



TREE HAZARD EVALUATION SURVEY

**Dogs Trust Merseyside
Whiston Lane
Huyton
Whiston
Liverpool
L36 6HP**

August 2022

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1. Instruction & Remit

As instructed by Andy Blakeway of Brewood Landscapes Ltd, we have carried out a routine tree survey within the grounds of Dogs Trust Merseyside, Whiston Lane, Huyton, Whiston, Liverpool L36 6HP.

The instruction to inspect trees at the above sites was received by email in August 2022. The purpose of my report and inspection is to :

1. Provide management recommendations for individual and groups of trees.
2. Where necessary based on assessment and guidelines, make recommendations for remedial work.
3. Identify potential hazards and establish severity
4. Ensure the duty of care is observed by the trees' owners and to provide recommendations for any work deemed necessary to prevent failure.

2. Limitations

All trees have been inspected from ground level only. Should further more detailed inspection be deemed appropriate, this will be mentioned in the recommendations section of this report.

When assessing the risk posed by individual trees we have taken into account both the proximity of neighbouring properties and the estimated volume of pedestrian/vehicular traffic within the target range of the tree.

Should there be additional changes of usage of any part of the site between inspections e.g. building works, this could affect the level of risk posed by any particular tree or group of trees.

Trees are self-optimising mechanical structures that grow in and react to their environment. They are living organisms that live and die, and are capable of being wounded or infected by objects and other organisms. As self-optimising structures, trees will ensure that any stresses are uniformly spread over the entire surface area through biomimetic optimisation (The uniform stress axiom (The body language of trees)) This means that even a mechanically perfect tree may be damaged or caused to fail by extreme events, such as weather that may overload specific areas.

With this in mind no tree can ever be guaranteed to be 100% safe and even trees in good condition can suffer damage under normal conditions. Any tree can be deemed hazardous where there is decay or structural weakness but the risk posed by that hazard is determined by its size and location in relation to the potential target.

3. Methodology

All trees have been assessed for general condition and health and safety issues, using the recognised system known as VTA (Visual Tree Assessment) as popularised by eminent arboriculturists such as Dr. David Lonsdale (Ref. Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment & Management 1999).

Visual Tree Assessment: “The method of VTA described here is a method of tree diagnosis that is used world-wide and is legally accepted. It interprets the body language of trees, linking internal defects to the tree’s own repair-structure, confirming and measuring these defects, and finally assessing them with failure criteria, and from this, deducing measures for the “therapy” of the tree. Accordingly, trees that are only apparently dangerous should be distinguished from trees that are really dangerous, thus avoiding unnecessary fellings and also accidents caused by tree failure.”

Trees have been identified and positioned on the corresponding site plan using GPS. Where works or monitoring are required trees have been individually tagged.

Recommended works have been prioritised as follows:

Urgent	Carry out works as soon as can be arranged. Prohibit/limit access to area until complete
High Priority	Carry out works within 3 months, or as soon as can be arranged
Medium Priority	Carry out works within 6 months
Low Priority	Carry out works within 12 months
Advisory	Optional, however, to prevent future damage or promote healthy growth

4 Findings & Recommendations

The trees are largely mature or early mature with a good variety of native species and predominantly in fair condition. This is with the exception of the Alder stock which is under attack from the Alder leaf beetle (*Agelastica alni*) which feeds on the leaves of Alder trees and is widespread in the north-west.

The Alder leaf beetle causes significant defoliation, although the damage they cause can be unsightly, it is something that the trees will survive and the beetle can be tolerated, however, repeated attacks can leave the trees vulnerable to other diseases/pathogens. As a result *Phytophthora* is also present in a moderate number of trees. *Phytophthora* disease of alder is a disease of alder trees (trees in the *Alnus* genus) caused by an algae-like organism called *Phytophthora alni* (*P. alni*).

All trees on site have been subject to numerous recent storms, most notably, storms Dudley and Eunice (in particular) bringing record wind speed gusts on the 18th February 2022; particular attention has therefore been paid to branch unions and root plates of all the on-site tree stock (where possible and not hindered by detritus / Ivy etc.). Despite observable defects (etiolated / asymmetric canopies, included unions etc.), the majority of trees have remained wind firm and suffered no significant limb losses or failures; some deadwood remains, largely in low occupancy settings. None of the trees on site would appear to have suffered any significant damage, suggesting that stem & branch unions are currently stable.

