

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 14th July 2026

Case Officer: Susan Haley

Reference: AW/104/26/T

Location: 17 Margaret Close, Aldwick, PO21 3AA

Proposal: Crown reduction to 1no. lime to previous pollard points, leaving 0m spread. Crown lift to 1no. maple to 4m from ground level, crown reduction to leave an easterly spread of 3m. Remove overhanging limb over garden room on 1no. ash.

Reason: None given

Comments on Application:

The applicant/agent have not provided any number or letter for any of the trees in this proposal, so I have recorded them alongside their TPO reference. Fortunately, the sketch plan provided is helpful and the trees are easily seen to be of different type.

Lime / *Tilia sp.* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Early mature
(Listed on TPO/AW/50/10 schedule as T1604)

Norway maple / *Acer platanoides* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature
(Potential subject of Bognor No.2)

Ash / *Fraxinus excelsior* Height: 10-15m Radial spread: est. 5-10m Age class: est. Mature
(Listed on TPO/AW/49/10 schedule as T-1609)

Lime – The following comments I made about this tree in 2020 remain true to this day. *‘Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fine physiological state, possessing excellent form and so an attractive crown profile. It grows at the front of the property and is prominent within the close. As such, it has public amenity value.*

Periodic pruning of selected lateral branches will be necessary throughout its lifespan, to maintain harmony with its surroundings (subject to approval from the local planning authority). Low growth over driveways and spread over parking areas is likely to become problematic if left unattended.’

It shows no obvious sign of ever having been pollarded nevermind to the extent a repeat operation would leave 0m spread. I assume this is a mistake on part of the agent or relates to a different application.

In any event, whole crown reduction pruning does not appear to be necessary or justified by the applicant/agent.

Low branches are problematic and should be pruned so as not to obstruct public highway and private driveways.

Norway maple - Appears to be in a fine physiological state and with good form. Visible from the public domain so is a tree with high amenity value. The adjacent ash has a lower safe and useful life expectancy therefore increasing its potential in the landscape. The proposed pruning of lateral branches as described is unlikely to affect the amenity offer whilst ensuring long-term clearance of the garden office building beneath it. There is to be no reduction in height.

Ash – The removal of one low limb which is evidently in decline, is both justified and will incur no undue harm or loss of amenity.

Conclusions:

These are all important trees in the landscape and remain worthy of their protected status. Replacements would be desirable in the event of any loss from either natural causes or permitted removal.

The proposed work to one lime is not achievable and pollarding work to any extent would incur a significant loss of amenity.

The proposed work to one maple and one ash is justified and will not incur undue harm to the trees or loss of visual amenity.

Recommendations:

We grant consent for the work proposed to one maple and one ash.

I would like the applicant invited to agree to an alternative proposal for lesser works to one lime (as described below) as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay. Such work will improve conditions for both tree owner and neighbours whilst ensuring no undue detriment to tree health or loss of amenity:

Lime – Crown lift to achieve a maximum of 3metres overhead clearance on all aspects, to 4metres where branches overhang the public highway.

In any event, all work granted consent should be subject to the following condition:

Condition 1

Part a) Where whole branches are to be removed and final cuts made close to the trunk or branch union they are to be made as shown in Figure 2 of BS3998:2010

Part b) Where branches are to be shortened back the final cuts are to be made at the correct angle shown in BS3998:2010 and adjacent to a live bud or lateral.

Reasons: In the interests of the trees' continued health and vitality and to accord with current industry guidelines and sound arboricultural practice.

- See also the standard pruning guidance notes issued with the consent letter

Informative:

Where an applicant is not the stated owner of the tree(s), permission must first be obtained from the appropriate landowner before operating beyond the boundary of their own property. Consent from the local planning authority does not override such a requirement.

