

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Cumberland Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/26/2104/TPO

Location: THE COPELAND CENTRE, CATHERINE STREET, WHITEHAVEN.

Officer: Demi Crawford

Date: 19 June 2026

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE GROUP No.	PROPOSED WORKS
G1—G5	Various works to trees situated within a Conservation Area.
REASON	
'G1 – Tilia sp., Prunus sp. and Acer sp. In border between car park and footway. Prune to crown lift 2.4m for clearance of car park and footway.	
G2 – Mixed Acer spp. and Fagus sylvatica 'Dawyck' within flowerbed squares obstructing walkways and building. Crown lift to 2.4m and crown reduce up to 30% volume where impeding on structure or upper story lighting.	
G3 – Three Betula pendula specimens two of good form and one planted too close with unusual kink in trunk. Remove poorly formed specimen and conduct crown lifting on retained trees to 2.4m with additional crown reduction of 15% volume.	
G4 – Three Acer drumondii and Prunus cerasifera 'Nigra' overgrowing boundary and into building sides. Reduce Acer drumondii's by 30% crown volume and remove Prunus cerasifera due to proximity to structure.	
G5 – Betula utilis var. jacqmontii and Crataegus prunifolia 'Splendens' growing out towards building and over pathway from herbaceous border. Prune to crown lift to 2.4m and reduce by 20% volume.'	

DISCUSSION

The trees are in the mature age category and show signs of normal vitality.

From the Cumberland Council website, the site falls within the Whitehaven Town Centre Conservation Area. The website does not show a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) in the area.

Notifications for works to trees within a Conservation Area should follow the guidance set out in Application for Tree Works: Works to Trees Subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and/or Notification of Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. Proposed crown reductions should be specified using final branch lengths, dimensions, or clearly defined pruning points rather than as a percentage reduction. Percentage reductions are imprecise and open to varying interpretation, making it difficult for the local planning authority to accurately assess the extent of the proposed works and their likely impact on the tree. Providing a clear and measurable specification ensures that the proposed works can be properly considered and carried out as intended.

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We consider the work detailed in the application reasonable to prevent the trees becoming a nuisance. However, we should ask the applicant to follow the guidance in the Application for Tree Works document ([guidance note-works to trees.pdf \(SECURED\)](#)) and provide a clear and measurable specification to ensure the proposed works can be carried out as intended and assessed accordingly.

Our TEMPO assessment (page 3) shows a TPO is defensible for all the groups, but given the work the applicant is proposing, we consider it is unwarranted at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ask the applicant to follow the guidance in the Application for Tree Works document ([guidance note-works to trees.pdf \(SECURED\)](#)) and provide a clear and measurable specification.

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TEMPO Assessment													
Part 1: Amenity Assessment													
a) Condition & Suitability:	5-Good = Highly Suitable 3-Fair/Satisfactory = Suitable 1-Poor = Unlikely to be suitable 0-Dead/dying/dangerous = Unsuitable	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	b) Retention span (in years) & suitability for TPO:	5-100+ = Highly Suitable 4-40-100 = Very suitable 2-20-40 = Suitable 1-10-20 = Just suitable 0-<10 = Unsuitable	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5
		3	5	3	5	3			4	4	3	4	4
c) Relative public visibility & suitability for TPO:	5-Very large with some visibility, or prominent large trees = Highly Suitable 4-Large trees, or medium trees clearly visible to the public = Suitable 3-Medium trees, or large trees with limited view only = Suitable 2-Young, small, or medium/large trees visible only with difficulty = Barely suitable 1-Trees not visible to the public, regardless of size = Unsuitable	4	4	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	4	4	4	4	4

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Part 2: Expediency Assessment trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:	Part 3: Decision guide
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5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	Any 0 = Do not apply TPO 1-6 = TPO indefensible 7-11 = Does not merit TPO 12-15 = TPO defensible 16+ = Definitely merits TPO	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5
	2	2	2	2	2		17	19	15	18	16