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Arboricultural Report

BS5837 Tree Survey

Tree Constraints Plan

Site
50 Sycamore Avenue
Sidcup
Kent
DA15 8PN

Client

by

Curtis Barkel

RCArborA, F.Arbor.A, Prof Dip (RFS)

Ref: SA/2023/22

Date: 03 August 2022



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Fellow and Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association

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Site	50 Sycamore Avenue, Sidcup, Kent. DA15 8PN.
Survey Date	14 July 2022
Report Date	03 August 2022
Surveyed by	Curtis Barkel

1.0 Instructions

- 1.1 Sylvanarb has received instructions to carry out a BS5837 tree survey and provide details of constraints presented by those trees that require consideration in future development proposals for the site.

2.0 Documents Supplied

- OS Plan.

3.0 Aim of Survey

- 3.1 To survey existing trees that require consideration in the development of the site, in accordance with BS5837 2012: *Trees in Relation to Demolition, Design and Construction* (BS5837); in order to assess condition and quality and to provide details of the arboricultural constraints presented to development.

4.0 Scope of Survey

- 4.1 The survey has been carried out in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 *Trees in Relation to Demolition, Design and Construction* (BS5837).
- 4.2 The trees have been inspected as they stand in the current context of site use. The assessment categories have been allocated on the condition and merits of the individual tree irrespective of the proposed development.
- 4.3 A detailed condition survey and hazard assessment of the subject trees has not been carried out, where obvious faults have been noted a further detailed condition assessment may be recommended in the tree survey comments column (see Appendix A).
- 4.4 A tree with internal structural faults will often display associated external evidence of such faults, these would be noted in a visual tree inspection. However such signs are not apparent at all times of the year, for example pests and diseases or leaf size and condition. The following findings and recommendations have been drawn from the evidence present on the day of inspection.
- 4.5 All advice given in this report is based on the information available on the day of inspection. Should additional information not available or apparent on the day of inspection come to light, the right is reserved to modify the conclusions found within this report. This report is valid for 12 months notwithstanding change of site conditions, extremes of weather or other such overriding environmental changes.

5.0 Survey Method

- 5.1 The survey includes those trees requiring consideration in the future development of the site with a stem diameter greater than 75mm measured at 1.5m from ground level.
- 5.2 Subject trees have been allocated identification numbers prefixed with 'T'.
- 5.3 Where appropriate several trees growing closely together have been surveyed as groups. In such cases the group value is recognised and graded as a whole, as opposed to grading the individual members of the group. Groups are allocated identification numbers prefixed with 'G'.
- 5.4 The locations of trees shown on the arboricultural plans have been triangulated off existing site features and then plotted onto the OS Plan. The OS Plan is not an accurate plan of the site and as such the tree locations shown are approximate only. It is recommended that a Topographical Survey be carried out prior to designing a proposed layout, the arboricultural plans can then be revised using the topographical survey as a base plan to provide accurate arboricultural constraints.
- 5.5 The survey was carried out with the help of the following inspection aids:
- Digital Clinometer To calculate tree heights
 - Diameter tape To measure stem diameters
 - Laser measure To plot tree locations and canopy extents
- 5.6 Each tree was inspected from ground level noting external faults and features only. The inspection did not include an aerial crown inspection, detailed excavation of the root system or the use of internal decay detection equipment.

Appendix A

Tree Survey Data & Plan

Tree Survey Key

Tree No.	Tree Number - cross-referenced with tree numbers shown on Tree Survey Plan.		
Hgt (m)	Height - estimated in metres.		
Dia. at 1.5m (mm)	Stem Diameter - in millimetres taken at 1.5m above highest adjacent ground level		
No. of Stems	Number of main stems arising from below 1.5m above ground level. M = Multi-stemmed tree.		
Crown Spread N,E,S,W (m)	Given as a radial measurement in metres from the centre of the stem to the extremity of the canopy at the four main compass points NESW.		
Crown Cl/nce (m)	Crown Clearance - Height in metres of crown above adjacent ground level.		
Age Class	Y	Young	Staked or recently established tree at the fast growing early stage of establishment.
	SM	Semi mature	An established tree at a stage of rapid growth with increasing future growth potential
	M	Mature	A tree that is at a stage of constant growth nearing ultimate canopy size.
	V	Veteran	A mature tree, often of great ecological or heritage importance, that has reached a stage of natural decline.
Physiological Condition	Provides some evidence of the general well being of the tree. Assessed by comparison of growth characteristics with similar species in the locality and/or from personal experience.		
	Given in four classifications:		
	G	Good	
	F	Fair	
	P	Poor	
	D	Dead	

Preliminary Mgt Recommendations for tree work to bring the trees to an acceptable and safe standard in context with the current site use.

