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### Trees under control

### Dealing with trees is not always easy. A Local Authority may demand a document about trees in relation to your development? Do you want to invest your money in the property market and insurance, or mortgage lender require you to provide the Arboricultural report? Have you been asked by a building surveyor that you need arboricultural report to support the subsidence case? Do you own or manage the land working on tight budgets and do want to know the risk, which may cause the harm or injury of site users by trees? Or you just want to be informed about the safety of the tree which you have on your land?

### Either way, if you develop, buy or maintain trees or have issue with them and you are asked to provide the evidence to support your causes, we have the answer. Not all tree management companies may have knowledge or qualify to provide valid legal documents, and even they sometimes have to seek advice. If you want to get in touch with the independent professionals. We have experience and provide expertise with a tree risk mitigation, planning advisory, construction methodology and legislation about trees. We promote sustainable environment resilient to climate change in which urbanism meets nature in perfect balance.

## Arboricultural services in relation to the development

### Tree Survey in relation to the development BS5837

Trees are recognised as a material for consideration in the determination of planning applications. Developers should provide tree constraint plans, which are important elements in the evaluation of planning applications. We are specialists of providing survey of trees and significant vegetation in relation to a development. Our survey follows current Visual Tree Assessment methodology and tree amenity valuation, which is in line with BS5837. We are using the GIS based software and plot the data using GPS unit with >0.5m accurancy\* or provided topographical plan. We identify tree condition, suitability of the retention and estimate life expectancy on which basis we determine tree amenity value into 4 categories:

#### Category **A** – trees of high quality and value, with an estimated life expectancy of at least 40 years.

#### Category **B** – trees of moderate quality and value. An estimated life expectancy of at least 20 years.

#### Category **C** – trees of lower quality and value. An estimated life expectancy of at least 10 years, and with a stem diameter of up to 150mm measured at 1.5m from ground level.

#### Category **U** – dead, dying or unsuitable for retention. Life expectancy of less than 10 years

Following the BS5837 categorisation.

### Tree Constraints Report

On the basis of the Tree development survey we can produce the report, which identifies constraints of the site referring to a Root Protection Area and amenity value of trees. The document help landscape architects to find opportunities for a development relating to existing tree population and summarise amenity value and retention category of trees on site.

### Arboricultural Impact Assessment

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment is required as a supplement for the planning application. The report includes the Tree Protection Plan and genuine Arboricultural Method Statement, which can be detailed if the construction methods are agreed by stakeholders. We have extensive experience and expertise in producing Arboricultural Impact Assessments for small and large developments from building extension to large multi-unit development schemes.

### Arboricultural Method Statement

Often proposed development may be subject of a planning condition. The Arboricultural Method Statement provides detailed information about the protection measures, work sequence, and methodology based on the technical evidence, site constraints. The report is used for discharging planning condition enforced by the Local Authority and serves as a definitive guide relating to existing trees for contractors. We work closely with landscape architects, construction engineers and building contractors to find most feasible solution for more challenging construction situation involving tree protection. We value expert inputs of all sides and create environmentally and economically sustainable output.

## Tree management services

### Tree Inventory and management plans

For cost effective solutions of management of the trees. We provide survey of the all trees and significant vegetation (above 75mm diameter unless stated differently) with Georeferenced location on which basis we produce the report informing tree owners and property managers about tree population located on a site. During the survey we capture obvious defects on the trees and recommend mitigation actions based on the tree location and educated opinion. We have wide variety of the experience of surveying trees in public realm and private properties of various sizes.

### Tree risk inspections

We are specialist in recognising any structural defect on the trees which may pose unreasonable risk to the users of the site or other targets in the target zone. All our surveyors are qualified with LANTRA Professional Tree Risk Assessment, which is recognised as an industry standard in UK for providing a basic tree risk assessments. In addition, our members of staff are fully qualified in using ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification and Quantitative Tree Risk methodology, which are closely related to Health and Safety guidance and are easier to interpret the risk associated with the tree failure. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with your enquiry and we will be able to advice, which of the above assessments is most suitable for your needs.

## Property purchase, Mortgage and Insurance Arboricultural services

Our site inspection and produced report evaluates potential of the direct or indirect damage caused by the tree to the structure. We evaluate tree condition, soil characteristic in relation to the property age and tree distance from the structure. Additionally, we identify the condition of trees and recommends remedial actions if required. The document is used as a supplement for property purchase or mortgage and insurance approval and is valid for 6 years.

## Tree Caused Subsidence

Subsidence may occur if tree roots uptake the soil moisture below the foundation on shrinkable clay. The soil is saturated during the winter as trees do not have leaves and such there is no water uptake. During the spring and summer months when tree roots are active and uptake soil moisture causing the clay soil particles shrink. This may be exaggerated by dry periods and damage can occur, where there were no problems with the subsidence. We use technical evidence and assess the tree and significant vegetation in relation to the structural damage and provide recommendation for mitigation action.

## About