

Arborscape Environmental Services Ltd
14 Discovery Park
Lillyhall
Workington
CA14 4JE
FAO: Mr Sam Pagett

Please Contact: Demi Crawford
Officer Tel No: 01946 598413
My Ref: 4/25/2387/TPO
Date: 26 February 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

**PRUNING OF A SYCAMORE TREE (T1) AND A LIME TREE (T2) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER
BARN COTTAGE, LAMPLUGH**

I refer to your application of 17/11/2025 under the above Tree Preservation Order for consent to carry out the following work:-

PRUNING OF A SYCAMORE TREE (T1) AND A LIME TREE (T2) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS
T1 & T2	1x Sycamore & 1x Lime	Pruning of a Sycamore tree (T1) and a Lime tree (T2) protected by a Tree Preservation Order.
APPLICANT'S REASON		
'T1 Sycamore: Prune to crown clean and crown raise, three metres clearance of garage roof to rear, two metre clearance of phone line on roadway side. T2 Lime: Prune to pollard large mature tree over property and power line, more appropriate management strategy for urban specimen.'		

The Local Planning Authority Decision

T1 - The Sycamore tree, indicated as T1 in the application, is a Norway Maple. It is in the mature age class, with signs of normal vitality and no significant defects. We expect the tree could last for more than 40 years. The work specified for this tree in the application is acceptable.

T2 - The Lime tree, indicated as T2 in the application, is in the mature age class, with signs of normal vitality and no significant defects. We expect the tree could last for more than 40 years. The work specified in the application for tree T2 does not indicate a height to pollard the tree. Ambiguous work specifications are open to interpretation, and do not follow current best practice guidance and the British Standard – BS 3998 (2010) Tree Work – Recommendations. Excessive pruning will have a significant effect on the tree's health. Removing a substantial area of a tree's crown reduces its ability to photosynthesise and create carbohydrate. This will affect the tree's health and longevity and allow decay fungi to exploit dysfunctional wood. Pollarding this tree will trigger rapid new growth on the trunk as the tree attempts to restore its lost leaf area. Since this will likely be around half the current

tree height, or below, we expect the new growth to form a dense, low crown that creates shade over the driveway and garage. A crown reduction and/or crown thin is likely to generate less new growth.

On this basis, clarification from the applicant is required regarding the work specification for tree T2 because the current work specification is open to interpretation.

T2 UPDATE – 25/02/2026 The applicant has submitted an updated specification for tree T2 to “Reduction and crown thin to reduce tree by no more than 30% total crown volume”. This specification is overly broad and lacks clearly defined, measurable outcomes, as detailed in the TPO guidelines. Can I suggest a pruning specification of a 3-4m crown height reduction and a radial crown reduction of 1-2m. This pruning will reduce the tree’s height and width, resulting in a balanced and less imposing size. Removing a significant volume of the leaf area will generate rapid new growth as the tree attempts to reproduce the lost photosynthetic area, creating a dense, shade bearing crown.

The applicant has confirmed that the above pruning specification is acceptable. There are therefore no objections to the proposal, subject to the following condition:-

1. Carry out all pruning work in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations section 7.7 ‘Crown reduction and reshaping’.
Reason: In accordance with Section 198 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and in the interest of good arboricultural practice.

Your Right of Appeal

If you disagree with our decision you can appeal to The Planning Inspectorate, Environment and Transport Team, 3/A Eagle Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN within 28 days from the date you received this decision.

Compensation

If you suffer any loss or damage as a result of a condition attached to this consent, you might be entitled to recover compensation from the Council. If you wish to make a claim you must do so within 12 months from the date of this decision (or, if you appeal to the Secretary of State, within 12 months from the date of this decision). Claims should be made in writing to the Planning Manager, Cumberland Council, The Market Hall, Market Place, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 7JG.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the case officer Demi Crawford on 01946 598413

Yours faithfully



Nick Hayhurst
Head of Planning and Place
Thriving Places