

# **Site Tree Appraisal**

## ***Land Opposite 18 Pendle Avenue, Bacup OL13 9DW***

**“BS 5837 2012: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations”**



### **ROWBOTTOM'S TREE SERVICES LTD**

#### ***INDEPENDENT ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANCY***

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***Land Opposite 18 Pendle Avenue, Bacup OL13 9DW:***

The following is a pre-development survey and appraisal of trees on and adjacent to the above site.

Its primary purpose being to categorize the trees according to BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations, so that the Local Planning Authority may review the existing trees in association with the proposed development.

The report and associated plans have been produced for the sole purpose: - to accompany the above planning submission.

# Table of Contents

|  | Page      |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>                 | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>2. SITE SURVEY AND OBSERVATIONS</b> | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>3. APPRAISAL</b>                    | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4. CONCLUSIONS</b>                  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>5. RECOMMENDATIONS</b>              | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>6. BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>                 | <b>10</b> |

## Appendices

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Qualifications and Experience</b>                        | <b>11</b> |
| <b>2. Trees and Construction Sites – General Issues</b>        | <b>12</b> |
| <b>3. Tree Data</b>  | <b>13</b> |
| <b>4. Explanatory Notes</b>                                    | <b>14</b> |
| <b>5. Protective Fencing Specifications</b>                    | <b>15</b> |
| <b>6. Tree Schedule</b>  | <b>17</b> |
| <b>7. Tree Quality Assessment and Categorization Criterion</b> | <b>19</b> |
| <b>8. Site photographs</b>                                     | <b>21</b> |

## 1. Introduction:

1.1 This tree survey has been commissioned by Mr Amad Uddin.

1.2 I have undertaken this tree survey following the guidance and recommendations of; 'BS 5837: 2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-Recommendations'.

1.3 **Instruction:** I am instructed by J C Building Design Ltd to inspect the significant trees on and adjacent to the site that may be affected by the proposed development and to provide an arboricultural report to accompany a planning application. The relevant tree information that has been noted and prepared to accompany the planning application is;

- A schedule of the significant trees on and adjacent to the site, to include basic data and an assessment of their condition, (see appendix 3).
- An appraisal of the impact that the proposed development may have on the trees and as a result, the visual amenity of the locale.
- An initial arboricultural method statement (AMS) setting out basic protective requirements and management needs of the trees to be retained and tree works required to facilitate the proposed development.

1.4 **Documents and information provided:** J C Building Design Ltd provided me with the following documents:

- *JCBD-22-304-1 Rev 01 Proposed One Dwelling 09/11/2022*
- *51316\_02\_Topographical (13-11-18)*
- *304-BILL Proposed Site Plan dwg file*

1.5 **Qualification and experience:** I have based this report on my site observations and the provided information, and I have come to conclusions in light of my experience. I have experience and qualifications in arboriculture and list the details in appendix 1.

1.6 **Report scope and limitations:** Construction work often exerts undesirable pressures on existing trees, as do changes in their environment following construction (see appendix 2). This report has been prepared to analyse the impact that the proposed development may have to the existing site trees. It further advises on protective requirements and appropriate management needs of the trees, should they be retained on the site. The primary purpose of the report is to provide sufficient tree information to allow the Local Planning Authority to review any tree issues associated with the development proposal.

1.6.1 It should be noted that this report takes no account of indirect structural damage that may arise to buildings as a result of tree induced soil volume changes. Such damage can occur to buildings built on shrinkable clay sub-soils and will be more prevalent during prolonged drought conditions. Also, buildings built on shrinkable soils following tree removal can suffer heave affects as the soil rehydrates. These issues should be addressed during the design of the proposed development (*National House Building Council-NHBC 2011-part 4.2 building near trees*). Also, this report does not take into account damage to drains and underground services that may be due to tree root activity. If damaged, drains can allow roots to penetrate them. If, however, they are in good repair tree roots have little capacity to access them. A drainage expert could give more advice.

## 2. Site visit and observations:

**2.1 Site visit:** I carried out an unaccompanied site visit on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023. All my observations were from ground level without detailed investigations and I estimated all dimensions unless otherwise indicated. The weather at the time of inspection was dry and overcast, visibility was acceptable to proceed with the tree survey.

