

## Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	07/05/18
Originator	Sarah Cheyne
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Tree Preservation Order No. 139 (2018) 205 Church Street, Tranent, East Lothian

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Additional information:

Authorised By	Monica Paterson
Designation	Depute Chief Exec, Partn & Com Serv
Date	07/05/18

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**REPORT TO:** Members' Library Service

**MEETING DATE:**

**BY:** Depute Chief Executive (Partnerships & Community Services)

**SUBJECT:** Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order at  
205 Church Street, Tranent  
[T.P.O.no 139 (2018)]

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 East Lothian Council placed a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on two mature trees located within the grounds of 205 Church Street in Tranent on 8 March 2018. This report advises members that TPO no. 139 (2018) has now been confirmed.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note that, under delegated powers, the decision has been made to confirm this Order.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

### **3.1 Reason for promotion of Order**

A request to fell the two trees was submitted to East Lothian Council on 28 January 2018.

Confirmation of this order has safeguarded the visual amenity of these significant mature historic trees forming the gateway feature to the historic heart of Tranent and its Conservation Area and will ensure the continued enjoyment of visual amenity, aesthetic value and sense of place that these trees give to the Conservation Area and wider area and members of the public.

These trees are now protected under planning law and could not be legally pruned or removed without the prior agreement of the Council.

- 3.2 The visual amenity value of the trees is detailed below:

## **Visibility**

The trees make a significant contribution to the visual amenity to the overall character of this part of Tranent and are publicly visible.

Both trees are visible above the surrounding houses from the north entrance to Tranent along Church Street and from the approach from the A1 to the north.

Both trees are visible above the houses from the cemetery to the east.

Both trees are visible looking north along Church Street and framing views to the coast to the north.

## **Individual impact**

The mature Ash tree T1 and mature Sycamore tree T2 provide an important contribution to visual amenity of the area by framing the entrance to Tranent and its Conservation Area.

Their age provides a link with the historic heart of the Tranent Conservation Area providing a feeling of history and longevity. They are well over 100 years old and are marked on the 1:2500 Ordnance Survey mapping of 1895, suggesting they were mature significant trees at this time.

They create a green feature within the street, break up the urban massing and provide an established setting for the buildings.

## **Wider impact**

The trees are important in providing a visual green link between other trees in the Tranent Conservation Area to the northwest surrounding the Tranent Parish Church.

## **Threat**

If these trees were lost, it would impact significantly on this area of Tranent and represent a significant loss to the visual amenity of this part of Tranent.

Unauthorised work has been carried out to the sycamore tree T2 to remove a large limb to the east side of the tree with no notification made to East Lothian Council.

Proposals for the site were altered prior to granting planning consent in 1997 to omit a house from within the root protection area of the trees. The trees were retained through planning permission 97/00903/FUL. An architect acting for the current owner of the trees has expressed interest in developing the site where the trees are located.

### **3.3 Future tree felling or tree work**

The confirmation of this TPO would not prevent the owner of the trees from applying to the Council for permission to do tree management work if necessary in the future. However, the TPO would give the Council control over such proposals and this control would be used to ensure that tree cover is retained in this area.

### **3.4 Objections to Order**

The Council was required to consider any objections and representations received, before the Order was confirmed.

The property owners and the public had 28 days from the time of placing the Provisional Order in which to object.

No objections or representations to this order were received within the notification period.

## **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None.

## **5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

## **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Financial – none.

6.2 Personnel – none.

6.3 Other – none.

## **7 APPENDICES**

7.1 TPO 139 Location Plan

7.2 TPO 139 Schedule 1

7.3 Photographs (5 pages)

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Request to fell trees
2. Response to request to fell trees

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**TPO 139 – Schedule 1**  
**205 Church Street, Tranent, East Lothian**

<b>Trees Specified Individually (coloured green on the map)</b>		
No. on Map	Description	Situation
T1	Ash (Fraxinus sp)	
T2	Sycamore (Acer sp)	
<b>Trees Specified by Reference to an Area (within a continuous black line on the map)</b>		
No. on Map	Description	Situation
NONE		
<b>Groups of Trees (within a broken black line on the map)</b>		
No. on Map	Description	Situation
NONE		
<b>Woodlands (within a continuous red line on the map)</b>		
No. on Map	Description	Situation
NONE		

Reason for promotion of order:

This Tree Preservation Order is being promoted to secure the retention of large mature trees that form a significant gateway feature at the northern entrance to the historic heart of Tranent and its Conservation Area. They make an important contribution to the visual amenity of this gateway to Tranent and its Conservation Area and link with trees in the wider Tranent Conservation Area forming part of the overall character of this part of Tranent. The historic trees add to the history of the area relating to the age of the listed building of the grounds in which they are located.





View of T1 and T2 from The Orchard to the west



View of T1 and T2 in their street setting looking north towards the Firth of Forth along Church Street





T1 and T2 looking south up Church Street at the gateway to Tranent and its Conservation Area



T1 and T2 from the cemetery to the east showing the link between T1 and T2 and other mature trees within the Conservation Area around the Tranent Parish Church





T1 and T2 viewed from Church Street with the house at 205 behind and the Kingdom Hall to the right.



T1 and T2 in their street setting with the trees surrounding the Tranent Parish Church beyond.





Bulge in wall at Ash T1.

Bulge in wall at Sycamore T2.





Fresh tree work to remove limb off tree T2 sycamore without notification.