



# TREE SURVEY & RISK ASSESSMENT

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Chefterfield S40 2NX

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## TREE RISK ASSESSMENT:

### **1.0 Instruction & Remit**

We are instructed by Mr D & Mrs M Tabner to carry out a routine survey and risk assessment of a tree that is located within curtilage of their property.

The main objective of this survey is to comply with the legal 'duty of care' and Public & property safety policies.

### **2.0 Caveats**

All trees have been inspected from ground level only. Should further, more detailed inspection be deemed appropriate, this will be mentioned in the recommendations section of the appended schedule of works.

Trees are dynamic living organisms, whose health and condition can be subject to rapid changes, depending upon a number of internal and external factors. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report are based on the trees at the time of inspection. It should be noted that even completely sound, healthy trees, can fail, given sufficiently severe weather conditions.

### **3.0 Survey Methodology**

3.1 All trees have been assessed for general condition and health & safety issues, using the recognised system known as VTA (Visual Tree Assessment) as popularised by eminent

arboriculturists such as Dr. David Lonsdale (Ref. Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment & Management 1999) and Mattheck & Breloer (Ref. The Body Language of Trees 1999).

3.2 The system used to identify specific trees is based on notional numbers assigned to the trees at the time of the inspection. In addition, the location of these trees is marked on the plan at Appendix 2

3.3 Management recommendations have been given for each tree (or group) based on the relevant risk zone and the probability of failure, and these recommended works have been prioritised as High, Medium or Low, as follows:

High Priority: Carry out works within 3 months

Medium Priority: Carry out works within 6 months

Low Priority: Works not immediately relevant to health & safety, but should ideally be undertaken for reasons of sound arboricultural practice or to avoid an increase in the probability of failure – 18 months is suggested as a maximum timescale

3.4 The survey was carried out on 15/02/2024 by David Bolsover. The weather at the time of survey was good, bright and clear. David Bolsover holds the LANTRA Certificate in Professional Tree Inspection. He also has over 35 years of experience working in the arboricultural industry

#### 4.0 Re-Inspection Procedure

The procedure for re-inspection by a competent person is broadly based on the risk zones i.e. • High Risk - re-inspect annually • Medium Risk - re-inspect every two years • Low Risk - re-inspect every three years

There may be certain exceptions to this rule e.g. where a particularly large or important tree has been recommended for more frequent inspections than the risk zone would normally require.

All trees should be included in routine risk assessments carried out by a suitably competent person – a risk assessment should always be undertaken immediately following severe weather events i.e. high winds, heavy rain or snow falls. If in doubt regarding the safety of a particular tree always consult a qualified arboriculturist.

#### 5.0 General Recommendations

5.1 It is always advisable to sever Ivy where it is growing on trees, with the exception of those situated in areas of particular conservation value where it may constitute a valuable habitat resource.

5.2 For detailed and specific recommendations see Appendix 1.

## 6.0 Statutory Obligations

- Works to trees which are covered by Tree Preservation Orders [TPOs] or are within a Conservation Area [CA] require permission or consent from your Local Planning Authority [LPA].
- It is a criminal offence under normal circumstances to disturb or destroy - whether intentional or unintentional - the nesting sites of wild birds or the roost sites of bats, under the 'Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, the 'Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000' and the 'Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010' (as amended). We strongly recommend that prior to commencement of any significant tree works, a thorough aerial inspection is carried out by a suitably competent arborist in order to check for signs of bat activity or occupied nest sites.