**2.2 Brief site description:** The small plot of land, located towards the west end of Pendle Avenue, measures approximately 800 square metres in area. It is predominantly grass and low scrub growth, there are 8 significant trees on the land and 1 tree on neighbouring land adjacent to the east boundary (photo 01). The majority of the trees are located towards the north east half of the site.

### 2.2.1 Site Aspect and Topography:

- The natural front of the site (as accessed off Pendle Avenue) is south east facing.
- The site has a gradual ground level fall of approximately 4 metres from the north east side down to the south west side.

### 2.2.2 Preliminary Geological Information:

|               |                              |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Soil Texture: | Loamy                        |
| Soil pH:      | Acid                         |
| Drainage:     | Freely Draining              |
| Fertility:    | Low                          |
| Carbon:       | Low                          |
| Drains to:    | Local Groundwater and Rivers |

(Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute; Land Information Systems, 2023)

**2.2.3: Tree Protection Status:** I have been informed that the trees on this site are protected by Rossendale Council: - Pendle Avenue Tree Preservation Order (TPO). It is unclear from the Rossendale Council website whether or not the site is within a Conservation Area.

**2.3 Identification and location of the trees:** The locations of the significant trees are illustrated on the Tree Constraints Plan *RTS/08032023/TCP 002* included with this report. All the relevant information on the trees is contained within this report and the provided documents listed in 1.4 above.

**2.4 Tree observations:** The trees were not climbed; I visually inspected the significant trees from ground level in accordance with visual tree assessment (VTA) techniques and recorded the information on the schedule included at appendix 6. The assessment has been to a level one of the TRAQ assessment criteria.

### 3 APPRAISAL:

**3.1 Relevant references:** ‘BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-Recommendations’.

**3.2 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA):** The proposal is to construct a detached two-storey single residential dwelling on the site. At this stage I have not been made aware of new underground drains or other utility service routes, although it is assumed that they would access the site at the front, from Pendle Avenue.

**3.3** In order to facilitate the proposed single dwelling it will be necessary to remove one sycamore tree (T1) and the dead trunk of T3 (photo 02). T1 was noted to have general low vigour (very short annual twig extension). This could be the result of previous ground level alterations. The ground level around the tree appears to have been raised by approximately 300mm to 400mm around the root zone and trunk, photo 03. Given the current low vigour of T1 and its realistic longevity, estimated to be less than 20 years, the tree has been categorised C1 using the BS 5837:2012 Cascade Chart for tree quality. This suggests that it would be unreasonable to allow T1 to restrict a small development on the site, especially if new tree planting to mitigate the loss of T1 is undertaken post development. The dead trunk (T3) is in such condition that it cannot realistically be retained as a living tree in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years, thus category U.

#### Proposed Tree Removal

| Category | Total | Tree Tag / Number |
|----------|-------|-------------------|
| Cat A    |       |                   |
| Cat B    |       |                   |
| Cat C    | 1     | T1                |
| Cat U    | 1     | T3                |

**3.4** Given the size and proposed location of the development, the other existing trees on the site could be realistically retained and provided with adequate protection during the build process. However, a small amount of facilitation pruning will be required to trees T4 and T5. The tree pruning specifications are noted in the Recommendations, section 5 of the report.

**3.5** No other tree works will be required to facilitate the proposed property development and there will be no requirement to excavate for foundation placement within a calculated root protection area (RPA) of any retained tree on the site, save a very limited amount to the south east side of T4. In order to deter contractors from venturing onto and storing building materials within a tree RPA, temporary protective tree fencing is recommended. The protective fence specifications are noted in the Recommendations, section 5 of the report. To allow adequate work space for the building contractors, however, the protective fencing adjacent to trees T4 and T5 will have to be off-set by approximately 2.5 metres into the RPA of the two trees. The exposed 2.5 metres of the RPA, therefore, will require a covering of ground protection to avoid contamination and compaction of the underlying soil. The ground protection specifications are noted in the Recommendations, section 5 of the report. Given the ground protection and the very minimal overlap of the RPA (less than 10% of the total RPA of T4, less so of T5) together with the fact that all the remaining sections of the RPAs and contiguous areas will remain undisturbed, the potential loss or damage to roots is considered insignificant and would not be expected to cause any significant harm to the long-term health and viability of the trees.

