

Combined Arboricultural Impact Assessment/ Method Statement Land between A40 and Railway Carmarthen SA31 3RB



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Introduction

This survey was overseen by Ben Clark, Arboricultural Consultant, and Director at Tree Check Arboriculture Ltd. with over 8 years' experience in the arboriculture industry and holding the following qualifications:

- Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture
- BSc. Geology (University of Southampton)
- LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection Certificate (PTI)
- Various NPTC qualifications in tree surgery.

Ben is a technician member of the arboricultural association and attends regular training and seminars to remain up to date with current arboricultural practices.

The methodology of this report is based on the recommendations provided by the British Standards Institute document BS5837: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations, as well as other recommendations provided by institutions such as the Arboricultural Association.

Brief

Tree Check has been instructed by Jason Evans of Evans Banks Planning to carry out a tree survey and categorisation at Land between A40 and Railway, Carmarthen. Based on the findings, we were also instructed to carry out an impact assessment to consider proposed development on site, as well as produce a method statement to protect retained trees

The following information was available:

- LDP Site Layout Plan (Evans Banks 2023)

It should be noted that all of the trees recorded in this report were shown on the topographical plan, and their locations in the Tree Constraints Plan are based on GPS and should be taken as indicative only. All locations and distances should be checked on site.

The site was visited on the 01-Nov-2023 during dry and wet and overcast conditions considered reasonable for this type of survey.

Scope

- The purpose of this report is to provide a recommended method statement aimed at avoiding, or minimising negative impact to trees by proposed development.
- Trees have only received a cursory inspection and this report does not constitute a full tree condition/safety survey. Ongoing inspection should proceed as per the landowner's tree management plan.
- A tree constraints plan has been produced to indicate the locations of trees and the BS5837 calculated rooting areas. in relation to the site.
- The intended purpose of this report is that it is used as an aid to assess impact on, and constraints caused by trees when designing the layout of the site.
- Where trees have been noted to be hazardous in terms of unacceptable third-party risk this has been noted and recommendations given.
- General management recommendations have been given where appropriate.
- The inspection was carried out at ground level from inside the site and along adjacent public roads trees were not climbed and no internal decay detection was used. It is our policy to recommend further investigation with decay detection equipment where features observed during visual inspection warrant such action.
- All heights of trees were estimated from ground level.
- Branch spread was measured from the base of the trees in four cardinal directions using a laser tape measure.
- Stem Diameter was measured at 1.5m above ground level using a diameter tape measure.
- Data on the observed structural condition of the tree has been entered, e.g., collapsing, leaning and the presence of any observed decay or physical defect has been noted.

- Soil analysis has not been carried out.

Interpretation

BS Categories

Trees have been assigned retention categories in accordance with BS5837. These are as follows:

Category A- Trees with a high retention value which are either arboriculturally important, important within the landscape, or culturally/ecologically important.

Category B- Trees with a moderate retention value i.e. they are good examples of their species, provide some notable amenity value to the area, or provide significant ecological or cultural value.

Category C- Trees with a low retention value. Including trees with defects which reduce their amenity value or expected lifespan but not to the extent that they cannot be realistically retained within the development.

Category U- Trees of which retention is considered unrealistic within the context of the development due to poor condition and low life expectancy.

See [Table I](#) in the annex section of this report for more information on the allocation of categories and subcategories.

Tree Age Ratings

Y- Young trees in their early stage of growth, have undergone minimal secondary thickening and are still primarily composed of active tissue.

EM- Early mature trees that have started to show characteristics of maturity such more developed crowns and increased stem thickness.

M- Mature fully developed trees.

OM- Over mature trees that are starting to show signs of decline.

A- Ancient trees that have reached a notably old age for their species and are therefore considered to be important.

V- Veteran trees with notable features such as wounds, cavities, cracks, etc. that provide significant habitat value. These are usually older trees.

