

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 21 October 2024
My ref: CY/TPO/199/1981/242181



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mrs Linda Laing
27 Ruskin Way
Wokingham
RG41 3BP

Place and Growth
Development Management Team
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Tel: (0118) 974 6000

Dear Mrs Laing

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 199/1981

APPLICATION NUMBER: 242181

**LOCATION: LAND TO THE SOUTH OF 27 RUSKIN WAY, WOKINGHAM, BERKS,
RG41 3BP**

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to protected tree(s), which was received on 27 August 2024 and validated on 29 August 2024.

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 Tree Works to Woodland 2 of TPO 199/1981:

T1, Birch – Cut back branches overhanging no. 27 Ruskin Way by 3m.

T2, Birch - Cut back branches overhanging no. 27 Ruskin Way by 3m.

Reasons stated for works:

Trees located next to our boundary fence with Fox Hill, large overhanging branches touching our roof which have resulted in 3 x squirrels invasions entering our loft via the roof. The previous home owners advised that permission had granted from the council to have the same branches cut back away from the line of our boundary fence so that they are free from touching our roof and far enough to prevent direct access from squirrels. Also recommended by pest control company (Pest UK) to stop invasions of squirrels. These 3 occasions have been very stressful and have caused damage in our loft as well as being a costly exercise each time. We only wish to have the tree branches pruned back not cut down in any way.

The branches are touching our roof in places and are obviously still growing and we are concerned that this will also cause damage to our roof tiles and guttering with Autumn/Winter fast approaching.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **21 October 2026** 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'.
3. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees.

Reasons for conditions 1-3.....

1. To ensure that our records remain accurate.
2. To ensure the health, safety and visual amenity of the tree(s) and ensure works are undertaken in accordance with recognised arboricultural good practice.
3. Climbing spikes can cause damage to trees.

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 would be required.

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

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hannington
Trees and Landscape Team Manager

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