#### 4 CONCLUSIONS:

- 4.1** The proposed property development, given the recommended temporary protective fencing and ground protection, should have no effect on the existing trees that are to be retained on the site. The removal of one dead and one low quality tree together with minimal tree pruning works required to facilitate the development, are not anticipated to greatly alter the arboricultural visual amenity of the locale.
- 4.2 Other Considerations:** Trees by their very nature have structures that allow bats to shelter or roost in them, more so with moribund and decayed trees. All species of bats are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Conservation (Natural Habitats) regulations 1994 and the Countryside Act and Rights of Way Act 2000. Also, it is an offence to disturb or destroy nesting birds. Appropriate ecological assessments should be undertaken to avoid contravention of the above.

**5 RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
**Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS);**

**5.1** Prior to any other activity on the site the following arboricultural works should be undertaken.

**Table 1 Tree works:**

| Tree    | Tree Work  | Priority                      |
|---------|--|-------------------------------|
| T1 & T3 | Fell to ground level and dig out the remaining stumps.   | Prior to any other site works |
| T4      | Tip prune back the south east crown spread by approximately 2 metres to obtain a final spread of 5 metres. Longer branches to be pruned back to a suitable lateral branch union so as to maintain a natural tree silhouette.     | Prior to any other site works |
| T5      | Tip prune back the south east crown spread by approximately 1.5 metres to obtain a final spread of 5.5 metres. Longer branches to be pruned back to a suitable lateral branch union so as to maintain a natural tree silhouette. | Prior to any other site works |

**5.1.1** All the recommended tree works should be of a standard that is in accordance with BS 3998:2010 Tree Work-Recommendations. All the arboricultural work on this site should be undertaken by an arboricultural contractor who is able to comply with the above BS standard. The arboricultural contractor should hold public liability insurance to a minimum of £5 million and employer’s liability insurance as required by law. The arboricultural contractor should be able to show competency by means of relevant certification and health and safety policy. Suitable arboricultural contractors can be sourced from the Arboricultural Association approved contractor list or the Local Planning Authority occasionally has lists of competent contractors. Rowbottom’s Tree Services Ltd (arboricultural consultancy) cannot accept any liability where the prescribed work is not carried out in a correct and professional manner in accordance with current good practice.

**5.1.2** The advised tree works within this report are recommended in order to facilitate the proposed property development. None of these tree works should be undertaken until there has been full approval from the Local Planning Authority.

**5.2** After the above tree works have been completed, protective fencing should be erected at the locations indicated on the Tree Protection *RTS/08032023/TPP 002*; the protective fencing should be: - 2 metre tall herras fencing on rubber or concrete feet. The fence panels should be joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers. The vertical distance between the couplers should be at least 1 metre and uniform throughout the fence. The herras fence should be supported on the inner side (tree side) by stabiliser struts attached to rubber base feet and secured to the ground, as illustrated at appendix 5 (B). Signs should be attached to the fencing advising the contractors that this is a construction exclusion zone (CEZ); keep out. Following erection of the protective fencing, ground protection should be laid down at the location indicated on the Tree Protection Plan *RTS/08032023/TPP 002*. The ground protection should be a single thickness of suitable load bearing ground mats (e.g., 40mm TuffTrak pads) placed on top of a 100mm thick layer of wood chippings all laid on top of a geotextile membrane.

**5.3** Upon completion of the above arboricultural works, erection of the protective fencing and laying down of the ground protection site construction may proceed following the guidance of this AMS. Only on completion of all building activity should the tree protective fencing and ground protection be removed.



