



Mr A Smith
94 Bulmershe Road
Reading
RG1 5RL

Emma Gee
Acting Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

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

Our Ref: PL/26/0960
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎0118 937 2458

Email: amy.daly@reading.gov.uk

25th August 2026

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Smith

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. HORNBEAM TREE AT 94 BULMERSHE ROAD, READING -
SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 17th July 2026, relating to the above.

The tree was previously pollarded in 2020. The proposed works to re-pollard the tree are considered reasonable as pollarding forms a cyclical management programme of a tree, of which re-pollarding occurs on a suitably regular basis. Given it has been six years since the tree was last pollarded, it would seem appropriate to undertake this soon before the growth gets any larger in diameter so that the pruning wounds, which are entry points for decay/dysfunction, are minimised. This will also prevent the tree from becoming a lapsed pollard, of which the future management becomes more complex. I advise that less time is left between pruning cycles (typically 3-5 years) when you are next considering re-pollarding. It is encouraged that 25mm stubs are left above the previous pollard points to aid in the regeneration of new growth.

Your photograph of the tree post-pollarding in 2020 provided in your recent email exchange with Sarah Hanson, shows established pruning points, so it is likely the tree was originally pollarded some time before 2020. I note you provided notice to re-pollard the tree in 2023 (reference: 230623), albeit these works weren't agreed to or implemented, as you decided not to undertake this, so the notice was closed.

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

- 1no. Hornbeam: re-pollard at previous pruning/pollard points (see Figure 1 for examples)



Figure 1: previous pruning/pollard points

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