Ryde Academy - Visual Tree Assessment.

Contents

A 'Duty of Care' in relation to tree inspection is owed to persons who may be reasonably contemplated (by tree owners, tree managers and tree inspectors) to be affected by their action or inaction. This duty means that the actions of these persons need to meet a standard of care. If they do not, then negligence in Common Law may be proved and result in a claim for damages.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Ryde Academy is a UK school which part of the Academy Enterprise Trust portfolio of Schools In this instance the property in question is the school grounds and surrounding playing areas.

1.2 Duty of Care

Ryde Academy has all the normal responsibilities of being a landowner, including the duty of care with regards to harm to those who may foreseeably be affected by use of the land, or harm caused to neighbouring property or people.

1.3 History

Historic survey and Inspection data was not available.

1.4 Instruction

Glendale has been instructed, by the Academy Enterprise Trust , to carry out a survey and Inspection of trees on this site to provide information on the risk presented by this tree population.

2.0 Specification

2.1 In summary the specification is as follows

- To identify, locate and inspect all trees on the properties
- Trees to be mapped via Google maps. Output files available in other GIS formatts.
- Trees to be identified by species and size.
- Trees to be assessed for risk of harm to users of the site and 3rd parties.
- Recommendations for works to be noted.
- A summary of the site with any recommendations for woodland management to be provided.
- Inspection will be a ground based Visual Tree Inspection (VTA).
- The main purpose of the inspection is to assess the tree's general condition and additionally evaluate any risk to site users or 3rd parties.
- Results of tree inspection will lead to recommendations for site management over a three year period with individual yearly recommendations.
- General management observations for longer term management may be included if appropriate.

3.0 Methodology.

3.1 Timing

The entire inspection works were concluded on 11th November 2022**.**

3.2 Qualifications

All elements of assessment/survey & inspection were undertaken by a Glendale surveyor/Inspector

These Inspectors have significant experience in tree /vegetation management and are all qualified LANTRA Professional Tree Inspectors and are all registered users of the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment system (QTRA)

3.3 Limitations

All trees have been assessed, as specified, using the recognised system known as **VTA** (Visual Tree Assessment) “Dr. David Lonsdale (Ref. Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment & Management 1999) and Mattheck & Breloer (Ref. The Body Language of Trees 1999).”

All trees have been inspected from ground level only. Whilst obvious aerial defects can be identified often the structure of the crown, or position of the tree, will restrict vision and identification of others.

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 apparently sound, healthy looking trees, can fail.

The observations gathered during VTA do not account for a tree's response in extreme weather conditions.

This report represents the state of the trees on the day examined. Where no timed recommendations are made then the currency of this report will expire after 3 years from the date of inspection.

3.4 Full Site Survey/Tree inspections

3.41 *Dataset*

The following dataset was collected as appropriate for each tree as required:-

Site Name		Name of asset, as work instruction
Tree ID		Individual ID number. (**Trees requiring work were physically tagged.)**
Location - Coordinates		Coordinates obtained on site using **WAAS** enabled handheld devices. This data has also been converted to Lat/Long Coordinates.
Group or Single		Individual tree or group of trees
Species		Common name
Height (M)		Average height of tree
DBH (Cm)		Average diameter of main stem or stems at 1.2M above ground level
Average Crown Width (M)		Average width of crown
Tree Age Class		Newly Planted, Young, Semi-mature, Early Mature, Mature, Over Mature & Veteran
Physiological Condition		Dead, Poor, Fair or Good
Structural Condition		Dead, Poor, Fair or Good
Risk Rating		1 to 5 : 1 being negligible, 5 being extreme
Defects Observed		Yes or No significant defects observed

Target Type		Vehicle, Person, Property or Occupation
Target Range		1 to 6 , 1 being highest value
Size of Part to Fail		1 to 5, 1 being highest size
Probability of Failure		1 to 7, 1 being highest probability
Risk Of Harm		Calculated from the above 4 fields and expressed as a probability of harm
Defect 1		Description of observed defects
Defect 2		Description of observed defects
Defect 3		Description of observed defects
Programme Priority		Urgent to Low : Urgent - within 2 Hrs, High - work required in 7 days, Medium- works required in 1 Months & Low - Works required in 3 months or Re-inspection
Works required		Brief specification of works recommended

3.42 *Definition of key inspection terms*

Age :

Subjective assessment of the life stage of the tree given species specific characteristics and the environmental context.

Physiological Condition :

Dead : Dead

Poor : Major massive occurence of pathogen, parasite or disease which is compromising the tree.

Poor : Several occurrences of pathogens, parasites or disease which are having a notable effect upon the tree.

Fair : Isolated minor occurrences of pathogen, parasite or disease associated with average state for species and environment.

Good : No evidence of pathogens, parasites or disease.

Structural Condition :

Dead : Dead

Poor : Major massive structural defects which are compromising the tree.