Category Category of quality assessment allocated to a tree derived from an individual's potential contribution to a site: considering tree health, condition, age and value. Full description given on Table 1 of BS5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Demolition, Design and Construction'.
Trees are colour coded on the attached Tree Survey plan.

Given in four categories:

A - Green - Trees of high quality and value
(likely to contribute a further 40+ years)

B - Blue - Trees of moderate quality and value
(likely to contribute a further 20-40 years)

C - Grey - Trees of low quality and value
(likely to contribute a further 10-20 years)

U - Red - Trees which may require removal on health and safety grounds, be in decline, infected by significant pathogens or, due to their current condition would lose their existing value within 10 years.

A provisional category may be allocated pending further advised inspection/tree work.

RPD (m) Root Protection Distance - The distance in metres of the radius of a circle depicting the root protection area required for an individual tree.

RPA (m) Root Protection Area – The total area of ground to be protected around an individual tree.

(p) Provisional quality assessment category – the highest expected category is allocated to the tree based on an incomplete preliminary visual inspection due to limited access ie. ivy clad, basal growth, dense undergrowth or off-site tree.

(e) Estimated figure due to obstruction such as ivy or off-site tree.

Tree Survey Data

TREE NO	SPECIES	HEIGHT (m)	DIAMETER AT 1.5m or arf (mm)	NO. OF STEMS				CROWN CL/NCE (m)	AGE CLASS	PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	PRELIMINARY MGT RECOMMENDATIONS	ESTIMATED REMAINING CONTRIBUTION	CATEGORY	RPD (m)	RPA (m2)	NOTES	
G1	Leyland Hedge	3	<130 ave	1	1	1	1	1	0	Young	Good	Good		20-40	C2	1.6	8	Topped and trimmed
G2	Leyland Hedge	12	<250 ave	1	3	1	1	1	0	Semi-mature	Fair	Fair		20-40	C2	3.0	28	Unmaintained hedge, previously topped at 2.5m
T1	Hornbeam	11	430	1	5.5	4	3	5.5	3	Semi-mature	Good	Good		20-40	B1	5.2	84	Bifurcated at 1.8m with included bark.
T2	Malus	4	200	1	2.5	1.5	1	2	2	Mature	Fair	Poor		< 10	U	2.4	18	Dysfunctional bark at base, dieback/decayed limbs.
G3	Leyland x 3	13	250 250 450	1	3	3	3	3	3	Semi-mature	Poor	Poor		< 10	U	6.9	148	Topped at 13m, reduced vigour, minimal foliage
G4	Leyland x 4	16	400	1	2	2	4	2	3	Semi-mature	Fair	Fair		10-20	C2	4.8	72	2 x suppressed / 2 x dominant trees - largest tree in decline.

TREE NO	SPECIES	HEIGHT (m)	DIAMETER AT 1.5m or arf (mm)	NO. OF STEMS	CROWN SPREAD N,E,S,W (m)				CROWN CL/NCE (m)	AGE CLASS	PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	PRELIMINARY MGT RECOMMENDATIONS	ESTIMATED REMAINING CONTRIBUTION	CATEGORY	RPD (m)	RPA (m2)	NOTES
T3	Goat Willow	5	120 80 80	3	6	2	1	2	0	Young	Good	Fair		20-40	C1	2.0	12	Suppressed.
T4	Cherry	7	160e	1	6	4	0	2	2	Semi-mature	Good	Fair		20-40	C1	1.9	12	Suppressed.
T5	Cherry	10	400e	1	6	4	4	4	3	Mature	Good	Good		10-20	C1	4.8	72	
T6	Cherry	12	450	1	7	6	4	6	3	Mature	Good	Good		10-20	C1	5.4	92	

Table 1 (BS5837:2012) – Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment.

Category & Definition	Criteria (Including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification On Plan
TREES UNSUITABLE FOR RETENTION (See Note)				
<p>Category U</p> <p>Those 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</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 category U 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 or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality <p>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</p>			<p>DARK RED</p>
TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION				
Category & Definition	Criteria — Subcategories			
	1 Mainly arboricultural values	2 Mainly landscape values	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
<p>Category A</p> <p>Trees of high quality With an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years</p>	<p>Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)</p>	<p>Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features</p>	<p>Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)</p>	<p>LIGHT GREEN</p>
<p>Category B</p> <p>Trees of moderate quality With an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years</p>	<p>Trees that might be included in the high category, 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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Trees with material conservation or other cultural value</p>	<p>MID BLUE</p>
<p>Category C</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>	<p>Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value</p>	<p>GREY</p>

Appendix B

Tree Constraints Plan