- 5.4** Fires on the site should be avoided if possible. Where they are unavoidable, they should not be lit in a position where heat could affect tree foliage or branches. The potential size of a fire and wind direction should be taken into account when determining its location and it should be attended at all times until safe enough to leave.
- 5.5** Any materials whose accidental spillage would cause damage to a tree (e.g., oil, cement washing and vehicle washings etc.) should be stored and handled well away from the outer edge of its RPA.
- 5.6** All operatives of machinery and heavy plant should be made aware of the construction exclusion zones (CEZ). The operatives are to respect these zones and ensure that no damage occurs to trees due to careless use of machinery.
- 5.7** Siting of cabins and storage of building materials should be outside of the CEZ. Any proposal to install cabins or store materials within a CEZ should be agreed with the appointed arboriculturist and the Local Planning Authority prior to such installation.
- 5.8** A project arboriculturist should be appointed to ensure that compliance with tree protection requirements is upheld. The appointed arboriculturist should be an individual acceptable to the local authority. They must have a good understanding of the project requirements and be suitably qualified to understand the hazards associated with development near trees. They should work closely with the site manager, and have the authority to stop works until any major issues which could affect the retained trees have been resolved. They should keep the local authority updated at each stage of the project, including reporting of any unexpected issues which could affect the trees that are being retained. I can offer this service, or advice on the selection of a suitably qualified and experience individual.
- 5.9** Following the main building construction, all landscaping works within a tree RPA should be undertaken using hand held tools only. Under no circumstances should earth excavator or rotavator machinery be used in a tree RPA.

## 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

### 6.1 BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations



Mr W. J. Rowbottom. HN Dip ARB

M. Arbor. A

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## Appendix 1

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### **Brief qualifications and experience of Mr W. J. Rowbottom.**

**1. Qualifications:**

- Tree surgery craft certificate 1992
- BTEC Higher National Diploma in Arboriculture 2000 (HN Dip Arb).

**2. International Society of Arboriculture (ISA):**

- Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ).

This is a systematic qualification of risks that may be posed by trees within their existing site setting over a given time frame.

**3. Continuing professional development:** Professional member of the Arboricultural Association.  
M Arbor A. Professional member of the Consulting Arborist Society (CAS).

**4. Experience:** Managed an arboricultural contracting company for 20 years. Practiced arboricultural consultancy since 2010.

## Appendix 2

### Trees and Construction Sites – General Issues

Trees that have good health and stability are well adapted to their surroundings. Any demolition or construction activity which affects the adaptation of trees to the site could be detrimental to their health, future growth and safety. Trees tend to become less tolerant of change after they have reached maturity or have suffered previous damage or physiological stress. Site design and subsequent management, therefore, should aim to minimize the effect of change.

The part of a tree most susceptible to damage on a construction site is the root system, which, because it is not immediately visible, is frequently ignored. Within a short distance of the trunk, the roots become highly branched, so as to form a network of small diameter woody roots, which can extend radially for a distance much greater than the canopy spread of the tree, except where impeded by unfavourable soil conditions. The growth and development of all roots is influenced by the availability of water, nutrients, oxygen and the penetrability of the soil. Given favourable conditions, the tree's root system tends to develop sufficient volume to provide physical stability for the tree. Typically, however, around 80% of a tree root system is concentrated in the upper 600mm of the soil profile. Due to this relatively shallow depth, the threat to a tree root system on a development site can arise from:

- Root severance or fracture during excavation works
- Compaction of the soil structure, which restricts moisture percolation through the soil profile and gaseous exchange between the surface air and soil atmosphere. Soil compaction can occur as a result of driving heavy plant machinery over the soil surface, repetitive pedestrian footfall and storage of building materials.
- Water logging due to land grade changes
- Toxic contamination due to chemical runoff from construction activities.

Damage to the tree trunk and branches can also occur on development sites if appropriate distances between tree and construction work is not maintained. Such damage, however, is not usually sufficient to kill a tree directly, but can make it unsafe by affecting the dynamics and growth of the tree, or by initiating long term decay. Such damage can also be disfiguring. The attachment of notice boards and cables etc. can all damage trees, as can the use of tree trunks as a winch anchor.

Damage to a tree on a construction site may not at first be noticeably obvious, the full effect of such damage usually taking 3 or 4 years to become evident, at which time the tree may die and/or become unsafe. A tree that has taken decades to reach maturity can be damaged irreparably in a few minutes by actions that might be unwitting, negligent or wilful. The early provision of physical protection of the tree from damage is therefore critical.

## Appendix 3

### Tree Data (Explanations of):

The data collected and recorded on each tree reflects the recommendations provided in section 4.4.2 of BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-recommendations.

**Tree number:** T (individual tree), G (group of stems or several trees planted together or self-seeded), S (stump of a tree that has been cut at or close to ground level), SH (shrub masses).

