



DUCKWORTHS
ARBORICULTURE LTD.

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

TREE CONDITION SURVEY

Relating to trees on land at:

263 PEPPARD ROAD
EMMER GREEN
READING
RG4 8UB

CLIENT: RICHARD HAWES

SEPTEMBER 2022

Ref: SCD 05874 / 2022

REPORT BY: SARAH DUCKWORTH

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2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Instruction

This Arboricultural Report has been commissioned by Richard Hawes. I have been asked to provide a report on the condition of trees within the garden of 263 Peppard Close, Emmer Green, Reading.

The report is to specify any necessary remedial tree works which may be required to address identified hazards from the trees whilst acknowledging and respecting their significance to the amenity and biodiversity of the local area.

Where appropriate works have been prioritised according to the hazard and considering the presence of high-risk areas such as the adjacent recreation ground and play area, neighbouring properties, and the public highway.

The report is for the sole use of the client and its reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.

2.2 Qualification

Lead Surveyor: Sarah Duckworth

- Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma
- Arboricultural Association's Technicians Certificate (with Distinction)
- LANTRA qualified Professional Tree Inspector
- Arboricultural Association Professional Member
- Consulting Arborist Society (CAS) Member

2.3 Insurance

Sarah Duckworth t/a Duckworth's Arboriculture is insured with Hiscox Insurance

- Public Liability £10,000,000
- Professional Indemnity £2,000,000

3. STATUTORY PROTECTION

3.1 Tree Preservation Orders

I have confirmed with Reading Borough Council that trees at 263 Peppard Road are subject of Woodland Tree Preservation Order (ref. 216/06). This tree preservation order is limited to Oak, Ash, Birch and Hornbeam trees.

The property is not within the Conservation Area.

No works should be undertaken to the protected trees on site without the prior written consent of the Local Authority (exemptions apply).

