



Active Tree Risk Assessment-

**5 Chedworth Close,
Darton,
Barnsley**

Report Reference: TCC1712-1

Report Title:	Active Tree Risk Assessment
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Written by:	Joe Hardaker FdSc Arb BSc Hort
Client:	Mr & Mrs Race
Date:	May 2024



Clifton Villa
37 Hall Cliffe Road
Horbury
Wakefield, WF4 6BY

Phone: 0113 2175175 or 01924 270619
Email : info@treecareconsultancy.co.uk

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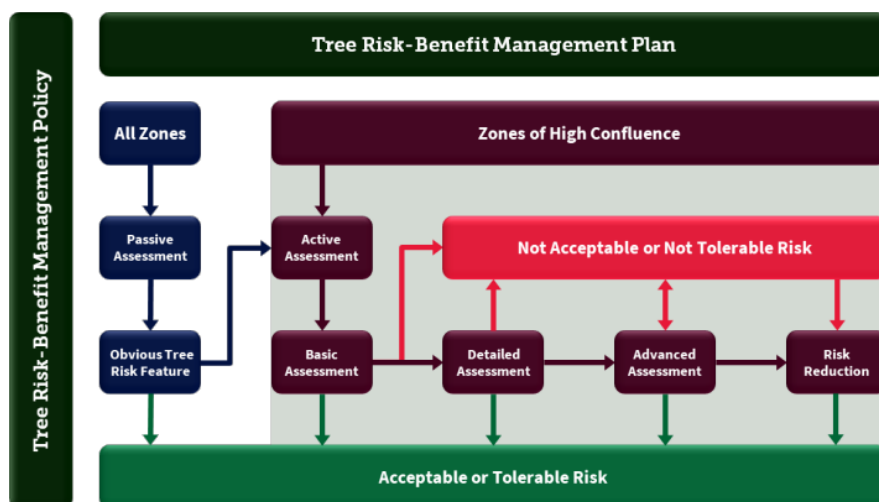
1. Introduction

Background

1. Any owner or manager of a tree/s has a duty in both civil and criminal law to implement reasonable management measures, thereby preventing foreseeable injury or harm. Duty holders are recommended to assess the risks associated with their trees and address those risks in a manner that is both reasonable and proportionate.
2. To fulfil their duty of care, Mr. and Mrs. commissioned Tree Care Consultancy to undertake an 'Active Assessment' of the significant trees within the grounds of the above site. The assessment evaluates the potential risks trees pose to their surroundings and where required, provides recommendations to ensure an acceptable or tolerable level of risk is achieved.

Methodology

3. To create a robust approach to tree management, Tree Care Consultancy employs the VALID Tree Risk-Benefit Management and Assessment strategy.
4. VALID has applied ISO 31000 - Risk Management Standards and Tolerability of Risk Framework to provide a robust and defensible tree risk-benefit assessment. The assessment process is carried out under an umbrella of a Tree Risk-Benefit Management Strategy. A tailored strategy accompanies this document and has been provided to the client.

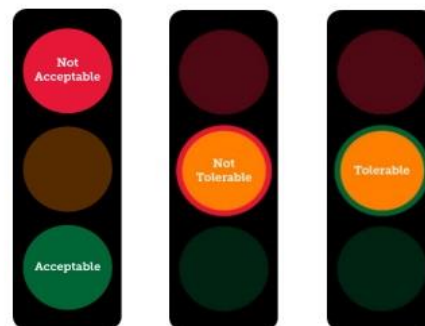


5. It is typical for a site of this nature to be 'Passively' assessed by the client/occupiers by picking up on Obvious Tree Risk Features as they go about their daily routine. A more detailed description of passive assessment is provided within the tailored strategy.

6. The Active Assessment was undertaken by Joe Hardaker on 28th May 2024. Joe is a Valid Tree Risk-Benefit 'Validator,' he holds a National Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture, a Foundation degree in Arboriculture with Urban Forestry and has recently also undergone a top up program to progress his academic qualifications into a bachelor's degree, where he achieved 1st class honours in Applied Horticulture. In addition to academic studies, Joe has worked in practical areas of Arboriculture gaining over 10 years' experience in the field.

