

# **ARBORICULTURAL REPORT**

**CLIENT:** Annabel Bacal

SITE: 26 Netherhall Gardens, London, NW3 5TL

CONSULTANT: Oliver Tong ND Arb TechArborA

DATE: 26th January 2021

**REF:** 1091



### Contents

Contents	1
1. Instruction	
2. Scope and Terms of Reference	2
3. Limitations	2
4. Authorship	2
5. Supporting Documents	
6. Assessment Methodology	
7. Site Visits	3
8. Observations	3
9. Images	5
10. Capital Asset Valuation of Amenity Trees (CAVAT)	
11. Conclusions	

## Appendices

A. Tree Assessment Schedule	
B. Key to Tree Assessment Schedule	
C. Tree Location Plan	14
D. BS 5837:2012 Table 1 - Cascade chart for tree quality assessment	16
E. Legislation and Guidance for Trees	18
F. Curriculum Vitae of Oliver Tong	24
G. Reference Material	28



### **1** Instruction

1.1 Greenwood Arboriculture has been instructed by Annabel Bacal, to carry out an assessment of trees located on the rear garden boundary between properties 24a and 26 Netherhall Gardens, London, NW3 5TL.

### 2 Scope and Terms of Reference

- 2.1 The purpose of the exercise is established if the latest arboricultural report by Crown Tree Consultants (Ref. 09552a), submitted as part of planning application Ref. 2019/1515/P, is an accurate representation of these trees, in order to support an objection to the application.
- 2.2 For ease of reference, our tree reference number T2 corresponds with Crown Tree Consultants T2. However, our T3 corresponds with their T6 and our T4 with their T8, all Common lime.
- 2.3 The tree survey is not intended to be a detailed risk assessment of trees. Where the structural integrity of trees has been noted and the trees' condition is such that imminent remedial works are recommended, these should be arranged by the landowner or manager responsible for the safety of the site, as soon as is practically possible.
- 2.4 Comments relating to non-arboricultural matters may be made throughout this report. Making comments on such matters is within the normal remit of our instructions and the range of the author's experience. Any opinion thus expressed should be deemed as provisional and confirmation sought from an appropriately qualified professional.

### 3 Limitations

- 3.1 Any other planning issues related to the subject trees were not investigated. Greenwood Arboriculture are under no obligation to provide further advice that is subsequently required as part of the planning process or assist with planning appeals unless further instructions are given, and terms agreed.
- 3.2 The information contained in this report may be relied upon for a period of up to two years, after which time a further assessment of the trees will be required.
- 3.3 All observations were made from ground level without detailed investigations and all measurements are estimated unless otherwise indicated.



### 4 Authorship

4.1 This report has been prepared by Oliver Tong, an Arboricultural Consultant with over 20 years' industry experience. He is a technician member of the Arboricultural Association, an associate member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters and a professional member of the Consulting Arborist Society. He holds a National Diploma in Arboriculture, the Lantra Award for Professional Tree Inspection, and the International Society of Arboriculture's Tree Risk Assessment Qualification. He is committed to continuing professional development and attends many seminars, conferences, and training courses. Full details of experience, qualifications and training are available on request.

### **5** Supporting Documents

5.1 Reference has been made to the various documents submitted as part of planning application Ref. 2019/1515/P, which can be found on Camden Councils website at the following address: <u>http://camdocs.camden.gov.uk/HPRMWebDrawer/PlanRec?q=recContainer:%222019/1</u>515/P%22

### 6 Assessment Methodology

- 6.1 Our assessment of the trees has been carried out in accordance with *British Standard* 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations.
- 6.2 The survey data was captured using a professional grade GIS software on an electronic mobile device with GPS, with the approximate position of the trees plotted to an aerial image of the site.

### 7 Site Visit

- 7.1 The author carried out a site visit and tree assessment on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2021.
- 7.2 The weather conditions at the time of the assessment were dry and bright with good visibility and little to no wind.

#### 8 **Observations**

- 8.1 All four trees are in good overall condition with a minimum predicted life expectancy of at least 20 to 40 years+.
- 8.2 Tree T2 has high amenity value being clearly visible from the public highway and surrounding properties. Trees T3 and T4 have moderate amenity value.



