



Mrs Goldrick
Orchard Cottage
Thorney Mill Road
Iver
Buckinghamshire
SL0 9AN

Alison Bell
Director of Environment &
Neighbourhood Services
Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Our Ref: 171035/TPO
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440
sarah.duckworth@reading.gov.uk

12th July 2017

Your contact is:

Sarah Duckworth, Planning & Building Control

Dear Mrs Goldrick,

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 3X CHERRY TREES AT 4 EASTGATE COURT, READING,
BERKSHIRE RG1 3NF SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 38/13**

Thank you for your application of 23rd June 2017 regarding the above.

You have applied to carry out a reduction of three Cherry trees at the front of Eastgate Court by up to 1.5m.

I have been to view the trees in response to your application. I have identified that the tree set back from the public highway (T4579 of your application) is not subject of a Tree Preservation Order therefore you do not need the consent of the Borough Council in order to carry out works to this tree.

The two trees along the front of the property adjacent to the highway (T4574 and T4575) are included as T5 and T6 of Tree Preservation Order 38/13. These trees were planted in order to enhance the amenity of Eastgate Court and the Tree Preservation Order is intended to preserve their amenity value.

The 1.5m proposed represents a substantial reduction of the trees' canopies. Such work would reduce the visual amenity of the trees in views from the public highway. The work would create multiple pruning cuts throughout the canopy of the tree which would create entry points for various decay pathogens.

If permitted the pruning works will determine the long term management requirements of

the trees and further reductions would likely be necessary in order to manage the regrowth from the previous pruning cuts. Any harm to the health and amenity of the trees would therefore be long lasting.

To date, no information has been provided to suggest that the proposed work is required for health and safety reasons. The trees are young specimens with extended vigorous growth commensurate with their age and vitality. At present there are no health and safety concerns with the trees nor are they restricting access to users on the highway.

In view of the above considerations, based on the information submitted your application to carry out a 1.5m reduction on these trees for maintenance purposes is refused.

If you wish to appeal against the Council's decision on this matter, 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 suffer any loss or damage as a result of this refusal of consent, you may be entitled to recover compensation from the Council. If you wish to make a claim you must do so within 12 months from the date of this decision (or, if you appeal to the Secretary of State, within 12 months from the date of his decision). Claims should be made in writing to the Insurance Section, Reading Borough Council, Civic Centre, Bridge Street, Reading, RG1 2LU.

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

Yours sincerely

Sarah Duckworth

Sarah Duckworth
Assistant Natural Environment Officer

