

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

24/02367/TPO

Beech - Reduce by up to 3m.

Strathmore

12 Hitchin Road

Letchworth Garden City

Hertfordshire

SG6 3LL

Submitted Plan Nos

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 **Site History**

2.1 Various applications, full case history on file.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 **LGCHF** – None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The application site is located at the junction with Broadway and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area. The Copper Beech tree shown on the submitted site plan is covered by TPO/091 North Hertfordshire District Council (12 Hitchin Road, Letchworth) 1989 confirmed on 30/08/1989.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to reduce by up to 3m.

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 tree is identified on the submitted site plan and is positioned to the south of the dwelling on the side of Hitchin Road. The direction of growth of the tree has meant that the crown has spread over the boundary hedge and the highway. The tree appears visually healthy. The proposal to reduce the crown by up to 3m appears reasonable and justified and would ensure its longer-term management and continued contribution to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area. The tree contributes towards amenity value given the prominent position of the plot being located at the junction.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 I am satisfied that the proposed works are justified.

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  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 22 November 2024	