



DUCKWORTHS
ARBORICULTURE LTD.

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

TREE CONDITION SURVEY

21 BRAMBLEGATE
CROWTHORNE
BERKSHIRE
RG45 6JA

CLIENT: THOMAS GORDON

NOVEMBER 2025
Ref: 06880 / 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 INSTRUCTION

This Arboricultural Report has been commissioned by Thomas Gordon, owner / occupier of 21 Bramblegate, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 6JA. I have been asked to visually inspect and provide a report on the condition of one Oak Tree (T1) growing in the rear garden of the property.

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

1.2 INSPECTION INFORMATION

The tree was inspected on Tuesday 14th October 2025.

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

For the purposes of this survey all dimensions of the tree and its associated parts are measured using a laser measure or clinometer where possible. Where access is restricted, measurements have been visually estimated unless otherwise stated.

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

For your peace of mind, Duckworths Arboriculture Limited is insured with Hiscox Insurance:

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

2. STATUTORY TREE PROTECTION

2.1 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

I have confirmed on the Wokingham Borough Council website that at the time of this report, T1 (Oak) is protected by area Tree Preservation Order ref TPO-0781-1996.

No works should be undertaken to protected trees without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority – exemptions apply.

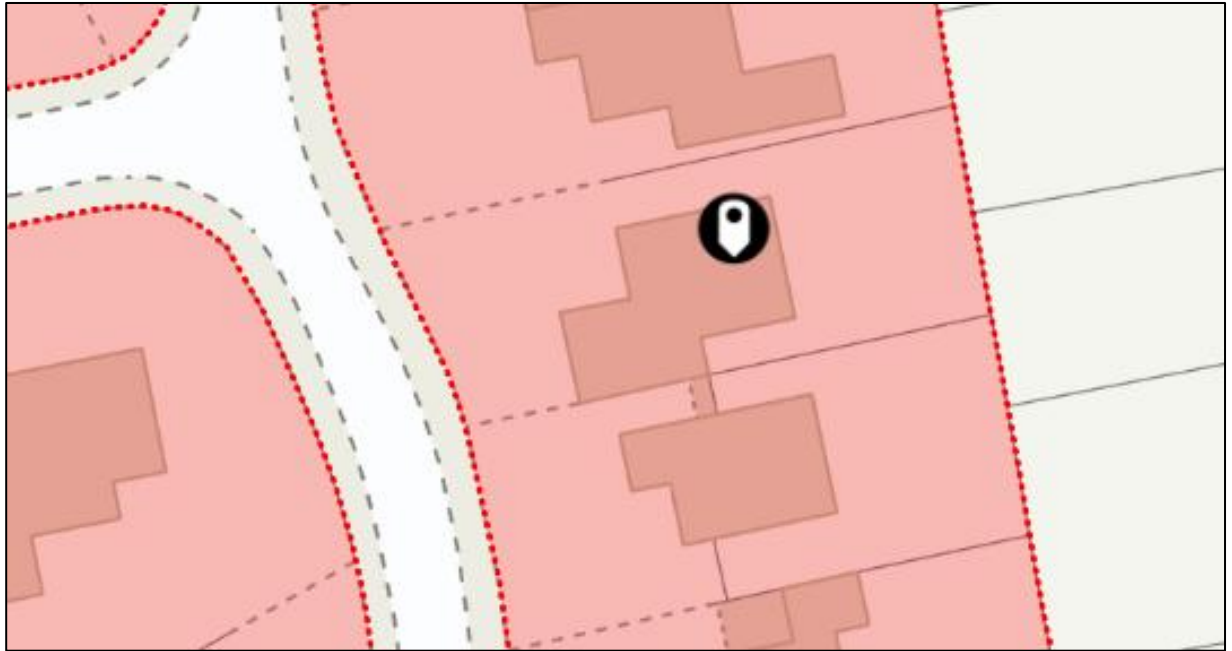


Figure 1 – Wokingham Borough Council TPO Map

2.2 CONSERVATION AREAS

21 Bramblegate is not within a Conservation Area.

3. GENERAL GUIDANCE

3.1 TREE WORK GOOD PRACTICE

Where possible, recommended tree works should be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

To limit the harm to deciduous trees, 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 or during the winter months, December and January during the period of dormancy. 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.

When undertaking tree work, 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. Tree work where birds are nesting is highly likely to damage nests or cause them to be deserted.

4. LIMITATIONS

4.1 SCOPE

T1 (Oak) has 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.

My visual assessment is a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of a 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 the tree where the visual inspection identified the need. The lower trunk of the tree was tapped with a plastic-headed mallet to check for acoustic indication of internal decay. The differing sound intonation can often reveal some types of decay or hollow trunks.

The report is to identify visible defects on the tree and to specify any necessary remedial tree works which may be required to address identified hazards from the tree whilst acknowledging and respecting its significance to the local area.

The report refers to the condition of tree(s) and an assessment of the site on the days the evaluation was undertaken. The tree was assessed from ground level only and was not climbed.

4.2 CAVEATS

The extent of the survey was limited to a visual inspection of 1x Oak tree as viewed from ground level only.

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 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.

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 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. The report is valid for normal weather conditions only. 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 Duckworth's 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 tree and surrounding

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.

ground conditions at the time of my visit. If the condition of the tree 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. Further inspection is recommended prior to 14th October 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.



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5. ARBORICULTURAL INSPECTION DATA

Tree Ownership				Site Address					
Thomas Gordon					21 Bramblegate, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 6JA				
Tree Number		T1		Tree Species	Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)			Age	Mature
Diameter:	640mm @1.5m	Height:	17m	Canopy spread	N: 3m	E: 4m	S: 5m	W: 10.5m	

SITUATION:

Mature tree growing within the private rear garden of 21 Bramblegate.

