

Application ref: 2024/1661/T  
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Butlers Trees  
182 Glebe Road  
Letchworth Garden City  
Hertfordshire  
SG6 1DY

Dear Sir/Madam

## DECISION

Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 (as amended)

### **OBJECTION TO SECTION 211 NOTICE OF WORKS TO TREE/S IN A CONSERVATION AREA**

Address:

**142 Haverstock Hill  
London  
NW3 2AY**

Description:

FRONT GARDEN: 1 x Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus altissima) (T1) - Fell to ground level and remove stump.

The Council has considered your notification of intended works to trees dated 27 April 2024 and decided to **OBJECT** for the following reasons:

Reasons for objection:

- 1 The S.211 notification is to remove a semi-mature Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus altissima) in the front garden of a private residence on Haverstock Hill, which is located within the Parkhill conservation area.

The notification states that

- the species is invasive
- is causing subsidence to two walls
- is leaning towards cars parked at the front of the property
- is preventing any other plants from growing nearby due to allelopathy
- is causing a nearby wall to crack

The tree is clearly visible from public places along Haverstock Hill - from

approximately 40m to the north and 50m from the south, and from midway along Antrim Grove on the opposite side of the highway.

The tree makes a significant and positive contribution to the verdant character and appearance of the conservation area as the end tree of a cohesive canopied group of similarly sized trees in the front garden of the neighbouring property (148 Haverstock Hill). It enriches the ecology of the local area as part of a green corridor, softening the street-scene on a busy and congested main road within the borough, and contributes to improving the air quality there.

The reasons given are not robust enough to justify the removal of the tree:

- Damage to walls is not considered to be a sufficient reason to justify the removal of trees that are worthy of protection under a TPO. It is likely there is a design and/or engineering solution that will allow for the repair of the wall and the retention of the tree.
- The allegation of subsidence of walls is not supported by any evidence.
- There is no evidence to support an issue with the lean of the tree (visible movement of the rootplate, mounding / depression and/ or cracking of soil surrounding the basal area).

The Council objects to the proposed removal, and it is recommended that a Tree Preservation Order be served to protect the amenity the tree provides and to help preserve the character and appearance of the conservation area.

**A Tree Preservation Order has been served on the tree/s and no work should be carried out without the prior consent of the Council.**

Yours faithfully



Daniel Pope  
Chief Planning Officer

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