

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF KNOWSLEY

'Regeneration and Economic Development Department

APPLICATION NO: 23/01268/TWA **APPLICANT:** ASET Hospital

WARD AFFECTED: Prescott South

DEVELOPMENT: REMEDIAL WORKS TO 6NO TREES AND FELL 3NO. TREES

LOCATION OF SITE: ASET Hospital, 1 Sandstone Drive, Whiston, Knowsley, L35 7LS,

NEIGHBOUR NOTIFICATION:

The Ward members and local residents have been notified and no responses have been received.

ISSUES AND ASSESSMENT:

Site Location

The notification refers to remedial works to 6no trees and fell 3no. Trees located within the boundary of Aset Hospital, 1 Sandstone Drive, Whiston, Knowsley L35 7LS.

Background

The TPO in this case was created in 2019 to afford protection to the trees located within the boundary of No.1 Standstone Drive, Whiston.

The Town and Country Planning Act states that Tree Preservation Order may make provision for prohibiting the cutting down, lopping, uprooting, wilful destruction of trees except with the consent of the Local Planning Authority.

The Application

The application seeks consent to fell x3 trees, part reduce x5 trees and to raise the crown of x1 tree.

Arboricultural report

The notification has been considered by the arboriculture officer who makes the following comments:

Upon inspection of T6, a twin stemmed Beech, it was noted that there was an extensive amount of included bark within the union at the base of the tree. This union was approximately from 0.5 - 1.5m and is classed as a significant point of weakness. Due to the number of surrounding targets, if this tree was to fail it poses a significant risk and it is recommended that permission is granted to fell this tree.

Upon inspection of T18, a Sycamore, it was found to have severe decay at the base of the stem and a large section of the stem was found to be hollow. Because this tree is leaning towards the adjacent building, it is recommended that permission is granted to fell this tree.

Upon inspection of T28, a Holly, it was found to have some disfunction in the stem on the southern side. Further inspection revealed a minor amount of decay in this area which had caused minor rot to the stem. This tree is also in poor shape and form and has grown

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underneath the crown of an adjacent tree. Because of the above, it is recommended that permission is granted to fell this tree.

The application has sought permission to part reduce the crowns of T2, T9, T17, T22 and T29. Upon inspection of all of these features, the crowns of each tree were found to be interfering and/or touching the adjacent building. It is recommended that permission is granted to undertake these works.

The application has also sought permission to crown lift the crown of T24 to 3m above ground level. Upon inspection of this feature, the branches of this tree were low hanging over the adjacent driveway. This type of work is considered good practice and it is recommended that permission is granted to undertake this work.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that consent be granted for the works as stated within application ref: 23/01268/TWA with the following conditions:

- 1) The tree work hereby granted shall consist of remedial works to 6NO. trees and fell 3NO. trees.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to comply with Saved Policy DQ4 of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan, adopted June 2006.

- 2) The works must be implemented no later than the expiration of two years beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to comply with the application.

- 3) All work should be completed in accordance with BS 3998:2010 (Tree Works).

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to comply with Saved Policy DQ4 of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan, adopted June 2006.

- 4) Five working days written notice shall be given to the Arboricultural Officer before commencement of the works hereby granted.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to comply with the application.

Signed Case Officer¹: **J Henderson**

Signed Authorising Officer²: **K Foster**

Date: **6 September 2023**

¹ I confirm that I do not have a personal relationship with the applicant, agent or other interested parties; I also confirm that I do not have a financial interest in the site or the development proposed

² I confirm that I do not have a personal relationship with the applicant, agent or other interested parties; I also confirm that I do not have a financial interest in the site or the development proposed

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