

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01640/TCA	Populus alba - Dead wood, including a reduction of large over extending limbs to reduce the risk of future limb failure (reduce by up to 3m allowing crown re balance)	19 Willian Way Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 2HQ

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 **Site History**

Non relevant.

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

Populus alba (applicant's plan) is located at the south-west corner of the rear garden. The tree is partly visible to the public realm. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

Populus alba - Dead wood, including a reduction of large over extending limbs to reduce the risk of future limb failure (reduce by up to 3m allowing crown re balance)

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 partly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The White Poplar is a large tree with a spreading crown and an outward appearance of being in normal health. The characteristics of low density wood and large over extending limbs makes this species prone to branch breakage in high winds and a reduction of the larger overextending limbs will help mitigate this risk. Poplar are highly susceptible to decay and although this may initially be impeded by the high moisture content of the wood, repeat operations to remove large regrowth will likely be necessary in the future, to prevent limb failure at decayed pruning points. A small cavity was also present at the base of the tree although decay did not appear extensive at this stage, evidence of large limb removal on the south side was also present, but inspection of the wound was not possible. Given the limited visibility of the tree to the public realm the impact of the works to the amenity of the surrounding area is considered low.

4.4 **Conclusion**

4.4.1 The proposed works would not result in any unacceptable 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 Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 4 August 2026	