

CAPITA

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Copeland Borough Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/23/2146/TPO

Location: 12 HILLCREST AVENUE, WHITEHAVEN.

Officer: Chloe Unsworth

Date: 10 July 2023

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS	REASON
T1, T2 & T3	2x Ash & 1x Leyland Cypress Hedge	Works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order – Propose to fell T1, T2 & T3 and replace with a mixed native hedge.	'T1 & T2, ash with advanced Ash Dieback. Propose to sectionally dismantle due to size and proximity to neighbouring properties. T3, Leylandii hedge which has been neglected and allowed to grow too large to be pruned back to a hedge (T2 is growing within this hedge). Propose to fell and replace with a mixed native hedge.'

DISCUSSION

The two Ash trees (T1 & T2) are in the early-mature age class and suffering from Ash Dieback Disease (<https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/pest-and-disease-resources/ash-dieback-hymenoscyphus-fraxineus/>). We expect the trees will last for less than 5 years.

The Leylandii hedge (T3) is an outgrown hedge in the early-mature age class, and contributes little to the landscape character of the area.

The trees overhang garden areas and one of the symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease is the wood becomes brittle, which can lead to branch or trunk failures.

From the Copeland website, a Tree Preservation Order – TPO 20 (1984) – protects these trees. The website does not say if the trees are protected as part of a Group, Area or Woodland Order.

Our TEMPO assessment below shows a TPO is indefensible due to the health and life expectancy of these trees.

CAPITA

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Copeland Borough Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend informing the applicant they can carry out the work detailed in the application subject to the following conditions:

1. The felled hedge must be replaced during the first planting season following the work. Plant a mixed native species hedgerow in a similar location. Alternatively, another size, species, location, or period should be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. If the replacement trees die, become diseased, or are damaged within 5 years of the planting date, they must be replaced in the next available planting season by another of a similar size and species.

Reason: To ensure the continuity of amenity in accordance with 'Policy DM28 – Protection of Trees' of the Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028.

CAPITA

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Copeland Borough Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

TEMPO Assessment					
Part 1: Amenity Assessment					
a) Condition & Suitability:	5-Good = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 3-Fair/Satisfactory = <i>Suitable</i> 1-Poor = Unlikely to be <i>suitable</i> 0-Dead/dying/dangerous = <i>Unsuitable</i>	1	b) Retention span (in years) & suitability for TPO:	5-100+ = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 4-40-100 = <i>Very suitable</i> 2-20-40 = <i>Suitable</i> 1-10-20 = <i>Just suitable</i> 0-<10 = <i>Unsuitable</i>	0
c) Relative public visibility & suitability for TPO:	5-Very large with some visibility, or prominent large trees = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 4-Large trees, or medium trees clearly visible to the public = <i>Suitable</i> 3-Medium trees, or large trees with limited view only = <i>Suitable</i> 2-Young, small, or medium/large trees visible only with difficulty = <i>Barely suitable</i> 1-Trees not visible to the public, regardless of size = <i>Unsuitable</i>	2	d) Other factors – trees must have accrued 7 or more points (with no zero score) to qualify:	5-Principal components of formal arboricultural features, or veteran trees 4-Tree groups, or principal members of groups important for their cohesion 3-Trees with identifiable historic, commemorative or habitat importance 2-Trees of particularly good form, especially if rare or unusual 1-Trees with none of the above additional redeeming features (inc. those of indifferent form) -1-Trees with poor form or which are generally unsuitable for their location	0
Part 2: Expediency Assessment <i>trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:</i>			Part 3: Decision guide		
	5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only	0		Any 0 = <i>Do not apply TPO</i> 1-6 = <i>TPO indefensible</i> 7-11 = <i>Does not merit TPO</i> 12-15 = <i>TPO defensible</i> 16+ = <i>Definitely merits TPO</i>	3