

PROTECTED TREE REPORT (TREE WORKS)

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

Application number	HGY/2023/3257
Application type	Conservation Area Notification
Site Address:	Highgate School, North Road, Hornsey, London, N6 4AY
Proposal	T4274: Purple Plum (5m): Fell. Was previously topped. Sounding mallet resonance consistent with significant hollowing. T4275: Purple Plum (7m): Crown reduce by 2m as removal of adjacent tree may increase chances of small branch failure. T4276: Common Ash (20m): Crown reduce by 4m as previously high pollarded with long leggy regrowth. T4278: Common Ash (6m): Fell as thin heavily leaning tree (Please note that works to T4273: Common Lime have been removed from the list of proposed works at the request of the contractor).

RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection	
Application date	06/12/2024	
Tree Inspector	DM	Date: 16 th January 2024

Site

The various trees, as listed above are situated in the property grounds of Highgate school. The Ash trees are not publicly visible. The Purple Plums T4274 & T4275 are at one of the school's entrances and are visible from the footway and highway.

A site visit was deemed necessary to determine the appropriateness of the proposed works (11/01/2024 at approximately 11:15am).

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

Proposal

Tree works proposed.

T4274: Purple Plum (5m): Fell. Was previously topped. Sounding mallet resonance consistent with significant hollowing.

T4275: Purple Plum (7m): Crown reduce by 2m as removal of adjacent tree may increase chances of small branch failure.

T4276: Common Ash (20m): Crown reduce by 4m as previously high pollarded with long leggy regrowth.

T4278: Common Ash (6m): Fell as thin heavily leaning tree

(Please note that works to T4273: Common Lime have been removed from the list of proposed works at the request of the contractor)

Issues

I hold no objections to the proposed pruning works (see also photographs below):

The group of three Plum cherries at the entrance to the school make a good spring flowering show where there are hardly any other street trees present. Their retention is important.

However, unfortunately T4274 does have significant hollowing when sound tested with a nylon head mallet. The tree also leans out towards the courtyard entrance. The tree has been kept as a reduction and a larger limb has been removed. This tree is the smallest within the group and least seen from the highway.

The applicant is going to replace the loss of T4274 with another flowering *Prunus* spp.

T4275 is to crown reduce the Plum Cherry by 2m. This will balance the remaining two Plum cherries. Plum cherry trees generally reduce well and restore their crowns over a short period of time.

T4276 large mature Ash tree is co-dominant with a convex tight included fork that has a bulge either side. These tight forks are an area of dead cambium, decay, and lack of growth. The significant 4m overall height reduction, measured from the crown's tips, will reduce the sail area, and the external forces put on what can be a significant defect when found outside the woodland environment. The surrounding structures and the Ash being brought under the neighbouring canopy tree lines will offer some shelter from these external forces.

T4278 is a leggy leaning Ash tree from out of the copse edge. The tree has been over lifted, is a poor specimen and is beyond the exclusion stage. Removal will allow natural regeneration within the woodland edge.

Recommendation

No Objection

Informative: There is a duty under Section 213 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) to plant replacement trees for the removal of trees, and also dead, dying or dangerous.





