

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Summary Report for Copeland Borough Council

Prepared by Alistair Hearn

Reference: 4/26/2196/TPO

Location: BRACKENDALE, THE GROVES, WHITEHAVEN

Officer: Demi Crawford

Date: 30 July 2026

CONSULTANTS REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

APPLICATION TREE NO.	SPECIES	PROPOSED WORKS
T1 & T2	~11x Beech trees	Removal of Beech tree (T1) and reduction in height of Beech trees (T2) protected by a Tree Preservation Order
REASON		
T1 mature beech tree (believed to have tpo) showing signs of future limb failure with stress cracks showing and moving in high winds, possible ganerderma brackets been seen on base but not present currently. Client would like to remove the tree due to proximity to building T2 beech trees in conservation area approx 10 to reduce in height as shown in photos. Proposed to cut to previous reduction points		

DISCUSSION

The trees are in the mature age class and show signs of normal health.

Beech tree T1 is located within the garden of the property.

The row of Beech trees (T2) are located on the adjacent property, outside of the
curtilage of Brackendale.

From the Cumberland Council website, Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No.56:1994
protects trees within Brackendale property boundary—Beech tree T1. The row of
Beech trees (T2) are outside the property boundary and it is unclear from the website
if the TPO protects these trees. Check the original TPO document to clarify if the
TPO protects these trees.

Our TEMPO assessment (page 3) shows the row of Beech trees (T2) definitely merit
a TPO as a group.

Given the proximity of Beech tree (T1) to the house, we consider it acceptable to fell
this tree to prevent it causing a continuing nuisance. Planting a new tree in the near
vicinity can mitigate its loss and replace its contribution to the landscape.

Given the health, age and size of the row of Beech trees (T2), we expect the
proposed work will not significantly impact the local or wider amenity of the area. We
consider this work will not have a detrimental impact on the wider landscape;
therefore, we consider the proposed work is acceptable.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Initially, check the original TPO document to clarify if the TPO protects the row of Beech trees (T2). If the TPO plan shows the trees are outside the TPO boundary, inform the applicant the trees are not protected by the TPO. However, we should make the applicant aware the trees are on the adjacent property, and they should seek permission from the landowner prior to carrying out any works.

The TPO does protect Beech tree (T1), and if it protects the row of Beech trees (T2), we recommend informing the applicant they can carry out the work in the application subject to the following condition.

We recommend attaching the following conditions:

1. Carry out all pruning work in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations section 7.7 ‘Crown reduction and reshaping’.

Reason: In accordance with Section 198 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and in the interest of good arboricultural practice.

2. During the first planting season following the felling of the Beech tree (T2), plant 1x Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) in a similar location to the felled tree. The replacement tree must have a minimum size specification of 6-8 cm girth classified as 'light-standard', in accordance with BS 3936:1992 – *Nursery Stock – Part 1: Specification for trees and shrubs*. The planting and aftercare maintenance of these trees must be carried out in accordance with BS 8545:2014 - *Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations*.

Alternatively, another size, species, location, or period should be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. If a replacement tree is diseased, dies, or is damaged within 5 years of the date of planting, it must be replaced in the next available planting season by another of a similar size and species.

Reason: To ensure the continuity of amenity in accordance with Policy N14 – Woodlands, Trees and Hedgerows of the Copeland Local Plan 2021-2039

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TEMPO Assessment					
Part 1: Amenity Assessment					
a) Condition & Suitability:	5-Good = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 3-Fair/Satisfactory = <i>Suitable</i> 1-Poor = Unlikely to be <i>suitable</i> 0-Dead/dying/dangerous = <i>Unsuitable</i>	5	b) Retention span (in years) & suitability for TPO:	5-100+ = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 4-40-100 = <i>Very suitable</i> 2-20-40 = <i>Suitable</i> 1-10-20 = <i>Just suitable</i> 0-<10 = <i>Unsuitable</i>	4
c) Relative public visibility & suitability for TPO:	5-Very large with some visibility, or prominent large trees = <i>Highly Suitable</i> 4-Large trees, or medium trees clearly visible to the public = <i>Suitable</i> 3-Medium trees, or large trees with limited view only = <i>Suitable</i> 2-Young, small, or medium/large trees visible only with difficulty = <i>Barely suitable</i> 1-Trees not visible to the public, regardless of size = <i>Unsuitable</i>	4	d) Other factors – trees must have accrued 7 or more points (with no zero score) to qualify:	5-Principal components of formal arboricultural features, or veteran trees 4-Tree groups, or principal members of groups important for their cohesion 3-Trees with identifiable historic, commemorative or habitat importance 2-Trees of particularly good form, especially if rare or unusual 1-Trees with none of the above additional redeeming features (inc. those of indifferent form) -1-Trees with poor form or which are generally unsuitable for their location	4
Part 2: Expediency Assessment trees must have accrued 10 or more points to qualify:			Part 3: Decision guide		
5-Immediate threat to tree inc. s.211 Notice 3-Foreseeable threat to tree 2- Perceived threat to tree 1-Precautionary only		2	Any 0 = <i>Do not apply TPO</i> 1-6 = <i>TPO indefensible</i> 7-11 = <i>Does not merit TPO</i> 12-15 = <i>TPO defensible</i> 16+ = <i>Definitely merits TPO</i>		19