

Mr D Pether
112 Hamilton Road
Reading
RG1 5RE

Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Civic Centre, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Our Ref: PL/26/0236
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 34294
Email: amy.daly@reading.gov.uk

30th March 2026

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Pether

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. SILVER BIRCH TREE AT 112 HAMILTON ROAD, READING
- SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 19th February 2026, relating to the above.

Your notice proposes to remove three branches from the Silver Birch tree. The three branches in question are shown in in Figure 1 below, a reproduced annotated photograph submitted alongside your notice. If all three of these branches were removed back to their source, this would have a detrimental impact on the tree's appearance, being unevenly weighted on one side from removing these three structural branches. I note your neighbour has requested this to provide clearance from their property. This could be achieved through lesser works i.e. reducing the branches to create a level of clearance, rather than removing them back to their source. Removing the branches back to their source will leave pruning wounds and thereby entry points for decay in the tree's structural stems. Silver Birch trees aren't a species which are good at resisting decay compared to other species; hence you may wish to consider lesser works which will result in a less negative impact to tree health and appearance, whilst also creating clearance from the neighbouring property.

The tree is not considered worthy of a Tree Preservation Order; hence we cannot object to the proposed works. However, I hope you consider my advice above. I have indicated an example of a potential reduction in Figure 2 below as an alternative.

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

- Silver Birch: remove the three branches shown in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1 - Removal of 3no. branches



Figure 2 - Suggested indicative reduction (yellow line), to create clearance from the neighbouring property

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

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