

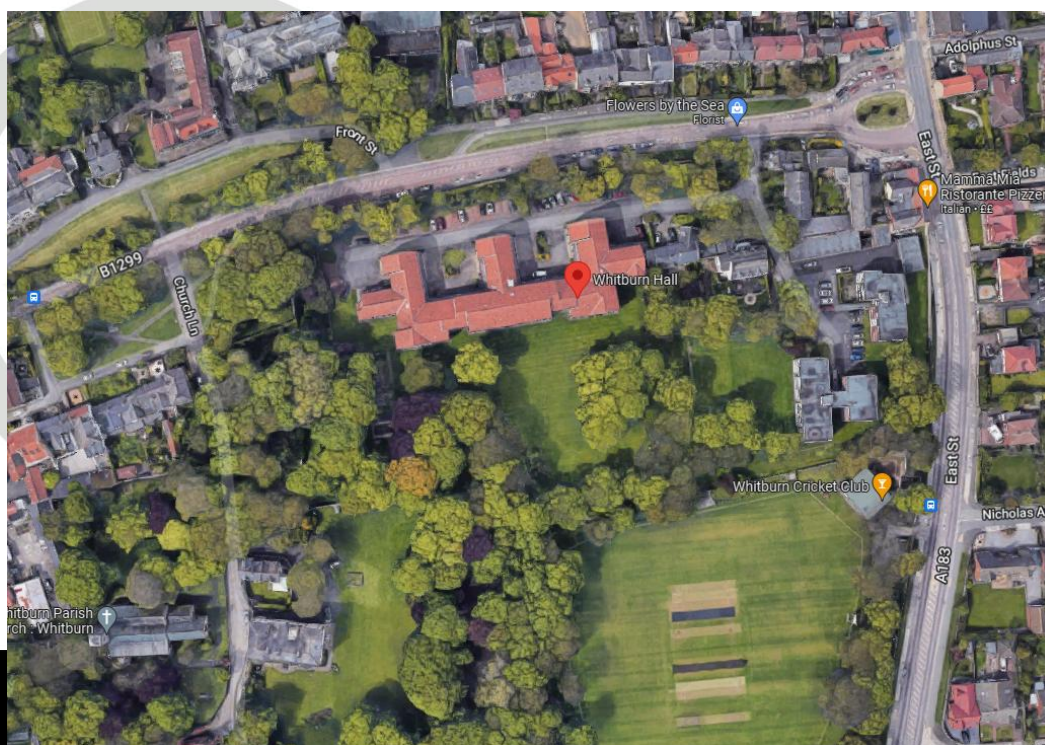
- Quality tree work
- Excellent customer service
- Fully qualified and experienced personnel
- Established in 1982
- Arboricultural Association approved

4th August 2026

Kingston Property Services
Beaminster Way East
Kingston Park
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE3 2ER

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Whitburn Hall, Whitburn, Tyne and Wear, SR6 7JQ



Acting on your instructions I have now inspected the trees at the above location.

I have based this report on my site observations and the information that you have provided. All my observations were from ground level without any detailed or decay investigation having been carried out. All of the tree's condition are evaluated based upon a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) alongside current industry best practice.

This report is concerned with recording the species, size, and condition of the trees. Recommendations are made where appropriate to establish acceptable levels of safety for

Unit 3b and 9, Langley Park Industrial Estate North, Witton Gilbert, Co Durham, DH7 6TX

Tel: 0191 373 9771

www.oliverstreeservices.co.uk – info@oliverstreeservices.co.uk

the site and a higher level of arboriculture management if required. This information is recorded in the appraisal section of this report.

Trees are living organisms whose health and condition may change rapidly and the observations are based on the status of the trees at the time of inspection. It is recommended that trees in high frequency areas, such as highways, buildings and footpaths regularly used by the public, are to be inspected regularly, especially after any extreme weather conditions. Healthy trees may fail in unpredictable weather, such as in violent storms or wet weather. Due to these phenomena being unforeseeable, Olivers Tree Services Ltd cannot be held liable for any such failures.

It is assumed there has been no significant changes to the immediate environment that may affect the tree stock. Any change being made following the survey may invalidate the report and require a re-inspection. Any alteration to this report will therefore will also invalidate it. No responsibility is assumed by Olivers Tree Services Ltd for legal matters that may arise from this report. The author of the report shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made.

The information provided within this report relates to the specific tree risk survey provided and should not be used or interpreted for any other circumstances. This includes but not limited to planning applications for development, tree related subsidence, utilities, or the design of building and foundations.

Site Visit

I carried out an unaccompanied site visit on Tuesday 4th August 2026.

