

Tel: (0118) 974 6000  
Email: [development.control@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:development.control@wokingham.gov.uk)  
Date: 12 November 2025  
My ref: TF/CA/252345



**WOKINGHAM  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Mrs Elizabeth Jones  
Whitehorse  
Churchlane  
Finchampstead  
RG40 4LU

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

**SECTION 211 NOTIFICATION OF WORK TO TREES WITHIN THE FINCHAMPSTEAD  
CHURCH CONSERVATION AREA**

**APPLICATION NUMBER: 252345**

**LOCATION: WHITE HORSE, CHURCH LANE, FINCHAMPSTEAD, WOKINGHAM, RG40  
4LU**

With reference to your notification which was received and validated on the 30 September 2025, I am writing to advise you that Wokingham Borough Council raises **no objections** to the proposed tree works being undertaken as specified within the Finchampstead Church Conservation Area.

**Proposed works:**

T1 & T2 Eucalyptus:

- Reduction by 2m.

**Reasons stated for works:**

*Trees have not been cut since planting. Wish to improve stability and strength.*

**Officer comments:**

The subject Eucalyptus trees are relatively young and appear to be in good physiological condition, with no obvious defects or signs of disease. At their current stage of development, the trees contribute a limited degree of amenity value to the surrounding area. Their slender form and restricted public visibility mean they are not prominent within the wider Conservation Area.

Eucalyptus species are non-native and can grow rapidly to considerable size, often developing a spreading canopy with a high propensity to form weak forks and for limb failure. These characteristics can make them less suitable in small domestic gardens or close to buildings, where future conflicts with structures or neighbouring vegetation are likely as the trees mature.

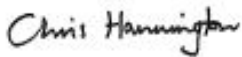
Given their age, size, and species characteristics, the trees do not make a sufficiently significant contribution to the character or appearance of the Conservation Area to justify protection by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

**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 date the consent lapses and a new Section 211 Notification will be required.
- 2) You are advised that this letter is in respect of the **Conservation Area 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 [development.control@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:development.control@wokingham.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Hannington". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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](mailto:helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.defra.gov.uk/](http://www.defra.gov.uk/)

Natural England  
Tel: 0845 600 3078 or by email at [enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk)  
Website: [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

Bat Conservation Trust  
Tel: 0845 1300 228 or by email at [enquiries@bats.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bats.org.uk)  
Website: [www.bats.org.uk](http://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](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)