

[REDACTED]

From: Liam Dawson [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 April 2022 00:12
To: Planning & Regulatory Services
Subject: Objection to application 22/00422/AMC

CAUTION: External Email

To whom ever it may concern,

I am writing to log my objections to the felling of mature trees at the Kingsmeadows site in Peebles within the referenced application area. I am an experienced professional arboriculturalist and tree inspector, working for a reputable and respected local company, with a great deal of experience working with large trees.

Our town is a wonderful place to live because we are privileged to be surrounded by mature trees which provide us with nature corridors, habitat biodiversity and a wonderful outdoor education for our children.

Given the climate crisis we find ourselves in, the retention of mature woodland is increasingly important. The volume of carbon sequestered by mature trees is far greater than that of any replanting with young trees and therefore cannot be replicated. I am also concerned about loss of habitat for protected species and loss of habitat for native species.

Given the proximity of the woodland to the Tweed river, the likelihood of permanently disrupting the intersecting ecosystems is high. Have the appropriate inspections for protected species been completed? The general area surrounding the proposed site is populated with bats that would have potential roost destroyed and further habitat disruption by on-going works to the proposed site.

Furthermore this plan should have been recognised at the point of the initial application to subdivide Kingsmeadows House and nipped in the bud (pun firmly intended). The site is within Peebles conservation area and in addition this conservation effort should be enhanced by the use of Tree Preservation Orders. This is firmly within the remit of the council.

Best wishes,

Liam Dawson