

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 8 September 2025
My ref: CY/TPO/1818/2021/251646



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr Mark Brown
25 Earle Crescent
Wokingham
RG40 2FJ

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

Tel: (0118) 974 6000

Dear Mr Brown,

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER: 1818/2021

APPLICATION NUMBER: 251646

LOCATION: 18 AND 20 PARK AVENUE, WOKINGHAM, BERKS, RG40 2AJ

I am writing to you regarding your application to carry out works to protected tree(s), which was received and validated on 14 July 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 Area 1 of TPO 1818/2021:

T1, Sycamore

- Remove major deadwood (exempt)
- Remove 2 nos. branches approx. 10m and 20m in length overhanging rear garden of 25 Earle Crescent back to trunk.
- Remove dead central leader. (Removal of dead wood is exempt from the TPO controls)

T2, Holly

- Remove major deadwood (exempt)
- prune lateral growth back to boundary by approx. 750mm

T3, Ash –

- Remove major deadwood (exempt).

Reasons stated for works:

“A sycamore with evidence of deadwood, poor previous pruning and overextended branches that were once covered in ivy.

An ash tree with deadwood present and in decline with dieback from the tips of the canopy and A small holly that presses on the boundary fence.”

Officer’s comment:

At the Council’s Tree Officer’s site visit on 4 September 2025, it was observed that the central leader of T1, Sycamore has died off. In view of the tree’s proximity to domestic gardens and garages, it is considered prudent to have the central leader removed for health and safety reasons in addition to the proposed works. All the approved works will allow removal of T1, Sycamore to a monolith of 3m in height.

The consent is granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The above works must be completed before **8 September 2027** 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’. All pruning cuts to be taken back to suitable growth points.
3. Climbing spikes shall not be used whilst undertaking any form of works on living trees to be retained.

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 extensive long-term 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Hamington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'C' and a long, sweeping underline.

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