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Mr D Johnson
Arboricultural Contracts Manager
Reading Borough Council
Bennet Road

Our Ref: PL/26/1238
Your Ref:

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

14 October 2026

Your contact is:

Sarah Hanson: Planning, Transport & Public Protection

Dear Mr Johnson

RE: PROPOSED WORKS TO ONE OAK TREE REAR OF 26 WINTERBERRY WAY, READING - T6026 OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 333.

Thank you for your application of 16 September 2026 regarding the above.

The supporting tree survey states:

Large fungal fruiting body (Laetiporus sulphureus) seen at approx 5m whilst on Winterberry way. Fungus is growing on the main stem directly below cavity and included union with high likelihood of catastrophic limb failure resulting in significant potential for large sections of tree to fail into garden or building due to close proximity. Additionally a large wound on east side from lightning strike compounding issue.

In line with due procedure, the proposed felling was considered at Planning Application Committee on 7 October 2026 where the majority of members voted in favour of supporting the proposal subject to no substantive objections being received as a result of the public notice. The consultation period ended on 12 October and no comments or objections were received.

I can therefore confirm that the following proposed works, as detailed in your application, are approved subject to the conditions below:

- Oak (T6026 of TPO; 07N6 on Arbortrack) - fell to leave a 5m monolith.

Given the benefit of mature Oak trees for biodiversity, it is assumed that you are satisfied there is no other reasonable option for tree management other than effective felling. The retention of the monolith for wildlife is positive.

Please note condition 3 below regarding replacement planting, which I assume that Streetscene would implement anyway.

I note the intention to fell a second, dead, Oak tree (your ref ID:0GHZ, T6031 of TPO) in a similar location, with the intention to leave this as a 3m monolith.

Under Section 206(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, a landowner is under a duty to replace a tree which is removed because it is dead or dangerous. The duty on the landowner is to plant another tree of an appropriate size and species at the same place as soon as he or she reasonably can.

In this case the Council would expect a replacement tree of a minimum 8-10cm girth and 2.75m high to be planted within 10m of the felled tree in the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of felling, whichever is soonest. Please ensure the replacement is agreed with the Natural Environment Team prior to purchase and planting.

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. Following the felling of the tree authorised by this consent, one native/naturalised species broadleaf tree of a minimum 8-10cm girth and 2.75m in height (at time of planting) shall be planted within a 10m radius of the felled tree during the planting season (Nov-March) following or at the time of the felling of the tree, whichever is soonest.

Planting should be carried out in accordance with clause 10 (Planting) of BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations'

Should the replacement tree be removed, die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased, all within 5 years of planting, it shall be replaced by a tree of a similar size and species to that originally planted. Modifications to the requirements of this condition must be agreed in writing with Reading Borough Council Natural Environment Team.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement to replant is the responsibility of the tree owner even if the application was submitted by another person.

Reason: To retain the present visual amenity value of the area and ensure continuity of tree coverage.

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. 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
3. Removal of any dead or dangerous protected tree: This does not require the formal consent of the Council. However, you are required to give 5 days notice of the work where it is not an emergency, to allow the Council to agree that the proposed works are exempt from requiring consent. The exception is where works are 'urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm', in which case you are required to give notice to the Council 'as soon as practicable after the works become necessary'.

Once felling of a dead or dangerous tree has been carried out, the owner has a duty under Section 201(b) of the Town & Country Planning Act to replant another tree of an appropriate size and species in the same place as soon as they reasonable can. This replacement tree will be covered by the existing Tree Preservation Order. The new tree would be subject to the same requirements for a tree works application if you intend to carry out works upon it in the future.

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, 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-and-hedges)

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