

Quantified Tree risk assessment for trees within the ownership of Dumbletons Copse, Hedge End, Southampton.

Date: 8th August 2025

Surveyor: Oliver Frost

Weather: Overcast/Dry/No wind

Main Targets: - Public highways, permissive footpaths and 3rd party land.

- Department of Transport road usage figures for the A27 average 10,838 vehicles per day. This is considered as constant usage.
 - Where the property borders 3rd party land the occupancy level is dictated by the specific target. Property value and potential usage is a deciding factor in this. Accurate usage figures are not known due the multiple 3rd parties.
 - The footpath network is considered to be of medium and low usage based on advice from the manager estimating less than 7 pedestrians per hour over a 24hr period.
 - The surveyed zone adjacent to the electricity station is considered to be of low usage as in the event of failure onto the fence damage costs would be less than £1500.00. Recent tree removal has taken place around the station.
- The target occupancy level is given for each tree entered into the schedule. The occupancy category relates to specific ranges of average numbers of vehicles per day, numbers of pedestrians per hour, timed collective periods of sustained occupancy and estimated cost of damage to property in the event of failure. More detail about the target ranges can be seen in the Appendix - and at: <http://www.qtra.co.uk>.
- The occupancy levels of pedestrian areas can be affected by weather. i.e Tree failures are more likely to occur in periods of inclement weather; equally the occupancy level will be reduced in such weather and the risk harm will be reduced. In such cases the target level may be reduced. Trees risk from trees adjacent to roads and property is not weather effected as occupancy is not generally reduced in times of wet and windy weather.
- To avoid either disproportionate recommendations or under management, it is important for the Client to review occupancy levels periodically and to check the levels used by surveyor for accuracy.

Continued.

Specific Tree Asset Management Notes:

- 1/ The sweet chestnut element of the tree population is considered of poor health. Dead wood in the crowns and decayed stem wounds is frequent. The sweet chestnut element has been in decline since surveys began in 2015. Sweet chestnut timber is readily retained when dead when compared to other species and this characteristic has been considered when calculating risk of harm. This survey carried out tree risk calculations on the trees which the surveyor considered to be most at risk from failure. In the main these calculated risk of harms were within the tolerable range based on the perceived occupancy levels. Where these assessed trees were considered tolerable, then trees with lesser defects would also be considered tolerable and were not considered necessary to quantify the risk on. However, it is recommended thinning operations target trees of poor condition when adjacent to public rights of way.
- 2/ The trees along woodland boundaries are becoming increasingly difficult to access due to increasing bramble growth. Recent cutting of bramble growth has allowed access to some extent. For effective basal inspections of these trees, it is recommended that the undergrowth is annually cut until such a time as canopy cover inhibits bramble growth.
- 3/ Ash dieback is present and is likely to have a significant impact on the ash tree population. Currently the crowns of the ash population are not significantly affected; however, It is recommended that ongoing monitoring of the ash trees is carried out during woodland inspections to assess dead wood development. Please visit the link to find out more about the disease: <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara>
- 4/ The mature Beech tree element, especially along Kanes Hill road, have poor form with tight compressed unions common in primary limbs. The close canopy restricts excessive movement in these unions. Future thinning works should consider increasing exposure to these unions. Future inspections should inspect these unions for changes. Comparing to images is advised to assess for change.

General Notes.

- 1/ The existence of conservation areas and tree preservation orders (TPO) have not been considered when making these recommendations.
- 2/ It should be considered if the risk of harm probability is affected by weather; i.e. trees are more likely to fail in periods of windy weather (Beaufort Force 7) when there is potentially a reduced likelihood of pedestrians being present. Poor weather is not generally considered to affect the usage of public highways or property.
- 3/ The survey was carried out with the trees in leaf. On deciduous trees, leaf colour, size and coverage is used where appropriate to assess crown vitality. It is advised that assessing the leaf vitality of a tree is a good indicator of the tree's physiological condition. The re-survey period is recommended to be scheduled for when trees are in leaf.
- 4/ Reinspection recommendations do not necessarily mean a formal inspection by an external surveyor. Ongoing monitoring of trees for a change in condition by the client or manager is recommended. Making photographic records of trees in order to refer back to for detecting changes in conditions is also advised. A number of recommendations have been made are for re-inspections in order to understand the rate of change of a condition within a tree. This is seen as a reasonable approach to tree management to avoid being risk averse when considering the benefits trees provide as part of ecosystem services.
- 5/ Whilst this survey and report makes recommendations on inspected trees, it should be stressed that this report assesses the risk using the ranges set out in QTRA. Ultimately it is for the client to use this report to inform the client's tree management policy and for them to decide on the level of tolerable risk.
- 6/ Please get in touch with the consultant surveyor if you wish to discuss anything.

