

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

CASE OFFICER: ...Vicki Wood.....

**APPLICATION
REFERENCE**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF
DEVELOPMENT**

APPLICATION SITE

25/01807/TCA

T1: Common Spruce (Picea Abies) - 17m
height - to be safely dismantled down to
a low stump

12 South View
Letchworth Garden City
Hertfordshire
SG6 3JH

Submitted Plan Nos

Site 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 None.

3.0 **Representations**

3.1 **LGCHF** – None received

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

4.1.1 The application site is located on the east side of South View and is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.1.2 The tree is identified on the submitted plan as T1 and is positioned in the rear garden of the property alongside the party boundary to the south where no.14 South View benefits from a detached outbuilding.

4.2 **Proposal**

4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:

T1: Common Spruce (Picea Abies) - 17m height - to be safely dismantled down to a low stump.

4.3 **Key Issues**

4.3.1 The key issues in determining this application are; the amenity value of the tree; 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 application form indicates that the 17metre high tree is affecting a brick wall and structure of an outbuilding to no.14 South View and photographic evidence has been submitted in support of this.

4.3.3 Based on the evidence submitted, it appears reasonable and justified for the tree to be felled.

4.3.4 The tree is visible from views between properties in South View with the highest part of the tree being visible from the wider area, although given the presence of other similar height trees in the immediate vicinity, I am satisfied that its loss would not significantly impact the amenity of the area or result in any significant harm to the character and appearance of the Letchworth Conservation Area.

- 4.3.5 As a non-native species, having no special qualities together with the damage which is alleged to be caused as a result of the tree, I do not consider a Tree Preservation Order to be appropriate in the circumstances.

4.4 **Conclusion**

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

- 4.4.2 Given the presence of a number of trees within the immediate vicinity and the position in relation to existing dwellings, I do not consider a replacement tree to be appropriate in this location.

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: 18 August 2025	