

Mr Alistair Smith  
7 Downshire Square  
Reading  
RG1 6NJ

Keith Townsend  
Executive Director for  
Economic Growth and  
Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU  
☎ 0118 937 3787

Our Ref: 231452/TCA  
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440  
Email: sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

14 November 2023

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Smith

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO THREE TREES AT 7 DOWNSHIRE SQUARE, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 9 October 2023, relating to the above. As you know, through exchange of emails, we clarified the works for which notice was required and ultimately this only related to three trees. The remaining intended work was confirmed to be to maintain bushes or prune trees smaller than the minimum diameter for which notice is required.

I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work, with reference to the photographs at the end of this letter:

- Two conifers - fell
- One Eucalyptus - remove one long, leaning branch.

In relation to the conifers, you advise that the roots are lifting the nearby stone path which is causing a trip hazard (a concern due to disabled parents) and both trees are concerningly close to the original Victorian brick wall. I understand that you intend to replace with deciduous ornamental specimen trees. I would encourage you to choose a species / cultivar that provides wildlife value to aid biodiversity.

The works can now go ahead.

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

## Informatives

1. 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](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk)

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

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Hanson*

Sarah Hanson  
Natural Environment Officer