**Species:** Common tree name; *specific name recorded in italics*.

**Height:** Approximate height of the tree to the nearest metre.

**DBH:** Stem diameter (recorded in millimetres) measured in accordance with Annex C of the BS 5837:2012.

**Crown Spread:** A record (to the nearest half metre) of the radial distances between the tree trunk and the end of the further most branches, in the direction of the four cardinal compass points.

**Height to Lowest Branch:** This parameter estimates the lowest point of the crown above the ground. Minor and dead branches are ignored.

**Age:** Estimated maturity of the tree; Moribund (at the point of death), Mature (last one third of life expectancy), Early mature (one third to two thirds life expectancy), Young (at less than one third of life expectancy).

**Condition:** An assessment of tree physiological condition. Good (high vigour and strong growth), fair (average vigour and growth), Poor (low vigour and declining growth).

**Category Rating:** An assessment to identify the quality and value (in non-fiscal terms) of the existing tree stock, allowing informed decisions to be made concerning which trees should be removed or retained in the event of a development occurring, (for categorisation criterion see appendix 6).

**Observations and Comments:** A preliminary observation of the tree's physiological condition, structural form and its suitability to the existing site setting. Basic tree management advice may be recommended.

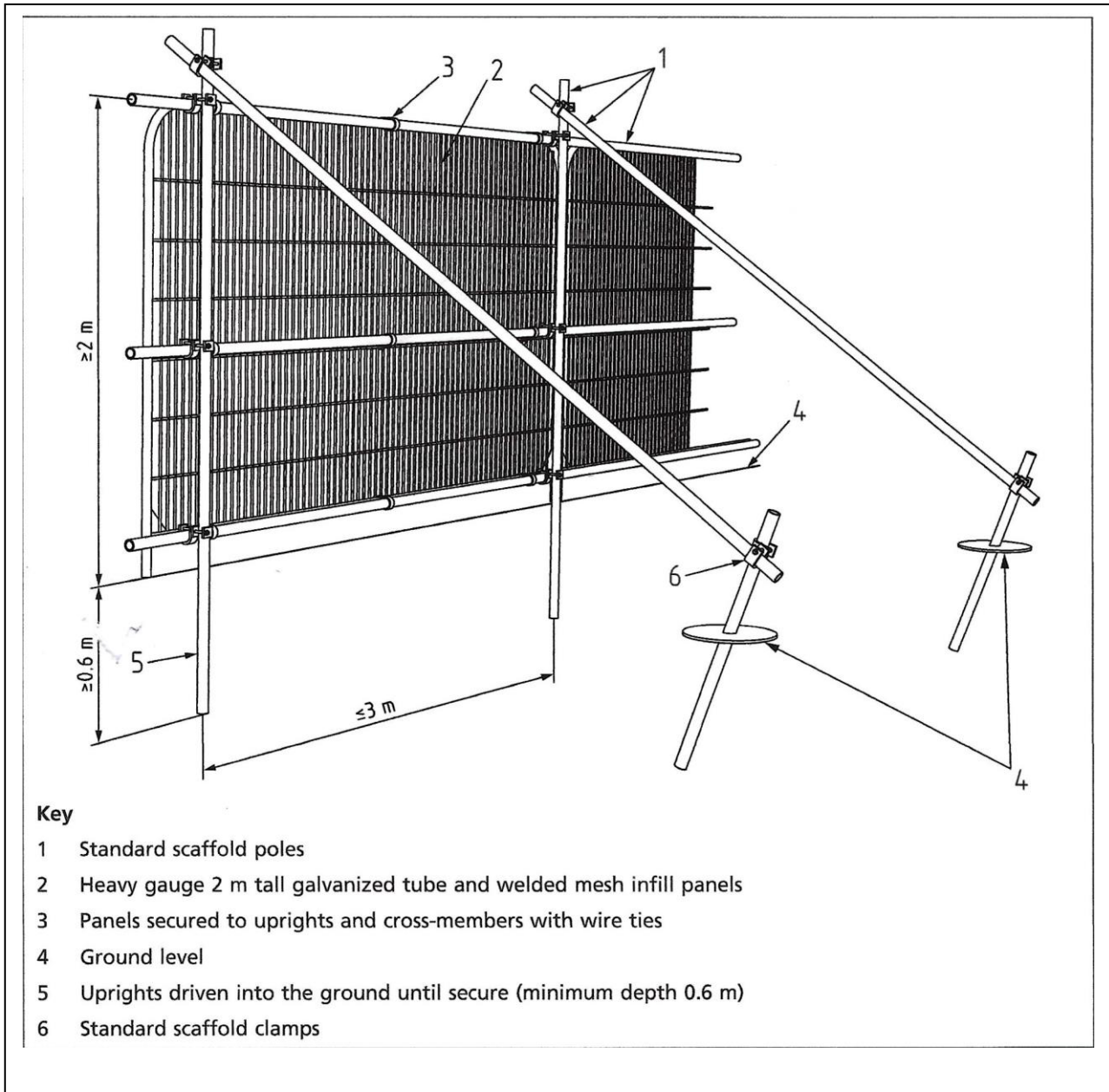
## Appendix 4

### Explanatory notes

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>AIA:</b>           | Arboricultural Impact Assessment; an assessment that evaluates the effects that the proposed design may have on the existing site trees and any constraints that the trees pose to the design, and where necessary recommend mitigation measures.   |
| <b>AMS:</b>           | Arboricultural Method Statement.  |
| <b>CEZ:</b>           | Construction Exclusion Zone; a fenced off area around a tree or group of trees that should remain undisturbed and free from demolition and construction activity.   |