Root Protection Areas (RPA's)

Root Protection areas have been calculated according to BS5837 and represent the estimated minimum rooting area required by the tree to carry out its functions.

Excavation in this area can cause physiological or structural harm to a tree and the movement of machinery or personnel over this area can cause soil compaction and in turn, physiological harm to the tree.

There will be excavation works going on in the RPA's of several trees. The methodology of this works will be stated in this method statement.

Remaining Contribution

Remaining contribution has been estimated based on the trees overall condition, approximate age, and the life expectancy of the species in question. This is based on the assumption that new factors are not introduced that will affect the trees life expectancy, such as pathogens, climate factors or other biotic or abiotic influences.

Terminology

See annex v for a glossary of the terms commonly used in tree reports.

Trees and groups are numbered with the following prefixes:

- **T-** individual trees.
- **G-** groups of trees with similar characteristics and rooting areas.
- **H-** Hedgerows.
- **W-** woodland groups, designated as such due to the presence of woodland features such as natural regeneration,

Tree Schedule

Note: all additional recommendations to accommodate development are added in [blue](#).

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
G1	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Field Maple (Acer campestre) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	9	150	1	1	1	1	2	1	Mixed woodland planted on verge between site and highway providing screening to and from site.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	10	1.8	/
G2	N/A	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	16	350	4	0	4	4	2	5	Trees of fair form on banking between site and highway forming a good visual and acoustic barrier.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	55	4.2	/
G3	N/A	Hazel (Corylus avellana) Field Elm (Ulmus minor)	5	100	2	2	2	2	1	1	Mixed group of small trees on banking between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	4	1.2	/
G4	N/A	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Blackthorn	6	150	2	2	2	2	1	1	Mixed planted young to semi mature woodland on railway land acting as a barrier between site and railway line.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	10	1.8	/

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
		(Prunus spinosa) Oak (Quercus sp.)																
G5	N/A	Goat Willow (Salix caprea)	8	150	2	2	2	2	2	2	Multi stemmed trees with some damaged and collapsed stems.	Re-coppice group. RPA may be reduced to reflect these works if it poses a major constraint.	EM	40+	C1.2	10	1.8	/
G6	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Goat Willow (Salix caprea) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	8	150	1	1	1	1	1	1	Mixed woodland on banking next to highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	10	1.8	/
H1	N/A	Crack Willow (Salix fragilis) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur) Goat Willow (Salix caprea) Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Hawthorn (Crataegus sp.)	4	100	1	1	1	1	0	0	Mixed hedge acting as boundary between site and highway.	Consider pruning back overhanging branches to the fence line. Remove the southwest 2-3m of this hedgerow to make way for the access road and pavement.	EM	40+	B2	4	1.2	/
H2	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Hawthorn (Crataegus sp.)	7	100	1	6	4	1	0.5	1	Mature hedge bordering two fields within site.	No action required.	M	40+	B2	4	1.2	/

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
		Common Holly (Ilex aquifolium) Hazel (Corylus avellana)																
H3	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Goat Willow (Salix caprea) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	7	100	4	6	4	6	0	1	Mixed hedge line bordering two fields.	Reduce the northern edge of this group by 4m to make way for access road and pavement.	M	40+	B2	4	1.2	/
H4	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	10	150	3	3	3	3	0	0	Mixed hedge acting as a boundary between fields.	No action required.	M	40+	B2	10	1.8	/
T1	301	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	520	6	7	5	5	0.5	2.5	Tree of fair form. Has suffered some heavy pruning works previously resulting in a decaying wound at 3m. Some major deadwood observed throughout crown.	Remove all deadwood over 50mm in diameter.	EM	40+	B1,2	122	6.2	/
T2	302	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	470	4	4	5	7	1	3	Tree of good form growing out of mixed hedge. Some major deadwood in the crown.	Reduce western crown by 3m to avoid damage to foliage during construction.	M	40+	B1,2	99	5.6	/
T3	303	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	14	550	5	7	4	8	1.5	2	Twin stemmed tree with a developing compression fork at 0.5m above ground level. Poached ground	Reinspect annually for development of the compression fork. Consider	M	40+	C1,2	136	6.6	2

