

Planting and Landscaping Statement

Application Ref: 251596 6, Old Bath Road, Sonning, RG4 6TA

Applicant: Mrs Logaseelan Kulasingam

Local Authority: Wokingham Borough Council

The proposed landscaping scheme has been carefully prepared to preserve and enhance the **green and verdant character** of the surrounding area, particularly the views from the **designated Green Route** along Bath Road. The planting design aims to provide strong year-round greenery, improve visual screening, and ensure ecological and environmental balance in accordance with the Council's landscape and design objectives.

The scheme proposes the use of **Portuguese Laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*)**, **Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)**, and **Bay Laurel (*Laurus nobilis*)** along the rear boundary. These evergreen species have been selected for their dense foliage, aesthetic value, and manageable mature height (5–8 metres). They are non-invasive, suitable for domestic garden conditions, and will not cause any adverse impact to nearby structures or to the **root protection area (RPA)** of the existing **Lombardy Poplar**.

Additional specimen planting of **Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus unedo*)** and **Magnolia grandiflora** will be included to introduce seasonal interest, biodiversity benefits, and a variety of textures and colours throughout the year. All proposed trees will be planted with appropriate root protection measures and maintained to ensure healthy establishment and long-term growth.

This revised planting scheme will ensure that the development maintains the **established green character** of the site, **softens the visual appearance** of the rear extension, and continues to contribute positively to the **Green Route** and the wider townscape in line with **Hounslow Council's landscape and environmental policies**