

Eastleigh Borough Council Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Assessment Form

Application Number	T/25/99885
Surveyor	IF
Address	2 LADYWOOD, EASTLEIGH, SO50 4RW
Proposed work	1no. Ash (T1) – Fell. Early signs of Ash Dieback. Given close proximity to buildings & location within a high target area the risk of structural failure poses a significant threat to property & public safety. Due to likelihood of disease progression & potential for sudden limb or whole-tree failure, removal is recommended as a precautionary & risk mitigation measure. 1no. Silver Birch (T2) - Reduce & Reshape Canopy, reduction of the canopy by up to 1m in height & spread. To mitigate loading stress & reduce likelihood of structural failure. Help maintain tree's structural integrity & prolong its safe retention in the landscape.
Assessment Date	02/09/2025
Officer comments	TPO 318-E (T1) Ash, (G1) Silver Birch Both trees provide high public amenity due to their size and position. T2 birch has been reduced in the past and responded well looking overall healthy. Although there is no immediate encroachment/conflict with built structures the residents wish to repeat the reduction by 1m in height and spread which will not significantly affect the tree's public amenity, it is not likely to cause any long-term detrimental effect on its health and vitality. T1 Ash - some dead tips observed throughout the crown but all in all good to fair vitality. Historical crown-lifting by removal of multiple branches along the stem affecting the tree's form and shape. The agent who submitted the application on the resident's behalf answered "no" on the application form regarding whether they have fears that the tree is diseased or may fall or break. They didn't not provide any supporting evidence either to support the felling proposal such as an arboricultural report listing the symptoms of dieback they have observed or why the tree has been structurally compromised in their opinion and poses a risk to property and public. They have mentioned early signs of ash die back however the slightly sparse crown can be resultant from many other environmental factors and not necessarily be a symptom of the Hymenoscyphus fraxineus activity. Historical pruning as well as drier summers and subsequent lower water availability could have inhibited the overall vitality of the tree. At the time of the site visit, T1 had over 75% of the canopy unaffected. Considering the tree's high public amenity,

	the current proposal is deemed unjustified. Deadwood is exempt from TPO planning permission and can be removed at any point.					
Decision	Consent	Refuse	Part consent/ Part refuse	Withdrawn / Invalid	Conservation Area	
					Raise no objection	TPO
			X			
Decision notice	Refuse: 1no. Ash (T1) – Fell. Reason for refusal: The application states that this tree has early signs of ash dieback disease (no description of the "early signs" of ash dieback disease was provided) and felling is proposed as “a precautionary and mitigation measure”. However, in the absence of any supporting evidence confirming the tree is compromised structurally the proposed measures are considered unjustified. The tree has 75% of its canopy healthy with some dead tips present however these are not characteristic symptoms on their own especially in the absence of ADB symptoms outlined by the industry such as blackened and wilted leaves, epicormic growth, bark lesions or other signs of decay within the tree including fungal brackets, base dysfunction; other forms of environmental stress including low water availability, heat, soil compaction etc. can cause deadwood. Current industry best-practice does not recommend the pre-emptive felling of healthy ash trees. The proposed felling would remove the high visual amenity provided by the tree and has not yet been fully justified. Consent: 1no. Silver Birch (T2) - Reduce & Reshape Canopy, reduction of the canopy by up to 1m in height & spread.					
Conditions						
Notes to applicant	Deadwood is exempt from the planning permission and its removal can be carried out at any time.					
Parish comments	None received.					
Public objection/ support	Support		Objection		Observation	
	1		0		0	
Objection/ support consideration	The support comment submitted by the resident of number 3 Ladywood has been considered during the decision-making process.					



