



South Tyneside Council

Reference:	260412
Location:	28 Parkshiel, South Shields, NE34 8BU
Ward:	Cleadon Park and Harton Moor
Description:	Application for Tree Works: Works to Trees Subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO 24); Removal of Tree T152 (Sycamore)
Recommendation:	Grant Permission with Conditions
Case Officer:	Nick Graham
Case Officer Contact No.:	0191 4247427 or 07741108995

Summary of Consultation Responses

Tree Team

No objection subject to conditions. The application tree is a large mature sycamore which makes a significant contribution to the amenity and woodland character of Parkshiel. The area is characterised by sizeable gardens containing mature trees. The tree is prominent within the local landscape and its removal would result in a noticeable loss of amenity.

The application is supported by an arboricultural report prepared following an advanced inspection, including an aerial assessment of the tree. The report identifies multiple cavities associated with the main stem union and principal scaffold limbs, extensive hollowing detected through sounding, and evidence of decay affecting key structural components of the tree.

From a visual inspection undertaken at ground level, I noted sparse foliage and slightly reduced crown vigour. Whilst this may be attributable, at least in part, to recent hot and dry weather conditions, the defects identified within the submitted report relate principally to structural conditions at height and internal decay, which cannot be readily verified from ground level.

Nevertheless, the inspection methodology adopted by the report author appears appropriate and the conclusions reached are considered reasonable in arboricultural terms.

The report notes that sonic tomography could be undertaken to further quantify the extent of decay. However, in my opinion the level of inspection already undertaken, including aerial assessment and direct investigation of the defects, provides sufficient evidence to support a management decision. Requiring further specialist investigation would be unlikely to materially alter the overall conclusions.

On balance, whilst the felling of this tree will result in a noticeable gap in the skyline and a loss of amenity, the arboricultural evidence is sufficient to justify its removal. I therefore raise no objection to the application, subject to a condition requiring replacement planting of an

appropriate heavy standard tree to mitigate the loss of amenity and maintain the treed character of the area.

Relevant planning policy

The following policies are relevant to this application:

- Local Plan Policy 36
- LDF Policy DM1
- NPPF Part 19

Assessment

Trees and landscaped features make a significant contribution to the character and appearance of the urban area and to nature conservation. Trees in parks and public open spaces, in private gardens and grounds and on streets and highways are all significant in this respect. Many of the important groups of trees are protected by tree preservation orders (TPOs).

Local Plan Policy 36 seeks to protect trees and hedgerows. LDF Policy DM1 seeks to protect existing soft landscaping, including trees and hedges, where possible or provides replacement planting where necessary.

It is therefore considered that the main issues in this instance relate to whether there is sufficient justification for the proposed works to the protected tree. Having regard for the Tree Team's comments, in this case, subject to conditions, there are no objections to the proposals and the works are deemed acceptable in the interests of good arboricultural practice. As a result, the scheme would accord with objectives outlined in relevant planning policies and guidance.

Recommendation

Grant Permission with Conditions

Conditions

- 1 The tree works to which this consent relates must be completed in full, not later than 2 years from the date of this consent and may not be carried out more than once, unless authorized by a further grant of consent.

In order that the works remain appropriate and suited to the present form and condition of the tree(s) concerned.

- 2 The tree works hereby approved shall not be carried out other than in accordance with British Standard 3998 (Tree works).

To ensure the works are carried out in line with good practice and in accordance with Local Plan Policy 36

- 3 The replacement tree planting shall consist of 1x appropriate tree at heavy standard size or above planted within a suitable location within the garden of the application site. Planting shall be carried out as soon as practicable and in any event within the next available planting season (November - March) of the date of the felling operation. The Local Planning Authority shall be notified in writing of the date of replanting no later than seven days after the replanting has taken place. The

replacement tree(s) shall be planted and maintained in accordance with the current versions of British Standard 4428 and 8545:2014 for a period of no less than five years commencing on the date of replanting and during this period any tree(s) which dies or become seriously diseased shall be replaced in the first available planting season with a tree(s) of the same size and species.

In the interests of the visual amenity of the Tree Preservation Order site and the surrounding area, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.

List of plans/documentation etc. for standard note on decision

Plans/Documentation

Arboricultural Report received 08/06/2026

Application Form received 03/07/2026

Case officer: Nick Graham

Signed: N. Graham

Date: 27/08/2026

Authorised Signatory: Seán Gallagher

Date: 27/08/2026