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
					N	E	S	W										
											with exposed surface roots around the base likely due to livestock, leaving exposed roots.	soil improvement over the rooting area to improve long term viability. Carry out 3m crown reduction to prevent damage during works.						
T4	304	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	14	700	5	6	6	6	1	2	Tree of fair form. Some decay and hollowing observed in branches around 2m. Some major deadwood in crown.	Remove all deadwood over 50mm in diameter. Reinspect every 18 months to monitor decay cavities in the crown 1-2m crown reduction to prevent overhang into the construction area and avoid damage to branches.	M	40+	B1,2	221	8.4	/
T5	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	350	2	2	5	2	2	2	Tree of fair form within woodland on verge between site and highway.	None	EM	40+	B2	55	4.2	/
T6	N/A	Field Maple (Acer campestre)	8	200	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of fair form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	18	2.4	/
T7	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of good form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	91	5.4	/
T8	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	200	4	4	6	4	2.5	3	Multistemmed tree of average form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	18	2.4	/
T9	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of good form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	91	5.4	/

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
					N	E	S	W										
T10	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of good form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	91	5.4	/
T11	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of good form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	91	5.4	/
T13	N/A	Field Maple (Acer campestre)	10	200	4	4	6	4	2.5	3	Multistemmed tree of average form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	18	2.4	/
T14	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	300	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of good form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	40	3.6	/
T15	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	300	2	2	5	2	2	1	Tree of good form in woodland on verge between site and highway.	No action required.	EM	40+	B2	40	3.6	/
T16	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	4	2	8	2	2	4	Tree of poor health on banking between site and highway. Ash Dieback Disease (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) health stage 3.	Consult landowner about removal of trees.	EM	<10	U	0	0.0	/
T17	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	4	2	8	2	2	4	Tree of poor health on banking between site and highway. Ash Dieback Disease (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) health stage 3.	Consult landowner about removal of trees.	EM	<10	U	0	0.0	/
T18	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	4	2	8	2	2	4	Tree of poor health on banking between site and highway. Ash Dieback Disease (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) health stage 3.	Consult landowner about removal of trees.	EM	<10	U	0	0.0	/
T19	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	4	2	8	2	2	4	Tree of poor health on banking between site and highway.	Consult landowner about removal of trees.	EM	<10	U	0	0.0	/

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
											Ash Dieback Disease (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) health stage 3.							
T20	N/A	Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.)	16	350	4	2	8	2	2	4	Tree of poor health on banking between site and highway. Ash Dieback Disease (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) health stage 3.	Consult landowner about removal of trees.	EM	<10	U	0	0.0	/
T21	N/A	Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.)	15	750	8	8	8	8	2	6	Standing dead tree.	Remove tree.	D	Dead	U	0	0.0	⬇
T22	305	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	18	630	2	4	8	4	1	6	Tree of hood form growing out of mixed hedge line. One snapped out branch suspended in crown observed.	Removed snapped out branch and prune back to suitable growth point.	M	40+	B1,2	179	7.6	/
T23	306	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	15	700	10	8	5	8	0	4	Tree of good form growing from hedge line.	No action required.	M	40+	B1,2	221	8.4	/
T24	N/A	Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>)	8	100	3	3	3	3	1	0	Hazel coppice on railway land overhanging site by 2m.	Consider trimming back to fence line.	M	40+	B2	4	1.2	/
T25	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	15	450	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	B1,2	91	5.4	/
T26	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	15	500	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	B1,2	113	6.0	/
T27	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	15	450	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	B1,2	91	5.4	/