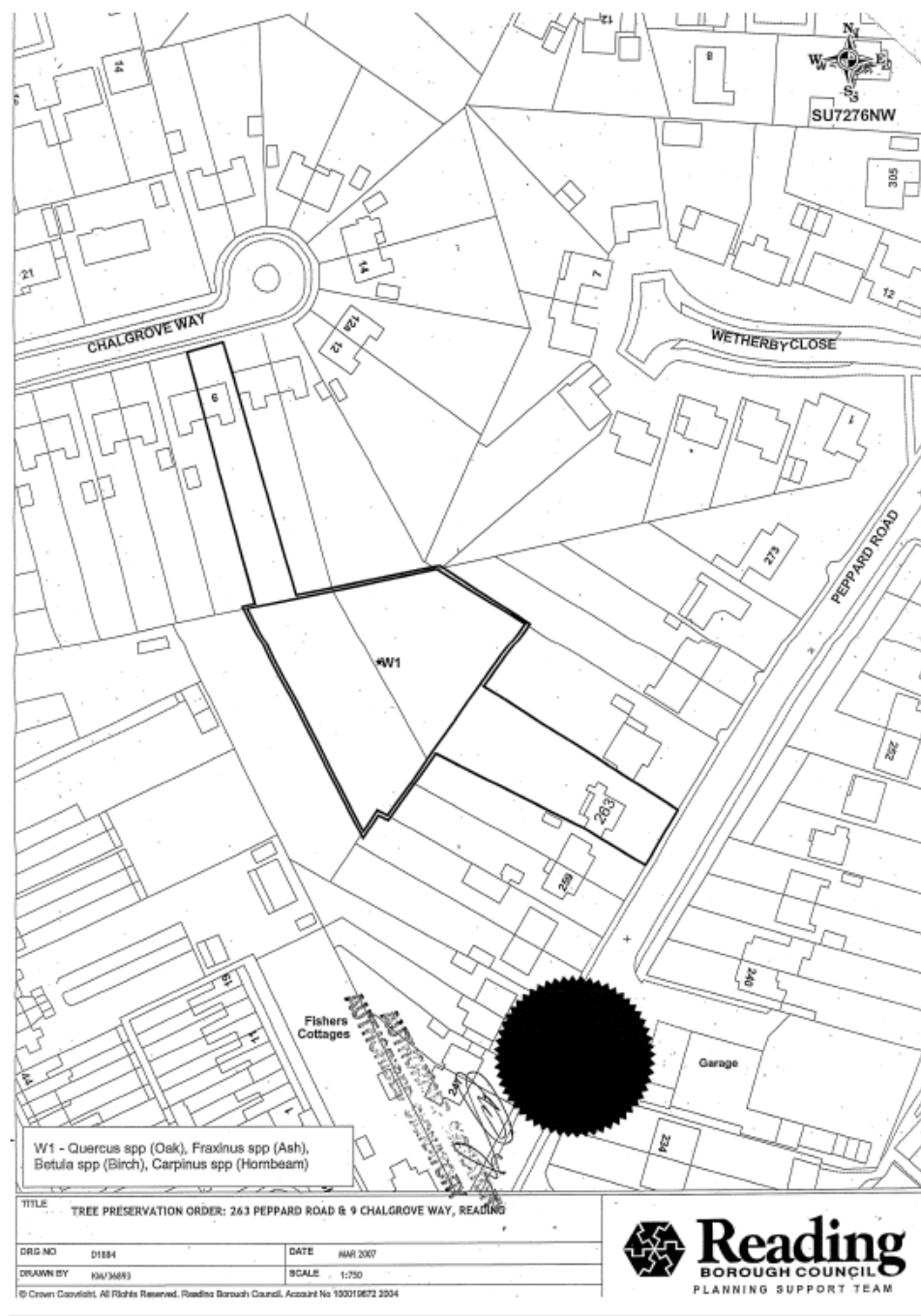


Figure 1. Tree Preservation Order Plan

3.2 Protected Species

In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act - 1981, Conservation - Natural Habitats - Regulations 1994 and Countryside Rights of Way Act - 2000, you must consider the timing and type of and tree work operations including hedge pruning to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting or breeding birds or bat roosts that may be present within trees and hedgerows.

It is 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.

All wild birds, their young, their eggs and active nests are protected under law. It is an offence to damage a nest intentionally while it is in use or being built. Tree work where birds are nesting is highly likely to damage nests or cause them to be deserted.

Non-urgent major tree work involving tree removal or reduction and hedge cutting operations should not be undertaken during the bird nesting or breeding season, which is from 1 March to 31 July. However, depending on seasonal temperatures, some birds continue breeding into August and September.

When tree or vegetation clearance work must be undertaken during the nesting season, a pre works survey needs to be carried out by a suitably competent person. As a rule, it should be assumed that birds will be nesting in trees, and the contactors should assess, record and confirm that any works carried out in the management of trees and other vegetation has not disturbed actively nesting birds.

4. ARBORICULTURAL BEST PRACTICE

4.1 Tree Work Good Practice:

All tree works specified should be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

To limit the harm to trees caused by the pruning operations, major pruning work on live deciduous trees should be undertaken in the summer months (July and August) avoiding periods of drought. Where trees are to be retained, no tree pruning work is advisable during the period immediately before or after leaf break (March to June) when the trees' energy reserves are most depleted.

Chippings arising from the work should not be piled around the bases of trees on or off the site. Wood, brash and any other arisings from the tree work should not be burnt on site.

You are advised to use a properly qualified and experienced company will be employed who carry Public and Products Liability Insurance with a minimum of £2,000,000 cover and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance. A List of approved contractors is available from the Arboricultural Association – www.trees.org.uk.

4.2 Ivy

Ivy is an attractive habitat for insects and invertebrates and consequently bird and animal life can benefit as a result of an increase in available food source. Bats, which are rare and protected by law regularly roost amongst ivy, as well as inside small cavities in suitable trees. Ivy growth is not a threat to the health of otherwise healthy trees; however, it does obscure the base, trunk and forks of trees.

Although ivy foliage was moved aside to better assess the trees where accessible and if the visual inspection of a tree identified the need; it was beyond the scope of this report to sever all stems and ivy as part of this survey

Ivy is recommended for removal where a detailed assessment of the tree is considered necessary. Where trees are in a less strictly managed, in lower occupancy areas or where the trees are young and vigorous, ivy does not need to be removed and can be left to benefit local wildlife.