All recommended works are included in the survey schedule which forms appendix 2 to this report.

As regards re-inspection of the trees; we would recommend a default period of two years (Note: some trees have a more frequent interval specified due to their proximity to high value target areas e.g. public highways/RoW).

5. Statutory Obligations

Any works to trees which are covered by Tree Preservation Orders [TPOs] or are within a Conservation Area [CA] require permission or consent from your Local Planning Authority [LPA].

It is a criminal offence under normal circumstances to disturb or destroy - whether intentional or unintentional - the nesting sites of wild birds or the roost sites of bats, under the 'Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, the 'Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000' and the 'Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)'.

We strongly recommend that prior to commencement of any significant tree works i.e. felling or heavy reduction, a thorough aerial inspection is carried out by a suitably competent arborist in order to check for signs of bat activity or occupied nest sites. Further advice on how to proceed can, if necessary, be obtained from the local office of Natural England.

Please do not hesitate to contact the writer should you require a quotation for any work identified within this report.

**BREWOOD LANDSCAPES
LIMITED**

**Dogs Trust - Merseyside
Tree Survey 2022**

SCALE :
1 : 1250 @ A4

DATE :
04/09/2022

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Dogs Trust Merseyside , Whiston Lane, Huyton, Whiston, Liverpool L36 6HP

	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
1	Leyland Cypress	X Cupressocyparis leylandii	M	20	500	Normal	Multi stemmed with compacted unions (normal for species). Poor positioning (car park) and weak structure. Tag number 0843	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
2	Birch	Betula pendula	M	20	310	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality.	No works		2 years
3	Birch	Betula pendula	M	20	310	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality.	No works		2 years
4	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	19	300	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
5	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	19	300	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
6	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	19	390	Reduced	Poor crown density, partial defoliation as a result of Alder beetle.	Observe for decline.		2 years
7	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	19	340	Reduced	Poor crown density, partial defoliation as a result of Alder beetle. Stem wound with good occlusion and no major structural alteration.	Observe for decline.		2 years
8	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	4.5	85	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
9	Maple	Acer campestre	SM	4.5	85	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
10	Birch	Betula pendula	M	20	310	Normal	Stem dominant to Northeast, otherwise no major visible defects, good crown density and vitality.	No works		2 years
11	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	19	395	Normal	Large stem wound with partial occlusion, sound testing (mallet) indicated ample sound wood on opposing side. Phytophthora alni present in early stages.	Observe for decline.		2 years
12	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	16	290	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
13	Birch	Betula pendula	M	16	300	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality.	No works		2 years
14	Hazel	Corylus avellana	EM	5.5	M/S	Normal		No works		2 years
15	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	16	290	Normal	Dead branches on lower stem, otherwise no major visible defects. This is the start of G1	No works		2 years
16	Maple	Acer campestre	EM	14	275	Normal	Phytophthora present, advance stages and likely to go into decline within 2 years Tag number 0849 2	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
G1	Group						Small group of 20-25 trees including Alder, Oak, Birch, Sorbus, Abies, Cornus and Prunus, no major visual defects with the exception of individually tagged tree Height 6-18 Sm-Em	No works		2 years
17	Poplar	Populus tremula	M	22	480	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
18	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	4.5	90	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
19	Birch	Betula pendula	M	18	280	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality.	No works		2 years
20	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	19	320	Normal	Poor crown density, Alder beetle present in low numbers	No works		2 years
21	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	17	320	Normal	Poor crown density, Alder beetle present in low numbers	No works		2 years
22	Birch	Betula pendula	M	18	250	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality.	No works		2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
23	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	14	315	Dead	Some tip growth remains, likely death as a result of repeated attacks from Alder beetle. Tag number 0844	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
24	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	5	90	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
G2	Group						Small group of 32 trees including Alder, Oak, Birch, Sorbus, Field maple and Pine, no major visual defects with the exception of individually tagged tree. Group height 6-18m Sm-Em	No works		2 years
25	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	17	300	Reduced	Poor crown density for species, likely cause is Alder beetle. Tag number 0845	Observe for decline.		2 years
26	Dogwood	Cornus spp	EM	4	110	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0846	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
27	Dogwood	Cornus spp	EM	4	110	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0847	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
28	Dogwood	Cornus spp	EM	4	110	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0848	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
29	Dogwood	Cornus spp	EM	4	M/S	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0850	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
30	Dogwood	Cornus spp	EM	4	80	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0851	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
32	Sweetgum	Liquidambar	Y	2.8	30	Good	Newly planted memorial tree	No works		2 years
33	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	16	290	Normal	Phytophthora alni present, early stages observe for decline tag number 0852			2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
34	Alder	Alnus cordata	M	16	290	Reduced	Poor crown density, alder beetle present, tag number 0853	Monitor vitality in next growing season		2 years
35	Alder	Alnus cordata	M	16	290	Reduced	Poor crown density, alder beetle present, tag number 0854	Monitor vitality in next growing season		2 years
36	Alder	Alnus cordata	M	16	290	Reduced	Poor crown density, alder beetle present, minimal live growth. Tag number 0855	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
37	Dogwood	Cornus spp	EM	3.5	110	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0856	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
38	Apple	Malus sylvestris	SM	2.5	65	Good	Growing with a heavy lean due to suppression, tag number 0857 Crown raise to 2m and reduce by 25%	Crown raise to 2m and reduce by 25%	Low	2 years
39	Apple	Malus sylvestris	M	5.5	250	Good	No visible defects, tag number 0858	Crown raise to 2m	Low	2 years
40	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	18	350	Normal	Growing with a heavy lean through adjacent chestnut, poor structure, tag number 0859	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
41	Horse Chestnut	Aesculus hippocastanum	M	18	550	Normal	Historic failed and recovered union, tag number 0860	Target weight reduce secondary stem by 25% and lightly reduce remainder to balance	Medium	2 years
42	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	23	350	Normal	Tag number 0861	Reduce crown by 25%	Medium	2 years
43	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	23	350	Normal	Tag number 0862	Reduce crown by 25%	Medium	2 years
44	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	23	350	Normal	Tag number 0863	Reduce crown by 25%	Medium	2 years
45	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	12	300	Reduced	Minimal live growth as a result of repeated attacks from Alder beetle. Tag number 0864	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years

Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
46	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	12	340	Reduced	Alder beetle and Phytophthora alni present Tag number 0865	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
47	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	12	340	Normal	Early stages of Phytophthora alni, Tag number 0866	Observe for decline		2 years
48	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	12	340	Normal	Early stages of Phytophthora alni, Tag number 0867	Observe for decline		2 years
G3	Group						Large group of 80-100 trees including Alder, Oak, Sycamore, Poplar, Chestnut, Cornus, Birch, Sorbus, Field maple and Pine, no major visual defects with the exception of individually tagged trees. Height 6-25 Sm-Em	No works		2 years
49	Prunus		SM	4	140	Good		No works		2 years
50	Prunus		SM	8	325	Good		No works		2 years
51	Prunus		SM	5.5	325	Reduced	Some minor dieback in upper canopy	No works		2 years
52	Birch	Betula pendula	M	15	270	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality. Tag number 0868	Crown raise to 5m	Low	2 years
53	Birch	Betula pendula	M	15	270	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality. Tag number 0869	Crown raise to 5m	Low	2 years
54	Sorbus	Sorbus aria	SM	4	50	Good		No works		2 years
55	Sorbus	Sorbus aria	SM	4	50	Good		No works		2 years
56	Apple	Malus sylvestris	M	6	M/S	Good	Adjacent to entrance, some crown raising may be required within 2 years	No works	Low	2 years
57	Prunus		SM	5.5	325	Normal		No works		2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
58	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	19	500	Reduced	Large stem wound at 3m and reduced vitality tag number 0870	Fell to ground level	High	2 years
59	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	17.5	500	Reduced	Reduced vitality and general poor form. Tag number 0871	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
60	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	17.5	500	Reduced	Reduced vitality and general poor form. Tag number 0872	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
61	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	17.5	550	Reduced	Reduced vitality and general poor form. Tag number 0873	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
62	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	17.5	390	Reduced	Reduced vitality and general poor form. Tag number 0874	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
63	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	18	480	Reduced	Reduced vitality and general poor form. Tag number 0875	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
64	Birch	Betula pendula	M	14.5	310	Normal	No major visible defects, good crown density and vitality. Tag number 0876	Crown raise to 5m	Low	2 years
G4	Group						Group of 14 trees 3x alder, 5 x Birch, 2 x rowan , 1 pine , 3 x field maple No major visible defects, exposed surface roots. Sm-M 100-350mm 5-15m	No works		2 years
65	Poplar	Populus x canadensis	M	18	490	Reduced	Reduced vitality and general poor form. Tag number 0877	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
66	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	250	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing Tag number 0878	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
67	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	450	Normal	Recently pollarded, regeneration forming	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
68	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	350	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0880	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
69	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	300	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0879	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
70	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	400	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0881	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
71	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	400	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0882	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
72	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	400	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0883	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
73	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	400	Reduced	Live growth, however, some hollowing present and unlikely to survive, tag number 0884	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
74	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	400	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0885	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
75	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	5	400	Dead	Failed to respond to pollarding with advance hollowing, tag number 0886	Fell to ground level	Medium	2 years
