



KINGFISHER
TREE SERVICES

Tree Survey for 126 Agar Grove

Kingfisher Tree Services Ltd

Thomas Dennehy and Connor Templeman

DATE OF SURVEY: 25/10/2022

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About Us

Kingfisher Tree Services Ltd



We are a family run company that specialises in all aspects of tree surgery, forestry and woodland management. With decades of combined experience, we are able to ensure all contracted works are completed quickly, safely and to a high standard.

Our Portfolio

We have a wide number of pleased clients and collaborators in the local area. We have completed works with National Trust, various council bodies and insurance companies and with each we have a healthy, on-going working relationship.

We regularly complete a variety of tree surgery jobs for many different clients which have always had glowing reviews.

We are absolutely no stranger to large scale works and have always ensured absolute safety of our contractors, the public and our local environment in the process.

Qualifications

All our contractors have relevant NPTC / Lantra chainsaw certificates, First Aid qualifications and Chapter 8 Pedestrian and Road Management. These include:



- CS30 - All contractors
- CS31 - All contractors
- CS32 - Thomas Dennehy
- CS34/35 - Thomas Dennehy
- CS38 - All contractors
- CS39 - All contractors
- Emergency First Aid - All contractors
- Chapter 8 Pedestrian and Road Management - Connor Templeman

PPE

All contractors have full PPE that will be worn at all times. Any damaged PPE during the duration of the works will be re-supplied at the expense of Kingfisher Tree Services Ltd.

AONB and Protected Species

Kingfisher Tree Services Ltd is a company that deeply cares for our local environment.

We are experienced in tree and ground surveys to spot protected species and will take adequate measures to ensure these species are left safe and undisturbed.

COSHH

In light of what is outlined above we have strict measures in place to control hazardous substances. All contractors are in-house trained and equipped to be able to resolve issues with spillages/ misuse of chemicals.

Introduction

1. Instruction

I am instructed by the tenant of 126 Agar Grove (referred to as the 'client' from here on) to inspect 1 Sycamore in the rear garden of 126 Agar Grove and 1 Sycamore and 1 Oak in the rear garden of 124 Agar Grove and to provide a report to fulfill the following criteria:

- A compartmentalised condition assessment.
- A tree risk assessment based on current targets, effect to house, defects, and likelihood of failure.
- A recommendation of any subsequent work that may be required.

2. Documents and information provided

My client and I have provided copies of the following documents or information:

- Their email of instruction outlining the situation.
- Their email commissioning this report and agreeing to the T&C and cost.
- Images of the tree in question and surrounding structures.

3. Scope of this report

This report is only concerned with the tree and immediate foundations below. It takes no account of any trees outside this remit. It includes a preliminary assessment based on the site visit and any documents provided, listed in sections 1 and 2 above. The survey is based upon

information that was available at the time of the inspection. Further inspections are necessary over time to give a fuller picture of the health of trees.

4. Mapping

N/A

5. Technical references

This arboricultural report is based on the following primary technical references:

- British Standards Institution (2010) BS 3998 Recommendations for tree work
- Lonsdale, D. 1999. *Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management*. The Stationary Office, London.
- Lonsdale, D. 2000. *Hazards from trees. A general guide*. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh.
- Matheny, N. P. and Clark, J.R. *A photographic guide to the evaluation of hazard trees in urban areas. 2nd Edition*. International Society of Arboriculture.
- Mattheck, C, and Breloer, H. *The body language of trees – A handbook for failure analysis*. The Stationary Office, London.
- Schwarze, F.W.M.R., Engels, J. and Mattheck, C. *Fungal strategies of wood decay in trees*. Springer, Berlin.
- Strouts, R.G. and Winter, T.G. 1994. *Diagnosis of ill-health in trees*. The Stationary Office, London.
- The National Tree Safety Group. 2011. *Common sense risk management of trees. Guidance on trees and public safety in the UK for owners, managers and advisers*. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh.

Limitations

6. Survey

The inspection was carried out from ground levels and relates only to arboricultural aspects. All visual observations and recommendations relate to the condition of the tree on the day of the survey. The tree has been assessed with the aid of a Nylon mallet for the purpose of detecting changes in resonance which may indicate that further investigation is required. Any unusual weather conditions, changes in soil, soil levels and changes to surroundings may result in a dramatic change in the trees health.

7. Time limit

Due to the changing nature of trees and other site circumstances, this report and any recommendations made are limited to a 12-month period. Any alteration to the site and any development proposals could change the current circumstances and may invalidate this report and any recommendations made.

8. Tree health

Trees are dynamic structures that can never be guaranteed 100% safe: even in good condition they can suffer damage under average conditions. Regular inspections can help to identify potential problems before they become acute.

9. Justification of works

Where management action / tree surgery are recommended, this is based on maximizing the tree's safe useful life expectancy (SULE), given its current situation or the safety of persons and surrounding targets. A lack of recommended work does not imply that a tree is not in need of work after the 12-month validation period.

10. Buildings

This report does not consider the structural condition of existing buildings, but rather the impact the tree is having on the building. If there are concerns over such matters the advice of a structural engineer should be sought.

