

Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Email: development.control@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 26 September 2025
My ref: CY/CA/251945



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ms Sarah Duckworth
Duckworths Arboriculture Ltd.
Glebelands Bungalow
Mildenhall
Marlborough
SN8 2LR

Place and Growth
Development Management Team
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
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Dear Ms Duckworth,

SECTION 211 NOTIFICATION OF WORK TO TREES WITHIN THE MURDOCH ROAD CONSERVATION AREA

APPLICATION NUMBER: 251945

LOCATION: 7 SOUTH DRIVE, WOKINGHAM, BERKS, RG40 2DH

With reference to your notification which was received and validated on the 12 August 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 Murdoch Road Conservation Area. Please accept my apologies for this delayed reply.

Proposed works:

T2, Horse Chestnut

- Crown lift to create 5m canopy clearance over garden of 8 South Drive; reduce tips of extended branch on east side of crown back to form-from 10-6.5m radius; remove rope around branch on west side of crown.

Reasons stated for works:

"The Horse Chestnut has previously shed a branch over the garden of 8 South Drive and there are valid concerns that an adjacent branch elongated is similarly undermined by a split close to the branch collar. Works are recommended to reduce this limb to reduce the weight of the branch and risk of the fracture spreading or breaking completely."

Officer comments:

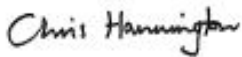
The Council considers that the proposed tree work is appropriate and necessary, and can be undertaken in accordance with good arboricultural practice. Serving of a TPO to prevent or moderate the proposed works is considered unnecessary and inappropriate on this occasion. The Wokingham Borough Council raises no objections to the proposed works.

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.

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

cc. Applicant: Ms Annette Leathes, 7 South Drive, Wokingham, RG40 2DH

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