



# Visual Tree Survey Report

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London Plane at 135 Haverstock Hill, London  
NW3 4RU

A report to: Ian Dabin

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Report No: WAS 135/2019

## 1 Summary of Findings

The tree is a good specimen of London Plane growing in a prominent roadside position next to Haverstock Hill.

The VTA findings can be found in section 5 below.

The tree is in good condition and provided inspection is carried out by a competent person every 3 years and recommendations on tree maintenance are carried out, the duty of care requirement for the responsible person shall be met.

The management recommendations shown below in section 5 are not essential apart from item 1, which should be carried out within 18 months from date of this report and item 4. The remaining items 2 and 3 are included to provide a better balance to the tree and as crown weight compensation for the slight lean towards Haverstock Hill.

Building insurance cover would normally include appropriate tree maintenance for any tree within 10 metres of the building?

The car park surface is likely to be regularly affected by surface root activity from the tree and it is suggested that a more flexible surface treatment is considered instead of the brick pavements, which are easily disturbed by roots.

Pigeons! Unfortunately, Pigeon roosting and the associated mess are a constant problem associated with large urban trees. There are a few options that may help and these are:

1. Culling
2. Pigeon spikes on identified roost branches
3. NOT feeding birds

## 2 References

1. Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management 2008 – Dr. David Lonsdale
2. The Body language of Trees 2015 – C. Matheck

### 3 Declaration

This VTA Tree Survey has been written and checked by Richard Wassell of Wassells Arboricultural Services Ltd. and is provided without prejudice as an objective and professional assessment of the trees described.

Signed: [REDACTED] Date: 19.11.MMXIX

**Richard Wassell. Director**

**CHort MCIHort MArborA NDarb (RFS) Kew Diploma NEBOSHlevel3**



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#### 4 Tree Survey Information (Ref. Key below)

Species	London Plane
Height - M	25
Diameter - mm	1200
Crown spread diameter	15 – 18 metres
Age Class	M
Crown functionality%	80 - 100
SULE	20+ years
Structure	Good
IML	N/A
H/D ratio	21:1
t/R ratio	N/A

##### Management recommendations:

1. **Crown clean CC and Massaria check**
2. **Reduce lower to mid crown overhanging Haverstock Hill by up to 3 metres**
3. **Reduce large main limb over car park by up to 3 metres**
4. **Inspect every 3 years**

CLIENT: Ian Dabin

LOCATION OF TREE: RHS boundary of front parking area

DATE OF SURVEY: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Observations on Structure, Physiology, condition and other factors:

- ***Please see photo gallery below***
- Above average condition
- Age circa 150 years
- 4 stemmed tree from 4 metres
- Previously crown reduced on building side
- Overhangs Haverstock Hill with slight stem lean towards the hill
- Surface roots causing disturbance of brick paviour car park surface
- No evidence of any decay organisms
- Carry out Massaria check in upper crown
- High canopy
- Minimal dead wood visible
- Within conservation area and subject to TCA regs
- Tree Preservation Order – N/K

## 5 Key

Tree Number and Species = number of tree on plan/tag and Common Name/botanical name

Height = estimated height of tree from surrounding ground level +/- 1.5 metres

Diameter = diameter of main stem @ 1.5 metres above ground level

Crown Spread = maximum extent of branches measured radially from the base of the tree and expressed as an overall diameter \*Crown spreads in groups of trees, shelter belts and woodland are not measured\*

Age Class = Young: age less than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> life expectancy | Semi-mature: 1/3<sup>rd</sup> to 2/3<sup>rd</sup> life expectancy | Mature: Over 2/3<sup>rd</sup> life expectancy | Over mature: mature and in state of decline | Veteran: Surviving beyond typical age range for species

Crown functionality = expressed as % and based on previous crown pruning work, general vigour and any die-back. i.e. 0 -20%, 20 - 40%, 40 -60%, 60 -80% & 80 -100%

SULE = safe useful life expectancy - estimated as useful, safe and remaining contribution to the site measured in periods of 10 years

Structure = structural condition of the tree based on roots, trunk, and major stems/branches along with the presence of any structural defects and decay organisms. Categories are: Very Good; Good; Moderate; Poor; Hazardous

Physiology/Condition = Overall health, condition and function of the tree in comparison to a 'normal' specimen of its species and age. Categories are: Above average; Average; Declining, Poor  
Other factors = any other physical/environmental factors that could influence the tree now/in the future

Management Recommendations:

N = no work required. CC = removal of dead, diseased & dying wood from tree crown, thinning of overcrowded crown, removal of ivy from crown & stem and removal of all epicormic growth within crown including stem & basal epicormic growth on Lime trees. LC = lift crown. TC = thin crown. RC = reduce crown. P = pollard. SP = scaffold pollard. RE = remove epicormic and basal growth. FP = Formative prune F = fell to ground level. FG = fell and grind out stump. R = carry out replacement planting. AI = 3 yearly arboricultural inspection

N/K = not known

N/A = not applicable

t/R = stem thickness to radius ratio for trees with internal decay or hollow (<0.3 model)

H/D = height to stem diameter ratio (<30:1 model)

IML = micro-hammer sound reading (M/sec)

GL = ground level

**Alan Mitchell System = Estimate of tree age based on open grown tree with full crown. Age in years = Girth (circumference) in centimetres measured at 1.5 metres above ground level and divided by 2.5 i.e. Tree of girth 250 cm = 100years old**

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## 6 Picture Gallery



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