

DUCKWORTHS
ARBORICULTURE LTD.

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

TREE CONDITION SURVEY

86 & 86A ELLIS ROAD
CROWTHORNE
BERKSHIRE
RG45 6PW

CLIENT: MARC TURNER

SEPTEMBER 2025
Ref: 06769 / 2025

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Instruction

This Arboricultural Report has been commissioned by Marc Turner.

I have been asked to carry out a health and safety assessment of trees at 86 & 86A Ellis Road, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 6PW.

The report is to specify any necessary remedial tree works to address identified hazards from the trees whilst acknowledging and respecting their significance to amenity and ecology of the local area.

1.2 Inspection information

The trees were inspected on Wednesday 10th September 2025 by Sarah Duckworth, Arboricultural Consultant.

On the day of the survey the weather was dry and overcast. Visibility was satisfactory.

Trees were inspected from ground level only. Non-invasive inspection equipment (mallet and metal probe) were used to assess the structural integrity at the base and trunk of individual trees where the visual inspection identified the need.

1.3 Qualifications

Surveyor: Sarah Duckworth

- Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma
- Arboricultural Association's Technicians Certificate (with Distinction)
- LANTRA qualified Professional Tree Inspector
- Arboricultural Association Professional Member

1.4 Insurance

Sarah Duckworth t/a Duckworths Arboriculture Limited is insured with Hiscox Insurance

- Public Liability £10,000,000
- Professional Indemnity £2,000,000

2 STATUTORY TREE PROTECTION

TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

I have confirmed on the Wokingham Borough Council website that at the time of this report, trees within the survey area are protected by Tree Preservation Orders ref TPO-0773-1995 and TPO-0067-1975.

No works should be undertaken to any trees on site without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority – Wokingham Borough Council.

