



AllAboutTrees

Arboricultural & Ecological Consultancy
Chartered Arboriculturalists & Environmentalists

Arboricultural Method Statement

For Trees At

St. Cuthbert's Hospice,

Durham



For


St. Cuthbert's Hospice

 Institute of
Chartered Foresters
Registered Consultant


Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION
Fellow Member


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	Prepared By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Archment ND HND Arb MArborA
	Authorised By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Watson FLS MICFor CBiol MRSB FArborA CEnv LCGI

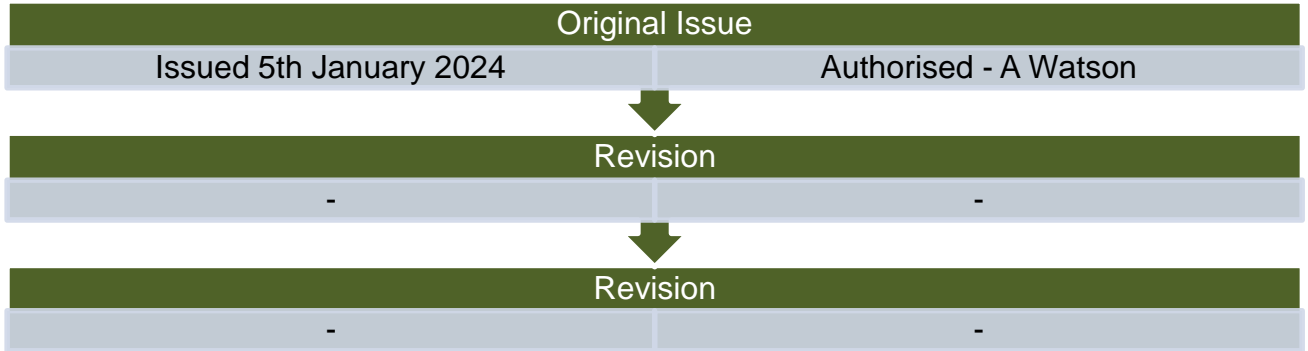


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1. Introduction

1.1 We are instructed by St. Cuthbert's Hospice to provide an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) regarding the protection and management of the significant trees located within a specified area at the St. Cuthbert's Hospice, Durham.

1.2 This method statement is a reference document produced to ensure best practice in the management of the trees during the demolition and construction phases of the development and brings together all of the relevant information including the recommendations set out in British standard 5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. The method statement must be read in conjunction with our Arboricultural Impact Assessment dated 5th January 2024.

1.3 The method statement forms part of the specification and schedule of works to be issued to the contractor and may form part of the contract documentation.

1.4 This document should be kept on file at the site office and be available for inspection by relevant parties.

2. Protected Status Of Trees

2.1 Trees may be legally protected, this may either be in the form of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or that the trees are located within a Conservation area. In addition, some tree felling may require a felling licence from the Forestry Commission.

2.2 Potentially large penalties may be enforced for illegally carrying out works on protected trees. It is recommended that checks are made before any works are undertaken and no work should commence until permission has been granted. Please note that there are a number of exemptions from the requirement to obtain a felling licence including land on which full planning permission has been granted by the local authority, however this exemption does not cover land where only outline planning permission has been granted, or on land which has been allocated for residential development within local authority urban and local development plans.

2.3 AllAboutTrees has been able to ascertain with Durham County Council (the Local Planning Authority) on Thursday 4th January that an Area Tree Preservation Order (Order number PN1-342, titled 'St Cuthbert's Hospice') protects some of the trees within the study area. An Area Order protects all trees that were present at the time of creation – in this example 11th December 1986. Any trees planted or self-sown after this date would not be legally protected. It is an offence to carry out any tree work to protected individuals unless permission is granted by the Local Planning Authority.

3. Site Operations Prior To Any Construction Works

3.1 Tree Works

3.1.1 The first arboricultural works on site will be the removal of all the conflicting vegetation:

- Trees 1-6, 9
- Groups 1 & 2

which are identified on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) by the broken black ring surrounding the tree centre and referred to in appendix 1 of this report. The groups to be removed have had the coloured infill hatch and RPA removed. The broken black ring has been placed around the coloured categorisation circle adjacent to group label.

