

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/25/98764
Surveyor	AM
Address	TESCO SUPERMARKET, HAMBLE LANE, BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 8GN
Proposed work	1no. Oak - Pruning back the main overhanging limb 5-6m with a maximum cut diameter of 200mm. There are some smaller branches which will also be cut back clear of the resident's garden at 53 Devonshire Gardens.
Assessment Date	18 th February 2025
Officer comments	The application oak is protected within area 'A2' of TPO ref: 95H, confirmed in 1958. Although an old TPO, the size of the tree is such that it is most likely to have been present at the time the order was made and is therefore protected. The oak measures approximately 16m tall and has a stem diameter of approximately 75cm dbh (both dimensions estimated by eye). It has an asymmetric crown of indifferent form, probably due to previous competition for light and space with other trees (past and present). The tree is visible to the public from the busy Bursledon Road/Providence Hill and from Devonshire Gardens. It provides public benefit in terms of softening the space between the residential development and the supermarket. As an oak, the length of this benefit is expected to be long term (40 years+). The applicant proposes to reduce the first primary branch growing to the east. This branch ascends over the property boundary, with lateral overhang of approx. 5-6m at a height of 7-10m above ground level. Clearance over the garden and from property seems ample. The reason for the work hasn't been stated. The maximum cut diameter is stated to be 200mm; this is very large and would expose a large area of heartwood to decay organisms. This would be contrary to arboricultural best practice (BS3998:2010) and would impact on the long-term health and visual appearance of the tree. The applicant also proposes to cut clear of the garden several small branches; this is a very vague specification which is not possible to assess. The proposed works lack justification. In the absence of this and any arboricultural reasoning, this should be refused. Again, in the absence of any justification, it is not possible to grant permission for lesser works.

Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
			X			
Decision notice	REFUSE PERMISSION: 1no. Oak - Pruning back the main overhanging limb 5-6m with a maximum cut diameter of 200mm. There are some smaller branches which will also be cut back clear of the resident’s garden at 53 Devonshire Gardens.					
Conditions	N/A					
Notes to applicant	None					
Parish comments	None.					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	0		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	None received.					