

Recommendation: **GRANT TPO CONSENT**

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 trees subject to this application are two semi-mature Oak trees. Both trees are subject to a group TPO that follows the rear boundaries of a row of houses in St.Andrew's Road on Hayling Island. The trees can be viewed with relative ease from the street scene, at a distance between properties and above the neighbouring bungalow dwelling. Therefore, they contribute well to the public amenity of the street scene and the tree cover in the area.

The first of the Oaks is located between the rear boundary fencing and a shed within the back garden. The main stem is surrounded by lawn and there is some minor mechanical damage near the base of the main stem's eastern sector. The crown extends over the boundary line and is displaying reduced vigour and vitality. There are signs of the tree's previous management and there is the presence of a large amount of deadwood within the canopy. The proposed crown lift over the shed's roof to provide a 2m clearance would be consistent with it's historic management. The original application specified crown thinning the Oak by 20%, however since the canopy already possesses sparse foliage, this would have been detriment to the amneity value of the tree. Through negotiation with the applicant this specification was removed from the application.

The second Oak is located in the north west corner of the back garden, forming part of the boundary line and possesses the greater amenity value of the two. The tree is twinned stemmed and is partially surrounded by lawn. The full extent of it's base could not be inspected due to the boundary fencing, however there were no obvious signs of poor basal condition on the sector that was visible from the applicant's garden. The condition of the twin stem union could not be fully inspected either, however the visible part of the union appears to show no evidence of poor condition. The tree is a semi-mature specimen and there is a large amount of deadwood present in the canopy, as well as signs of previous pruning works. The crown is displaying heavily reduced vigour and vitality. The original application included a crown reduction of 3m on this eastern sector and while the crown has become unbalanced with an eastern bias towards the dwelling, a 3m reduction would be considered excessive since it could potentially send the Oak into a state of shock. Lesser works were negotiated with the applicant to crown reduce the tree by 2m. This would serve to

rebalance the crown and reduce the shading to the gardens nearby, while minimising the risk of sending the tree into shock.

These works would not detriment the amenity value that the trees possess or their overall health, while managing the trees' size in relation to their position in a relatively small residential garden.

8 **Conclusion**

Recommend Permission

9 **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Head of Neighbourhood Support be authorised to **GRANT TPO CONSENT** for application APP/17/00408 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: Crown lift 1No.Oak to provide 2m clearance from shed roof; Crown reduce 1No.Oak eastern sector by 2m, both subject to TPO 1808 within G1.
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 08/06/18.
Reason: To control the timing of the works.