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28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Mr & Mrs Lovel  
17 Beechcroft  
Washington  
Tyne & Wear  
NE37 1QL

Dear Mr & Mrs Lovel

Acting on your instructions I have now inspected the trees at the above property.

I have based this report on my site observations and the information that you have provided. All my observations were from ground level without any detailed investigation.

This report is concerned with recording the species, size, and condition of the trees. Recommendations are made where appropriate to establish acceptable levels of safety for the site and a higher level of arboriculture management if required.

The information is recorded in the appraisal section of this report.

Trees are living organisms whose health and condition may change rapidly and my observations are based on the status of the trees at the time of inspection.

### **Site Visit**

I carried out an accompanied site visit on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

The weather that day was overcast but with no visibility restrictions.

### **Site Description**

Beechcroft is a housing estate in Washington, north of Peareth Hall Road. The mature trees on site are covered by a tree preservation order, likely placed to protect the trees as the housing estate was built. Trees T1-T3 are relatively recently planted trees which may have been replacements for trees that have been removed in the past.

The trees T5 to T24 have been given the same reference number as per City of Sunderland Tree Preservation Order No. 119.

Unit 3, Langley Park Industrial Estate North, Witton Gilbert, Co Durham, DH7 6TX

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## Appraisal

Please refer to appendix 1 for site location plan

Please refer to appendix 2 & 3 for glossary of terms

No	Species	Age	Height (m)	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
1	Whitebeam	Y	6	12	G	This is a young tree with a slightly leaning stem but has a good form	No work required at present	-
2	Cherry	Y	7	20	G	A young tree with no visible defects noted	No work required at present	-
3	Silver Birch	Y	7	18	G	A young tree with no visible defects noted	No work required at present	-
5	Beech	M	19	72	P	<b>A large tree which has a significant cavity at on the north side of the main stem where historically a large limb was removed. There was no staining below the cavity and no fungus was noted however if any fungus in noted around the base or on the tree (particularly around the large cavity) further advice should be sought.</b>  <b>Most fungus fruits between August and November so check this in autumn. There is good clearance over the adjacent road and from the streetlight</b>	<b>Monitor condition</b>	-
7	Beech	M	19	80	F	High crown over adjacent highway due to historic crown lifting work, there s some low risk deadwood in the crown	No work required at present	-
8	Beech	M	19	34	F	Sparse high crown due as is supressed by adjacent trees, growth is weighted towards the garden and heavily sways in the wind	Reduce height by 3m and prune back growth towards garden (north face of canopy) by upto 3m	C

9	Beech	M	19	79	F	High crown over adjacent highway due to historic crown lifting work, there s some low risk deadwood in the crown	No work required at present	-
No	Species	Age	Height (m)	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
11	Sycamore	M	16	56	F	Twin stemmed from 5m, grows 1m from boundary wall, minor cavities and cankering on the stem	No work required at present	-
13	Sycamore	M	16	52	F	Asymmetrical form with dense reaction growth in the canopy	No work required at present	-
14	Sycamore	M	17	62	F	High crown with some minor deadwood in the canopy	No work required at present	-
16	Sycamore	M	17	60	F	Twin stemmed from 4m, overhangs neighbouring garden, asymmetrical form due to group pressure	No work required at present	-
18	Sycamore	M	16	45	F	Historic wounds on stem at 1m, and 3m – callusing over well and has put on good adaptive growth to compensate. There was no staining below the cavity and no fungus was noted however if any fungus in noted around the base or on the tree (particularly around the cavities) further advise should be sought. Most fungus fruits between August and November so check this in autumn	Monitor condition	-
19	Sycamore	M	14	29	F	Sparse canopy as is overshadowed by adjacent trees, minor cavities on stem	No work required at present	-
20	Sycamore	M	19	68	F	Historic wound on stem at 7m which is callusing over – consider and overall crown reduction sue to the cavity and closeness of the tree to both the house and the garage	Reduce height by 3m, prune sides by upto 1.5m to balance/shape the crown	C

