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Tree Condition Assessment
Prepared for

Harberton Parish Council Parks and Green Space

Prepared by
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Date: 17th September 2025

Version: 1

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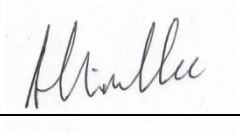
Client:	Harberton Parish Council – Cat Radford	Ref:	AK/754/170925
Location:	• Harberton Playing Fields, Harberton, Totnes, Devon • Harbertonford Playpark, Harbertonford, Totnes, Devon.		
Date of site Inspections:	8th September 2025		
Survey Inspector(s):	Aran Kimberlee BSc (Hons) Arboriculture, PGCert Ecology, M Arbor A, PTI, Vet Cert.		
Report Author:	Aran Kimberlee BSc (Hons) Arboriculture, PGCert Ecology, M Arbor A, PTI, Vet Cert.		
Signature:		Date:	17th September 2025

The statements made in this report do not take account of extreme climate, vandalism or accident, whether physical, chemical or fire. The author cannot therefore accept any liability in these factors, nor where prescribed work is carried out in an incorrect and/or unprofessional manner in accordance with current good practice. The authority of this report ceases at any stated time limit within it, or if none is stated after two years from the date of the survey or when site conditions change, or pruning or other works unspecified in the report are carried out to, or affecting, the subject tree(s), whichever is sooner.

1.0 Instruction and Purpose of Report

1.1 I have been verbally instructed by Cat Radford to carry out a tree safety inspection of the significant trees growing within the boundaries of Harberton Playing fields and playpark and Harbertonford Playpark, near Totnes in Devon.

1.2 The purpose of my inspection was to assess the structural integrity of the trees on-site and the level of risk the trees might pose to persons and property and to give appropriate recommendations, if any, for management of the trees. If significant risk features are observed in relation to targets then the risk of harm will be assessed using the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) system. The method of which is detailed below in section 5.0 of this report.

1.3 In addition, give appropriate recommendations, if any, for management of the trees in report format.

2.0 Report Methodology & Limitations

2.1 I carried out the survey on the 8th September 2025. The weather was fine and the visibility good.

2.2 The inspection process consisted of a general ground based visual assessment only. Any cavities or areas of decay that are accessible from ground level may have been probed with a thin metal instrument to assess the significance and extent of any decay. A nylon sounding hammer may also have been used to help detect the presence of any internal decay in the main trunk and/ or larger stems. Binoculars may have been used in order to assist inspection of the upper canopy. Where a further more detailed inspection is required this will be indicated within the recommendations.

2.3 The assessment consisted of an above ground inspection only and soil type has not been ascertained on site. Therefore, this report makes no reference to the possible effects of tree roots and shrinkable soils, and any possible effects on building foundations or underground services.

2.4 Unless otherwise specified in the recommendations, this report is valid for 12 months from the date of site inspection. The condition of trees can change due to the effects of pests and disease or following severe weather conditions or other abiotic factors. The report is valid only for typical weather conditions. Healthy trees or parts of healthy trees may fail in unusually high or unpredictable winds or violent storms and, as the consequences of such weather phenomena are unforeseeable, the author of this report cannot be held liable for any such failures.

2.5 The conclusions of this report will remain valid for 12 months from the date of the inspection, but any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole.

2.6 The trees on site have been tagged. A map showing the location of the trees has been included in appendix 6 of this report.

2.7 No estimated pedestrian or vehicular usage for any of the sites requiring tree inspection has been provided. This information is used to determine the appropriate target range when assessing the risk of failure of trees. Therefore, an estimated pedestrian and vehicular usage has been calculated whilst carrying out the survey. Should the client feel the site usage for pedestrians and vehicles or property values described at the detailed sites are inaccurate, then Dartforest Ltd. must be made aware of this matter as soon as possible in order for the report to be amended.

3.0 Site Details

3.1 The parks, recreational areas and green spaces detailed in section 1.1 of this report are owned/ managed by Harberton Parish Council. The sites contain a varied mix of species of tree, age ranges and tree sizes. The majority of sites contain early mature planted specimens with larger mature boundary ash, oak and sycamore trees.

3.2 The sites appeared to be moderately exposed at Harberton and more sheltered to the prevailing south westerly winds at Harbertonford. The site at Harbertonford are approximately 30 m above sea level and Harberton Playing Field is approximately 97m above sea level.

