



Tree Risk Assessment Report

Millbridge Playing Field
Vernon Rd, Liversedge WF15 6HU



Prepared for:

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Share Multi Academy Trust

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1 Introduction

1.1 Instruction

- 1.1.1 The primary purpose of this report is to provide an assessment of the risk from trees at Millbridge Playing Field to neighbours, members of the public and property. Alternate Arb was instructed by Kieran Miller-Walker, Premises and Compliance Officer at SHARE Multi-Academy Trust, to carry out a safety survey of the trees located within the site.

1.2 Duty of Care

- 1.2.1 Tree owners/ managers are responsible for harm caused to people or property by their trees. They have a duty to take 'reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions that cause a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to persons or property'. The courts have defined 'reasonable care' as that of 'a reasonable and prudent landowner'. This does not mean that the tree manager must ensure the safety of their trees, only that they take reasonable steps to assess and manage the risks posed by trees.
- 1.2.2 What is 'reasonable' depends on the resources available to tree manager, the level of site usage, proximity to neighbouring targets and the general characteristics of the trees on site. All of these factors are considered when recommending re-inspection timescales.
- 1.2.3 The duty of care should be considered in the context of a general risk of harm from trees which is very low. The chance of being killed by a tree or branch falling has been shown to be around one in 10 million – a much lower risk than that presented by many of our common everyday activities. Furthermore, management of trees can significantly reduce the considerable benefits they bring to landscape, environment, and human wellbeing. This is the core concept behind the National Tree Safety Group's 2011 publication "Common sense risk management of trees": a condensed version of this guidance, suitable for mid-sized landowners, can be downloaded at <https://cdn.forestresearch.gov.uk/2011/12/fcms025.pdf>

1.3 Statutory Protection (applicable to Millbridge Playing Field)

- 1.3.1 Prior to undertaking any work on trees measuring over 75mm in stem diameter at 1.5m from ground level, the tree manager should check for statutory protection relating to the tree or the site. This can be done by contacting the local planning authority (LPA). Protection can relate to a tree's location in a conservation areas, the existence of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or planning conditions related to historic development.
- 1.3.2 Trees in conservation areas (that are not protected by a TPO) require notification to be submitted to the LPA, using a section 211 notice, 6 weeks before carrying out certain work, unless an exception applies. The LPA will assess whether the tree is worthy of protection, and if so, apply a TPO. If no action is taken within the 6-week period, then the applicant can proceed with the work.

- 1.3.3 Anyone wanting to work on trees subject to a TPO must first apply to the LPA for consent unless the proposed work is included in an exception. The LPA is expected to provide a decision within 8 weeks of the application date.
- 1.3.4 Anyone who cuts down, uproots, tops, lops, wilfully destroys or damages a protected tree or a tree in a conservation area without giving notice or receiving consent is guilty of an offence. If convicted of causing or permitting these activities you may be subject to a fine of up to £20,000 or in serious cases, an unlimited fine.
- 1.3.5 According to the Kirklees Council mapping portal [https://mapping.kirklees.gov.uk/connect/analyst/mobile/#/main?mapcfg=Tree%20Preservation%20Orders%20\(Public\)&lang=en-gb](https://mapping.kirklees.gov.uk/connect/analyst/mobile/#/main?mapcfg=Tree%20Preservation%20Orders%20(Public)&lang=en-gb) 21/04/2026) some of the trees on the site are **subject to Tree Preservation Order no. 42/80**. It is not situated within a Conservation area. Prior to any tree works being undertaken an application must be submitted to Kirklees Council.
- 1.3.6 Additional legislation exists in the UK which protects specific flora and fauna species including:
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
 - The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
 - The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2011
 - Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

Arboricultural work may contravene this legislation and it is the responsibility of both the client and the contractor to be aware of the law and take measures to ensure that contravention does not occur. For example, tree work operations must be planned to avoid disturbance to nesting, breeding or roosting birds, or to bats and their roosts. The bird nesting season is officially from 1st March to 31st July. All wild birds are protected, and all 18 bat species found in the UK are afforded European Protected Species status.