When severing established ivy, it is important to use sharp hand tools only. Ivy stems should be cut at ground level and 1.5m, taking care not to damage the tree bark. Cut stems should then be removed to height of 1.5m. The ivy growth above 1.5m can be left in the canopy (unless it obscures another necessary point of inspection) from where it will die back and eventually fall from the tree.

4.3 Woodland Management

The area of garden at the rear of 263 Peppard Way is a polygon block with dense tree cover and a wooded character. Trees on site are mostly young, etiolated specimens growing close together. There are several older specimen trees dotted around the edges of the site.

The dominant tree species are: Hornbeam, Oak, Ash and Blackthorn. Many of the younger trees show defects commensurate with having grown as a dense group in competition with each other and this includes many multi-stem trees, often with tight forks. A number of young Hornbeam trees have significant historic bark damage.

The tree cover in general is in a reasonable condition with no notable pest or disease issue. Several older trees will have been harmed by new buildings which have been constructed in neighbouring gardens close to trees.

Vegetation under the trees is mostly dominated by bramble. I have been advised that Wild Garlic (*Allium ursinum*) grows on site which is an ancient woodland indicator plant species. This suggests that the area has been wooded for many centuries and there should be a varied and interesting seedbank within the soil. Wild garlic attracts the attention of plenty of pollinating insects in early spring, including hoverflies, butterflies and longhorn beetles. Native ground flora where present should be protected and nurtured on site.

I would suggest steps are taken to increase the value of the woodland for the benefit of local wildlife.

This might include:

Short Term

- Clearing and cutting back bramble.
- Thinning out the lower grade overly slender trees of Hornbeam and Blackthorn to encourage growth of better specimens
- Creation of habitat stacks and piles
- Mulch paths with woodchip to create a useable path and to protect other areas of woodland floor from excessive compaction and damage to ground flora.
- Cutting small holes in the fence to allow hedgehogs to forage across the site.

Medium Term

- Removing individual Ash when they are significantly in decline with Ash Dieback and replace with an alternative native species.
- Introducing and enhancing native ground flora to enhance the diversity of the site – promoting species found in other older woodlands in the local area.
- Underplanting with a mix of young native flowering and fruit-bearing whip trees such as crab apple, wild cherry, rowan etc. Young trees should be protected against damage from deer.

Long Term

- Clearing vegetation around one or two young Oak trees to allow them to grow into well-formed mature specimen trees.

4.4 Ash Dieback Disease

Ash Dieback is a relatively new disease which is spreading throughout the country. Many parts of the UK are now affected by Ash dieback to various degrees and the future of the species is uncertain.

Experience in continental Europe, which is now being seen replicated in the UK, indicates that Ash dieback can kill young and coppiced ash trees quite quickly. However, older trees can resist it for some time until prolonged exposure, or another pest or pathogen, such as *Armillaria* (honey fungus), attacking them in their weakened state eventually causes them to succumb. There is no known cure.

Current management guidelines from Forest Research (Great Britain's principal organisation for forestry and tree related research) confirmed that a landowner is not legally required to take any particular action if you own infected ash trees, unless your country forestry or plant health authority serves you with a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN) requiring action. This is unlikely.

With the exceptions of felling for public safety or timber production, Forest Research recommend a general presumption against felling living ash trees, whether infected or not. This is because there is good evidence that a small proportion will be able to tolerate an Ash Dieback infection. There is also the possibility that a proportion of ash trees can become diseased, but then recover to good health. These trees would be valuable for research.

Of course, safety is the priority, and Mr Hawes is advised to keep an eye on the condition of Ash trees on site in between the scheduled inspections as the disease progresses, and prune or fell them if they or their branches threaten to cause injury or damage. In particular, watch for basal lesions (lesions, or cankers, forming near the bottom of the trunk), which can weaken the trunk and make the tree more prone to falling.