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
					N	E	S	W										
T28	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	550	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	136	6.6	/
T29	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	350	4	4	4	4	1	2	Multi stemmed tree of reasonable form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	55	4.2	/
T30	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	400	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	72	4.8	/
T31	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	500	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	113	6.0	/
T32	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	300	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	40	3.6	/
T33	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	400	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	72	4.8	/
T34	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	300	4	4	4	4	1	2	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	40	3.6	/
T35	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	200	2	2	2	2	1	0.5	Tree of good form on railway land providing visual and acoustic screening between site and railway line.	Consider crown raising over site to suitable growth points.	M	40+	BI ₂	18	2.4	/

Ref	Tag	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Survey Notes	Recommendations	Life Stage	Life Expectancy (years)	Retention Category	RPA Area (m²)	RPA Radius (m)	Photo
					N	E	S	W										
T36	N/A	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	10	200	3	3	3	3	2	2	Multi stemmed coppice with many tight forks and crossing branches.	Consider removal.	EM	20-40	CI	18	2.4	/

Arboricultural Impact Assessment/Method Statement

1. Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas

There are no TPO's affecting this site which is not within a conservation area, according to data obtained from Carmarthenshire Councils online mapping service.

2. Tree Removal

Trees at the southern edge of H1 are to be removed to make way for the installation of the access road and pavement. Due to the small volume of the hedge being removed, this will have a minimal impact on the site as a whole.

An area approximately 16m² is to be removed from the eastern side of H1 to allow for a work zone for the installation of the gas line.

3. Pruning Works

The following pruning works are recommended to facilitate the development:

- H3 is to be pruned by 4m laterally on the northern edge to make way for the installation of the access road and pavement footpath, and prevent mechanical damage to the crown in the process.

The following control measures must be followed when carrying out pruning works:

Method Statement:

- All pruning is to be carried out by competent, trained individuals in accordance with BS3998.
- All pruning cuts should be made to the nearest suitable growth points utilising natural target pruning. Suitable growth points where a section equal to less than the prescribed dose is removed are preferable, growth points where the cut is more than 3x the diameter of the retained growth point are undesirable.
- Contractors must be made aware of relevant legal constraints such as tree preservation orders or conservation areas, where they apply to trees that are to be pruned.
- Work shall not be carried out on these trees until approval is granted by the local planning authority.
- No cuts greater than 100mm in diameter are to be made on the main stem of the tree. If there are primary branches with a greater diameter than this below the required clearance, they are to be retained and the design adjusted in order to accommodate these branches.
- All cuts made on to the main stem must be to the branch collar utilising natural target pruning and ensuring that the branch collar is retained.

4. Root Protection Areas (RPA's)

Root Protection areas have been calculated according to BS5837. These represent the below ground constraints for a given tree, the radius of which is included in the tree schedule and represented as an orange circle or polygon on the tree constraints plan.

5. Impact from Construction Activity

Physical Damage

Wherever construction or demolition work takes place on a site with retained trees, there is a risk of damage to the branches of retained trees from the movement and use of plant within the site.

The following trees are at significant risk of direct physical damage during development works and the methodology outlined below must be followed in areas of caution in order to prevent such incidents from occurring:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| • T1 | • T23 |
| • T2 | • H1 |
| • T3 | • H2 |
| • T4 | • H3 |
| • T21 | • H4 |
| • T22 | • H6 |

Control Measures

- By maintaining a construction exclusion zone, with tree protective barrier fencing segregating retained trees from the rest of site, physical damage to trees can be avoided.
- Tree protective barrier fencing must be installed in the configuration outlined in the [Tree Protection Plan](#).
- The default tree protective fencing, as shown in [appendix iv](#) is appropriate for this site.
- The crowns of all trees must be enclosed within the tree protective fencing. If more space is needed than the current crown extents allow, the project arboriculturalist must be consulted in order to arrange appropriate pruning measures.
- Machine operators are to be briefed on positioning their equipment to avoid contact with branches from retained trees and the root protection zones.

