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21st December 2017

Our Ref: ha/s211/let1/39prioryter

Your Ref:

Mr J Remmington Tree Preservation Officer London Borough of Camden Council Planning Department Camden Town Hall Argyle Street London WC1H 8 ND

Dear Mr Remmington

## **Tree Works Notification**

## Site: Land at 39 Priory Terrace, London NW6

I understand the tree subject of this notification is protected by a growing within a conservation area. If this is not the case, please can you advise me upon receipt of this correspondence?

## **Description of Proposed Tree Works:**

| Tree Ident. and<br>location* | Tree<br>Dimensions**<br>(approx.) | Proposed Works<br>(refer to spec.) | Summary Reasons  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Monterey Cypress           | 12 x 5 x 600                      | Fell to ground level<br>(Sp6)      | Tree has developed dead and dying<br>branches; large branches have<br>broken off; large branches are<br>cracked; tree infected with <i>Coryneum</i><br>canker and prospects of improvement<br>are negligible; nearby garages are<br>damaged, which is potentially<br>associated with the growth of this tree |

\*refer to plan \*\*Tree Dimensions are height in metres x radial canopy spread in metres x trunk diameter in millimetres

## Specifications for recommended tree works:

## General

All work is to conform to BS 3998:2010 'Tree work – Recommendations' and with current arboricultural best practice. Tree works are to be undertaken by a professional and specialist arboricultural contractor, who carries the appropriate experience and insurance cover, equipment and PPE. All works and processes are to comply with all relevant Planning, Wildlife, Environmental, Conservation and Health and Safety legislation.





Sp6. Felling involves the careful removal of a tree to ground level (or other specified height), either in sections or in one unit (straight felling). The method of felling will be suited to the constraints of the site and judged by the competent operator undertaking the task. Removing the stump may be part of the requirements and this will be carried out using a mechanical stump grinder where accessible.

# Amplification of reasons for tree management

1. As is quite common with mature Monterey Cypress, the subject tree is suffering the effects of *Coryneum* canker (causal fungus *Seridium cardinale*). The fungus, possibly spread by insets and birds, kills the bark around the branch or shoot, causing the foliage to die off and which in turn leads to the death of the branch. The browned foliage hangs on, adding weight to the dead branch causing them to break in windy weather. This is not only ugly but hazardous when the branches are near to public highways or other property. There is no cure for the disorder, which spreads slowly throughout the tree continually reducing visual amenity and eventually killing the whole tree.

2. The weight of Monterey Cypress foliage is considerable and in windy conditions, the branches are susceptible to developing cracks (longitudinally) and splits as has occurred in several locations on the subject tree. The branches tend to twist and break, especially under added weight of snow or even rain.

3. The tree possesses a large, cankerous wound upon the main stem (south side), which is a structural weak point upon the tree. Although unlikely, in my view, to break off at this point, the reduces the tree's ability to take up and distribute moisture and elements efficiently from the soil, causing stress throughout the tree and which predisposes it to further infections and disorders as described. The stressed tree system is less capable of containing the spread of aggressive and pathogenic fungal colonisation. The prospects of the tree surviving in a safe and attractive condition are negligible.

4. The tree is growing extremely close (1m) to boundary walls and a set of single-storey garages, which display symptoms of damage and distortion. It is possible that the growth of this tree and the action of its roots, have caused damage to occur to the garages either by directly impacting upon the structures or by indirectly reducing soil volume supporting the foundations.

5. In summary, the tree is suffering a number of disorders, which are significantly affecting the tree's amenity contribution and physical structure. There is a negligible prospect of tree improvement. Pruning the tree will reduce tree vitality further and aggravate preexisting conditions. The tree may be associated with local structural damage and its removal will eliminate the risk of damage or injury caused by falling branches and any effect it may be having upon local structures.



I hope that this information is clear and helpful at this stage but if I can be of any further assistance, or if you would like to arrange a site meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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Hal Appleyard Dip. Arb. (RFS), F.Arbor.A, MICFor. RCArborA Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant **Chartered Arboriculturist** 





Institute of Chartered Foresters **Registered Consultant** 





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Fig. 1 and 2 – Dead and dying branches and cracks (circled) in main branches; leaning stem with decay, close to distorted structures

