

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 9 January 2026
My ref: CY/TPO/860/1997/252809



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr David White
White Knight Services Ltd (Trading name:
White Knight Tree Care & Consultancy)
5 Cressingham Road
Reading
RG2 7RS

Place and Growth
Development Management Team
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000

Dear Mr White,

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 860/1997
APPLICATION NUMBER: 252809
LOCATION: 2 SOMERTON GARDENS, EARLEY, WOKINGHAM, RG6 5XG

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to protected tree(s), which was received and validated on the 17 November 2025.

I can confirm Wokingham Borough Council **consents with conditions**, to the following work being carried out to tree(s) included in the above-mentioned Tree Preservation Orders (TPO):

Approved works to Singles 1 and 2 of TPO 860/1997:

T1, Oak

- Remove up to approx. 2-3m back to appropriate pruning points from only the significantly extended areas of the crown (as indicated in annotated photos);
- remove major deadwood.

T2, Oak

- Crown reduction by approx. 1.5-2m back to appropriate pruning points; remove up to approx. 2-3m from the significantly extended southern limb (as indicated in the annotated photos);
- remove major deadwood.

Reasons stated for works:

T1 Oak - We propose to reshape the crown by shortening significantly extended limbs back in line with crown average in order to present a more uniform sail area that is less likely to suffer partial limb failure by ensuring limbs are not excessively exposed to the wind.

T2, Oak - Area of audible decay on the north west side of base approximately 30cm wide at ground level, tapering up to a point approximately 30cm above ground level. Approximately 25cm of penetration within this area when probed. There is also very large deadwood in the top dead centre of the crown, resulting in a significant "hole" in the upper canopy; potentially opening up the rest of the crown to unfamiliar wind loading. Lowest limb on south side of crown is

significantly lower and extends beyond the rest of the crown leaving it much more exposed to the wind.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **9 January 2028** and in the event of the works not being completed by that date, further consent will be required.
2. Work must be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998 – 2010 'Tree work - Recommendations'.

Reasons for conditions 1-3

1. To ensure that our records remain accurate.
2. To ensure that tree removal and associated operations are carried out in a manner that minimises avoidable damage and accords with recognised best practice.

Informative:

If you are aggrieved by any of the conditions attached to your consent, you may appeal to The Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Because of coronavirus (COVID-19), you currently can only make a planning appeal online. You cannot currently apply by post.

For more information go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tree-preservation-order-appeal-form>

Telephone: 0303 444 5570 or e-mail it to: treeandhedgeappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your appeal should be received within one month of receipt of this decision or any such longer period as the Planning Inspectorate may allow.

You are advised that this letter is in respect of the Tree Preservation Order only and it does not imply that consent would be forthcoming from the owner of the tree(s) or any such other persons from whom consent may be required.

If we can be of any further assistance, please contact the Tree and Landscape Officer via development.control@wokingham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager

cc. applicant: Ms Foot, 2 Somerton Gardens, Earley, Wokingham, RG6 5XG

Please note that your attention is drawn to the following information:

Bird Nesting Season and Presence of Bat Roosts

In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) and Countryside Rights of Way Act (2000), consideration must be given to the timing and type of tree work operations, to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting birds or bat roosts that may be present within the tree(s).

The Act makes it an offence (subject to exceptions) to intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places.

It is advised that all non-urgent major tree work and hedge cutting operations are undertaken at a time to avoid disturbing nesting birds during the breeding season (to which the bird nesting season is considered to be from March to July). Where bats are suspected to be present, it is recommended that advice first be sought from a licenced bat specialist and if appropriate, the relevant licence(s) be obtained before any major tree work or hedge cutting commences.

Further information can be found at the following:

DEFRA (Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs)
Tel: 08459 33 55 77 or by email at helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
Website: www.defra.gov.uk/

Natural England
Tel: 0845 600 3078 or by email at enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk
Website: www.naturalengland.org.uk

Bat Conservation Trust
Tel: 0845 1300 228 or by email at enquiries@bats.org.uk
Website: www.bats.org.uk

Forestry Act 1967 and Felling Licences

If it proposed to fell a tree or trees greater than 5 cubic metres or sell more than 2 cubic metres of timber in any calendar quarter, a Felling Licence from the Forestry Authority may be required.

Please note that Felling Licences are not required to remove trees from domestic (residential) gardens. Where you are the landowner of large pieces of land with numerous trees, clarification from the Forestry Commission may be required as to whether a Felling licence is needed.

For more information on Felling Licences, please speak to the Woodland Officer at the Forestry Commission on 01296 696543

Further Information can be found on the Forestry Commission Website:
www.forestry.gov.uk