The weather that day was overcast and warm but with no visibility restrictions to hamper the inspection.

Site Description

Whitburn Hall are historical grounds with a modern 2-3 story brick-built apartment block. The grounds contain both grassed and wooded areas and the topography of the site slopes slightly to the south. Beyond the boundary of the site is Front Street (B1299) and Whitburn Cricket Club. A small, wooded area and Church Lane is located beyond the western boundary. The surrounding site of The Lawns and the Cricket Ground also have a large tree coverage, but these have not been included in this survey.



Appraisal

Please refer to appendix 1 for the site location plan

Please refer to appendix 2 and 3 for glossary of terms

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
1	Cherry	4	Y	7	G	This is a newly planted young tree that is asymmetrical in appearance with evidence of past crown reduction pruning work visible	No work currently required	-
2	Holly	12	EM	22	G	Tall and leggy in appearance with a bore cavity at the base but reaction growth is compensating this defect	No work currently required	-
3	Sycamore	20	M	62	F	This is an asymmetrical tree there are cavities at 4m and 9m and stubs from historic limb failure along with it having a sparse crown and signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
4	Horse Chestnut	20	M	58	F	Twin stemmed from 3m, asymmetrical and leaning in form with evidence of past pruning works and a low hanging crown	No work currently required	-
5	Elm	0.5	Y	2	F	This tree is now an uprooted tree stump that has signs of epicormic reaction growth which has no safety defects noted	No work currently required	-
6	This tree has previously been removed							
7	This tree has previously been removed							
8	Sycamore	22	M	113	F	This tree has a sparse crown with epicormic growth, during the inspection it was found that there is a cavity at the base, but it has put on a good amount of reaction wood to compensate this defect	No work currently required	-
8a	Maple					newly planted memorial tree that has a twin m and a potential weak, narrow fork, it has evidence of bark scale insect on the main trunk	No work currently required	-
9	This tree has previously been removed							
10	This tree has previously been removed							

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
11	Sycamore	23	M	96	F	Twin stemmed from 6m with a potential weak narrow fork it has a raised soil mound at the base, a leaning stem, minor deadwood within the canopy and basal/stem damage was also noted	No work currently required	-
12	This tree has previously been removed							
13	Weeping Elm	4	SM	17	F	This tree has evidence of past pruning works as well as stem burrs and epicormic growth and a densely foliated canopy	No work currently required	-
14	This tree has previously been removed							
15	Sycamore	16	M	62	G	Asymmetrical in appearance with signs of past pruning works and epicormic growth noted within the canopy	No work currently required	-
15a	Maple	4	y	8	G	This is a newly planted tree with a low hanging crown and signs of bark scale insect	No work currently required	-
15b	Maple	5	Y	7	G	Planted as a memorial tree, with a sparse crown and crossing branches found	No work currently required	-
16	This tree has previously been removed							
17	This tree has previously been removed							
18	Sycamore	22	M	44	F	Minor deadwood was noted in the canopy of this twin stemmed tree along with stem burrs, it also has epicormic growth and is asymmetrical in appearance	No work currently required	-
19	Sycamore	22	M	63	G	Twin stemmed and asymmetrical in appearance, it grows up to the boundary wall with an Elderberry growing at the base, minor insignificant deadwood found in the crown and evidence of historic pruning works visible	No work currently required	-
20	Sycamore					Historical pruning wounds were noted within the canopy of this tree, as well as minor insignificant deadwood and epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
21	Copper Beech	22	M	52	G	A raised soil mound was found at the base of this tree that is asymmetrical with a kink at 4m, and it has evidence of historical basal damage	No work currently required	-

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
22	Viburnum	8	SM	11	F	This twin stemmed tree has epicormic growth, signs of past pruning works and a split in the secondary stem	No work currently required	-
23	Sycamore	22	M	76	G	Minor deadwood was noted in the crown along with epicormic growth and signs of historic pruning wounds	No work currently required	-
24	Weeping Elm	3	SM	8	F	This tree has evidence of stem decay, but no other defects found	No work currently required	-
25	Sycamore	23	M	96	G	Multi stemmed from 4m with minor inclusion below this union, there is also signs of past pruning works evident as well as epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
26	Copper Beech	22	M	84	G	Twin stemmed from 7m, it is showing signs of bark scale insect, a low hanging crown, minor deadwood was also present along with signs of previous pruning works	No work currently required	-
27	Cherry	19	M	53	G	Exposed surface roots were found on this tree that have mechanical damage, it has a broad sparsely foliated, low hanging crown with signs of past pruning works visible	No work currently required	-
28	Lime	18	M	50	F	Cavities at the base of this twin stemmed tree, there is visible but minor deadwood evident along with epicormic growth and signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
29	Maple	24	M	110	G	Asymmetrical form with cavities at the base, low risk deadwood within the crown and girdled roots on show	No work currently required	-
30	Sycamore					Asymmetrical in form with crown dieback and deadwood especially on the secondary stem	No work currently required	-
31	Sycamore	22	M	63	G	Twin stemmed from 3m with signs of past pruning works and epicormic growth	No work currently required	-

