

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...William Thompson.....

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
25/02678/TCA	G1: Cherry - Reduce by 2-3m in height and lateral growth to be reduced by 1.5m to balance. Fir - Remove to Ground Level. Blue Atlas Cedar - Prune by 1.5m and crown clean. T1: Scotts Pine - Crown clean and reduce back from building by 1.5-2m. T2: Conifer - Remove to ground level. G2: Ash, Field Maple - Crown clean, lift lower canopy and reduce lateral growth back over garden by 2m. T3: Lombardy Poplar - Remove to ground level. G3: Silver Birch - Selectively reduce to balance. Silver Birch - Remove to ground level. T4: Cedar - Crown clean and selectively prune over extending limbs to reduce weight over neighbouring property. T5: Sycamore - Remove to ground level. G4: Conifer - Reduce hedgerow to previous pruning points and trim sides to neaten. T6: Ash - Remove to ground level.	185 Icknield Way Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4AA

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

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 20/01389/TCA - Holly - Reduce to 3m. Oak - Remove two low branches by approx 2m & 3m. Scots pine, Laburnum - Remove deadwood.

No Objection

3.0 Representations

- 3.1 **Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation** – None received.

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site and Surroundings

- 4.1.1 The application site is located on Icknield Way, Letchworth Garden City and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 Proposal

- 4.2.1 G1: Cherry - Reduce by 2-3m in height and lateral growth to be reduced by 1.5m to balance. Fir - Remove to Ground Level. Blue Atlas Cedar - Prune by 1.5m and crown clean. T1: Scotts Pine - Crown clean and reduce back from building by 1.5-2m. T2: Conifer - Remove to ground level. G2: Ash, Field Maple - Crown clean, lift lower canopy and reduce lateral growth back over garden by 2m. T3: Lombardy Poplar - Remove to ground level. G3: Silver Birch - Selectively reduce to balance. Silver Birch - Remove to ground level. T4: Cedar - Crown clean and selectively prune over extending limbs to reduce weight over neighbouring property. T5: Sycamore - Remove

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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 and is located at various points on the site.
- 4.3.3 Some trees are visible from the public realm, so they hold amenity value. The works to G1, G2, G3, G4, T1 and T4 are remedial and are not considered to cause unacceptable harm to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The works to fell are justified by the following reasons: T2 – is a poor specimen and its removal would increase light to surrounding vegetation; T3 – has large cavities in the crown; Silver Birch - is dead; T5 – is blocking light to the understory Yew tree; T6 – has a heavy lean and is at risk of failure. Therefore, none of these trees would be a worthy enough specimen to warrant a TPO.
- 4.3.4 Due to the above reasons, I do not consider the trees to be of high enough public amenity value to warrant a Tree Preservation Order.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 The proposed works to the tree would not cause such harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area as to overcome the justification for the work.

5.0 **Recommendation**

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

Signed  Sarah Kasparian	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 19 November 2025	

