

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Francis Mabbett.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/03146/TCA	T1: Conifer - Reduce along boundery to fence height, trim and tidy	70 Baldock Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 2EQ

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

None relevant.

3.0 **Representations**

None

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

T1 Conifer (applicant's plan) and hedge are located on the west boundary of the site. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area. The conifer has limited visibility from the public realm.

4.2 **Proposal**

Reduce Hedging and Self Set Trees Along the Boundary Down to the Fence Height. Trim to Tidy Conifer Tree and Side Away From the Property

4.3 **Key Issues**

The key issue for consideration is the impact that the proposed works would have on the character, appearance and amenity of the Conservation Area.

4.3.1 The conifer has limited visibility from the public realm and contributes little amenity to the surrounding area.

4.3.2 T1 Conifer was identified as Leyland Cypress, and was clearly growing very close if not in contact with the adjacent building. The proposed works to trim the side away from the property would mitigate the potential for direct damage caused by branches coming into contact with the property.

4.3.3 The hedge, subject of this application, is regarded as a garden hedge and no other significant trees were observed growing from within it. Therefore the proposed works to this does not require notification to the council, see extract below from Government Guidance **Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas**

"Authorities may only use an Order to protect anything that may ordinarily be termed a tree. This would not normally include shrubs, but could include, for example, trees in a hedge or an old hedge which has become a line of trees of a reasonable height."

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in any unacceptable adverse impact upon the character, appearance or amenity of the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.5 **Alternative Options**

- 4.5.1 None applicable

4.6 **Pre-Commencement Conditions**

- 4.6.1 None applicable

5.0 **Recommendation**

- 5.1 No objection.

Signed  Anne McDonald	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 17 December 2025	