Reinspection Period: Within 24 months.

(T5469 is an ash adjacent to a 3rd party property with basal necrosis developing. This tree is recommended to be inspected by management on an annual basis).

Continued.

Tree Tag ID	Old Tag ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	No. Stems	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Maturity	Condition	Overall condition	Target	Occupancy	Part to fail	Size of part	Failure Rate	Risk of Harm 1 in x1000	QTRA Risk Threshold	Species Habitat	Suggested Recommendation	Suggested Works Priority	Suggested Reinspect Period (months)
6502	6502	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	10	280	M	Poor crown vitality with dead wood progressing into second order branch wood. Decay strips in stem. Stem lean towards 3rd party property.	Poor	3rd party buildings	2. High	2nd Limb	4. 100mm	2. <1/10	50	Tolerable	None	Tree is in decline. Management to consider removal as part of wider tree works operations.	Management Recommendation	24
7663		Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	12	400	M	Poor crown vitality with new dead wood throughout crown. Bark lifting around 60% of root collar. Stem lean towards the road.	Poor	Minor road	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	3. <1/100	40	Tolerable	None	Condition is deteriorating. Management to consider removal now in a controlled manner.	Management Recommendation	0
7664		Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	3	12	500	M	Tagged stem displaying loss of vitality in crown with small diameter dead wood over road and junction. 10% of root collar with bark lifting that is visible.	Poor	Major road	1. Constant	Extension	5. 25mm	1. =1/1	>1000	Acceptable	None	Risk of harm from dead wood failure over road is considered within broadly acceptable range. Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within tolerable range. Condition is deteriorating. Management to consider removal. Recommend to remove tree.	Management Recommendation	0
7665		Silver Birch	Betula pendula	1	9	280	M	Standing dead. Stem lean towards 3rd party property.	Critical	3rd party land; Fence	3. Medium	Stem	3. 250mm	1. =1/1	5	Unacceptable	None		Arrange Works	0
3081	3081	Wild Cherry	Prunus avium	1	14	750	M	2018 survey highlighted stem bleeds. Not present at this inspection. Continued adaptive strengthening growth around stem base. Old decayed pruning wounds in stem base. No hollow resonance in lower stem. Crown vitality remains within the normal healthy range. Lower primary limb over 3rd party property remains of visually good condition with no cracks or ribs visible in limb. However, increase in leaf area is causing limb to drop. Shed has been built by neighbour under crown. Not known if ground excavation works were carried out within rooting area. Adjacent oak with extended downward curving limbs over shed.	Good	3rd party buildings	2. High	1st limb	Property	3. <1/100	30	Tolerable	None	Risk of harm from limb failure is considered within tolerable range. Management to consider reducing limb by up to 3 metres of lower growth to reduce loading on both cherry and oak.	Management Recommendation	24
