

DELEGATED DECISION CHECKLIST AND REPORT

APPLICATION NO.

CASE OFFICER

Aimee Bovaird

DETERMINATION DATE 05.03.2025 **EXT OF TIME** 23/10/2025**Address:** 8 Lower Beechwood Rochdale OL11 4LY**Proposal:** Works to trees subject to TPO146 as follows:-

1 No. Cherry Tree identified as T44 located in the rear garden. Crown lift by 8m to remove 1 lateral limb over the neighbours property.

1 No. Beech Tree within Group W1 located in woodlands beyond rear boundary. Request to fell due to main stem failure. Tree has failed in the winds and now precariously resting against other trees within the woods. This would require removing as the whole tree is now compromised.

PUBLICITY	Weekly list expired?	N/A	Site notice expired?	N/A
	Neighbour letters expired?	N/A	Press Notice expired?	N/A

DELEGATION	Significant departure from local plan?	N	Contrary to national policy?	N
	Applicant a Council Member or officer?	N	Contrary to previous decision?	N
	Major with 10 or more objections and recommending approval?	N	Called in or Planning Panel objection?	N

COMMENTS	Planning Panel comments received?	N
	Neighbour comments received?	N

EIA	Screening opinion completed and saved to Onbase?	N
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CONDITIONS	Pre-commencement conditions proposed?	N/A
	Pre-commencement conditions agreed (or notification period expired)?	N/A

RECOMMENDATION	GRANT subject to conditions
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CHECKED AND SIGNED OFF BY: RK

DATE: 14/10/2025

SITE

The application relates to one Cherry tree subject to Tree Preservation order TPO146 located in the rear garden of 8 Lower Beechwood, Rochdale. The second tree is a Beech tree subject to Tree Preservation Order TPO146 located in the woodlands to the rear of the house.

PROPOSAL

The application seeks permission to crown lift the Cherry tree by 8m and remove 1 lateral limb that hangs into the neighbour's property. Permission is sought to fell the beech tree due to a main stem failure.

RELEVANT PLANNING POLICY

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – December 2024

National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

Adopted Rochdale Core Strategy (CS):

G7- Increasing the value of biodiversity and geodiversity

RELEVANT SITE HISTORY

N/A

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Gtr Manchester Ecology Unit

No comments received to date

Tree Officer

No comments received to date

REPRESENTATIONS

In accordance with Council policy on neighbour notification for this type of application, no letters of notification were sent to neighbouring properties.

ANALYSIS

In considering applications for works to protected trees, Government advice in paragraph 90 of the NPPG states:

“When considering an application the authority is advised to:

- ② *assess the amenity value of the tree or woodland and the likely impact of the proposal on the amenity of the area;*
- ② *consider, in the light of this assessment, whether or not the proposal is justified, having regard to the reasons and additional information put forward in support of it;*
- ② *consider whether any loss or damage is likely to arise if consent is refused or granted subject to conditions;*
- ② *consider whether any requirements apply in regard to protected species;*
- ② *consider other material considerations, including development plan policies where relevant; and*
- ② *ensure that appropriate expertise informs its decision.”*

In considering whether there has to be an arboricultural need for proposed works to a TPO, paragraph 91 of the NPPG states:

“In general terms, it follows that the higher the amenity value of the tree or woodland and the greater any negative impact of proposed works on amenity, the stronger the reasons needed before consent is granted. However, if the amenity value is lower and the impact is likely to be negligible, it may be appropriate to grant consent even if the authority believes there is no particular arboricultural need for the work.”

With regard to the above, the main considerations in respect of this application are whether the proposal for works to the tree is justified in light of the assessment of the amenity value of the tree and whether the reasons for works are of sufficient standing to warrant the granting of consent.

The Tree Officer was consulted on the proposed plans but has not submitted a response at the time of writing. Photos have been submitted to demonstrate the issue and as such the proposed works are justified in the interest of residential amenity and good arboricultural practice.

Given that T2 is not within land under the control of the applicant, it would not be reasonable to require replacement planting.

Subject to the standard conditions, the application proposal is therefore considered to be compliant with the guidance contained within the NPPG noted above, and the application is recommended for approval.

GMEU standing advice on tree works and protected species will be attached to the decision notice and therefore the obligations in respect of protected species will have been met.

RECOMMENDATION

GRANT subject to two standard conditions

Notes for Applicant:

For the avoidance of doubt, this Decision Notice relates to the following drawings / document(s): -

- Location Plan
- Image of T1 received 23/01/25
- Image of T2 received 23/01/15

Report Author Aimee Bovaird