

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/02124/TCA	Tag 1495: Common Ash - Remove broken hanging branch. Tag 1496: Common Ash - Fell. Tag 1498: Common Ash - Remove faulted/rotten lower branch on north side overhanging school field. Tag 1499: Norway Maple - Fell.	Land To The Rear Of Reed First School Jacksons Lane Reed Hertfordshire SG8 8AB

Submitted Plan Nos

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 Full history on case file.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The site is located on the southern side of Jackson's Lane and adjoins the southern and western boundaries of Reed First School. The site lies within the Reed Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:
 - Tag 1495: Common Ash - Remove broken hanging branch.
 - Tag 1496: Common Ash - Fell.
 - Tag 1498: Common Ash - Remove faulted/rotten lower branch on north side overhanging school field.
 - Tag 1499: Norway Maple - Fell.

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 submitted plan shows the position of the trees which is to the southern boundary of the site.
- 4.3.3 The application is accompanied by a Tree Report which confirms the condition of the various trees and photographs. Reference is made to tree Tag 1497, however works to this tree is for the removal of deadwood only which does not require consent.

4.3.4 I am satisfied that the proposed works are reasonable and justified and seek to manage the longer-term condition of the tree belt. Whilst two trees will be felled as a result of their condition, an Informative will be included in the decision advising re-planting.

4.3.5 There appears to be no threat to the remaining trees and, therefore, it is not considered appropriate to make a Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not cause unacceptable harm to the amenity value of the tree belt or to the character and appearance of the Reed Conservation Area that would outweigh the justification for the works.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Informative/s:

1. In an effort to combat climate change, North Hertfordshire Council advises that 2 x native trees be planted within the southern boundary of the site following removal of the Common Ash and Norway Maple trees. Please make sure you are familiar with the planting season which runs from 1st November until 31st March, this will give the trees the best chance of survival.

Signed  Intan Keen	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 4 September 2026	