5469	5469	Common Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	1	12	400	M	Bark bleeds in lower stem affecting 30% of stem circumference. This has developed since 2023 survey. Remaining stem is of visually good condition. Crown vitality is currently within the normal healthy range with little specific sign of dieback. Crown is weighted over 3rd party property.	Poor	3rd party land	2. High	Stem	Property	5. <1/10,000	300	Tolerable	None; Wood pecker holes	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within tolerable range. Recommend to reinspect within 12 months for changes in basal and crown condition due to proximity to 3rd party garden.	Within 12 months priority	12
7666	3531	Common Oak	Quercus robur	1	17	900	M	Crown vitality has declined with 2nd order dead wood. Possible root or stem issue. No visible decay or necrosis in stem base. Unable to reach all around the stem base.	Poor	3rd party land	2. High	Stem	Property	5. <1/10,000	300	Tolerable	None	Recommend to reinspect at next scheduled survey.	Within 24 months priority	24
4003	4003	Common Oak	Quercus robur	1	18	1000	M	Column of dead bark in lower stem. Active bleeds and bacterial flux indicates phloem dysfunction. Lifting bark affecting 30% of lower stem circumference. Decay is affecting 1x buttress. Black rhizomes present indicating a honey fungus species is at work. Callous wood present around decay wound. Crown vitality is currently within the normal healthy range. Minor dead wood over shrubby area.	Fair	3rd party buildings	2. High	Stem	Property	6. <1/100,000	>1000	Acceptable	Bats	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within broadly acceptable range. Recommend to reinspect at next scheduled survey for changes in stem condition.	Within 24 months priority	24
434	434	Common Oak	Quercus robur	1	23	800	M	Lower primary limb over path has bulges and decayed branch stubs along. Extended end weighting of limb is increasing.	Good	Foot path	2. High	1st limb	3. 250mm	4. <1/1000	500	Tolerable	None	Risk of harm from limb failure onto path is considered within tolerable range. Management to consider reducing limb by up to 2 metres to reduce end weighting. Pruning wounds no larger than 50mm in diameter at appropriate unions.	Management Recommendation	24
7667		Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	12	600	M	Crown is recently dead. Lower stem leaf growth but chlorotic. Stem and crown over path. Basal is lifting. No hollow resonance in lower stem.	Critical	Foot path	4. Low	3rd Limb	4. 100mm	1. =1/1	500	Tolerable	None	Risk of harm from dead wood failure is considered within tolerable range. Condition will deteriorate in time as root and branch decay. Management may wish to remove stem in a controlled manner. Lean of stem means it is not best left as a habitat stem.	Management Recommendation	0
3534	3534	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	2	18	1400	M	Old Laetoporus sulphureous decay fungi fruiting body on decayed pruning wound at 1.7metres noted in 2023. Fungi causes a brown cubicle rot. Slight hollow resonance in stem suggests a decay cavity developing. No bulges or cracks in stem. Adaptive callous wood around wound. Crown vitality is currently within the normal range. Stem weighted over the path.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	5. <1/10,000	>1000	Acceptable	None	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within broadly acceptable range although the extent of decay is unknown. Management to consider carrying out a wood resistance test to determine the extent of decay and how the tree is compartmentalising it. Recommended in 2023. Unknown if carried out.	Management Recommendation	24