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
32	Sycamore	24	M	80	G	Multi stemmed from 8m, it has an asymmetrical form, minor insignificant deadwood, signs of past pruning works and epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
33	Sycamore	20	M	59	F	This asymmetrical tree has minor deadwood and a sparsely foliated crown	No work currently required	-
34	Sycamore	22	M	60	G	This tree is twin stemmed from 4.5m, it is asymmetrical in appearance with signs of previous pruning wounds	No action currently required	-
35	Sycamore	14	M	39	P	Cavities within the crown, a sparse canopy, and a suppressed form with major deadwood present	No work currently required	-
36	Sycamore	18	M	52	F	Multi stemmed from 3.5m and has minor deadwood within the canopy along with stem cavities and epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
37	Sycamore	16	M	63	P	Twin stemmed from 2m with a potentially weak union, there is deadwood within the crown along with it having a sparse crown and stem burrs	No work currently required	-
38	Sycamore	24	M	106	F	Multi stemmed from 3.5m, minor deadwood, epicormic growth and there are signs of past pruning works in the crown	No work currently required	-
39	Sycamore	18	M	56	F	Leans over the adjacent wall and has insignificant deadwood within the canopy, signs of historic pruning wounds and extensive bark loss at the base	Monitor the condition	-
40	Copper Beech	19	M	47	F	Cavities on the stem and minor insignificant deadwood in crown along with epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
41	This tree has previously been removed							
42	Sycamore	24	M	50	F	Twin stemmed from 2.5m and has major deadwood within the canopy	No work currently required	-
43	Sycamore	24	M	56	F	Cavities were found within the crown and insignificant deadwood was also noted during the inspection along with it being sparsely foliated	No work currently required	-

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
44	Sycamore	24	M	59	F	Twin stemmed that grows 0.5m from the adjacent steps, fused stems, bark necrosis, epicormic growth some deadwood within the canopy	No work currently required	-
45	Sycamore	22	M	99	G	Minor insignificant deadwood was found within the canopy of this triple stemmed tree along with epicormic growth, cavities and signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
46	Sycamore	21	M	54	F	Deadwood was found within the canopy of this tree that has little target area it also has a parse crown and evidence of historic pruning wounds	No work currently required	-
47	Sycamore	17	M	56	P	The east limb is decayed and compromised at 7m along with it having a sparse crown, stem cavities and evidence of previous pruning works	No work currently required	-
48	Sycamore	24	M	98	F	Multi stemmed from 6-9m, cavities within the crown, deadwood within the canopy and epicormic growth at the base along with signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
49	Sycamore	22	M	70	G	Twin stemmed with a slight lean historic pruning wounds and low risk deadwood within the canopy as well as signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
50	Sycamore	23	M	86	G	Multi stemmed from 6-8m and has deadwood within the crown along with evidence of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
51	Sycamore	23	M	47	G	Asymmetrical form with minor deadwood as well as cavities found within the canopy of the tree	No work currently required	-
52	Sycamore	24	M	106	F	Twin stemmed from 3m, sparse crown, cavities on the stem and within the canopy, epicormic growth, minor insignificant deadwood was also noted along with bottle butt	No work currently required	-
53	Sycamore	21	M	89	F	Tripple stemmed with noticeable cavities within the crown it also has signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
54	This tree has previously been removed							