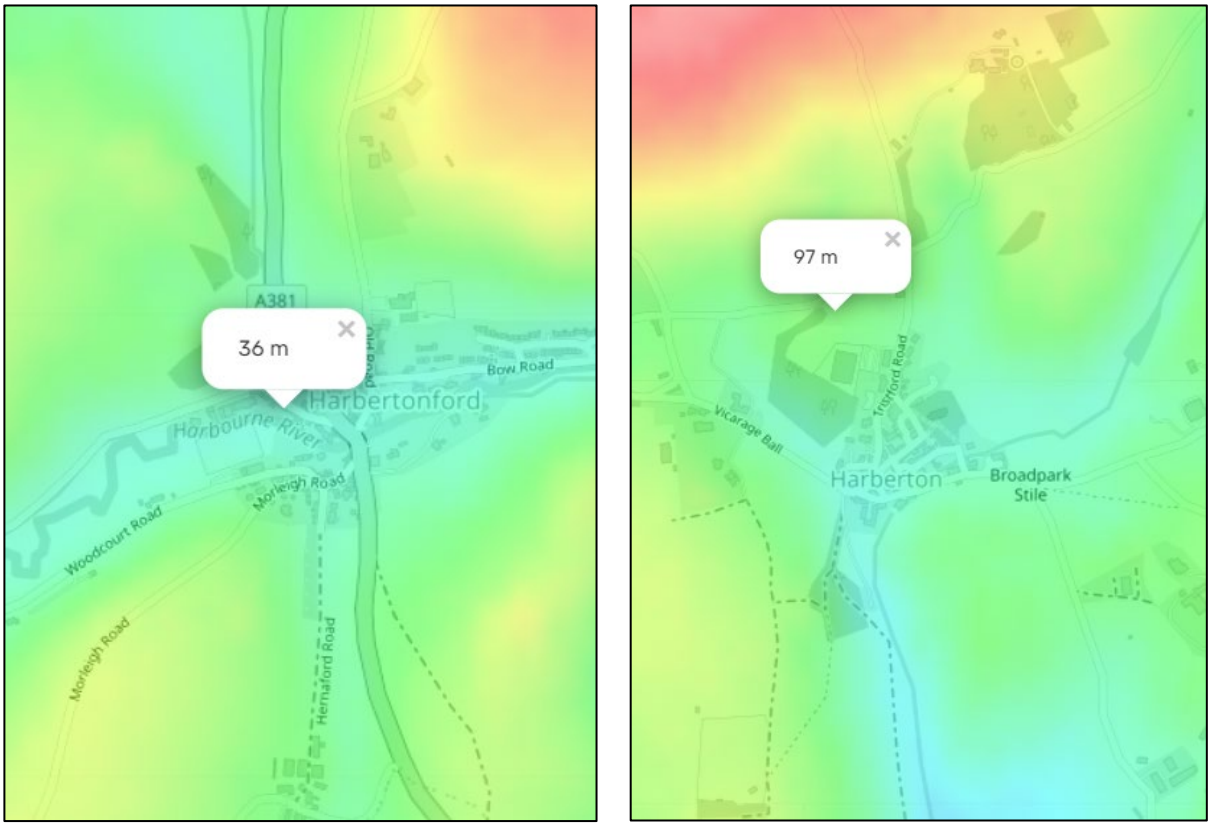


Figure 1: Site showing land height above sea level, taken from https://en-gb.topographic-map.com/

3.3 Soil type on-site has not been ascertained. However, the BGS Geology Viewer (*https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/*) indicates that the soil geology comprises of the following characteristics at these site:

- Harberton Playing fields and Harbertonford Play Park: Nordon Formation - Mudstone, siltstone, limestone and sandstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 393.3 and 372.2 million years ago during the Devonian period.

3.4 No checks have been carried out to ascertain any legal protection such as Tree Preservation Orders or Conservation Areas that might cover the site.

However, land owners and site managers should make their own enquiries with the relevant authorities prior to carrying out any work to trees.

4.0 Condition of Trees and Groups of Trees

4.1 Harberton Playing Fields

4.1.1 Harberton Playing field is a large green space which is located in the centre of the village of Harberton, near Totnes in Devon. The site includes the Village Hall, a play park and a car park with planted trees, hedges and shrubs. Within the playing field are a number of planted wooded areas and open grown trees. The western boundary

has several large mature oak and ash hedgerow specimens with a wooded area beyond.

