

Thank you for contacting us about ticket:

Number:

Address:

Tree removal process

Trees are an important aspect of our identity as the Garden City, a reputation which many residents of Ōtautahi-Christchurch are proud of. Trees provide a range of essential environmental, economic, cultural and social benefits. As we face the challenges of climate change, trees will be increasingly vital in sequestering carbon, providing cooling shade and in managing stormwater.

Our Tree Policy* outlines how decisions are made under our tree removal and replacement programme.

Council staff can approve the removal of trees only if they are:

- In a state of irreversible decline
- Dead or structurally unsound
- Causing significant damage to buildings, services, or property, or pose an unacceptable public safety risk
- Tree removals for other reasons must be approved by the community board

We inspected your tree and we don't think it meets these conditions

There may be other reasons for tree removal, so if you still want it removed, try applying under one of the following categories:

Human health:

We need confirmation from your doctor, a clinical immunologist or the medical officer of health that the tree is the sole cause of your medical condition and that its removal is the best possible way to improve your health.

Property damage:

We need proof that the tree is the direct cause of the property damage and that there is no other way (including engineering solutions) to resolve the problem.

Other issues:

We need evidence of exceptional circumstances, such as the tree significantly affecting your day-to-day life, that it is the sole cause of the problem, and that this can't be resolved or reduced through general maintenance, pruning, or engineering solutions.

Tree removal application forms are on our website:

ccc.govt.nz/environment/trees-and-vegetation/apply-to-remove-a-tree

Please remember to attach additional information supporting your application, including any assessments from technical experts.

We will assess your application and prepare a report for your community board, which will make the final decision. You'll be invited to that meeting and you'll have an opportunity to speak, if you'd like to.

More information is available

*Tree Policy: ccc.govt.nz/the-council/plans-strategies-policies-and-bylaws/policies/trees-policies/tree-policy

Resource consent and assessments (Christchurch District Plan, section 9.4):
districtplan.ccc.govt.nz/pages/plan/book.aspx?exhibit=DistrictPlan

Process for tree removal requests: see diagram overleaf.

Tree policy implementation