2 Tree Risk Assessment

2.1 Methodology

- 2.1.1 The risk assessment progressed from general site assessment with increasing levels of detail as required.
- 2.1.2 A walkover risk assessment was used to assess the presence of 'targets' – persons or property which can be harmed, and their relation to trees. All trees were then assessed for their potential to impact upon targets. In this case, as well as the recreation ground itself, all trees assessed to be within 'falling distance' of nearby roads and footpaths as well as of residential properties were assessed.
- 2.1.3 A Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) methodology was used to carry out assessments on individual trees; this is a systematic approach to visually assess trees for potential hazards. During a walkover survey trees are assessed for visual indicators on the canopy and main stem for indicators of poor physiological health such as, for example, canopy dieback, broken or split branches or bark necrosis.
- 2.1.4 Only in those cases where such visual defects were identified, a nylon mallet, probe or binoculars were used to identify biological (e.g. discoloured leaves, fungal fruit bodies, sap bleeding) and structural (e.g. cavities, cracks, bulges) indicators of defect or dysfunction. Detailed basal inspection investigating the base of the tree and rooting area of the tree for evidence of anchorage loss or other root system issues was only carried out where other defects were identified.
- 2.1.5 Measurements were estimated for all trees. Where possible and necessary, trees were viewed from multiple angles, including from outside of the site.
- 2.1.6 Significant tree defects were noted only where they had the potential to affect the outcome of the risk assessment. This may have been to form the basis for management recommendations, or to provide a reference for future inspections and the ongoing monitoring of a tree or group.

2.2 Recommendations

- 2.2.1 Where trees were judged to pose a level of risk which was not deemed 'tolerable', management recommendations were made.
- 2.2.2 Where recommendations include multiple options, all options are judged to be sufficient to reduce the level of risk to a tolerable or broadly acceptable level.
- 2.2.3 A priority was given, with a suggested timeframe. The timeframe represents a reasonable response to the risks observed; it is not an indication that the trees will be safe for the specified time period.
- 2.2.4 Where relevant, some recommendations have been made regarding non-safety aspects of tree management. This typically relates to pruning trees for access or clearance from structures, aftercare of young trees and improvement of soil environments. These items were recorded as NSRW ('Not Safety Related Work') on the tree inspection schedule, and these are all optional works which can be undertaken by the Academy trust, if they wish to and, if budgets allow.

2.2.5 All work should be carried out in accordance with British Standard *BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations*.

2.3 Limitations

- 2.3.1 Trees are dynamic structures that can never be guaranteed 100% 'safe'; even healthy specimens can fail without prior warning in average weather conditions. Regular inspections can help to identify potential problems before they become acute.
- 2.3.2 The trees were inspected from ground level only. The inspection was restricted where trees were ivy-clad or located wholly or partially on neighbouring land or where basal growth or other vegetation obscured lower stems and root collars.
- 2.3.3 Where more detailed assessment was required, such as an aerial inspection or the use of advanced decay detection equipment, this was noted under 'Recommendations' in the inspection schedule for the specific tree.
- 2.3.4 The report will no longer be valid in the following circumstances:
- I. A period of 12 months after the initial site visit has elapsed,
 - II. Any changes of circumstance due to extreme weather events such as structural changes to any trees or any changes to a tree's environment,
 - III. Any changes of soil condition in a tree's rooting area such as excavation or changes in soil level,
 - IV. Any changes to a tree's surroundings such as the pruning or removal of neighbouring tree,
 - V. Any significant changes of usage of target areas for trees included in the survey.

3 Discussion

3.1 Site Overview

- 3.1.1 Date and conditions: The survey was carried out on Tuesday 14th April 2026 by visual assessment from ground level. The weather conditions were cloudy and dry.
- 3.1.2 Site location and approximate size: The site is located directly to the East of Millbridge Primary and is accessed either via the footpath between 1b and 1 Vernon Road, or via the A62 Leeds road. The site is located 0.5 miles to the north-west of Heckmondwike and 1.5 miles south-east of Cleckheaton, and occupies 1.4 hectares.
- 3.1.3 Boundary features (roads, private properties, etc.): The site is bordered to the south-east by private residential properties and their gardens. To the north-western corner is an entrance from the busy A62 Leeds Road with a short strip of trees alongside this road.

To the northern boundary is a strip of trees which appear to be owned by the pub, not within the recreation ground and to the north east and east are further trees beyond the ownership boundary making this a low risk area.