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5470	5470	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	7	19	500	M	Group of mature sweet chestnut that are dead and dying, 8x paint marked stems. Tagged tree has basal bark necrosis.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	3. <1/100	40	Tolerable	None	Recommend to remove stems as part of wider tree works operations. Recommendation remains from 2020 survey.	Management Recommendation	0
5471	5471	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	4	13	500	M	3x paint marked stems with severe dieback in crowns. 1x mature sweet chestnut standing dead. Further 1x sweet chestnut stem on other side of path with similar crown decline. Condition has continued to deteriorated since 2019 survey.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	2nd Limb	4. 100mm	1. =1/1	50	Tolerable	None	Recommend management consider removal of tagged tree and tree opposite as part of wider tree works operations in a controlled manner.	Management Recommendation	0
7668		Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	9	250	M/A	Dead stem with lean towards 3rd party property. In event of whole tree failure, the upper crown would hit the boundary fence.	Critical	Fence;3rd party land	4. Low	Stem	3. 250mm	2. <1/10	500	Tolerable	None	Inconvenience issue of foreseeable failure onto fence. Management to consider removal.	Management Recommendation	0
6504	6504	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	3	9	250	M	Tagged stem is dead and leaning towards the electrical sub station.	Critical	3rd party buildings	2. High	Stem	2.450mm	3. <1/100	10	Unacceptable	None	Recommend to remove tagged stem.	Arrange Works	24
6505	6505	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	3	18	300	M	8x paint marked sycamore stems. Standing dead or dying. Sooty bark disease infection.	Critical	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	2.450mm	2. <1/10	10	Unacceptable	None	Recommend to remove 8x paint marked stems.	Arrange Works	0
1153	1153	Common Oak	Quercus robur	1	16	750	M	Stem bleeds on lower stem have developed since 2020 survey. Leaf vitality has reduced since 2021 survey. Severe crown reduction has been carried out since 2020 survey removing lower primary limbs. Historic stem wounds are not occluding as they are too large but callous wood around wounds is of good condition. Exposed surface wood is degrading with new bark lifting. Crown weighted toward 3rd party property. Crown vitality is fair.	Poor	3rd party land	2. High	Stem	Property	4. <1/1000	30	Tolerable	Bats	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within tolerable range. However, condition is declining. Management to consider removal or monolithing in a controlled manner during wider tree works operations. Beware of hornets attracted to bark bleeds in the summer months.	Management Recommendation	24
7669		Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	3	11	250	M	Tagged stem is dead and weighted towards path.	Critical	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	3. 250mm	2. <1/10	50	Tolerable	None	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within tolerable range. Inconvenience issue of foreseeable failure onto path. Management to consider removal.	Management Recommendation	0
443	5475	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	2	20	600	M	Dieback in crown since 2019 survey. Further bark decay in root collar on path side. Further path side sweet chestnut with crown dieback as the path ascends. Sweet chestnut can retain dead wood for extended periods.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	3. <1/100	40	Tolerable	None	Management to consider removal as part of wider forestry operations.	Management Recommendation	0
440	4013	Common Beech	Fagus sylvatica	2	20	750	M	Co-dominant stems with close form resulting in compression union at base. Included bark and water pocket evident. No visual sign of open crack. Crown vitality is within the normal range throughout.	Fair	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	2.450mm	5. <1/10,000	>1000	Acceptable	Bats	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within broadly acceptable range. Reinspect at next scheduled survey for changes in union condition.	Within 24 months priority	24
6770	6770	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	12	250	M	Standing dead. Evenly balanced.	Critical	Foot path	4. Low	Stem	2.450mm	3. <1/100	1000	Tolerable	None	Inconvenience issue of foreseeable failure possibly across the path. Management to consider removal.	Management Recommendation	0
5473	5473	Common Beech	Fagus sylvatica	1	22	700	M	Ganoderma austrail decay fungi bracket in root buttress adjacent to path and a new bracket at 1 metre. Further mycelium growth in cavity adjacent to root. Hollow resonance to buttress. Hollow resonance confined to this buttress. Crown is balanced. Crown vitality has declined since 2022 survey with yellowing leaves and dieback in upper crown. Sheltered companion canopy.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	5. <1/10,000	>1000	Acceptable	None	Risk of harm from stem failure onto path is considered within broadly acceptable range. Recommend to reinspect within 24 months for changes to basal condition.	Within 24 months priority	0
143	143	Common Beech	Fagus sylvatica	1	24	800	M	Update comment on compressed union at 2.5 metres. Rib remains rounded and pronounced on one side. Little change since 2021 survey.	Fair	Foot path	3. Medium	1st limb	2.450mm	4. <1/1000	1000	Tolerable	None	Risk of harm from union failure is considered within tolerable range. Recommend to reinspect at next scheduled survey for changes in condition. Compare images.	Within 24 months priority	24
442	5474	Common Beech	Fagus sylvatica	3	25	1000	M	Update comment on condition of 3 compressed union stems. Crown vitality remains within the normal range. Decayed bark area in base has progressed slightly with necrosis leading up into the union. Bleed in buttress on path side has not developed since 2020 survey.	Fair	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	4. <1/1000	400	Tolerable	None	Risk of harm from stem failure is considered within tolerable range. The probability of failure range has been increased as there is uncertainty of the wood quality within the union where bark necrosis is developing. Management to consider a wood resistance test to determine condition of union. Recommend to reinspect at next scheduled survey for changes in union condition.	Management Recommendation	24

