Tree Survey

At

Auto Service,
Rockhill Road, Pontypool

Inspected by:-
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I have been instructed by Lloyd Jones of LRG Planning to carry out a survey on trees at Auto Service, Rockhill Road, Pontypool.

Scope of Report

This Tree Survey has been undertaken within the recommendations of British Standards 5837:2012 and current good arboricultural practice.

The survey entailed a visual inspection from ground level of all trees.

Each tree has been numbered and, where instructed, for future identification on site, have been tagged using small durable metal or plastic tags.

Due to variations of existing ground levels through the site, height dimensions are estimated and are given in metres. Accurate heights, measured with the aid of optical instruments can be provided where instructed.

Trunk/stem diameters are measured at 1.5 metres above ground level, or immediately above the root flare for multi-stemmed trees.

Estimate branch spread is taken in metres from the centre of the trunk, at the four cardinal points of a compass, to achieve an accurate representation of crown shape.

An assessment of a tree's age classification is made in terms of it maturity within the site's landscape.

An assessment of a tree's physiological condition is to be made as good, fair, poor, dead.

Data on the structural condition of the tree should be entered, e.g., collapsing, leaning and the presence of any decay or physical defect should be noted.

Preliminary management recommendations include further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment and potential for wildlife habitat.

An assessment of a tree's future life expectancy is made as <10, 10-20, 20-40 or >40 etc.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)		
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	• Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other U category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) • Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline • Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7		
	1 Mainly Arboricultural values	2 Mainly landscape values	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation
Category A Those of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as Arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation; historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)
Category B Those of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural benefits
Category C Those of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value

Tree No.	Species	Height(m)	Single/Multi Stemmed	Stem Diameter(m)	Branch Spread(m)				Height of Crown(m)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Prel. Man. Recommendations	Est. Remaining Contribution	Category
					N	E	S	W							
T1	Norway Maple (Acer platanoides)	10	Single	0.44	6	6	5	6	2	Middle aged	Fair	Notable prominent specimen of good form with well-balanced crown	Crown raise to provide 5.5m clearance over public highway	20-40	B
T2	Norway Maple (Acer platanoides)	12	Single	0.47	7	6	6	6	2	Middle aged	Fair	Notable specimen of good form. Evidence of mild inclusion within fork at 2.5m which may become a point of weakness at a later date.	Crown raise to 5.5m over adjacent highway. Monitor for safety.	20-40	B
T3	Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	15	Multi	0.8	7	3	7	6	1	Mature	Fair to poor	Multi stemmed specimen of variable form. Main stem and mid crown heavily colonised by ivy thus preventing full inspection. This specimen has been severely crown raised to approximately 11m above ground level thus potentially raising the centre of gravity above acceptable levels. Woodland edge specimen with concrete hardstand immediately adjacent to the base on the west and northern side thus limiting rooting in this direction.	Sever ivy at base. Monitor strength of lower forks in relation to the stability of this specimen.	10-20	C

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					N	E	S	W							
T4	Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	17	Multi	0.8	6	6	4	5	2	Mature	Fair to poor	Twin stemmed specimen of variable form that has been severely crown raised to approximately 10m thus potentially raising the centre of gravity above safe levels. Main stem and mid crown heavily colonised by ivy thus preventing full inspection. Evidence of potential internal decay associated with old pruning wounds. This specimen is located immediately to the east of a concrete hardstand thus potentially limiting rooting to the west and north.	Sever ivy at base and undertake re-inspection once ivy is dead. Monitor safety of basal fork with regards to stability of this specimen.	10-20	C
T5	Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	16	Single	0.39	4	6	2	3	3	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form that has been heavily crown raised to approximately 8m thus potentially raising the centre of gravity above safe levels. Evidence of squirrel damage in lower and mid crown which may lead to branch failure at a later date.	Monitor for safety	10-20	C