5. TREE SURVEY DATA

Ref.	Species	Location	Life Stage	Survey Notes	Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations
T001	Whitebeam (Sorbus aria)	Rear garden	Early Mature	Young tree, basal graft discrepancy. Twin stem from 1m. Asymmetrical canopy due to competition with adjacent trees. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality. Low canopy to 1m. 0.3m canopy clearance from garden gym.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T002	Eucalyptus Cider Gum (Eucalyptus gunnii)	Residential garden	Mature	Swept stem east due to competition with adjacent tree which has now been removed. Light ivy growth. Base clear bark intact. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. Small, suppressed canopy. Centrally do poor form with dog leg limbs. Lateral branch on west side grows out and kinks back over neighbouring garden. Low pendulous branch over adjacent T1.	Fair	3 Years	Remove slender branches on east side growing low over whitehead back to source. Remove dog leg limb on west side of canopy back to source Timescale: 13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T003	Silver Birch (Betula pendula)	Residential garden	Semi Mature	Slender tree, suppressed form. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T004	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden and neighbouring gardens. ,	Mature	Mature tree in corner of plot. Light ivy growth. Where accessible base clear. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. Swept stem northeast. Asymmetrical canopy low over neighbour's shed. Significant Dieback in several branches in upper crown. Large low dead branches over garden of #263.	In decline (potential to recover)	3 Years	Remove deadwood Reduce lateral spread on tips of low branch over shed back by up to 2-3m, graded to leave a natural looking canopy shape. Crown lift smaller secondary branches to create 3- 4m clearance above ground level, particularly in canopy over neighbouring shed. Timescale: 13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T005	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden and neighbouring gardens. ,	Mature	Light ivy growth. Base obscured by twigs and debris. Where accessible base clear. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. Swept lower trunk north before trunk curves and assumes vertical growth. Raised soil around base, appears historic- no evidence of rootplate movement. Upright canopy. Foliage chlorotic, gappy, stunted. Dense epicormic growth on main branches. Slender canopy with few secondary / tertiary growth tips. Moderate to low vitality.	Fair	3 Years	No action required

Ref.	Species	Location	Life Stage	Survey Notes	Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations
T006	Leyland Cypress (Cupressocyparis leylandii X)	Residential garden	Life Young	Young tree with no obvious defects. Potential to grow significantly larger. Non-native.	Fair	3 Years	Consider felling and replace with better specimen. Timescale: Optional
T007	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden and neighbouring garden.	Over Mature	The stems from ground level. Light ivy growth, some dying back. Symptoms of Ash Dieback on young epicormic growth. Taller stems deep out over neighbouring garden. Some squirrel damage with stripped bark on upper stems. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality. Limited life expectancy due to Ash Dieback Disease.	Poor	3 Years	No action required
T008	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden and neighbouring garden.	Over Mature	The stems from 0.6m. Dense ivy growth. Where accessible no fungi or decay. Weak fork on south side with area of bark inclusion. Linear split on stem above which is a large, sweeping lateral branch growing out over neighbour's garden. Fused stems on north side of canopy. Major deadwood where foliage aborted due to lack of light. Rapid growth back cracks on underside of low lateral limbs. Weak fork in central stem approx. 6m above ground level. Swing on dead branch.	Poor	3 Years	Remove swing (immediate). Remove deadwood. Reduce remaining canopy by around 6m and continue to maintain in a reduced form Timescale: 13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
G008A	Damson x20 (Prunus domestica ssp. insititia)	Residential and neighbouring garden	Young	Dense young stands of slender trees. Poor, etiolated form with high canopies having grown in competition as a group. One or two standing trees dead or split and broken.	Poor	3 Years	Fell 8 split / dead/ broken trees marked with patient Timescale: 13-Dec-2022 (3 Months)
T009	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden.	Early Mature	Young tree. Light ivy growth. Slender trunk. High canopy. Asymmetrical canopy. Good foliage density. No obvious symptoms of Ash Dieback.	Good	3 Years	No action required
T010	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden.	Early Mature	Young tree. Light ivy growth. Slender trunk. High canopy. Asymmetrical canopy. Good foliage density. No obvious symptoms of Ash Dieback.	Good	3 Years	No action required

