MDJ ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANCY LIMITED

Tree Risk Assessment Report

For the trees at

1-20 Oak Tree Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6EQ



DOCUMENT CONTROL

Prepared for: Courtney Green Limited
Local Authority: Horsham District Council
Document Ref: MDJAC-TRAQ26134-TRAR-01
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Risk Assessment Timeframe: 3 Years
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

S1. This Tree Risk Assessment Report (TRAR) has been instructed by Courtney Green Limited, in respect of the subject site: 1-20 Oak Tree Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6EQ.

S2. This report is intended to inform the Client of the current tree stock, its condition, and an assessment of the risk it poses to residents, users, and visitors to the site, and the general public.

S3. A total of 14 individual trees were surveyed and recorded in accordance with the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) and International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) methodologies.

S4. Of these, one individual tree (T3) has been assessed as posing a moderate risk of failure. The remaining 13 have been assessed as posing a low risk. Remedial work recommendations have been provided where they constitute a reasonable and proportionate response to the identified defects, or where the works would be of benefit for sound arboricultural management purposes.

S5. The oak (T3) is covered by a TPO, and therefore, an application to obtain consent from Horsham District Council is necessary prior to undertaking the prescribed works. It remains the responsibility of the landowner, and the appointed contractor, to ensure that such consent is obtained to avoid causing or permitting an offence under the TPO legislation.

S6. Based on the condition of the trees, and my observations regarding occupancy and targets, and on the assumption that the prescribed works are duly implemented, I consider it appropriate to reinspect the subject trees in three years' time.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 INSTRUCTION

1.1.1 This Tree Risk Assessment Report (TRAR) has been instructed by Courtney Green Limited, in respect of 1-20 Oak Tree Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6EQ.

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

1.2.1 This report is intended to inform the Client of the current tree stock, its condition, and an assessment of the risk it poses, in order to meet the Client's Duty of Care under the Occupiers' Liability Acts.

Appendix 1. Tree Risk Assessment methodology and explanatory notes;
Appendix 2. The tree survey schedule (ref. MDJAC-TRAQ26134-TSS-01);
Appendix 3. The tree survey plan (ref. MDJAC-TRAQ26134-TSP-01); and
Appendix 4. Author's Professional Profile.

1.3 SITE VISIT DETAILS

1.3.1 I visited the site on 7 October 2026 and carried out a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)[1] and a Level 2 Basic Tree Risk Assessment[2]. Weather conditions were overcast with persistent rain and deciduous trees were in partial leaf.

1.3.2 This represents a repeat inspection following my original assessment which was carried out in March 2023.

1.4 SITE DESCRIPTION

1.4.1 The site is located and accessed via vehicle from Redkiln Way, which lies to the west of the site. The survey area is a small area at the western end of the wider Oak Tree Way development, comprising two blocks of residential properties with associated car parking and communal gardens.

1.5 APPROACH TO TREE RISK ASSESSMENT

1.5.1 The trees were assessed using the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) methodology, which supplements the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA). A Level 2 Basic Assessment was undertaken: a ground-based, non-invasive inspection of each tree, its growing environment and the surrounding targets, aided by hand tools where necessary. Each tree is evaluated against the likelihood of failure, the likelihood of a failed part impacting a target, and the consequences of such an impact, which combine to produce an overall risk rating of low, moderate, high or extreme.

1.5.2 Trees are dynamic organisms, and the purpose of this assessment is not to identify and remove every defect, but to manage risk to a level that is as low as reasonably practicable while avoiding unnecessary

[1] (Mattheck, Bethge, & Weber, 2015)
[2] (Dunster, Smiley, Matheny, & Lilly, 2017)

intervention within the wider tree stock. The full ISA TRAQ methodology, including the likelihood, consequence and risk-rating matrices, is available on request.

2 STATUTORY CONTROLS

2.1 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS (TPOS)

2.1.1 I have downloaded a copy of The Horsham District Council (Land between Comptons Lane and Redkiln Way, Horsham, Sussex) Tree Preservation Order, 1989, from the local authority website[3] which protects some of the surveyed trees under the Individual classification.

2.1.2 The trees I consider to be covered by the order are identified by magenta hatching within the appended tree survey schedule. The TPO numbers have not been replicated on the attached plans.

2.1.3 It is an offence for any person to cause or permit the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of trees protected by this mechanism.

2.2 CONSERVATION AREAS (CAS)

2.2.1 The site does not appear to lie within a conservation area; there are no arboricultural constraints in this regard.