Chemical Damage

There is a risk of chemical damage to trees from the mixing and storage of cement and other damaging chemicals.

The following trees are at significant risk of chemical damage during development works and the methodology outlined below must be followed in areas of caution in order to prevent such incidents from occurring:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| • T1 | • T23 |
| • T2 | • H1 |
| • T3 | • H2 |
| • T4 | • H3 |
| • T21 | • H4 |
| • T22 | • H6 |

Control Measures

- Materials that may have an adverse effect on the health of trees will not be stored or transported within the RPA. E.g., oil, bitumen, cement, and concrete.
- Concrete and cement will not be mixed within 10m of the base of trees.
- Cement and concrete will be mixed downhill from the base of trees or watercourses to avoid the risk of contamination to runoff.
- Where it is not possible to mix and store concrete downhill from trees and watercourses, sediment barriers will be used to prevent runoff from storage and mixing areas.

Soil Compaction

With the movement of personnel and machinery around site, there is always a risk of soil compaction when construction activity takes place near retained trees.

The following trees are at significant risk of damage through soil compaction during development works and the methodology outlined below must be followed in areas of caution in order to prevent such incidents from occurring:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| • T1 | • T22 |
| • T2 | • T23 |
| • T3 | • H1 |
| • T4 | • H2 |
| • T21 | • H3 |

- H4

- H6

Control Measures

- By maintaining a construction exclusion zone, with tree protective barrier fencing segregating retained trees from the rest of site, soil compaction related damage to trees can be avoided.
- Tree protective barrier fencing must be installed in the configuration outlined in the [Tree Protection Plan](#).
- The default tree protective fencing, as shown in [appendix iv](#) is appropriate for this site.
- No materials are to be stored within the RPA's of trees for any period of time, including in areas of caution.
- All RPA's are to be checked on site and marked out, measured based on the RPA radius shown in the tree schedule.

6. RPA Incursions

Construction of Heavy Structures Within the RPA's of Retained Trees

Construction within the RPA of retained trees can cause damage through root severance and negatively impact the health of the tree by removing potential rooting medium.

There are no conflicts between the RPA's of trees on site with the current proposed layout of buildings or heavy structures.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

Demolition Within the RPA's of Retained Trees

No demolition work is proposed within the root protection areas of retained trees.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

Installation of Services Within the RPA's of Retained Trees

The proposed gas pipeline route crosses the RPA of T1 approximately 2.1m from the base of the tree. A conventional trench along this line would cut off approximately 25% of the RPA of this tree, which would have a high likelihood of causing significant physiological decline within this tree, or destabilisation through the loss of structural roots.

Control Measures

- Excavation works within the RPA of T1 should be carried out under the supervision of the project arboriculturalist.
- The project arboriculturalist and gas engineer are to consult on the possibility of retaining roots in the trench during installation.
- Project arboriculturalist to assess the extent of root loss to determine if the tree can be safely retained following consultation with the gas engineer and observation of excavations on site.

Hard Surfacing Within the RPA's of Retained Trees

No Hard surfacing work is proposed within the RPA of any retained trees on site.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

Other Excavation Works in RPA's

No excavation works within the RPA of trees is proposed. If the design is changed to include the necessity for excavation within the RPA of any retained trees, the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

7. Level Changes

No conflicts involving level changes are anticipated on site, although no level data has been provided. If there are any significant level changes around trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

8. Impact of Retained Trees on the Proposed Structure

Shading Issues

Shading may be an issue where large trees cast a shadow on living spaces for a significant part of the day. As the proposed use of this site is commercial and not residential there is no significant impact from shading.