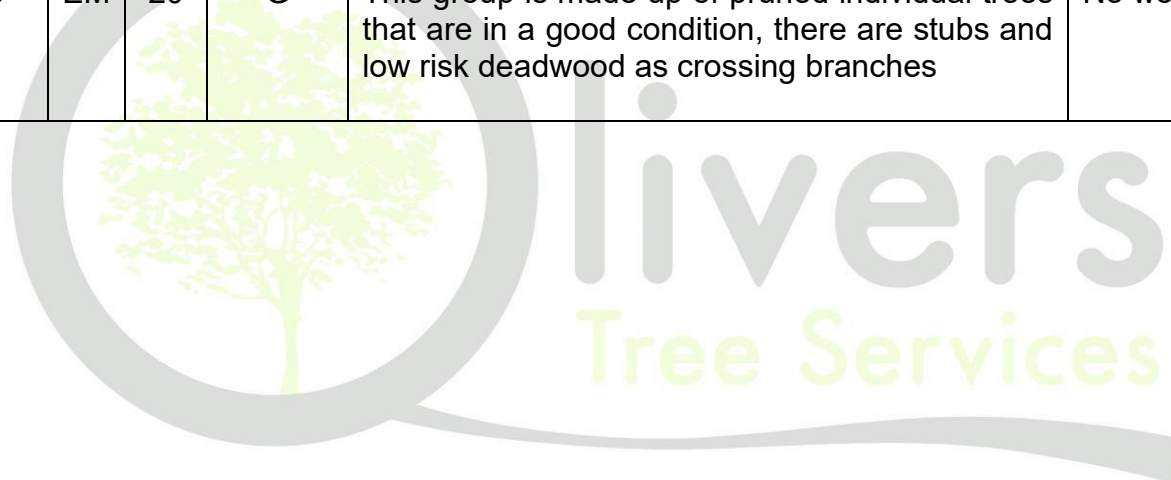
No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
55	Sycamore	19	M	52	F	Bore cavities on the main stem, signs of past pruning work, epicormic growth and minor deadwood noted within the crown	No work currently required	-
56	Sycamore	22	M	99	F	Multi stemmed from 8m it is of asymmetrical, leaning form with epicormic growth and historic pruning wounds noted	No work currently required	-
57	Sycamore	19	M	47	F	Asymmetrical in appearance with minor deadwood within the canopy, cavities historic pruning works and epicormic growth were found	No work currently required	-
58	Sycamore	22	M	50	F	Low risk deadwood was noted within the canopy along with minor stem cavities and epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
59	Sycamore	22	M	63	F	Low risk deadwood was noted within the canopy along with minor stem cavities	No work currently required	-
60	Holly	9	SM	26	G	Low hanging branches from this dense crown were found as well as exposed roots being noted on this tree during the inspection	No work currently required	-
61	Sycamore	20	M	40	F	Twin stemmed from 8m with a slight lean it also has minor insignificant deadwood within the canopy	No work currently required	-
61a	Purple Plum	4	SM	11	F	Twin stemmed with a potential weak narrow fork and epicormic growth	No work currently required	-
62	Portuguese Laurel	11	M	20	G	Multi stemmed from the base with a broad canopy, it has signs of previous pruning works noted	No work currently required	-
63	Portuguese Laurel	11	M	20	G	Multi stemmed from the base, is obscuring the adjacent street light and columns with signs of past pruning works and crossing branches	No work currently required	-
64	Purple Plum	11	M	11	F	Twin stemmed from the base with the tree having two stems removed in the past, it is 0.8m from the adjacent steps and is growing at a steep angle into trees 63 & 62	No work currently required	-

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
65	Holly	9	SM	16	G	Minor deadwood was noted in the crown with signs of past pruning works, and it has a contorted stem	No work currently required	-
66	Sycamore	20	M	84	G	Cavities were found at 3m, and it is growing up to the boundary wall, has deadwood within the crown with little target area	No work currently required	-
67	Holly	10	SM	24	G	Slight lean to the stem of this tree as well as being of asymmetrical form with evidence of historic pruning wounds visible	No work currently required	-
68	Oak	9	SM	18	G	One-sided canopy with visible pruning wounds and a sparsely foliated crown	No work currently required	-
69	Elm	2.5	Y	3	G	This is a young replacement tree with a twin stem and signs of past pruning works visible within the crown	No work currently required	-
70	This tree has previously been removed							
71	This tree has previously been removed							
72	Holly	9	SM	20	G	Growing on the bank side, it is twin stemmed from the base with Ivy growing up the main trunk, but no other defects were noted	No work currently required	-
73	Holly	8	SM	21	F	This is a suppressed twin stemmed tree from 2m, it is growing on the bankside with a slight lean, bark loss and the roots are exposed	No work currently required	-
74	Sycamore	19	M	43	F	Twin stemmed from 9m, it is asymmetrical in appearance, it has exposed surface roots as well as extensive deadwood and crown die back	Fell as close to current ground level as practical	A
75	Sycamore	18	M	39	F	Growing 1m from the boundary wall with signs of past pruning works visible in the crown	No work currently required	-
76	Sycamore	18	M	40	F	Twin stemmed with evidence of past pruning works it is growing 1m from the boundary wall, minor deadwood and a sparse crown were visible	No work currently required	-
77	Yew	9	SM	20	G	Growing on the bankside with a low hanging crown but it has no other defects	No work currently required	-
78	This tree has previously been removed							

