

APPENDIX 5
Treescape Environmental Assessment 2017



Environmental

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Title:	Significant tree T609 - <i>Ulmus glabra</i> 'Horizontalis' (Horizontal Elm)
For:	Dunedin City Council
Site:	516 Highgate, Dunedin
Prepared By:	Eléna O'Neill – Treescape Environmental
Brief:	Provide recommendation for the pruning of a significant tree.
Date:	February 2017

Introduction

1. Dunedin City Council has requested an arboricultural assessment of a significant tree – T609, an *Ulmus glabra* 'Horizontalis' (Horizontal Elm), growing in the front garden of No.516 Highgate, Dunedin. A site visit to inspect the tree was carried out on 16 January 2017.
2. The tree owner has applied for consent to carry out maintenance pruning on the tree to remove deadwood and for a general tidy.

Assessment

3. In general, at the time of the assessment the tree was of average health and vitality.
4. The canopy is very thin for the species due to heavy pruning in the past. As a result, the tree has a fair amount of deadwood at the tips of the branches and epicormic growth on the main stems.
5. This tree requires careful pruning to remove deadwood while retaining as much epicormic growth as possible. This will require careful climbing to avoid unnecessary damage.

Recommendations

6. Care needs to be taken to avoid over-pruning as the canopy is already very thin. No epicormic growth should be removed.
7. The following conditions relate directly to the Dunedin City Council Significant Tree Instant Consent form.

Condition 1 - All proposed works must be carried out by a qualified and experienced arborist in accordance with recognised arboricultural practice.

Condition 5 - Pruning shall consist of removal of deadwood and a crown tidy, and shall involve the removal of no more than 5% of the live crown of the tree. The overall shape and form of the tree must be taken into account and the natural form and balance is to be maintained during pruning.

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Treescape Environmental



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Title:	Significant tree T608 - <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> (English Beech)
For:	Dunedin City Council
Site:	516 Highgate, Dunedin
Prepared By:	Eléna O'Neill – Treescape Environmental
Brief:	Provide recommendation for the pruning of a significant tree.
Date:	February 2017

Introduction

1. Dunedin City Council has requested an arboricultural assessment of a significant tree – T608, a *Fagus sylvatica* (English Beech), growing in the front garden of No.516 Highgate, Dunedin. A site visit to inspect the tree was carried out on 16 January 2017.
2. The tree owner has applied for consent to carry out maintenance pruning on the tree to provide clearance over the property boundary to reduce shading on the neighbours washing line, clear the power lines and a general tidy.

Assessment

3. In general, at the time of the assessment the tree was of fair health and vitality.
4. The tree has two main stems from approximately 4 metres. While both stems are showing signs of a decline in condition, the eastern stems decline is more advanced, with very sparse leaf density, yellowed foliage, very small leaf size and deadwood.
5. The entire crown of the tree has been heavily 'lion's tailed' resulting in complete loss of the inner canopy. This is impacting on the health of the tree. Generally, English Beech do not produce epicormic growth and as such, it's ability to overcome heavy pruning is greatly reduced when compared to other species.
6. As the tree is on the south-western boundary of the adjacent property, it is unlikely that any pruning will alleviate shading on the neighbours washing line.
7. The tree requires very minimal pruning to clear the street light power line to provide 150mm clearance.
8. This tree requires very careful management to avoid further adverse effects on the tree's amenity values, health and safety.

Recommendations

9. All proposed works must be carried out by a qualified and experienced arborist in accordance with recognised arboricultural practice.
10. At all times climbing must be carried out with the use of a cambium saver, which shall be installed from the ground.
11. Pruning shall consist of street light power line clearance only. The removal of live growth shall be restricted to the use of secateurs in order to provide 150mm (15cm) clearance, and shall involve the removal of no more than 2% of the live crown.
12. Crown cleaning shall consist of the removal of deadwood only, in order to enhance safety and health of the tree and assist in the monitoring of the condition of the tree.
13. Further arboricultural inspections on the health and safety of the tree should be undertaken in six month intervals for 24 months. Any deterioration of the tree should be noted and a mitigation plan formulated.

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