PROTECTED TREE REPORT (TREE WORKS)

Haringey Council, L4,
Alexandra House, Station
Road, N22 7TY

Application number	HGY/2023/2175
Application type	**Tree Preservation Order application**
Site Address:	22 Hampstead Lane, Hornsey, London, N6 4SB
Proposal	5 Day Notice for the removal of Purple Beech tree and for a replacement tree to be planted in the location. These works are considered to be exempt from statutory control legislation as they appear to be a valid exception under 14 (vii) of the Town & County Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.

RECOMMENDATION:	**No Objection**	
Application date	10/08/2023	
Tree Inspector	DM	**Date:** 21st August 2023

Site

The mature prominent Purple Beech *Fagus* spp. tree is situated in the front garden of the property. It is publicly visible.

Several site visits have been deemed necessary to determine the appropriateness of the proposed works (the last visit was carried out 18/08/2023 at 10:30AM.)

The tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

Proposal

Tree works proposed.
5 Day Notice for the removal of Purple Beech tree and for a replacement tree to be planted in the location. These works are considered to be exempt from statutory control legislation as they appear to be a valid exception under 14 (vii) of the Town & County Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.

Issues

I hold no objections to the proposed removal of the protected Purple Beech tree.

The 18m high Purple Beech tree (diameter at breast height 1240mm) has been monitored by Bartletts these last few years. The tree has a graft mark that appears uniform in growth. Reports have been presented in 10/2021 and 04/2022. Unfortunately, the tree's condition has deteriorated quickly over a short period of time, since.

From the last site visit, as dated above, *Meripilus giganteus* fruiting bodies were clearly present en masse all around the circumference of the trunk, buttresses, primary and secondary roots.

The fungus decays the underside of the inner roots (white and soft rot). This affects the vascular tissue in the central core, producing dysfunctional decayed wood (lack of absorption of water and nutrients is reflected in the sparse crown and die back,) increasing the risk of windthrow due to the loss of stability and anchorage.

The horizontal and vertical plane of the clamp area where the stem meets the major roots can be a weak area where these two grain planes meet. Allowing entry for specialised pathogens. In the peri urban environment, mechanical damage from past works within the vicinity of the roots might also have led to the spores gaining successful access.

It is evident that the fungus is progressively decaying the roots. Being adjacent to the busy Highway Hampstead Lane (B519), footway, and property poses a very high risk from failure of the tree.

The Beech tree has been physiologically weakened leaving it prone to branch failure.

I concur with Bartletts statement and reasons for removal under a five-day notice.

Recommendation

No Objection

Conditions: Re plant 10-12cm girth *Pinus nigra*