Poor : Several structural defects which are having a notable effect upon the tree

Fair : Isolated minor structural defects associated with average state for species and environment.

Good : Notably good structure for species and environment

Overall Tree Condition :

The condition of a given tree is considered in light of typical characteristics for that particular species in typical circumstances. The overall tree condition takes into account a synthesis of tree vitality, physiological & structural condition and contrasts these findings against what is typical for that species and that environment.

Risk of Harm :

The QTRA system defines the final risk of harm in 4 bands of probability

<1:1,000,000 - Green - Acceptable risk

1: 10,000 to 1;1,000,000 - Yellow - Tolerable risk

1:10,000 to 1:1,000 - Amber - Only acceptable if the risk is not imposed on other people

> 1:1,000 - Red - Unacceptable risk

4.0 Survey

4.1 Site Observations

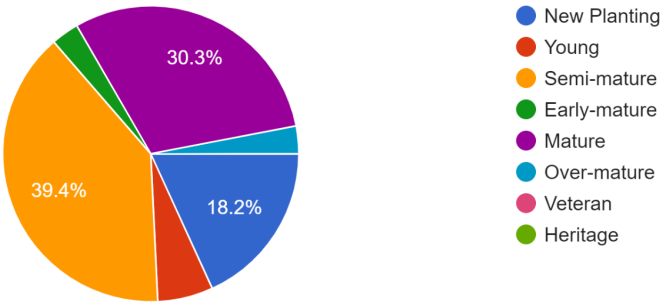
In summary the property is a school with largely amenity use. There are neighbouring properties which have been evaluated for target value

4.1.1 Tree population

The Ryde Academy property contains a wide range of tree type and age some of the significant elements of which are summarised below

Age Class

33 responses

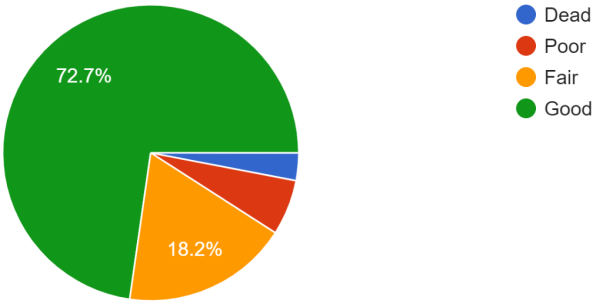


Is Ash Dieback present

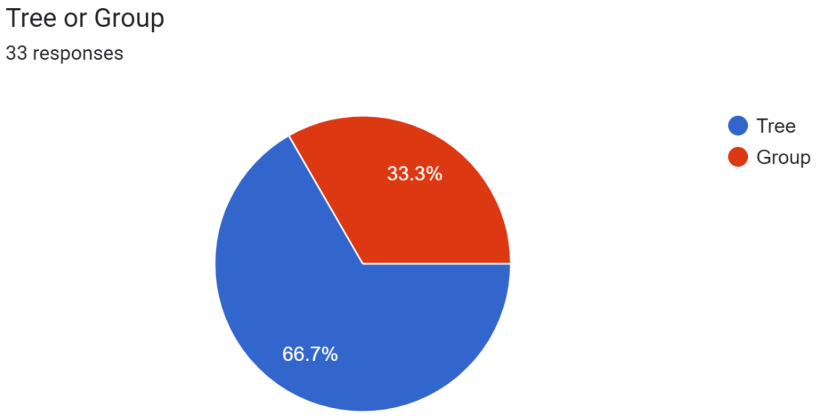
33 responses

Physiological Condition

33 responses



4.1.2 Summary Findings



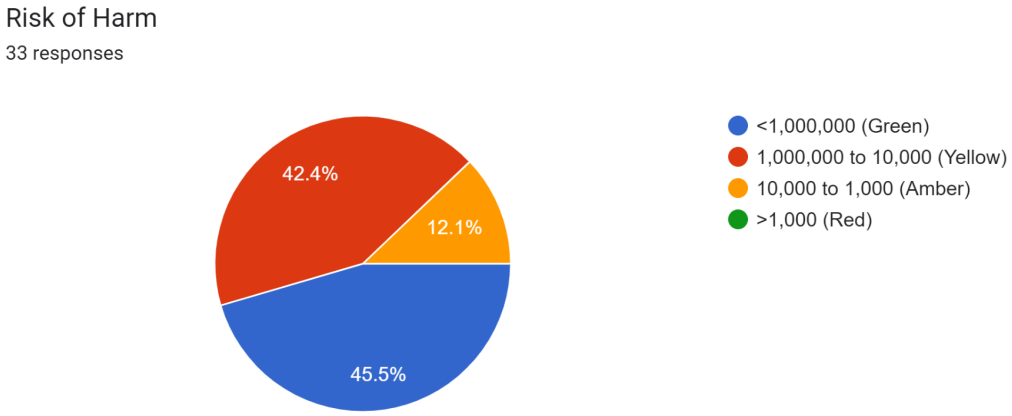
Roughly 33% of the trees surveyed were identified in groups. This is standard practice where there is a uniform assessment of the risk presented by the trees in the group.

