

This application relates to a group of trees comprising of sycamore and one elm. The proposed works to remove the elm are based on health and safety grounds as it is currently presenting an unacceptable risk to persons and property. A reduction of the remaining sycamore by approximately 20% due to the increased exposure of the group from the recent ash removal and the anticipated removal of the elm.

The small group of trees comprising one elm and four sycamore stand in an ***elevated position with no protection from the prevailing winds from the Irish Sea, putting the elm at risk with every storm.***

T 1 – Elm - Fell

The attached photographs show that ***100% of the crown grows towards a neighbouring bungalow with the trunk standing only 7 metres away from the property and showing an ever increasing lean of the trunk in the same direction.*** This situation is unsustainable and the removal of the tree has the full support of Mr Thwaytes, the owner of the property which is at risk.

- A previous attempt (Planning approval dated 2022) to manage the tree in its current location has been unsuccessful. The tree has responded vigorously to the previous reduction which is an ongoing concern for both the owner of the tree and the neighbour who's house the tree has a heavily weighted bias over
- There are concerns over the integrity and strength of the regrowth since the previous reduction. Limbs have previously caused damage to the neighbours house.
- The tree has a heavy bias over the neighbours house. A wide range of movement has been observed & has been increasing during recent storms.
- The overhanging limbs have previously caused damage to the neighbouring property's chimney and roof. These issues and the cost for both parties will be ongoing if the tree remains in this location.
- With a potential mature height of 38m and the main stem being only 7 meters from the neighbours house the tree species is unsuitable for its current location, owing to the heavy bias over the neighbours house major future works will be unavoidable.
- The heavily weighted bias of the elm is indicative of a tree which has previously been partially wind blown during high winds and has re secured itself with a heavy lean, this will always leave the tree vulnerable to being wind blown again which now due to its size will cause significant damage to the neighbouring property.
- There are also concerns over liability issues should the tree fail after concerns over the lean and bias over the neighbours property have been raised and damage should occur to the neighbouring property or persons within the house or gardens.
- The recent removal of two Ash trees (Planning approval 2025) from the same group due to ash die back has further destabilised the wind resistance of the group.

G 1 Sycamore - reduce by 20%

- Due to the exposed nature of this group of trees and the required removal of the Ash mentioned earlier I would recommend a reduction of approximately 20% of the remaining sycamores in the group