



Liwash Rai
17 Zinzan Street
Reading
RG1 7UG

Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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

Our Ref: PL/25/1005
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 937 2458
Email: amy.daly@reading.gov.uk

29th July 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Rai

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. SYCAMORE TREE AT 17 ZINZAN STREET, READING, RG1 7UG - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 15th July 2025, relating to the above.

Further to an email exchange between yourself and my colleague Sarah Hanson of 7th July 2025, I have the following comments:

After your initial email Sarah sought clarity on the proposed work specification, the details of the tree in question and the reasoning for the proposed works.

You had stated that you were concerned that during strong winds the tree may have the potential to cause harm to people and property. We recommend that trees are regularly inspected by a professional to identify potential defects and so that remedial works can be recommended, which helps to alleviate concerns such as those you've expressed. You also stated it is difficult to clear up the fallen leaves during the autumn as you live in an upper floor of a flat. For these reasons, you have proposed to reduce the tree in height by up to 50%.

From the photographs submitted, Sarah noted the tree was a Sycamore with multiple main stems. She suggested including lifting the crown of the tree to provide 1m of clearance from the shed roof beneath it. This will help to prevent any potential damage the tree could potentially cause to the shed due to growth or movement during strong winds.

We encourage tree work is performed following good arboricultural practices. The British Standard 3998 2010 recommendations state that reductions should be no more than one third (30%). Reductions which remove 50% of the height of the tree can have a detrimental impact to tree health. For this reason, we hope you consider a lesser reduction which poses a less significant negative impact. However, the Council can't object to the proposed work as the tree is not worthy of a TPO.

I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work:

- Sycamore: reduce height by up to 50%; crown lift to 1m above the height of the shed roof - the tree is not worthy of a TPO.

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

The works can now be carried out.

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

2. Removal of dead or dangerous wood: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However you are encouraged to give 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', please give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

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

Yours sincerely

Amy Daly

Assistant Natural Environment Officer

On Behalf of Sarah Hanson, Natural Environment Officer