



Mr E Azis
25 Franklin Street
Reading
RG1 7YA

Emma Gee
Interim Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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Your Ref:

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3rd August 2023

Your contact is: Andrei Nazare, Planning, Development & Regulatory Services

Dear Mr Azis,

RE: PROPOSED REMOVAL OF ONE SYCAMORE TREE AT 25 FRANKLIN STREET, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for your notification of 22 June 2023, regarding the above.

Further to your notification and the photographs received via e-mail on 22 June 2023, I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- 1x Sycamore tree - fell to ground

You've been advised by your landscaper to remove the tree as it causes damage to the retaining brick wall. The photographs you provided confirm the tree is a self-seeded tree, grows against the retaining wall, causing it to crack and lean toward the driveway. As the tree is not suitable for inclusion in a Tree Preservation Order, its felling is agreeable.

In order to mitigate the impact of climate change, maintain or increase canopy cover throughout the borough, reduce air pollution and heat islanding effects, and to maintain the character of the verdant conservation area, the council encourages replacement planting for all lost trees. By provisioning, voluntarily, replacement planting for the removed tree, you secure the availability of a healthy tree stock for the future.

The agreed works should not be carried out before six weeks from the date of your notification, i.e. before 3rd August 2023.

This decision is valid for two years from the date of this letter, after which it lapses.

Informatives

1. Removal of dead or dangerous wood: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However written notice must be given 5 working days in advance of removing dead wood. Where a branch is deemed to be 'dangerous', i.e. where works are 'urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm', you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

2. Disturbance of wildlife: It is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to disturb roosting bats or nesting birds. It is advisable to consult your tree surgeon/consultant to agree an acceptable time for carrying out any work. Wildlife and habitat controls are administered by Natural England who can be contacted on 0300 060 3900; enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely,

Andrei Nazare

Andrei Nazare
Assistant Natural Environment Officer
On behalf of Sarah Hanson, Natural Environment Officer