3.1.2 The stumps can be removed as part of the ground excavation works.

3.1.3 Details of any prescribed pruning works are included within Appendix 1 of this report. The tree works should wherever possible be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations.

3.2 Wildlife Habitats

3.2.1 As part of the survey the significant trees were inspected from ground level for signs of wildlife habitation, in particular birds and bats.

Bats

3.2.2 All UK bats and their roosts are protected by law. The legislation protecting bats are:

- The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (WCA)
- Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

For all countries of the UK, the legal protection for bats and their roosts may be summarised as follows:

You will be committing a criminal offence if you:

1. Deliberately* capture, injure or kill a bat
2. Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat in its roost or deliberately disturb a group of bats
3. Damage or destroy a bat roosting place (even if bats are not occupying the roost at the time)

4. Possess or advertise/sell/exchange a bat (dead or alive) or any part of a bat
5. Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost

**In a court, 'deliberately' will probably be interpreted as someone who, although not intending to capture/injure or kill a bat, performed the relevant action, being sufficiently informed and aware of the consequence his/her action will most likely have.)*

3.2.3 Penalties on conviction - the maximum fine is £5,000 per incident or per bat (some roosts contain several hundred bats), up to six months in prison, and forfeiture of items used to commit the offence, e.g. vehicles, plant, machinery.

3.2.4 No visual signs were found to confirm the presence of bats in the surveyed trees.

3.2.5 When carrying out tree works it is essential that the contractor or other competent person carries out a specific 'bats in trees risk assessment' which can be obtained from the 'Arboricultural Association' or the 'Bat Conservation Trust' (BCT). If evidence of bats is found work must stop immediately and Natural England Batline contacted (0845 1300 228). A further inspection may well be required by a licensed bat handler or roost visitor.

Birds

3.2.6 In the UK, all wild birds, their nests and their eggs are protected by law.

In England, Scotland and Wales the legislation that protects wild birds is:

- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Countryside (or CRow) Act 2000

3.2.7 No nesting birds were present at the time of inspection though given the scope of the site, and the extent of vegetation, potential exists for birds to nest and as such caution must be exercised.

3.2.8 As with bats the contractor has an obligation to carry out visual checks prior to works. Where possible tree works should be carried out in the period from August to the end of February in order to avoid the bird nesting season.

3.3 Protective Barrier Erection

3.3.1 The protective barriers are to be erected prior to the commencement of site works including demolition, soil stripping or movement, bringing onto site of materials, supplies or machinery. Tree works can be undertaken prior to the erection of the barriers.

3.3.2 The barriers must be erected in the position indicated on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) by the dark blue line and be constructed as per the following specification.

3.3.3 The barriers should be considered essential and should not be removed or altered without prior recommendation by an Arboriculturalist and approval of the local planning authority.

3.3.4 The barrier should consist of proprietary 2m tall welded mesh panels mounted on rubber or concrete feet. The panels must be joined together with a minimum of two anti-tamper couplings situated at least 1m vertically apart and installed uniformly throughout the barrier so that they can only be removed from inside the barrier. The panels must be supported by stabilising struts mounted on a block tray.

3.3.5 No fixing shall be made to any tree and all possible care must be taken to prevent damage to tree roots when locating the posts.

3.3.6 All types of barriers must be firmly attached to prevent movement by site personnel or vehicles and all-weather signs with the wording "Construction exclusion zone- keep out" should be attached.

