



Ms R Thewlis  
13 Alexandra Road  
Reading  
RG1 5PE

Emma Gee  
Acting Executive Director for  
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Our Ref: PL/26/0915  
Your Ref:

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14 August 2026

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Ms Thewlis

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES AT 13 ALEXANDRA ROAD, READING - SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 9 July 2026, relating to the above.

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

- Conifer on frontage - fell
- 3 No. Yews in rear garden - reduce height as indicated in Notice email

The conifer on the frontage is in a poor condition and in an unsustainable location causing damage to the wall, hence is not worthy of a Tree Preservation Order.

You have indicated the intention to replace the tree on the frontage, perhaps with a small Cherry tree. Replacement planting on the frontage would be positive but you may wish to bear in mind that Cherries tend to have shallow, and sometime surface, roots and whatever you plant may benefit from a root barrier to direct roots down and under the wall to prevent similar damage in the future (if planting in a similar location).

From your photographs, the Yew seem to be Irish (fastigate/upright) Yews (*Taxus baccata* 'Fastigata'), rather than the 'normal' Yew (*Taxus baccata*). Reducing these in height will effectively be 'topping' them and will not look great, leaving a bare top for a while which may not entirely resprout, albeit Yew are one of the few conifers that will grow new growth from bare branches. This is something you may wish to consider in deciding the extent of works. In any case, due to their size and limited visibility, they are not worthy of a Tree Preservation Order.

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](mailto: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

*Sarah Hanson*

Sarah Hanson  
Natural Environment Officer