



Hillcrest Property Management Ltd
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Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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Our Ref: PL/25/1239
Your Ref:

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1st October 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Hillcrest Property Management

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 2NO. SYCAMORE TREES AT 23 COLEY HILL, READING, RG1 6AE - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 3rd September 2025, relating to the above.

I note that the proposed reductions to the two Sycamore trees are '40-50%'. From the annotated photographs provided in your notice, this will remove a significant amount of the foliage from the trees. The BS3998 2010 recommendations for tree work state that reductions should be no more than one third (30%). Reductions of any more than 30% are considered detrimental to tree health and do not follow good arboricultural practice.

You may therefore wish to reconsider the reductions to be of a lesser amount, to retain two thirds of the foliage, which would be less detrimental to tree health and will aid in the recovery of the trees. As the trees are not worthy of a TPO, the Council cannot object to the proposed reductions, however we hope a lesser amount is considered.

I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the following proposed tree work with reference to the reproduced, annotated photographs provided:

- 2no. Sycamore trees: reduce by 40-50%, leaving suitable growth points.



Reduction of the two Sycamore trees

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'.
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

Please ensure that the occupier of 23 Coley Hill receives a copy of the 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