

Delegated Decision

Sign off Sheet

Ref. No:	DM/25/1089	Case Officer:	Irene Fletcher
Application Type:	Tree Surgery		
Proposal:	Lime Tree - fell		
Site:	1 Gerald Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0NB, , , ,		
Validation Date	28 Apr 2025	Overall Expiry Date:	20 May 2025
Pre-Commencement Conditions Required:		Pre-Com Conditions Date Agreed:	
Recommendation:	Permission	Recommendation Date:	19 May 2025
Target Date:	23 Jun 2025	Recommending Officer Signature:	Irene Fletcher

Date Legal Agreement Completed: (if applicable)		No of Representations:	2
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Signed and Agreed By:	Beth Howland-Smith	Date:	3 Jun 2025
Comments:			

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

DM/25/1089

**1 Gerald Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0NB, , ,
Lime Tree - fell
Diane Walsh**

Permission is sought for the works as described.

The tree has high visibility, being located on a corner site, on a grassed verge immediately adjacent to the highway. It is a semi mature/mature specimen.

It has, in common with limes of this species, produced a mass of basal growth which makes examination difficult.

Following a site visit, the tree officer noted some crown die back, greater than may be expected in normal circumstances. It was claimed that the tree had *Kretzschmaria deusta*, however, due to the extensive basal growth, it was not able to be observed by the tree officer. Photographic evidence has now been submitted by the applicant, as well as a statement from the tree surgeon.

A representation of support has been received, as well as an objection, making the following points :

- tree is not diseased and poses no threat to any property
- so many trees have been lost nearby
- when the new owner purchased the property, they immediately removed two trees, this will contribute to further, unnecessary destruction in the area
- if the epicormic growth is removed, and the crown thinned, this would achieve a smaller, tidier tree
- why does the tree need to be removed ?

The supporting representation makes the following points :

- the tree is a nuisance, it sheds twigs and branches
- drive is covered in honey dew, so have to park in road
- with climate change, many large trees may come down and this tree would fall on our, or our neighbour's home

The tree officer is content that the tree suffers from *Kretzschmaria deusta*. This is a very serious pathogen and there is no treatment. Affected trees will suffer from white rot, whilst appearing superficially healthy. It can result in sudden breakage, leading to potentially hazardous situations where the tree is in a public position.

In the interests of safety and, subject to replacement, permission is recommended.

Decision: Permission

Case Officer: Irene Fletcher