4.1.2 Compartment 1 consists of mixed broadleaf trees surrounding the parking area, main access driveway, and children's playpark. A single semi-mature ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) is located on the bank adjacent to the lane leading into Harberton village. Several other ash trees are present within the wooded areas that screen the playing field from the playpark. These trees generally showed only minor symptoms of ash dieback (ADB) in their crowns and most appear stable, presenting a low risk at present.

However, the small ash tree adjacent to the main playpark (T1485) has been in decline for several years, with symptoms of dieback worsening annually. Although still assessed as a Broadly Acceptable risk, I recommend pollarding this tree, reducing the trunks to a height of 2–3 metres to allow potential regrowth as a smaller specimen. This work should be undertaken as resources (funds and time) permit.

Photographs 1 and 2: ash tree T1485 with ADB 2024 and 2025 (right).

4.1.3 Since the previous survey, some of the ash trees at the playing fields have declined further. These are young, etiolated specimens within the wooded group, but they are currently assessed as low risk.

4.1.4 Within the central belt of trees stands a single pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) with a swing attached to its lower branches. The tree has an open-grown crown of good form and reaches approximately 15 metres in height. The main trunk bifurcates at around 1.5 metres, forming an included union that appears stable at present. A threaded steel rod has recently been installed between the two stems above the union to provide additional structural support.

4.1.5 Compartment 2 comprises a banked wooded area of young ash, wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) growing alongside the original field boundary to the south-west. Along the hedgerow and within this wooded area, there is a large mature oak and a mature ash. Many of the younger ash in this group appear in a similar condition to that observed in 2024 and are considered low risk, given the limited target area.

4.1.6 The large ash tree that formerly supported a swing remains in good condition, showing only minor symptoms of ash dieback. It is considered to present a Broadly Acceptable risk.

4.2 Harbertonford Playpark

4.2.1 Harbertonford Playpark is a small public park in the village of Harbertonford, near Totnes, Devon. It is accessed from Riverdale, with an additional entrance from the grounds of Harbertonford Church of England Primary School. The playpark contains climbing apparatus, a small football pitch, several planted specimen trees, a willow (*Salix* spp.) arbor, and groups of historic coppiced boundary ash and sycamore *(Acer pseudoplatanus)*.

4.2.2 Compartment 1 consists of planted specimen trees and a willow arbor located near the play equipment. No significant risk features were observed during inspection. The hedge alongside the footpath from the school to the park has been cut back from the path. A young oak tree growing by the park gate has low-hanging branches which require crown lifting to achieve a clearance of approximately 2.5 metres above ground level.

4.2.3 Compartment 2 contains several larger boundary trees, historically coppiced, growing along the southern and western boundaries. On the southern boundary is a historically coppiced ash (now tagged 1485) with multiple stems arising at ground level. The easternmost stem has a significant bark inclusion where it adjoins another stem. In a previous survey (2020), movement was observed at this union, and a reduction of the ash group was recommended. These works were subsequently carried out.

However, during this inspection, significant basal decay was identified at the base of the stems, with cambial dysfunction extending upwards on the inner sides. Approximately three stems lean towards neighbouring gardens and property, increasing the risk of failure, particularly following the necessary coppicing of adjacent sycamores in 2024. I therefore recommend that all five stems are pollarded or high-coppiced, leaving stumps at approximately 2 metres in height.


Photographs 3 and 4: T1485 ash coppice showing decay at base of stems (let) and view of trees (left).

4.2.4 A group of sycamore and ash trees are growing on the western boundary of the park and overhang into Harbertonford Primary School. The ash within the group were in very poor condition in 2020 and it was recommended for both ash and sycamore to be pollarded along this boundary. These works have now been completed and the sycamore has responded well to this work with new regrowth. The ash regrowth has started to become diseased from ADB but is still alive and this tree should be monitored. No further works are required at present.

General Observation and Notes

4.3 During the survey I observed a number of ash trees within the sites and wooded areas which could be prone to Ash Dieback Disease. The stage of the disease has been classified using the guide produced by The Tree Council (2019) Ash Dieback Disease: A Guide for Tree Owners located in Appendix 4 of this report.

4.4 Ash Dieback Disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) (ADB) is a serious fungal pathogen that attacks ash trees and was first confirmed in Britain in 2012. The disease causes significant leaf loss, stem and branch lesions and crown dieback. It is reported that older mature trees can sometimes live with the disease but can become weakened or stressed and are therefore more susceptible to secondary fungal infections from honey fungus. Once a tree is infected there is no cure or treatment and the crown can die very quickly, modifying the structural condition of the wood sometimes as quick as in one season. Therefore, dead standing trees in high/ moderate target areas need to be removed or reduced fairly quickly. I advise all sites and areas with ash trees present to be continually monitored and inspected by a competent person on an annual or biannual basis, particularly during the summer months.

4.5 A note on deadwood. Deadwood is a vital component of forest ecosystems as well as urban environments, offering important habitats for saproxylic invertebrates and avifauna while posing a relatively low risk of harm due to its structural characteristics. Its presence supports biodiversity, nutrient cycling, and food web dynamics, making it an essential element of forest and urban forest management. Properly managed deadwood enhances the ecological health of sites while presenting minimal risk to persons and property.

4.6 Wherever possible, it is always advocated to leave stumps high or reduce high-risk trees requiring removal down to monoliths or standing deadwood (where appropriate). In many cases, retaining stumps in this way is preferable, as some trees have the potential to rejuvenate through epicormic growth or basal sprouting, eventually forming lower crowns. These lower crowns generally present a lower level of structural risk. Even when regeneration is unlikely, dead stumps, regardless of height, provide ecological value by offering habitat and food sources for a range of wildlife.

The balance between managing risk and recognising ecological value is important. Therefore, wherever possible, and where the assessed level of risk is considered tolerable or broadly acceptable, I will recommend this type of approach.

Standing deadwood offers a number of ecological benefits. It provides habitat for a variety of organisms, including saproxylic invertebrates, nesting birds, bats, fungi, and other species associated with the natural process of wood decay. Some of these species are highly specialised and depend on upright, decaying wood structures that are often missing from managed environments. These standing features may support full life cycles for certain organisms, particularly those that rely on specific types of decaying wood or internal cavities found in upright stems.

In addition, standing deadwood contributes to structural diversity in the environment, offering opportunities such as perching, nesting, and shelter that are

less commonly found in fallen wood. The upright position of standing deadwood can create different microhabitats, which are not replicated by timber left to decay on the ground.

By considering both the potential ecological benefits and the level of risk, and applying a balanced, site-specific approach, it is possible to support biodiversity while still meeting safety and management requirements.

4.7 The risk associated with unpredictable branch loss due to factors such as summer branch drop cannot be quantified. Should these trees lose additional, relatively healthy and structurally sound branches within the period covered by this report, I advise that these trees would then require re-assessment as soon as possible after the event.

5.0 Tree Risk Assessment

5.1 The Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) system applies established and accepted risk management principles to tree safety management. Firstly, the targets (persons and property) upon which trees could fail are assessed and quantified, thus enabling tree managers to determine whether or not and to what degree of rigour a survey or inspection of the trees is required. Where necessary, the tree or branch is then considered in terms of both impact potential (size) and the probability of failure. Values derived from the assessment of these three components (target, impact potential and probability of failure) are combined to calculate the probability of significant harm occurring.

5.2 The system moves the management of tree safety away from labelling trees as either "safe" or "unsafe", thereby requiring definitive statements of tree safety from either tree surveyors or tree managers. Instead, QTRA quantifies the risk of significant harm from tree failure in a way which enables tree managers to balance safety with tree value and operate to a predetermined limit of reasonable or acceptable risk.

5.3 The QTRA system also require an allocated target range; mapping of land use by road classification; estimated levels of pedestrian occupation; and estimated structure values. Whilst surveying I only saw a brief glimpse of site usage on the site and therefore, I advise that my target appraisal is considered against the knowledge of site managers or users.

5.4 The target ranges can vary from each site. The ones used during the risk assessment are as follows:

- Target 1: Estimated pedestrian usage 720-73 per hour; property repair or replacement cost £2 000 000 – £200 000 and/or 47000 – 4800 vehicles per day at 30 mph.

- Target 2: Estimated pedestrian usage 72-8 per hour; property repair or replacement cost £200 000 – £20000 and/or 4700 – 480 vehicles per day at 30 mph.

- Target 3: Estimated pedestrian usage 7-2 per hour; property repair or replacement cost £20 000 – £2000 and/or 470 – 48 vehicles per day at 30 mph.

- Target 4: Estimated pedestrian usage 1-per hour – 3 per day; property repair or replacement cost £2000 – £200 and/or 47 – 6 vehicles per day at 30 mph.

5.5 Should the client consider this estimate to be inaccurate they should report back to Dartforest Limited so that the risk assessment can be refined.

5.6 QTRA Advisory Thresholds

Thresholds	Description	Action
1/1 to 1/1000	**Unacceptable** Risks will not ordinarily be tolerated	• Control the risk
1/1000 to 1/ 10 000	**Unacceptable** (Where imposed on others) Risks will not ordinarily be tolerated	• Control the risk • Review the risk
	Tolerable (by agreement) Risks may be tolerated if those exposed to the risk accept it, or the tree has exceptional value	• Control the risk unless there is broad stakeholder agreement to tolerate it, or the tree has exceptional value • Review the risk
1/ 10 000 to 1 000 000	**Tolerable** (Where imposed on others) Risks are tolerable if as low as reasonably possible (ALARP)	• Assess costs and benefits of risk control • Control the risk only where a significant benefit might be achieved at reasonable cost • Review the risk
1/ 1 000 000 or less	**Broadly Acceptable** Risk is already as low as reasonably possible (ALARP)	• No action currently required • Review the risk

Source: Quantified Tree Risk Assessment User Manual V5.1.3

5.7 The risk of harm from all the trees excluding T1485 has been calculated at 1/ 1 000 000 which is within the Broadly Acceptable threshold (Risk is already ALARP). The recommended tree works should be considered in terms of both risk management and long-term management of the tree.

5.8 The risk of harm from T1485 has been calculated at 1/ 4000 which is within the Unacceptable threshold and therefore, the risk should be controlled.

6.0 Recommendations

Tree No.	Location	Species	Observations	Recommendations	Work Priority
T1485	Harberton Playing Fields	Ash	• Progressively in poorer physiological condition than when viewed in 2024.	• Consider pollarding at 2-3 metres in height.	**Low – Works recommended to be carried out whenever budgets allow.**
C1	Harbertonford play park	Mixed Broadleaf	• Ornamental and self-seeded specimen trees around play park equipment. • Oak at main gate has low overhanging branches	• Crown raise low branches at park gate entrance up to 2.5 m from ground level.	**Low – Works recommended to be carried out whenever budgets allow.**
T1485	Harbertonford play park	Ash	• Progressively in poorer physiological condition than when viewed in 2024.	• Consider pollarding at 2-3 metres in height.	**High- Risk is unacceptable and remedial works should be carried out within 2 months.**

6.1 In the event of any new defects, concerns or the occurrence of seasonal fungal fruiting bodies on any of the trees with high targets, Dartforest Limited should be contacted as soon as possible in order to re-assess the tree/s and update this report.

6.2 All tree works should be undertaken to BS3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Works. It is strongly recommended that any tree surgery works are undertaken by highly skilled and qualified contractors.

End AK/754/170925

7.0 Bibliography

British Standards Institution (2010) British Standard Recommendations for Tree Work -BS 3998:2010

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Schwarze F.W.M.R (2008) Diagnosis and Prognosis of the Development of Wood Decay in Urban Trees *ENSPEC*

The Tree Council (2019) Ash Dieback Disease: A Guide for Tree Owners

Appendix 1: Tree Schedule Heading and Abbreviations

Tree No.	Identifying number classed as either Individual (T), Group (G), Area (C), Compartment (C) or Woodland (W)	
Species	Species common and/ or Latin	
Age Range	Y	Young -Recently planted or established tree.
	SM	Semi-Mature – Grown less than one third of the species life expectancy.
	EM	Early Mature – Grown one to two thirds of the species life expectancy.
	M	Mature – Grown over two thirds to completed life expectancy.
	V	Veteran – A tree that shows biological, aesthetic or cultural interest due to its age, size or condition.
Height	Given in meters and either estimated or measured with inclinometer	
Stem dia.	Tree stem diameter recorded in millimeters at breast height (DBH – 1.5m) from ground level.	
Vitality	General physiological condition of the tree recorded as Good (G), Moderate (M), Poor (P) or Dead (D).	
Structural cond.	Structural condition of tree identifying severity of any potential defects or features that may cause failure of parts or all the tree, given as Good (G), Moderate (M), Poor (P).	
Observations	General observations of tree(s) detailing defects, features, pathogens and potential wildlife features.	
Recommendations	General management recommendations for the tree(s) informed by the survey and risk assessment.	
Target Size	Highest value target that the most significant part likely to fail could strike. ranges 1-6. 1 = high, 6 = low value/occupancy	
Size Range	Size category of most significant part considered likely to fail. ranges 1-5. 1 = large, 5 = small	
Probability of Failure	Probability of failure within 12 months. ranges 1-5. 1 = high, 7 = low	
QTRA Risk In Index	Risk of significant harm ¸ 1,000 = risk index (e.g. risk index 20 = risk of significant harm 1 in 20,000)	

Appendix 2– QTRA Target Ranges

Target Range	Property (repair or replacement cost) Pro	Human (not in vehicles)	Vehicle Traffic (number per day)	Ranges of Value
1	£2 000 000 – >£200 000	**Occupation:** **Pedestrians & cyclists:** Constant – 2.5 hours/day 720/hour – 73/hour	26 000 – 2 700 @ 110kph (68mph) 28 000 – 2 900 @ 100kph (62mph) 31 000 – 3 200 @ 90kph (56mph) 32 000 – 3 300 @ 80kph (50mph) 36 000 – 3 700 @ 70kph (43mph) 42 000 – 4 300 @ 60kph (37mph) 47 000 – 4 800 @ 50kph (32mph)	1/1 – >1/10
2	£200 000 – >£20 000	**Occupation:** **Pedestrians & cyclists:** 2.4 hours/day – 15 min/day 72/hour – 8/hour	2 600 – 270@ 110kph (68mph) 2 800 – 290@ 100kph (62mph) 3 100 – 320@ 90kph (56mph) 3 200 – 330@ 80kph (50mph) 3 600 – 370@ 70kph (43mph) 4 200 – 430@ 60kph (37mph) 4 700 – 480@ 50kph (32mph)	1/10 – >1/100
3	£20 000 – >£2000	**Occupation:** **Pedestrians & cyclists:** 14 min/day – 2 min/day 7/hour – 2/hour	260 – 27@ 110kph (68mph) 280 – 29@ 100kph (62mph) 310 – 32@ 90kph (56mph) 320 – 33@ 80kph (50mph) 360 – 37@ 70kph (43mph) 420 – 43@ 43kph (37mph) 470 – 48@ 50kph (32mph)	1/100 – >1/1 000
4	£2 000 – >£200	**Occupation:** **Pedestrians & cyclists:** 1 min/day – 2 min/week 1/hour – 3/day	26 – 4@ 110kph (68mph) 28 – 4@ 100kph (62mph) 31 – 4@ 90kph (56mph) 32 – 4@ 80kph (50mph) 36 – 5@ 70kph (43mph) 42 – 5@ 60kph (37mph) 47 – 6@ 50kph (32mph)	1/1 000 – >1/10 000
5	£200 – >£20	**Occupation:** **Pedestrians & cyclists:** 1 min/week – 1 min/month 2/day – 2/week	3 – 1@ 110kph (68mph) 3 – 1@ 100kph (62mph) 3 – 1@ 90kph (56mph) 3 – 1@ 80kph (50mph) 4 – 1@ 70kph (43mph) 4 – 1@ 60kph (37mph) 5 – 1@ 50kph (32mph)	1/10 000 – >1/100 000
6	£20 – £2	**Occupation:** **Pedestrians & cyclists:** <1 min/month – 0.5 min/year 1/week – 6/year	None	1/100 000 – 1/1 000 000

