DELEGATED APPLICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO: **DC/24/0905: Springfields House, Springfield Park Road, Horsham.**

REPRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RESPONSES:
Forest Neighbourhood Council has stated no objection to this proposal.
No additional representations have been received in respect of this application.

ASSESSMENT:
1. The tree the subject of this application is a mature Cedar of Lebanon located within the communal areas of Springfield Park. It is sited within the dense line of foliage along the wall abutting the site running parallel with North Parade; on the eastern side of the estate. The tree is also registered as a notable tree on the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Inventory.

2. Due to the density of the wooded features (trees) in this area, when viewed from the main areas of public activity, North Parade, views of the tree from the north are limited, with the exception of the winter months when the deciduous trees in the area are fully defoliated. When viewed from more southern parts of North Parade, such as by the entrance to Horsham Park, by the Boxing Club views of the tree are improved. However, the principal views of the tree in its entirety are from the west within the estate; the tree in question makes a positive contribution to the character and amenities of the area and is considered to have a high level of amenity worth when viewed with the local landscape context.

3. The proposed works have arisen following a full safety survey of the areas carried out by MDJ Arboricultural Consultancy Limited, on behalf of the applicants', Cortney Green estate agents the managing agent for this section of the estate; the application has been supported by a detailed decay detection report.

4. The report highlights that concerns are raised with a large and well-established cavity approximately 12m on the east side of the main trunk in the area when a historical branch failure has occurred. The aim of the works is to reduce the amount of weight above the cavity and reduce the sail area of the trees crown, thus helping reduce the pressure on the main stem during high winds; with regard to the torsional movement of the trunk as a result of these forces.

5. The tree's amenity value in the landscape has been assessed and is notable. The works to this tree will have a deleterious effect upon the character and amenities of the locality. As such, the key consideration in the case, therefore, is that there has been submitted a clear and satisfactory level of evidence which indicates, on the balance of probabilities, that the structural weakness recorded in the upper crown is sufficient to warrant the level of works proposed, on safety grounds.

6. It is considered that the proposed works are reasonable and justified, but due to the nature of the works, it is acknowledged that there will be some harm to the character and amenities of the locality.

RECOMMENDATION:
Grant consent subject to the conditions below.

CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
1. TR2 *Time limit, 2 years*
2. TR3 *Treeworks limit (standard)*
3. TR4 *Surgery standards*
TINF1 *Note to applicant.*
TINF2 *Wildlife protection.*

DELEGATED

Authorising Officer sign……ANBU……***Arboricultural Officer (Strategic Planning).***

Date…… Apr 18……