3 THE TREES

3.1 SUMMARY OF TREE STOCK

3.1.1 A total of 14 individual trees were surveyed and recorded in accordance with the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) and International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) methodologies.

3.2 MODERATE-RISK TREES

English oak (T3)

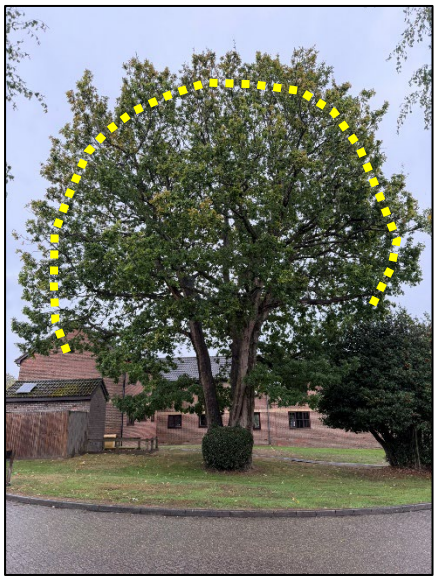
3.2.1 This is the largest and most prominent tree within the site, and is a pre-existing tree that was retained and built around during the site's re-development, which I understand to have occurred in the late 1980s and early 1990s. It stands at approximately 17m tall, with two large, co-dominant trunks which form a tight stem union. The canopy is broadly symmetrical as a result of historical pruning, but overhangs the communal gardens, an external bin storage area, and is within falling distance of residential properties.

3.2.2 As identified in 2023, several branches appear to be decaying in the lower canopy, close to their unions with the principal trunks, as shown below.

[3] (Horsham District Council, 2026)

Photograph 1: below left, looking southwards towards T1, showing its general appearance and surroundings, and an illustrative pruning line; and

Photograph 2: below left, showing an example of decaying branches in the lower canopy on the north west side of the canopy.





Photograph 3 (below left) and Photograph 4 (below right), showing further instances of aerial decay on principal branches.





3.2.3 Given its location and condition, I consider the risk of branch failure to be foreseeable and accordingly recommend that the tree be reduced by up to 2m, to c. 15m x 5m (averaged). These works will be of twofold benefit to the tree: 1) it will reduce the end weight of the decaying branches, and any other branch of similar condition that may exist higher up the tree and 2) the height reduction will reduce wind loading on the upper canopy, thus reducing stresses acting on the principal stem union.

3.2.4 The reduction of trees, particularly with regard to height, is acknowledged as being of benefit for the purposes of reducing wind loading[4]. Rinn (2014) estimates that the percentage reduction in wind loading is broadly equivalent to two times the percentage reduction in height. Using this principle, the reduction of 2m

[4] (Rinn, 2014)

represents a 15% reduction to the live canopy (15m, excluding the lower 2m which is bare of branches), which could rise to a wind load reduction of somewhere in the region of 30%.

3.2.5 Similar canopy reduction work was recommended following my 2023 assessment, but as far as I can tell, no such work appears to have been undertaken to date.

3.3 LOW-RISK TREES

3.3.1 The remaining trees have been assessed as posing a low risk. However, in the case of one cherry tree (T7), routine maintenance pruning to lift the lower branches over the adjacent car parking spaces would constitute sound, proactive arboricultural management. The canopy is currently low over the car parking spaces, so I recommend that the lower branches are lifted to achieve and maintain a 3m clearance.

Photograph 5: looking southwards towards T7, showing the low canopy extending over the car parking spaces, and an indicative crown lifting line.



3.4 SUMMARY OF WORK RECOMMENDATIONS

3.4.1 The following tables set out the works recommendations by priority rating. None of the trees has been assigned the highest priority (P1). The most urgent works have been assigned priority P2, and should be completed within six months.

Table 1: Priority P2 recommendations – to be completed within six months.

Tree No.	TPO Ref.	Species	Risk Rating	Recommendation
T3	**T23 TPO 663/1989**	English oak	Moderate	Reduce by up to 2m in height and spread, to c. 15m x 5m (average). Work required to reduce end weight and minimise the likelihood of branch failures.

Table 2: Priority P4 recommendations – to be completed during the next routine work cycle.

Tree No.	TPO Ref.	Species	Risk Rating	Recommendation
T7	N/A	Wild cherry	Low	Crown lift to maintain 3m clearance over parking bays.

