

THE CITY OF DURHAM TRUST

c/o Blackett, Hart & Pratt, LLP
Aire House
Mandale Business Park
Belmont
Durham, DH1 1TH
22 April 2022

Dear Ms Ackerman,

DM/22/00955/TPO University Hospital of North Durham North Road Durham DH1 5TW
T1 - Willow (fell), T2 - Oak (tag 190 - Crown clean to remove deadwood and split/hanging branches), T3 Sweet Chestnut (tag 112 - Remove low marked tier of branches, up to 1.5m reduction of overhanging branches, remove major deadwood and split branches), T4 Birch (Remove split/hanging branches), T5 Willow (Reduce central leader to below split from recent storm damage and remove marked section of limb growing towards fire road) and T6 - 2x Pines (Fell) (TPO ref PNI-359)

The Trust raises no objection to this work. However, there is no reference to the possibility of replacement for the trees to be felled. For a prominent site such as the Hospital in the Conservation Area it should be a requirement to both manage and ensure tree cover.

Policy G1 of the Durham City Neighbourhood Plan states that “Where the loss of green or blue assets of significant value is unavoidable then alternative equivalent provision should be provided on-site or off-site where this is not viable or practicable.”

In the Trust’s understanding a replacement is required as follows:

*‘Replacement trees should be of an appropriate size and species and planted at the same place as soon as the owner of the land can reasonably do this. (Guidance **Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas** Paragraph: 152 Reference ID: 36-152-20140306).*

The Pines in the shelter belt may not need replacement but a suitable tree to replace the Willow (T1) will help to maintain tree cover to the interior of the site.

Yours sincerely

John Lowe,
Chair, City of Durham Trust