

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/00913/TCA	Norway Maple - Crown reduction of approx 3m back to previous pruning points. Removal of minor deadwood and crossing branches, retaining a balanced natural crown.	10 Nuns Close Hitchin Hertfordshire SG5 1EP

Submitted Plan Nos

1.0 Policies

2.0 Site History

18/00946/TCA - T1 Apple & T2 Maple - Reduce by 25-30%. T3 - Holly, Laburnum and Pyracantha - Reduced height by approx 1m – No objection

22/03050/TCA- T1: Multi species hedge - Reduce in height to window level and prune sides. T2: Maple - 30% reduction to suitable growth points. T3: Apple - 20-25% reduction. – No objection

3.0 Representations

None received.

4.0 Planning Considerations

4.1 Site

Norway Maple (applicant's plan) is located close to the East boundary of the rear garden. The tree is partly visible to the public realm and to surrounding properties. The site is within the Hitchin Conservation Area.

4.2 Proposal

Norway Maple - Crown reduction of approx 3m back to previous pruning points.
Removal of minor deadwood and crossing branches, retaining a balanced natural crown.

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 Norway Maple is a mature tree and is a Crimson cultivar. It has good form and has previously undergone a crown reduction. The tree is located in a small narrow garden and regular pruning is necessary to ensure the tree does not outgrow its context. Pruning back to previous points ensures natural barriers produced by the tree post previous reduction works are not breached and the impact on the health of the tree is kept to a minimum. The proposed works will have a negative impact on the amenity of the tree, but this is likely to be only short-term and will not be detrimental to the amenity of the area.

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 Hitchin 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  Melissa Tyler	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 8 May 2026	