

Application for Tree Works: Works to Trees Subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and/or Notification of Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Tree Location

Please provide the address of the site where the tree(s) stands (full address if possible)

Number

9

Suffix

Property Name

Address Line 1

Ransom Close

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Hertfordshire

Town/city

Hitchin

Postcode

SG4 9AX

Description of site location must be completed if postcode is not known:

Easting (x)

518744

Northing (y)

227907

If the location is unclear or there is not a full postal address, describe as clearly as possible where it is

(for example, 'Land to rear of 12 to 18 High Street' or 'Woodland adjoining Elm Road')

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Mrs

First name

Sarah

Surname

Spencer

Company Name

Tilehouse Properties Ltd

Address

Address line 1

9 Ransome Close

Address line 2

Hitchin

Address line 3

Hertfordshire

Town/City

Hitchin

County

Hertfordshire

Country

United Kingdom

Postcode

SG4 9AX

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Applicant Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

***** REDACTED *****

Fax number

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

Agent Details

Name/Company

Title

mrs

First name

Sarah

Surname

Spencer

Company Name

Tilehouse Properties

Address

Address line 1

6 Tilehouse Street

Address line 2

Manor Road

Address line 3

Town/City

Hitchin

County

Hertfordshire

Country

GB

Postcode

SG5 2DW

Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

***** REDACTED *****

Fax number

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

What Are You Applying For?

Based on the type of work proposed and the location and protected status of the trees involved, there are various details and supporting information that will need to be supplied in order for the Local Planning Authority to determine the application.

Are you seeking consent for works to tree(s) subject to a Tree Preservation Order?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Do you know the Tree Preservation Order reference number(s)?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please indicate whether the reasons for carrying out the proposed works include any of the following.

If so, your application MUST be accompanied by the necessary evidence to support your proposals ([see guidance notes for further details](#)).

Condition of the tree(s) - e.g. it is diseased or you have fears that it might break or fall

☐ Yes

☒ No

Alleged damage to property - e.g. subsidence or damage to drains or drives.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are you wishing to carry out works to tree(s) in a conservation area?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Documents and plans (for any tree)

A sketch plan clearly showing the position of trees listed in the question 'Identification of Tree(s) and Description of Works' MUST be provided when applying for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order.

A sketch plan is also advised when notifying the LPA of works to trees in a conservation area ([see guidance notes](#)).

It would also be helpful if you provided details of any advice given on site by an LPA officer.

Are you providing additional information in support of your application (e.g. an additional schedule of work for the question 'Identification of Tree(s) and Description of Works')?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Identification of Tree(s) and Description of Works

Please identify the tree(s) and provide a full and clear specification of the works you want to carry out

The proposed garden has been designed with biodiversity, sustainability and long-term climate resilience as key principles. Rainwater will be harvested through attenuation tanks and reused to irrigate the garden during periods of drought, while the planting scheme will incorporate a diverse mix of drought-tolerant flowering perennials, shrubs and trees, including species providing habitat, shade, nectar, pollen, nuts and fruit for a wide range of wildlife.

The design has been carefully developed to retain and protect the valuable collection of mature trees already present within the garden, in accordance with local planning guidance and the character of the Conservation Area.

There is, however, one existing Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) located centrally within the garden which we are seeking permission to remove. Its position and associated canopy create a significant area of shade within the centre of the garden and considerably restrict the opportunity to establish the diverse ground-cover, flowering perennial and shrub planting proposed as part of the wider biodiversity strategy.

To mitigate its removal, we propose planting three Himalayan birch trees (*Betula utilis* var. *jacquemontii*) along the garden boundary. Their location has been carefully considered to allow the trees to establish and mature without compromising the proposed planting beneath and around them. The replacement trees will be more appropriately positioned and scaled in relation to the garden, while continuing to provide valuable habitat, shelter and seasonal interest.

The proposal therefore represents the removal of a single tree as part of a wider landscape strategy that retains the garden's existing mature tree structure, introduces three replacement trees and significantly increases the diversity and extent of planting across the site. We consider that, taken as a whole, the proposals will enhance the garden's long-term biodiversity, sustainability and resilience while preserving the verdant character and amenity of the Conservation Area

You might find it useful to contact an arborist (tree surgeon) for help with defining appropriate work.

Where trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order, please number them as shown in the First Schedule to the Tree Preservation Order where this is available. You should use the same numbering on your sketch plan (see below for sketch plan requirements).

Please provide the following information:

- Tree species
- The number used on the sketch plan; and
- A description of the proposed works.

Where trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order you must also provide:

- Reasons for the work; and where trees are being felled
- Proposals for planting replacement trees (including quantity, species, position and size) or reasons for not wanting to replant.

e.g. Oak (T3) – Whole crown reduction to 12m above ground level, to provide sufficient clearance to property.

Sketch plan requirements

Your plan needs to show the precise location of the tree(s) in relation to nearby property/roads/boundaries. It should, therefore:

- indicate the main features of the site where the tree(s) stand and its surroundings; in particular, you should:
 - mark and name surrounding roads
 - sketch in buildings, including adjoining properties
 - add house numbers or names
- mark the position of the tree(s) to which you want to carry out work and identify them by the number shown in the Tree Preservation Order where possible; if you use a different number, please make sure that this can be matched with your description of the tree(s)
- if there are many trees on the site, make clear which tree(s) are included in this application by:
 - marking all trees on the plan, but only numbering those to which you want to carry out work
 - showing the approximate distance between the application tree(s) and buildings
 - adding other relevant features on the site (e.g. greenhouse, paths)

If it is impossible to identify the tree(s) accurately on the plan (e.g. because they are part of a woodland or group of trees), please identify their approximate location on the plan and provide details of how the tree(s) are marked on site (e.g. high visibility tape, tree tags, paint, etc); trees must not be marked by scarring or cutting into the bark.

Tree Ownership

Is the applicant the owner of the tree(s)?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant and/or agent one of the following:

- (a) a member of staff**
- (b) an elected member**
- (c) related to a member of staff**
- (d) related to an elected member**

It is an important principle of decision-making that the process is open and transparent.

For the purposes of this question, "related to" means related, by birth or otherwise, closely enough that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts, would conclude that there was bias on the part of the decision-maker in the Local Planning Authority.

Do any of the above statements apply?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Declaration

I/We hereby apply for Tree works: Trees in conservation areas/subject to TPOs as described in the questions answered, details provided, and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information.

I/We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.

I/We also accept that, in accordance with the Planning Portal's terms and conditions:

- Once submitted, this information will be made available to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be published as part of a public register and on the authority's website;
- Our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

☒ I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

sarah spencer

Date

01/09/2026