- 3.1.4 Site features (buildings, playgrounds, playing fields): There are no buildings within the recreation ground. The main features are the footpath to the Western edge running from the A62 to Vernon Road. A second footpath runs south-west to north-east across the field. The main sports pitch area is in the southern half of the site. The trees are generally around the periphery of the site and mostly mature in age. Several of the trees are subject to Tree Preservation Order 42/80.
- 3.1.5 Usage of areas and Target areas: The footpath to the Western edge is frequently used by pedestrian traffic at school drop-off and pick up times, as is the secondary footpath. Outside of these peak times they were infrequently used.

At the main entrance alongside the A62 Leeds road there are a small number of very large mature trees within falling distance of this constant-use road. Several mature trees alongside the Western footpath are within falling distance of residential properties, and above the footpath itself. Smaller trees along the southern boundary are close to the rear gardens of Vernon Road

The school use the playing field on a daily basis but for relatively short periods during the hours between 9am till 3pm. During these times it is unlikely that pupils will be directly underneath trees for a prolonged time period. The field may be used annually for school sports day.

3.1.6 Current Tree Cover

- 3.1.7 Age range: A total of 128 trees were recorded: 24 individually numbered trees and 5 groups (containing 104 trees) were assessed. The large majority of the trees are categorised mature across the site. A large number of over-mature hawthorn are alongside the boundaries, probably from historical hedge lines. There are a small

number of semi-mature trees which are generally self-sets. There are no very young or newly-planted trees.

- 3.1.8 Species range: The species range across the whole site is relatively narrow and includes the following: Ash, Cherry, Cherry plum, Common beech, Common hawthorn, Horse chestnut, Pedunculate oak and Sycamore.
- 3.1.9 Condition range: The physiological condition of the trees across the site is mixed. Many of the mature sycamore and hawthorn are now in fair condition only. 65% of the trees were within groups which were of mixed condition. Of the remaining 24 individually recorded trees 71% (17 trees) were overall 'good', 21% (5 trees) were overall 'fair' and 8% (2 trees) were classed as 'poor'.

3.2 Nuisance

- 3.2.1 Public and commercial sites often receive requests from private property owners to prune their trees, this is typically due to overhanging branches causing shading or excessive leaf litter. Unless the branches are causing damage to property (classed as an actionable nuisance), then the tree manager is under no legal obligation to carry out any pruning at their expense.
- 3.2.2 However, under common law nuisance abatement rights, neighbouring property owners are legally permitted to prune back overhanging branches to their property boundary (and no further) without the tree manager's permission. They should seek permission, if they wish to access the tree from the tree manager's land. The neighbour is then expected to offer back the arising of the pruning. If the tree manager refuses, this leaves the neighbour responsible for the disposal of arisings.
- 3.2.3 During this survey, all trees at the periphery of the site, with the potential to impact on gardens, homes, properties or roads were visually inspected and any remedial safety issues identified have been included within the schedule of work.

3.3 Ash Dieback Disease

- 3.3.1 The presence of around 15 Ash trees was noted on site. 5 of the individually recorded Ash trees were mature or over mature and 1 is early-mature. Within the groups are a further number of early-mature self-set ash particularly in groups 01, 02 and 03. It is suspected that most ash trees in the country are already or will soon become infected with ash dieback disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*).
- 3.3.2 The prognosis will be different for each tree, but the broad consensus is that trees in the later stages of disease with the potential to impact targets should be removed. In relation to more established ash trees, the preferred method of monitoring is to assess the level of leaf cover in the summer months (ideally July). At present, while the trees are not in leaf, it is not possible to assess their full condition, except for the worst affected trees, a few of which were developing minor and moderate dead wood. It is strongly recommended that these trees are inspected annually in the summer when in full leaf. (See Section 6 Appendix item 1 to recognise different levels of ash canopy condition). As their condition is highly

likely to worsen it is recommended that trees are removed once canopies reach 50% usual density.

