

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/25/2012/TPO

Location: JERICO PLANTATION, HILLCREST AVENUE, WHITEHAVEN.

Officer: Nick Hayhurst

Date: 12 February 2025

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS
T1 – T4	3x Sycamore & 1x Ash	Prune to remove crown of T1, T2 and T3 and felling of T4 - trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order.
REASON		
'3 No. semi mature Sycamore, Acer pseudoplatanus, and 1 No. semi mature Ash, Fraxinus excelsior, situated in an amenity woodland known as Jericho Plantation to the rear, east, of residential properties at Hillcrest Avenue, Whitehaven. CA28 6ST. Location details contained in the Hillcrest Avenue Jericho Plantation Arboricultural Report.'		

DISCUSSION

From the Cumberland Council website, Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No.20:1984 protects these trees. The website does not say if the trees are protected as part of a Group, Area or Woodland Order.

The Hillcrest Avenue Jericho Plantation Arboricultural Report, dated January 2025, contains an Inspection Data Table.

Tree Number	Species	Life Stage	Arboricultural Observations and Comments	Condition	Arboricultural Recommendations
T1	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Semi Mature	Specimen of poor shape and form. Upper crown dying back. Crown stag headed with extensive deadwood present. Specimen situated at rear of properties on Hillcrest Avenue being within falling distance of garden boundary.	Poor	Prune to remove entire crown leaving 3-4 metre high standing stem to create "Monolith" wildlife habitat. The applicant should reserve the option to fell the standing stem should this be required over the period of consent

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T2	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Semi Mature	Specimen of poor shape and form. Upper crown dying back. Crown stag headed with extensive deadwood present. Specimen situated at rear of properties on Hillcrest Avenue being within falling distance of garden boundary.	Poor	Prune to remove entire crown leaving 3-4 metre high standing stem to create "Monolith" wildlife habitat. The applicant should reserve the option to fell the standing stem should this be required over the period of consent.
T3	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Semi Mature	Specimen of poor shape and form. Upper crown dying back. Crown stag headed with extensive deadwood present. Specimen situated at rear of properties on Hillcrest Avenue being within falling distance of garden boundary.	Poor	Prune to remove entire crown leaving 3-4 metre high standing stem to create "Monolith" wildlife habitat. The applicant should reserve the option to fell the standing stem should this be required over the period of consent
T4	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Semi Mature	Specimen of poor shape and form being in advanced stages of decline. Base of specimen with extensive decay as a result of Kretchmaria deusta, commonly known as Brittle Cinder. Upper crown dying back. Crown stag headed with extensive deadwood present. Specimen situated at rear of properties on Hillcrest Avenue being within falling distance of garden boundary.	Poor	Fell.

This gives details of the trees and their condition, with works recommended to reduce the risk they currently present.

Our TEMPO assessment (page 3) shows a TPO is indefensible for 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 tree work in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations.

Reason: In accordance with Section 198 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and in the interest of good arboricultural practice.

2. The four trees are to be replaced during the first planting season following the work. Plant 2x Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and 2x Sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea*) trees. The replacement tree size should be 'light-standard' (6-8cm girth) in accordance with BS 3936:1992 (Part 1 – Nursey Stock), and planted within 4m of the trees they replace.

Alternatively, another size, species, location, or period should be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. If a replacement tree is diseased, dies, or is damaged within 5 years of the date of planting, it 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

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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>	T1	T2	T3	T4	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	T2	T3	T4	
		1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	
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>	3	3	3	3	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	0	0	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		T1	T2	T3	T4	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>	T1	T2	T3	T4		
		0	0	0	0		5	5	5	5		