

Officer Report for Decision under Delegated Authority

Works to Trees subject to TPO

APPLICATION NO: T0102.22

Date Received: 25-07-22

ADDRESS: 8 Tall Trees Close
Hornchurch
RM11 2QR

PROPOSAL: T1 x1 Hornbeam – reduce by 2-3 metres.
T2 x1 Oak – reduce by 2-3 metres.

Description of Trees & Position

Rear garden.

Works Proposed

T1 = TO REDUCE 1 X HORNBEAM TREE BY 2.0/3.0MTRS T2 = TO REDUCE 1 X OAK TREE BY 2.0/3.0MTRS LIGHT ACCESS GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Assessment

T1 Hornbeam and T2 Oak. The trees are in the rear garden of the applicant's property and have partial visibility from the public realm along Tall Trees Close, providing a good collective contribution to the visual amenity of the local area. The applicant is requesting consent to reduce the crown of T1 Hornbeam by 2/3m and to reduce the crown of T2 Oak by 2/3m, stating light access and general maintenance as the justifications for this work.

There are no universal rights to light in regard to trees and this is insufficient justification to support a works to TPO tree application. The applicant has also stated general maintenance as a justification; however, the provided photographs show the crowns of the trees at a sufficient distance to property and infrastructure, not causing any actionable nuisances. Furthermore, a search of the property on the planning portal returns an approved application to raise the crown of T2 oak by 5m. No scheme of works has been established for the trees and at present, there are no sound arboricultural justifications in undertaking crown reductions of otherwise healthy trees.

Trees are self-optimising structures that can respond to changes in their biotic and abiotic environments, to ensure their survival and general health and condition. As

insufficient arboricultural justification has been provided to support this application, the works requested are refused consent.

Recommendation

[Refuse consent]

Refusal:

TRR05 – The justification/evidence submitted is not sufficient to warrant the work applied for.