- 8.3 The trees form a cohesive group which is part of a semi-formal arboricultural feature to the local area, namely Lime trees that have traditionally been planted to mark the boundaries between properties. And which is an important feature of the conservation area.
- 8.4 Trees T1 and T2 Common lime has been assessed as a category 'A' trees and trees T3 & T4 Common lime as category 'B' trees, due to their unsympathetic past management, which has resulted in significant but redeemable defects.
- 8.5 Full details of our assessment can be found in **Appendix A TREE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE.**



### 9 Images



Image 1. View of the subject trees T2, T3 and T4 from Netherhall Gardens (public highway).





Image 2. View of the subject trees T2 and T3 from within the rear garden of 26 Netherhall Gardens.

Arboricultural Report





Image 3. View of the subject trees T2, T3 and T4 from within the rear garden of 24a Netherhall Gardens.



### **10** Capital Asset Valuation of Amenity Trees (CAVAT)

- 10.1 CAVAT (Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees) provides a basis for managing trees in the UK as public assets rather than liabilities. It is designed not only to be a strategic tool and aid to decision-making in relation to the tree stock as a whole, but also to be applicable to individual cases, where the value of a single tree needs to be expressed in monetary terms. Further information on the method can be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.ltoa.org.uk/resources/cavat">https://www.ltoa.org.uk/resources/cavat</a>
- 10.2 We have used the quick method of CAVAT to obtain a value for the trees, which can be found in the table below:

Our Tree Ref. No (Crown Consultants Ref. No.)	CAVAT Quick Method
T2 Common lime (T2)	£125,162
T3 Common lime (T6)	£15,300
T4 Common lime (T8)	£56,550

Table 1. CAVAT (Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees)

### **11 Conclusions**

- 11.1 Our assessment of these trees is at odds to Crown Tree Consultants assessment, which contains inaccurate survey data for trees T6 and T8, which correspond with our T3 and T4.
- 11.2 Crown Tree Consultants have recorded the height of T6 (T3) at 6.5 metres, however our measurement is significantly more at 9 metres. The height of T8 (T4) is recorded as 7.5 metres, however our measurement is again significantly more at 13 metres. Our measurement of the height of these trees was taken using a Haglof Laser Geo, a highly accurate laser measure.
- 11.3 Trees T3 (T6) and T4 (T8) Common lime have been subject to unsympathetic past management, which has resulted in significant but redeemable defects. They are both in a good to fair condition, have moderate amenity value and are category 'B' trees.
- 11.4 Tree T2 (T2) Common lime is in good condition, has high amenity value and is a category 'A' tree.
- 11.5 All three trees form a cohesive group, which is part of a semi-formal arboricultural feature in the area, namely Lime trees historically planted on property boundaries.



- 11.6 The CAVAT replacement value of tree T3 (T6) is calculated at £15,300 and for tree T4 (T8) it is £56,550, the total of which is a significant sum which represents their value in monetary terms.
- 11.7 The trees, in addition to their amenity value offer many eco-system services, which can be quantified using iTree Eco, however this is beyond the scope of this report.

Signed: Oliver Tong

Dated: 26.01.2021

For and on behalf of Greenwood Arboriculture Limited

Oliver Tong ND Arb TechArborA Arboricultural Consultant



## Appendix A

### TREE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Our Tree Ref. No	Crown Consultants Tree Ref. No.	Common Name	Stem Diameter [mm]	Tree Height [m]	(N) Branch Spread [m]	(S) Branch Spread [m]	(E) Branch Spread [m]	(W) Branch Spread [m]	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Height of Canopy Above Ground Level [m]	Height of First Significant Branch [m]	Direction of First Significant Branch	Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution	Quality Category	Quality Sub-Category	Root Protection Area [m]	*CAVAT Quick Method Final Appraisal Value (£)
T1	N/A	Common lime	600	20	7	6	3	4	Mature	Good	Good	1	5	N	Located within linear boundary group, epicormic shoots at base restricts full inspection of lower trunk, some deadwood	Long (>40 years)	А	1, 2	7.2	93,871.88
T2	Т2	Common lime	650	20	7	5	2	4	Mature	Good	Good	3	7	S	Located within linear boundary group, heavily ivy-covered trunk	Long (>40 years)	А	1, 2	7.8	125,162.50
Т3	Т6	Common lime	339.1	9	4	5	2	4	Semi- mature	Good	Fair	1	1	SW	Located within linear boundary group, multi stemmed regrowth from stump, ivy covered trunk, overtopped by adj tree, open cavity, and decay within one stem, located within garden of 26	Medium (20 to 40 years)	В	1, 2, 3	4.07	15,300.00
Τ4	Т8	Common lime	500	13	5	5	2	5.5	Early- mature	Good	Fair	3	3	SW	Located within linear boundary group, ivy covered trunk, located within garden of 26, regrowth from high stump or Pollard at 3m, birds' nest in canopy	Medium (20 to 40 years)	В	1, 2, 3	6	56,550.00

\*CAVAT (Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees) Quick Method. Christopher Neilan. January 2017.