3.5 REINSPECTION

3.5.1 Based on the condition of the trees, and my observations regarding occupancy and targets, and on the assumption that the prescribed works are duly implemented, I consider it appropriate to reinspect the subject trees in three years.

4 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 CONCLUSIONS

4.1.1 A total of 14 individual trees were surveyed and recorded in accordance with the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) and International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) methodologies.

4.1.2 Of these, one individual tree (T3) has been assessed as posing a moderate risk of failure. The remaining 13 have been assessed as posing a low risk. Remedial work recommendations have been provided where they constitute a reasonable and proportionate response to the identified defects, or where the works would be of benefit for sound arboricultural management purposes.

4.1.3 The oak (T3) is covered by a TPO and therefore, an application to obtain consent from Horsham District Council is necessary prior to undertaking the prescribed works. It remains the responsibility of the landowner, and the appointed contractor, to ensure that such consent is obtained to avoid causing or permitting an offence under the TPO legislation.

4.1.4 Based on the condition of the trees, and my observations regarding occupancy and targets, and on the assumption that the prescribed works are duly implemented, I consider it appropriate to reinspect the subject trees in three years' time.

4.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Carry out the prescribed tree surgery works, set out in the tables above, within the specified timeframes; and

2) Carry out repeat surveys in three years, to re-assess the tree stock.

[redacted]

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REFERENCES

Dunster, J. A., Smiley, E. T., Matheny, N., & Lilly, S. (2017). *Tree Risk Assessment Manual.* Atlanta, GA: International Society of Arboriculture.

Horsham District Council. (2026). *Tree Preservation Order Mapping*. Retrieved September 22, 2026, from https://horsham.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html

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APPENDIX 1:
RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY (Level 2 – TRAQ)



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UNDERSTANDING TREE RISK

Trees are dynamic organisms that are the subject of continual change and adaptation to their given environments. As such, they are complex organisms that are able to successfully adapt to structural defects, if given the time to do so[1].

Statistics on tree-related injuries suggest that the risk of being killed by a falling tree, either in whole or in part, is around 1:15,000,000 [one in fifteen million][2]. Approximately 55 A&E cases per year relate to injuries resulting from being struck by trees, and this is exceedingly small when compared to A&E cases for other, commonly accepted risks, including 2.9 million leisure-related cases; footballs (262,000), children's swings (10,900) and even wheelie bins (2,200) are involved in significantly more incidents on an annual basis[3].

Accordingly, it is imperative to maintain this perspective when assessing the risk posed by trees, in order to avoid unnecessary tree removals or pruning, and thus, diminishing the wider ecosystem services that they provide society.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

General

The survey was conducted using the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) methodology. This process builds on the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA), which provides a biomechanics-based approach for inspecting trees and has become the standard methodology for arboriculturists. The ISA methodology provides three levels of survey, and these are intended to provide a cost-effective solution for all sizes of tree stock, as outlined below.

- **Level 1 – Limited visual inspection:** seeks to highlight trees with notable or obvious defects, usually within large populations of trees, by completing a walk or drive-by survey, and highlighting trees for further assessment where necessary;
- **Level 2 – Basic assessment**: includes a detailed assessment of trees, aided by hand tools where necessary, their growing environments and the targets surrounding the trees; or
- **Level 3 – Advanced assessment:** usually prescribed following a Level 2 assessment, this level seeks to provide additional, detailed information about specific tree parts, defects, targets, or site conditions. Specialised equipment such as microdrills or sonic tomography may be used to identify internal decay or defects.

Scope of survey

A Level 2 'Basic Assessment' survey was undertaken. This level of survey methodology comprises a ground-based, non-invasive assessment of each individual tree which seeks to[4]:

- Where applicable, determine the significant targets and target zone for the tree or branches of concern;
- Review the site history, conditions, and species failure profile;
- Inspect the tree visually, and where deemed necessary, use hand tools including but not limited to binoculars, a nylon-headed mallet, probes, or shovels to determine structural condition;
- Assess expected loads on the tree and its constituent parts;
- Assess general tree health;
- Record observations of site conditions, defects and outward signs of potential internal defects and response growth;
- If necessary, recommend advanced assessment;

[1] (National Tree Safety Group, 2024)
[2] (National Tree Safety Group, 2024)
[3] (National Tree Safety Group, 2024)
[4] (Dunster, Smiley, Matheny, & Lilly, 2017)

• Analyse the collected data to determine the likelihood and consequences of failure in order to evaluate the degree of risk;
• Develop mitigation options and estimate residual risk for each option; and
• Develop and submit the findings to The Client/tree manager and advise on reinspection intervals.

