



Tree Survey

At

**Former Llysfaen Care Home,
Pearce's Court,
Merthyr Tydfil**

*Inspected by:-
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26th September, 2022

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Brief

I have been instructed by Ms Abi Hawke of LRM Planning to carry out a survey on trees at Former Llysfaen Care Home, Pearce's Court, Merthyr Tydfil.

Scope of Report

This Tree Survey has been undertaken within the recommendations of British Standards 5837:2012 and current good arboricultural practice.

The survey entailed a visual inspection from ground level of all trees.

Each tree has been numbered and, where instructed, have been tagged using small durable metal or plastic tags.

Due to variations of existing ground levels through the site, height dimensions are estimated and are given in metres.

Trunk/stem diameters are measured at 1.5 metres above ground level, or immediately above the root flare for multi-stemmed trees.

Estimated branch spread is taken in metres from the centre of the trunk, at the four cardinal points of a compass, to achieve an accurate representation of crown shape.

An assessment of a tree's age classification is made in terms of its maturity within the site's landscape.

An assessment of a tree's physiological condition is made as good, fair, poor, dead.

Data on the structural condition of the tree has been entered, e.g., collapsing, leaning and the presence of any decay or physical defect has been noted.

Preliminary management recommendations include further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment or potential for wildlife habitat.

An assessment of a tree's future life expectancy is made as <10, 10-20, 20-40 or >40 etc.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

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

BRITISH STANDARD BS 5837:2012

Tree No.	Species	Height(m)	Single/Multi Stemmed	Stem Diameter(m)	Branch Spread(m)				Height of Crown(m)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Prel. Man. Recommendations	Est. Remaining Contribution	Category
					N	E	S	W							
T1	Swamp Cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>)	19	Single	0.91	5	5	5	5	4	Mature	Good	Prominent specimen of good form and well-balanced crown. No obvious indications of significant structural defects. Foliage appears healthy. Some minor deadwood in lower crown.	Prune to remove unstable deadwood of diameter >50mm. Monitor for health.	>40	A
T2	Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)	3	Multi	0.15	1	1	1	1	0	Young	Fair	Scrubby specimen of variable form.	No action required at this time.	20-40	C
G3	Group of 2: Sawara Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i>)	3	Multi	0.2	1	1	1	1	0	Middle aged	Fair	Ornamental specimens of variable form and average vigour.	No action required at this time.	10-20	C
T4	Swedish Whitebeam (<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>)	7	Single	0.4	3	3	3	4	2	Mature	Fair	Prominent specimen of good form and average vigour.	No action required at this time.	20-40	B
T5	Swedish Whitebeam (<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>)	6	Single	0.35	3	1	3	3	2	Mature	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form exhibiting significant thinning and dieback of foliage throughout crown. A tree of declining vigour. Evidence of some bark peeling on lower main stem which may be indicative of internal decay.	Monitor for health.	10-20	C
G6	Group of: Cherry Laurel (<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>), Lilac (<i>Syringa spp</i>)	2	Multi	0.1	1	1	1	1	0	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Ornamental shrubs sited immediately adjacent to eastern boundary. Evidence of some thinning of foliage within crowns.	Monitor for health.	10-20	C
T7	Lawson Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>)	8	Multi	0.5	0	2	2	2	2	Mature	Fair to poor	Conifer sited immediately adjacent to northern boundary. Northern side of crown has been pruned back to boundary line. A tree of variable form that is unsuitable for long-term retention in this location.	Monitor for safety.	10-20	C

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					N	E	S	W							
G8	Group of: Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	3	Multi	0.1	1	1	1	1	0	Young	Fair	Self-sown specimens of variable form that are unsuitable for long-term retention in this location.	Monitor for safety.	10-20	C
T9	Lawson Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>)	8	Multi	0.65	3	2	3	2	3	Mature	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form that has been significantly reduced in height in the past leading to development of dysfunctional growth in upper crown, some of which has suffered dieback. This specimen is unsuitable for long-term retention in this location.	Monitor for safety.	10-20	C
T10	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	9	Multi	0.25	4	1	4	4	2	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Self-sown specimen exhibiting significantly included basal forks. Some evidence of squirrel damage in upper crown. This specimen is unsuitable for long-term retention in this location.	Monitor for safety.	10-20	C
T11	Lawson Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>)	6	Multi	0.4	2	1	2	0	2	Middle aged	Poor	This specimen has been severely crown reduced in the recent past leading to death of branches in upper crown. This specimen is unsuitable for retention.	Remove.	<10	U
T12	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	13	Multi	0.35	6	5	5	5	2	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Self-sown specimen established immediately adjacent to boundary wall. Lower branches are obstructing adjacent footpath.	Crown raise to 3m over adjacent footpath. Monitor development of stems in relation to boundary wall.	10-20	C

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					N	E	S	W							
T13	Cherry (<i>Prunus spp</i>)	5	Single	0.62	5	2	6	7	2	Mature	Poor	Tree of variable form exhibiting significant dieback of foliage in upper crown. Presence of fungal fruiting bodies (<i>Ganoderma</i>) on western side of base of main stem indicates that this specimen is suffering stem decay and root decay. This specimen is unsafe for retention.	Remove.	<10	U
T14	Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>)	9	Single	0.36	4	3	4	4	2	Mature	Fair to poor	Prominent specimen exhibiting significant defoliation throughout crown particularly on eastern and southern side of crown. Peeling of bark on eastern side of base may be indicative of internal decay in this part of the stem.	Monitor for health.	10-20	C
T15	Cherry (<i>Prunus spp</i>)	4	Single	0.36	4	3	4	4	2	Mature	Fair to poor	Ornamental variety exhibiting some thinning of foliage in upper crown.	Monitor for health.	10-20	C