

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/00487/TPO	T1: Yew - Reduce height by up to 1m and prune laterals to shape and balance canopy by up to 0.5m. T2: Whitebeam - Reduce near to previous points by removing regrowth approx 1m lengths and thin canopy by removing epicormic shoots within canopy.	61 Kneesworth Street Royston Hertfordshire SG8 5AQ

Submitted Plan Nos

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 Consent granted under 21/00839/TPO included a reducing a Whitebeam T1 by up to 2m and a Yew T4 by up to 1m.

3.0 **Representations**

- 3.1 N/A

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site and Surroundings**

- 4.1.1 The site is located on the east side of Kneesworth Street and is covered by group TPO's TPO/025 and TPO/027. The site also lies within the Royston Conservation Area.
- 4.1.2 The Whitebeam tree is positioned immediately alongside a building in the rear outdoor space of no.61 Kneesworth Street and to south of neighbouring Rivermill Court. The Yew tree is positioned to the north side of the property fronting Kneesworth Street and adjoining the access to Rivermill Court to the north.

4.2 **Proposal**

- 4.2.1 Permission is sought to undertake the following works:
- ☐ T1 Yew – Reduce height by up to 1m and prune laterals to shape and balance canopy by up to 0.5m
 - ☐ T2 Whitebeam – Reduce near to previous points by removing regrowth approx. 1m lengths and thin canopy by removing epicormic shoots within canopy.

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's.
- 4.3.2 The trees are identified on the submitted location plan, and a photograph of each tree is provided in support of the application.
- 4.3.3 The trees would see an overall reduction to their crown spread, which, given their positions on the property and relationship to existing buildings and vehicular access point to Rivermill Court, would appear reasonable and justified.
- 4.3.4 The proposed works would not impact the amenity value of the trees to any significant degree and would not undermine the value of the TPO's.

4.4 **Conclusion**

- 4.4.1 I am satisfied that proposed works are acceptable for the reasons set out in this report.

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  Sam Dicocco Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 27 February 2026	