Target assessment

In the context of tree risk assessment, a target is any person, structure or property that may be damaged in the event of a failure.

The target zone is the area immediately surrounding the tree, and therefore, objects within this area are targets by default. Targets may therefore include but not be limited to, pedestrians using footpaths or bridgeways, street furniture such as lamp columns and road signs, cars parked in laybys, or those being driven on roads adjacent to trees.

In all risk assessments, humans are the principal target. Therefore, occupancy rates of people in the tree target zones are a material consideration when undertaking tree risk assessments. Protection factors, such as the presence of other trees or buildings, may offer an element of protection for people within the tree target zone; these are also considered as part of the ISA TRAQ methodology.

Targets may fall into one of three categories:

• **Static targets:** targets that are fixed or not easily moved, such as houses, sheds, and street furniture;
• **Movable targets:** targets that can be re-located with relative ease, such as sculptures, parked cars, or playground equipment; or
• **Mobile targets:** those that are in motion or move intermittently, such as pedestrians, bicycles, or cars.

Data analysis and risk categorisation

The ISA TRAQ methodology requires assessments to be made in regard to three key aspects of tree risk: the likelihood of failure occurring, the likelihood of the tree part impacting a target if a failure occurred (irrespective of the likelihood of failure), and the consequences of such a failure occurring. Additional information on these assessments is provided below for transparency.

Likelihood of failure

Where one or more structural defects exist, the likelihood of failure is assessed based on the species profile of the individual tree, in consideration with the severity of the defects observed. The likelihood of failure is assessed in accordance with **Table 1** below.

Table 1: explanatory notes on the likelihood of failure[5].

Likelihood of failure	Description
Improbable	The tree or branch is not likely to fail during normal weather conditions and may not fail in many severe weather conditions within the specified timeframe
Possible	Failure could occur, but it is unlikely during normal weather conditions within the specified timeframe
Probable	Failure may be expected under normal weather conditions within the specified timeframe
Imminent	Failure has started or is most likely to occur in the near future, even if there is no significant wind or increased load. This is an infrequent occurrence for a risk assessor to encounter and may require immediate action to protect people from harm

Likelihood of impacting a target

Once targets have been identified it is important to determine occupancy rates and any protection measures that may protect the target in the event of a failure. Occupancy rates can be summarised as:

[5] (Dunster, Smiley, Matheny, & Lilly, 2017)

- **Rare occupancy:** the target zone is not commonly used by people;
- **Occasional occupancy:** the target zone is occupied by people or targets infrequently or irregularly;
- **Frequent occupancy:** the target zone is occupied for a substantial proportion of a day or work week; or
- **Constant occupancy:** a target is present at nearly all times, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Following determination of occupancy rates and protection factors, the likelihood of the tree or tree part is categorised in accordance with **Table 2** below.

Table 2: explanatory notes on the likelihood of a tree (or part) impacting a target.

Likelihood of impact	Description
Very low	The likelihood of the failed tree or part impacting the specified target is remote
Low	It is not likely that the failed tree or part will impact the target
Medium	The failed tree or part is as likely to impact the target as not
High	The failed tree or part will most likely impact the target

Once the likelihood of failure and impacting the target have been calculated, a combined likelihood of both factors is provided by using Matrix 1 of the system, reproduced below.

Table 3: likelihood of failure matrix.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impact			
	Very low	**Low**	**Medium**	**High**
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

Consequences of failure

Once the likelihood of failure and a failure impacting a specified target have been categorised, the consequences of a failure occurring must be considered. Consequences are categorised into one of the following four categories, based on the value of the target and the harm that may arise.

Table 4: explanatory notes on the consequences of failure.

