

DELEGATED FILE NOTE

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

APPLICATION REFERENCE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	APPLICATION SITE
26/00804/TCA	T1: Horse Chestnut - Selective crown reduction and reshaping. Removal of ivy from the trunk. T2: Western Red Cedar - Light crown reduction to control height and spread. Removal of any dead or damaged branches T3. Oak - Crown thinning and light reduction to improve structure, balance, and light penetration. Removal of any crossing or congested branches	129 Wilbury Road Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire SG6 4JG

Submitted Plan Nos

2.0 **Site History**

None

3.0 **Representations**

None received.

4.0 **Planning Considerations**

4.1 **Site**

T1 Horse Chestnut, T2 Western Red Cedar and T3 Oak (applicant's plan) are located on the East boundary towards the front of the property close to the house. The trees are partly visible to the public realm and are visible to surrounding properties. The site is within the Letchworth Conservation Area.

4.2 **Proposal**

T1: Horse Chestnut - Selective crown reduction and reshaping. Removal of ivy from the trunk. T2: Western Red Cedar - Light crown reduction to control height and spread. Removal of any dead or damaged branches T3. Oak - Crown thinning and light reduction to improve structure, balance, and light penetration. Removal of any crossing or congested branches

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 partly visible to the public realm.

4.3.2 T1 Horse Chestnut is a mature, red variety and is the most visible of the trees being closest to Wilbury Road. It is beginning to outgrow its context and would benefit from a selective reduction to improve shape and although the removal of ivy does not require notice on consent from the council, it will allow for better air circulation within the crown, reducing competition, weight and wind loading. T2 Western Red Cedar is obscured from public view being located between T1 and T3 and the impact on public amenity of a height reduction will be negligible. T3 Oak is situated furthest from view with a spreading crown that makes it partly visible to the public realm. Crown thinning will improve air circulation making conditions less suitable for potential pathogens and

a light reduction will serve to improve shape and stimulate growth. The limited visibility of the tree means the works will have minimal effect on the surrounding amenity.

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 Determining Officer	Development Management North Hertfordshire District Council Council Offices Gernon Road Letchworth Herts SG6 3JF
Date: 30 April 2026	