LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON THAMES

January 2025 - Reactive Tree Works Programme

Introduction

A survey of trees in the Barnes and Twickenham wards is currently being undertaken; this is being conducted by specialist arboricultural officers as part of the scheduled 4 yearly detailed inspection regime that has been devised for all Council highway and parks trees.

On a monthly basis the Council's Arboricultural Officers undertake tree assessments that sit outside of the scheduled 4 yearly inspection programme, generally this is in response to customer enquiries.

These inspections take place to ensure that Council is compliant with the statutory duties which are highlighted within the Council's Adopted Tree Policy.

Recent reactive inspections have identified the need for 31 individual tree work operations to take place. This work will now be issued to the Council's Arborist Contractor KPS, for completion over the winter and spring period.

Unfortunately, and as to be expected with surveys of a large treestock with specimen of varying age and condition, we have identified trees that can no longer be safely retained, and we will therefore be carrying out complete removal. The Council will aim to plant replacement trees during the next planting season which runs from November through to March; in some instances, this timing of planting may be affected by the available Highway Management resources that are required to repair disrupted pavements.

We will be erecting notices upon each tree being removed, alerting the public to the proposals giving sufficient time for residents to log enquiries. Prior to the removal taking place signage will be erected informing of a date of works, this is to make vehicle owners aware of the need to leave any parking space free to allow the works to proceed in a safe and timely manner.

The following pages provide the locations of each tree that is to be removed, in addition photographs and descriptions of the inspection findings have been provided.

These trees are exempt from the duty to consult.

Dated 16.01.2025

Contents

Barnes

Ward	Barnes
Road	Lyric Road
Location	Outside 47/49
Species	Tibetan cherry (*Prunus serrula 'Tibetica'*)
Height	7.5m
Physiological Condition	Fair
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	A fungal fruiting body of the decay fungi Ganoderma sp. is present at the stem base. Colonisation by this fungus causes a white rot of the stem and root system that can cause entire trees to collapse through fracture or windthrow. A resonance test revealed an unacceptable degree of decay in the trunk of this tree. Removal is required to prevent natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Image shows tree in street scene,

Image shows fungal fruiting bodies circled in red on lower trunk.

Ward	Barnes
Road	Nassau Road
Location	Outside 45
Species	Lebanese wild apple (*Malus trilobata*)
Height	8.5m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Fair
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	This tree is moribund; removal is required to prevent natural failure, manage risk and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Image shows moribund tree in street scene.

Ward	Barnes
Road	Gerard Road
Location	Outside 76
Species	Flowering Crab Apple (*Malus x purpurea v eleyi*)
Height	8.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	A fungal fruiting body of the decay fungi Ganoderma sp. is present at the stem base. Colonisation by this fungus causes a white rot of the stem and root system that can cause entire trees to collapse through fracture or windthrow. A resonance test revealed an unacceptable degree of decay in the trunk of this tree. Removal is required to prevent natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Image shows tree in street scene.

Image shows fungal fruiting bodies circled in red on lower trunk.

Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside

Ward	Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside
Road	Buckingham Road
Location	Outside 25
Species	Swedish whitebeam (*Sorbus x intermedia*)
Height	10.0m
Physiological Condition	Fair
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	Major stem has failed from crown tree in recent storm due to a wide month union which is a weak form of branch union that is a point for failure to occur from which also had an unacceptable level of decay in the surrounding area. Removal is required to prevent further natural stem failures, manage risk, and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Image shows tree in street scene with failed stem.

Heathfield

Ward	Heathfield
Road	Ashley Drive
Location	Verge outside 46-48
Species	Japanese flowering crab apple (*Malus floribunda*)
Height	8.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	A fungal fruiting body of the decay fungi Ganoderma sp. is present at the stem base. Colonisation by this fungus causes a white rot of the stem and root system that can cause entire trees to collapse through fracture or windthrow. A recent stem failure and crown dieback indicates that the tree is under considerable physiological stress and has advanced decay to trunk. Removal is required to prevent further natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting

Site images:

Image shows tree with failed stem in street scene.