Ref.	Species	Location	Life Stage	Survey Notes	Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations
T011	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden.	Semi Mature	Slender, asymmetrical tree with high canopy. Hawthorn at base	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T012	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden	Early Mature	Young slender tree. Light ivy growth around trunk. Where accessible base satisfactory. Hammock tied around trunk. High asymmetrical canopy. Epicormic growth on trunk. Deadwood and low pendulous branch in canopy	Fair	3 Years	Remove deadwood Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T013	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden.	Semi Mature	Slender, asymmetrical tree with high canopy. Heavily suppressed. Epicormic growth on trunks. Minor dead branch stubs	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T014	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden	Early Mature	Base satisfactory. Well-formed buttress roots. Hammock tied around trunk. High asymmetrical with some larger pieces of deadwood in canopy. Reasonable foliage density and vitality	Fair	3 Years	Remove deadwood Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T015	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden	Early Mature	Slender trunk, lower trunk obscured by dense ivy growth. Asymmetrical canopy. Foliage slightly clustered and gappy.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T016	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Residential garden	Mature	Scruffy tree, ivy recently cut but dead on trunk. Twin stem from 0.5m. Asymmetrical canopy due to adjacent trees. Foliage even, slightly sparse. Moderate vitality.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T017	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Residential garden	Mature	Scruffy tree, ivy recently cut but dead on trunk. Twin stem from ground level. Etiolated form with both stems growing apart. Foliage even, slightly sparse. Moderate vitality.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T018	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Residential garden	Mature	Scruffy tree, ivy recently cut but dead on trunk. Twin stem from 0.5m. Asymmetrical canopy due to adjacent trees. Foliage even, slightly sparse. Moderate vitality. Long arching secondary branch resting on ground.	Fair	3 Years	Remove low arching branch back to source. Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)

Ref.	Species	Location	Life Stage	Survey Notes	Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations
T019	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden	Mature	Light ivy growth. Where visible, no significant defects around base. Single stem, no defects. High canopy. Few dead tips but not significant or obvious indication of Ash Dieback. Larger low branches dead having been aborted due to lack of light	Fair	3 Years	Remove deadwood Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T020	Hornbeam (Carpinus betulus)	Residential garden	Mature	The stems from 0.4m. bark inclusion in forks. Light ivy cover on lower trunks. Broad canopy. One or two dead but very small low branches. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality. Large broken branch from another tree prepped up against trunk.	Fair	3 Years	Remove dead propped branch Timescale: 15-Dec-2022 (3 Months)
T021	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden	Semi Mature	Very acute leaning trunk. Epicormic growth and ivy around base. Trunk extends through canopies of adjacent trees at 45o without resuming vertical growth. Rapid growth bark cracks all up trunk as tree attempts to support leaning growth. Tree canopy largely obscured by those of adjacent trees but where visible, even with no obvious Dieback. Canopy proximity to adjacent trees suggests lean is not the result of rootplate failure but where tree has grown towards available light.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T022	Hazel (Corylus avellana)	Residential garden	Mature	Young coffee stool, Poles between 40 and 80mm diameter. Foliage dense and even. Good vitality.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T023	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden, neighbouring outbuilding	Mature	Base and trunk completely obscured by dense ivy growth. Linear cavity to 1.8m on southeast side of trunk where some wound wood is visible. Also cavity on north side at base where there may have been a second trunk. Stem hollow – metal probe can be inserted 300mm Neighbour has recently built a brick outbuilding within 200mm of base. Trunk obscured by ivy. High canopy. Dead low lateral branch on west side of canopy. Foliage even, minor dead twigs and some tip dieback.	Fair	3 Years	Fell to high stump. Tree has significant structural defect and has been undermined by adjacent building works Timescale: 15-Dec-2022 (3 Months)
T024	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Residential garden, neighbouring outbuilding	Mature	Base and trunk completely obscured by dense ivy growth. Slender tree. Where visible no obvious defects on trunk. Asymmetrical leggy canopy with extended low branch and deadwood over neighbouring garden. Foliage dense and even	Fair	3 Years	Sever ivy and inspect base and lower trunk. Remove deadwood Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)