No	Species	Age	Height (m)	DBH (cm)	Condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
24	Sycamore	M	18	82	F	Twin stemmed from 2.5m, grows upto the neighbouring boundary and is close to extension to rear of building. Historic pruning evident. There is some soil displacement at the base – a sign of minor rootplate movement I recent storm winds. Due to the closeness of this tree to buildings onsite and neighbouring an overall crown reduction is advise to lessen the wind sale of the tree and allow the roots to strengthen following the long recent period of high winds	Reduce height by 3m, prune sides by upto 1.5m to balance/shape the crown. Remove major deadwood. Monitor condition of the tree biennially.	B

## **Conclusion**

Information was provided of a previous tree survey which was carried out by Oliver's Tree Services, on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016.

The majority of the trees surveyed on site are mature Beech and Sycamore trees.

T5 has a significant cavity, no fungus was noted however if any fungus is noted around the base or on the tree (particularly around the large cavity) further advice should be sought. Most fungus fruits between August and November so check this in autumn.

Trees 2- & 24 have recommendations for crown reduction work as they are close to building and some rootplate movement was noted in high winds.

There are numerical gaps in the listed tree, this is due to trees previously being removed.

The trees are a vital asset to the site and a feature of the local landscape as well as being of high amenity and wildlife value.

Before any tree work takes place, checks would need to be made with the Local Authority to see if the trees concerned are situated within a Conservation Area or covered by a Tree Preservation Order. If the trees are protected a planning application will need to be approved before any work is carried out.

It would be advisable to carry out a re-inspection on the site within the next 24 months.

I trust that you find the above satisfactory, but should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