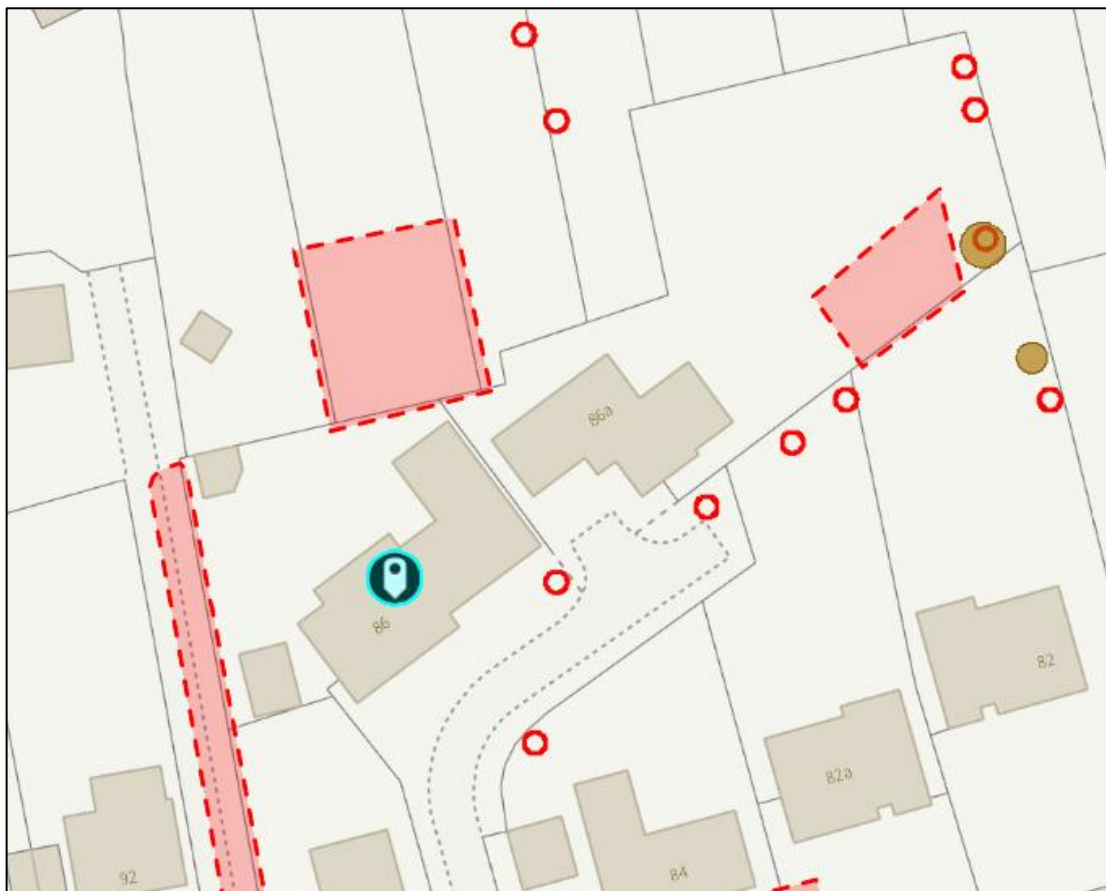


Fig. 1 Wokingham Borough Council Tree Preservation Order Map

CONSERVATION AREAS

Trees on / adjacent to 86 and 86A Ellis Road are not within a Conservation Area.

3 GENERAL GUIDANCE

3.1 Tree Work Good Practice

All tree works specified should be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

In order to limit the harm to trees caused by the pruning operations, pruning work on live trees (aside from trees to be felled) should be undertaken in the summer months (July and August) avoiding periods of drought. No tree pruning work is advisable during the period immediately before or after leaf break (February to June) when the trees' energy reserves are most depleted.

Chippings arising from the work should not be piled around the bases of trees on or off the site. Wood, brash and any other arisings from the tree work should not be burnt on site.

You are advised to use a properly qualified and experienced company who carry Public and Products Liability Insurance with a minimum of £2,000,000 cover and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance. A List of approved contractors is available from the Arboricultural Association – www.trees.org.uk.

3.2 Protected Species

In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act - 1981, Conservation - Natural Habitats - Regulations 1994 and Countryside Rights of Way Act - 2000, you must consider the timing and type of tree work operations including hedge pruning to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting or breeding birds or bat roosts that may be present within trees and hedgerows.

It is an offence (subject to exceptions) to intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places.

Non-urgent major tree work involving tree removal or reduction and hedge cutting operations should not be undertaken during the bird nesting or breeding season, which is considered to be from 1 March to 31 July. However, depending on seasonal temperatures, some birds continue breeding into August and September.

All wild birds, their young, their eggs and active nests are protected under law. It is an offence to damage a nest intentionally while it is in use or being built and hedge cutting is highly likely to damage nests or cause them to be deserted.

3.3 Management of Deadwood

Dead and decaying trees are vital components of a properly functioning wooded ecosystem and play a key role in sustaining biodiversity and soil fertility. A balanced and healthy tree ecosystem features deadwood in various locations both on the ground and in the canopy. It is therefore undesirable to remove all areas of dead or decaying wood from the tree groups as this would harm the natural ecosystem. Standing deadwood, dead branches and other defects with ecological value have been retained where it is considered reasonable and safe to do so.

Where trees are removed, it will benefit the local ecology to leave a high stump (ideally 2-3m) as a standing monolith where it is safe and reasonable to do so, a percentage of the wood, (particularly wood that is already decayed) should be stacked and left on site for habitat value where possible (taking care not to restrict access for future surveys).

3.4 Ivy

Ivy is an attractive habitat for insects and invertebrates and consequently bird and animal life can benefit as a result of an increase in available food source. Bats, which are rare and protected by law regularly roost amongst ivy, as well as inside small cavities in suitable trees. Ivy growth is not a threat to the health of otherwise healthy trees; however, it does obscure the base, trunk and forks of trees.

Defects present on trees can be hidden by ivy and dense vegetation. It was beyond the scope of this survey to clear ivy and vegetation from around all trees and the client is advised that where present, climbing plants and dense vegetation may obscure trunk defects.