Appendix 3: Individual Tree Risk Survey – Harberton Playing Fields

Tree No/ ID	Tree Species	Age Range	Height (m)	Spread (m)	Stem Dia. (mm)	Structural Condition	Vitality	Comments	Management Recommendations	Target Range	Size Range	PoF	Risk Index
C1	Mixed Broadleaf-	Y	Up to 12	-	Up to 450	G	G	• Screening trees on bank in car park. • Mix of ornamental planted specimens. • Group of screening trees and scrub between play Park and field. • Three ash trees growing in play park area have varying degrees of ADB. Although considered low risk at present. • Oak with included union to monitor, now bolted.	• Monitor Ash trees annually during summer months for Ash Dieback Disease.	2	2	6	<1M
C2	Mixed Broadleaf	M-EM	Up to 20	-	Up to 1050	G	G	• Trees growing on boundary bank and wooded planted area. • Planted young specimens of cherry, hazel and ash. • Large mature boundary oak and two ash. Ash trees are in good physiological condition.	• None	3	1	5	<1M
C3	Copper Beech, Oak, Cherry, Hazel	EM	Up to 15	-	Up to 560	G	G	• Small copse with fire pit. Boundary trees.	• No works required.	3	1	6	<1M
T1485	Ash	SM	10	4	280	M	P	• Progressively in poorer physiological condition than when viewed in 2024.	• Consider pollarding at 2-3 metres in height.	3	2	5	<1M

Appendix 3: Individual Tree Risk Survey – Harbertonford Play Park

Tree No/ ID	Tree Species	Age Range	Height (m)	Spread (m)	Stem Dia. (mm)	Structural Condition	Vitality	Comments	Management Recommendations	Target Range	Size Range	PoF	Risk Index
C1	Mixed Broadleaf	EM	Up to 10	-	Up to 250	G	G	• Ornamental and self-seeded specimen trees around play park equipment. • Oak at main gate has low overhanging branches	• Crown raise low branches at park gate entrance up to 2.5 m from ground level.	2	2	6	<1M
C2	Mixed broadleaf- Sycamore, Ash, Hazel, Willow	M	Up to 21	-	Up to 450	M	G	• Area of historic coppiced ash and sycamore growing on southern and western boundary. Sycamore stem in group with basal decay. • Ash recently reduced. • No change in condition of trees	• No works required.	3	2	6	<1M
T1484	Ash	M	21	10	Up to 320	P	M	• Old coppice stool with 5 stems arising from ground level. Previously reduced due to stem with included union. • Stems significantly decayed at base of at least three stems, including two leaning towards neighbouring property.	• Fell/ high coppice all 5 stems leaving a finished height of approx. 2 metres.	2	2	3	10K

Appendix 4: Stages of Ash Dieback Disease taken from
The Tree Council (2019) Ash Dieback Disease: A Guide for Tree Owners

Class 1 – 100% - 76% Crown present	
Class 2 – 75% - 51% Crown remains	
Class 3 – 50% - 26% Crown remains	
Class 4 – 25% - 0% Crown remains	

Appendix 5 – Statutory Obligations

Prior to any tree work being carried out it is recommended that professional advice is sought to ensure that the correct permissions are fully obtained for tree or woodland work as set out in this report. This includes, Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's), Conservation Areas, Planning Conditions, Felling Licenses or restrictions on the site such as the presence of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). In addition, the following restrictions should also be considered particularly where protecting European Protected Species (EPS) such as dormouse and all bat species.

All birds and their nests and eggs are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000), The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Habitat Regulations (2010). Many other species of animal are also protected including badgers and common and widespread amphibian species.

The following measures must be taken into account prior to works being carried out:

- Postponing or abandoning work around affected areas, i.e. undertaking works to vegetation likely to contain nesting birds outside of the bird nesting season;
- Seeking expert advice, i.e. contacting a suitably qualified bat worker where a tree is identified as being of high potential to support roosting bats;
- Modifying works to avoid affected areas, i.e. retaining trunks as standing dead wood where identified as being of habitat potential;
- Specifying works to be undertaken in such a way to reduce the impact of these works on protected species or habitats i.e. retaining ivy or dead wood wherever possible.

All tree works operators need to be aware of the current legislation regarding protected species and their habitats. Such as:

- Details of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, CROW Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 2010, detailing their effect on arboriculture;
- Guidance on bats and arboriculture;

Details of the Forestry Commission's Decision Tree for European Protected Species

Project: Harberton Playing Field - Tree Survey

Title: Compartment and Tree Locations Map

Client: Harberton Parish Council	Author: AK
Date: 19th September 2025	Ref: HPCHPTS

dartforest

Ash Tree Location

Compartment 2

Compartment 1

Project: Harbertonford Play Park Tree Survey	
Title:Compartment and Tree Location Map	
Client: Harberton Parish Council	Author: AK
Date: 19th September 2025	Ref: HPCHPP24

dartforest