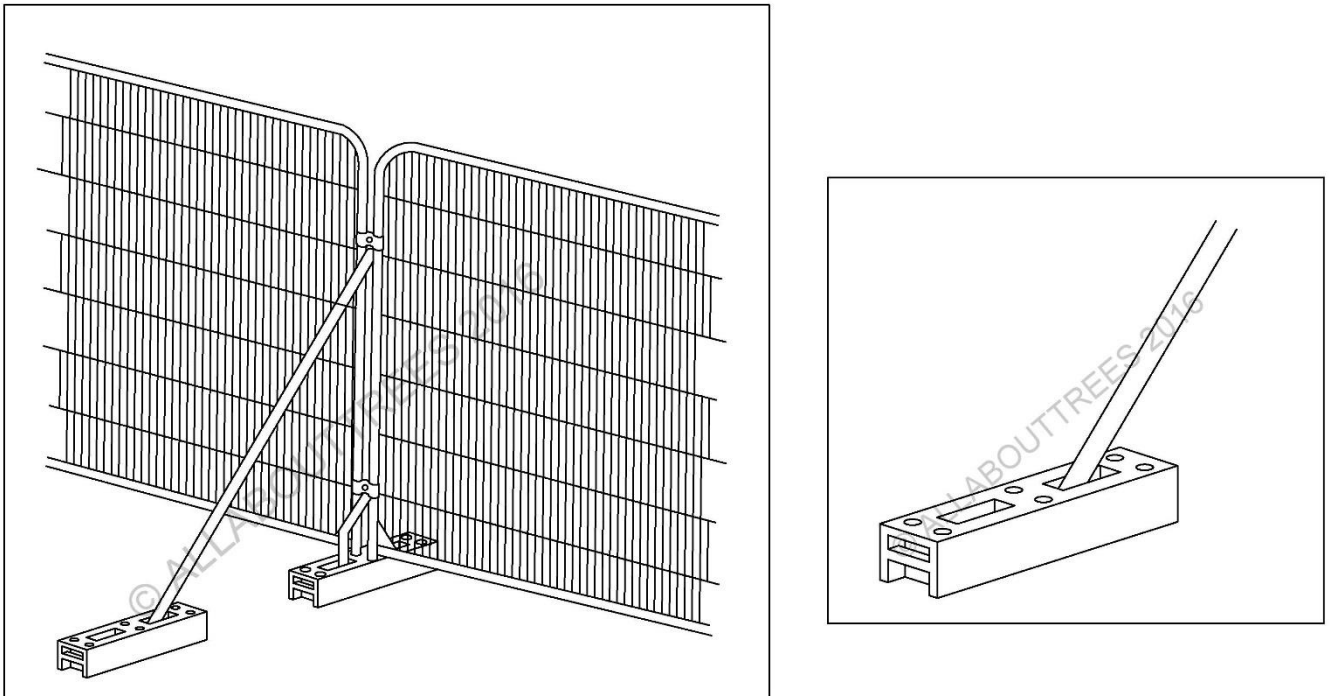


Figure 1 - Stabiliser strut mounted on block tray.



Figure 2 – An example of a barrier erected on a site

3.4 Location Of Site Compound & Storage Areas

3.4.1 The contractor's site compound, storage & parking areas must be located outside of the root protection areas (RPAs) of the retained trees. This includes any trees which are located outside of the study area but not included within the survey.

3.4.2 All site storage areas, especially cement mixing and washing points for plant and vehicles must also be situated outside of the root protection areas (RPA). Where there is a possible risk of polluted water runoff heavy duty plastic sheeting and sand bags must be used to contain spillages and contamination.

4. Construction Methodology

4.1 Service Runs

4.1.1 It is assumed that the existing service runs will be exploited where possible, but if new works are required it is important that they comply with the National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) 'Guidelines for the planning, installation, and maintenance of utility services in proximity to trees' and BS 5837:2012. The excavation of open trenches by machine will be unacceptable within the protective zone of any of the retained trees.

4.1.2 Wherever possible, services should be routed outside of any retained trees RPA. When this is not possible apparatus should be routed together in a common duct and any inspection chambers sited outside the RPA.

4.1.3 Acceptable techniques for the laying of services in order of preference are:

- **Trenchless-** by use of thrust boring or similar techniques. The pit excavations for starting and receiving the machinery should be located outside of the root protection area. To avoid root damage, the mole should run at a depth of at least 600mm. Use of external lubricants on the mole other than water (e.g. oil or bentonite) should be avoided.