Consequence	Description	Examples
Negligible	Consequences are those that involve low-value property damage or disruption that can be replaced or repaired	A small branch striking a fence A medium-sized branch striking a shrub bed A large part striking a structure and causing low monetary damage Disruption of power to landscape lighting
Minor	Consequences are those that involve low to moderate property damage, small disruption to traffic or a communication utility, or very minor injury	A small branch striking a house roof from a high height A medium-sized branch striking a deck from moderate height A large part striking a structure and causing moderate monetary damage Short-term disruption of power to a house Temporary disruption of traffic to a residential street
Significant	Consequences are those that involve property damage of moderate to high-value, considerable disruption, or personal injury	A medium-sized part striking an unoccupied new vehicle from a moderate or high height A large part striking a structure and resulting in high monetary damage Disruption of distribution to primary or secondary utility services Disruption to traffic on a 'B road'
Severe	Consequences are those that could involve serious personal injury or death, damage to high-value property, or disruption of important activities	Injury to a person that may result in hospitalisation A medium-sized part striking an occupied vehicle A large part striking an occupied house Serious disruption of high-voltage utilities Disruption to traffic on 'A roads' or motorways

Risk ratings

Finally, the ISA TRAQ methodology produces an overall risk rating based on the inputs outlined above using Matrix 2 of the methodology outlined below.

Table 5: risk rating matrix. Reproduced (Dunster, Smiley, Matheny, & Lilly, Tree risk assessment manual, 2017).

Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	**Minor**	**Significant**	**Severe**
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

Low risk: the low-risk category applies when consequences are negligible, when likelihood is unlikely, or when the consequences are minor, and the likelihood is somewhat likely. Mitigation or maintenance may be appropriate for some trees but the priority for action is generally low.

Moderate risk: moderate-risk situations are those for which consequences are minor, and the likelihood is very likely or likely, or the likelihood is somewhat likely, and the consequences are significant or severe. The assessor may recommend mitigation or monitoring in such instances. The decision for mitigation and timing of works is dependent on the risk tolerance of the tree owner or manager.

High risk: high-risk situations are those for which consequences are significant, and the likelihood is very likely or likely, or the consequences are severe, and the likelihood is likely. This level of risk indicates that the risk assessor should recommend mitigation measures. The decision for mitigation and timing of works is dependent on the risk tolerance of the tree owner or manager.

Extreme risk: the extreme-risk category applies in situations in which failure is imminent with a high likelihood of impacting the target, and the consequences are severe. The tree risk assessor should recommend mitigation measures to be undertaken as soon as is practicable. In some cases, this may require exclusion zones be set up in order to minimise access to the tree to avoid injury.

Timescales

In order to provide clarity and a sense of urgency, I have developed a series of standardised timescales to assist in the prioritisation of recommended works. These are provided in addition to the tree risk rating above and are set out below:

- **Priority 1 (P1)** – Action recommended work as soon as practicable;
- **Priority 2 (P2)** – Action recommended works within 6 months of survey;
- **Priority 3 (P3)** – Action recommended works within 2 years of survey;
- **Priority 4 (P4)** – Action recommended works during the next available round of routine tree works, as budget allows, or prior to the next inspection; and
- **Priority 5 (P5)** – No works are considered necessary.

REFERENCES

Dunster, J. A., Smiley, E. T., Matheny, N., & Lilly, S. (2017). *Tree risk assessment manual* (2 ed.). Atlanta, USA: International Society of Arboriculture.

National Tree Safety Group. (2024). *Common sense risk management of trees.* Forest Research and The Arboricultural Association.

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APPENDIX 2:
TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE



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Client name: Courtney Green Ltd
Site: 1-20 Oak Tree Way, Horsham, RH13 6EQ
Reference: MDJAC-TRAQ26134-TSS-01
Survey date: 07/10/2026