- No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

Nuisance Caused by Detritus From Trees

Falling leaves, twigs and other material can cause significant nuisance to residents and users of site, leading to increased pressure for removal, the most common causes of nuisance from detritus are outlined here:

- **Accumulation of leaves in guttering-** All trees on site are at least 2m away from proposed structures, with a lack of overhang there is minimal risk of excessive accumulation of leaves in guttering during the short and medium term.
 - Installation of gutter guards on the units to the east of T2, T3 and T4 may prevent future management issues.
- **Accumulation of leaves on footpaths, patios, decking and other hard surfaces-** The access road passes close to a number of retained trees on site, most notably T1, G7, H1 and H3. There is a chance that leaf accumulation may present a minor general nuisance to site users.
 - Site management plan should factor in the removal of leaf detritus from roads and walkways, particularly in the autumn.
- **Accumulation of leaves on vehicles or damage to paintwork through honeydew-** There are no trees overhanging designated parking areas.
 - No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

Perceived Threat of Damage to Property Through Tree Failure

Not applicable on this site.

- No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

Displacement of Lightweight Structures through Secondary Root Thickening

There is no significant risk of displacement of lightweight structures or surfacing through the secondary root thickening of retained trees.

- No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

Indirect Damage through Shrinkable Clay Soils

Larger trees can cause indirect damage to structures by removing water from clay rich soils, causing them to contract, which potentially leads to subsidence.

- No soil analysis has been carried out but, geotechnical advice including soil testing should be taken when construction is taking place near large trees. For advice on avoiding subsidence related damage refer to NHBC Chapter 4.2.

Potential Damage Through Branch Contact

Not applicable on this site.

- No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

9. Drainage and SUDS

No drainage plans have been provided but the topography of the site and positioning of trees does not suggest any likely conflicts between drainage arrangements and trees, if any drainage features are proposed near any arranged trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted, including situations where water may be diverted towards or away from trees.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

10. Conflict from Boundary Walls and Fences

There is no conflict between proposed boundary walls and fences with retained trees.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

11. Conflict with Proposed Landscaping and Retained Trees

Not applicable for this site.

- If the proposed layout is changed in any way that causes a conflict with the RPA of retained trees the project arboriculturalist must be consulted.

12. Scope for Preventing Tree Losses through Design Change

Design changes to prevent tree loss are not warranted due to the low overall value of proposed tree losses.

- No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

13. Mitigation of Tree Losses

Minimal tree losses not requiring mitigation.

- No specific methodology is applicable for this section due to absence of significant impact.

Appendix

Appendix i: Photographs taken on site.

Appendix ii: Tree constraints plan showing the location of trees and their root protection areas

Appendix iii: Tree protection/loss/retention plan showing the location of trees, their root protection areas and their retention category in relation to the proposed development.

Appendix iv: A cascade chart from BS5837: 2012- Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction– Recommendations explaining the categorisation of trees.

Appendix v: A diagram showing the recommended configuration for tree protective fencing, from BS5837: 2012- Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction– Recommendations.

Appendix vi: A Glossary of terms and phrases commonly used in tree reports.

Appendix vii: References.

