

case study - tree management

University of Bristol

How it started

Sustainable urban development and effective management of urban green spaces, particularly trees, is of utmost importance to ensure a healthy environment. The University of Bristol is responsible for the maintenance of over 5,000 trees throughout Bristol and the Southwest, that need to be regularly inspected to ensure they are at optimal health. Using collaborative technology and strategy, map16 and the university worked together to ensure the safety and health of the university's tree population but also to advance the understanding and practice of urban forestry management.

The solution

Using map16 tablets, the University of Bristol identified around 5,000 trees within and around their grounds and the surrounding area, and logged these into the map16 system. This allows surveyors to monitor these trees as regularly as necessary, and accurately log the findings directly into a fully integrated map view dashboard, live from the field. Inspection information and specifications such as the tree type, height, maturity, stem condition and basal structure are all displayed in an easy to navigate dashboard, allowing effortless observation and comparison of every tree.

The benefits

Regular surveying of trees, especially within built-up urban areas, is crucial for ensuring public and traffic safety. The potential hazards posed by broken or fallen trees can result in accidents or disruptions if not promptly addressed. By proactively monitoring the condition of their tree population, the University of Bristol can mitigate risks and safeguard the well-being of students, staff, and the public. This comprehensive approach to tree management enables the university to stay ahead in its maintenance schedules, and with live and historic data seamlessly integrated into their back-office systems, decision makers gain valuable insights to inform strategic planning and budgeting, fostering a culture of proactive environmental responsibility.

“map16 has become intrinsic to our tree management system. The process is slick and efficient and allows for spreadsheets to be downloaded back at the office to compile work schedules, as well as allowing historic data of previous inspections and works to be compiled.”

Kevin Stuckey | University of Bristol