## Appendix B

## KEY TO TREE ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE



#### Key

No.: This number identifies the trees and corresponds with the provided plans. Trees are prefixed T, groups G and hedges H. Where stumps are identified the suffix S will be used. **Species:** The common name and scientific name is given for each tree.

Stem Diameter (Ø): Taken at 1.5m above ground level as per Figure C1 of BS5837 and recorded in millimetres. Where access has prevented measurement of a tree's trunk diameter, # indicates an estimated stem diameter.

Height: Estimated in metres.

Crown Clearance: Distance between the lowest point of the crown and ground level.

Radial Crown Spread: Estimated in metres and given at cardinal compass points.

**Life Stage:** This refers to the age of the individual tree relating to the average life expectancy of each species in a similar environment:

- Y (Young): Recently planted or establishing tree that could be transplanted without specialist equipment i.e. up to 12-14cm stem girth.
- SM (Semi mature): An established tree but one which has not reached its potential ultimate height and has significant growth potential. •
- EM (Early mature): A tree reaching its ultimate potential height, whose growth rate is slowing down but will increase in stem diameter and crown spread and has a safe useful life expectancy. •
- M (Mature): A mature specimen with limited potential for any significant increase in size but with a reasonable safe useful life expectancy. ٠
- LM (Late mature): A senescent specimen with a limited safe useful life expectancy. Possibly also containing sufficient structural defects with attendant safety and/or duty of care implications. •
- V (Veteran): Veteran trees are trees which have features of ancientness but at a younger age. These features include missing branches, hollow trunks and habitat features. ٠
- A (Ancient): An ancient tree is a tree which is remarkably old for its species, which can vary dramatically depending on the species. All ancient trees are also veterans.

Physiology: Overall physiological condition of tree: Good; Fair; Poor; Dead

Structure: Overall structural condition of tree: Good; Fair; Poor; Hazardous

Estimated Remaining Contribution: is the life expectancy of the tree modified first by its age, health, condition, safety and location (to give safe life expectancy), then by economics, effects on better trees and sustained amenity:

- <10 years
- 10+
- 20+
- 40+

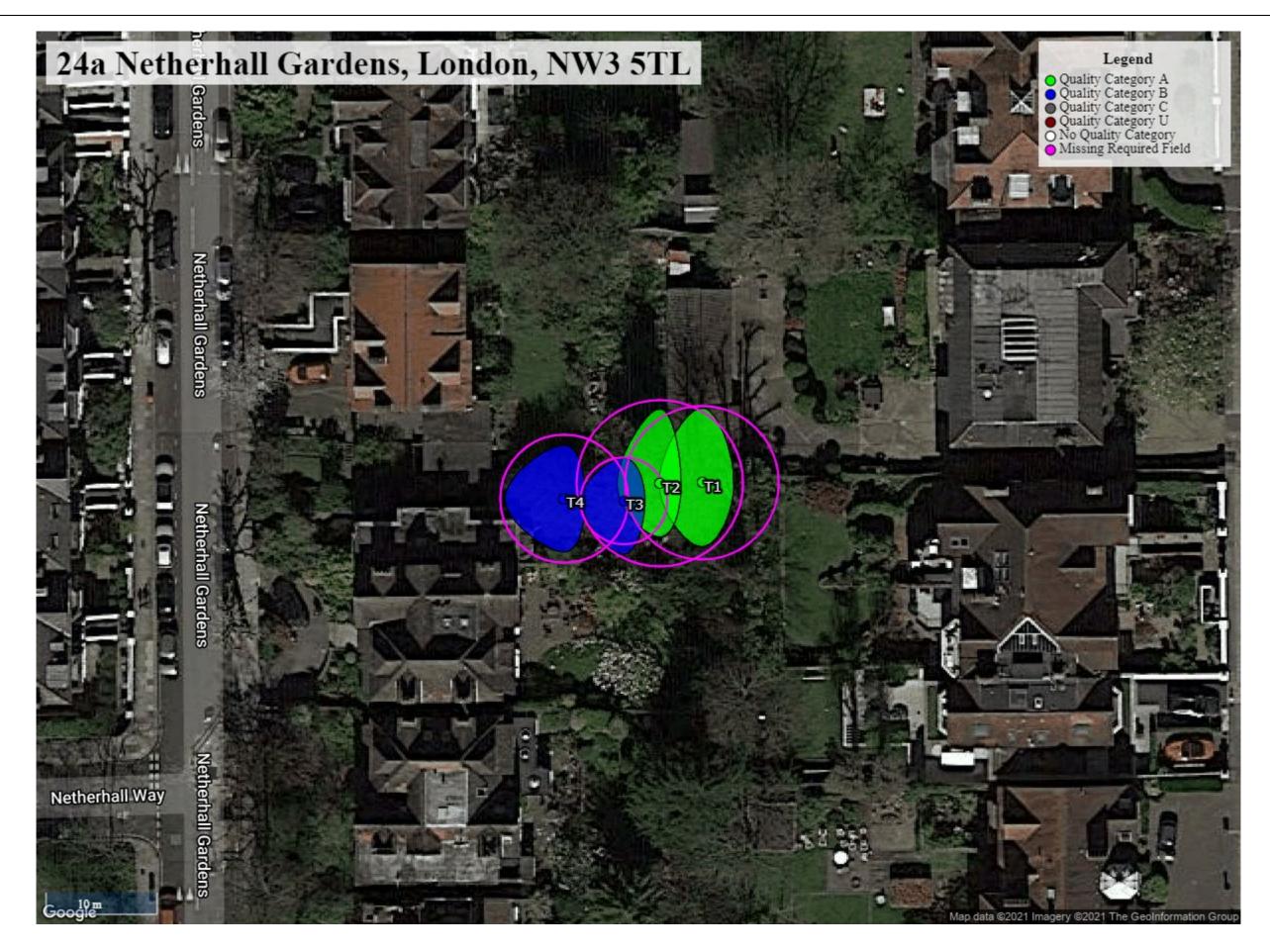
Quality Category: See Appendix 3 - BS 5837:2012 TABLE 1



