

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 22 May 2026
My ref: TF/TPO/861/1975/260666



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr Nick Rose
Redwood Tree Services Ltd
Elm Nursery
Sutton Green Road
Guildford
GU4 7QD

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

Dear Mr Rose,

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 861/1975
APPLICATION NUMBER: 260666
SITE ADDRESS: 33 WILTSHIRE ROAD, WOKINGHAM, RG40 1TS

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to protected tree(s), which was received and validated on the 19 March 2026.

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

Proposed tree works to Single 3 of TPO 861/1975:

T3 Oak:

- Crown Reduction - Reducing the height and spread of the tree by up to 3 metres.

Reasons stated for works:

Routine maintenance

Officer comments:

When looking to undertake works to a protected tree it is the responsibility of the applicant to supply adequate proof with the TPO application, in the form of 'written arboricultural advice or other diagnostic information from an appropriate expert.' To date, no detailed arboricultural information has been submitted to demonstrate that the proposed crown reduction is in the interests of health and safety or based on any arboricultural need.

The proposed crown reduction of the subject Oak tree by up to 3 metres in height and spread has not been adequately justified. The reason submitted, namely "routine tree maintenance," does not constitute sufficient arboricultural or amenity-based justification for works to a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order. The Local Planning Authority is not satisfied that the proposed works are necessary, proportionate or supported by sound arboricultural evidence.

The works would result in an unnecessary loss of crown volume and alteration to the natural form and amenity value of a prominent mature Oak which makes a significant contribution to the character and appearance of the area. In the absence of sufficient evidence demonstrating

arboricultural necessity, the proposed works are considered contrary to the objectives of the Tree Preservation Order and the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.

The subject Oak appears to be a mature, broadly symmetrical specimen with a full structural framework and no immediately obvious visual signs of severe decline, storm damage or gross structural failure. In such cases, a general reduction solely for "maintenance" lacks evidential basis, particularly where no defect, hazard, or specific management issue has been identified. Oaks are also typically managed conservatively, as broad crown reductions on mature specimens can affect form and lead to long-term management implications

Overall, the proposed works are considered excessive and unjustified. However, if there are concerns over the trees structural integrity the Council would welcome a further Tree Work Application supported by appropriate levels of arboricultural evidence i.e. full VTA, aerial inspection (with photographs of all bio-mechanical defects) and results of any internal decay detection investigations of the main stem and/or scaffold branches (i.e. Sonic Tomograph and/or Resistograph Drill) to justify the proposed works.

Due to the reasons stated above the proposed crown reduction of T3 Oak has been refused.

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 can currently 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 Officer via email to: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager