Tree report

Kirton Lindsey Town Council, Lincolnshire.

Prepared by: Tree Generation on the 3rd of April 2024
Date of Inspection: 3rd of April 2024

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Tree Generation
Lincolnshire.
07719 143011

A report on all trees growing within control of the Town Council at The Green & Grove Steet Cemetery.

1 Introduction

Upon the consideration of their duty of care under the Occupiers Liability Act 1985, I have been asked by the Clerk on behalf of Kirton Lindsey Town Council to re-inspect all the trees growing within Grove Street Cemetery and The Green and provide recommendations for any remedial action I deemed necessary. The initial survey was carried out on the 3rd of March 2020 by Tree Generation.
Though I have inspected all the trees, I have only commented on ones which need remedial works or further investigation.

2 Conclusions and Summary

All works are laid out in the order of timescale within the main tree safety schedule.

Risk Priority 3
These are shown as orange on the attached work schedule and include felling one Lombardy poplar (T014). Though not a high risk T003 & T011 have dead hangers within the mid crown.

Risk priority 4
These are shown as green on the attached work schedule and include severing ivy, minor tree works or works which could be carried out over a longer timeframe. This category has been used where there is a low risk or works could be classed as management within an annual work programme.

It should be noted that all trees have a natural failure rate. This failure has long been classed as Act of God.

It should also be noted that the trees I have commented on as needing work are on land managed by the Town Council. The targets include buildings, play areas, gravestones plus neighbouring properties roads & footpaths and as such are classed as low to moderate targets.

Weather conditions throughout the surveys:

Slight breeze, overcast skies with rain showers, and a temperature of 9°C.

3 Instructions

As requested, I have now inspected all the trees as directed and am pleased to report on the following:

(i) The condition, health, and safety of the inspected trees.

(ii) Recommendations for the future management.

4 Qualifications and experience.

I have been working professionally with trees since 1989, and so because of this I have always had to visually inspect trees.

I hold the LANTRA Professional tree inspectors award, and if required will request further investigation from other professionals within various fields.

5 Report limitations

My inspection of the tree was carried out from ground level with aid of a sounding hammer, probe, and binoculars: should a further inspection be required it will be highlighted in my recommendations.

Height & distance measurements are carried out using a Nikon™ Forest Pro Clinometer.

During the survey, a Samsung Galaxy™ tablet which has OTISS tree survey software installed was used to capture all the information including photographs if required. The device accuracy is stated as ≤2m. Whilst not as accurate as a topographical survey, this method is considered to provide a fair representation of the positions of the trees surveyed. Tree positions should, however, be considered indicative only.

Where Ivy, sucker or shrub growth are present, I was only able to view those areas visible to me.

Trees and shrubs are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly. The health, condition and safety of trees should be checked by a competent person on a regular basis and would recommend downloading a copy of the latest NTSG (National Tree Safety Group) factsheets.

My conclusions and recommendations within this report are true to the best of my knowledge on the dates of inspection. The period of validity of one year may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions above or below ground close to the tree.

6 Findings

Field	Description
Survey & Site	Each inspection is carried out within a Survey. The Survey dictates the site for this tree.
Location	The location – stored as longitude/latitude in the GIS database. Also displayed as national grid references.
Reference	A reference name or number. e.g. T01, G14.
Other Reference	A TPO number, other reference(s), or tag number.
Species *	The Common Species and botanical name are presented as a single list. If the Tree Structure is a Group, Hedge, Shrubs or Woodland, then these are recorded as multiple species.
Variety	A variety or cultivar (text).
Description	A detailed description of the tree. For example: its general structure, its location, potential targets at risk, etc. This information tends to be unchanging between inspections.
Tree Structure	One of: Tree, Multi-stemmed tree, Group, Hedge, Stump, etc. This field determines whether the icon is a point or a polygon.
Age Class	One of: Newly Planted, Young, Semi mature, Early Mature, Mature, Over Mature, Veteran.
Life Expectancy	Estimate life expectancy or "remaining contribution" in years, e.g. 10+, 20+, etc.
Number of Stems	Number of stems in a multi-stemmed tree. If the Structure is a Group, Hedge, Shrubs or Woodland, then the Number of Trees for each species are automatically added up and the total stored in the this field for the group.
Inspection Cycle	How long before this tree should be inspected again, e.g. 1 Year, 2 Years, 5 Years, etc.
Condition	A summary of the overall condition: good, fair, poor, dead
Height	A measurement or estimate of the height in metres.
DBH	A measurement or estimate of the DBH in centi-metres. DBH means the diameter at breast height 1.5m.
Crown Radius	A measurement or estimate of the average crown radius in metres.
Survey Notes	Detailed notes of what was seen during this inspection.
Risk Assessment	*Matrix1.* Likelihood matrix. **Likelihood of Failure** / **Likelihood of Impacting Target** Very low | Low | Medium | High Imminent: Unlikely | Somewhat likely | Likely | Very likely Probable: Unlikely | Unlikely | Somewhat likely | Likely Possible: Unlikely | Unlikely | Unlikely | Somewhat likely Improbable: Unlikely | Unlikely | Unlikely | Unlikely *Matrix2.* Risk rating matrix. **Likelihood of Failure & Impact** / **Consequences of Failure** Negligible | Minor | Significant | Severe Very likely: Low | Moderate | High | Extreme Likely: Low | Moderate | High | High Somewhat likely: Low | Low | Moderate | Moderate Unlikely: Low | Low | Low | Low This is based on TRAQ the rating quantified by The International Society of Arboriculture and is based on the following principles.

