



Mrs J Needham
11 Juniper Way
Tilehurst
Reading
RG31 6NB

Emma Gee
Acting Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: PL/25/1754
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440
Sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

19 December 2025

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mrs Needham

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT 11 JUNIPER WAY, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 13/04.

Thank you for your application of 7 December 2025, regarding the above.

You application sought consent for:

Remove 1 Ash tree

Reduce 2 ash and 1 beech tree by 25% and remove any dead and disease branches.

Further to my visit on 12 December 2025, I have the following comments:

Your application follows that submitted in 2023 (ref PL/23/2989) which agreed the felling of one Ash and selective branch reduction of the Beech tree. As that consent had lapsed, without being implemented, your current application effectively seeks to update the consent and as such it was agreed during our meeting that the approved works would remain the same.

We discussed the Ash on the east boundary, closest to the house (on the higher ground level) and agreed that it would be prudent to remove dead wood and to sever the Ivy (removing a section of the Ivy stem so that it doesn't rejoin), which will then die off and enable better inspection of the tree and avoid the weight it adds to the branches. These works do not require formal approval - please take care to avoid damage to the tree bark when severing the Ivy. As discussed, you will advise if you have any concerns about the condition of this tree when in leaf next year, or earlier if your tree surgeon identifies anything of concern when removing dead wood.

It was also agreed that severance of the Ivy on the Beech tree would be prudent as it becoming excessive, along with that on the other two trees within your curtilage (on the rear boundary).

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application (as amended), are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the annotated photographs below:

- Ash at the rear of the garden (on lower ground level) - fell
- Beech on western boundary - reduce branches overhanging the garden by 2m and crown lift to 4m above ground level ensuring no wounds greater than 5cm diameter are created



Beech to be selectively reduced; Ash to be felled

Condition 4 below requires a replacement tree for the felled Ash. We discussed this on site and you suggested a Birch tree. As mentioned, this would be acceptable if it were one of the two native Birches, i.e. *Betula pendula* (Silver birch) or *Betula pubescens* (Downy birch). I have left condition 4 open in case you wish to consider an alternative, however, if either of these Birch are planted then there is no need for further agreement. Please, however, confirm when this has been done (please note the timing requirement) and provide a photograph for the file.

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. 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

4. Following the felling of the Ash tree authorised by this consent, one native, broadleaf tree of a minimum 8-10cm girth and 2.75m high (at time of planting) shall be planted within the rear garden during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest. The species shall be agreed with the Natural Environment Team prior to purchase and planting.

Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations'

Should the replacement tree be removed, die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Reading Borough Council Natural Environment Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reason: To retain the present visual amenity value of the area and ensure continuity of tree coverage.

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. 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

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

4. Prior to the severing of well-established Ivy at the base of the tree, it would be prudent to carry out an assessment of whether any of the stems of the Ivy are forming a natural brace above a suspected bark-included union.

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/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas)

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