| <b>Crown:</b>         | The structural part of the tree above ground level that consists of branches, twigs and foliage.  |
| <b>Included Bark:</b> | Bark that remains (trapped) between branch and trunk or co-dominant stems. Has potential to be a structurally weak union.   |
| <b>Measurements:</b>  | All dimensions are estimated unless otherwise indicated. Measurements taken with a tape or clinometer are indicated with a *. Less reliable estimated dimensions are indicated with a ‘?’.  |
| <b>RPA:</b>           | Root Protection Area; The minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and soil volume to maintain the tree’s viability, and where the protection of roots and soil structure is treated as a priority. The RPA increases with tree size and is calculated from a measurement of the trunk diameter.   |
| <b>Species:</b>       | The tree species identification is based on visual identification. The common English name of what the tree appeared to be is listed first followed by the botanical name in <i>italics</i> . In some instances, it may be difficult to quickly and accurately identify a particular tree without further detailed investigation. Where there is some doubt as to the precise species of the tree, the genus is followed by the abbreviation spp; in order to avoid delay in the production of the report. The species listed for groups and hedges represent the main component and there may be other minor species not listed. |
| <b>TRAQ:</b>          | Tree Risk Assessment Qualification. A tree risk qualification methodology; Level one; is a basic visual assessment of an individual tree or a population of trees near to targets of concern, conducted from a specified perspective, to identify obvious defects or specified conditions. Only defects visible from the perspective from which the assessment is made are expected to be identified.   |
| <b>VTA:</b>           | Visual Tree Assessment; a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of individual trees, as advised by Mattheck (1993) and Hazard Evaluation by Matheny and Clark (1993). Guidance is also taken from Lonsdale (1999) Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management.   |