Ref.	Species	Location	Life Stage	Survey Notes	Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations
T025	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Residential garden, neighbouring outbuilding	Mature	Base and lower trunk partially obscured by dense ivy growth which has been cut and is doing back. Minor bark wounds where ivy has been cut. Dieback of epicormic shoots from base. Swept lower trunk. Upper canopy resumes vertical growth. Broad canopy. Large pieces of deadwood from aborted shaded branches. Foliage even, minor dead twigs and some apical dieback.	Fair	3 Years	Remove deadwood Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T026	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)		Semi Mature	Slender tree with high canopy. Ivy cut and mostly fallen from trunk. Base and trunk no obvious defects. Suppressed form with asymmetrical and slightly chlorotic foliage. Several small to medium sized pieces of deadwood over bin area	Fair	3 Years	Remove deadwood Timescale: 15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T027	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Residential garden	Stems: 2 Mature	Very slender tree, Etiolated form. Asymmetrical canopy grows south into canopy of adjacent T28. Foliage sparse, low vitality.	Poor	3 Years	No action required
T028	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Residential garden	Mature	Lateral root raised high or of ground. Tree appears to have suffered partial root plate failure in the past but had now stabilized. Swept stem and canopy. Foliage dense and even. Good overall vitality.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
T029	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Rear garden boundary tree	Early Mature	End tree in linear boundary group. Light ivy growth on trunk. Foliage dense. Canopy heavily reduced and managed a pollard.	Fair	3 Years	Continue to maintain as a pollard Timescale: Ongoing
T030	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Rear garden boundary tree	Early Mature	Central tree in linear boundary group, less than 200mm from T29. Light ivy growth on trunk. Foliage dense. Canopy heavily reduced and managed a pollard.	Fair	3 Years	Continue to maintain as a pollard Timescale: Ongoing
T031	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Rear garden boundary tree	Early Mature	Previously three stems, two of which have been removed leaving stump at base. Central tree in linear boundary group. Canopy largely obscured by that of the adjacent beeches which are heavily reduced and managed as pollards.	Fair	3 Years	Continue to maintain as a pollard Timescale: Ongoing

Ref.	Species	Location	Life Stage	Survey Notes	Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations
T032	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Rear garden boundary trees	Early Mature	Two stems from single growth point. Mechanical damage to exposed surface roots. Within linear boundary group. Foliage dense. Canopy heavily reduced and managed a pollard. Chicken wire on far side of base (next to fence).	Fair	3 Years	Continue to maintain as a pollard Timescale: Ongoing
T033	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Rear garden boundary tree	Early Mature	End tree in linear boundary group. Bark wounds on trunk. Foliage dense. Canopy heavily reduced and managed a pollard.	Fair	3 Years	Continue to maintain as a pollard Timescale: Ongoing
T034	Cultivar Apple (Malus domestica)	Residential garden	Mature	Small apple tree. Gnarled trunk. Small decay pockets in old pruning cuts. Heavily reduced. Foliage slightly sparse. Moderate to low vitality.	Poor	3 Years	No action required
T035	Leyland Cypress x10 (Cupressocyparis leylandii X)	Boundary hedge	Mature	High boundary hedge. Some browning of foliage. In parts gappy. Unevenly clipped.	Fair	3 Years	No action required
G036	Mixed Species Group (Group, mixed species)	Residential garden	Young	Mixed species group but predominantly Hornbeam. Very young trees average 100mm diameter. Suppressed by density. Some bark damage on selective individuals.	Fair	3 Years	Fell 7 trees in group with extensive stem wounding to enable other trees in group to succeed. Timescale: 15-Sep-2023 (1 Year)