When cutting ivy, it is important to use sharp hand tools only. Ivy stems should be cut at ground level and 1.5m, taking care not to damage the tree bark. Cut stems should then be removed to height of 1.5m. The ivy growth above 1.5m can be left in the canopy (unless it obscures another necessary point of inspection) from where it will die back and eventually fall from the tree.

3.5 Fungal decay

Trees can be colonised by a number of decay-causing fungal pathogens which usually degrade wood around the roots or base of the tree. As some fungi fruit only annually, their presence may not always be apparent in a seasonal tree survey.

Tree owners are advised to monitor the ground where trees may be rooting. Any unusual fungal growths around any tree should be photographed and forwarded to a professional arborist for identification. The fungus growth should be left in situ to mature (for identification purposes).

4 SCOPE & LIMITATIONS

4.1 Scope

Trees adjacent to 86 & 86A Ellis Road have been looked at in detail using the 'Diagnosis of Ill Health in trees' and Inspecting Trees for Signs of Decay' methodologies described by R.G. Strouts and T.G. Winter¹.

A visual assessment is a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of an individual tree. Non-invasive inspection equipment (plastic-headed mallet and metal probe) were used to make an assessment of the structural integrity at the base and trunk of each tree where the visual inspection identified the need. The lower stems of trees were tapped with a plastic-headed mallet to check for indications of internal decay. The differing sound intonation can often reveal some types of decay or hollow trunks. Any cavities in the base of the stem were probed with a steel rod to record depth and condition of residual wood.

The report is to identify any works which may be required or appropriate to protected trees whilst acknowledging and respecting their local significance to the amenity of the residential development biodiversity of the wider landscape. Specifications for works are based on an assumed reinspection within two years.

This report is not a structural report, and it does not consider the structural integrity of the property and its use as such is invalid.

It was beyond the scope of this survey to sever and remove ivy or clear dense vegetation. Reasonable effort was made to access the base of each tree, however in some areas, dense vegetation and ivy prevented a full visual inspection of some trees - tree canopies and physiological health were still appraised.

It is the client's responsibility to ensure that this report covers all areas under the brief of the tree inspection and refer any concerns regarding this matter back to the Arboricultural Consultant.

¹ R.G Strouts & T.G. Winter, 'Diagnosis of Ill Health in Trees' Published for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, under license from the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright 1994.

4.2 Caveats

The report is for the sole use of the client and its reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.

The report refers to the condition of tree(s) and an assessment of the site on the days the evaluation was undertaken. The trees were viewed from within neighbouring gardens of properties 13 and 15 Grange Avenue. The trees were assessed from ground level only and were not climbed.

This report is a baseline survey and reflects the condition of the trees on the day of the survey. The report is valid for normal weather conditions only.

The survey looks for defects which may make the failure of all or part of the tree foreseeable. The report then makes recommendations for remedial works which would reduce the probability of failure where the hazard presented poses an unacceptable risk to persons or property. Healthy trees or parts of healthy trees may fail in normal weather situations, although the risk increases with storm conditions and, as the consequences of such weather events are unforeseeable, Sarah Duckworth (trading as Duckworths Arboriculture Limited) cannot be held liable for any such failures.

Trees are dynamic living organisms subject to change, whose health and condition can be subject to significant change influenced by internal and external factors. The assessment, conclusions and recommendations from the report are based on the condition of the trees and surrounding ground conditions at the time of my visit. If the condition of the trees evidently changes or where tree(s) are subject to development or ground works within their rooting areas or extreme weather conditions, further inspection may be required.

This report is valid for two years from the survey date. A follow-on inspection of trees is due before 10th September 2027.

Trees can never be guaranteed 100% safe. Regular inspections by competent and / or suitably qualified arboriculturists will help identify potential problems before they become acute.