Trenchless Solutions For Installation Of Underground Services					
Method	Accuracy (MM)	Bore ^(A) diameter (MM)	Maximum subterranean length (M)	Applications	Not suitable for
Micro tunnelling	<20	100 to 300	40	Gravity-fall pipes, deep apparatus, watercourse/ roadway under crossings	Low-cost projects due to relative expense
Surface-launched directional drilling	≈100	25 to 1200	150	Pressure popes, cables including fibre optic	Gravity fall pipes, e.g. drains and sewers ^(B)
Pipe ramming	≈150	150 to 2000	70	Any large-bore pipes and ducts	Rocky and other heavily obstructed soils
Impact moling ^(C)	≈50 ^(D)	30 to 180 ^(E)	40	Gas, water and cable connections, e.g. from street to property	Any application that requires accuracy over distances in excess of 5m.

- (A) Dependent upon strata encountered
- (B) Pit-launched directional drilling can be used for gravity fall pipes up to 20m in subterranean length
- (C) Impact moling (also known as thrust-bore) generally requires soft, cohesive soils.
- (D) Substantial inverse relationship between accuracy and distance
- (E) Figures given relate to single pass: up to 300mm bore achievable with multiple passes

4.1.4 If trenchless insertion is not feasible the alternatives are detailed below in order of preference.

- **Broken trench-** by using hand dug trench sections together with trenchless techniques. It should be limited to practical access and installation around or below the roots. The trench must be dug by hand (see following comments re continuous trenching) and only be long enough to allow access for linking to the next section. The open sections should be kept as short as possible.
- **Continuous trench-** the trench is excavated by hand and retains as many roots as possible. The surface layer is removed carefully and hand digging of the trench takes place. No roots over 2.5cm diameter or clumps of smaller roots (including fibrous) should be severed. The bark surrounding the roots must be maintained. Cutting of roots over 2.5cm diameter should not be attempted without the advice of the Project Arboriculturalist.

If roots have to be cut, a sharp tool (defined as spade, narrow spade, fork, breaker bar, secateurs, handsaw, post hole shoveller, hand trowel) should be used.

Backfilling

4.1.5 Reinstatement of street works must comply with the code of practice New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991 (Specification for the reinstatement of openings in highways), but where tree roots are involved backfilling should be carefully carried out to avoid direct damage to retained roots and excessive compaction of the soil around them.

4.1.6 The backfill should incorporate an inert granular material mixed with top soil or sharp sand (not builder's sand) around the retained roots. This will allow a measure of compaction for resurfacing whilst creating an aerated zone around the roots.

4.1.7 Roots and in particular fine roots, are vulnerable to desiccation on exposure to air. The roots are at greatest risk when there are rapid fluctuations in the air temperature around them (especially winter diurnal temperatures). It is vitally important that the roots are covered with sacking whilst the trench is open. The sacking should be removed once the trench is backfilled.

5. Arboricultural Supervision

5.1 The following programme of supervision is proposed to assist in the preservation and protection of the retained trees during all aspects of the proposed development.

5.2 The supervision arrangements must be sufficiently flexible to allow for the supervision of all sensitive works as they occur. The Arboricultural Consultant's initial role is to liaise with the developer and the council to ensure that the appropriate protective measures are in place before any works commence on site and once the site is active monitor compliance with the Arboricultural conditions and advise on any tree problems that may arise.

Action	Programming	Extent of supervision	Nature of supervision
Pre-commencement meeting with site manager & Council tree officer	Before any site activity commences	Meeting on site Review any updates to the proposal Confirm extent of tree works and protective barrier position.	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
Tree works undertaken Finalising tree protection barrier installation	Before any plant enters site or demolition/construction work commences.	Confirm position of the protective barriers have been installed and comply with the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) Provide photographs indicating completed tree protection	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
Installation of services within root protection areas (if required)	Prior to installation of surfacing or services & during installation of surfaces and services	Meeting with contractor prior to installation and during installation of surfacing and services to ensure compliance with AIA	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
Removal of protective barriers	Once construction activities have finished	Meeting with contractor for briefing before removal commences	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.

