



Tree Condition Report

Former Garden Center - Halsnead

Report prepared for
Your Housing

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Appendix 1 Survey terms

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Instruction and background

- 1.2 My name is Simon Brain; I am a registered consultant of the Institute of Chartered Foresters / Chartered arboriculturist with over 20 years' experience as a consultant and 25 years working within the arboriculture industry. I advise numerous local and national government agencies on tree safety matters throughout the region and the UK. I have been trained and have experience in using tree safety risk methods including QTRA, THREATS and Matheny and Clarke. I hold the AA Technicians and the LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection certificates.
- 1.3 I have been instructed by Your Housing to prepare the following Tree Condition Survey and Report for the site address above.
- 1.4 The circumstances of the inspection were that the client had recently been informed about dead / dying trees by an adjacent landowner who was concerned about safety.

2.0 Report Limitations

- 2.1 The inspection has been carried out from ground level only, using visual observation methods as this is a preliminary report as requested by the client. Binoculars were used during the inspection as an aide. Should a more detailed inspection (internal / climbing) be required then this will be highlighted in the recommendations.
- 2.2 Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly, the health, condition and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis, preferably at least once a year. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are only valid for a period of twelve months from the date of this report. This period of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions to or in proximity to the tree.
- 2.3 A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) covers the trees
- 2.4 No analysis of soil samples was undertaken.
- 2.5 Any legal descriptions or information given to the consultant are understood to be accurate. No responsibility is assumed by Amenity Tree Care Ltd for legal matters

that may arise from this report and the consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made.

2.6 Any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole and the conclusions of this report will remain valid for twelve months from the date of the inspection.

2.7 The responsibility for any work undertaken on the surveyed trees rests with the land managers.

2.8 All dimensions are estimated unless otherwise stated.

3.0 Methodology and data collection

3.1 The site was visited as indicated above and the trees within falling range of adjacent property were assessed visually utilising the Visual Tree Assessment methodology. No specific proprietary risk assessment methodology was used.

3.2 Recommendations for remedial tree works have been provided on the basis of the trees current condition.

4.0 Arboricultural Survey

4.1 The following details have been recorded for the subject trees:

T1/2	<i>Two large Ash on the Eastern side of lane opposite Halstead villa</i>
Species	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Height	Approximately 25m from stem base
Life Stage	Mature
Stem dia.	700 (estimated)
Canopy spread R	14
Rooting area	Appears normal
Lower stem	5 Decayed Inonotus hispidus found around base of both trees that may have fallen from the canopy, could not identify the area of location or from which tree they had originated from.
Canopy	The larger tree - upper canopy is showing early stages of decline with minor deadwood Predominantly on Southwestern side. The smaller tree is dead.



The Ash trees from public highway



Decay fungi at base of trees



Smaller dead tree covered in ivy

5.0 Summary

- 5.1 The 2no. trees are located within the site and are inside the clients ownership.
- 5.2 There is foreseeable evidence that the trees if they fail could cause a health and safety breach as they are demonstrably in poor structural condition.

6.0 Recommendations and conclusions

- 6.1 Both trees require pollarding to 4-6m to maintain a standing deadwood resource within the woodland area.
- 6.2 The trees require an application to the LPA to be able to implement the management recommendation. In this instance it is possible to give the LPA 5 days notice of intent.
- 6.3 Appropriate checks and surveys for birds and bat species is required.

Appendix 1

Survey Terms

Tree No. Sequential reference number e.g. T1, T2 for individual trees, where trees are determined to be a group they will be denoted as follows G1, G2 and W1, W2 for woodlands.

Species: Recorded and listed by both common name and scientific name

Stem: Principal above ground structural component(s) of a tree that supports its branches.

Height: Provides indication of the height of the tree.

Stem diameter: Measured at a height of 1.5 meters from ground level using a diameter tape and recorded in millimetres.

Crown spread: Measured at the four cardinal points of a compass (north, south, east, and west) from the centre of the stem and rounded up to the nearest meter in order to provide an accurate representation of the crown spread.

Crown height: Measured distance between the lowest points of the crown from ground level.

Life stage: A method of age estimation e.g. young - the first one third of the estimated life expectancy, middle mature- the second third of the estimated life expectancy, mature- The last third of the estimated life expectancy , over mature- trees showing obvious signs of senescence

First significant branch (FSB): The direction of growth of the first significant branch from the point of attachment.

Comments: A brief evaluation and description of the tree in order to inform on significant defects or characteristics relating to tree form. Where comments are not present it should be assumed that no relevant features were exhibited.

Recommendations: Arboricultural recommendations based on the current land use only and are provided where action is required in order to aid in the long term management of the tree or for reasons of site safety.

Survey restrictions: It may be necessary on occasion to estimate tree dimensions where access is not available or where structure or vegetation is precluding the visual assessment.