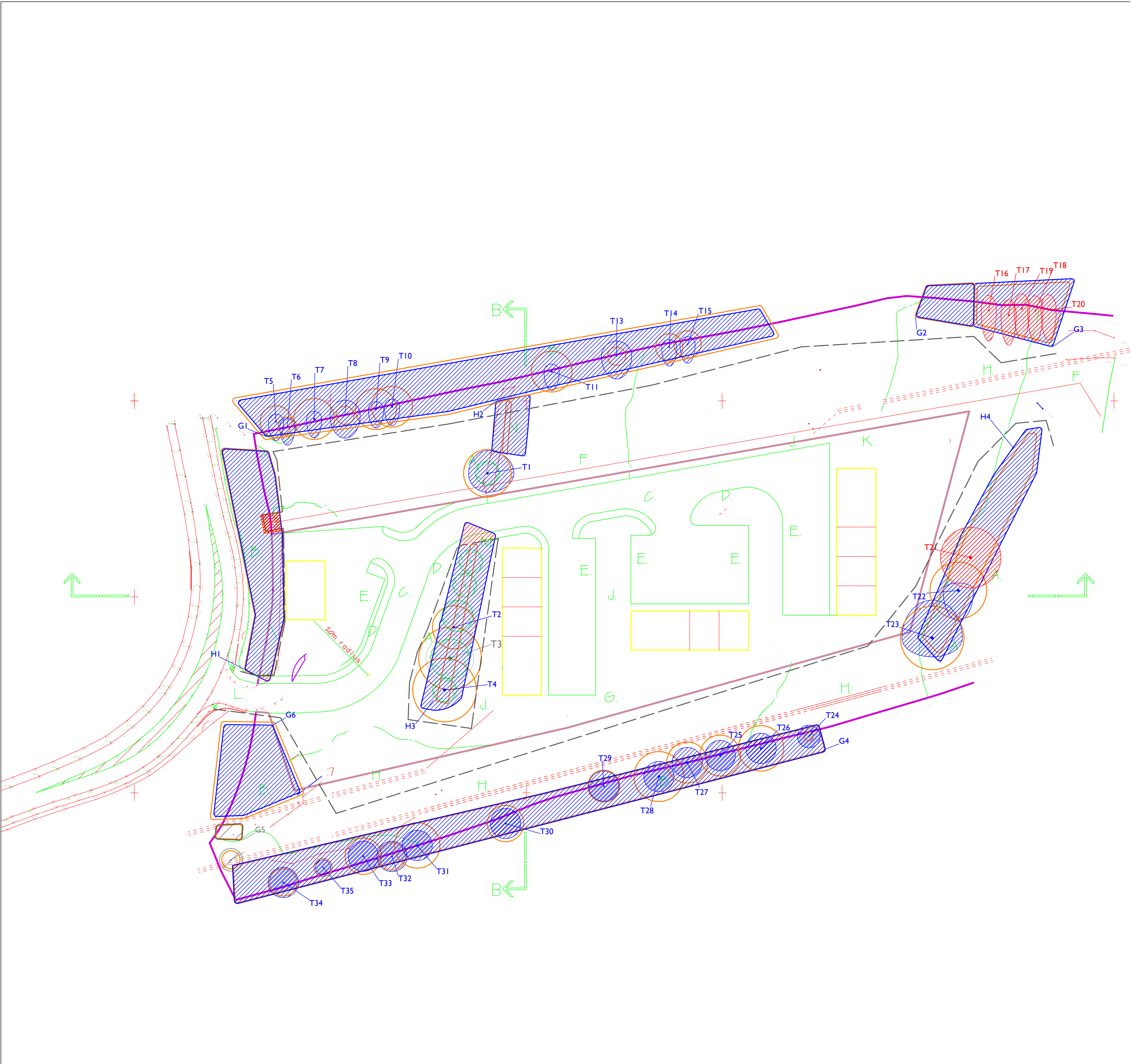
Appendix i: Photographs

Photo I: [T21](#) Dead Ash tree.



Photo 2: [T3](#) Exposed roots due to livestock grazing.





