

# PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: P14/1786

Type of approval sought	Tree Preservation Order
Ward	Sedgley
Applicant	Mr Andy Allison
Location:	<b>17, GREENWAY, SEDGLEY, DUDLEY, DY3 1PQ</b>
Proposal	<b>THIN AND LIFT 1 NO. PLANE TREE</b>
Recommendation Summary:	<b>APPROVE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS</b>

## SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

1. The tree subject to this application is a mature, previously topped, Plane tree that is located in the rear garden of 17 Greenway, close to the boundary with 35 Cross Lane. Due to the arrangement of the properties the tree is also located adjacent to the public highway. The tree is prominently visible and is considered to provide a moderate amount of amenity to the surrounding area.
2. The tree is protected as Tree 58 of TPO 729 that was served in 2001. The TPO protects a substantial number of other trees in the locality.

## PROPOSAL

3. Summary of proposals for the works as written on application form is as follows:
  - Crown thin and lift 1 plane tree.
4. The tree has been marked on the attached plan.

## HISTORY

5. There has been one previous Tree Preservation Order application on this site.

Application No	Proposal	Decision	Date
P07/0099	Pollard 2 Lime Trees	Approved with conditions	13/03/2007

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6. No public representations have been received.

## ASSESSMENT

### Tree(s) Appraisal

<i>Tree Structure</i>	<b>Tree 1</b>
TPO No	T58
Species	Plane
Height (m)	7m
Spread (m)	5m
DBH (mm)	450
Canopy Architecture	Poor - previously topped
Overall Form	Moderate
Age Class <i>Yng / EM / M / OM / V</i>	Mature

### *Structural Assessment*

Trunk / Root Collar	Good
Scaffold Limbs	Moderate / poor - decay present at previous topping points.
Secondary Branches	Good
% Deadwood	3%
Root Defects	None Evident
Root Disturbance	None Evident
Other	

Failure Foreseeable Imm / Likely / Possible / No	Whole No	Whole Possible
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*Vigour Assessment*

Vascular Defects	None Evident
Foliage Defects	None Evident
Leaf Size	Not In Leaf
Foliage Density	Not In Leaf
Other	

*Overall*

*Assessment*

Structure	Poor
Vigour	Good
<b>Overall Health</b>	<b>Moderate</b>

**Other Issues**

Light Obstruction	yes
Physical Damage	None Evident
Surface Disruption	None Evident
Debris	Yes

**Amenity**

**Assessment**

Visible	Yes
Prominence	High / Moderate
Part of Wider Feature?	Yes
Characteristic of Area	Yes
<b>Amenity Value</b>	<b>Moderate</b>

Further Assessment

7. The applicant, the Council's Greencare Department, has proposed to crown thin and crown lift the tree following the results of a condition assessment.
8. On inspection the tree was found to have good vigour but its structural condition has been impaired as the result of historical pruning practices. The tree has been topped at approx 3 metres above ground at some point in the last 20 years. This has resulted in numerous re-growth stems from the previous topping point. The topping points have now started to decay, and it is likely that if left as is, the failure of one or more of the re-growth stems will occur.

9. It is considered that that the proposed crown thinning will reduce the number of stems within the crown, and will reduce the forces exerted on the topping points during unsettles weather. The proposed crown lifting will provide an appropriate clearance above the adjacent public highway.
10. It is considered that the proposed works will serve to reduce the risk of limb failure in the future, whilst having no detrimental impact on the amenity value of the tree.
11. Overall it is considered that the proposed pruning of the tree is justified on the grounds of its condition and location adjacent to the highway. As such it is recommended that the application be approved.

## CONCLUSION

12. The tree subject to this application is a Plane tree that has been previously topped. It is proposed to crown thin the re-growth and to crown lift the tree in order to reduce the chances of future failure of limbs.
13. Overall it is considered that the proposed works are acceptable as there will no impact on the health of amenity value of the tree.

## RECOMMENDATION

14. It is recommended that the application is APPROVED subject to the stated conditions.

### Reason for Approval

Overall, it is considered that the proposed pruning of the Plane tree is acceptable as it is considered to be at an increased risk of failure onto either the public highway or adjacent residential property. The increased risk of failure should be suitably minimised by the proposed works without having any undue impact on the amenity value of the tree.

### Conditions and/or reasons:

1. The tree works subject of this consent shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 'Recommendations for Treework'.



T1

219.5m

221.3m

