



Mr & Mrs Slaght
7 Surely Row
Emmer Green
Reading
RG4 8ND

Emma Gee
Acting Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
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Our Ref: PL/26/1035
Your Ref:

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7th September 2026

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr and Mrs Slaght

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO VARIOUS TREES AT 7 SURLEY ROW, EMMER GREEN, READING
- SUBJECT TO CONSERVATION AREA STATUS.**

Thank you for Tree Works Notice of 2nd August 2026, relating to the above.

I note that you exchanged emails with my colleague Sarah Hanson regarding the crown lifting of the Copper Beech to provide clearance of the Holly adjacent to it. I note that it was clarified that the Holly is having a height reduction, and thereafter the Copper Beech will be crown lifted over it to create clearance, using selective branch reductions, which is considered reasonable. It was important these works were clarified to understand the extent of the pruning to the Copper Beech, being a large tree of high amenity value, so that we could assess the works in relation to the impact of its health.

Many are located in the rear garden, small in size and have limited visibility from the public realm, thereby having limited amenity value. Whilst some of the trees included in this notice are located on the front garden, these are only visible from Surley Row, and not the wider public realm, and have their view obstructed by your brick boundary walls and other trees, thereby also having limited amenity value. The works include the felling of three trees, however as these are not worthy of a Tree Preservation Order, we can offer no objection. Other works are not deemed to have a significant detrimental impact on the amenity of the area.

You do not need formal consent to remove deadwood, but five days' notice of your intention to undertake this should be provided, which this notice serves. I have included the removal of deadwood to the relevant trees in the works below, for ease of listing purposes.

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

Front garden

- 2no. conifers (T1 & T2): reduce height by approximately 3 metres, remove major deadwood and lightly trim sides to retain a balanced shape.
- 1no. Plum (T3): fell to ground level
- 1no. Apples (T4 & T5): reduce spread and height by approximately 1 metre
- 1no. Box Elder (T6): remove major deadwood

Rear garden

- 1no. Apple (T7 - adjacent to window): reduce height by approximately 3 metres, retaining lower growth.
- 1no. conifer (T8): fell to ground level
- 1no. Copper Beech (T9): remove major deadwood; crown lift limbs overhanging the holly by approximately 3 metres (crown lifting will be done by selective branch reductions, focusing above the Holly trees following their height reductions)
- 2no. Hollies (T10 & T11): reduce height by approximately 2 metres and reduce side laterals to help balance the crown
- 2no. Apples (T12 & T13): reduce crown to create an espalier shape.
- 1no. Cherry Plum (T14): fell to ground level

Trees contribute to the character of the Conservation Area and as such, these areas are a priority for tree retention and planting in our adopted Tree Strategy. I note that in February 2020 (notice reference: 200196), that four trees were agreed to be removed from this property. Given this notice also proposes to remove three more trees, replanting is strongly encouraged and I hope this is something that is considered.

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