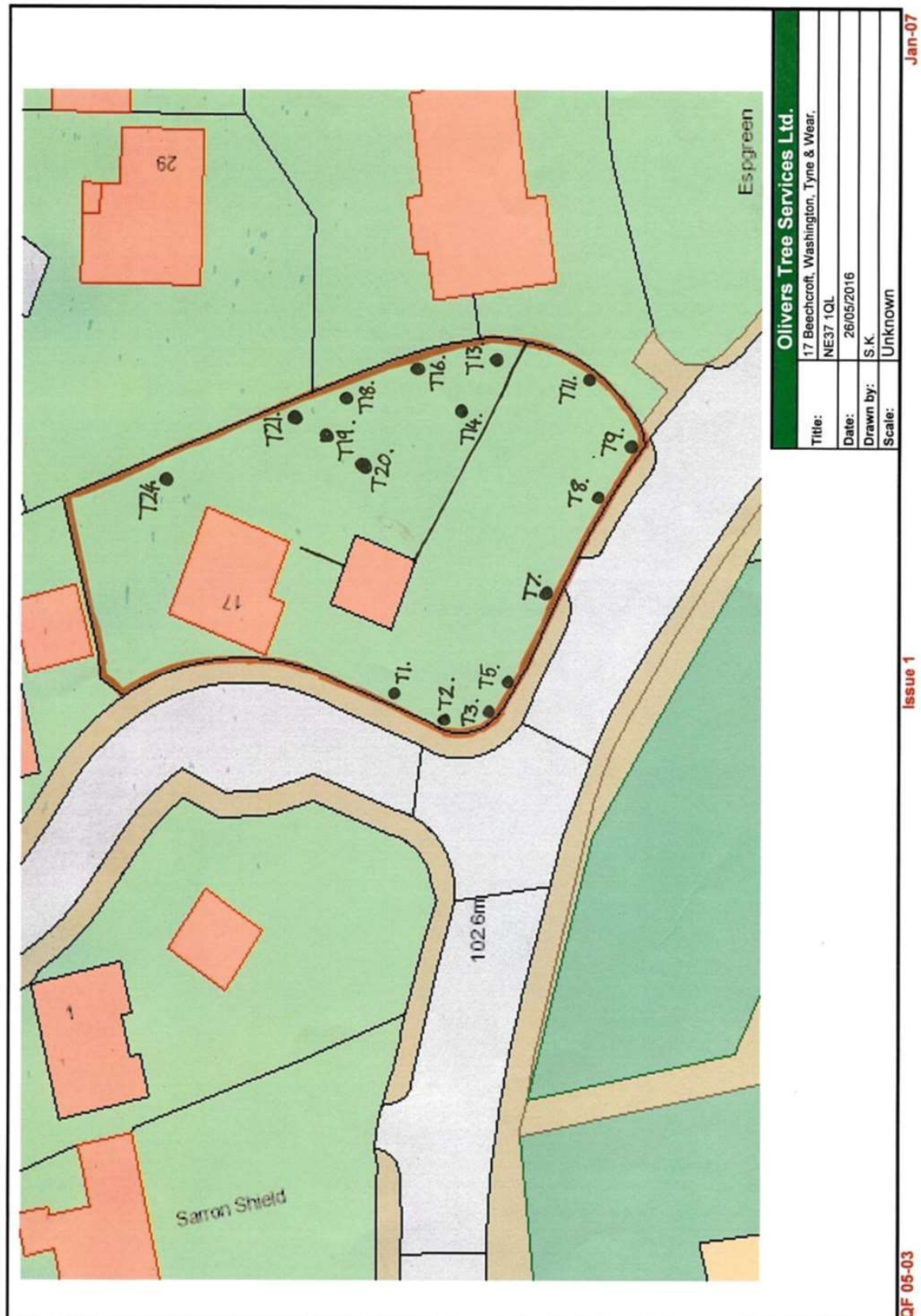
Yours sincerely



Stephen Keene HNC Arb.

## Appendix 1

### Site plan



## **Appendix 2**

### Glossary of terms for the report

- 1. Reference number** – an individual identify number for a tree, hedge, or group. The number corresponds to the report and the location map
- 2. Species** – species identification is based on visual field observations and lists the common name only
- 3. Age** – **Y** – young, **SM** – semi mature, **EM** – early mature, **M** – mature, **OM** – mature, **V** – veteran, **D** – dead
- 4. Height** – the height is estimated to the nearest metre (for some groups this is indicated in a range)
- 5. DBH** – diameter at breast height (measured at 1.3m from ground level (for some groups this is indicated in a range)
- 6. Condition** – **D** – dead, **P** – poor, **F** – fair, **G** – good
- 7. Comments** – general comments on the condition of the tree, hedge, or group
- 8. Recommendations** – action required for remedial tree work
- 9. Priority** – **A** – less than 6 months, **B** – as part of a management programme, **C** – desirable but not essential

## **Appendix 3**

### Glossary of terms for tree works

**Crown lifting** – is the removal of lower branches to an agreed height for example over footpaths or roads by pruning to an upward growing part of the branch or back to the main stem. Used where low branches are causing an obstruction or encroaching on buildings

**Crown thinning** – the aim of crown thinning is to reduce crown density without altering the overall size or shape of the tree. This work will reduce weight on branches and cut down on wind resistance, thereby reducing the potential for storm damage

**Crown reduction and reshaping** – the aim is to make the crown of the tree smaller without unduly spoiling the shape of the tree. The greater the amount removed, the more difficult it is to retain the natural shape.

**Crown Cleaning** – this is the removal of dead, broken, and crossing limbs, sucker sprouts on trunks, and weak or diseased limbs. The purpose of the crown clean is to improve structure, appearance, and health. The outside appearance of the canopy will be affected very little

**Dead wooding** – this is the removal of dead dying diseased branches and limbs from the crown of the tree

**Pollarding** – pollarding is a method of pruning that keeps trees and shrubs smaller than they would naturally grow

**Tree felling** – the removal of the tree as close to current ground level as practical