

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

Number of site notices: 1

Statutory advertisement: Not applicable.

Number of representations received: 0

Comment	Officer Comment

7 Planning Considerations

7.1 Having regard to the relevant policies of the development plan it is considered that the main issues arising from this application are:

- Whether the degree of pruning works requested would undermine the amenity value of these trees and whether this could also be harmful to their ongoing health and vitality.

7.2 My inspection related specifically to assessing the proposed works rather than generally inspecting the tree's health and condition in any great detail. I visually inspected the tree from ground level and the following report deals with the relevant issues that have been raised on site, in the application form and from my site observations.

7.3 The application relates to a mature Oak tree located to the rear of a property in Starina Gardens, Waterloo. The tree sits in a verge of an access path leading to the rear gardens of these terraced properties. The upper crown can be viewed from the street scene above the rooftops and possesses some public amenity value.

The base of the main stem could not be assessed due to dense Ivy growth, which extends up the main stem. There is a small amount of deadwood within the crown and signs of previous pruning, however the tree appears to be displaying normal vigour and vitality. The crown has a slight bias towards the dwelling on the western sector and encroaches over the rear boundary of the garden.

Since the application makes no mention of any defects to justify the original specification on safety grounds, the originally proposed crown reduction by 3m would have proved detrimental to the visual amenity of the tree and potentially sent the tree into a state of shock. Lesser works were negotiated with the applicant to reduce the lateral spread on the western sector by 2m. This would serve to rebalance the crown and reduce the encroachment over the boundary, shading to the garden and minimise the amount of falling debris. This would maintain a harmonious relationship between the residents and the tree without causing detriment to its health or the public visual amenity.

8 Conclusion

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00844

(A)

(B) for the following reasons/subject to the following conditions

- 1 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall not be carried out otherwise than in full accordance with all relevant content of BS 3998 (2010).
Reason: In the interests of tree health and safety.

- 2 The tree pruning/surgery for which consent is hereby granted shall not exceed the following: Lateral reduction of 2m on western sector and remove deadwood 1No. Oak (T12) subject to TPO 1224.
Reason: To safeguard the health and well being of the tree(s) and its/their importance in the local landscape.

- 3 The tree works for which consent is hereby granted shall be carried out and completed no later than 26/09/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works