Site boundaries within 1m of tree base and the likely rooting area of the tree extends into 4 adjacent residential gardens. Garden of 21 consists of gravel and leaf mulch over horticultural membrane. Offsite gardens are also soft landscaped and the ground conducive to healthy tree root growth.

There is a mature Scots pine growing directly adjacent to the lower trunk of T1 (Oak).

BASE:

Base of the Oak's trunk pushes up directly against that of an adjacent Scots pine. Area of included bark between the stems to 0.4m above ground level. The Oak's trunk is also touching the concrete base / gravel board of the boundary fence.

STEM & UNIONS:

The trunk of the tree grows at a slight angle swept to the west towards the dwelling due to the proximity of the Pine. Epicormic shoots on lower trunk.

Multiple pruning cuts on trunks where branches have previously been removed. A large side branch has been removed on the east side of the trunk 6m above ground level. The wound cannot be easily viewed from within the garden of 21 Bramblegate. However, the wound shape suggests the wound may be the result of a 'flush out' whereby the branch is removed flat to the trunk and not to the branch collar in line with best practice. Good wound wood formation although due to nature of cut - some decay may be present.

Mature epic growth on trunk from 6.5m above ground level, forms a healthy low crown.

Stem becomes undulating and corkscrews slightly 10m above ground level. Three way stem fork with larger stem approximately 350 mm diameter. Suppressed stem kinks low before extending horizontally to the west over garden of number 21 Bramblegate.

CANOPY:

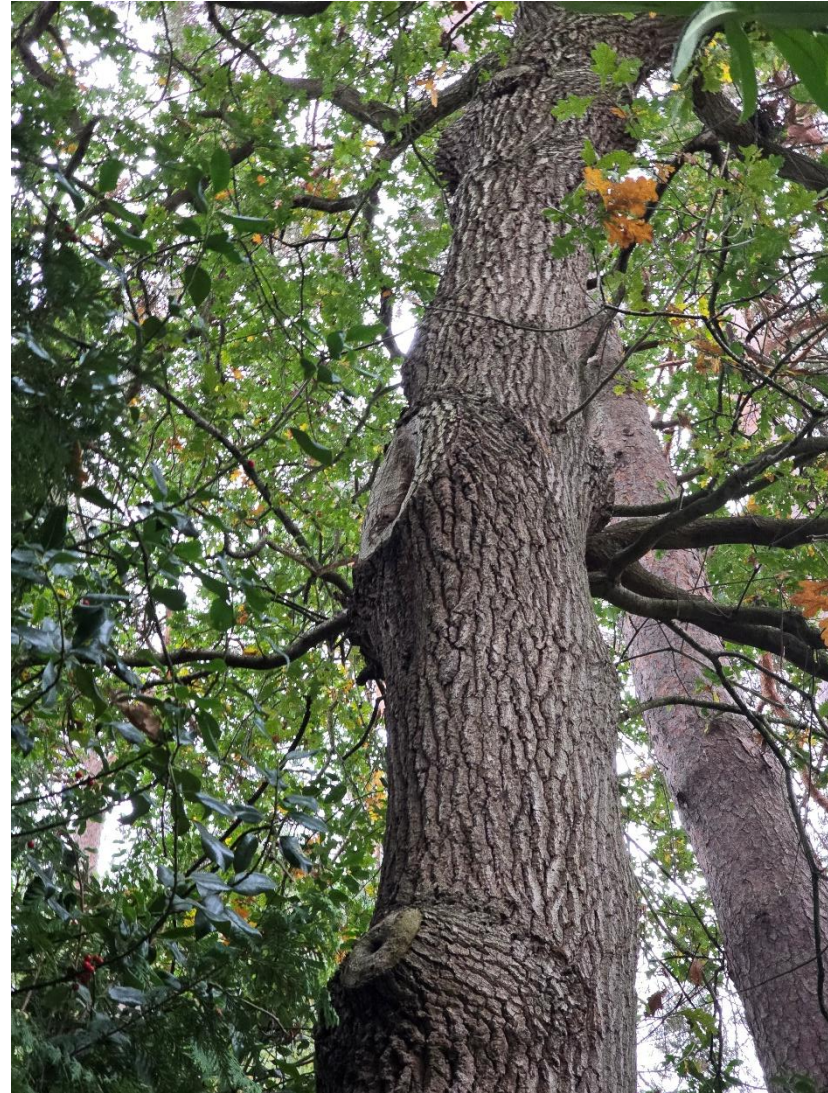
Smaller branches form fork & lower epicormic growth form a well-shaped crown above which the extended upper limb protrudes. Etiolated branches. Foliage dense and even. Good vitality.

DISCUSSION:

T1 is a healthy mature tree which has a very asymmetrical crown which is the result of positive phototropism (growing towards the light). This has resulted in an overly slender crown growing out over the garden. A selective reduction of the tips of this elongated branch is recommended to improve the structure and form of the tree. The works will reduce the apical dominance of the side limb and encourage the growth of the vertical branches in the crown.

Recommended Tree Works: Reduce tips of elongated limb on west side of crown by approximately 3.5m back to in line with lower crown. Reason: to reduce the apical dominance of the side limb and encourage the growth of the vertical branches in the crown.	Priority	Within 6 months
	Re-inspection due	24 Months
	Date	14 th October 2025

6. GALLERY





7. SITE PLAN

