



Miss S Alexander
Heritage Trees Ltd
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Emma Gee
Executive Director for
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Our Ref: PL/25/1194
Your Ref:

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

4th September 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Miss Alexander

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO VARIOUS TREES AT 1 ALBERT ROAD, CAVERSHAM, READING, RG4 7AN - OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 9/16.

Thank you for your application of 25th August 2025, regarding the above.

You have applied for the following:

G3 - Mixed Species Group - Encroaching onto street light - Would like to reduce lateral branches to provide approx 1m clearance to street light
T4 - Sycamore - Encroaching onto street light - Would like to reduce lateral branches to provide approx 1m clearance to street light & remove deadwood.
T7 - Beech - Low over road and garden - Would like to crown lift pendulous growth to approx 3.5m - 4.5m
T9 - Chestnut - Would like to crown reduce to previous pruning points removing up to 2.5m
G6 - Mixed Species Group - Hazardous deadwood in crowns - Would like to remove hazardous deadwood over target area. Reason - Works are for routine cyclical maintenance purposes

Further to my colleague Sarah Hanson's visit of 29th August 2025, I have the following comments:

You have provided a sketch plan alongside your application to identify the trees.

After the site visit, Sarah sent an enquiry on 29th August 2025 via email, noting that the canopies of the Lime trees (G6 of application, T10 and T11 of TPO) are hanging low and are in close proximity to the pavement. She also noted that the basal and epicormic

growth was extensive. Sarah asked if you would like to include crown lifting and the removal of basal and epicormic growth to these trees to your application. To which, you agreed. The specification of this pruning is detailed in the approved works below.

You have proposed to remove the deadwood from the canopies of G6 of your application (T1-T11 of TPO). You do not need formal consent to remove deadwood from trees subject to a TPO. Instead, we ask that a 5-days notice is provided. We have taken your application as notice of your intention to remove the deadwood from these trees, hence they are not included in the approved works.

The trees in G3 of your application are not subject to the TPO and thus the works can go ahead without formal consent.

The Horse Chestnut tree, T9 of your application (T12 of TPO) has an approximate 2.5m reduction back to previous pruning points proposed. This is a repeat of the works approved in March 2020 and are thereby deemed reasonable.

The Sycamore tree, T4 of your application (G1 of TPO), as stated in your application, is encroaching onto the streetlight and therefore it would be reasonable to reduce the branches growing towards the streetlight to create clearance. These works are a repeat of those approved in March 2020 and are thereby deemed reasonable. As stated above, the removal of deadwood does not require formal consent.

The Beech tree, T7 of your application (T13 of TPO), has some low hanging branches over the road and the garden as stated in your application. It would therefore be reasonable to crown lift this lower growth to create clearance between the tree and the ground. These works are a repeat of those approved in March 2020 and are thereby deemed reasonable.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application with the additional works included, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- 2no. Lime trees (G6 of application, T10 and T11 of TPO): Crown lift, through 360°, to 5.5m above ground level, leaving suitable growth points, including the removal of basal and epicormic growth back to the source.
- Horse Chestnut tree (T9 of application, T12 of TPO): Reduce the canopy in height and spread by approximately 2.5m back to previous pruning, leaving suitable growth points.
- Sycamore tree (T4 of application, G1 of TPO): Selectively reduce the branches growing towards the streetlight to provide 1m clearance, leaving suitable growth points.
- Beech tree (T7 of application, T13 of TPO): Crown lift, through 360°, to approximately 3.5-4.5m above ground level, leaving suitable growth points.

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. The approved canopy reduction of the Horse Chestnut tree shall be undertaken in mid-late Summer (July - September) when the tree's energy reserves are at their height or during the Winter months of December - January during the period of dormancy.

Reason: Taking into account the tree's phenological cycle and in order to avoid any unnecessary detriment to the tree as a result of the pruning work.

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. You are advised that, in accordance with Part 4, 17 (4) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012, this decision is valid for one pruning operation (as per the approved specifications) to be undertaken within two years from the date of this notice, after which the consent lapses and a new application will be required.

2. Removal of dead or dangerous wood from a live tree: 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', you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

3. 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 030 6000

4. 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

5. Crown lifting of trees over the footpath and carriageway: If the clearance of vegetation overhanging the highway only involves the removal of branches to give a ground clearance to the statutory heights of 2.7m over the footpath and 5.5m over the road, this does not require formal consent from the Council. You are advised, however, to give notice to the Council of these intended works in order that they can be agreed.

6. Trees not considered to be protected by the current Tree preservation order: Work can be carried out to this tree without the formal consent from this Council.

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:

Trees and Hedges
Room 3A Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Telephone: 0303 444 5000

E-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Website: [Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/government/topics/trees-and-woodland/tree-preservation-orders)

Please ensure your client receives a copy of this letter as soon as possible.

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