More information about ash dieback can be found at <https://treecouncil.org.uk/what-we-do/science-and-research/ash-dieback/public-guidance/>

4 Recommendations

4.1 General Recommendations

- 4.1.1 Aerial deadwood in trees provides niche habitat and has a high ecological value. In general, this only presents a risk to targets beneath if the deadwood is particularly large, at eye height or if people are expected to congregate beneath the trees for long periods of time. Removal of deadwood should only be carried out when absolutely necessary and has only been specified in this report where it has the potential to cause harm.
- 4.1.2 Due to the age structure of the majority of the trees there is scope for additional tree planting around the site. New planting is likely to be a condition of the LPA for the removal of any trees protected by a TPO. Trees provide a wide range of benefits to urban environments including pollution absorption, shade creation, flood alleviation, habitat provision and forming play spaces which connect children to nature. Tree planting is also an outdoor activity children can participate in, fostering a sense of ownership and raising environmental awareness.

4.2 Safety Work

At the time of this inspection **5 items of medium risk safety work (3 month timescale)** were identified. Where possible, these trees were marked with a white paint spot for easy identification.

They include:

- G05 – Horse chestnut - (tagged 0942) has one very decayed and extended limb which is starting to collapse, leaving a gap in the canopy. This limb should be shortened back to decayed area, retaining woodpecker habitat but removing weight from base of stem. The remainder of the tree should be crown reduced by 30% canopy volume as per BS3998, shortening end weighted branches.
- G05 - Sycamore to SE of group (tagged 0943) is in serious decline with bark necrosis and bark delamination. Possible sooty bark disease. Half canopy in leaf, half not. This tree should be felled to a 3m stem and left for wildlife habitat.
- T03 - Sycamore with previous fire damage. Exposed heartwood is now decaying and the tree is 90% dead and collapsing. This tree should be felled to a 3m stem and left for wildlife habitat.

- T10 - Beech - suppressed beech tree under the canopy of a larger beech. It has a very large area of heartwood decay plus *kretzschmaria deusta* on dead wood. It is recommended this tree is felled to a 1m stump and left for wildlife habitat.
- T11 – Ash - Has moderate dead wood throughout over road and close to footpath. This tree should be crown-cleaned removing dead wood over 25mm. The remaining ivy should be removed around the base of tree to enable a fuller future inspection.

4.3 Non-Safety Work

4.3.1 No items of non-safety work were identified at the time of this inspection

Please see the Inspection Schedule, Schedule of Work and Photographs included in Section 5 of this report for all the detailed recommendations.

4.4 Timeframe for Works

4.4.1 It is essential that tree risks, once identified, are appropriately controlled within a reasonable timeframe. In order to accomplish this either the target has to be removed from beneath the hazard e.g. fencing off the affected area, or tree work has to be carried out to remove or reduce the risk.

The recommended completion date for the 3-month safety work identified during this survey is **14th July 2026**

No. of Works	Priority	Recommended Timeframe for Work
0	Critical	Immediate - emergency
0	Urgent	Within 2 weeks of inspection
5	Medium	Within 3 months of inspection
0	Medium-Low	Within 6 months of inspection
0	Low	Within 1 year of inspection
0	NSRW	Not safety related – for information and guidance only

4.5 Inspection Frequency

4.5.1 Due to the number and age of the trees, and the target locations, as well as the potential for Ash dieback disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) across the site, it is recommended that the whole site is assessed on a **1-yearly basis**. The ash are best inspected during the growing season (July to Sept) whilst the trees are in leaf. It is recommended that the next inspection takes place in Jul-Sept 2027.

4.6 Key to Inspection Schedule

Ref:	Tree or group number as shown on site plan
Species:	Tree species using common name
Description:	Area or location of tree or group
Measurements:	
Height:	Height of tree measured in m.
DBH:	Stem diameter measured at 1.3m measured in cm.
Trees/Stems:	Number of trees in a group or number of stems on a single tree.
Life stage:	Young: Newly Planted and Recently established trees Semi-Mature: Trees in the first third of growth towards maximum canopy Early-Mature: Trees in the second third of growth towards maximum canopy size. Mature: Tree approaching their maximum canopy size. Over-Mature: Trees which have passed their maximum canopy size and are now exhibiting gradual Decline/retrenchment.
Survey notes:	Abbreviations used: N – North, E – East, S – South, W – West FFB – Fungal fruiting body The terms 'Minor', 'Moderate' and 'Major' may be used in relation to various defects, these terms should be understood as gradations of the potential for the defect to affect the health or structural integrity of the tree. Minor deadwood – 10mm to 50mm in diameter Moderate deadwood – 51mm – 100mm in diameter Major deadwood – in excess of 100mm in diameter
Overall Condition:	D – Dead P – Poor F – Fair G - Good N – Within the normal range for the species and age.
Recommendations:	Made in accordance with British Standard <i>BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations</i> .
Timescale for work:	Suggested timeframe for carrying out works. The timeframes represent a reasonable response to the risks observed; they are not an indication that the trees will be safe for the specified time period. 1 = Immediate – As soon as is practicable 2 = Urgent – Within 2 weeks 3 = Medium – Within 3 months of inspection 4 = Low – Within 6 months of inspection 5 = Very low – Within 1 year of inspection NSRW = Non safety related work – for information only

