

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/23/94468				
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway				
Address	27 VALLEY ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1GQ				
Proposed work	1 no. Scots Pine (T1) - Tip reduce the top of the tree by up to 2.5m to reduce the end weight and likelihood of it hitting the cable if it did fail. The tree is located in very wet ground and has a strong lean in the direction of an overhead power cable.				
Assessment Date	13/02/23				
Officer comments	The tree is situated within the front garden of 27 Valley Road. It can be seen from the public highway and is considered to have high amenity value. The tree has a natural lean to the west, typical of an understory tree with an adjacent tree removed. The tree has character. The applicant has requested a reduction of the canopy of up to 2.5m. The supplied image indicating approximate locations of pruning cuts does not appear to demonstrate the trees self-correction, removes a large volume of photosynthetic material, and appears to equate to approximately 30% of the trees total canopy. This is likely to negatively impact tree longevity. The image also indicates the central leader is to be reduced, which equates to 'topping'. This exposes heart wood and accelerates decay of an established tree, negatively impacting longevity. BS3998 states 'topping should be used only as a last resort for retaining a valuable tree which would otherwise pose an unacceptable risk'. Altering the overall canopy shape has the potential to increase the likelihood of branch failure. The proposed work would likely negatively impact the trees overall form and character. The applicant has stated they have proposed the reduction to "<i>reduce the end weight and likelihood of it hitting the cable if it did fail</i>". Where the applicant has fears the tree might break or fall, "<i>written arboricultural advice or other diagnostic information from an appropriate expert</i>", as outlined in Regulation 16(1) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 should be provided. An increased level or risk has not been observed and no evidence has been supplied to support the proposed works; therefore, the work is deemed unjustified.				
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area
					Raise no objection
		X			TPO

Decision notice	REFUSE: 1 no. Scots Pine (T1) - Tip reduce the top of the tree by up to 2.5m		
Conditions	n/a		
Notes to applicant	None		
Parish comments	None		
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection	Observation
	2	0	0
Objection/ support consideration	The supporting comments have been considered. For the above reasons, the decision has been made.		