Of the trees zoned, mapped, inspected and assessed

45.5 % were found to present no significant risk (Green)

42.4 % of which were found to have defects which presented an acceptable risk, but still may benefit from corrective work (Yellow)

12.1% of which were found to have defects which were unacceptable if imposed on others (Amber)



Full details of the recommended work are available in the datasheet

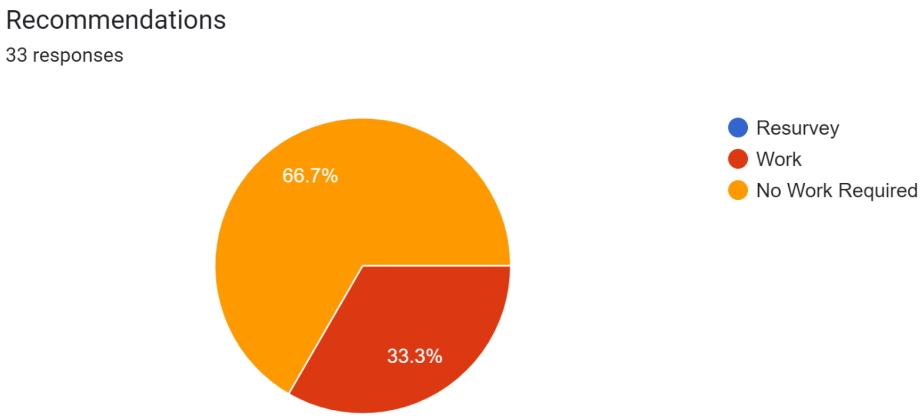
4.1.3 Data

A full data set is included as Appendix A.

This data is also appended as a spreadsheet

4.2 Conclusions/Recommendations

4.2.1



Trees which have recommendations for work are detailed below

We recommend that trees with Red or Amber Risk ratings are managed in line with our work specification.

Trees with yellow risk ratings may have work considered but this work is not driven by safety concerns as the associated risk is considered to be acceptable. (Not nil)

The recommendation for work in the case of yellow risk trees may be either amenity issues or may represent a pragmatic decision around management of the tree in question.

Full details of all trees and recommendations are available in the datasheet

Tree ID (only enter tag numbers)	Number of trees	Tree species (common name)	Risk of Harm	Recommendations	Detail work required	Work priority
T2	1	Acer spp (sycamore)	10,000 to 1,000 (Amber)	Work	Crown lift over building	Low - within 12 months
G1	5	Acer spp (sycamore)	1,000,000 to 10,000 (Yellow)	Work	Crown lift off fence and over roadway	Medium - within 6 months
G4	7	Sorbus spp (Whitebeam)	1,000,000 to 10,000 (Yellow)	Work	Restate where trees are still alive, fell to ground level the declining trees and replant	Medium - within 6 months
T3	1	Quercus spp (oak)	10,000 to 1,000 (Amber)	Work	Reduce crown by 20%, remove deadwood, sever ivy and remove fractured limbs.	Medium - within 6 months
T4	1	Fraxinus spp (ash)	10,000 to 1,000 (Amber)	Work	Fell to ground level	Medium - within 6 months
T5	1	Quercus spp (oak)	<1,000,000 (Green)	Work	Sever ivy at base and remove deadwood	Low - within 12 months

T6	1	Quercus spp (oak)	10,000 to 1,000 (Amber)	Work	Remove deadwood and fractured side laterals	Medium - within 6 months
G6	5	Prunus spp (blackthorn)	1,000,000 to 10,000 (Yellow)	Work	Fell to ground level	Low - within 12 months
T7	1	Quercus spp	1,000,000 to 10,000 (Yellow)	Work	Remove deadwood over road	Medium - within 6 months
G11	2	Aesculus spp (horse chestnut)	1,000,000 to 10,000 (Yellow)	Work	Fell at ground level	Low - within 12 months
T19	1	Quercus spp (oak)	1,000,000 to 10,000 (Yellow)	Work	Crown lift to 1.5m and sever ivy	Low - within 12 months

4.26 The recommended removal or pruning of any specific tree does not imply that either treeowner or statutory consent has been gained for any works.

5.0 Data & Appendices

Appendix A - Data

The Inspection data has been provided as a hard copy in this appendix and as a spreadsheet.

Appendix B - Maps

Maps have been provided as a Google map (Link below) and as a KML file to allow manipulation in GIS software.

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1gx7AE_z1CcmuJBRSCoqf7f6j0qz2Ll0&usp=sharing