

Good evening,

I am writing regarding the recent notification of proposed tree works within Hampton Close.

Firstly, I welcome the Council's decision to remove the Ash tree adjacent to [REDACTED] [REDACTED], which I originally raised concerns about approximately 18 months ago.

However, I am concerned by what appears to be an inconsistent approach to the management of the mature Oak trees within the same area.

The application states that the Oak tree adjacent to 5 Hampton Close is to undergo crown reduction works to provide 3.5 metres of roof clearance, together with the removal of epicormic growth. Having viewed this tree, I note that it is substantially smaller than the Oak tree [REDACTED]

For the last 18 months, I have repeatedly raised concerns regarding the Oak tree beside [REDACTED] and requested that consideration be given to pruning and reduction works. During earlier correspondence with Andy Winter from the Tree Department, I was advised that a Norse contractor had attended the site and considered the tree overdue for pruning and reduction. This assessment was the basis upon which I understood works would eventually be considered.

I have since been informed that no works are recommended and that the tree is considered safe.

Whilst I appreciate that each tree must be assessed on its individual merits, I am struggling to reconcile these differing positions. In particular, I would be grateful if the Council could explain what has materially changed between the earlier recommendation that the tree was overdue for reduction and the current position that no intervention is necessary.

Given the passage of time, the apparent change in professional opinion and the fact that reduction works are now being undertaken to a smaller Oak tree elsewhere within Hampton Close, I believe it is entirely reasonable for the Council to review the current assessment of the Oak adjacent to my property.

I would therefore respectfully request that a further site inspection be undertaken by a Tree Officer, not a contractor and that the Council provide a clear explanation of the reasoning behind the differing decisions reached in relation to these two trees.

I am happy to provide copies of previous correspondence with the Tree Department should this assist with the review.

I look forward to receiving a response and clarification regarding the Council's position.

Kind regards,

