



Mr R Abraham  
Darland  
The Warren  
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Reading  
RG4 7TQ

Emma Gee  
Executive Director for  
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Our Ref: PL/25/1728  
Your Ref:

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7<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Abraham

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. ALDER TREE AT DARLAND, THE WARREN, READING - T9  
OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 78/07.**

Thank you for your application of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025, regarding the above.

Further to my visit on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025, I have the following comments:

A letter was submitted alongside your application from Cooks Marine Services Limited, who are assisting with the riverbank works. They have advised that the Alder tree is contributing to the destabilisation of the riverbank, and its removal will be required.

When visiting the site, I noted the Alder tree's form was suboptimal. It has a significant lean growing towards the river and has several stems growing close to the base with some of these stems crossing each other. It is a small tree with limited merit and due to its form, long term retention would not be feasible. Given the tree is small, with poor form and it is contributing to the damage to the riverbank, it is agreed that the felling is reasonable.

As discussed during my site visit, a replacement tree will be required. I note your application form mentions several different species. However, the species choice should be one which is tolerable of highly water-saturated soil. You said you were happy to replant with the same species as that approved to be felled, so I have included this in the replanting condition. But if this is not feasible, please contact me or the Natural Environment Team to discuss other suitable species for the location. I am also aware that the works to the riverbank may take some time and thus I am happy for the replacement tree to be planted in the next planting season, rather than the current one. You may wish to discuss a suitable replanting location within the rear garden with those dealing with the

riverbank works to ensure the tree does not impact the integrity of the riverbank in the future.

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

- T9 Alder: fell to ground level



Figure 1: T9 Alder showing size and poor form

**Please ensure the ground works for the stabilisation of the riverbank are agreed with us in advance if works into the existing bank are required adjacent to the TPO Willows (G1).**

#### 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. Following the felling of the Alder tree authorised by this consent, 1no. replacement *Alnus glutinosa* (Common Alder) of a minimum stock size of 8-10cm in girth & 2.75m in height at the time of planting, shall be planted in the rear garden of Darland, The Warren during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest. If this species is no longer feasible, the replacement 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. 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

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](mailto:treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

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

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