5.3 Site Management

5.3.1 It is the developer's responsibility to ensure that the details of the Arboricultural method statement and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all relevant site personnel. Copies of the agreed documents must be kept on site at all times and the site manager or other appropriate person must brief all personnel who could impact the trees on the specific tree protection requirements.

5.3.2 This should form part of the site induction procedure and be written into the appropriate site management documents.

For and on behalf of
AllAboutTrees Ltd

Andrew Watson FLS MICFor CBiol MRSB FArborA CEnv LCGI
-Chartered Arboriculturalist & Registered Consultant

Appendix 1

Tree No.	Species Common Name Latin Name	Height (M)	Crown Spread (M)				Trunk Diameter (MM)	No. Of Stems	Height Of Lower Canopy (M)	First Significant Branch Position (M)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Root Protection Area Radii (M)	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	Tree Quality Assessment	Comments	Maintenance	Bat Roost Potential	Ultimate Size For Species (M)		Priority
			N	S	E	W														Height	Spread	
1	Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>	13	1.7	5.8	2.8	6.1	310, 450	2	1.7	2.2 W	Mature	Poor	Poor	6.6	10+	C - Low	Tagged 0141. 2x codominant stems from approximately 50cm. Both stems further subdivide between 1.7-1.9m. All unions are incredibly tight with included bark – structurally poor. Low bud/leaf density with dieback of branch tips – impaired physiological condition. Slightly asymmetric canopy, distorted due to pressure from adjacent lime tree. Deadwood in canopy.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	15	12	A
2	Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	6.5	2.1	2.1	1.5	1.7	180	1	1.7	2.1 SE	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	2.2	20+	B - Moderate	Distorted by and growing beneath the canopy of adjacent yew tree. Tagged 0146.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	12	10	A
3	Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	7.0	1.2	3.5	0.9	2.8	180, 40, 30, 30	4	0.8	0 N	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	2.3	20+	B - Moderate	Distorted by and growing beneath the canopy of adjacent yew tree. Leans to the south. 3x small diameter subdominant stems.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	12	10	A
4	Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	1.9	1.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	120	MS	0	0.5 N	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	1.4	20+	C - Low	Multi-stemmed shrub. 10x small diameter stems. No major visible defects.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	6	6	A

Tree No.	Species Common Name Latin Name	Height (M)	Crown Spread (M)				Trunk Diameter (MM)	No. Of Stems	Height Of Lower Canopy (M)	First Significant Branch Position (M)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Root Protection Area Radii (M)	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	Tree Quality Assessment	Comments	Maintenance	Bat Roost Potential	Ultimate Size For Species (M)		Priority
			N	S	E	W														Height	Spread	
																Stem diameter estimated as a single value.						
5	Scots pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4.1	-	-	-	-	790	1	-	-	Mature	Dead	Dead	9.5	<10	U – Unsuitable For Retention	Tagged 0145 & 0185. Dead stem leaning to the south. Canopy removed. Honey fungus rhizomorphs on stem.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	20	15	A
6	Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	2.7	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.0	40, 50, 70, 80, 90	5	0.75	0.8 NE	Mature	Fair	Poor	1.8	10+	C - Low	Multi-stemmed regenerative growth growing from decaying stool. Maintained as topiary. Slightly oversailing the adjacent road.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	12	10	
7	Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	1.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	250	MS	0.1	0.1 N	Mature	Fair	Fair	3.0	20+	C - Low	Multi-stemmed regenerative growth growing from coppiced stool. Maintained as topiary. Stem diameter estimated as a single value.	This tree is retainable and will be adequately protected by the position of the protective barrier as indicated by the blue line on the TPP. No tree works required at the present time.	None	12	10	-
8	Common Lime <i>Tilia x europaea</i>	12.1	2.5	4.7	2.5	2.5	140, 150, 160, 180	4	2.75	2.75 W	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	3.8	20+	B - Moderate	Multiple stems from ground level. Asymmetric crown spread; canopy distorted due to group pressure. Tagged 0151.	This tree is retainable and will be adequately protected by the position of the protective barrier as indicated by the blue line on the TPP. No tree works required at the present time.	None	22	20	-
9	Common Lime <i>Tilia x europaea</i>	20.0	4.6	5.4	4.1	5.6	820	1	3.2	3.2 NW	Mature	Fair	Fair	9.8	20+	B - Moderate	Abuts the path – surface lying roots disrupting the path surface. Tagged 0150 & 0151.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to	Low	22	20	A