Recommendation 1 Timescale 1	A set of recommendations for maintenance work or further inspections required. A timescale for these recommendations, e.g. No Action, Urgent, 6 Months, 1 Year, 2 Years, etc.
Recommendation 2 Timescale 2	Another set of recommendations for maintenance work or further inspections required. *As above…*
Recommendation 3 Timescale 3	Long term set of recommendations for maintenance work or further inspections required. *As above…*

- **Photos –** If required pictures are taken to show the defect, current condition and remedial action required.

The above priorities recognise the practicalities of organising remedial works, e.g., an element of risk exists if any tree has a defect and it is located near a person's property, the Law states that landowners should do what is "reasonably practical" to reduce that risk.

Other considerations when prioritising works are the impact on wildlife; **it is an offence under the *Wildlife and Countryside Act*** to intentionally or recklessly disturb bats or nesting birds. This would not preclude the carrying out of urgent safety works (although prior liaison with the relevant bodies would be a requirement).

It will be essential that operators carrying out works observe the requirements of the act if encountering protected wildlife. This may include temporary postponement or seeking of a licence from Natural England.

7 Comment

The following are mentioned within the tree schedule, and are worthy of explanation:

A Crown Dieback/deadwood

The crown of most trees contains small quantities of deadwood which may warrant immediate remedial works. However, as a tree declines significant dieback can cause an indication of dysfunction. Occasionally trees will dieback in response to stress (e.g., drought, water logging, or compaction) and show recovery when the soil conditions are improved.

Several the inspected trees contain small to medium quantities of deadwood. Deadwood makes an important contribution to the wildlife food chain and need only to be removed where it poses a perceived risk to persons or property.

B Internal Decay

Trees may contain varying degrees of internal decay, normally following damage, and colonisation by decay pathogens. This can be and often is compartmentalised and need not immediately create a critical weakness, plus it is also a major benefit to wildlife.

Occasionally “Slime Flux” will be seen to weep from wounds/cavities. This is often the product of an organism known as *Bacterial Wetwood.* The alkaline substance produced is potentially toxic to the tree, but rarely enters the trees’ transport systems, and in the meantime serves to exclude more harmful pathogens.

Large wounds remain as a potential entry point for decay Pathogens for many years. When considering tree surgery work, every effort should be made to minimise wound size, e.g., by reducing the size of branch rather than removing the whole branch.

C Ivy

It is often thought that ivy kills trees – this is not strictly accurate ivy is a climber, which grows up the side of the tree, but can eventually smother the tree. It also increases the “sail area” of the crown and resistance to wind, potentially causing trees to fail earlier than they would otherwise have done.

Finally, of course heavy growth of ivy can obstruct more serious stem defects.

D Hangers

Loose hanging branches are often present in the crowns of maturing trees. It is important to periodically check for and remove any loose branches in the crowns. These are more easily identified when trees are without leaves.

E Common Fungal fruiting bodies

There are several specific fungi which are associated with trees which commonly include:

***Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (ASH DIEBACK) –** A disease, which was first discovered within East Anglia in 2012, and since that time has worked its way across the country. This is of a serious concern to landowners with large numbers of trees within striking distance of targets. Signs of the disease are.

- Spots on the leaves
- Wilted leaves
- Branches losing their leaves (dying back)
- Dark patches sometimes diamond shaped called lesions, on the branches/unions and or trunk.

A four -part system has been developed to help assess the health of ash trees by gauging the amount of dieback within the crown. Other problems such as drought stress or root issues cause crowns to look sparse though general crown health is a quick and useful gauge of the tree's overall health.

Class 1. 100% - 76% of crown remains.

Class 2. 75% - 51% of crown remains.

Class 3. 50% - 26% of crown remains.

Class 4. 25% - 0% of crown remains.

Once it is clear what stage the crown is at, a management strategy can be put in place. Trees can be "dead wooded" or reduced to allow them to be retained in the landscape for a longer period. Though if dieback is more severe or a budget does not allow for continued management/maintenance then felling and replacing with alternative species may be the only option left.

***Inonotus hispidus* (Shaggy bracket)** – An annual bracket fungus often associated with ash. Fruiting bodies are a yellow orange colour which then turns to black – This is what is most likely to be visible and can be quite large.
Causes a white rot which can be decayed rapidly with stem failure as a result.

***Kretzschmaria deusta* (Brittle cinder)** – A species easily missed as it tends to appear in small pockets resembling charcoal in the buttress roots of most broadleaved species, especially beech.
Causes a white rot which degrades the tensile strength of the roots and lower stem with ceramic type failures occurring.

***Ganoderma applanatum & australe* (Artist's fungi & Southern bracket)** – Perennial fungi which can be difficult to tell apart hence why in the report it states *spp* for species. These can grow for many years and as a result can get quite large. They tend to be quite slow in decaying living wood and as a result the tree if reasonably healthy can grow reactive growth to compensate.
Causes a white rot which can lead to failure though usually in association of another pathogen.

***Armillaria mellea* (Honey fungus)** – A large group of species which are annual and appear for a relatively short time in clusters around the base of many species of tree. More commonly seen are the black "Boot lace" *rhizomorphs* in the ground and under the bark of affected trees.
Causes a white rot and in some cases can kill a healthy tree relatively quickly.

In all cases, where there is a perceived risk to road users or property, I have suggested further investigation or remedial works.

8 General

Before authorising any tree works, you should confirm (via your Local Planning Authority) if the trees are the subjects of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), or if they are within a Building Conservation Area.

If the TPO is in place, then statutory approval is required **before** any works can take place. If located in a Building Conservation Area, then the local Authority must be given six weeks advance notice of intent.

When engaging the services of a tree surgeon, please, use only properly qualified and experienced companies and always check that they carry Public and Products Liability Insurance, and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance.

All tree works should be carried out in accordance with "current industry best practice".

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Vessey

Report completed 3rd of April 2024.

References:

The Body Language of Trees – Mattheck & Breloer

Updated Field Book – C. Mattheck.

NTSG, Common Sense Risk Assessment of Trees.

Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management – D. Lonsdale.

Ash dieback disease: a guide for tree owners (June 2020) – The Tree Council

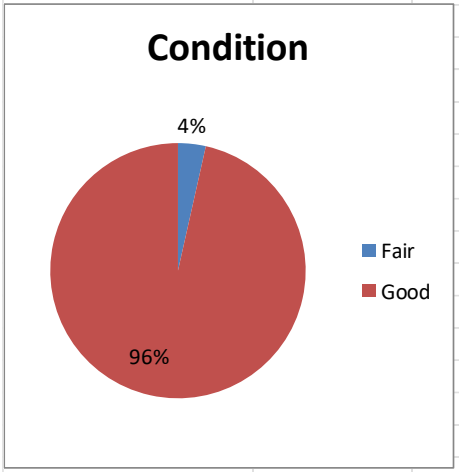
Site name	Kirton Lindsey Town Council
Site risk level	Medium Risk
Survey reference	KLTC0424

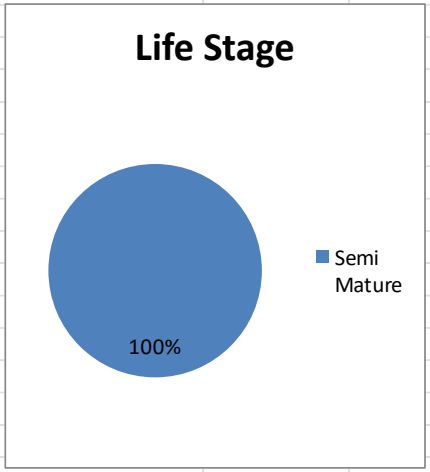
Condition	No. trees
Fair	2
Good	55
Total	57

