



# Tree Life's Tree Inspection Courses



Tree Life & our sister company Tree Legal Ltd are able to provide tree inspection courses at basic, professional and advanced levels.



## LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection:

### Format of the course:

The three-day course aims to provide specific tree inspection programme at an advanced level for competent arboriculturists to enable them to reach a level of competence that can be recognised as having received adequate training.

Candidates are required to inspect trees and specify the necessary remedial works and record the inspection process. This would then form part of a defensible system. The course is not aimed at covering report writing however, presentation of findings will be examined and advice given.

As a pre-requisite of attending the course it is fully expected that you will have a detailed knowledge of tree biology, the tree as an undamaged self-optimised structure, biological and mechanical weaknesses, pathology, legislation, remedial options and their likely implications and the British Standard 3998 Recommendations for Tree-work. Also any other specific arboricultural knowledge such as may affect detection and measurement of tree defects and recommendation of control measures that reduce the risk posed to an acceptable level.

It is also an opportunity for candidates to update their level of knowledge and its application to inspecting trees particularly if that previous knowledge was gained sometime ago.

**Assessment:** The objectives of the course will be assessed, by written question paper, fungi identification and practical tree inspection. At the end of the course candidates will undertake a competence based assessment directly related to tree inspection. The pass mark for the test is 70% overall and 70% in each of the two tree inspections.

## Basic Tree Inspection:

### Format of the course:

One-day duration aimed at highway engineers, tree wardens, rangers, contractors etc. Also as a preliminary course for contractors, dedicated tree inspectors, assistant and principal Arboricultural officers wishing to complete an advanced programme. Introducing candidates to tree inspecting and the basic principles.

### Objectives

- Identify obvious defects by visual inspection of the trees from ground level
- To record defects and place the tree in a broad category of hazard rating.
- Identify the required action upon finding a tree with an obvious defect.

This Course is designed to

### Assessment:

This course does not include an assessment at the end and so feedback so given in the form of a certificate and any suggested future actions for each individual candidate.

## Advanced Tree Inspection:

### Format of the course:

Candidates are to carry out and record data in the field in a systematic fashion using VTA as the observation process with the aid of binoculars, mallet, probe and confirm defects by the use of text books.

Identify a range of defects and disorders in the field and make appropriate management recommendations to include the recommendation for a more competent further or climbed inspection or investigations with decay detection and measurement equipment. Also to be able to prioritise works based on a broad category of risk evaluation.

### The days also include theory sessions on:

- The identification of the major fungal decay organisms, colonisation strategy, their mode of wood decay and significance when found.
- The principles of Biomechanics – Axiom of uniform stress, the tree as a mechanical self-optimised structure and the principle of the minimum lever arm.
- An introduction to phenology, the tree as a system, potential and kinetic energy and compartmentalisation of decay.
- An introduction to the range of decay detection and measuring equipment and their usefulness in providing additional information related to tree condition.