



Mr J Claridge
Tadley Tree care
4 Fair Oaks Grove
Silchester Road
Little London
Tadley
RG26 5WT

Emma Gee
Executive Director for
Economic Growth and
Neighbourhood Services

Bridge Street, Reading RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 9373787

Our Ref: PL/26/0928
Your Ref:

Direct: ☎0118 937 2458
Amy.daly@reading.gov.uk

2nd October 2026

Your contact is:

Amy Daly: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Claridge

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO 1NO. OAK TREE ADJACENT TO 1 PUTTING GREEN AND 1NO. LARCH TREE AND 1NO. SCOTS PINE TREE AT 1 PUTTING GREEN, EMMER GREEN, READING - SUBJECT TO TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 4/18.

Thank you for your application of 11th July 2026, regarding the above.

You had initially applied for the following:

T1 Scots Pine: crown raise canopy to roughly 6 metres. Reason being the lowest limbs are all heavily weighted on the ends and starting to severely hang down towards to ground which shows signs of possible failure.

T2 Larch: crown raise canopy to roughly 4.5 metres. Reason being the lowest limbs all over hang the Neighbouring properties, showing no sign of potential failure but all close to fence height.

T3 Oak: reduce canopy over hanging 1 Putting Green back to boundary line, leaving suitable growth points. Reason being resident would like it back to his boundary or as close as possible.

Further to mine and my colleague Sarah Hanson's visit of 18th September 2026, I have the following comments:

Some crown lifting to the Larch and Scots Pine is considered reasonable for clearance purposes. The crown lifting proposed to the Larch and Scots Pine is relatively significant in height for a residential garden, being well over head height with 6m being effectively to gutter height, as explained to Mr & Mrs Small. During our site visit, we identified specific branches which can be removed to achieve clearance over the pagoda and garden. Therefore, the works have been reworded, with the crown lifting amended to a slightly lesser amount, as agreed with Mr & Mrs Small. Crown cleaning has also been approved, to

remove any dead, dying/low vigour & small diameter crossing/rubbing branches.

Regarding the works to the Oak, we have approved the reduction over the garden of 2 Saunders Drive also as it is the neighbouring property to the rear of 1 Putting Green, having a boundary adjacent to the Oak too. The pruning of the Oak back to the boundary line of both properties is considered reasonable for clearance purposes, and we have included this for 2 Saunders Drive to avoid the need for another application - Mr & Mrs Small will need to make the owners/occupiers aware of this as we do not have any contact details for them should they wish to have the approved works undertaken. We explained to Mr & Mrs Small that the reduction over the garden may not go all the way back to the boundary line, but will be close to it as arboriculturally appropriate, to achieve clearance. The works to the Oak have been reworded with further detail to improve clarity.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application but amended as agreed with Mr & Mrs Small, are approved subject to the conditions below and with reference to the annotated photographs below:

- T1 Scots Pine tree: crown lift secondary growth, through 360°, to approximately 1.5m above the height of the pagoda, leaving suitable growth points, but including the removal of two identified branches (see Figure 1) back to source; crown clean, removing any dead, dying/low vigour and small diameter crossing/rubbing branches
- T2 Larch tree: crown lift secondary growth, through 360°, to approximately 1.5m above the height of the pagoda, leaving suitable growth points, but including the removal of two identified branches (see Figure 2) back to source; crown clean, removing any dead, dying/low vigour and small diameter crossing/rubbing branches
- T3 Oak tree: reduce the lowest main branch overhanging the garden back to the branch fork identified in Figure 3, reducing secondary branches adjacent to the branch fork in line with it to suitable growth points; reduce remaining canopy overhanging the gardens of 1 Putting Green & 2 Saunders Drive to as close to the boundary lines as possible that good arboricultural practice allows, as shown in Figure 4, ensuring no more than one third of the foliage is removed from each branch, leaving suitable growth points and a natural canopy shape.



Figure 1: Scots Pine - two branches to be removed as part of crown lift



Figure 2: Larch - three lowest branches to be removed as part of crown lift

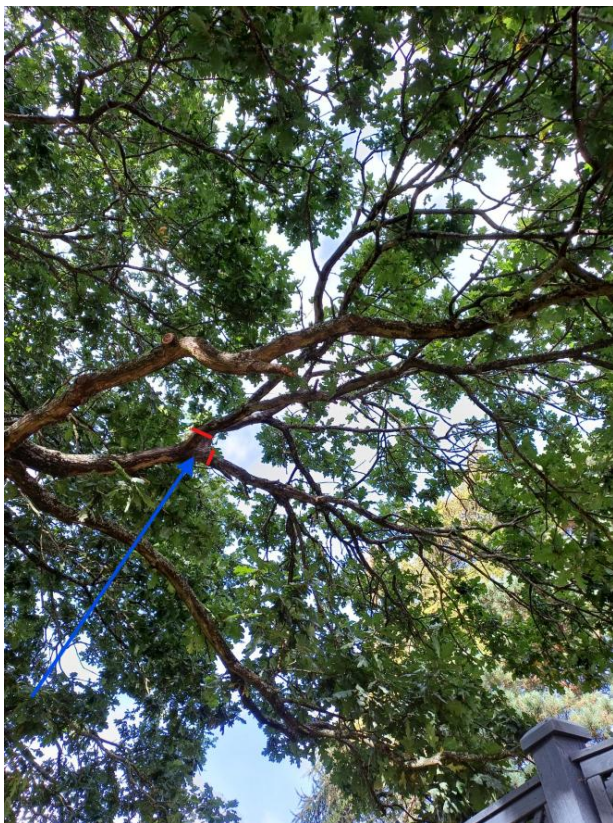


Figure 3: Oak - lowest branch with identified fork (blue arrow) where branches are to be reduced (red lines)



Figure 4: Oak - reduction as close to the boundary line as good arboricultural practice allows

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. 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

4. Crown cleaning should not include the removal of fused natural braces (branches or stems), or the removal of entwining branches or rubbing branches (where they may be forming a natural brace) from the crown of a semi-mature to fully mature tree without carrying out an assessment of any junctions formed below such natural braces.

Reason: Removal of natural braces may lead to failure of weak unions.

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. 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

5. Tree work consents on land not owned by the applicant: It is strongly recommended that the owner of the tree be advised of any proposed works. The owner's permission must be sought if the tree works involve work past the boundary line. This consent does not in any way imply that this Council has informed the owner of sought permission or will condone the use of consents to force any landowner to grant such permission.

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:

Planning Inspectorate
C/O Quadient
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

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/planning)

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. Mrs Small, 1 Putting Green