

**From:** Rod Standing

**Sent:** Sunday, June 9, 2024 10:17 PM

**To:** Planning

**Subject:** Ref: 2024/2215/T - application to fell a sliver birch tree 45 Cholmley Gardens

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this planning application.

I live in Flat 49 which is directly above the flat of the person making the application. There is another flat, number 47, in between us. Or to put it in another way, the applicant lives in a ground floor flat with a small garden, in which the offending tree is growing, and we live two floors directly above her. The side branches of the tree are about 10 feet from our balcony and the top branches are about 10 feet above our balcony. I am explaining this in detail in order to make clear that we are directly affected by the applicant's tree.

The tree affects us by blocking to an increasing extent the views we have from our balcony, including views to the south of the London skyline and the North Downs. These views are a great rarity in London and were my primary reason for choosing this flat. When we moved in 22 years ago, we had a view of the southern horizon across about 30 degrees of arc. The tree has already reduced this to about 15 degrees of arc. If it continues the same rate of growth, it will almost completely block our view of the horizon in another 10 years. It does not currently shade our balcony but in 10 years it will prevent sunlight reaching our balcony, except in summer.

My wife and I do not want the views we presently enjoy to be blocked to an even greater extent, and we would like the *status quo ante* to be restored so that we can once again enjoy the views of the southern horizon which we had when we moved in.

We are on good terms with our neighbours and in particular with the applicant. The tree was planted by the applicant's predecessor in flat 45. As far as we know, the applicant has for a long time wanted to remove the tree because it casts excessive shade in her garden. She has discussed her desire to remove the tree with us and we support her application.

If there is anything you wish to clarify please do not hesitate to get in touch  
– my contact details are below.

Yours faithfully,

Rod Standing  
49 Cholmley Gardens, London NW61AH