## Appendix C

## TREE LOCATION PLAN







## Appendix D

BS 5837:2012 TABLE 1

Table 1	Cascade chart for tree quality assessment											
Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan								
Trees unsuitable for retention (see No												
Category U	Trees that have a serious, irremediable, stru	uctural defect, such that their early loss is expected du	e to collapse,									
Those in such a condition	including those that will become unviable aft	er removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for w	/hatever									
that they cannot realistically	reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot			-								
be retained as living trees in	<ul> <li>Trees that are dead or are showing signs of</li> </ul>	• Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline										
the context of the current	<ul> <li>Trees infected with pathogens of significant</li> </ul>	ce to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or	r very low									
land use for longer than	quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of be	tter quality										
10 years	NOTE Category U trees can have existing or p see <b>4.5.7</b> .	otential conservation value which it might be desirable	to preserve;									
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation									
Trees to be considered for retention												
Category A	Trees that are particularly good	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular	Trees, groups or woodlands									
Trees of high quality with an	examples of their species, especially if	visual importance as arboricultural and/or	of significant conservation,									
estimated remaining life	rare or unusual; or those that are	landscape features	historical, commemorative or									
expectancy of at least	essential components of groups or		other value (e.g. veteran									
40 years	formal or semi-formal arboricultural	trees or wood-pasture)										
	features (e.g. the dominant and/or											
	principal trees within an avenue)											
Category B	Trees that might be included in	Trees present in numbers, usually growing	Trees with material									
Trees of moderate quality	category A, but are downgraded	as groups or woodlands, such that they	conservation or other									
with an estimated remaining	because of impaired condition (e.g.	attract a higher collective rating than they	cultural value									
life expectancy of at least	presence of significant though	might as individuals; or trees occurring as										
20 years	remediable defects, including	collectives but situated so as to make little										
	unsympathetic past management and	visual contribution to the wider locality										
	storm damage), such that they are											
	unlikely to be suitable for retention for											
	beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the											
	special quality necessary to merit the											
	category A designation											
Category C	Unremarkable trees of very limited	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but	Trees with no material									
Trees of low quality with an	merit or such impaired condition that	without this conferring on them	conservation or other									
estimated remaining life	they do not qualify in higher categories	significantly greater collective landscape	cultural value									
expectancy of at least		value; and/or trees offering low or only										
10 years, or young trees with		temporary/transient landscape benefits										
a stem diameter below												
150 mm												

## APPENDIX E

## Legislation and Guidance for Trees



The following advice applies to England only and is for guidance purposes only. Some trees are protected by legislation, and it is essential that you establish the legal status of trees prior to carrying out works to them. Unauthorised work to protected trees could lead to prosecution, resulting in enforcement action such as fines or a criminal record. Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas, Planning Conditions, Felling Licences or Restrictive Covenants legally protect many trees in the UK.

#### Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)

TPOs are administered by Local Planning Authorities (LPA) (e.g. a borough, district or unitary council or a national park authority) and are made to protect trees that bring significant amenity benefit to the local area. This protection is particularly important where trees are under threat.

All types of tree, but not hedges, bushes or shrubs, can be protected, and a TPO can protect anything from a single tree to all trees within a defined area or woodland. Any species can be protected, but no species is automatically protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

A TPO is a written order which, in general, makes it a criminal offence to cut down, top, lop, uproot, wilfully damage or wilfully destroy a tree protected by that order, or to cause or permit such actions, without the authority's permission. Anyone found guilty of such an offence is liable. In serious cases the case may be dealt with in the Crown Court where an unlimited fine can be imposed.

To make an application to carry out tree works you will need to complete an application form and submit it to the LPA. The form can either be submitted through the Planning Portal or directly to the LPA. You can find out more about TPOs in the Department for Communities and Local Government guide titled <u>Protected trees: A guide to tree preservation procedures</u> (withdrawn 7 March 2014) and it's replacement <u>The National Planning</u> <u>Policy Framework and relevant planning practice guidance</u> document with particular reference to <u>Tree</u> <u>Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas</u>. You might also find it helpful to seek the advice of a tree surgeon prior to making an application. A directory of Arboricultural Association <u>Approved Contractors</u> can be found here.

#### **Conservation Areas**

Normal TPO procedures apply if a tree in a conservation area is already protected by a TPO. But if a tree in a conservation area is not covered by a TPO, you have to give written notice to the LPA (by letter, email or on the LPA's form) of any proposed work, describing what you want to do, at least six weeks before the work starts. This is called a 'section 211 notice' and it gives the LPA an opportunity to consider protecting the tree with a TPO.

#### Arboricultural Report



You do not need to give notice of work on a tree in a conservation area less than 7.5 centimetres in diameter, measured 1.5 metres above the ground (or 10 centimetres if thinning to help the growth of other trees).

You can find out more about trees in Conservation Areas in the Department for Communities and Local Government guide titled <u>Protected trees: A guide to tree preservation procedures</u> (withdrawn 7 March 2014) and it's replacement <u>The National Planning Policy Framework and relevant planning</u> <u>practice guidance</u> document with particular reference to <u>Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas</u>.

#### Trees and the planning system

Under the UK planning system, LPAs have a statutory duty to consider the protection and planting of trees when granting planning permission for proposed development. The potential effect of development on trees, whether statutorily protected (e.g. by a tree preservation order or by their inclusion within a conservation area) or not, is a material consideration that is taken into account when dealing with planning applications. Where trees are statutorily protected, it is important to contact the LPA and follow the appropriate procedures before undertaking any works that might affect the protected trees.

Planning conditions are frequently used by LPAs as a means of securing the retention of trees, hedgerows and other soft landscaping on sites during development and for a period following completion of the development. If it is proposed to retain trees for the long term then a TPO is often used rather than a planning condition. If valid planning conditions are in place then anyone wishing to undertake work to trees shown as part of the planning condition must ensure they liaise with the LPA and obtain any necessary consent or variation.

The nature and level of detail of information required to enable an LPA to properly consider the implications and effects of development proposals varies between stages and in relation to what is proposed. Table B.1 of British Standard *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction* – *Recommendations* provides advice to both developers and LPAs on an appropriate amount of information that will need to be provided either at the planning application stage or via conditions.

For further information you are advised to contact either your LPA or to seek advice from an Arboricultural Association <u>Registered Consultant</u> from the list which can be found <u>here</u>.

#### **Felling Licences**

Felling Licences are administered by the <u>Forestry Commission</u>. You do not need a licence to fell trees in gardens. However, for trees outside gardens, you may need to apply to the Forestry Commission for a felling licence, whether or not they are covered by a TPO. You can find out more about felling licences at <u>Felling</u> <u>Licences</u> quick guide (England) or in the Forestry Commission's booklet <u>Tree Felling – getting permission</u>.



#### Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

SSSIs (ASSIs in Northern Ireland) are designated by the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation (SNCO) for each country of the United Kingdom. They include some of our most spectacular and beautiful habitats - large wetlands teeming with waders and waterfowl, winding chalk rivers, gorse and heather-clad heathlands, flower-rich meadows, windswept shingle beaches and remote uplands moorland and peat bog. Each SSSI will have a management plan and a list of operations requiring the SNCOs consent prior to carrying out works.

