



Mr R Taylor
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Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Taylor

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT WANTAGE HALL, UPPER REDLANDS ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 23 October 2025, relating to the above.

We met on site on 31 October to discuss the proposals. The works are for sound arboricultural management and to provide clearance from adjacent buildings, structures and above ground level. Works include the felling of one small walnut as a result of Honey fungus, and one of the mature Horse chestnut trees at the entrance to the Halls. In relation to the latter, the tree lost its top in the past and has a significant longitudinal wound, with associated decay, in the main trunk which resulted in crown failure earlier this year. I am aware that you have managed this tree over time to try and retain it as long as possible, but its condition now makes the tree unsuitable for retention in view of the targets, including the listed building.

I can confirm that the Council have no objections to the proposed tree works as listed in the 'Wantage Hall Tree Works Requirements' document.

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

The works can now be carried out.

As you will be aware, Conservation Areas are higher priority areas for tree retention and planting, hence I would encourage you to carry out replacement planting to maintain tree coverage, both to retain the verdant character of the Conservation Area but also to assist with the aims of the Council's adopted Tree Strategy.

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

Sarah Hanson

Sarah Hanson
Natural Environment Officer