7. The Assessment has been completed using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) methodology, as devised by Mattheck (1991). V.T.A is a ground level visual assessment of a tree, which is carried out to identify obvious mechanical defects, signs of ill health and/or potential mechanical failure. All trees were inspected but, only trees that require further action have been included within the schedule at appendix 2.

8. Where trees are found to contain risk features, a 'Detailed Assessment' has been undertaken using the VALID Application that computes probable risks and produces four possible qualitative outputs based on the computed outcomes - 'Acceptable,' 'Tolerable,' 'Not Tolerable' and 'Not Acceptable.'



Limitations of the Report

9. Climate conditions including storm, drought and temperature-related factors can cause damage and failure in healthy trees. It should be remembered that trees do pose a risk and whilst every effort has been made to detect any major tree defects, no guarantee can be given as to their safety.

10. Any observations made by the author regarding the condition of built structures are from a lay person's view.

2.0 Survey Details

Site Description & Occupancy Evaluation

11. The site is within a domestic setting with the tree located in the rear private garden of the property. Given the trees overall size it overhangs neighbouring residential property at 35 Bence Lane and 7 Chedworth Close. More particularly the tips of several lower branches are starting to encroach upon neighbouring structures. Occupancy by persons within these rear gardens will typically be influenced by the prevailing weather conditions.

Tree Status



Figure 1: Extract from Barnsley Council's TPO map showing locations of Tree Preservation Orders (green) the location of the site (highlighted red).

12. It is understood the tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) (Ref 11-T2).
13. In the case of trees that are subject of TPO, Conservation Area controls or planning application procedures it is essential the Local Authority's advice is sought and where necessary consent obtained prior to undertaking any tree removal or pruning operations.

3.0 Tree Appraisal

14. The tree is a mature Corsican Pine (*Pinus nigra*) of approximately 13m in height. It has a spreading form and slight crown bias to the south-east.
15. Vitality – The tree has a slightly sparse internal crown with a higher proportion of live growth chiefly on the outer parts of the branches. Good wound wood response growth has been noted on several occluding wounds on the lower stem.
16. Anatomy – Good height to diameter ratio, providing good strength to its main stem. Lower peripheral branches have developed phototropic characteristics in order to gain access to light beyond the trees upper canopy dripline, and as such have become overextended.
17. Load – An adjoining sister tree was removed in March 2023, which has changed wind load characteristics to the tree. Consequentially this marginally increases the chances of gale damage.
18. Identity – Species hosts reasonable strength and good CODIT response.
19. Defect – Some minor to moderate branches in the upper canopy have in past years been wind/weight of snow damaged. These damaged limbs were removed in accordance with best practice.

4.0 Recommendations

20. Given the recent load change, the presence of over overextending limbs and the tree and its near neighbours previous susceptibility to wind and snow damage, it is deemed appropriate to reduce the lower lateral overextending branches by 2-4m (depending on weight characteristics) up to a height of 8m.
21. This effect of the recommended work will reduce end weight and surface area of lower limbs in an effort to lower risk of branch breakages by wind or snowfall.

