



Mr S Arnold
Tree Solutions Arboriculture Ltd
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Alison Bell
**Director of Environment &
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29 April 2014

Your contact is: Sarah Hanson, Planning and Building Control

Dear Mr Arnold

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO SYCAMORE TREES AT UPCROSS GARDENS, BERKELEY AVENUE,
READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBERS 81/01 AND 83/13**

Thank you for your application of 7 April 2014, regarding the above.

Following my visit of 11 April 2014, you confirmed that the trees proposed for felling were those indicated in the attached photographs. You also confirmed that you wished the additional tree to be included within the application. I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your amended application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- 5 Sycamore as indicated on the attached photographs and as labelled in your application as T2, 4, 5 & 8 – fell due to poor condition and defects present.
- 4 Sycamore trees, labelled as T1, 3, 9 & 10 in your application – remove crossing/rubbing branches; selective lateral reduction of approximately 1.5m.

No replacements are required in this instance due to the number of remaining trees.

Conditions

1. Five days notice in writing shall be given to the Council prior to undertaking the approved works.

Reason: To ensure that the Local Planning Authority is given sufficient notice of the works to enable the effective monitoring of tree work within the Borough.

2. All tree surgery shall be in accordance with BS 3998: (2010) Tree Work - Recommendations.

Reason: To ensure that all works are carried out in an acceptable arboricultural manner

3. This decision is valid for two years from the date of this notice after which the consent lapses

4. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees, except on trees to be felled.

Reason: Spikes can cause extensive long-term damage

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 0845 600 3078.

3. It is best to avoid works in the period immediately before or during bud burst and leaf fall to minimise the effect on the long-term health of the tree

4. Tree work consents on land not owned by the applicant: It is strongly recommended that the owner of the tree be advised of any proposed works. The owner's permission must be sought if the tree works involve work past the boundary line. This consent does not in any way imply that this Council has informed the owner or sought permission or will condone the use of its consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.

5. Removal of any dead or dangerous protected tree: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However you are required to give 5 days notice of the work where it is not an emergency, to allow the Council to agree that the proposed works are exempt from requiring consent. The exception is where works are 'urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm', in which case you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

Once felling of a dead or dangerous tree has been carried out, the owner has a duty under Section 201(b) of the Town & Country Planning Act to replant another tree of an appropriate size and species in the same place as soon as they reasonable can. This replacement tree will be covered by the existing Tree Preservation Order. The new tree would be subject to the same requirements for a tree works application if you intend to carry out works upon it in the future.

If you wish to appeal against any of the conditions attached to this consent, please contact the Planning Inspectorate within 28 days of receipt of this letter to obtain the relevant forms:

The Environment Appeals Team, Trees and Hedges, The Planning Inspectorate, Room 3/25, Hawk Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN
Email: environment.appeals@pins.gsi.gov.uk
Tel: 0303 444 5584

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

Yours sincerely

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer

C.c. Chaney's Chartered Surveyors, Chiltern Court, St Peters Avenue, Reading