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					N	E	S	W							
G6	Group of Ash (Fraxinus excelsior) and Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	10	Single and multi	0.2	3	3	3	3	1	Young	Fair to poor	Self-sown saplings of generally variable form. Some evidence of squirrel damage on Sycamores.	Monitor for health	20-40	C
G7	Group of Hornbeam (Carpinus betula) and Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Up to 11	Single and multi	0.25	3	3	3	3	1	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Trees generally of variable form with evidence of decay within main branches of Hornbeam. Some fire damage to the western specimens of this group.	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T8	Hornbeam (Carpinus betula)	15	Multi	0.85	9	8	4	4	1	Mature	Poor	Tree of variable form with evidence of severe basal decay and extreme die-back of foliage throughout crown. This specimen is unsafe for retention.	Remove	<10	U

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					N	E	S	W							
T9	Hornbeam (Carpinus betula)	19	Single	0.74	13	4	0	3	1	Mature	Poor	Tree of poor form leaning excessively to the north. Extensive internal decay and cracking and peeling of bark from ground level to 3m indicates that this specimen is unsafe for retention.	Remove	<10	U
T10	Hornbeam (Carpinus betula)	15	Single	0.46	9	6	0	3	2	Mature	Poor	Tree of poor form that has been severely crown raised on southern side of crown. Evidence of severe basal decay. Evidence of severe thinning and die-back of foliage in upper crown. This specimen is in a deteriorating condition and unsuitable for retention.	Remove	<10	U

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					N	E	S	W							
T11	Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	13	Single	0.4 (est.)	8	4	2	3	5	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form leaning slightly to the north-east over adjacent watercourse. Dense vegetation at base and presence of ivy on main stem prevents full inspection and accurate measurement. Some evidence of internal decay within major lateral branches which may lead to failure at a later date.	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T12	Hornbeam (Carpinus betula)	10	Single	0.28	3	2	1	3	2	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form that has been heavily pruned on the southern side thus potentially raising the centre of gravity above safe levels. Main stem and mid crown heavily colonised by ivy thus preventing full inspection.	Sever ivy at base. Monitor for safety.	20-40	C

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					N	E	S	W							
G13	Group of Holly (Ilex aquifolium), Ash (Fraxinus excelsior), Hornbeam (Carpinus betula) and Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Up to 11	Single and multi	Up to 0.25	5	3	2	3	1	Young/ Middle aged	Fair to poor	Dense thicket established on steep riverside bank. Trees generally of variable form.	No action required at this time	20-40	C
T14	Hornbeam (Carpinus betula)	11	Single	0.18	2	2	2	2	1	Young	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form that has suffered root disturbance close to base of main stem	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T15	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	11	Multi	0.3	0	5	6	0	5	Middle aged	Poor	Multi stemmed specimen of poor form with some evidence of basal decay. This specimen is leaning at an acute angle to the south-east and is not sustainable in this location.	Remove	<10	U

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					N	E	S	W							
T16	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	18	Multi	0.7	5	9	13	7	6	Mature	Fair to poor	Twin stemmed specimen of variable form with crown more heavily developed on southern side. Some evidence of mild basal decay. Many lateral branches extending to the south are excessively end-weighted. Extensive deadwood throughout crown.	Undertake 15% overall crown reduction. Prune to remove major deadwood. Monitor for safety.	10-20	C
T17	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	17	Single	0.31	3	0	5	7	6	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form with low stem diameter to height ratio which may lead to failure at a later date. Crown more heavily developed on western side.	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T18	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	11	Multi	0.45	2	0	4	6	4	Middle aged	Poor	Tree of variable form with extensive die-back throughout crown. This specimen is in a deteriorating condition and unsuitable for retention.	Remove	<10	U

