



Mr B Walsh
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Emma Gee
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26th November 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Walsh

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. SYCAMORE TREE AND 1NO. FALSE ACACIA TREE AT MULLION COURT, FRANKLIN STREET, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 30th October 2025, relating to the above.

Further to mine and my colleague Sarah Hanson's visit of 14th November 2025, I have the following comments:

The works to the Sycamore tree (T001 of notice) are considered reasonable as the tree has been previously maintained as a pollard, and thus reducing the tree back to its previous pruning points (see Figure 1 below) is appropriate maintenance of the tree. In line with the BS3998 2010 recommendations, please retain 25mm stubs above the pruning points to help aid the regeneration of regrowth. I also assume the epicormic growth (see blue arrows in Figure 1 below) will also be removed from this tree as part of the reduction/re-pollard so I have included it in the agreed works below.

Regarding the False Acacia (T002 of notice), I found that pruning to provide 3m clearance of the building was slightly excessive. This would leave the tree unevenly weighted on one side and would effectively remove all the structural branches growing towards the building, which bear a significant amount of foliage and thus I have concerns this will negatively impact the trees health. Reducing the tree by a lesser amount can both create adequate clearance (I recommend approximately 1.5m) and help maintain the trees structural form. I have demonstrated a reasonable reduction of the branches growing towards the building to create clearance and retain the trees form in Figure 2 below and I hope this is considered.

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

- Sycamore (T001 of notice): reduce back to previous pruning points (see Figure 1) retaining 25mm stubs above the pruning points; remove all epicormic growth through 360°.
- False Acacia (T002 of notice): reduce branches growing towards the building to create 1.5-3m clearance (please consider reduction shown in Figure 2), leaving suitable growth points.



Figure 1 - Sycamore T001: reduction to previous points in red; epicormic growth indicated in blue

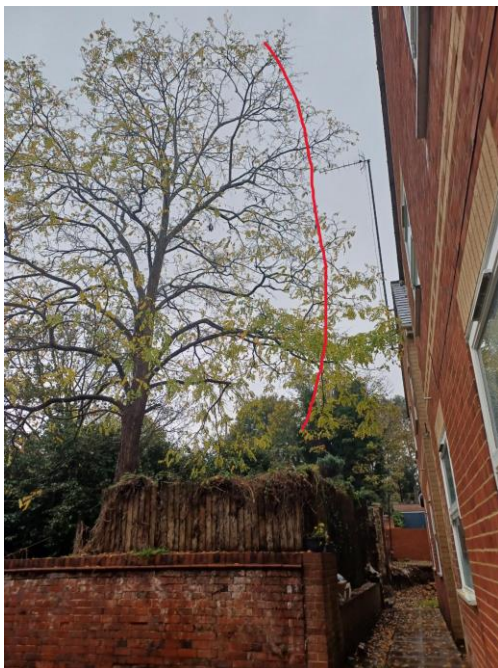


Figure 2 - False Acacia T002: recommended reduction of branches to create approximately 1.5m clearance

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 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