Image shows fungal fruiting body on trunk circled in red.

Image shows exposed internal decay in trunk circled in red.

Ward	Heathfield
Road	Montrose Avenue
Location	Outside 34/36
Species	Kanzan Flowering Cherry Tree (*Prunus Kanzan*)
Height	4.5m
Physiological Condition	Good
Structural Condition	Good
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	This tree is excessively leaning across the footway causing an unreasonable obstruction. Removal is required to manage the unacceptable risk of pedestrian injury and facilitate replanting

Site images:

Images shows tree in street scene with leaning trunk.

Mortlake and Barnes Common

Ward	Mortlake and Barnes Common
Road	Grosvenor Gardens
Location	Outside 40
Species	Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)
Height	5.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	This tree is moribund; removal is required to prevent natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting

Site images:

Image shows moribund tree in street scene.

North Richmond

Ward	North Richmond
Road	Rothesay Avenue
Location	Outside 22/24
Species	Common hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)
Height	5.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	A fungal fruiting body of the decay fungi Ganoderma sp. is present at the stem base. Colonisation by this fungus causes a white rot of the stem and root system that can cause entire trees to collapse through fracture or windthrow. A recent stem failure and crown dieback indicates that the tree is under considerable physiological stress and has advanced decay to trunk. Removal is required to prevent further natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting

Site images:

Image shows tree in street scene.

Image shows fungal fruiting body circled in red.

South Richmond

Ward	South Richmond
Road	Lower Grove Road
Location	East sheen cemetery - ///money.taps.export
Species	Conifer (*Cupressus* sp.)
Height	11.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	This tree state of physical decline with a failed union at the base of stem and exposing the remaining crown. Removal is required to prevent further natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Image shows moribund tree in cemetery scene.

Image shows failed union at base of trunk.

Twickenham Riverside

Ward	Twickenham Riverside
Road	London Road
Location	Opposite 47/49
Species	Tibetan cherry (*Prunus serrula 'Tibetica')*
Height	12.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	Fungal fruiting bodies of the cushion fungus (Phellinus pomaceus) are present on the main stem of this tree. This fungus causes a crumbly white rot that commonly causes this species of tree to snap. Removal is required to prevent natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Image shows tree in street scene.