6. TREE WORKS SCHEDULE (IN PRIORITY ORDER)

Ref.	Species	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T008A	Damson x20 (Prunus domestica ssp. insititia)	Fell 8 split / dead/ broken trees marked with patient	13-Dec-2022 (3 Months)
T020	Hornbeam (Carpinus betulus)	Remove dead propped branch	15-Dec-2022 (3 Months)
T023	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Fell to high stump.	15-Dec-2022 (3 Months)
T002	Eucalyptus Cider Gum (Eucalyptus gunnii)	Remove slender branches on east side growing low over whitehead back to source. Remove dog leg limb on west side of canopy back to source	13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T004	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Remove deadwood Reduce lateral spread on tips of low branch over shed back by up to 2-3m, graded to leave a natural looking canopy shape. Crown lift smaller secondary branches to create 3-4m clearance above ground level, particularly area of canopy over neighbouring shed.	13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T008	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Remove swing (immediate). Remove deadwood. Reduce remaining canopy by around 6m and continue to maintain in a reduced form Timescale: 13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)	13-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T012	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Remove deadwood	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T014	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Remove deadwood	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T018	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Remove low arching branch back to source.	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T019	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Remove deadwood	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T024	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Sever ivy and inspect base and lower trunk. Remove deadwood	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T025	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Remove deadwood	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
T026	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	Remove deadwood	15-Mar-2023 (6 Months)
G036	Mixed Species Group (Group, mixed species)	Fell 7 trees in group with extensive stem wounding to enable other trees in group to succeed.	15-Sep-2023 (1 Year)
T006	Leyland Cypress (Cupressocyparis leylandii X)	Consider felling and replace with better specimen.	Optional

Ref.	Species	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T029	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Continue to maintain as a pollard	Every 3-5 years
T030	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Continue to maintain as a pollard	Every 3-5 years
T031	Common Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Continue to maintain as a pollard	Every 3-5 years
T032	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Continue to maintain as a pollard	Every 3-5 years
T033	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Continue to maintain as a pollard	Every 3-5 years

7. SITE SKETCH PLAN

263 PEPPARD ROAD - READING

Survey Date:
13 & 15th September 2022
Ref: 05874 / 2022



NB: Tree locations in all plans have been plotted by eye and should not be taken as exact but are considered to be a fair representation of their locations on site.
-Do Not Scale

8. SCOPE & LIMITATIONS

8.1 Scope

The trees were inspected on 13th and 15th September 2022 by Sarah Duckworth, LANTRA Qualified Professional Tree Inspector. On the day of the survey the weather was dry and sunny. Visibility was satisfactory.

The report refers to the condition of tree(s) and an assessment of the site on the days the evaluation was undertaken. The trees were assessed from ground level only and were not climbed.

Defects present on trees can be hidden by ivy and dense vegetation. It was beyond the scope of this survey to clear ivy and vegetation from around all trees and the client is advised that where present, climbing plants and dense vegetation may have limitations to the tree survey.

Private properties were not accessed or included in the survey. Fences where present on site have been taken as the presumed site boundary. It is the client's responsibility to ensure that this report covers all areas under the brief of the tree inspection and refer any concerns regarding this matter back to the Arboricultural Consultant.

8.2 Caveats

The trees have been looked at in detail using the Visual Tree Assessment¹ the basis of which is the identification of symptoms produced by a tree in reaction to a defect, or area of mechanical stress. VTA is a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of an individual trees. No invasive / destructive tests have been undertaken. I have not taken any soil or root samples for analysis.

Non-invasive inspection equipment (mallet and metal probe) were used to make an assessment of the structural integrity at the base and trunk of the trees where the visual inspection identified the need.

Due to the high level of occupancy of the site in all weathers and the significant number of mature trees, regular inspections are recommended within 3 years or as recommended in the most recent survey. Between survey dates, trees will continue to be viewed and informally monitored by the property owner. In the event of any changes or decline in condition of the trees, or presence of new fungal growths etc., the advice of a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant should be sought.

Trees are dynamic living organisms subject to change, whose health and condition can be subject to significant change influenced by internal and external factors. The assessment, conclusions and recommendations from the report are based on the condition of the trees and surrounding ground conditions at the time of my visit. If the condition of the trees evidently changes or where tree(s) are subject to development or ground works within their rooting areas or extreme weather conditions, further inspection may be required.

This report is not a structural report, nor does it consider the structural integrity of the property and its use as such is invalid.

¹ Mattheck and Breloer 1994

Trees are dynamic structures that can never be guaranteed 100% safe. Regular inspections by competent and / or suitably qualified arboriculturists will help identify potential problems before they become acute.

The report is valid for normal weather conditions only. Healthy trees or parts of healthy trees may fail in normal weather situations, although the risk increases with storm conditions and, as the consequences of such weather events are unforeseeable, Sarah Duckworth and Duckworths Arboriculture Limited cannot be held liable for any such failures.