

CONSULTEE RESPONSE (Council's Arboriculturist)

Date of inspection: 6th January 2026

Case Officer: Jonny Cooper

Reference: R/208/25/T

Location: Lamorna House, 6 The Oaks, Rustington, BN16 2UP

Proposal: Crown reduction to 1no. purple maple (T1) to leave a height of 15m and spread of 6m. Crown reduction to 1no. *ilex* oak (T2) to leave a height of 15m and spread of 3m, removal of epicormic growth and crown lift to 5m from ground level.

Reason: None given

Comments on Application:

T1 Maple / Acer sp.	Height: 15-20m	Radial spread: 5-10m	Age class: Mature
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T2 Holm oak / Quercus ilex	Height: 10-15m	Radial spread: 0-5m	Age class: Mature
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I was unable to gain access to the property but could view both trees to varying extent with a neighbour's permission.

Both trees have a recent history of whole crown reduction pruning. They are visible from surrounding properties and in part from the private road serving The Oaks.

T1 has previously been hard pruned, is effectively a pollard. The proposal seeks to repeat that operation, effectively removing most if not all of the branch network. Such work is potentially risky for tree health but is a necessity given the apparent loss of some structural integrity as a result of established and ongoing fungal decay low in the main stem, and likely target area if the tree were to become unstable.

T2 displays 2-3metres of growth beyond established knuckles. I am unable to comment on the health of this tree, but it should be able to tolerate proposed works if it possesses good vitality and the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Conclusions:

There is sufficient extension of new growth since the last operations were undertaken and so the proposal is justified on arboricultural grounds.

While a temporary loss of aesthetic value is inevitable, satisfactory canopy renewal and recovery should occur if the work is undertaken to a high standard and at an appropriate time of year.

Recommendation:

We grant consent for this application 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.

Part c) Where crown reduction work has occurred previously, the removal of subsequent growth (shoots and branches) and position of final cuts must ensure retention of all established knuckles.

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

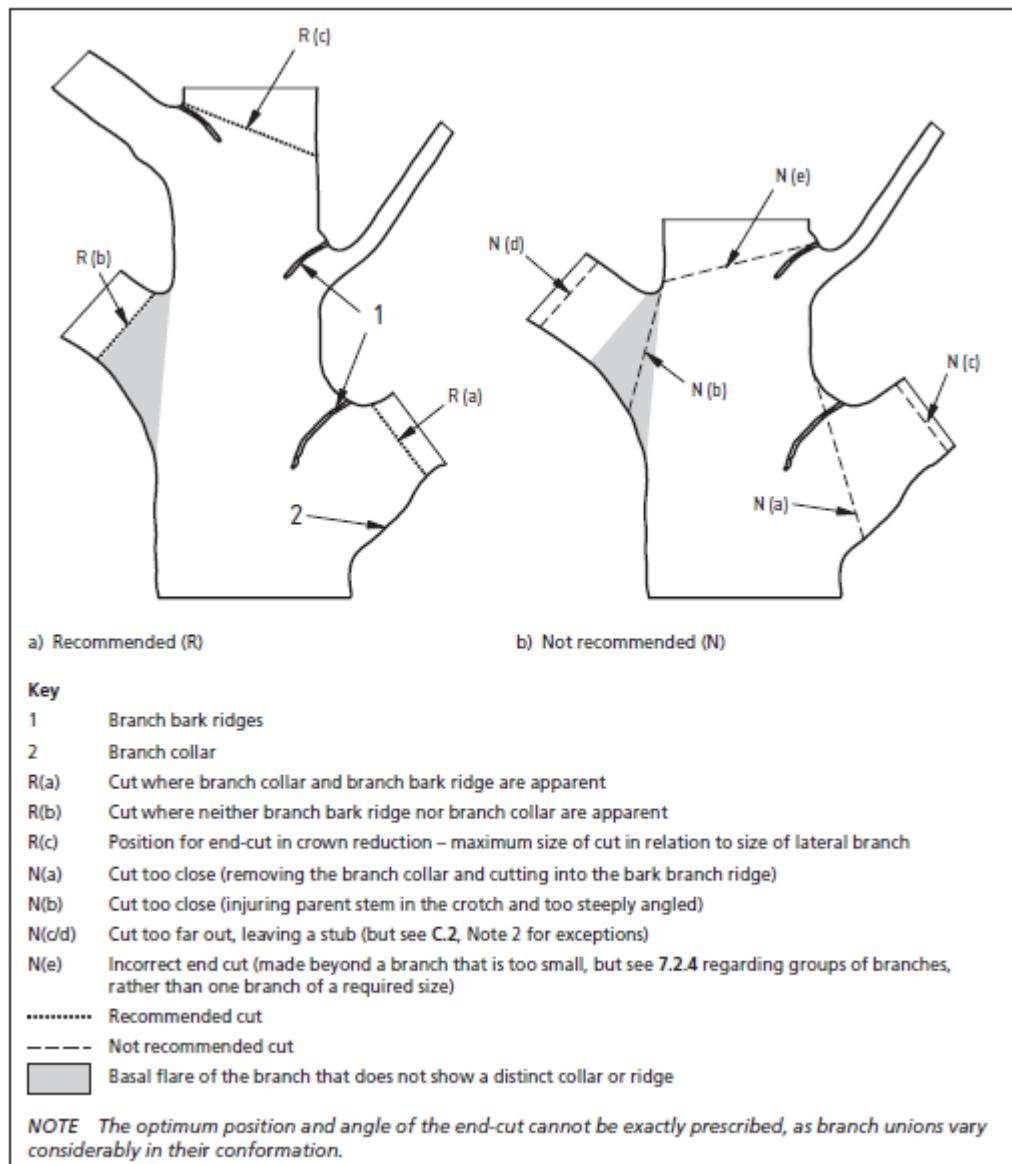
Informative:

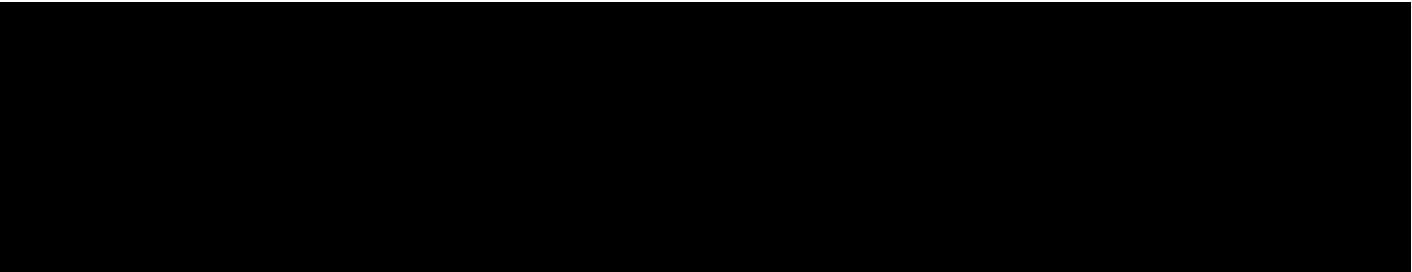
Hard pruning creates numerous and/or large wounds, incurring a physiological stress which may affect long-term health and vitality.

The optimum time for pruning maples (including sycamore) is summer or midwinter, as prone to bleeding. Although holm oak may respond with vigour to hard pruning, they have a poor tolerance of such work. The optimum time to prune is during mid to late winter.

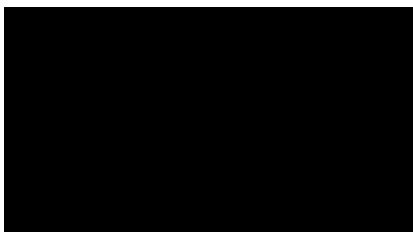
Mark Warwick
Tree Officer
Environment and Climate Change

Figure 2 Positions of final cuts





PL-Consultation-Tree officer response



Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF

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From: Mark Warwick <Mark.Warwick@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 January 2026 09:42
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Jonny Cooper <Jonny.Cooper@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: R/208/25/T

Please find attached my report for your consideration.

Regards,

Mark Warwick
Tree Officer, Environment and Climate Change

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
www.arun.gov.uk