Tree Survey Schedule

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Arboricultural									Risk			Recommendations	
Tree No.	TPO no.	Species	Height [m]	Trunk Dia. [mm]	Crown Spread [m]	Life Stage	Physiology	Structural Condition	Target(s)	Comments	Risk Rating	Recommended Work	Timescales
T1	N/A	Rowan	4	150	2.25	Semi-mature	Average	Fair	#Parked vehicles #Pedestrians	Recently established front garden tree.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T2	N/A	Crab apple	4	150	3.5	Semi-mature	Average	Fair	#Parked vehicles #Pedestrians	Recently established front garden tree.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T3	T23 TPO 663/1989	English oak	17	600, 800	7	Mature	Average	Fair	#Parked vehicles #Pedestrians #Residential property #Road users	Three-stemmed from 1-2m. Two western stems fused together. Natural bracing evident in NW canopy at 6m; essential for structural support. Secondary natural bracing at 7m on east side. Suggestion of past branch failures. Decay on primary branches in lower canopy on NW side.	Moderate	Reduce by up to 2m in height and spread, to c. 15m x 5m (average). Work required to reduce end weight and minimise the likelihood of branch failures.	P2 - 6 Months
T4	T24 TPO 663/1989	Common holly	4	200	2.5	Early-mature	Average	Fair	#Pedestrians	One of a group of small trees. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T5	T24 TPO 663/1989	Common holly	4	200	2.5	Early-mature	Average	Fair	#Pedestrians	One of a group of small trees. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T6	T24 TPO 663/1989	Common holly	4	200	2.5	Early-mature	Average	Fair	#Pedestrians	One of a group of small trees. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T7	N/A	Wild cherry	7	500	6	Mature	Average	Fair	#Parked vehicles #Road users	Low canopy overhanging car parking bays.	Low	Crown lift to maintain 3m clearance over parking bays.	P4 - Next work cycle
T8	N/A	Wild cherry	10	300	6	Mature	Average	Fair	#Communal garden(s) #Road users	Prominent surface roots.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T9	N/A	Flowering cherry	10	250	4.5	Mature	Average	Fair	#Communal garden(s) #Road users	Ornamental, slender cultivar. Suppressed. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T10	N/A	Flowering cherry	10	250	3.5	Mature	Average	Fair	#Communal garden(s) #Road users	Ornamental, slender cultivar. Suppressed. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T11	N/A	Rowan	9	125, 75	1.5	Semi-mature	Reduced	Fair	#Communal garden(s)	Twin-stemmed. Sparse canopy; likely drought-stressed.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T12	N/A	Silver birch	9	300	4	Mature	Average	Fair	#Parked vehicles #Residential property	Reduced previously. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T13	N/A	Silver birch	9	225, 175	4	Mature	Average	Fair	#Parked vehicles #Residential property	Reduced previously. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works
T14	T20 TPO 663/1989	Paper-bark birch	9	400	4.5	Mature	Average	Fair	#Communal garden(s) #Parked vehicles #Residential property	Mature ornamental. Previously reduced. No actionable defects.	Low	N/A.	P5 - No Works

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APPENDIX 3:
TREE SURVEY PLAN



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Tree Survey Plan - 1-20 Oak Tree Way, Horsham, RH13 6EQ [DWG Ref.: MDJAC-TRAQ26134-TSP-01]



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APPENDIX 4:
PROFESSIONAL PROFILE



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Company Registration No. (England & Wales): 13900533

Brambles End
30 Blakes Farm Road
Southwater, Horsham
West Sussex, RH13 9GJ

MATTHEW JONES

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Experience

I have worked and studied solely within the arboriculture industry for over 15 years, initially as a climbing arborist and team leader for six years, and subsequently as a professional arboriculturist in private practice. I am the Managing Director of MDJ Arboricultural Consultancy Limited, which was founded in 2022.

I have been a member of the Arboricultural Association since 2017. I have been a Professional Member (MArborA) since 2020 and in 2025 I was awarded Registered Consultant Status (RCArborA). Registered Consultants have attained a recognised standard of knowledge and experience and have demonstrated the ability to practice as an arboricultural consultant in the most complex and demanding situations. This is evidenced by a rigorous assessment and professional interview conducted by expert industry assessors. The aim of the scheme is to recognise excellence in the field of tree consultancy, and it is promoted by the Arboricultural Association as establishing the highest level of attainment available within the UK.

I regularly carry out appraisals of tree stocks of various sizes to meet client requirements. My instructions primarily include:

- assessing trees in the context of the development or re-development of residential, commercial and industrial land, and preparing report packages to accompany planning applications;
- inspecting trees in the context of assessing the risk of whole or partial tree failures, qualifying these risks using industry-related methodologies, and preparing reports and schedules of remedial tree surgery works as necessary; and
- assessing trees in the context of potential tree-related damage to buildings and for insurance purposes.

To supplement my work, I regularly attend CPD events, conferences, symposia, webinars, and similar events, and continue to study relevant areas of arboriculture and associated fields of practice, including ecology, landscape, mycology, and geology, insofar as these relate to tree management.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science With Honours in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, Myerscough College, University of Central Lancashire (RQF Level 6);
- National Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture, Merrist Wood College, Guildford (RQF Level 3);
- LANTRA Professional Tree Inspector;
- Registered 'Validator' (Tree Risk Assessment); and
- Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ), 2016.

Professional Bodies

- The Arboricultural Association – Registered Consultant (No. RC 207);
- The Arboricultural Association – Professional Level (No. PR5437); and
- The Institute of Chartered Foresters – Associate Level (No. 782057).