Karen & David Azzopardi 52 Forrest Street Cottesloe 6011

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2014

CEO Town of Cottesloe Broome Street Cottesloe

RE: Norfolk Pine on Council Verge: 52/54 Forrest Street, Cottesloe

Further to my telephone conversation with Dave yesterday, I am writing to formally express my concern over the Norfolk Pine situated directly in front of ours and our neighbours, The Andersons, properties.

Over the last couple of years and more noticeably the last 12 months, this Norfolk Pine has taken on a dangerous lean north. My husband and I, together with our neighbours, are genuinely concerned for our safety as we fear this pine could fall, particularly during another storm, the consequences of which would be devastating.

We have lived at 52 Forrest for almost 18 years, the tree has always posed a concern however this has increased more so since it began its lean.

In addition to the concerning nature of the tree falling, the roots have damaged the steps leading from our properties to Forrest Street to such an extent that it is very dangerous to walk down these steps, particularly at night.

We would like the tree removed and the steps repaired and would appreciate you looking into this as a matter of urgency.

Kind Regards

Karen & David Azzópardi

Tel: David 0418 924950 Kann 0419 780 523 **Charles & Betty Anderson** 

CHARCES 0402 192 197 BETTY 0402 B14 175



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TOWN OF COTTESLOE

Scale 1:381

Wednesday, 15 January 2014





# **Arborist Assessment and Report**

Prepared for: Town of Cottesloe

Subject: Tree: Norfolk Island Pine (Araucaria heterophylla)

Location: Out side 52 Forrest St Cottesloe

Date: 21/1/2014

Prepared by : Royce Turner Cert Arb.



#### **PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS**

# Request:

I was requested to inspect the Norfolk Island Pine tree situated on the verge out side 52 Forrest Street. The following is a brief of my findings and opinion on the condition at this time.

### Tree Assessment Method:

The Pine tree on the site was assessed on a ground level visual assessment basis. No aerial or climbing inspection performed and no inspection below ground level undertaken at this time. No root samples were taken.

There are many variables that require consideration as part of this process including the health and vigour, structure and location, known species traits and environmental factors.

### **Key Findings:**

Tree continue to show good health and vigour. This is shown by the health in the peripheral foliage and by the overall volume of foliage mass. Some minor dead wood is noted throughout the canopy. This is part of the natural growth process. There is no evidence of damage to the cambium layer on the lower trunk.

The structural form of this tree shows a lean to the north up to 20 m and then for the remaining 8 m or so of the top is vertical. This vertical growth habit is a correction at some point in the trees life and is evident in the photo.

The complete integrity of the root zone around the trees is unknown however going by the health and vigour of the canopy it would suggest a healthy vascular system and in turn a healthy root system. Evidence of this can be taken from large expansion cracks in the adjacent walls and path caused by the expanding root system.

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# Key Findings Continued:

This does not guarantees the structural or (buttressing root) integrity. The buttressing root form is simply not known.

Information regarding the surrounding area and what may have happened to the roots zone over the years is not available.

Based on my ground level observations any risk associated with this tree looks to be remaining within what would be generally considered acceptable levels. However I will reserve giving a final risk assessment at this point, until further darter and measurements are taken.

## Future Observations and Management recommendations:

Accelerometer or tilt sensor would need to be fitted to this tree and one of the neighbouring trees in the street of the same basic dimensions as a direct comparison. This would be to assess if the tree or root plate is moving excessively and would normally be conducted during a strong wind event over a 24-hour period.

Based on my observations there appears to be no recent movement in the soil regarding compaction on one side and or heave on the other however further investigation of the immediate root plate should be undertaken. Further assessment over a number of set appointments and measurements will assist in determining if there is excessive root plate movement. Static point photos will also assist in monitoring any movement.

Re Inspect this tree for health and vigour on a six-month basis.

# **PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS**



### **PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS**

# Summary:

It is my opinion that this Norfolk Island Pine is in relatively good health considering it location and surrounds. however I recommend further investigation to determine if it is to be considered a high risk tree. it is important to bear in mind that all trees are living organisms and particularly ones of significant size represent a risk

It is important to remember that all trees are living organisms and as such represent a level of risk particularly ones of significant size regardless of health all lean.



### **PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS**

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this report please do not hesitate to contact me.

Prepared by: Royce Turner

Cert. Arborist (UK)

#### **PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS**

### Disclaimer and Limitations:

This advice has been provided in good faith and based upon the material information provided by the Client. This report only covers identifiable defects present at the time of inspection. The author accepts no responsibility or can be held liable for any structural defect or unforeseen event/situation that may occur after the time of inspection.

The author cannot guarantee trees contained within this report will be structurally sound under all circumstances, and cannot guarantee that the recommendations made will categorically result in the tree being made safe.

Unless specifically mentioned this report will only be concerned with above ground inspections, that will be undertaken visually from ground level.

It is also important to take into consideration that all trees are living organisms and as such there are many variables that can affect their health and structural properties that remain beyond the scope of reasonable management practices.

Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified so far as possible; however, the author can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.

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