Appendix 1 - Explanation of Survey Details

Tree Id	Each tree/group has been given a unique number, which coincides with the tree survey plan located in appendix 3. To aid identification several trees have been tagged with corresponding numbered tags.
Species & Botanical Name	Where identifiable the full botanical name has been given. Where a cultivar, variety or species cannot be accurately given the genus name only will be given.
Life stage	Is described as young, semi-mature, mature, early-mature, over-mature, veteran and dead.
Height	This is estimated as: 0-5m, 5-10m, 10-15m, 15-20m or 20+. If height issues are critical, measurements can be collected accurately using optical instruments.
Structural condition	An assessment of the trees structural condition. It is described as Good = no significant defects, Fair = significant defects that can be made tolerable and Poor = significant defects with no remedy.
Vitality	An overall appraisal of a trees physiological and biochemical process. It is described as either normal, moderate, early decline or sever decline.
Life Expectancy	An estimate of a trees future life expectancy and recorded as 0-5, 5-20, 20+ and 40+.
Likelihood of Occupancy	An assessment of the likely occupancy levels within the vicinity of the subject tree/. Described in accordance with VALID as Very High, High, Moderate, Low and Very Low.
Observations & Risk Feature Assessment	Narrative comment on general condition, significant defects (e.g. presence of decay) and overall appearance
Detailed Assessment Completed + Outcome	Where trees have been identified as having significant risk features, a detailed assessment will be performed using the VALID Application.
Minor/Management M/M or Risk Reduction Work R/R	Identified works will be categorised as either Minor/Management- works including maintenance works or low risk, examples include creating clearance to buildings or formative pruning. Risk Reduction - where work is necessary to lower the potential risk from a tree to a tolerable or acceptable level. Examples include - shortening of a defective branch or removal of major deadwood.
Recommended Action	Description of recommended work.

Priority

All prescribed works have been prioritised depending on the tree/s condition and location. A detailed explanation of each category is provided in the below table.

Priority	VALID Categorisation	Description
1	Not Acceptable	If a tree/s has a very high likelihood of failure and it is in a high use zone, these Not Acceptable risks are 'emergency work'. These works should be completed as a matter of urgency. Remaining Not Acceptable works will be given the highest priority and completed when budgets allow.
2	Not Tolerable	Work of a moderate priority that should be undertaken following the completion of 1/Not Acceptable works but prior to maintenance works.
3	Tolerable	Work of a low priority usually minor or maintenance works recommended as good Arboricultural practice, rather than risk management.
4-N/A	Acceptable	No work required or the potential risk is acceptable.

Summary

Risk

Corsican Pine (T1)



Highest Risk	Acceptable
Risk Reduction	Pruning
Tree Management	Reduce overextending limbs by approx. 2.5m up to a heig...
Review Year	2029
Date Assessed	2024-05-28 10:58
Assessed By	Joe Hardaker
Phone Number	07725082487
Email	info@JHArboriculture.co.uk



Tree Details and Location



Species	Height (m)	Stem Ø (cm)	Crown Ø (m)
Corsican Pine Pinus nigra salzmannii	13	800	12-14

5 Chedworth Close
Dartford

Risk Inputs

Likelihood of Occupation



People



Weather Affected



Walking

O



4
Low

Consequences



Tree



Stem



Branch



Deadwood

C



2
High

Likelihood of Failure

VITALITY	V	crown density woundwood response growth	A
ANATOMY	A	wood properties architecture H/D ratio	A
LOAD	L	exposure changes to the tree changes around tree	A
IDENTITY	I	species profile age of wounds CODIT	G
DEFECT	D	soundwood decay - extent feature or fault	A

Slightly sparse internal crown. Reasonable wound wood response.

Good H/D ratio. Overextending limbs which are heavily end weighted.

Recent sister tree removal in March 2023.

Reasonable species strength although has shed some limbs in 2022/23 winter due to snow.

Limb shedding as previously mentioned.

F



3
Moderate

Notes

The highest risk is people



KEY:

- - Tree Canopy
- T1** - Tree/Group ID

VALID Tree Risk Benefit Occupancy Levels:-

- Very Low Occupancy
- Low Occupancy
- Moderate Occupancy
- High Occupancy
- Very High Occupancy

TREE SURVEY PLAN

Site Address:
 5 Chedworth Close
 Darton
 Barnsley

Client: Mr & Mrs Race

Scale: Not to scale

REF-TCC-1712-1



Clifton Villa, 37 Hall Cliffe Road, Horbury
 Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF4 6BY
 Phone: 01924 270619
 Email: info@treecareconsultancy.co.uk
 Company Number: 10363679
 VAT: 253 6681 87