

PROTECTED TREE REPORT (TREE WORKS)

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

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Application number	HGY/2026/1003
Application type	Conservation Area Notification
Site Address:	Cairncross Mews, Felix Avenue, Hornsey, London
Proposal	Oak - Cut the entire tree as close to ground level as practically possible The oak tree has previously been subject to excessive crown reduction, which has significantly altered its natural form. In response, the tree has produced dense epicormic regrowth over the past 2–3 years, resulting in a canopy dominated by multiple vigorous shoots. While this regrowth is typical following heavy pruning and is not indicative of ill health, it has created a crowded and unbalanced crown structure, lacking well-defined scaffold branches. The current form is therefore artificial and not in keeping with the typical habit of a mature oak. The density and distribution of regrowth now require regular cyclical pruning to prevent excessive encroachment toward the property and to maintain reasonable clearance. This establishes an ongoing pattern of intervention which is not sustainable long-term, both in terms of tree health and management. Continued reduction would perpetuate cycles of vigorous epicormic regrowth, gradually degrade the tree's form further and increase the frequency of maintenance requirements. Given the tree's position within close proximity to the property, its current growth habit is becoming increasingly incompatible with the available space. As such, the tree is considered unsuitable for retention in its current form and location, not due to immediate risk, but due to poor structural form resulting from past works, high and ongoing maintenance burden and limited potential to return to a desirable or sustainable crown structure. Removal is therefore proposed as a pragmatic long-term management solution, with the intention to replace with a more suitable species or specimen that can be appropriately maintained within the constraints of the site and contribute positively to the character of the conservation area.

RECOMMENDATION:	Objection	
Application date	08/04/2026	
Tree Inspector	DM	Date: 8 th May 2026

Site

The mature Oak tree, as marked on the plan, and seen in the photographs, is situated in the grounds of the property. It is publicly visible from Felix Avenue N8 and the surrounding properties.

A site visit was deemed necessary to determine the appropriateness of the proposed works (16/04/2026 at approximately 12:20pm).

The location is also within the Crouch End Conservation Area. This protects every tree with a diameter at breast height (taken at 1.5m) >75mm.

Proposal

Tree works proposed.

Oak - Cut the entire tree as close to ground level as practically possible

The oak tree has previously been subject to excessive crown reduction, which has significantly altered its natural form. In response, the tree has produced dense epicormic regrowth over the past 2–3 years, resulting in a canopy dominated by multiple vigorous shoots.

While this regrowth is typical following heavy pruning and is not indicative of ill health, it has created a crowded and unbalanced crown structure, lacking well-defined scaffold branches. The current form is therefore artificial and not in keeping with the typical habit of a mature oak.

The density and distribution of regrowth now require regular cyclical pruning to prevent excessive encroachment toward the property and to maintain reasonable clearance. This establishes an ongoing pattern of intervention which is not sustainable long-term, both in terms of tree health and management.

Continued reduction would perpetuate cycles of vigorous epicormic regrowth, gradually degrade the tree's form further and increase the frequency of maintenance requirements

Given the tree's position within close proximity to the property, its current growth habit is becoming increasingly incompatible with the available space.

As such, the tree is considered unsuitable for retention in its current form and location, not due to immediate risk, but due to poor structural form resulting from past works, high and ongoing maintenance burden and limited potential to return to a desirable or sustainable crown structure

Removal is therefore proposed as a pragmatic long-term management solution, with the intention to replace with a more suitable species or specimen that can be appropriately maintained within the constraints of the site and contribute positively to the character of the conservation area

Issues

I object to the removal of the Oak tree.

The tree has a good open crown, vigour/ vitality, amenity value, adds to the silvan and character of the area. The tree has been reduced which is common practice within the urban environment.

Our largest trees being our biggest assets with the environmental services they provide.
Oak has the highest biodiversity count for any temperate zone tree species.
The tree scores extremely high when using a methodology to rate its worthiness for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and a TPO will be made.

Recommendation

Objection

TPO