

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/01354/TCA	T1: Pear - Fell to ground level. T2: Purple Plum - Reduce the height by 1.5m and bring the sides in to match. T3: Silver Birch - Reduce just below the previous points. Approx 2m off the height and no more than 1m off the sides. T4: Twisted Willow - Pollard to just below the previous points. Approx a 2 - 2.5m height reduction. T5: Silver Birch - Reduce just below the previous points. Approx 2m off the height and no more than 1m of the sides. G1: 5x Conifers - Fell to ground level. G2: 3x Conifers - Fell to ground level.	17 Hillshott Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 1SA

Submitted Plan Nos

2.0 **Site History**

13/02581/1TCA- Reduce two Leylandii trees, one Sumach Tree and one Maple Tree (T1, T3 and T8 on plan) by one third. Reduce three Laurel trees and one Eucalyptus Tree (T2, T11 and T9 on plan) by half. Reduce and shape one Contorted Willow Tree (T6 on plan) by one third. Reduce one Willow Tree (T7 on plan) by one third and raise over path by 1.5 metres. Remove one Contorted Willow Tree and one Thuja (T4 and T5 on plan).- No objection

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

T1: Pear, T2: Purple Plum and G2: 3x Conifers (applicant's plan) are located at the front of the property at the North side of the site while T3: Silver Birch, T4: Twisted Willow, T5: Silver Birch and G1: 5x Conifers (applicant's plan) are located in the rear garden to the South. The trees are visible to the public realm and the site is located within Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1: Pear - Fell to ground level. T2: Purple Plum - Reduce the height by 1.5m and bring the sides in to match. T3: Silver Birch - Reduce just below the previous points. Approx 2m off the height and no more than 1m off the sides. T4: Twisted Willow - Pollard to just below the previous points. Approx a 2 - 2.5m height reduction. T5: Silver Birch - Reduce just below the previous points. Approx 2m off the height and no more than 1m off the sides. G1: 5x Conifers - Fell to ground level. G2: 3x Conifers - Fell to ground level.

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 trees are visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 The proposed removal of G1 and G2 conifers is appropriate as these are large trees and if left unmanaged can quickly outgrow their position, becoming very dominant and overbearing. The remaining trees are small, but in a limited sized garden they are now in need of maintenance and the proposed works will retain the trees at a suitable size. This will provide each tree with the space to thrive without becoming too large and unmanageable. The works will have a negative impact on the amenity of the trees, but this is anticipated to be short-term only.

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  Naomi Reynard	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 26 June 2026	