

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01639/TCA	T1: Prunus - Reduce by 1.5m and thin by 25%	Highfield House 28 Hitchin Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 3LU

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

21/01375/TCA - 3x Leyland Cypress - Crown reductions approx. 1/3. Weeping Willow - Stump dismantled and removed. – No objection

24/01796/TCA - Ash - Reduce by 4/5m – No objection

25/02713/TCA - Beech - Reduce by 3m, reduce limb and thin by 25% - No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

T1 Prunus (applicant's plan) is located in the rear garden close to the North boundary. The tree is not visible to the public realm. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1: Prunus - Reduce by 1.5m and thin by 25%

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 tree is not visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The Prunus is a mature purple leaved Myrobalan plum, with the normal appearance of a crowded crown and an abundance of water shoots present. A reduction by 1.5m will negatively affect the visual appearance of three for a short time, but should not be detrimental to the health of the tree. A 25% thin will improve air circulation throughout the crown reducing optimal conditions for pathogens to colonise and will also prevent water shoots from becoming dominant, although pruning is likely to stimulate further production of these. Prunus are highly susceptible to Silver Leaf and so it is recommended pruning takes place during June, July or August where their gum can be an effective barrier to infection.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in any adverse impact upon the character, appearance and 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  Thomas Howe	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 4 August 2026	