



Horsham District Council

Application for Tree Works: Works to Trees Subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and/or Notification of Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Tree Location

Please provide the address of the site where the tree(s) stands (full address if possible)

Number

Suffix

Property Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Town/city

Postcode

Description of site location must be completed if postcode is not known:

Easting (x)

Northing (y)

If the location is unclear or there is not a full postal address, describe as clearly as possible where it is

(for example, 'Land to rear of 12 to 18 High Street' or 'Woodland adjoining Elm Road')

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Mr

First name

Norman

Surname

Speacy

Company Name

Address

Address line 1

Wychacre, Weatheroaks Harborough Hill

Address line 2

Address line 3

Town/City

West Chiltington

County

West Sussex

Country

Postcode

RH20 2RS

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Applicant Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

Fax number

Email address

Agent Details

Name/Company

Title

First name

Surname

Company Name

Address

Address line 1

Address line 2

Address line 3

Town/City

County

Country

Postcode

Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

Fax number

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

What Are You Applying For?

Based on the type of work proposed and the location and protected status of the trees involved, there are various details and supporting information that will need to be supplied in order for the Local Planning Authority to determine the application.

Are you seeking consent for works to tree(s) subject to a Tree Preservation Order?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Do you know the Tree Preservation Order reference number(s)?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please indicate whether the reasons for carrying out the proposed works include any of the following.

If so, your application MUST be accompanied by the necessary evidence to support your proposals ([see guidance notes for further details](#)).

Condition of the tree(s) - e.g. it is diseased or you have fears that it might break or fall

☐ Yes

☒ No

Alleged damage to property - e.g. subsidence or damage to drains or drives.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are you wishing to carry out works to tree(s) in a conservation area?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Documents and plans (for any tree)

A sketch plan clearly showing the position of trees listed in the question 'Identification of Tree(s) and Description of Works' MUST be provided when applying for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order.

A sketch plan is also advised when notifying the LPA of works to trees in a conservation area ([see guidance notes](#)).

It would also be helpful if you provided details of any advice given on site by an LPA officer.

Are you providing additional information in support of your application (e.g. an additional schedule of work for the question 'Identification of Tree(s) and Description of Works')?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If Yes, please provide the reference numbers of plans, documents, professional reports, photographs etc in support of your application

Arboricultural Report

Wychacre, Harborough Hill

Prepared by: Richard Moore Tree Surgery

Date: 29 July 2026

Tree Assessment

The subject tree is a mature Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), approximately 45 feet (13.7 metres) in height with an average lateral canopy spread of approximately 35 feet (10.7 metres).

Upon recent inspection, the tree was found to be in fair physiological and structural condition. However, there are visible signs of stress throughout the upper crown, with areas of reduced vigour and thinning foliage. These symptoms are considered consistent with environmental stress, likely resulting from prolonged exposure to the prevailing south-westerly winds together with increasingly frequent periods of extreme weather experienced in recent years.

Whilst the tree remains structurally sound, its large exposed crown presents a considerable sail area, increasing wind loading on the main stem and scaffold limbs. Reducing this loading will help improve the tree's long-term resilience and reduce the likelihood of future limb failure.

Proposed Works

It is proposed to carry out a sympathetic crown reduction in accordance with the principles of BS 3998:2010 – Tree Work – Recommendations.

The proposed works comprise:

- * Reduce the overall height from approximately 45 feet (13.7 metres) to 40 feet (12.2 metres).
- * Reduce the lateral canopy spread by approximately 5 feet (1.5 metres) on all sides.
- * Retain the tree's natural form and balanced crown structure by pruning back to suitable secondary growth points.
- * Remove any minor deadwood identified during the course of the works.

Arboricultural Justification

The proposed reduction is intended to alleviate physiological and mechanical stress on the tree whilst preserving its significant amenity value.

By reducing the overall crown volume, the works will:

- * Reduce wind loading on the stem and principal scaffold branches.
- * Encourage the development of healthy secondary growth from within the existing crown.
- * Improve the tree's ability to regenerate and maintain canopy density.
- * Reduce the likelihood of branch failure during periods of severe weather.
- * Extend the useful life expectancy of the tree whilst retaining its prominent landscape contribution.

The proposed reduction is modest and proportionate, representing approximately 10–15% of the crown, which is well within accepted arboricultural practice. The works are considered sustainable management rather than excessive pruning and will maintain the character and appearance of this mature Sweet Chestnut while promoting its long-term health and structural stability.

Conclusion

The proposed crown reduction represents good arboricultural management and is recommended in the interests of the tree's long-term health, structural integrity and public safety.

Identification of Tree(s) and Description of Works

Please identify the tree(s) and provide a full and clear specification of the works you want to carry out

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You might find it useful to contact an arborist (tree surgeon) for help with defining appropriate work.

Where trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order, please number them as shown in the First Schedule to the Tree Preservation Order where this is available. You should use the same numbering on your sketch plan (see below for sketch plan requirements).

Please provide the following information:

- Tree species

- The number used on the sketch plan; and
- A description of the proposed works.

Where trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order you must also provide:

- Reasons for the work; and where trees are being felled
- Proposals for planting replacement trees (including quantity, species, position and size) or reasons for not wanting to replant.

e.g. Oak (T3) – Whole crown reduction to 12m above ground level, to provide sufficient clearance to property.

Sketch plan requirements

Your plan needs to show the precise location of the tree(s) in relation to nearby property/roads/boundaries. It should, therefore:

- indicate the main features of the site where the tree(s) stand and its surroundings; in particular, you should:
 - mark and name surrounding roads
 - sketch in buildings, including adjoining properties
 - add house numbers or names
- mark the position of the tree(s) to which you want to carry out work and identify them by the number shown in the Tree Preservation Order where possible; if you use a different number, please make sure that this can be matched with your description of the tree(s)
- if there are many trees on the site, make clear which tree(s) are included in this application by:
 - marking all trees on the plan, but only numbering those to which you want to carry out work
 - showing the approximate distance between the application tree(s) and buildings
 - adding other relevant features on the site (e.g. greenhouse, paths)

If it is impossible to identify the tree(s) accurately on the plan (e.g. because they are part of a woodland or group of trees), please identify their approximate location on the plan and provide details of how the tree(s) are marked on site (e.g. high visibility tape, tree tags, paint, etc); trees must not be marked by scarring or cutting into the bark.

Tree Ownership

Is the applicant the owner of the tree(s)?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant and/or agent one of the following:

- (a) a member of staff**
- (b) an elected member**
- (c) related to a member of staff**
- (d) related to an elected member**

It is an important principle of decision-making that the process is open and transparent.

For the purposes of this question, "related to" means related, by birth or otherwise, closely enough that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts, would conclude that there was bias on the part of the decision-maker in the Local Planning Authority.

Do any of the above statements apply?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Declaration

I/We hereby apply for Tree works: Trees in conservation areas/subject to TPOs as described in the questions answered, details provided, and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information.
I/We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.
I/We also accept that, in accordance with the Planning Portal's terms and conditions:
- Once submitted, this information will be made available to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be published as part of a public register and on the authority's website;
- Our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

☒ I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

Richard Moore

Date

29/07/2026