G5	Group						Group of 8 trees 3x alder, 3 x Birch, 1 pine , 1 x field maple No major visible defects, exposed surface roots. Sm-M 100-350mm 5-15m	No works		2 years
G6	Group						Group of 8 trees 2 x Lombardy , 1 Ash , 1 x Poplar, 1 x Chestnut, 2 x Norway maple and 1 Oak No major visible defects, exposed surface roots. Sm-M 100-350mm 5-15m	No works		2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
76	Poplar	Populus nigra 'Italica'	M	23	600	Normal	No evidence of past maintenance, Tag number 0887	Reduce crown by 25%	Medium	2 years
77	Maple	Acer pseudoplatanus	M	17	390	Normal		No works		2 years
78	Willow	Salix caprea	M	7	250	Normal	Growing from neighboring woodland onto perimeter fence, tag number 0888 positioned on stub	Cut back beyond fence line to minimise damage	High	2 years
79	Poplar		M	24	500	Normal	Sound testing indicated no internal decay, however, formerly part of a group and now solitary. Tag number 0889	Pollard at 5m	Medium	2 years
G7	Group						Group of 9 trees 2x alder, 3 x Birch, 1 Pine , 1 x Field maple, 1 x Rowan and 1 x Oak No major visible defects, exposed surface roots. Some minor indication of Alder beetle with slightly sparse crowns (Alder only) Sm-M Height 5-15m	No works		2 years
80	Oak	Quercus robur	SM	8	210	Good	Lateral branches in contact/close to with roof, tag number 0890	Prune to provide 2m clearance from property	Low	2 years
81	Maple	Acer campestre	SM	8	210	Good	Lateral branches in contact/close to with roof, tag number 0891	Prune to provide 2m clearance from property	Low	2 years
82	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	5	170	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
83	Maple	Acer campestre	SM	8	210	Good	No major visible defects	No works		2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
84	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	5	170	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
85	Maple	Acer campestre	SM	8	290	Good	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
86	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	5	100	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
87	Maple	Acer campestre	SM	8	290	Good	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
88	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	15	390	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
89	Maple	Acer campestre	SM	8	290	Good	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
90	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	280	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
91	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	200	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
92	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	15	300	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
93	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	M	15	300	Normal	Basal stem wound, sound testing indicated sufficient sound wood	No works		2 years
94	Sorbus	Sorbus aucuparia	SM	3.5	100	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
95	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	200	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
96	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	260	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
97	Maple	Acer palmatum	EM	3	M/S	Good	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
98	Elder	Sambucas nigra	M	6.5	M/S	Normal	Growing between two fences. No tag due to positioning	Cut to fence level and insert eco plugs	Low	2 years
99	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	260	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
100	Dogwood	Cornus spp	SM	3	40	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
101	Hazel	Corylus avellana	EM	5	M/S	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
102	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	310	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
103	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	180	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
104	Hazel	Corylus avellana	EM	5	M/S	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
105	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	390	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years

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Tree ID	Tree Type	Latin Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Stem Dia (mm)	Vigour	Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Re-inspect
106	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	230	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
107	Hazel	Corylus avellana	EM	5	M/S	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
108	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	290	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
109	Hazel	Corylus avellana	EM	5	M/S	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years
110	Birch	Betula pendula	M	17.5	300	Normal	No major visible defects	No works		2 years