

Consultation Response from KC, Trees
2023/91002 Corby, Birkby Road, Birkby, Huddersfield, HD2 2DR
Erection of two storey rear extension incorporating a roof terrace, single storey side and rear extensions incorporating a roof terrace, two storey feature entrance, garage/home office outbuilding and landscaping works including the formation of a tennis court with associated fencing and the creation of pedestrian access and alterations.
Date Responded: 14/08/2023 Responding Officer: D. Atkinson Responding Ref: 46/90 and 17/85

Thank you for the consultation and I apologise for the late reply.

The tree survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Arboricultural Method Statement & Tree Protection Plan considers the trees to the east of the property that are subject to 46/90.

However, trees within/overhanging from properties on Inglewood Avenue that are subject to 17/85 haven't been surveyed or assessed. This is important as the construction and levelling required from the proposed tennis court could impact on the trees and vice-versa.

In order to progress this proposal, we would need to see an arboricultural impact assessment to help understand the impact this proposal could have on existing trees and an arboricultural method statement to show how this work can be done without causing harm to trees or their roots. If the access needed to facilitate this work is to be the driveway running alongside these trees how will this be done without damage being caused for the trees along the Inglewood Avenue boundary.

Trees team also agree with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment will have an impact on the trees along the eastern boundary that are subject to 46/90. By changing the relationship of them to the properties/its usage.

The garage being moved to along this boundary will foreseeably mean the increase of cars and vehicles etc. being parked along this boundary and under the canopies of the trees.

This could lead to increased pressure to prune the trees in order to reduce nuisance like honeydew, bird droppings and seasonal debris affecting them while parked.

Future applications for pruning to these trees (46/90) in order to abate these nuisances will unlikely be supported. This is because:

- Sycamore trees do produce a sticky substance known as honeydew upon which mold grows resulting in a sooty like substance. However, this is a normal biological function associated with some trees and rarely justifies the removal or pruning of a protected tree.
- Routine property maintenance can alleviate the problems associated with dried bird droppings.
- The cost of cleaning cars would not justify the loss of or pruning of these trees and the amenity they provide.

Overall, there remains a holding objection to the proposed from an arboriculture perspective. It is conflicting with adopted Kirklees Council Policy LP33.