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
79	Sycamore	11	SM	19	F	Grows 1m from the boundary wall and has a slight lean toward the boundary wall with signs of historic pruning wounds	No work currently required	-
80	Holly	10	SM	17	G	Twin stemmed and it grows on the bankside but currently has no visible defects	No work currently required	-
81	Sycamore	17	M	41	G	Grows 2m from the boundary wall with visible stem burrs	No work currently required	-
82	Sycamore	19	M	53	F	Lean toward the building, with old pruning wounds and major deadwood evident	No work currently required	-
83	This tree has previously been removed							
83a	Sycamore	14	SM	60	G	Twin stemmed with minor insignificant deadwood found	No action currently required	-
84	This tree has previously been removed							
85	Whitebeam	8	SM	17	G	The roots from this twin stemmed tree are exposed and it is 2m from the boundary wall and has signs of old pruning wounds	No work currently required	-
86	Cherry	6	EM	12	G	This tree has a slight lean with a kink in the main stem; it is growing on the bankside with evidence of past pruning and a low hanging crown	No work currently required	-
87	Holly	7	SM	14	G	Grows 2m from boundary wall and twin stemmed from the base with signs of historic pruning wounds and a sparse crown	No work currently required	-
88	Cherry	9	SM	14	G	A suppressed asymmetrical tree that grows on the bankside and has a contorted stem with crossing branches	No work currently required	-
89	Holly	13	M	20	G	Growing 2m from the boundary wall with a sparse crown and signs of old pruning wounds	No work currently required	-
90	Cherry					Multi stemmed from the base with possible weak branch unions and visible signs of past pruning works evident with crossing branches	No work currently required	-
91	Whitebeam	7	SM	21	G	Twin stemmed with the roots exposed it has no other visible defects	No work currently required	-

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
91a	Lime	8	SM	18	F	Epicormic growth was hanging over the wall, and it has previous pruning wounds that were noted during the inspection	Prune to clear the wall by 0.5m	C
92	Oak	22	M	47	G	The stem of this tree is almost touching the boundary wall with Ivy growing up the main trunk and deadwood visible in the crown	No work currently required	-
93	Laburnum	5	SM	11	F	Twin stemmed from the base, with epicormic growth, minor stem cavities and a low hanging crown	No work currently required	-
94	Laburnum	5.5	SM	10	F	Multi stemmed from the base with crossing branches and signs of past pruning works it is growing close to the adjacent street light	No work currently required	-
95	Sycamore	16	M	44	F	Grows 1.5m from the boundary wall, with a sparse crown and past pruning works are evident	No work currently required	-
96	Sycamore	18	M	50	G	Slight lean toward the building, with a dense crown and stem burr's	No work currently required	-
97	Holly	11	M	20	G	Asymmetrical in form and growth pattern with a slight lean, a low hanging crown, signs of past pruning works and the surface roots are exposed	No work currently required	-
98	Sycamore	17	M	39	F	This tree has a small Holly growing at the base with evidence of previous pruning works having been carried out as well as having a sparsely foliated crown	No work currently required	-
99	Holly	9	SM	19	G	No visible defects were noted on this tree other than signs of past pruning wounds, and it is situated close to a street light	No work currently required	-
100	Sycamore	16	M	39	F	Suppressed asymmetrical form due to group pressure signs of past pruning works and deadwood were found	No work currently required	-
101	Sycamore	15	SM	40	F	Grows 1.5m from the boundary wall and has a slight lean it has evidence of previous pruning wounds	No work currently required	-

No	Species	Height (m)	Age	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
G1	Purple Plum & Plum	12	SM	20	F	Only two trees remain from this group, and they have leaning stems and signs of old pruning works	No work currently required	-
G2	Weeping Elm x4	8	SM	20	F	Two trees within this group have been pollarded in the past, these trees have low crowns, and the south eastern tree has a large pocket of decay but is currently of little safety concern	No work currently required	-
G3	Purple Plum & Birch	9	EM	20	F	Only 2 trees remain from this group and are situated in a shrub bed with signs of past pruning works	No work currently required	-
G4	Willow, Purple Plum & Rowan	9	EM	20	G	This group is made up of pruned individual trees that are in a good condition, there are stubs and low risk deadwood as crossing branches	No work currently required	-



Conclusion

Information was provided of a previous tree survey which was carried out by Olivers Tree Services Ltd on Thursday 23rd May 2024.

The trees have been recorded on the location plan as accurately as possible, but their actual position is not to scale. Where trees are growing in shrub beds, located in dense vegetation or have epicormic growth it may not be possible to carry out a full visual inspection on the base of the tree due to access restrictions. This assessment will then be based on the overall appearance of the stem and crown.

