

Recommendation: **REFUSE TPO CONSENT**

5 Statutory and Non Statutory Consultations

6 **Community Involvement**

This application was publicised in accordance with the Council's Code of Practice for Publicity of Planning Applications approved at minute 207/6/92 (as amended), as a result of which the following publicity was undertaken:

Number of neighbour notification letters sent: 11

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 Horse Chestnut tree located on amenity land in Douglas Gardens, Havant. Along with other mature trees nearby, the tree represents a significant amenity value to the public with unrestricted views from the street scene.

The base of the main stem is surrounded by lawn and is partially Ivy clad, therefore a full assessment of its basal condition could not be made, however there are no visible signs of poor health. There is some minor epicormic growth on the main stem. Within the crown there are signs of previous pruning works and there is extensive evidence that the tree is suffering from leaf miner.

The application proposes works to reduce the western sector of the crown by 2m. While this sector extends over the boundary with the neighbouring property and overhangs the property's driveway, there still exists a good separation between the furthest extending branches and the dwelling's rooftop. The crown is well balanced and maintained, therefore at this point in time the proposed works are considered to be unnecessary, needlessly causing detriment to the amenity value and health of the tree.

8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Refusal

9 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **REFUSE TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00778 for the following reasons

- 1 The tree is a significant feature in the local landscape and appears to be in adequately sound and healthy condition. The tree surgery proposed in the deposited application would result in excessive reduction of the tree's landscape impact and undue detriment to the visual amenities of the locality. It is therefore contrary to policy DM8 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.