5 Inspection Schedule, Schedule of Work, Tree Location Plan and Photographs

5.1 Inspection Schedule

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
G01	Hawthorn x20 (<i>Crataegus</i> sp.) Ash x4 (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.) Horse chestnut x2 (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>) Cherry x2 (<i>Prunus</i> sp. 'Cherry') Sycamore x2 (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Mixed group on southern boundary between field and houses on Vernon Road. Target: rear gardens	Height (m): 8 DBH (cm): 40 Trees: 30 Life Stage: Early Mature	Mix of species including ash, horse chestnut, hawthorn, cherry and sycamore. Ownership of some trees unclear due to lack of clear boundary fence. ADB present on ash in low levels. Group of semi mature ash in centre of group growing onto neighbouring structure. Several of the old hawthorn are dead and dying but stable and low risk.	Mixed	No action required.	No Action Required
G02	Common hawthorn x20 (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Ash x4 (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.) Sycamore x8 (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East boundary of field.	Height (m): 12 Trees: 32 Life Stage: Mature	Mixed species group, ash, sycamore, poplar, hawthorn. Area is low use. Decay present on several hawthorns adjacent to the wooden fence, one has already collapsed onto the fence. Low safety risk and high habitat value. Sycamore at northern end with minor decay at base, some stem bleeds, but no significant targets within range.	Mixed	No action required.	No Action Required
G03	Hawthorn x20 (<i>Crataegus</i> sp.) Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Old Hawthorn hedge marks extent of ownership. Limited access undergrowth restricting inspection. Target: edge of field.	Height (m): 7 Trees: 21 Life Stage: Mature	Group consists only of very old hawthorn hedge plus one large ash. The remainder of trees are outside ownership boundary including the large sycamore close to West of group. The very large ash is heavily ivy clad and has one split out dead branch from main union resting on another branch. Over inaccessible area.	Fair	No action required.	No Action Required

