

**Ellesmere Close
Caversham
Reading
RG4 5HG**

October 15th 2020

To Derby Road Fund Committee

Concern regarding the firtree in front of numbers 7 and 9, Ellesmere Close

As you will be aware, I have been concerned about this tree and approached Reading Borough Council last year about its removal. I was told by our local councillor that if I wanted to have the tree removed, I should consult the residents living in Ellesmere for consent to remove the tree and pay for its removal myself. Needless to say, this is not an option I can consider.

This year I am even more concerned about the firtree as many of the small 'leaves' are going brown and falling off. This has never happened before in the 11 years that I have lived here. I am concerned that the tree has a disease and that in due course a branch might fall off or the tree fall and cause great damage.

I have checked the Deeds to my property and it states: 'Whilst Ellesmere Close is adopted by the Local Authority, Derby Road is not. You have rights of way over it however because it is classed as 'prospectively maintainable'. This means that the residents of Derby Road are responsible for its maintenance and repair.

As a member of the Derby Road Fund, my query is whether or not the Derby Road Fund is responsible for the firtree or would be willing to arrange and pay for its removal?

Lime tree – I am aware of the conservation order on the lime tree and have had it pollarded twice since I came to live here.

The owners of No.7 moved to live in Canada last year. The present occupants are renting the property.

I would appreciate your thoughts and guidance on this problem with the firtree.

Yours sincerely



Sheila Goldsmith