

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 22nd April 2026

Case Officer: Rhiannon Lloyd

Reference: FP/26/26/T

Location: 33 Roundle Avenue, Felpham, PO22 8LL

Proposal: Crown reduction to 1no. ash tree (T1) to leave a height of 8m, southerly spread of 5m, easterly spread of 3m, north and westerly spreads of 4m. Crown lift to 4m from ground level.

Reason: None given

Comments on Application:

Ash / *Fraxinus excelsior* Height: 15-20m Radial spread: 5-10m Age class: Mature

This tree had been 'topped' at around 5m height but has grown-on well and presents an attractive crown profile. Outwardly and from a distance it appears to be in a fine physiological state.

It grows at the front of the property and is prominent roadside, being visible from both numerous properties and to traffic across this part of the estate. As such, it has public amenity value.

The proposal seeks to reduce the top height of the tree by more than half. Reduction of crown spread is variable and similarly not justified (entirely).

Conclusions:

This is an important tree in the landscape and of an age which demands careful management. It is unlikely to tolerate a reduction in crown volume to the proposed extent and there would be a substantial loss of amenity.

The weight of vertical spurs above the historic pollard points is a valid concern and the spread of branches potentially problematic for its owner(s) and road users. A degree of whole crown reduction pruning is therefore prudent and reasonable, if done sympathetically the tree will continue to provide visual appeal.

Recommendation:

As it stands, I am unable to support this application. I **would like the applicant invited to agree to a revised proposal for lesser works (as described below) as part of the current application so as not to incur further delay.** Such work would go some way to addressing the applicant's concerns whilst ensuring no undue detriment to tree health or loss of amenity:

- *Reduce height by no more than 2metres, in any event leaving a minimum of 16m above ground level.*
- *Reduce on all aspects to leave a minimum of 5metres radial spread when measured from the bark of main stem.*
- *Crown lift to ensure a maximum of 4metres overhead clearance on all aspects, 6metres above the carriageway.*

If the applicant agrees to the above revision, then I would be able to recommend we grant consent, 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 interest of the tree's 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:

Hard pruning creates numerous and/or large wounds, incurring a physiological stress which may affect long-term health and vitality. The optimum time for pruning an ash tree is late spring to summer (May to August).