Any activity that recklessly or intentionally harms the SSSI (ASSIs in Northern Ireland) or its flora or fauna will be an offence liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £20,000 or on conviction on indictment to an unlimited fine. If you know the name of the Site of Special Scientific Interest and want to know more about it, you can search for it by country at England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland.

#### **Restrictive Covenants**

A restrictive covenant is a promise by one person to another, (such as a buyer of land and a seller) not to do certain things with the land or property. It binds the land and not an individual owner, it "runs with the land". This means that the restrictive covenant continues over the land or property even when the current owner(s) sells it to another person. Restrictive covenants continue to have effect even though they may have been made many years ago and appear to be obsolete.

Covenants or other restrictions in the title of a property or conditions in a lease may require the consent of a third party prior to carrying out some sorts of tree work, including removing trees and hedges. This may be the case even if TPO, CA and felling licence regulations do not apply. It may be advisable to consult a solicitor.

#### **Further information**

Further information about TPO legislation can be found in the latest <u>National Planning Policy Framework</u> with particular reference to <u>Tree Preservation Orders and trees in conservation areas</u>.

More detailed information on TPOs: <u>www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-</u> <u>conservation-areas#Flowchart-1-Making-and-confirming-TPO</u>

#### **High Hedges**

Part 8 of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 Allows local councils to deal with complaints about high hedges. When councils are determining a complaint, they must first decide whether the height of the high hedge is having an adverse effect on a neighbour's enjoyment of their home and/or its garden or yard. If it is, then councils can order the owner of a high hedge to take action to put right the problem and stop it from happening again. The legislation also allows councils to set and charge fees for handling these complaints.



The government has produced an information leaflet on the subject called Over the garden hedge, which can be found at the following web address: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/over-the-garden-hedge</u>

#### Occupiers Liability Act 1957 and 1984 The Occupiers Liability Act (1957 and 1984)

Places a duty of care on tree owners to ensure that no reasonably foreseeable harm takes place to people or property due to their tree. 'Common sense risk management of tree (National Tree Safety Group 2012)' states that, 'The owner of the land on which a tree stands, together with any party who has control over the tree's management, owes a duty of care in Common Law to all people who might be injured by the tree. The duty of care requires that reasonable steps are taken to avoid acts or omissions that could cause a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to persons or property'.

#### **Common law**

Enables pruning back as far as the boundary line only, providing the work is reasonable and does not negatively impact tree health or safety. Other restrictions on tree works, such as tree preservation orders still apply.

#### Tree Work

All tree work should be carried out in compliance with BS3998: 2010 "Tree work – Recommendations", plus all relevant health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice.

#### Biosecurity

Where there is a risk of transferring pathogens to vegetation at other sites, felling and pruning equipment must be disinfected after use. Also consider brushing mud and debris from soles of boots, and spraying boots and vehicle tyres before leaving the site (suitable disinfectants include Propellar & Cleankill Sanitising Sprays). All disinfectants should be used in accordance with the recommended safety precautions (refer to the material data safety sheet for each product).

#### Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Please therefore check for the presence of nesting birds before commencing work. Where nesting birds are found to be present, the contractor must stop work immediately and postpone work until further notice.



#### Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)

This applies to European protected species which refers primarily to bats.

- (a) A person is guilty of an offence if he/she:
- (i) deliberately captures, injures or kills a protected species,
- (ii) deliberately disturbs a protected species,
- (iii) damages or disturbs a breeding site or resting place.

When bats are found to be present, the contractor must stop work immediately and postpone work until further notice.



## APPENDIX F

## **Curriculum Vitae of Oliver Tong**



#### <u>Profile</u>

I am a professional and highly qualified Arboriculturist with 20 years continuous experience from craft level to consultancy within the Arboricultural industry. Following a period of employment with a Plant Nursey which sparked my interest in working with trees, I studied Arboriculture at Merrist Wood College, Surrey, and pursued a career in Arboriculture, initially as a climbing arborist but quickly progressing to the role of Arboricultural Officer at the London Borough of Haringey followed by Essex County Council, where I was involved in all aspects of tree and woodland management. During this time, I have gained a wealth of valuable experience, skills and knowledge, which I apply daily in my current role as Managing Director and Principal Tree Consultant of a limited company providing a full range of Arboricultural and Ecological Consultancy Services.