Mark Warwick

Principal Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

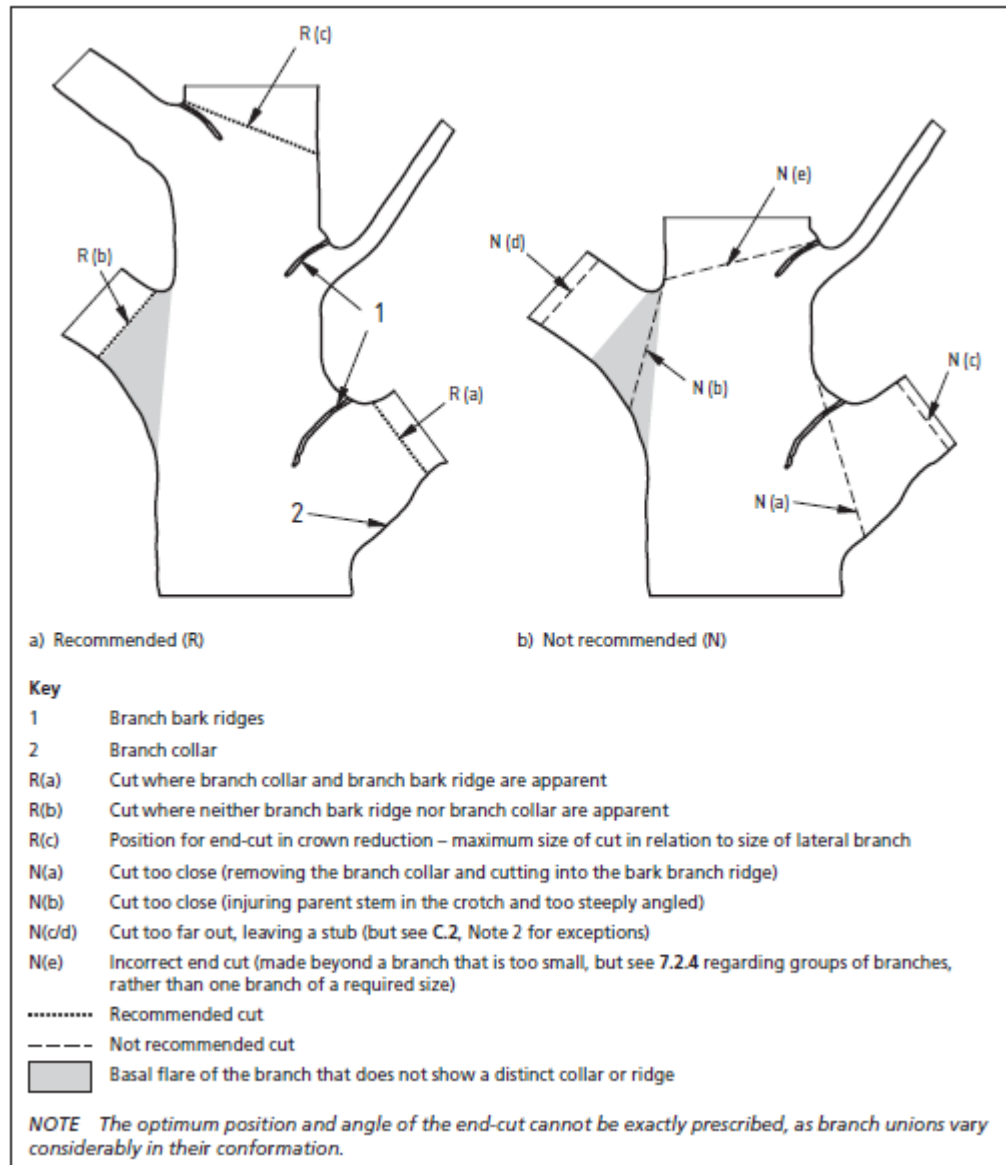
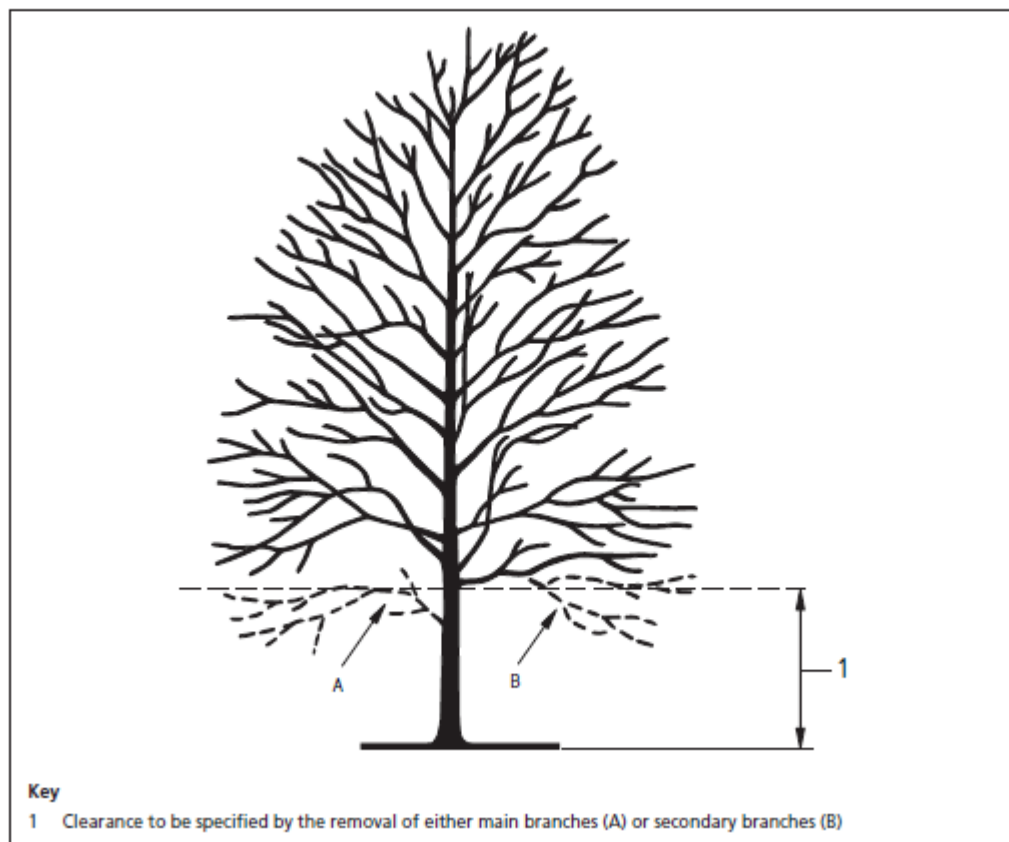
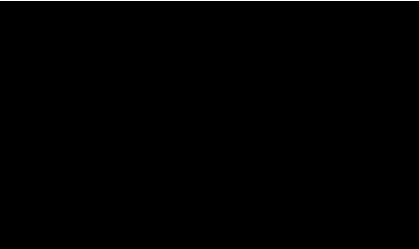


Figure 3 Crown lifting



PL- Consultation- Tree Officer response



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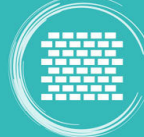
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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 July 2026 10:37
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Susan Haley <Susan.Haley@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: AW/104/26/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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www.arun.gov.uk