

**T.T.A.**

**TREE TEST AUSTRALIA P/L**

ABN: 13 125 947 113

P.O Box 4866

EAST TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Mob: 0418 709 846 E-mail: [admin@treetest.com.au](mailto:admin@treetest.com.au)

NAB - BSB: 084-961 ACC: 97-314-4123 Tree Test Australia Pty Ltd

## **Independent Arborist Report**

**Prepared for:**

**Lockyer Valley Council**

**C/o. Howard Marshall**

**Prepared by:**

**Tree Test Australia (Consulting Arborists)**

**Site:**

**Laidley IGA Car Park**

**William Street, Laidley QLD**

**Site Visits:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**

## 1. Discussion:

### 1.1 Tree Information

Assessing the requested trees for health, sustainability, structure and safety according to the **Q.T.R.A.** (*Quantified Tree Risk Assessment*) methodology & guidelines as a certified and licensed consultant. - *Lic. No. # 1729*

## 2. Introduction:

### 2.1 Disclaimer

#### DISCLAIMER

This report is for the sole personal use of the client and for a period of 3 months from the date of production. Although Tree Test Australia uses all due care and skill in providing you with the information within this report, to the extent permitted by law Tree Test Australia excludes all warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied.

To the extent permitted by law, Tree Test Australia does not accept liability for any loss or damage caused or alleged to have been caused (including loss or damage resulting from negligence) either directly or indirectly by your use of the information available to you in this report.

As a client you may choose to accept or disregard the information provided in this report. This disclaimer is governed by the law in force in the State of Queensland Australia.

## 2.2 Methodology

### **Two types of visual methodologies have been applied:**

#### **1. Q.T.R.A. (Quantified Tree Risk Assessment)**

Tree safety management is a matter of limiting the risk of harm from tree failure while maintaining the benefits conferred by trees. Although it may seem counter-intuitive, the condition of trees should not be the first consideration. Instead, the managers should consider first the usage of the land on which the tree stands, and in turn this will inform the progress of assessing the trees.

The Quantified Tree Risk Assessment system applies established and accepted risk management principles to tree safety management. Firstly, the use of land upon which trees could fail is assessed and quantified, (target areas) thus enabling tree managers to determine whether or not and to what degree of rigor a survey or inspection of the trees is required. Where necessary, the tree or branch is then considered in terms of both impact potential (size) and probability of failure. Values derived from the assessment of these three components are then used to calculate the probability of harm.

#### **2. VTA (Visual Tree Assessment)**

The inspection method used was the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method (*Mattheck & Breloer 2010*). This method involves inspecting the trees from ground level, identification of any external signs of decay, physical damage, growth related structural defects and the site conditions where the tree is growing. This method will ascertain whether there is need for a more detailed inspection of any part of the tree.

A balance between the health and structure of the tree and the target/traffic is important, i.e. a decayed and structurally faulty tree in a non-traffic/target area has generally a lower risk rating than a tree with medium serious faults in a high traffic area.



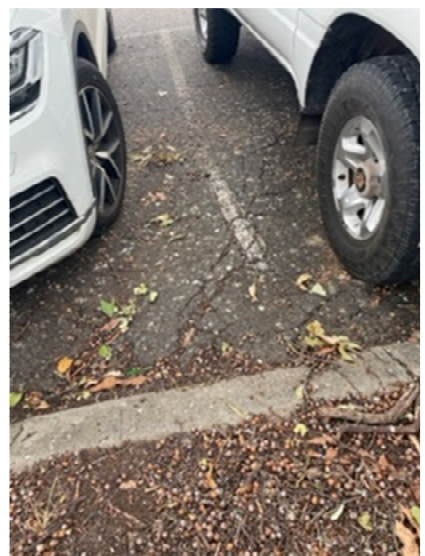
**3. Photos:**



**Object tree # 01.**



**# 01. Showing root damage**



**# 01. Showing root damage**



**# 01. Showing root damage**



**# 01. Showing Mistletoe**



**Object tree # 02.**



**# 02. Showing root damage**



**# 02. Showing root damage**



**# 02. Showing Mistletoe**



#### **4. Tree Information:**

Object tree # 01. Early mature *Corymbia torelliana*,  
DBH: 680 mm, Height: 18.5 meters, Crown: 16 meters  
Situating in the IGA car park Laidley

- Co-dominant
- Mistletoe in crown
- Minor dead wood/hanger in crown
- Significant root damage to car park surface and curbing that will increase in future
- Considered a “pest species” in some areas of Queensland
- Retention value: Low (unsuitable location)
- High traffic/target area

Object tree # 02. Immature *Corymbia torelliana*,  
DBH: 360 mm, Height: 13 meters, Crown: 12 meters  
Situating in the IGA car park Laidley (*next to Object tree # 01.*)

- Co-dominant
- Excessive mistletoe infestation in crown (compromising general health)
- Minor dead wood/hanger in crown
- Significant root damage to car park surface and curbing that will increase in future
- Considered a “pest species” in some areas of Queensland
- Retention value: Low (unsuitable location)
- High traffic/target area

**3.Plan:** *supplied.*



## **5. Recommendations:**

Due to the intrusive nature of these two trees the complete removal is recommended.

The trees are only comparatively young/small at this stage and the damage will escalate in future years. It is also not advisable to retain large & high risk Eucalyptus species in a high traffic/target area such as a public car park.

It is also recommended to replace these trees with more suitable species.

***In order to keep a residential or urban environment entirely tree risk free, all trees would have to be removed.***

All mulch should remain on the property to assist the remaining trees and garden beds in retaining moisture.

Any pruning work should only be undertaken by an appropriately qualified, fully insured contractor. (Cert.3)

When pruning for weight reduction, prune to the appropriate growth point.

**In the event of storms and heavy winds persons should be discouraged to be in close vicinity of trees any size!**

*All limb removals or pruning cuts are to be made in accordance with the Australian Standard AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees 1996. The use of climbing spikes/spurs on the trees should not be permitted.*

**It is imperative to re-assess the trees after every storm event as the health and structure might have changed significantly!**

### **Eucalyptus spp.!!!!**

It is the very nature of the Eucalyptus tree to shed healthy limbs at any time. Therefore, even perfectly healthy Eucalyptus trees can be potentially dangerous.

We therefore do **not** recommend planting Eucalyptus species in high traffic/target areas.

Also, Eucalyptus species do not respond well to heavy pruning (pollarding) of the main leaders, decay, epicormic growth and failure is often the consequence. Therefore, it is imperative that trees with major structural faults to be removed completely.

**PLEASE NOTE: We are NOT a Tree Contractor and therefore our reports are independent and with no conflict of interest**

**Currency of assessment:**

Tree assessments have a limited currency as we are dealing with living plants that change continuously. Also severe drought, heat, storms, flooding or any other sudden decline can alter the health & structural integrity of trees.

This report reflects the state of the trees on the time of inspection, the health and structure can alter any time after.

**Tree Test Australia Pty Ltd**  
**Independent Senior Consulting Arborists**

ABN: 13 125 947 113

Qualified Member Q.A.A. I.S.A.

AHC50510, Level 5/8, Diploma Hort. Arb. NSW

Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) Registered Licensee # 1729

Australian Arborist Industry License AL10013

Senior Resi Operators Cert. 5

IML Resi Certified Trainer

Author of: "*Decay in Trees & Timber Structures*" - ISBN: 0-646-46859-6

P.O. Box 4866

Toowoomba East QLD 4350

Ph: 0418 709 846

Email: [admin@treetest.com.au](mailto:admin@treetest.com.au)

[www.treetest.com.au](http://www.treetest.com.au)