

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

25/01070/TPO

T1: Ash - Crown reduction of approx 2
to 3m from the top.

8 Wheatfield Crescent
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 7EN

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 TPO/22 - Urban District Council of Royston (Wheatfield Crescent/Newmarket Road/Poplar Drive, Royston) 1973. Confirmed 23/10/1973.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 Wheatfield Crescent is accessed from Newmarket Road with access to the property being from within Wheatfield Crescent which is a small cul-de-sac of residential dwellings. The Ash tree is referenced as being within the boundaries of 8 Wheatfield Crescent and is sited in the rear garden close to the boundary with Newmarket Road.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought for a crown reduction of approximately 2 to 3m from the top.

4.2.2 The application is supported by a Tree Report prepared by Rebecca Peace.

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 as T1 on the submitted plan (the position of which is questionable, but it is clear from the Tree Report submitted to accompany the application that it relates to the Ash tree within the boundaries of no.8 Wheatfield Crescent). The Tree Report advises a reduction of 2-3 metres to the tree as there is evidence of early die-back within the crown together with some deadwood. The tree is a mature specimen and given its proximity to both the dwelling and associated garden as well as to Newmarket Road the suggested reduction appears reasonable and justified.

4.3.3 It is evident that the public amenity value of the tree makes a valued contribution to the area forming part of the wider Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 I am satisfied that the works would not harm the amenity value of the tree to any significant degree and is acceptable.

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 <i>Alex Howard</i> Alex Howard Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 23 May 2025	