

Mr A Reetun
Benson Tree Services
5 Triggs Mead
Benson
Oxfordshire
OX10 6FZ

Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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

Our Ref: PL/26/0390
Your Ref:

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

30th April 2026

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Reetun

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. EUCALYPTUS TREE AND 1NO. LONDON PLANE TREE AT KENDRICK VIEW DENTAL PRACTICE, 5 KENDRICK VIEW, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 22nd March 2026, relating to the above.

The removal of the London Plane is reasonable as you mentioned in your reasonings for works that the tree is in visible decline. It is also covered in extensive ivy growth which you also mentioned is likely contributing to its decline. From the photographs you provided alongside your notice, the tree has been heavily reduced/pollarded in the past and it is unlikely that remedial works will improve the tree's condition. It is difficult to determine whether the tree is completely dead; however, please ensure that you assess this when undertaking the works and inform us of its condition. If it is dead, the landowner will be required to plant a replacement tree - please see the paragraph below the agreed works.

The works to the Eucalyptus are also considered reasonable tree maintenance. The crown lifting will create an adequate level of ground clearance for pedestrians and the car park users. The reduction proposed is similar to that previously agreed in September 2021 (notice reference: 211265) and is therefore considered reasonable.

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

- 1no. Eucalyptus: reduce the overall height by up to 3.5 metres; reduce the lateral spread by up to 2.5 metres to create a more balanced canopy structure; crown raise to achieve approximately 3 metres of clearance from ground level.
- 1no. London Plane: remove tree to ground level.

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

The works can now be carried out.

In relation to the Plane tree, if it is dead, as the site is within a Conservation Area, then under Section 213 (1) of the Town and County Planning Act, a landowner has the duty to replant a replacement tree. This is particularly important as Kendrick Dental Practice is located in a low canopy cover ward (Abbey ward), Air Quality Management Area and a Conservation Area. As such, the retention and replacement of trees is of great importance. The Council cannot increase canopy cover by the targeted amount on Council land alone and will rely on private owners to help meet the target. I note that 3no. Holly trees were also removed from Kendrick View Dental Practice under the 2021 notice, so canopy cover here has already been reduced.

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

Amy Daly

Assistant Natural Environment Officer

On Behalf of Sarah Hanson, Natural Environment Officer

C.c. manager@kendrickdental.co.uk