

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/24/98101
Surveyor	Charlotte Holloway
Address	3 HOCOMBE PARK CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5PT
Proposed work	1no. Acer (T1) - Crown reduction of up to 2m. 1no. Beech (T2) - Reduce limbs growing towards the house by up to 3m. 1no. Sweet Chestnut (T3) - Pollard to final height of 8m. To ensure no more debris falls off & get to a size where manageable. 1no. Group of Rhododendron (G1) - Reduced in height by approx. 2m, as well as a light trim on the sides to neaten it up. T1, T2, G1 - To allow reasonable maintenance of shrubbery & trees to keep them in a manageable state, stop them encroaching on property & boundary.
Assessment Date	14/10/24
Officer comments	Tree 1, 2 and 3 are all within the rear of the property. They can be seen over rooftops and through gaps in properties, offering some amenity value. The acer is in overall good vitality. The applicant has proposed to crown reduce the tree by up to 2m. The proposed work is likely to impact overall amenity in the short term as visibility of the tree from the public realm will decrease. It is acknowledged that the work is reasonable for the management of the tree within its location. The beech is visible above the roof tops. It is in overall good vitality. The tree appears to have not reached maturity. The applicant has proposed to prune lateral growth by up to 3m. It is acknowledged that clearance of the property is required, however, removal of 3m is likely to remove a significant proportion of photosynthetic material. Therefore, work should be revised to reflect this. The sweet chestnut is a mature specimen within the rear of the property. It is a large specimen with good vitality. The applicant has proposed to pollard the tree to 8m. The justification given is to 'ensure no more debris fall off'. The applicant has not provided any detail on the debris that has been referenced. However, some seasonal debris will be associated with trees and is not sufficient justification for extensive work. Given that the tree has not previously been pollarded, work described appears to equate to 'topping' which would expose heart wood and accelerate decay of established trees, negatively impacting their longevity. BS3998 states 'topping should be used only as a last resort for retaining a valuable tree which would otherwise pose an unacceptable risk'. This work is not justified. It is proposed that G1 is reduced in height and spread. The group is rhododendron; therefore, the request is reasonable for the management of the trees within their location.

Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
				X		
Decision notice	REFUSE: 1no. Beech (T2) - Reduce limbs growing towards the house by up to 3m. 1no. Sweet Chestnut (T3) - Pollard to final height of 8m. CONSENT: 1no. Acer (T1) - Crown reduction of up to 2m. 1no. Beech (T2) - Reduce limbs growing towards the house to provide up to 3m clearance from the property. 1no. Group of Rhododendron (G1) - Reduced in height by approx. 2m, as well as a light trim on the sides to neaten it up.					
Conditions	Standard quality and time					
Notes to applicant						
Parish comments	None					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	2		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	The 2 support comments have been considered during the decision-making process.					