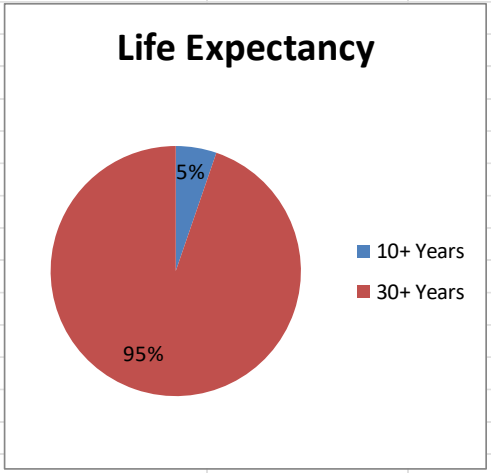
Life Stage	No. trees
Semi Mature	57

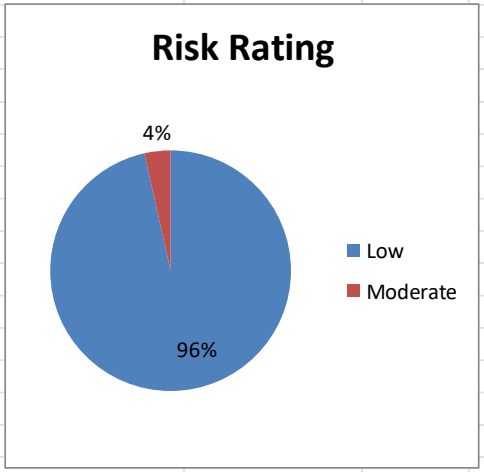
Life Expectancy	No. trees
10+ Years	3
30+ Years	54

Risk Rating	No. trees
Low	55
Moderate	2
Total	57









Tree Survey Report

Client: Kirton Lindsey Town Council

Condition	No. trees
Fair	2
Good	55
Total	57

Ref.	Location	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Structure	Risk Rating	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Inspect Period	Recommendations	Grid ref	what3words
T001	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target #- overhead wires. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 19 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Rubbing lateral to the south at 9m creating a weak point BT lines pass through the lower crown to the north at 5m. Minor deadwood circa <5cm diameter throughout the mid to upper crown	Tree	Low	Good	Fair	3 Years	Remove the rubbing lateral at the union. These works are to prevent future failure at this point. Timescale: 21-Sep-2024 (6 Months)	SK 93717 98746	///smart.awoken.magazines
T002	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - overhead wires. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Ivy over the lower stem prevents a full inspection from taking place. BT lines pass through the lower crown to the southwest at 6m. Minor deadwood throughout the mid to upper crown circa 5cm diameter	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Sever ivy to allow further investigation to take place. Timescale: 21-Sep-2024 (6 Months) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93727 98747	///dissolves.litters.dictation
T003	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - overhead wires. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 20 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Dead hanger to the southwest at 8m BT lines pass through the lower crown to the south at 6m.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Remove the dead hanger Timescale: 21-Jun-2024 (3 Months) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93736 98750	///rock.strictest.weddings

T004	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93745 98752	///hound.professes.visit
T005	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. Target # - street light. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 19 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Small diameter laterals to the south obscure the street light. Small diameter deadwood throughout the mid to upper crown.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Cut to give 30cm of clearance around the street light, removing branches less than 2cm diameter. Timescale: 21-Mar-2025 (1 Year) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93756 98753	///bombard.flitting.relies
T006	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 16 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93764 98755	///twists.transmitted.witless
T007	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Ivy over the lower stem prevents a full inspection from taking place.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Sever ivy to allow further investigation to take place. Timescale: 21-Sep-2024 (6 Months) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93773 98760	///blink.indicates.winter
T008	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 23 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Small diameter deadwood throughout the mid to upper crown, particularly to the south over the footpath, bus stop, and road.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Remove deadwood to the south Timescale: 21-Sep-2024 (6 Months) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93783 98761	///uncouth.mascot.helpful

T009	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 10 Crown Radius (m): 1 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Foliage: Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Sounding hammer notes internal decay within the lower stem to the east from ground level to 1.2m and 60cm wide, extending to the north by 30cm and the south by 45cm from point of decay. There is evidence of Kretzschmaria deusta to the south at 30cm. Tree has been pollarded at 7m as a result.	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93794 98768	///resting.sampled.upward
T010	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Minor deadwood throughout the mid to upper crown	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Remove deadwood or accept relatively low risk Timescale: 21-Mar-2025 (1 Year) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93804 98772	///louder.slap.transcribes
T011	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. A dead hanger circa 2cmx 2m to the southeast at 7m. Minor deadwood throughout the mid to upper crown circa 5cm diameter	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Remove the dead hanger Remove deadwood Timescale: 21-Jun-2024 (3 Months) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93813 98777	///today.banquets.snowy
T012	The Green	Broad-leaved lime *(Tilia platyphyllos)*	Owned by local council. Parkland tree. Roadside tree. Target # - footpath. Target # - playground. Target # - road. - Within drip line. - Occupancy - Frequent(3). - Not practical to move the target. - Not practical to restrict access to the target zone.	Height (m): 17 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	Vigour: Good Wind Exposure: Partial. Crown Size: Medium. Crown Density: Dense. Interior Branches: Dense. Ivy over the lower stem prevents a full inspection from taking place. Minor deadwood throughout the mid to upper crown	Tree	Low	Good	Good	3 Years	Mitigation Actions 1: Sever ivy to allow further investigation to take place. Timescale: 21-Sep-2024 (6 Months) Long term Recommendations: Monitor for change Timescale: 21-Mar-2026 (2 Years)	SK 93824 98780	///husky.openly.introduce