We recommended that trees are checked for fungus growing on, or around the base in the Autumn. This is generally the time of year most fungus produces fruiting bodies, but the first frost of winter often kills them off so the window to detect this disorder is short. If fungus is noted on or around the base of tree's, please contact our office to arrange a further assessment.

The trees located on this site are a vital asset as well as being a feature to the local landscape and are high in amenity and wildlife value.

Before any tree work takes place, checks would need to be made with the Local Authority to see if the trees concerned are situated within a Conservation Area or covered by a Tree Preservation Order. If the trees are protected a planning application will need to be approved before any work is carried out.

It would be advisable to carry out a re-inspection on all of the trees on the site within the next 12-24 months unless otherwise stated in the 'Recommendations' column of the appraisal.

It is also recommended to have the site re-assessed following any extreme or windy weather conditions or any other significant changes to the site. An interim tree inspection can be done by a layperson such as a site caretaker, see appendix 4 for a guide on how this inspection should be conducted. If an interim inspection highlights any trees of concern, please contact our office so we can arrange a professional assessment.

I trust that you find the above satisfactory, but should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

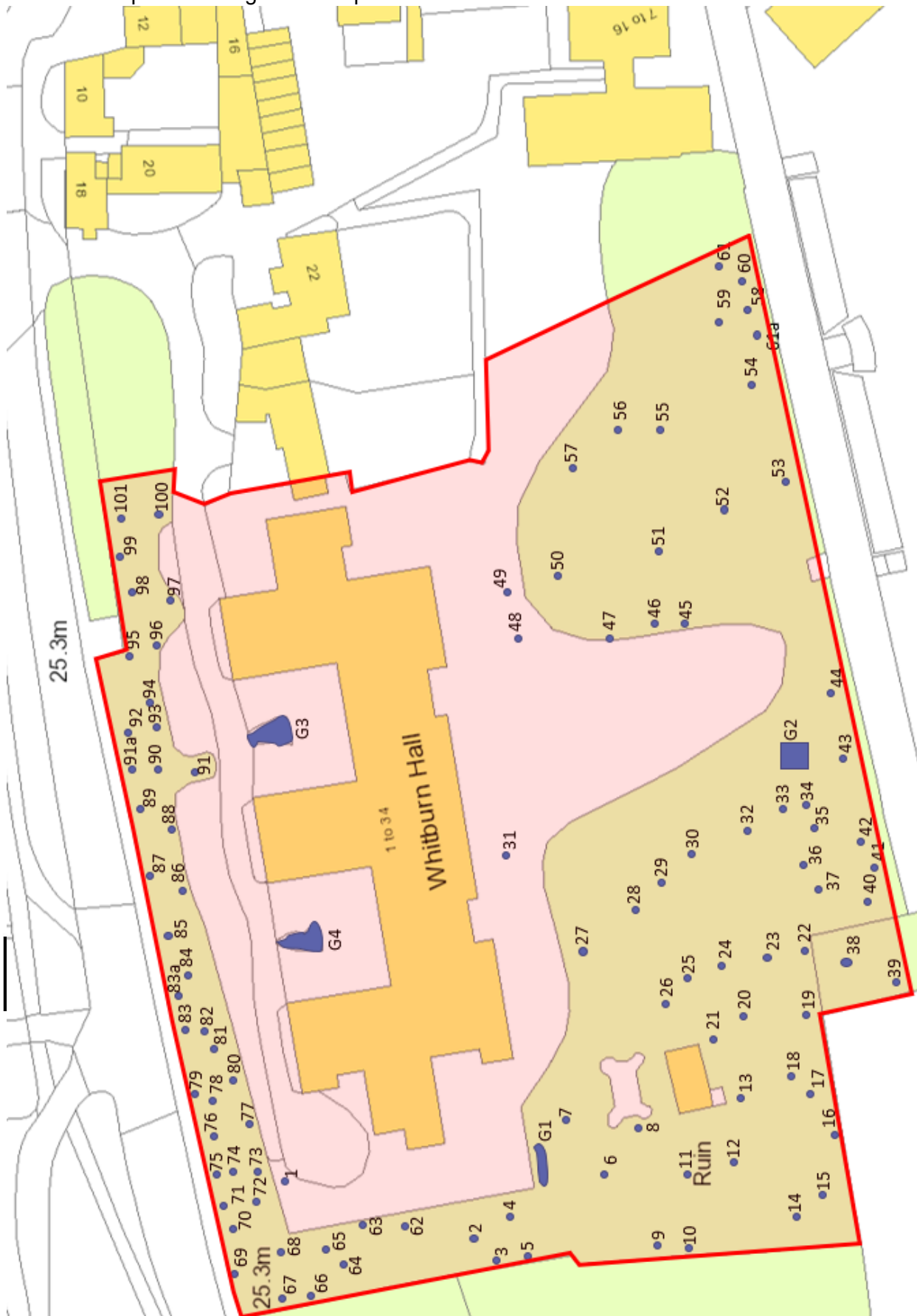
Yours sincerely



Andy Thompson FdA (Hons)

Appendix 1

Site location plan showing the trees position.



