

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01491/TCA	T1: Lilac - Prune out the deadwood and shape the remaining crown to improve appearance and maintain a balanced form.	32 Ridge Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire
	T2: Hawthorn - Reduce the crown to match the height of the neighbouring hedge line and reshape to maintain a neat and uniform appearance. T3: Hawthorn - Remove to as close to ground level as possible and grind the stump to a maximum depth of 150mm below ground level. T4: Plum - Carry out a crown thin to reduce density within the canopy and laterally reduce selected branches to manage the overall crown spread whilst retaining the natural shape.	SG6 1PN

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Relevant Site History**

2.1 21/02418/TCA: Plum - Crown reduction by 30% - **No objection 29.09.2021**

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The trees are located in both the front and rear garden of 32 Ridge Road, Letchworth Garden City and is with the Letchworth Conservation Area. There are a Lilac and Hawthorn located in the front garden and visible to the public realm and a Hawthorn and Plum tree located in the rear garden, the plum tree in particular is visible to multiple neighbouring gardens but not to the public and the hawthorn is visible to the immediate neighbour but is much less established in comparison.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T1: Lilac - Prune out the deadwood and shape the remaining crown to improve appearance and maintain a balanced form.

T2: Hawthorn - Reduce the crown to match the height of the neighbouring hedge line and reshape to maintain a neat and uniform appearance.

T3: Hawthorn - Remove to as close to ground level as possible and grind the stump to a maximum depth of 150mm below ground level.

T4: Plum - Carry out a crown thin to reduce density within the canopy and laterally reduce selected branches to manage the overall crown spread whilst retaining the natural shape.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are the amenity value of the trees; 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 trees are identified on the submitted location plan.
- 4.3.3 The proposal enables remedial works to be undertaken to the trees labelled T1, T2 and T4, which are considered reasonable and would help secure their longer-term management.
- 4.3.4 There is no expedient threat to the trees, therefore I do not consider a Tree Preservation Order to be appropriate.
- 4.3.5 The proposal seeks to fell T3 (Hawthorn). This tree is in the rear garden, and is not considered to make a significant contribution to local amenity and it is therefore not expedient to seek a Tree Preservation Order for this tree. Its felling is therefore acceptable.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 It is therefore considered that the works would not result in any unacceptable harm to the amenity value of the retained trees and the wider Conservation Area, and the felling of T3 would not occasion unacceptable harm to the visual amenity of the Letchworth Conservation Area.

5.0 **Recommendation**

- 5.1 **NO OBJECTION** to the proposed works.

Signed  Thomas Howe	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 21 July 2026	

