APPLICANT

Lisa Blenkinsop
38 Barbour Avenue
South Shields
NE34 6SD
[redacted]

LAND/TREE OWNER

Homegroup
homegroup.org.uk

I am confirming in writing that I would like to change my proposal to remove the tree outside the private property at No:-12 School Approach, South Shields, but located on Homegroup land, for the following reasons:-

* The identity of the tree is a Swedish Whitebeam (3) (12) this is a large tree best suited to large gardens, parks or areas of woodland. The tree is about 10-12m high and 6m wide now. It will continue to grow to about 15m high and 8m wide.

* The position of the tree is on a strip of land not owned by 12 School Approach or the Council, but by a private company called Homegroup (2). As you look at No:12 the tree is on the right side of the property and the branches overhang onto our neighbor also a Homegroup property at No:-10 School Approach. The branches also overhang out over the public pavement and driveways of No:-10 and No:-12 School Approach. (1) (9) (13)

* The damage to the property is the constant falling of debris of berries, seeds, leaves and heavy branches on the

drives and public pavement, damaging our cars, this makes the floor very slippery when wet. The seeds of the fruit contain cyanogenic glycoside which produces very poisonous prussic acid when wet. The tree roots have caused uneven paving slabs in the past and are currently starting to lift again and will need attention soon (11)(b)(8). A few years ago with the high winds, the branches pulled out the BT cables from the post located on the other side of the street, falling branches landed on the public pavement, which is the entrance to Harton School on Lisle Road, just a few doors along the street.

* In the past the owners of the strip of land - Homegroup gave me permission to trim the tree even though they insist they do not own the tree that is on there land. But when I employed a professional tree surgeon and notified the council of the work to be done, the council put a TPO on a privately owned tree, So no works were carried out. I have informed Homegroup again that we wish to remove the tree but they do not respond fast and will probably miss the 14 day deadline for this application.

* If this application is approved to remove the tree, we would like to apply to adopt the strip of land into our boundary fence by moving our fence outwards in line with our neighbors @ No:-10 and replacing the tree with a Single cherry blossom tree - prunus amanogawa/cherry- which will visually enhance the street view. The new tree will not encroach onto the pavement or No:-10, it will be maintained to a manageble height of no more than 6-7 feet high (7)(9)(10)(12).

* our neighbors at No:-10 also owned by Homegroup have provided a letter of support, listing the same issues with the tree (14)

* I have a list of several companies who comply with BS3998 for any tree works (15)

My daughter who lives in the property here just had a baby and I consider the falling branches, debris very dangerous to her family, the public and school children passing which could be avoidable.

Thank you for considering this application

[redacted]

17/8/24.