Site Visit and Observations

11. Site visit

I carried out an accompanied site survey on 22/10/22. All my observations were from ground level with detailed investigations using relevant knowledge and equipment. The weather at the time of inspection was bright, still and dry with good visibility. I have taken various photographs of the site for reference and are kept on file.

12. Identification and location of the trees

- T1 - Sycamore - Rear garden of 126 Agar Grove on East side
- T2 - Sycamore - Rear garden of 124 Agar Grove on West Side
- T3 - Oak - Rear garden of 124 Agar Grove in centre of garden

13. Systematic method of assessment

I visually inspected the significant trees and recorded the information in the table in sections 14 and 15. This inspection was of a preliminary visual tree assessment (VTA) nature that was visible from accessible points at ground level.

The methodology employed in the assessment of trees undertaken by Kingfisher Tree Services Ltd takes into consideration the following points (but not in any particular order of importance) by firstly carrying out a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA), this includes:

- A distance visual assessment of the tree taking into account the overall shape, form, foliage colour appropriate for the time of year and any other elements that do not appear normal for that particular species.
- The exposure to the weather. This can be due to it being a solitary tree or that surrounding tree cover could have been removed exposing it to 'new wind forces' acting on the canopy.
- The prevailing ground conditions. For example: soil erosion, ponding, soil characteristics and the impact on the tree, presence / lack of vegetation.
- Any information as to the trees history or history of the surrounding trees / landscape. For example: previously failed limbs, surrounding tree removal / failure, excavations, fruiting bodies seen.
- Knowledge of previous documented information of issues with a particular species. For example: tight union failure on Beech, poor compartmentalisation of Willow.
- The health and visual defects of the tree. For example: cavities, the trees 'body language', dieback, foliage irregularities, fungal brackets and deadwood.

From this information an assessment is made of the likelihood of the part/s most likely to fail in relation to the target / occupancy value within the trees failure area and recommendations are then made, these can include the following but is not exhaustive:

- Recommendations for further visual monitoring.
- Remedial pruning / limb removal.
- Whole tree removal.

- Pruning for aesthetic reasons.
- Removal of significant deadwood.
- Or, no work may be needed.

The primary reasoning behind this method of assessment is to identify a foreseeable failure, make an informed decision and act on it within a specified time and know that the response is reasonable in relation to the target area and the financial resources available.

Condition Assessment

14. Tree assessment

Tree number	T1
Species	Sycamore
Size category	Medium
Height	~10m
Width	~6m
Length	~5m
Canopy clearance above ground	~3m
Location of plant	Rear garden of 126 Agar Grove.
Root system assessment	No issues discovered.
Buttress assessment	No issues discovered.
Stem(s) assessment	Very minor bark inclusion.
Scaffold and secondary branches assessment	No issues discovered.
Other issues / comments	None.
Advanced decay / cavity detection	None.
Targets within falling distance of tree	House, Wall, Garden Furniture
Overall risk imposed from tree in relation to identified defects	Very low.

Tree number	T2
Species	Sycamore
Size category	Medium
Height	~10m
Width	~5m
Length	~5m
Canopy clearance above ground	~3m
Location of plant	Rear garden of 124 Agar Grove.
Root system assessment	No issues discovered.
Buttress assessment	No issues discovered.
Stem(s) assessment	No issues discovered.
Scaffold and secondary branches assessment	2 minor dead branches at lowest level of canopy facing east and west.
Other issues / comments	None.
Advanced decay / cavity detection	None.
Targets within falling distance of tree	Wall, Garden Furniture
Overall risk imposed from tree in relation to identified defects	Very low.

Tree number	T1
Species	Oak
Size category	Small
Height	~6m
Width	~3m
Length	~3m
Canopy clearance above ground	~2m
Location of plant	Rear garden of 124 Agar Grove.
Root system assessment	No issues discovered.
Buttress assessment	No issues discovered.
Stem(s) assessment	No issues discovered.
Scaffold and secondary branches assessment	No issues discovered.
Other issues / comments	None.
Advanced decay / cavity detection	None.
Targets within falling distance of tree	Wall. Shed.
Overall risk imposed from tree in relation to identified defects	Very low.

Building and structure assessment

Walls, footings and basal structures have been assessed. There is no evidence of severe subsidence or structural issues caused by the tree.

15. Recommendations

Listed below are the recommendation of works. Please note, these recommendations are valid for the next 12-month period. After this, new surveys will need to be made to recommend future works.

Additionally, I have put an urgency rating beside the recommendation. This rating is decided by multiple factors including: risk, aesthetic, influencing future growth, ensuring longevity, public and property health etc.

Tree number	Recommendations	Urgency
T1	None.	Very Low
T2	Remove minor deadwood	Very Low
T3	None.	Very Low

INFORMATION TO NOTE

Website And Social Media

If you would like to see more of us, our work and our reviews please visit:

www.kingfishertree.com

Or, please have a look at our Facebook and Instagram pages:

www.facebook.com/kingfishertree

www.instagram.com/kingfishertree

Insurance

Kingfisher Tree Services Ltd is insured with public liability insurance up to 5m with Trust Insurance. Please contact us with any questions or requests regarding this.

Health and Safety

All of our contractors have received full formal training and qualifications where necessary. It is also important to note that we have regular and on-going in-house training every 2 weeks to maintain a safe working standard.