Tree No.	Species Common Name Latin Name	Height (M)	Crown Spread (M)				Trunk Diameter (MM)	No. Of Stems	Height Of Lower Canopy (M)	First Significant Branch Position (M)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Root Protection Area Radii (M)	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	Tree Quality Assessment	Comments	Maintenance	Bat Roost Potential	Ultimate Size For Species (M)		Priority
			N	S	E	W														Height	Spread	
																Epicormic growth removed. Deadwood retained in the tree canopy. Ivy starting to climb the stem – up to 1.0m in height.	facilitate the development proposals.					
10	Portugal laurel <i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	7.2	2.9	1.3	2.1	2.9	230	1	2.3	2.4 NW	Mature	Fair	Fair	2.8	20+	B - Moderate Tagged 0149. Asymmetric crown spread; canopy distorted due to adjacent lime (T9). Ivy starting to climb the stem – up to 65cm in height.	This tree is retainable and will be adequately protected by the position of the protective barrier as indicated by the blue line on the TPP. No tree works required at the present time.	None	10	10	-	
Groups																						
1	Cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	1.25	-	-	-	-	100	MS	-	-	Young	Fair	Fair	1.2	20+	C - Low Multi-stemmed shrubs, maintained to current dimensions. No major visible defects. Stem diameter estimated as a single value.	This group is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	6	6	A	
2	Dogwood <i>Cornus alba</i>	<1.5	-	-	-	-	150	MS	-	-	Mature	Fair	Fair	1.8	20+	C - Low Multi-stemmed shrubs, maintained to current dimensions. No major visible defects. Stem diameter estimated as a single value.	This group is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development proposals.	None	3	3	A	
3	Ash, Hazel, Lawson cypress, Rhododendron, Beech, Dogwood, Spotted laurel,	<8.0	-	-	-	-	<177	-	-	-	Young to middle aged	Fair	Fair	<2.1	20+	C - Low Mixed species in group outside of development area. Group adjacent to access road. Small trees and shrubs complementing larger trees.	This group is retainable and will be adequately protected by the position of the protective barrier as indicated by the blue line on the TPP.	None	23	18	C	

Appendix 2(1)

Glossary of Terms

- 1 Reference number:** An individual identifying number
- 2 Species:** Species identification is based on visual field observations and lists the common name. In some cases the botanical name will be used where there is no common alternative. On in-depth surveys the botanical name only may be used
- 3 Height:** Height is estimated to the nearest metre. On computerised surveys this may be within a range of heights. When measured height is required, a clinometer is used to measure to the nearest metre
- 4 Diameter:** Trunk diameter measured at 1.5 metres from ground level to the nearest centimetre. In some surveys this is indicated as a range
- 5 Spread:** Measurement of canopy from the trunk to the nearest metre in four directions, North, South, East, and West in metres
- 6 Lower crown Clearance:** Height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level
- 7 Age:** Either an estimate (or statement if accurately known) of the age of the tree, classified as:
 - Y** = Young tree, established tree usually up to one third of expected ultimate height & spread
 - MA** = middle aged, usually between one third and two thirds of ultimate height & spread
 - M** = Mature, more or less at full height but still increasing in girth & spread
 - OM** = Over mature, grown to full size and becoming senescent,
 - V** = Veteran tree, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species
- 8 Physiological Condition:** Good = Healthy tree with good vitality,
Fair = Moderate health and vitality normal or slightly less for species and age
Poor = Poor shape or form - signs of decline in crown, may have structural weakness.
Dead = dead or dying tree
- 9 Structural Condition:** Good = No visible structural defects
Fair = Only minor structural defects
Poor = Defects which may need to be rectified or regularly monitored
Remove = Severe defects which may result in imminent failure or collapse
- 10 Management Recommendations:** General comments on the condition of the tree or group and any action required. potential for wildlife habitats
- 11 Estimated Remaining Contribution:** Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE): in some cases the age ranges are modified
Short: 0 – 10years Medium: 10– 20 Years
Intermediate: 20-40 Long: 40 + years
- 12 Tree Quality:** Assessment of tree quality see following cascade chart for details
- 13 Priority:** A - Works to achieve an acceptable level of safety or required to facilitate the development
B - Works to achieve higher levels of arboricultural management.
C - To improve the aesthetic appearance.
- 12 Ultimate Size:** Taken from Arboriculture Research Note 8490ARB or NHBC Standards Chapter 4.2 as appropriate The Normal Ultimate Height in an Urban Situation in metres. Ultimate spread of the Crown in metres.
- 13 Root Protection Area:** The distance at which the protective barrier should be erected measured in radii from the centre of the trunk in metres.