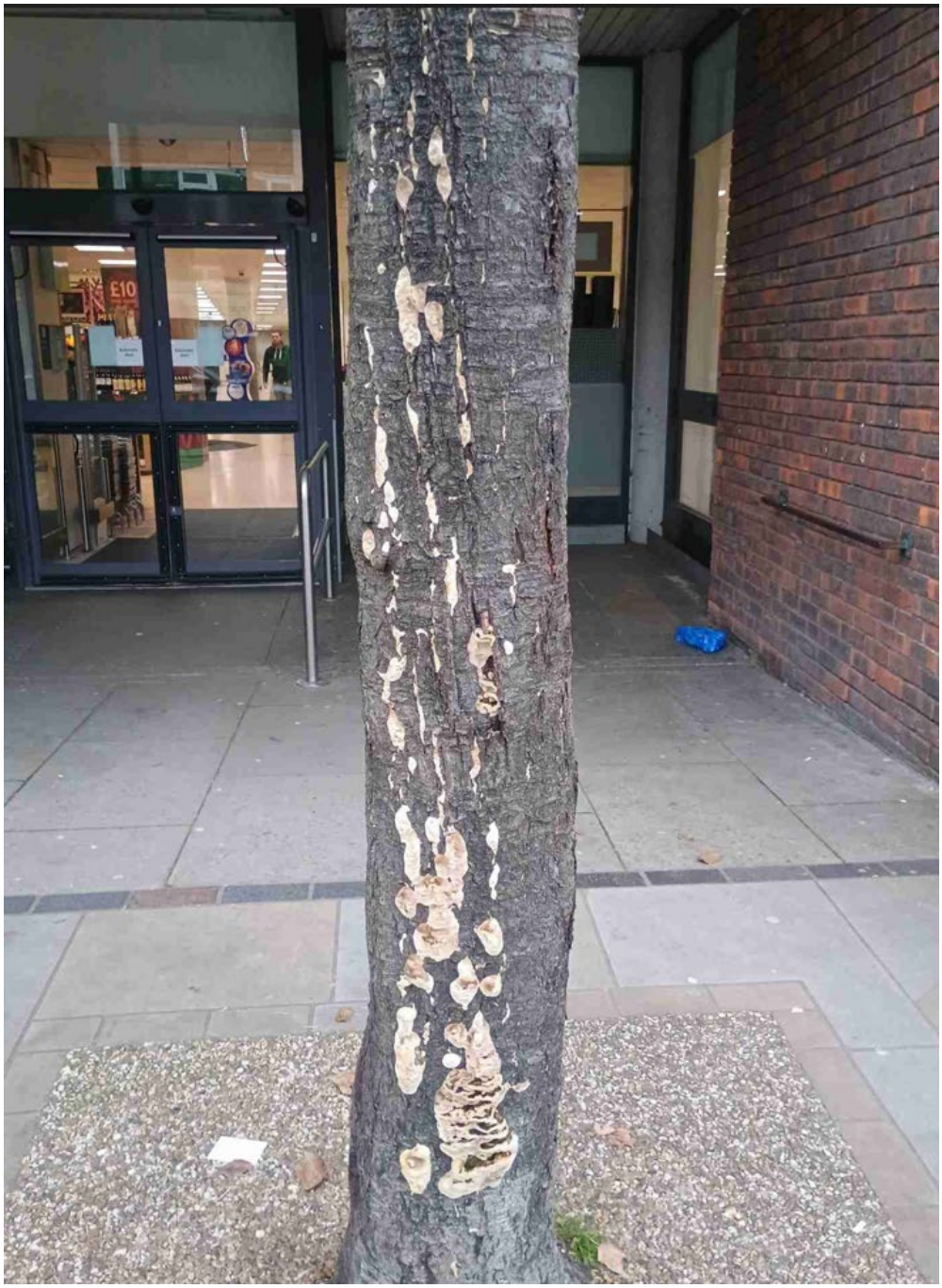

Image shows fungal fruiting bodies on trunk.

West Twickenham

Ward	West Twickenham
Road	Sixth Cross Road
Location	Opposite 92
Species	Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*)
Height	3.0m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Fair
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	This tree has been vandalised – unauthorised pruning has been undertaken resulting in the removal of the young trees crown. This will prevent the tree from forming a useful specimen. Removal is required to facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Images show vandalised tree in street scene.

Whitton

Ward	Whitton
Road	Nelson Road
Location	Outside 332
Species	Common Oak (*Quercus robur)*
Height	9.5m
Physiological Condition	Poor
Structural Condition	Poor
Inspection findings/reason for exemption	Fungal fruiting bodies of the decay pathogens Meripilus giganteus and Laetiporus sulphureus are present on this tree. Meripilus giganteus which is populating the base of the trunk, causing white and soft rot that degrades lignin and cellulose in the structural roots and butt, significantly weakening the tree's foundation and increasing the risk of complete failure. Laetiporus sulphureus is present in the crown, causing brown rot that rapidly breaks down cellulose and weakens the wood, heightening the likelihood of branch or whole tree failure through brittle fracture. Despite ongoing efforts to safeguard this tree, it has shown a history of structural and physiological decline, including a recent fungal collapse onto a vehicle. A resonance test has revealed severe decay in the lower stem, with crown dieback correlating to the fungal pathogens present. Given its deteriorating condition and proximity to private housing and a busy road, removal is necessary to prevent natural failure, manage risk, and facilitate replanting.

Site images:

Images shows moribund tree in street scene.

Images shows fungal fruiting bodies growing at base of trunk.