

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Thomas Howe.....

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

24/01939/TPO

Lime - Crown reduction of 30%

28 Symonds Road

Hitchin

Hertfordshire

SG5 2JL

Submitted Plan Nos

Sketch location plan

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 19/00784/TPO - T1 European Lime - Reduce overall crown by 30% to suitable points of regrowth. Raise crown to 2m height – Conditional Consent
- 2.2 12/00043/1TPO - Reduce crown by 30% to 40% to one Lime tree – Conditional Consent
- 2.3 99/00042/1TPO - Pruning of Lime tree - Consent

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The application site sits to the north side of Symonds Road, and the tree is covered by TPO/113.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

Lime – Crown reduction of 30%.

4.3 **Key Issues**

- 4.3.1 The issues associated with this proposal centre upon the appropriateness of the works in relation to the Tree Preservation Order.
- 4.3.2 The tree is identified as A1 on the submitted site plan.
- 4.3.3 The Lime is to the rear boundary of the site and is part of a wider group of trees. It is therefore obscured from view from the public realm and the street scene. The proposed works seek to reduce the crown of the tree by approximately 30%, and would therefore result in its retention and maintenance.
- 4.3.4 There is public amenity value in the presence of the trees and the existence of the Group TPO offers wider benefit to the character and appearance of the area. I do not consider that the proposed works would impact on the Group TPO to any significant extent.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 I am satisfied that the proposed works are justified and acceptable.

5.0 **Recommendation**

5.1 That permission be **GRANTED** for the proposed works subject to conditions:

1. The works shall be undertaken only by a competent and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor or tree surgeon as capable of carrying them out to an acceptable standard.

Reason: In order that the works are undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor.

2. The works shall be carried out to conform to British Standard 3998 - Recommendations for Tree Work and in a manner so as to ensure that the natural and aesthetic appearance of the trees are maintained to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that the works are undertaken to an acceptable standard which will not harm the health of the tree(s).

Signed  Tom Rea	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Determining Officer Date: 14 October 2024	