Mark Warwick

Tree Officer

Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts

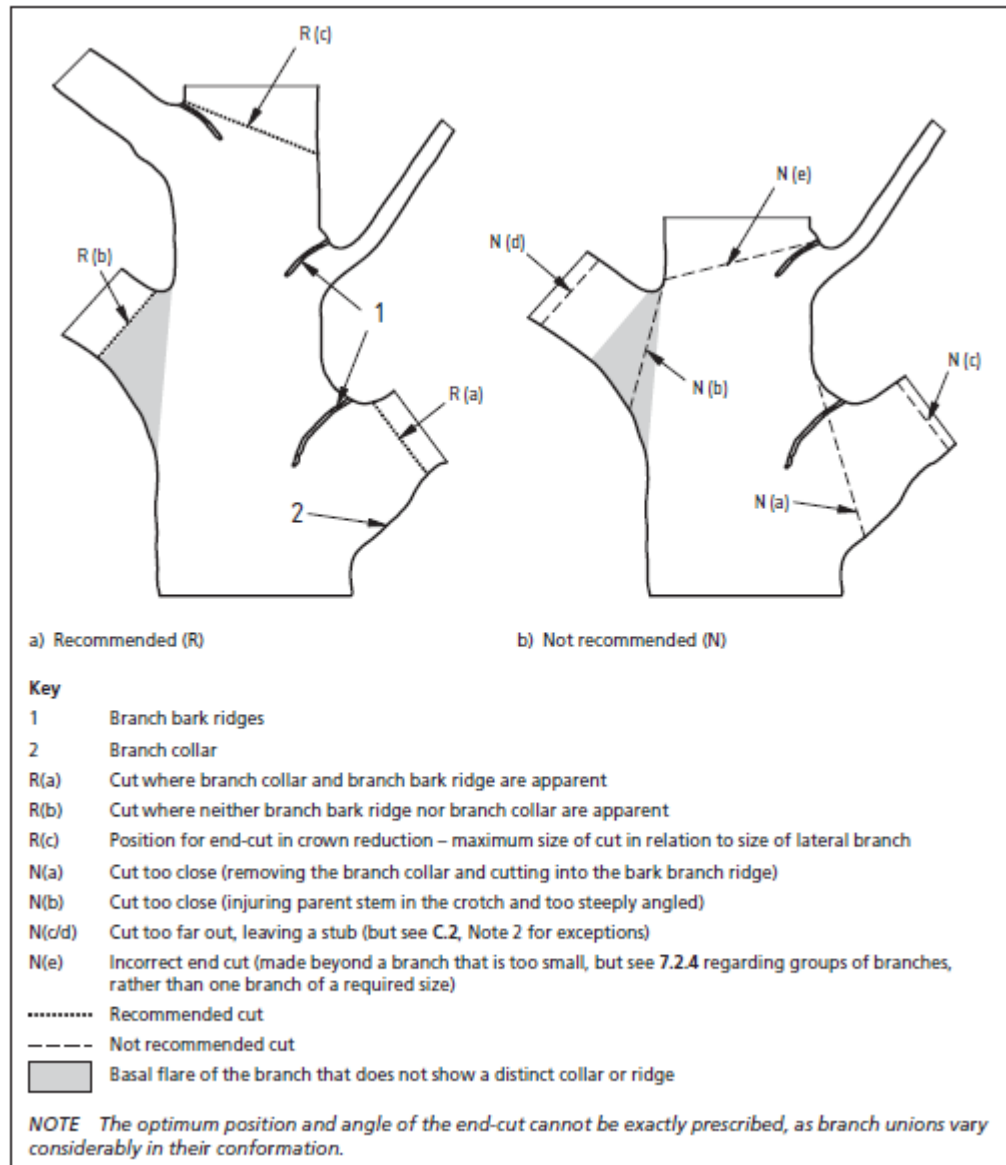
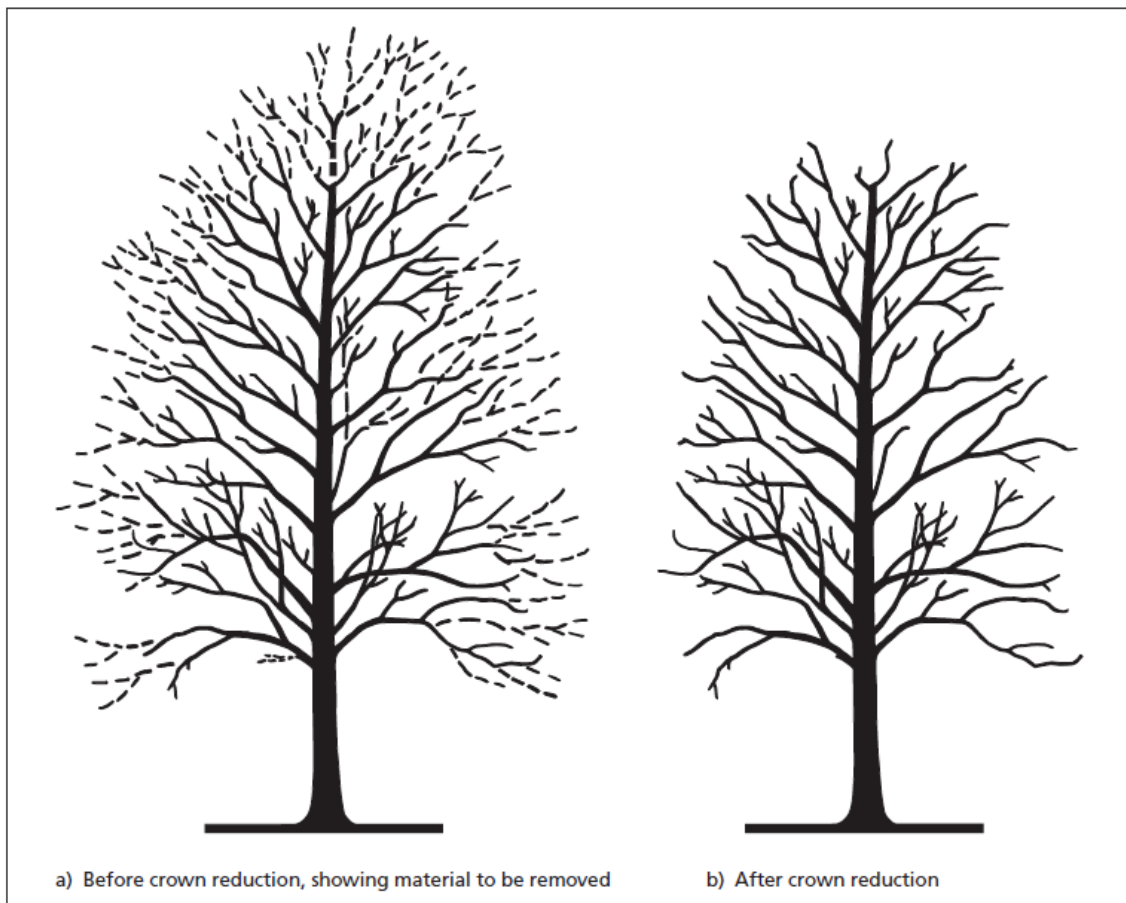
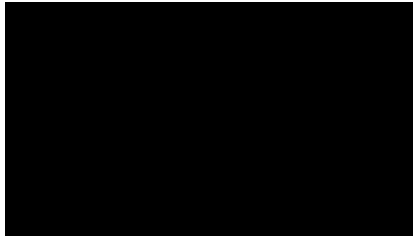


Figure 4 Diagrammatic illustration of crown reduction





PL- Consultation- Tree Officer response



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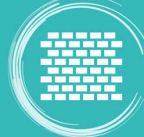
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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 April 2026 16:34
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Rhiannon Lloyd <Rhiannon.Lloyd@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: FP/26/26/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

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