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
G04	Cherry x10 (<i>Prunus</i> sp. 'Cherry') Cherry plum x10 (<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>)	Outside of school ownership. Owned by nearby pub.	Trees: 20	Main line of mature trees (Ash, sycamore and elm) are owned by pub. The small self-set cherries and cherry plum towards the south of the group are too small to pose any risk at present. Area inaccessible.		No action required.	No Action Required
G05	Mixed species (<i>Mixed species</i>)	Mixed group in centre of field. Horse chestnut, sycamore, lime.	Height (m): 16 Life Stage: Mature	Trees growing closely as a group canopy resulting in leggy extended end weighted branches. Ash now removed. Lime has strip wound to 0.5m occluding well Large horse chestnut to East of group (tagged 0942) has one very decayed and extended limb which is starting to collapse, leaving a gap in canopy. Tree is gradually declining, and has extended lateral branches that will be vulnerable. Sycamore to SE of group (tagged 0943) is in serious decline with bark necrosis and bark delamination. Possible sooty bark disease. Half canopy in leaf, half not.	Mixed	Horse chestnut: Large limb with cavity at base to be shortened back to decayed area, retaining woodpecker habitat but removing weight from base of stem. Crown reduce remainder of tree by 30% canopy volume as per BS3998, shortening end weighted branches. Sycamore: fell to 3m stem and leave for habitat.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)
T01	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East side of footpath.	Height (m): 16 DBH (cm): 50 Life Stage: Mature	Tree leans to East due to suppression. Additional reaction wood on East side of stem. Dead wood removed.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T02	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Within grassed area. Target - building	Height (m): 12 DBH (cm): 40 Life Stage: Mature	Cavity at base to East Side. Good reaction wood.	Fair	No action required.	No Action Required
T03	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Within grassed area. Target - footpath.	Height (m): 15 DBH (cm): 40 Life Stage: Mature	Sycamore with previous fire damage. Exposed heartwood now decaying. Bark delamination throughout and dead wood throughout. Tree is 90% dead and collapsing.	Poor	Fell to 3m stump and retain for wildlife. Marked with white spot.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T04	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Open grown sycamore to East of field. Ownership unclear.	Height (m): 10 DBH (cm): 55 Life Stage: Mature	Within wooden fenced area but outside ownership map boundary. No obvious defects.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T05	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Northern edge of playing field.	Height (m): 15 DBH (cm): 75 Life Stage: Mature	Not in leaf yet. Unable to assess for ADB. Broad spreading canopy with several historical branch tear-outs due to extended end weighted limbs. Some moderate deadwood, very low target area. Fungus: Ash Dieback Possible	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T06	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	North edge of playing field.	Height (m): 15 DBH (cm): 50 Life Stage: Mature	Minor cavity on East Side base of tree, adequate reaction wood present. Some minor deadwood.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T07	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Growing in lawn Target - grass area.	Height (m): 9 DBH (cm): 30 Life Stage: Early Mature	Twin stemmed from 1.5m. Not yet in leaf. Fungus: Ash Dieback Possible	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T08	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Behind Liversedge sign. Outside of ownership of school.	Height (m): 12 DBH (cm): 45 Life Stage: Mature	Good vitality. Ivy has been removed.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T09	Common beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>)	Behind Liversedge sign. Target: Low or no use area. Would fall away from road.	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 100 Life Stage: Mature	Very large tree with lean to SE. Ivy has been severed revealing large pruning wounds to East near base. Typically contorted branch structure. Just coming into leaf.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T10	Common beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>)	Alongside road. Target: footpath	Height (m): 8 DBH (cm): 30 Life Stage: Mature	Suppressed tree under canopy of larger beech. Ivy severed revealing very large area of heartwood decay plus <i>kretzschmaria deusta</i> on dead wood. Fungus: <i>Kretzschmaria deusta</i> (Brittle Cinder)	Poor	Fell tree to a 1m stump for wildlife habitat. Caution that canopy branches are entwined in larger tree.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T11	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Northern boundary, adjacent to footpath and A62	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 60 Life Stage: Over Mature	Ivy severed but base still obscured. Open grown canopy with straggly end weighted branches typical of species. Moderate dead wood throughout over road and close to footpath. Only partial basal inspection possible due to ivy. 2024: Ash Dieback Infection Level 1: 0% to 25%	Fair	Crown clean removing dead wood over 25mm. Remove ivy around base of tree.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)
T12	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath.	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 60 Life Stage: Mature	Pruned back on building side. Moderate dead wood throughout, but over grass area.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T13	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath.	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 50 Life Stage: Mature	Canopy slightly overhanging neighbouring property, Crown lifted high on West side to avoid structure. Ivy restricting basal inspection.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T14	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath. Target - building	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 60 Life Stage: Mature	Canopy slightly overhanging neighbouring property and pruned back on this side. Crown lifted high on West side to avoid structure. Most of base inspected but restricted by ivy.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T15	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath. Target - building	Height (m): 8 DBH (cm): 20 Life Stage: Semi Mature	Small tree suppressed by adjacent mature trees. Stump of mature tree adjacent with large <i>ganoderma</i> brackets.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T16	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath. Target - building	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 60 Life Stage: Mature	Three main stems make up canopy. Ivy colonising and brambles restricting full basal inspection.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T17	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath. Target - building	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 40 Life Stage: Mature	Narrow tree suppressed on both sides. Dense growth on West Side. Very early into leaf compared to other trees. Minor dead wood over grass area.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T18	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	East Side of footpath. Target - building	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 55 Life Stage: Mature	Broad spreading open canopy with end weighted branches typical of species. Heavily reduced back on building side. Ivy colonising main stem and some unions. Not in leaf. Lowest branch to East over field is dead with <i>daldinia</i> showing. Low use target area. Fungus: <i>Daldinia concentrica</i> (King Alfreds Cakes) 2024: Ash Dieback Infection Level 1: 0% to 25%	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T19	Pedunculate oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Approx 20m from footpath. Target - grass area.	Height (m): 12 DBH (cm): 50 Life Stage: Mature	Cavity with decay on North side stem from base to approx. 3m. With some fibre buckling. Potential bat habitat. Broad spreading canopy. Moderate dead wood. Low occupancy around tree, substantial reaction wood around stem.	Fair	No action required.	No Action Required
T20	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	East Side of footpath.	Height (m): 15 DBH (cm): 40 Life Stage: Mature	No obvious defects. Budding normally.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required
T21	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	East Side of footpath.	Height (m): 16 DBH (cm): 55 Life Stage: Mature	Ivy severed. Typically end weighted leggy branches. Some branch stubs. Minor dead wood. Not in leaf. Not able to assess for ADB. 2024: Ash Dieback Infection Level 1: 0% to 25%	Fair	No action required.	No Action Required
T22	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	East Side of footpath.	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 55 Life Stage: Mature	Ivy now removed. Heavily crown lifted. Stem bias to East, correcting higher up. Minor dead wood throughout. Not in leaf. Unable to assess for ADB. 2024: Ash Dieback Infection Level 1: 0% to 25%	Fair	No action required.	No Action Required
T23	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>)	Centre of field	Height (m): 9 DBH (cm): 40 Life Stage: Mature	Heavily Ivy clad tree. Unable to basal inspect. Good vitality. Low occupancy area.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T24	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Centre of field	Height (m): 12 DBH (cm): 50 Life Stage: Mature	No obvious defects, low occupancy in area around tree.	Good	No action required.	No Action Required