Appendix 2

Glossary of terms that maybe used in this report –

- 1. Reference number** – an individual identification number for a tree, hedge, or group. The number for this corresponds to the report and the location map.
- 2. Species** – species identification is based on visual field observations and lists the common name only.
- 3. Age** – **Y** – young, **SM** – semi mature, **EM** – early mature, **M** – mature, **OM** – mature, **V** – veteran, **D** – dead.
- 4. Height** – the height is estimated to the nearest metre (for some groups this is indicated in a range, or an average has been used).
- 5. DBH** – diameter at breast height (measured at 1.3m from ground level (for some groups this is indicated in a range or as an average).
- 6. Condition** – **D** – dead, **P** – poor, **F** – fair, **G** – good.
- 7. Comments** – general comments on the condition of the tree, hedge, or group.
- 8. Recommendations** – action required for remedial tree work.
- 9. Priority** – work should be carried out as follows:
A – less than 6 months
B – as part of the site management programme
C – desirable but not essential

Appendix 3

Glossary of terms for tree works that maybe used in this report –

- Crown lifting** – is the removal of lower branches to an agreed height for example over footpaths or roads by pruning to an upward growing part of the branch or back to the main stem. Used where low branches are causing an obstruction or encroaching on buildings.
- Crown thinning** – the aim of crown thinning is to reduce crown density without altering the overall size or shape of the tree. This work will reduce weight on branches and cut down on wind resistance, thereby reducing the potential for storm damage.
- Crown reduction and reshaping** – the aim is to make the crown of the tree smaller without unduly spoiling the shape of the tree. The greater the amount removed, the more difficult it is to retain the natural shape.
- Crown Cleaning** – this is the removal of dead, broken, and crossing limbs, sucker sprouts on trunks, and weak or diseased limbs. The purpose of the crown clean is to improve structure, appearance, and health. The outside appearance of the canopy will be affected very little.
- Dead wooding** – this is the removal of dead dying diseased branches and limbs from the crown of the tree.
- Pollarding** – pollarding is a method of pruning that keeps trees and shrubs smaller than they would naturally grow. This work will need regular undertaking as the reaction growth will become too heavy for the growth point.
- Tree felling** – the removal of the tree as close to current ground level as practical.

Appendix 4

Visual tree assessment

Unfortunately, trees pose an amount of risk as they are natural structures there is no such thing as a free lunch. The benefits of trees far outweigh the risks. By addressing and understanding the risks associated with trees it is possible to make your managed properties safer and prolong the life of your trees. The law states 'It is the responsibility of the tree owners to ensure the safety of others when around trees on their property.' On this basis as qualified Arborists, we recommend at schools and other high use areas, tree populations are VTA inspected professionally every 24 months (unless trees are specifically recommended to be monitored more frequently), with a tree report produced making recommendations for remedial action where required. Once a report has been produced and work has been planned in as required it is worth noting - trees are living organisms whose health and condition may change rapidly observations made in a report are based on the status of the trees at the time of inspection.

As the health of the trees may alter between professionally produced tree reports we recommend an interim tree inspection is conducted by a layperson annually or following any extreme or windy weather conditions or any other significant changes to the site

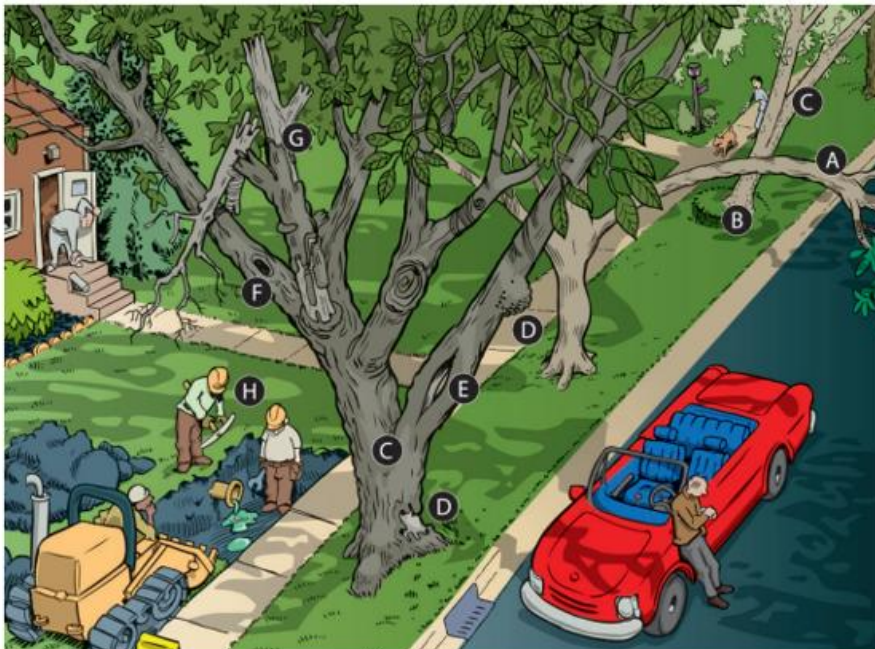
This guide details key defects to look for during an interim inspection.

