

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/24/2006/TPO

Location: 16 BECK RISE, BECKERMET

Officer: Chloe Wootton

Date: 19 January 2024

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS	REASON
T1 & T2	2x Sycamore	Removal of a sycamore tree and 2 meter crown reduction of a sycamore tree protected by a tree preservation order.	'T1, Sycamore. The tree has some large wounds from inappropriate pruning probably during the development of the site which have become infected with Polyporus Squamosus which causes white rot to heart wood and can lead to brittle fracture of the stem. Propose to dismantle due to proximity to property. T2, Sycamore. The tree has grown as one with T1 and has a heavy lean towards the property behind. Propose a 2 metre crown reduction to re shape the tree into a more upright form and reduce the windsail effect when exposed to the prevailing wind when T1 is removed.'

DISCUSSION

The two Sycamore trees are in the mature age class and show signs of normal health. We expect the trees can last for more than 20 years.

The applicant has provided evidence that Sycamore T1 has a wood decay fungus – *Polyporus squamosus*. The fruiting body (fungal bracket) has been found growing from a decaying stem wound at 2m to 3m.

The trees overhang the owner's garden and the neighbouring gardens. Branch or trunk failure could result in damage or cause harm.

From the Cumberland website, Tree Preservation Order TPO 64 (1998) appears to protect these trees.

Our TEMPO assessment (page 3) shows a TPO is indefensible for tree T1 due to the life expectancy of these trees.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend informing the applicant they can carry out the work in the application subject to the following condition.

We recommend attaching the following conditions:

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.

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TEMPO Assessment							
a) Condition & Suitability:	Part 1: Amenity Assessment						
	5-Good = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 3-Fair/Satisfactory = <i>Suitable</i> 1-Poor = <i>Unlikely to be suitable</i> 0-Dead/dying/dangerous = <i>Unsuitable</i>	T1 1	T2 3	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>	T1 2	T2 4
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>	4	4	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	1	1
Part 2: Expediency Assessment trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:		T1	T2	Part 3: Decision guide		T1	T2
5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only		0	1	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>		8	13