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site and Surroundings

- 4.1.1 The line of Conifer trees lies to the southeast party boundary of residential gardens and the railway line to the south. The trees are covered by TPO/088 (North Hertfordshire

District Council (Former C.G.A. Site, Spring Road/Icknield Way, Letchworth) 1989 confirmed on 28/06/1989.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to reduce a row of Conifer trees by approximately 6m to previously topped height.

4.3 **Key Issues**

- 4.3.1 The issues associated with this proposal centre upon the appropriateness of the works in relation to the Tree Preservation Order.
- 4.3.2 The trees are identified as being within a solid blue line of the submitted site location plan. The row of Conifer trees has grown to a substantial size and now dominates the rear gardens of properties in Horace Gay Gardens. Having regard to the nature of the species, a reduction in height as proposed is considered reasonable and justified.
- 4.3.3 Whilst the trees contribute to a degree of both private and public amenity value, the significant growth of the trees in close proximity to residential dwellings and associated gardens means that regular maintenance is required.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 I am satisfied that the proposed works would not impact on the health or amenity value of this group of trees.

5.0 **Recommendation**

- 5.1 That permission be **GRANTED** for the proposed works subject to conditions:

1. The works shall be undertaken only by a competent and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor or tree surgeon as capable of carrying them out to an acceptable standard.

Reason: In order that the works are undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor.

2. The works shall be carried out to conform to British Standard 3998 - Recommendations for Tree Work and in a manner so as to ensure that the natural and aesthetic appearance of the trees are maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that the works are undertaken to an acceptable standard which will not harm the health of the tree(s).

Signed  Ben Glover	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 24 June 2025	