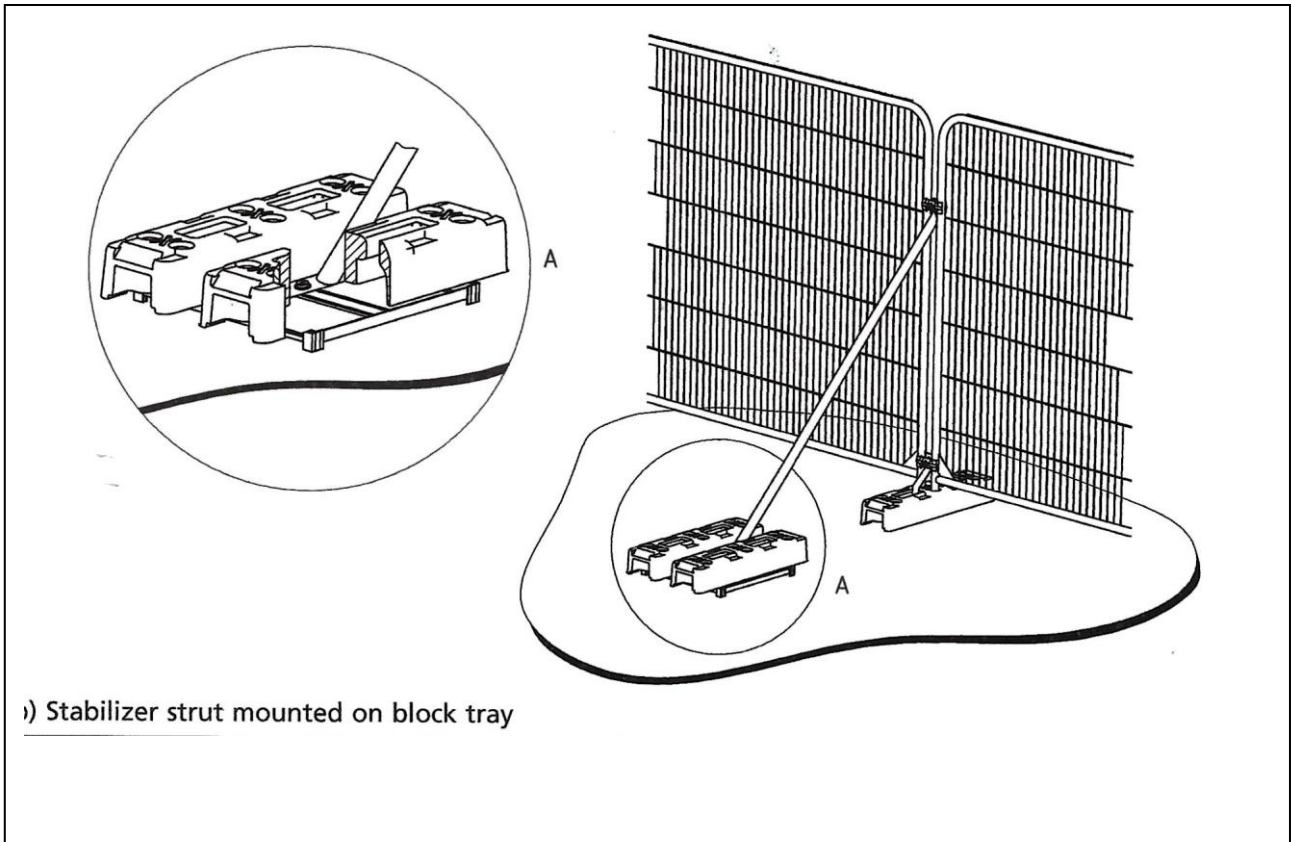
## Appendix 5 (A)

### Protective Fencing Specification



**Appendix 5 (B)**

Protective Fencing Specification



›) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray



**Appendix 6**  
Tree Schedule

| Tree No | Species                                       | Height (M) *<br>Crown Height above GL | DBH (mm) * | Crown Spread (M) *                           | Height to Lowest Branch (M)<br>Direction of Lowest Branch | Age Range    | Condition    | RPA Radius (M) | RPA Square metres | BS 5837 Category Rating | Observations and Comments  |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------|------------|--|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--|
| T1      | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>16.5</u><br>3.0                    | 710        | N – 7.0<br>S – 9.0<br>E – 8.0<br>W – 4.5     | <u>3.5</u><br>S   | Mature       | Poor to fair | 8.5            | 227               | C1                      | Significant ground level alterations (raised approximately 300mm to 400mm) have been previously undertaken around the root zone. General low vigour (short annual twig extension). |
| T3      | <i>Dead Trunk</i>                             | N/A                                   | N/A        | N – 0<br>S – 0<br>E – 0<br>W – 0             | N/A   | Dead         | Dead         | N/A            | N/A               | U                       | Dead trunk   |
| T4      | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>16.5</u><br>2.5                    | 650        | N – 6.0<br>S – 6.5<br>E – 4.0<br>W – 7.5     | <u>3.5</u><br>S   | Mature       | Good         | 7.8            | 191               | B1                      | Slight crown asymmetry; Branch structure close to the rear neighbour's building.   |
| T5      | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>16.5</u><br>2.5                    | 550        | N – 6.0<br>S – 6.5<br>E – 7.0<br>W – 2.0     | <u>3.0</u><br>E   | Mature       | Good         | 6.6            | 136               | B1                      | Slight crown asymmetry; Epicormic shoots around the trunk base; Branch structure close to the rear neighbour's building.   |
| T6      | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>8.0</u><br>2.0                     | 310        | N – 1.0<br>S – 5.0<br>E – 4.0<br>W – 6.0     | <u>2.5</u><br>S   | Early Mature | Fair         | 3.7            | 43                | C1                      | Suppressed crown asymmetry   |
| T7      | <b>Beech</b><br><i>Fagus sylvatica</i>        | <u>20.0</u><br>2.5                    | 1010       | N – 11.0<br>S – 10.5<br>E – 11.0<br>W – 10.5 | <u>5.0</u><br>N   | Mature       | Good         | 12.1           | 460               | B1                      | The dominant tree of the site; beginnings of an included bark union noted between the trunk and the lower north and west scaffold branches.  |