5.2 Schedule of Work

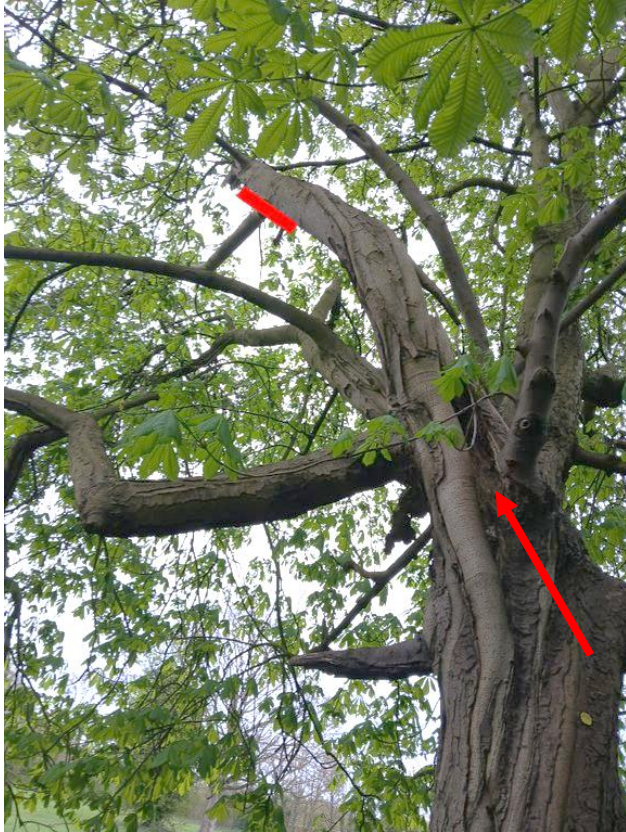
Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
G05	Mixed species (Mixed species)	Mixed group in centre of field. Horse chestnut, sycamore, lime.	Height (m): 16 Life Stage: Mature	Trees growing closely as a group canopy resulting in leggy extended end weighted branches. Ash now removed. Lime has strip wound to 0.5m occluding well Large horse chestnut to East of group (tagged 0942) has one very decayed and extended limb which is starting to collapse, leaving a gap in canopy. Tree is gradually declining, and has extended lateral branches that will be vulnerable. Sycamore to SE of group (tagged 0943) is in serious decline with bark necrosis and bark delamination. Possible sooty bark disease. Half canopy in leaf, half not.	Mixed	Horse chestnut: Large limb with cavity at base to be shortened back to decayed area, retaining woodpecker habitat but removing weight from base of stem. Crown reduce remainder of tree by 30% canopy volume as per BS3998, shortening end weighted branches. Sycamore: fell to 3m stem and leave for habitat.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)
T03	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Within grassed area. Target - footpath.	Height (m): 15 DBH (cm): 40 Life Stage: Mature	Sycamore with previous fire damage. Exposed heartwood now decaying. Bark delamination throughout and dead wood throughout. Tree is 90% dead and collapsing.	Poor	Fell to 3m stump and retain for wildlife. Marked with white spot.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)
T10	Common beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>)	Alongside road. Target: footpath	Height (m): 8 DBH (cm): 30 Life Stage: Mature	Suppressed tree under canopy of larger beech. Ivy severed revealing very large area of heartwood decay plus <i>kretzschmaria deusta</i> on dead wood. Fungus: <i>Kretzschmaria deusta</i> (Brittle Cinder)	Poor	Fell tree to a 1m stump for wildlife habitat. Caution that canopy branches are entwined in larger tree	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)