When undertaking an interim tree inspection, the following information should be recorded:

- Date of interim inspection.
- Name and signature of interim inspector.
- Date of previous professional tree inspection/report and details of who undertook this.
- Details of any trees found to have defects during inspection, including – tree number, tree species, nature of defect, action taken.

Where defects are found please contact our office and we will make arrangements to view/asses the defect. If there is a dangerous tree – i.e. one with failed root plate etc and you forward us pictures of this defect, we can arrange work to be done on an emergency call out basis if required. Before any tree work takes place, checks would need to be made with the Local Authority to see if the trees concerned are situated within a Conservation Area or covered by a Tree Preservation Order. If the trees are protected a planning application will need to be approved before any work is carried out. If any trees are an imminent danger, we can contact the local planning authority to let them know we will need to undertake work under a 'Diseased/Dangerous trees notice' but this can only be done in extreme circumstance.

Tree defects to look for:



Defects in Urban Trees

The following are defects or signs of possible defects in urban trees (see figure):

B: Root failure:

Cracks or separations in the soil may indicate soil heaving from excessive movement of the roots. This can be a warning sign for failure, especially if the tree is leaning.

C: Codominant stems (split trunk):

Can often be failure points. Multiple branch attachments at one point on a stem can also be considered a defect.

D: Externally visible defects:

Includes cankers and wounds. Each could be minor or the start of a significant problem; further investigation may be warranted.

E: Cracks or splits:

Watch for longitudinal cracks or splits on the trunk, major branches, or branch unions.

F: External signs of decay:

Asymmetric shapes may be caused by the tree's formation of reaction wood and may be an indication of an internal problem. Other, more obvious signs of decay include the presence of fungal fruiting bodies and cavities.

G: Dead branches:

Dead branches within the canopy of a tree are probably the most obvious potential hazards. The risk of damage or injury depends on the size of the dead branch and distance from any potential targets.

H: Human-caused defects:

Wounds, weak or damaged limbs, root loss, and decay may be the result of construction, grade changes, soil compaction, poor pruning, or other misguided practices.

Above image taken from ISA leaflet 'Recognising Tree Risk' 2021

B. Root failure

The below pictures show examples of root failure – this is the most dangerous hazard that could be found. A tree with a failed root plate could fall at any time so this would need to be cordoned off straight away to keep people away from the hazard. Contact our office so we can arrange remedial action.



C. & D & E. Codominant stems/Externally visible defects/Crack or split

The below pictures show examples of external visible defects which can include splitting on limbs and on tree trunks. These can form from co-dominant stems but unless there is splitting at this point these do not need to be recorded during an interim tree inspection. These defects can be a highly dangerous hazard – if there is any doubt about the safety of these trees cordon the area off and contact our office for further advice.



F. External signs of decay

Obvious signs of decay can include the presence of fungal fruiting bodies and cavities examples of fungal brackets are shown on the pictures below. Different types of fungus have various levels of structural implications ranging from benign to very serious. If fungus is noted please check if this was picked up on formal tree report – if this was not picked up on the previous report contact our office for further guidance.



G. Dead branches/hanging branches and Dead trees

Minor deadwood is commonly found in most trees and it is impractical to have zero deadwood in any trees on site. If large sections of deadwood or split/hanging branches in the crown of trees, which may cause harm to people or property, are found please contact our office for further advice. If dead trees are found it may be necessary to cordon the area surrounding the trees off to restrict access until we can assess what action needs to be taken.



H. Human caused damage/mechanical damage

If trees are damaged due to any onsite construction work, heavy vandalism, fire, or other mechanical damage please contact our office for further advice. Particularly serious damage is root damage as this can potentially destabilise trees and/or put trees into decline as uptake of water and nutrients are affected. Extreme examples of this are shown on the pictures below.

