

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Kayleigh Abery.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01533/TCA	T1: Portuguese Laurel - Remove dead wood and prune to shape and balance.	67 West View Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3QJ

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Relevant Site History**

2.1 09/02158/1TCA: Remove 1 Fir Tree; reduce diameter of 1 Laurel Tree to approximately 3m and reduce the height in proportion to retain the shape of the crown and reduce the overhang over the neighbour's garden; and reduce Laurel Hedge to approximately 3 metres high and approximately 2 metres deep. **No objection 07.01.2010**

12/02218/1TCA: Reduce canopy all around by approximately 25%; lightly lift canopy up as far as first major limb overhanging neighbouring property to one Oak tree (T1). **No objection 31.10.2012**

23/01744/TCA: T3 Portuguese Laurel - Remove deadwood and remaining canopy pruned to shape & balance. T4 Yew - Reduce by approx. 2-3ft and remaining canopy hedge trimmed. **No objection 03.08.2023**

26/01267/TCA: Portuguese Laurel - Remove dead wood and prune to shape and balance. **Withdrawn and not proceeded with 17.06.2026**

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The Portuguese Laurel tree subject to this application is located in the rear garden of 67 West View, Letchworth Garden City and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area. The crown is visible to the public realm when viewing at the side of the dwellinghouse.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works: Reduction of deadwood and prune to reshape and balance the Laurel tree.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are the amenity value of the tree; the impact of the proposed work on the character and appearance of the Conservation Area; any justification for the proposed work and; whether, taking full account of the above, it would be expedient and in the public interest to make a Tree Preservation Order.

4.3.2 The tree is identified on the submitted location plan.

4.3.3 The proposal enables remedial works to be undertaken to the tree, by way of removal of the deadwood and allow for rejuvenation of the tree, which is considered reasonable and would help secure its longer-term management.

4.3.4 There is no threat to the tree, therefore I do not consider a Tree Preservation Order to be required.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in the loss of the tree. It is therefore considered that the works would not result in any unacceptable harm to the amenity value of the tree, nor to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area that would outweigh the justification for the works.

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 **NO OBJECTION** to the proposed work.

Signed  Anne McDonald Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 10 July 2026	