#### **Employment**

• May 2017 – Present: Managing Director - Greenwood Arboriculture (Full-time)

Managing Director and Principal Tree Consultant of a limited company, providing a full range of Arboricultural and Ecological consultancy services to a wide range of clients, including private individuals, homeowners, developers, architects, engineers, builders, local authorities, housing associations, parish councils and businesses.

- March 2017 Present: Associate SJ Stephens Associates Ltd (Self-employed) Part-time tree surveyor for SJ Stephens Associates Ltd, covering London and the Home Counties.
- August 2015 February 2019: Arboricultural Consultant Essex County Council (Full-time)

Arboricultural Consultant for Place Services (traded service of ECC), a leading provider of integrated environmental assessment, planning, design and management services predominantly to the public sector. During my time with Place Services I was involved in providing a full range of Arboricultural Consultancy services in the form of service level agreements, contracts and ad-hoc projects to a wide variety of internal and external clients, including Essex Highways & Essex Education Service.

• May 2008 – August 2015: Arboricultural Officer - London Borough of Haringey (Full-time)

Working as part of a small team responsible for approximately 40,000 trees located on: streets, housing sites, parks, open spaces, woodlands, conservation sites and schools - to plan and implement a full Arboricultural service for clients and customers. Providing professional advice and support on all tree related matters in accordance with Council strategies, industry best practice and published guidance.

• December 2007 - April 2008: Arborist - Ruskins Tree Surgery Ltd (Freelance)

During my time with Ruskins I was involved in all aspects of tree care for a range of domestic and commercial clients in the areas of Essex and London, including several Local Authority Contracts on which I was predominantly involved in the cyclical pollarding of urban street trees.

August 2005 - December 2007: Arborist - 1st Call Trees Ltd (Full-time)

Initially on a work experience placement for 6 months as part of my course, I was offered a permanent job with 1st Call Trees, where I was tasked with assisting to provide a full range of arboricultural services for domestic and commercial clients within the areas of Surrey and Hampshire, including on a large utility contract with Scottish & Southern Electric plc to maintain vegetation along their power network.

#### **Education**

- September 2004 July 2006: Merrist Wood College BTEC National Diploma: Arboriculture
- September 1998 July 2000: Farnborough College of Technology GNVQ: Media Studies
- September 1994 July 1998: Weydon Secondary School GCSE: English Language C, Geography C, Biology C, Physics C, Design & Technology C



#### Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

I actively maintain my CPD throughout the year by attending as many training courses, workshops, conferences and seminars as possible, a summary of which is detailed below, full list available on request.

- Nov 2019: Ancient Tree Forum Tree architecture two-day training course at Hatfield Forest with Tom Joye.
- Sept 2019: Arboricultural Association 53rd Annual Amenity Conference Crown & Canopy Management
- May 2019: Chris Neilan CAVAT (Capital Asset Valuation of Amenity Trees) training day.
- April 2019: LANTRA Awards for The Preparation of Mortgage (Homebuyer) Tree Reports.
- Sept 2018: Arboricultural Association 52nd Annual Amenity Conference Soils & Trees
- Sept 2018: Martin Dobson (AA) Subsidence Investigation Workshop.
- June 2018: Symbiosis Claus Mattheck Lectures A New Universal Understanding of Design in Nature & Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) Research Update
- June 2018: Symbiosis Claus Mattheck Field Day at Bradgate Deer Park
- April 2018: ROLO (Register of Land-based Operatives) Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness Course
- March 2018: Dr Duncan Slater (AA) Assessment of Tree Forks
- Feb 2018: Anglian Ecology Basic Bat Awareness, Bat Scoping and Non- Specialist Surveying
- Nov 2017: The International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)
- June 2018: Essex Outdoors First Aid in the outdoors training day
- June 2016: Forestry Commission Canker Stain of Plane (*Ceratocystis platani*) / Massaria (*Splanchnonema platani*) / Bacterial Leaf Scorch (*Xylella fastidiosa*) contractors training day.
- Nov 2015: Guy Watson (AA) Lantra Professional Tree Inspection Refresher.
- Oct 2015: Giles Biddle and Martin Dobson (AA) Getting to Grips with Subsidence Workshop.
- Sept 2015: Richard Nicholson The TPO legislation 2012 workshop.
- June 2014: Forestry Commission England i-Tree Eco Tree and Woodland Survey Training.
- March 2014: Tree Life BS 5837:2012 workshop.
- May 2012: Arboricultural Association BS 5837:2012 and New TPO Regulations 2012 workshop.
- Oct 2010: Darren Blunt (Writtle College) Lantra Professional Tree Inspection (90% Pass Score).