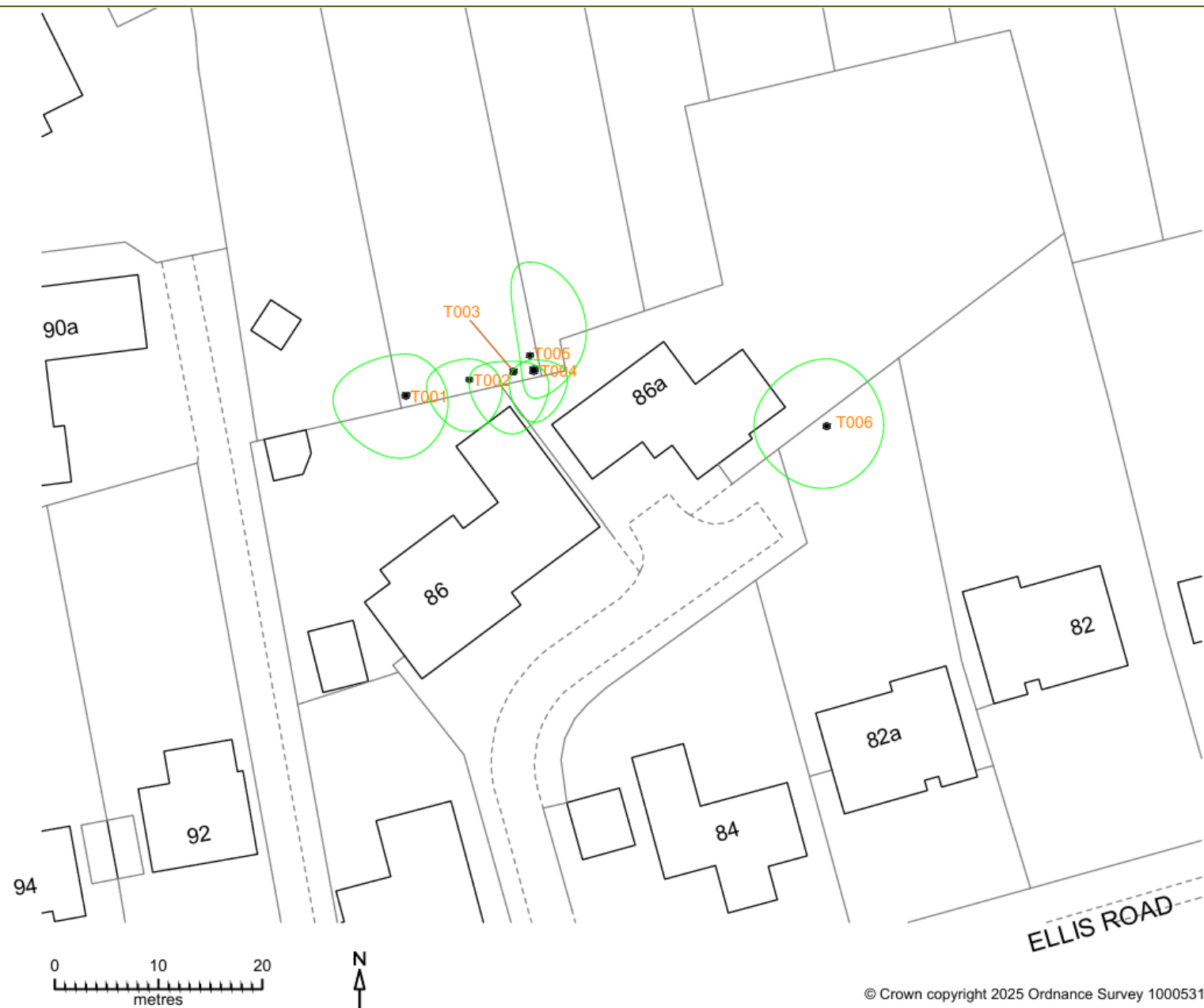
5 TREE SURVEY DATA

Ref:	Species	Measurements	Survey Notes	Condition	Other Data	Recommendations	Photo
T001	Pedunculate oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 4N, 4E, 6S, 7W DBH (cm): 63 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 40+ Years	Base clear, bark intact. Swept stem south. Adaptive growth at base. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. No sign of root instability. Foliage density normal.	Fair	Wildlife Value: Good	Crown lift small pendulous branch tips under 20mm back to source to ensure 7m canopy clearance over the garden of 86 (this equates to the removal of around 4 slender tertiary branches under 2m long and under 20mm diameter) Timescale: 10-Mar-2026 (6 Months)	
T002	Pedunculate oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 2N, 3E, 5S, 4W DBH (cm): 50 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 40+ Years	Ivy clad tree. Where accessible base clear, bark intact. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. Asymmetrical crown to south. Foliage density normal.	Fair	Wildlife Value: Good Inspection Limitations: Prolific ivy	Sever ivy. Remove three slender low limbs over single storey wing back to source. Timescale: 10-Mar-2026 (6 Months)	
T003	Scots pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>)	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 1N, 3E, 6S, 4W DBH (cm): 60 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 40+ Years	Deep leaf litter built up around base. Mature ivy stem on trunk. Swept stem south adaptive growth at base. Where accessible bark intact. Sound intonation slightly variable but this could be due to ivy / thick corky bark. No other indicators of decay. No fungal fruiting bodies evident. Trunk obscured by ivy. Elongated low lateral branch extends over roof of 86 Ellis Road beyond surrounding canopy. Dog-legged kink along branch length. Heavily weighted at tips and exposed. Needles very brown - cause unclear.	Fair	Wildlife Value: Good Inspection Limitations: Prolific ivy	Sever ivy. Remove elongated low limb leaving 1m stump to prevent ingress of decay into trunk. Monitor base for decay fungi Timescale: 10-Mar-2026 (6 Months)	

Ref:	Species	Measurements	Survey Notes	Condition	Other Data	Recommendations	Photo
