

PROTECTED TREE REPORT (TREE WORKS)

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

Application number	HGY/2024/0167
Application type	Conservation Area Notification
Site Address:	1 Tile Kiln Studios, 1 Winchester Road, Hornsey, London, N6 5HW.
Proposal	Rear Garden space adjacent to A1 Archway Road. Undermanned self seeded Sycamores showing signs of sooty bark and bark disfunction at low and high level. G1 Sycamores along boundary concrete retaining wall growing over the footpath and Archway road, Reduce in height by up to 8 meters to manage risk of limb/branch failure as a duty of care and reduce lateral length by up to 3 meters leaving furnishing growth, remove dead/dying/crossing branches. G2 Sycamores growing close to G1 with sooty bark and visually bad condition trees suppressing natural growth of G1. Fell to ground level to allow G1 trees to thrive. T1 Sycamore heavily leaning with decayed lower stem growing on to public footpath and car park spaces. Fell to ground level to prevent future failure and damage to concrete retaining wall.

RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection	
Application date	22/01/2024	
Tree Inspector	DM	Date: 21 st February 2024

Site

The mature Sycamore trees, as marked on the sketch plan and seen in the photographs, are situated in the rear garden of the property. They are publicly visible from Archway Road N6.

A site visit was deemed necessary to determine the appropriateness of the proposed works (16/02/2024 at 9am approximately).

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.

Rear Garden space adjacent to A1 Archway Road.

Undermanned self seeded Sycamores showing signs of sooty bark and bark disfunction at low and high level.

G1 Sycamores along boundary concrete retaining wall growing over the footpath and Archway road, Reduce in height by up to 8 meters to manage risk of limb/branch failure as a duty of care and reduce lateral length by up to 3 meters leaving furnishing growth, remove dead/dying/crossing branches.

G2 Sycamores growing close to G1 with sooty bark and visually bad condition trees suppressing natural growth of G1.

Fell to ground level to allow G1 trees to thrive.

T1 Sycamore heavily leaning with decayed lower stem growing on to public footpath and car park spaces.

Fell to ground level to prevent future failure and damage to concrete retaining wall.

Issues

I hold no objections to the proposed tree works.

A mature line of trees along the retaining wall (the majority self-set Sycamores) grow to the rear of the properties.

They act as a screen to the busy A1 red route of the Archway Road, draw the eye and break the line of concrete, buffer to pollutants and sound, stabilise the embankment, and form a green corridor (whilst fragmented) to the surrounding designated green areas throughout and out of the borough.

The trees are multi stemmed, co-dominant, elongated due to exclusion stage (>16m height), and exposed to the prevailing natural forces by being elevated on the bank.

These trees, adjacent to the busy red route, need regular inspections by their owners to discharge their duty of care. The Sycamores have tight included forks at the base, and these are prone to areas of dead cambium and failure.

The proposed reduction works (G1) will reduce the lever arm within the crowns, reduce sail area, reduce weight, and bring the crown line below the surrounding line of trees and structures (reducing external forces).

Ivy needs to be further girdled at the bases to inspect all the tight forks on these trees.

G1 is the stronger group of the trees receiving ample light to the south. G2 behind G1 have weaker excluded trees with tight included forks. Two smaller Sycamores are proposed to be removed here and I concur with the findings. The screening will not be affected.

T1 Sycamore, error on the sketch plan with the Sycamore tree being labelled T2, is at the end of the avenue. Its screening and continuity are important when viewed from the Archway Road. However, the tree is causing direct damage, has dead cambium and bark on the tension side, and poor morphology. The applicant intends to replace with a tree of interest *Acer platanoides* 'Drummondii'.

We have been in further dialogue and the following understorey successional gap planting is intended with the following shade tolerant trees *Malus* spp., Silver Birch, Hazel, and Evergreen Holly Oak.

Malus John Downie, and Golden Hornet are excellent trees for migrating winter visiting birds.

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.