Ref.	Species	Description & Targets	Measurements	Survey notes	Overall Condition	Recommendation	Work Timescale
T11	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Northern boundary, adjacent to footpath and A62	Height (m): 20 DBH (cm): 60 Life Stage: Over Mature	Ivy severed but base still obscured. Open grown canopy with straggly end weighted branches typical of species. Moderate dead wood throughout over road and close to footpath. Only partial basal inspection possible due to ivy. 2024: Ash Dieback Infection Level 1: 0% to 25%	Fair	Crown clean removing dead wood over 25mm. Remove ivy around base of tree.	14-Jul-2026 (3 Months)

5.3 Tree Location Plan



5.4 Photographs



G05 – Horse chestnut with decaying limb to be shortened back and tree crown reduced.



G05 - Horse chestnut with decaying/collapsing limb showing gap in canopy as branch is collapsing. Limb to be shortened back and tree to be crown reduced.



G05 - Sycamore to SE of group (tagged 0943) in serious decline with bark necrosis and bark delamination. Fell to 3m stem.



G05 - Sycamore to SE of group (tagged 0943) in serious decline with bark necrosis and bark delamination. Fell to 3m stem.



T03 – Sycamore with previous fire damage. Exposed heartwood now decaying. Tree 90% dead and collapsing. Fell to a 3m stem for wildlife habitat.



T10 – Suppressed beech with decaying heartwood and Kretschmaria on decay. Fell to 1m for wildlife.



T10 – Suppressed beech with decaying heartwood and Kretschmaria on decay. Fell to 1m for wildlife.



T11 – Ash with moderate deadwood over the A62 Leeds road. Crown clean removing deadwood over 25mm.



T11 – Ash with moderate deadwood over the A62 Leeds road. Crown clean removing deadwood over 25mm.



T11 – Ash with moderate deadwood - also sever ivy at base to enable fuller future inspection.

6 Appendices

6.1 Item 1: Ash dieback health classes

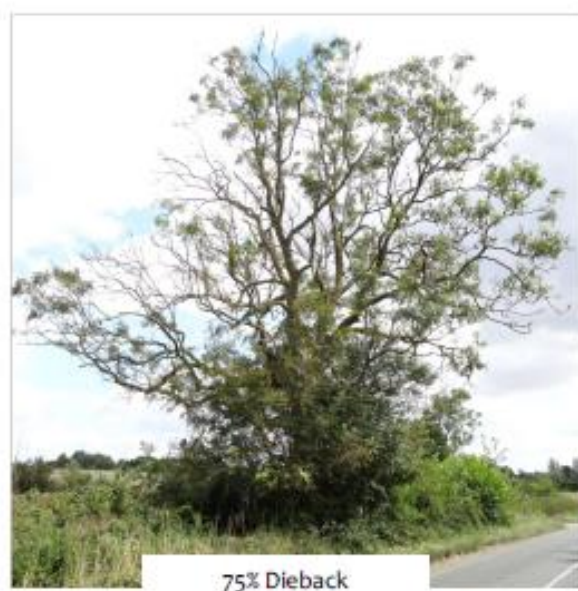
Ash Health Class 1 – 100 – 75% Canopy (Vitality Class 0)

Ash Health Class 2 – 75% -50% Canopy (Vitality Class 1)

Ash Health Class 3 – 50% - 25% Canopy (Vitality Class 2)

Ash Health Class 4 – 25% - 0% Canopy (Vitality Class 3)

Figure 1: Photos of Dieback of ash trees



6.2 Item 2: Conservation Area & Tree Preservation Order Status (Kirklees Council).

