

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/25/98883
Surveyor	AM
Address	2 ROTHVILLE PLACE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5LS
Proposed work	1no. Cedar (T74) - Removal. Deteriorating condition, the tree is gradually dying, branches frequently falling, some narrowly missing parked cars. It is becoming increasingly hazardous, especially as the footpath leading to our house runs directly beneath it. Given the growing risk to pedestrians & vehicles, request an urgent assessment & necessary action to prevent potential harm.
Assessment Date	13 th March 2025
Officer comments	The application Atlas cedar is protected as T74 of TPO ref: 235. The tree measures approx. 16m tall and has a stem diameter of approx. 60cm dbh (both estimated by eye). The tree has possibly been topped in the distant past, at around two thirds of its height. There are a few small stubs from previous branch failures within the crown. The tree appears to be under physiological stress. This is shown by smaller needle size than would be expected. This is the case throughout the entire crown. This may relate to a series of drought years and the stress of its roots growing in a manicured lawn and otherwise surrounded by tarmac/buildings. The tree is visible from Hursley Road and from within Rothville Place. This area has a high canopy cover with surrounding roads lined by large numbers of trees. This gives the area a pleasant, leafy character. The proposal is to fell the tree on the basis that it is dying and frequently shedding branches, posing a risk to users of the footpath and parked vehicles. The application has not been supported by arboricultural advice to this effect. At the time of inspection, a few small diameter stubs from presumed snapped-out branches were noted. It did not appear that branch failure is a regular occurrence. No evidence been presented which would support that the falling branches pose an unacceptable risk to people or property. Although needles were smaller than average, this does not necessarily mean that the tree is dying and/or that death is imminent. Google Streetview through time shows that the crown has never been particularly dense, although I am in agreement that it is less dense now than in previous years. As the cause of this has not been determined, it may be

	that the tree will recover. If the Applicant considers that the health or structural condition to be an immediate concern, they should obtain arboricultural advice for formal diagnosis. Atlas cedars are ultimately large, long-lived species. As such, the tree is capable of offering increasing, long term benefit to public amenity. Future pruning will probably be required to keep it clear of buildings and the parking area. Although under stress, it is not so impaired that felling of an amenity tree is justified. As such, the application should be refused permission.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
		X				
Decision notice	REFUSE PERMISSION: 1no. Cedar (T74) – Removal REASON FOR REFUSAL: Visible from Hursley Road and Rothville Place, the application cedar (T74) provides benefit in terms of public, visual amenity. The proposal to fell the tree has been made on the basis that it is alleged to be dying and due to the risk posed by falling branches. No expert arboricultural advice has been provided to support either issue. The proposed removal of the tree would degrade the leafy character of the area. The loss of amenity has not been justified hence the application has been refused permission.					
Conditions						
Notes to applicant						
Parish comments	None.					
Public objection/ support	Support	Objection		Observation		
	0	0		0		
Objection/ support consideration	None received.					