T004	Scots pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>)	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 1N, 3E, 5S, 2W DBH (cm): 74 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 40+ Years	Deep leaf litter built up around base. Concrete block and ironwork in ground on west side of trunk. Mature ivy on trunk. Root flare partially obscured suggesting possible ground level changes at base. Slightly swept stem south with adaptive growth at base. Where accessible bark intact. Sound intonation even. No sign of rootplate movement or instability. No fungal fruiting bodies evident. Trunk obscured by ivy. High, asymmetrical crown. Needle density good.	Fair	Wildlife Value: Good Inspection Limitations: Prolific ivy	Sever ivy. Monitor base for decay fungi. Timescale: 10-Sep-2026 (1 Year)	
T005	Pedunculate oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Height (m): 12 Crown Radius (m): 9N, 5E, 4S, 1W DBH (cm): 52 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 40+ Years	Soil level built up around base. Root collar obscured. Swept stem northeast. Base clear, bark intact. Sound intonation even. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. Very asymmetrical crown with long etiolated branches extending over neighbouring residential gardens. Low crown to 1.8m resting on roof of neighbours shed. One dead branch over neighbouring garden. Foliage slightly clustered towards tips. Moderate vitality.	Fair	Wildlife Value: Good	Crown lift to create 4m canopy clearance over garden of 86a Ellis Road. Selectively reduce tips of elongated branch over garden of 86a Ellis Road by between 1 and 2m due to stem proximity to dwelling. Works are required to reduce etiolated limb and excessive movements of branch in high winds Timescale: 10-Mar-2026 (6 Months)	 

Ref:	Species	Measurements	Survey Notes	Condition	Other Data	Recommendations	Photo
T006	Red oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>)	Height (m): 16 Crown Radius (m): 6.5N, 5.5E, 6S, 7W DBH (cm): 58 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	Off-site tree, no access to base. Single stem to 3m. Tight fork with significant area of included bark. Weak structure. Broad crown. Foliage sparse. Minor deadwood throughout canopy branch tips touching chimney stack and overhanging glass roof	Fair	Wildlife Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Access	Reduce west to north quadrant of tree's canopy by up to 2.5m to create reasonable clearance to 86a Ellis Road and reduce extent of canopy overhang to conservatory. Timescale: 10-Mar-2026 (6 Months)	

6 SITE PLAN



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