

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form						
Application Number	T/23/95479					
Surveyor	SK					
Address	24 WELLSTEAD WAY, HEDGE END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 2LE					
Proposed work	1 no. Birch (T1)-Crown reduction by 3-4 metres.					
Assessment Date	12/07/23					
Officer comments	Tree is growing in a central 'courtyard' of three-story dwellings and can be seen from the rear windows of all the properties on 4 sides. They are not very visible from the highway side of the properties, with only short glimpses being afforded from Wellstead Way and Pomeroy Crescent, but it does offer amenity to multiple properties. The reduction to a birch is ill-advised: the British Standard for tree works cites birch as being particularly unsuited to reduction cuts: 'Species of <i>Betula</i> [birch] which have particularly weak defences against the development of decay, should be pruned as sparingly as possible and without exposing heartwood or ripe wood. The tree is young and relatively small, but it is a light canopy species and suited to the location in which it has been planted. There are few other trees in the inner garden area, though there are trees to the south and east. The tree was possibly planted as a planning condition to replace lost canopy cover, but this has not been checked. The reasons for the work are vague: 'maintenance of the tree' does not specify what the desired outcome is or give reasonable grounds for the application. Given the negative impact this will foreseeably have, plus the reduction in amenity value in the short and foreseeable reduction the future life expectancy of the tree and the low canopy cover in the area this is not a compelling reason to grant consent.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
		X			Raise no objection	TPO
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1 no. Birch (T1)-Crown reduction by 3-4 metres.					
Conditions	N/A					
Notes to applicant	None					
Parish comments	None					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	0		0		0	

Objection/ support consideration	n/a
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