

KEY TO SURVEY

T1, T2 etc. = Individual tree identification numbers (not TPO reference numbers)

G1, **H1**, **W1**, **A1** etc = Grouped trees, hedges, woodland, avenues or shrub areas.

Age Class:

Y = Young (<1/3 life expectancy)

MA = Middle Aged (1/3 - 2/3) life expectancy

M = Mature (2/3 - full life expectancy)

V = Veteran (High value amenity tree)

Work Priority: (informed by *risk rating* based on observed defect(s), probability of failure, severity of impact and targets)

Urgent = <1 Month (unless stated otherwise)</pre>

High = <3 Months

Medium = < 6 Months

Low = < 12 Months

Routine = As part of regular grounds maintenance

Other Comments:

- NESW = North, East, South, West
- **Physiological Condition** = based upon the performance of the biological processes of the tree and its overall 'health'. Good = normal vigour, Fair = moderately reduced vigour, Poor = low vigour/decline.
- Occluded wound = where a wound has been progressively closed by the formation of new wood and bark around it.
- Non-occluded wound = where a wound has not closed (or is in the process of being closed) by the formation of new wood and bark.
- **Est.** = estimated measurement.
- **Av.** = average measurement.
- Basal = in or around the base of the trunk.
- **Epicormic** = growth arising from adventitious or dormant buds. In the case of European Lime trees this frequently occurs around the base of the tree.
- **Deadwood** = Minor (<25mm), Moderate (25mm-150mm) and Major (>150mm).
- **Self-set** = naturally established i.e. not intentionally planted tree.

Survey Range & Limitations:

- 1. The survey was carried out in the form of a visual assessment from ground level; a rubber mallet and simple probe were used to assess the extent of any decay found. Defects (including potential severity of impact), targets and potential ('likelihood') of failure have been considered and used to inform the risk rating and thereby the recommendations and priorities along with appropriate timescales.
- 2. Only the trees potentially affected by the proposal have been inspected as per instructions received. It is recommended that the owners of any adjacent trees likely to affect the site have their trees inspected by a qualified and competent arborist. Where tree removals have been recommended it is the responsibility of the client to ensure ownership and approval is agreed.
- 3. This survey expressly excludes any liability for indirect or direct structural damage that the trees may cause to property including any structural movement, subsidence and heave. Where necessary, the opinion of a structural engineer should be sought e.g. where trees are in close proximity to built structures or have been recommended for removal. With regards drains, the advice of a drainage engineer should be sought.
- 4. As this is survey is preliminary in nature, should any further investigation be required (e.g. using specialist decay detection equipment) then this will be highlighted in the recommendations.

- 5. All measurements are estimated and tree locations on the maps are approximate.
- 6. It should be noted that trees are dynamic, living organisms that are subject to an ever-changing environment and that there is no such thing as a 'safe tree' i.e. "...there can be no absolute guarantee of safety" (Mattheck 'The Body Language of Trees', p. 197) where failure can occur without defect or in excessive weather conditions.
- 7. The Local Planning Authority (Maidstone Council) must be consulted prior to any works being carried out to establish whether any Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) or Conservation Areas apply to the site. No works should be carried out until any necessary permissions have been obtained. Trees marked as 'TPO' on any maps are for information purposes only and should not be considered authoritative. It is the responsibility of the land owner to ensure compliance with any restrictive Covenants that may apply to the land/trees that may be applicable.
- 8. Full consideration must be given to current legislation by anyone proposing to carry out works to trees, particularly with regards to the presence of European Protected Species (including bats). Arboricultural ('tree surgery') contractors should be adequately trained, experienced and carry adequate insurance. All works should be carried out to the current edition of British Standard BS3998 'Recommendations for Tree Work'.
- 9. The information contained in this report should be considered valid for a period of 1 year from date of issue (unless otherwise specified in the survey) assuming that any recommendations are carried out. Additional inspection is recommended following exposure to extreme weather, significant wounding or damage (e.g. incursion into rooting zones, impacts, new fungal fruiting bodies, etc.) or any other event giving cause for concern.