



Arborist Reports, Landscape Design, Tree services,
Landscaping & Irrigation Installation and Consultation.

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ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
51 Ryrie Street, Earlwood, NSW.

21 March 2022

This letter has been commissioned by Frank Scuccimarra on behalf of Angela Scuccimarra (the owner) to discuss the health, stability and longevity of a single tree at the above address. An initial arborist site visit was undertaken on the 7th of October 2021, a Visual Tree Inspection (VTA) was undertaken, including an aerial inspection of the first and second order branches, and the following has been observed;

A single *Quercus robur* (English oak) is located in the middle of the rear yard of the above property. The tree is approximately 16 meters tall, with a spread of approximately 10 meters and has a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) of 700mm. The tree is in fair condition with a moderate level of dieback and epicormic growth present, as well as what appears to be significant borer damage and cambium lifting due to this damage. This damage is widespread extending up into the second order branches but appears to be largely healing. There is significant scar tissue underneath the lifted bark, however there is evidence that the borers have attempted to return with small holes exuding kino evident on the tree. The presence of borer is not necessarily a reason for the decline of a tree, but rather a symptom of overall poor tree health. Substantial borer damage can ring bark a tree causing dieback and sometimes death.

My long-term prognosis for this tree would be that it will continue to go through phases of decline and healing until it eventually succumbs to the borer and either dies or the risk of branch failure becomes too great. In my experience, trees like this do not have a Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) of more than 5-10 years and therefore my recommendation for this tree would be to remove it and replace it with a healthier tree or trees, of a more suitable species that would also have a greater contribution to the amenity and ecology of the area.

An additional site visit was performed on the 10th March 2022, and it was observed during this visit that the condition of the tree has stayed largely the same. The dieback and epicormic growth is still present, but there does not appear to be any further evidence of borer attack.

For further information regarding the subject trees, please contact Ezigrow. A table addressing the particular items of Canterbury Councils DCP 2012 is attached below as well as a photo log of the condition of the tree at the time of the inspection.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Sutton

Graduate Cert in Arboriculture (AQF Lvl 8), Master of Science (Horticulture), BSc in Agriculture (Hons), Cert III Horticulture (Landscape Construction), Cert II Horticulture (Arboriculture).

Unaddressed Items from Canterbury Councils Development Control Plan CDC 2012 Section B3.5

The contribution of the tree to the streetscape.	The tree is situated at a lower level than the majority of the street and therefore is not very prominent in the streetscape. The existing street trees (Brushboxes on Ryrie Rd and Bottlebrushes on William St) partially obscure the tree from some public viewpoints.
The habitat value of the tree.	The habitat value of this tree is very low. Very few native animals feed on this tree and its nuts, and there is no evidence of any native bird or mammal nesting or using this tree at the time of the aerial inspection.
Possible future impact of tree on major structures, land and neighbouring properties.	This tree is already over mature and does not pose any significant impact from growth on neighbouring structures or land. It is however expected to decline over the next 5 years and may start shedding branches onto existing structures.
Number of existing trees on the property	There is a single large Oak tree in the middle of the property and a large Brushbox in front of the property on Ryrie Rd. It is planned to plant multiple new native canopy trees onto the property under the proposed development.
Prominence in the landscape	The tree is very prominent within the property as it takes up much of the backyard. There is very little space left for other landscaping under the tree due to its dominance.
Protected under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i>	This tree is NOT protected under the Threatened Species Act.
Assessment of Tree in accordance with standard of protection for trees on building sites. AS-4970-2009	This tree dominates the rear yard of this property. Its Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) is 8.4m from the trunk and this circle of protection encompasses most of the rear garden. This tree severely restricts the usage of the property and its potential for development. It would be very difficult to protect under any substantial proposed development for this property.

Photo Log:



Figure 1: Overall condition of the tree at the time of the initial inspection.



Figure 2: Overall condition of the tree showing significant dieback in the upper canopy.



Figure 3: Showing scarring on trunk, bark lifting and weeping kino from new borer attack.



Figure 4: Showing scarring on trunk and bark lifting.