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4014	155	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	18	800	M	Individual paint marked standing dead and dying sweet chestnut alongside path going down the hill. Trees have been dead or dying for a number of years with newly dead trees each year. A number have been removed or monolithed.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	1. >450mm	3. <1/100	40	Tolerable	Bats; Nesting birds	Risk of harm from dead wood failure is considered within tolerable range. Eventual failure is foreseeable. Management to consider removal or monolithing in a controlled manner in ongoing works.	Management Recommendation	24
3538	3538	Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	1	10	200	M	Reported as standing dead in 2022 survey. New epicormic growth has started on the stem. Growing from ditch bank. Slight stem lean toward path.	Poor	Foot path	3. Medium	Stem	3. 250mm	3. <1/100	500	Tolerable	None	Recommend to reinspect within 24 months for changes in general condition.	Within 24 months priority	24
7671		Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	2	8	280	M	Dead stem with lean towards access to electrical sub station.	Critical	Minor road	3. Medium	3rd Limb	2.450mm	1. =1/1	5	Unacceptable	None	Recommend to remove tree.	Arrange Works	0

Dumbletons Copse.

Quantified risk assessment tree survey
works priority site plan.

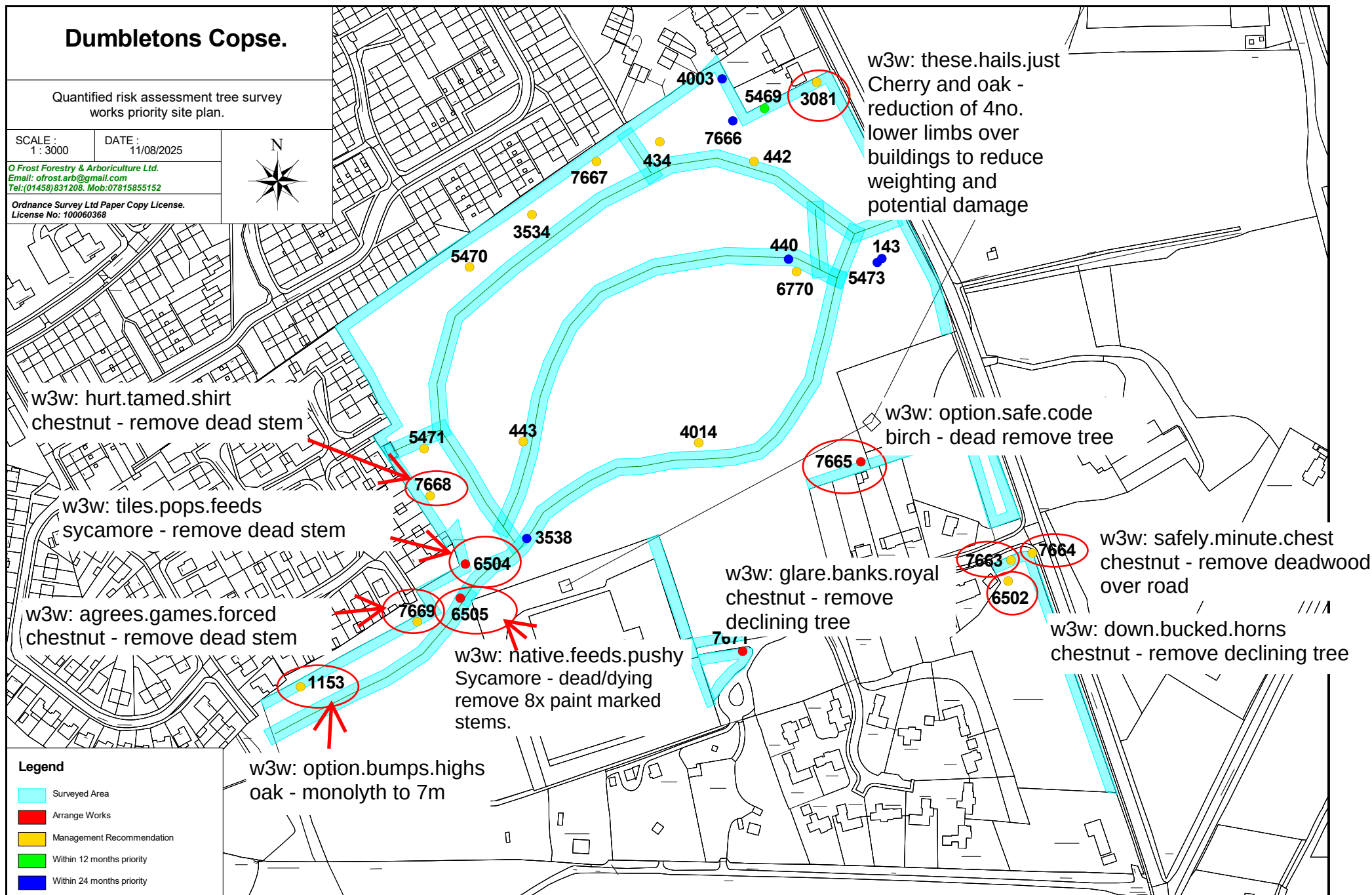
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Dumbletons Copse Tagged Tree Images. August 2025.



T6502.jpg



T7633.jpg



T7644.jpg



T7665.jpg



T3081.1.jpg



T3081.2.jpg



T5469.1.jpg



T5469.2.jpg



T7666.1.jpg



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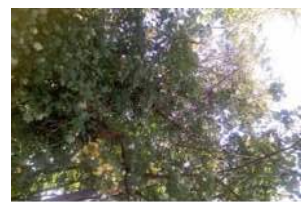
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T7668.jpg



T6504.jpg



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