- 14 Pruning:** Pruning shall be defined as the removal of living or dead parts of a plant by the Contractor. Such parts may be soft growth, twigs, branches, limbs or sections of the tree trunk. The cut material may vary from small to large in size.
- 15 Crown Cleaning:** Cleaning out is defined as the removal of dead, dying or diseased branchwood, broken branches or stubs left from previous tree surgery operations (see also 16 Deadwooding) together with all unwanted objects, which may include ivy (if specified) and/or other climbing plants, nails, redundant cable bracing, rope swings, tree houses and windblown rubbish from the tree, and any such debris from any cavities within the tree.
- 16 Deadwood Removal:** Dead-wooding shall be defined as the removal of all dead and dying branches and limbs from the tree.
- 17 Crown Lifting:** Crown lifting shall be defined as the removal of all soft growth and branches or parts thereof which are below or which extend below the height specified in the tender documents. It is recognised that the resultant canopy base might not be one single level but might be stepped to allow for different clearances, for example where a tree overhangs both the footway and the road where different height clearances are required.
- 18 Crown Reduction:** Crown reduction shall be defined as the reduction of the complete outline dimension of the canopy, from the tips of limbs and branches to the main trunk, by pruning growth to an acceptable branch, twig or but to leave a flowing silhouette.

Appendix 2(11) Cascade Chart For Assessing Tree Quality

Category and definition Trees to be considered for retention	Criteria – Subcategories			Identification on plan
	1. Mainly arboricultural values	2. Mainly landscape values	3. Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
<p><u>Category High = A</u></p> <p>Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years</p>	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially, if rare or unusual, or those that are essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood – pasture)	Green
<p><u>Category Moderate = B</u></p> <p>Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years</p>	Trees that might be included in category A, but are 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 retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	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	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	Blue
<p><u>Category Low = C</u></p> <p>Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years; or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm</p>	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	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 landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural benefits	Yellow
<p><u>Category = U Trees unsuitable for retention</u></p> <p>Those of 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</p>	<p>NOTE Whilst C category trees will usually not be retained where they would impose a significant constraint on development, young trees with a stem diameter of less than 150mm should be considered for relocation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other U category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) • Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate and irreversible overall decline • Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby (e.g. Dutch elm disease) or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality • Habitat reinstatement may be appropriate (e.g. U category trees used as a bat roost- installation of bat box in nearby tree) 			Red



AllAboutTrees

Arboricultural & Ecological Consultancy
Chartered Arboriculturalists & Environmentalists

The Old School
Quarry Lane
Butterknowle
Co Durham
DL13 5LN

Telephone 0191 3739494 / 01388 710481

Email – info@allabouttrees.co.uk
www.allabouttrees.co.uk

Registered in England & Wales No. 5301671
Registered Office: The Old School, Quarry Lane, Butterknowle, Co Durham
DL13 5LN