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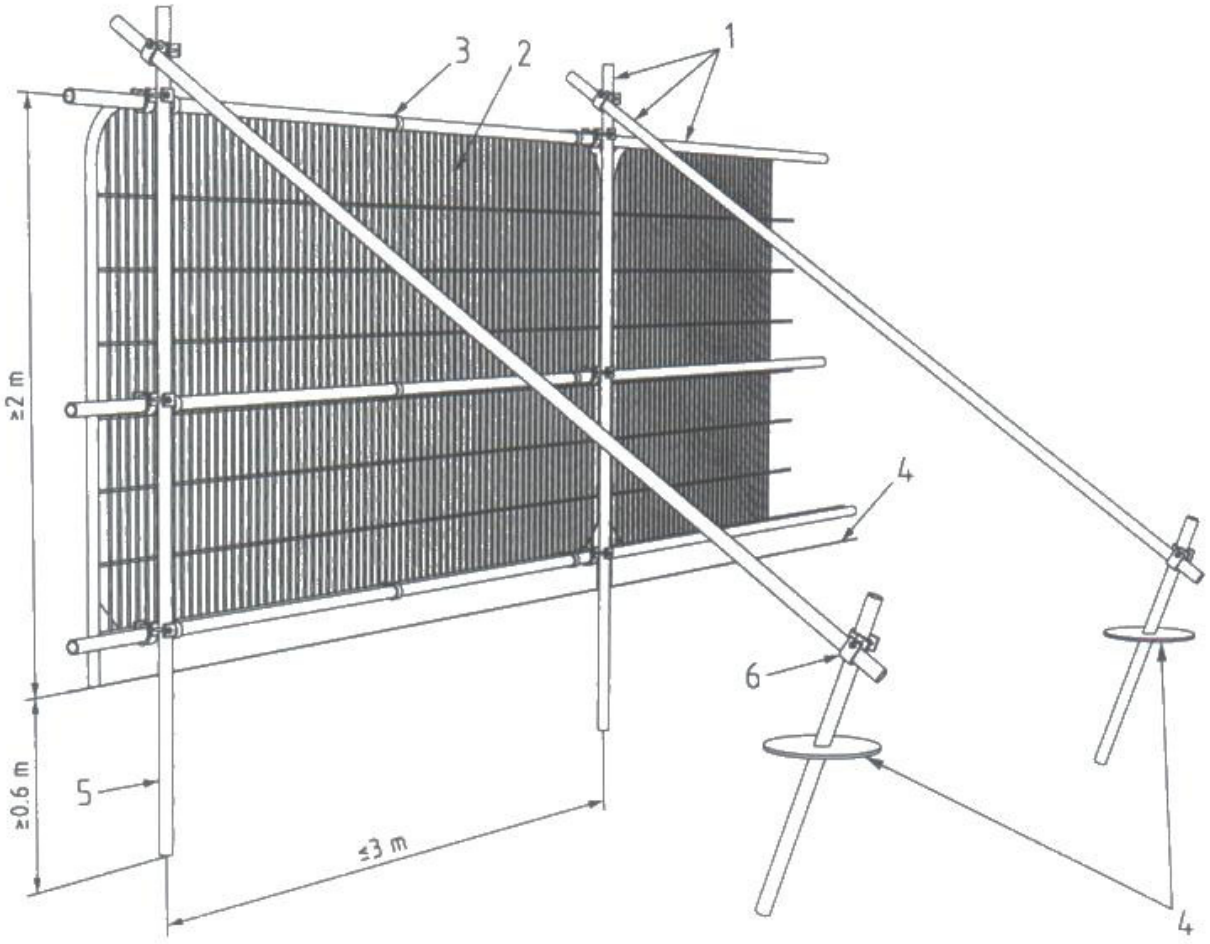
					N	E	S	W							
T19	Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	10	Single	0.21	1	0	2	3	3	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form with evidence of some squirrel damage in mid crown	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T20	Horse Chestnut (Aesculus hippo-castanum)	6	Single	0.1	0	1	3	1	1	Young	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form with crown more heavily developed on southern side. Some mechanical damage on main stem at 1m.	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T21	Sycamore (Acer pseudo-platanus)	8	Single	0.15	0	1	3	3	2	Young	Poor	Tree of poor form with extensive squirrel damage throughout crown which will lead to structural failure	Remove	<10	U

Recommendations for Tree Protection during Development

Due to the high risk to established trees we would recommend the installation of protective fencing prior to commencement of **any** works on site in accordance with BS 5837:2012 "Trees in relation to Construction". Trees should be protected using scaffold frame supporting weld mesh panel fencing sited on the edge of the Root Protection Area as defined in BS5837:2012. These fenced areas should not be used for the storage of any plant machinery or materials and personnel should be excluded at all times; these fences should remain in situ until after final landscaping has been carried out, removed by hand with great care to prevent compaction or root damage to established trees. The services of a suitably qualified arborist should be sought **prior** to the commencement of each stage.

Figure 2 **Default specification for protective barrier**



Key

1 Standard scaffold poles
2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
4 Ground level
5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
6 Standard scaffold clamps