



Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
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Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Mrs H Williams
Heights Tree Care
Mayfield
Hazlemoor Lane
Gallowstree Common
RG4 9DJ

Our Ref: PL/26/1068
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎01189 372440
Sarah.hanson@reading.gov.uk

14 September 2026

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mrs Williams

**RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1 BEECH TREE AT 1 QUEENSBOROUGH DRIVE, READING -
SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 67/04.**

Thank you for your application of 7 August 2026 regarding the above.

In my acknowledgement email of 10 August 2026, I sought clarity on the reasons for the proposed reduction, as these were not stated on your application form. I followed up on this on 3 September as no response had been received. In the absence of a response, it has been assumed that the reduction has been proposed as a repeat of that previously done, i.e. as appropriate management. Your client advised in her response of 3 September that the tree had grown a lot since it was last reduced.

Further to my visit on 11 September 2026, I have the following comments:

The work included on your application was discussed on site with Mrs Wright. In addition to those works, she requested removal of low, epicormic growth, and we identified the overhead cables going through the crown, with pruning around those being prudent. These two additional points were therefore formally added to the application and have been included in the approved works below.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application (as amended), are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the annotated photographs below:

T1 Beech

- crown reduction by approximately 1.5 metres in both height and lateral spread, pruning back to suitable previous pruning points while retaining the tree's natural form.
Officer note: the amount will vary due to crown shape, more in certain extended areas and depending on previous pruning points (refer to indicative application photos below)
- Remove all significant deadwood throughout the canopy to improve safety and tree health.
- Undertake selective pruning to provide 1 metre clearance from the adjacent street light, ensuring continued effective illumination while minimising the extent of pruning required.
- Undertake selective pruning to provide 0.5 metre clearance from the overhead wire running through the crown, removing secondary and tertiary growth only.
- Remove low epicormic growth from the main trunk



Low epicormic growth to be removed



Indicative pruning to provide 1m clearance from lamp head



Overhead wires going through crown



Indicative reduction

Conditions

1. Five days' notice in writing shall be given to the Council prior to undertaking the approved works.

Reason: To ensure that the Local Planning Authority is given sufficient notice of the works to enable the effective monitoring of tree work within the Borough.

2. All tree surgery shall be in accordance with BS 3998: (2010) Tree Work - Recommendations.

Reason: To ensure that all works are carried out in an acceptable arboricultural manner

3. The approved canopy reduction shall be undertaken in mid-late Summer (July - September) when the tree's energy reserves are at their height or during the Winter months of December - January during the period of dormancy.

Reason: Taking into account the tree's phenological cycle and in order to avoid any unnecessary detriment to the tree as a result of the pruning work.

4. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees, except on trees to be felled.

Reason: Spikes can cause extensive long-term damage

Informatives

1. You are advised that, in accordance with Part 4, 17 (4) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012, this decision is valid for one pruning operation (as per the approved specifications) to be undertaken within two years from the date of this notice, after which the consent lapses and a new application will be required.

2. Removal of dead or dangerous wood from a live tree: 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', you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

3. 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 030 6000

4. Crown lifting of trees over the footpath and carriageway: If the clearance of vegetation overhanging the highway only involves the removal of branches to give a ground clearance to the statutory heights of 2.7m over the footpath and 5.5m over the road, this does not require formal consent from the Council. You are advised, however, to give notice to the Council of these intended works in order that they can be agreed.

If you wish to appeal against any of the conditions attached to this consent, please contact the Planning Inspectorate within 28 days of receipt of this letter to obtain the relevant forms:

Trees and Hedges
Room 3A Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Telephone: 0303 444 5000

E-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Website: [Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/government/topics/trees-and-woodland/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas)

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

C.c. Mrs Wright, 1 Queensborough Drive