

Application No:	Site Address:	Case Officer:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:
2013/5620/T	5 St Augustine's Road London NW1 9RL	Tom Little	Mr Toby Jones	20/09/2013 23:21:43	OBJ

**Response:**

I object to the felling of the plane tree at 5 St Augustine's Road, as a resident in one of the flats in the property.

I firmly believe that urban trees provide wide-ranging benefits to the local environment, including: i) absorption of air pollution, levels of which in London regularly infringe EU-acceptable levels, ii) valuable rainwater capture in an urban-scape the majority of whose surfaces are typically impervious, iii) uptake of CO2 emissions, iv) biodiversity and habitats, v) shade, reducing heat-island effects and providing a wind break, vi) human wellbeing due to a pleasant environment, pride in and enjoyment of our local areas.

Trees contribute positively in all of the above ways, by no means an exhaustive list, and for this reason I think it is important to preserve the trees we have and increase their numbers wherever possible.

The plane tree at No.5 does not appear to be causing any structural problems, nor obvious inconvenience to residents, landlord or others. There are no supporting documents provided seeking to give a justification for felling the tree.

The tree certainly seems to be in need of pruning, and it would be appropriate for it to be pollarded in the same way as the other plane trees which line the street and are maintained by the Council, so that it is in keeping with the aesthetic of the other trees in the Conservation Area in which the property lies.

However I believe there is no justification for the tree to be felled to ground level.

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