#### Professional Memberships

- Arboricultural Association (Technician)
- Institute of Chartered Foresters (Associate)
- Consulting Arborist Society (Professional)
- London Tree Officers Association (Associate)
- The Subsidence Forum (Full Member)

#### **Achievements**

- Establishing my own successful consultancy business.
- Lead Consultant for Place Services / Essex County Council on The Royal Parks Arboricultural Advisory Services Framework for Detailed Tree Investigations 2015-2019, using specialist decay detection equipment to assist The Royal Park's tree officers with tree risk management across the estate.
- Mentoring of junior staff members at Place Services / Essex County Council, to help them to progress and achieve their career goals.
- Leading on the implementation of mobile working across the team and development of Essex County Council's tree management system Confirm Arboriculture, to efficiently manage customer enquiries and issue works orders.



- Leading a team of volunteers as part of the world's largest ever urban forest survey, to survey a number of plots in North London during Summer 2014 for the RE: LEAF London iTree Eco Tree and Woodland Survey Project.
- Leading to provide a woodland tree risk management service to Haringey Council Parks Department including ancient
  woodland and veteran tree management, working in close partnership with Ecologists, Friends groups, contractors and
  other stakeholders. Helping Haringey Council to attain UK Woodland Standard Assurance (UKWAS) for 4 of its woodland
  sites by developing a methodology for the annual assessment of trees in high risk zones, contributing to the
  achievement of Green Flag status.
- Leading on the provision of Arboricultural advice to Haringey council's Planning Teams, including the successful defence of all appeals made to the Planning Inspectorate against council decisions.
- Leading on the provision of a Service Level Agreement with Homes for Haringey, for the proactive management of all trees on housing sites, including the planned inspection of all estate trees on a 4-year programme and reactive inspection of individual housing properties.
- Leading on the implementation and continuous development of Haringey Council's tree management system Confirm Arboriculture, to efficiently manage the council's tree stock.

#### <u>Skills</u>

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to establish and maintain co-operative working relationships with colleagues and clients.
- Ability to produce clear, concise and accurate reports on a variety of tree related subjects, including full BS5837 reports for development sites.
- Proficient VTA (Visual Tree Assessment) and TRA (Tree Risk Assessment) practitioner.
- I have excellent IT skills and am an experienced user of MS Word, Excel, OneNote, Outlook & PowerPoint.
- I am proficient in the use of various tree management software systems including, Confirm Arboriculture and Ezytreev.
- Experienced GIS and CAD user including QGIS, ArcGIS, PocketGIS, Mapinfo, AutoCAD and KeyTREE.
- I am experienced in the use of the following advanced tree assessment tools: Rinntech Arbotom & PiCUS 3 Sonic Tomography, Resi PD400 Microdrill and PiCUS Tree Motion Sensors.
- Ability to correctly interpret structural reports (including level monitoring data in the form of tables and graphs), submitted in relation to claims for tree root damage and subsidence investigations.
- I have excellent knowledge of British trees and can correctly identify a host of common pests and diseases, in order to make appropriate management recommendations.
- I am experienced in the use of Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees (CAVAT) and Tree Evaluation Method for Tree Preservation Orders (TEMPO), to aid decision making and support decisions.
- I am a fully qualified and experienced arborist who is able to carry out a variety of tree work operations to a high standard.

#### **Licences**

- The International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ).
- Forestry Commission Plant Health Authorisation Card.
- CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) card holder.
- NPTC (National Proficiency Tests Council) Units: UA1 (Basic Electrical Knowledge), 01+02 (Climb a Tree + Conduct Aerial Rescue), CS30.1 + CS30.2 (Maintain and Operate a Chainsaw), CS 31 (Fell and Process Small Trees), CS 39 (Use of a Chainsaw from a Rope and Harness) & CS40 (Pruning Operations).
- Full clean UK driver's licence



## **APPENDIX G**

**Reference Material** 



- BSI. BS 5837:2012: Trees in Relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations.
- BSI. BS 3998:2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.
- CAVAT (Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees) Quick Method. Christopher Neilan. January 2017.
- John Roberts, Nick Jackson, Mark Smith, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (Great Britain). Tree Roots in the Built Environment Issue 8 of Research for amenity trees. The Stationery Office, 2006.
- The Arboricultural Association (24/11/2015 Last Modified: 01/07/2019) A brief guide to legislation for trees.