| Tree No | Species                                       | Height (M) *<br>Crown Height above GL | DBH (mm) * | Crown Spread (M) *                       | Height to Lowest Branch (M)<br>Direction of Lowest Branch | Age Range       | Condition | RPA Radius (M) | RPA Square metres | BS 5837 Category Rating | Observations and Comments   |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------|------------|--|---|-----------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| T8      | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>16.0</u><br>2.5                    | 520        | N – 6.0<br>S – 1.0<br>E – 4.0<br>W – 8.0 | <u>3.5</u><br>W   | Mature          | Fair      | 6.2            | 120               | C1                      | Suppressed crown asymmetry; Epicormic shoot growth around the trunk base; Minor dead branches in the crown. |
| T9      | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>8.0</u><br>4.0                     | 330        | N – 2.0<br>S – 3.0<br>E – 4.5<br>W – 1.0 | <u>4.0</u><br>E   | Early<br>Mature | Fair      | 3.9            | 47                | C1                      | Suppressed crown asymmetry.   |
| T10     | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>16.0</u><br>3.0                    | 680        | N – 7.0<br>S – 5.0<br>E – 5.0<br>W – 6.0 | <u>3.5</u><br>W   | Mature          | Poor      | 8.1            | 206               | C1                      | Slight crown asymmetry; Bark necrosis to the south east side of the trunk; Tree in decline.                 |
| T12     | <b>Sycamore</b><br><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | <u>16.0</u><br>4.0                    | 400        | N – 3.0<br>S – 4.0<br>E – 3.0<br>W – 2.0 | <u>6.0</u><br>E   | Mature          | Fair      | 4.8            | 72                | C1                      | The tree is on neighbouring land close to the east boundary fence.  |

## Appendix 7

### Tree Quality Assessment and Categorization Criterion

**Category U:** Trees unsuitable for retention;

Trees which are in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years. These trees, however, can have existing or potential conservation value. They could, therefore, be up graded from a U category if issues concerning their safety can be appropriately managed.

Trees to be considered for retention;

**Category A: trees of high quality**

**Have an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.**

**Category B: Trees of moderate quality**

**Have an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.**

**Category C: Trees of low quality.**

**Have an estimated life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.**

### Identification on the plan

**Dark Red**

**Light Green**

**Mid Blue**

**Grey**

For a tree to qualify under any given category, it should fall within the scope of that categories definition (U, A, B, C).

Trees in categories A to C should then qualify under one or more of three subcategories (1, 2, and 3). The subcategories 1, 2 and 3 are intended to reflect arboricultural and landscape qualities, and cultural values, respectively. These definitions are described below:

**Arboricultural Qualities:****Sub-Category A1:**

Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g., the dominant and / or principal trees within an avenue).

**Sub-Category B1:** Trees that might be included in category A, but have been downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g., presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation.

**Sub-Category C1:** Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.

**Landscape Qualities:**

**Sub-Category A2:** Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and / or landscape features.

**Sub-Category B2:** Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.

**Sub-Category C2:** Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and / or trees offering low or only temporary / transient benefits.

**Cultural Values:**

**Sub-Category A3:** Trees or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commercial or other value (e.g., veteran trees or woodland pasture).

**Sub-Category B3:** Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.

**Sub-category C3:** Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.

Photo 01:



Photo 02:





**Photo 03:**

