

To: Arun District Council – Tree Officer

Re: Application for Removal/Phased Reduction of TPO Oak Tree

Property: 13 Normanton Avenue, Bognor Regis, PO21 2TU

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write in support of an application regarding the protected English Oak tree located adjacent to the property at 13 Normanton Avenue, Bognor Regis, PO21 2TU.

A structural engineer's inspection and report dated 1 May 2026, prepared by Mike Grant Consulting Ltd under reference 2620/MJG, concludes that the Oak tree is causing ongoing structural risk and physical damage to the property.

The report identifies that the Oak tree is exceptionally large, with an estimated height of 15–20 metres, a canopy spread of approximately 20–21 metres, and positioned only approximately 1.7 metres from the house. The engineer notes that the tree "engulfs the entire house" and that branches are in direct contact with the roof structure.

The inspection recorded the following concerns:

- Damage to roof coverings, ridge tiles, guttering, and roof felt caused by overhanging branches.
- Numerous structural cracks throughout the property, including vertical and diagonal cracking to internal and external walls.
- Significant cracking to the detached garage, considered likely attributable to tree root activity and associated ground movement.
- Evidence of ongoing and potential future foundation movement due to the proximity and scale of the tree.

The engineer further advises that the subsoil in the area may contain clay or clayey material and states that, in such conditions, the Oak tree represents "a significant risk of further foundation movement/damage."

Importantly, the report concludes with a professional recommendation that:

*"all trees very close to the house should be removed."*

In relation specifically to the Oak tree subject to the TPO, the engineer recommends that removal should be undertaken gradually over several years in order to minimise the risk of ground heave. The suggested methodology includes immediate crown reduction to prevent further roof damage, followed by phased reductions during winter months until complete removal is achieved.

Given the documented structural concerns, ongoing damage to the building, and the engineer's professional recommendations, we respectfully request that consent be granted for the phased removal of the Oak tree in accordance with the structural engineer's report and any arboricultural guidance the Council may require.

Please let us know if any further information is required in support of this application.

Yours faithfully,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the applicant.

[Applicant Name]

[Contact Details]