Ref	Tag	Species	Height	Stem Diam (mm)	Life Stage	Life Expectancy	Retention Category	RPA Area (m ²)	RPA Radius (m)
G1	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Field Maple (Acer campestre) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	9	150	EM	40+	B2	10	1.8
G2	N/A	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Hazel (Corylus avellana)	16	350	EM	40+	B2	55	4.2
G3	N/A	Field Elm (Ulmus minor)	5	100	EM	40+	B2	4.5	1.2
G4	N/A	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Oak (Quercus sp.)	6	150	EM	40+	B2	10	1.8
G5	N/A	Goat Willow (Salix caprea)	8	150	EM	40+	C1, 2	10	1.8
G6	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Goat Willow (Salix caprea) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	8	150	EM	40+	B2	10	1.8
H1	N/A	Crack Willow (Salix fragilis) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur) Goat Willow (Salix caprea) Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Hawthorn (Crataegus sp.)	4	100	EM	40+	B2	4.5	1.2
H2	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Hawthorn (Crataegus sp.) Common Holly (Ilex aquifolium) Hazel (Corylus avellana)	7	100	M	40+	B2	4.5	1.2
H3	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Goat Willow (Salix caprea) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	7	100	M	40+	B2	4.5	1.2
H4	N/A	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) Hazel (Corylus avellana) Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	10	150	M	40+	B2	10	1.8
T1	301	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	520	EM	40+	B1,2	122	6.2
T2	302	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	470	M	40+	B1,2	100	5.6
T3	303	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	14	550	M	40+	C1, 2	137	6.6
T4	304	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	14	700	M	40+	B1,2	222	8.4
T5	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	350	EM	40+	B2	55	4.2
T6	N/A	Field Maple (Acer campestre)	8	200	EM	40+	B2	18	2.4
T7	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	EM	40+	B2	92	5.4
T8	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	200	EM	40+	B2	18	2.4
T9	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	EM	40+	B2	92	5.4
T10	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	EM	40+	B2	92	5.4
T11	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	450	EM	40+	B2	92	5.4
T12	N/A	Field Maple (Acer campestre)	10	200	EM	40+	B2	18	2.4
T13	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	10	200	EM	40+	B2	41	3.6
T14	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	300	EM	40+	B2	41	3.6
T15	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	12	300	EM	40+	B2	41	3.6
T16	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	EM	<10	U	0	0
T17	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	EM	<10	U	0	0
T18	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	EM	<10	U	0	0
T19	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	EM	<10	U	0	0
T20	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	16	350	EM	<10	U	0	0
T21	N/A	Ash (Fraxinus sp.)	15	750	D	Dead	U	0	0
T22	305	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	18	630	M	40+	B1,2	180	7.6
T23	306	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	700	M	40+	B1,2	222	8.4
T24	N/A	Hazel (Corylus avellana)	8	100	M	40+	B2	4.5	1.2
T25	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	450	M	40+	B1,2	92	5.4
T26	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	500	M	40+	B1,2	113	6
T27	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	450	M	40+	B1,2	92	5.4
T28	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	550	M	40+	B1,2	137	6.6
T29	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	350	M	40+	B1,2	55	4.2
T30	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	400	M	40+	B1,2	72	4.8
T31	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	500	M	40+	B1,2	113	6
T32	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	300	M	40+	B1,2	41	3.6
T33	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	400	M	40+	B1,2	72	4.8
T34	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	300	M	40+	B1,2	41	3.6
T35	N/A	Pedunculate Oak (Quercus robur)	15	200	M	40+	B1,2	18	2.4
T36	N/A	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	10	200	EM	40	C1	18	2.4

- Category A.
Trees with high retention value.

- Category B.
Trees with moderate retention value.

- Category C.
Trees with low retention value.

- Category U.
Trees unsuitable for retention due to condition

- Root Protection Area (RPA)

Canopy extents, hatched area represents area within the canopy.

Location of tree base, taken from position on TOPO or GPS.

Reference number
(T for trees, G for groups, W for woodlands, H for hedges).

RPA- an indication of the estimated minimum rooting area required by the tree.
Calculated in accordance with BS5837.

Tree or crown loss to make way for development.

Tree Protection Plan- Land
Between A40 and Railway

I:400 at A1

Client

Evans Banks Planning

Survey Code

2335

Drawn by

BC

Surveyed by

BC

Date

08/02/2024

Tree Check

Arboriculture Ltd.

Ben Clark

TechArbora, Dip Arb L4 (ABC)

Tree Check Arboriculture Ltd.

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Drawing designed to be viewed in colour.
Indicative only, check all RPA's on site in accordance with table.

Appendix iii: Cascade Table for the Categorisation of Trees (BS5837)

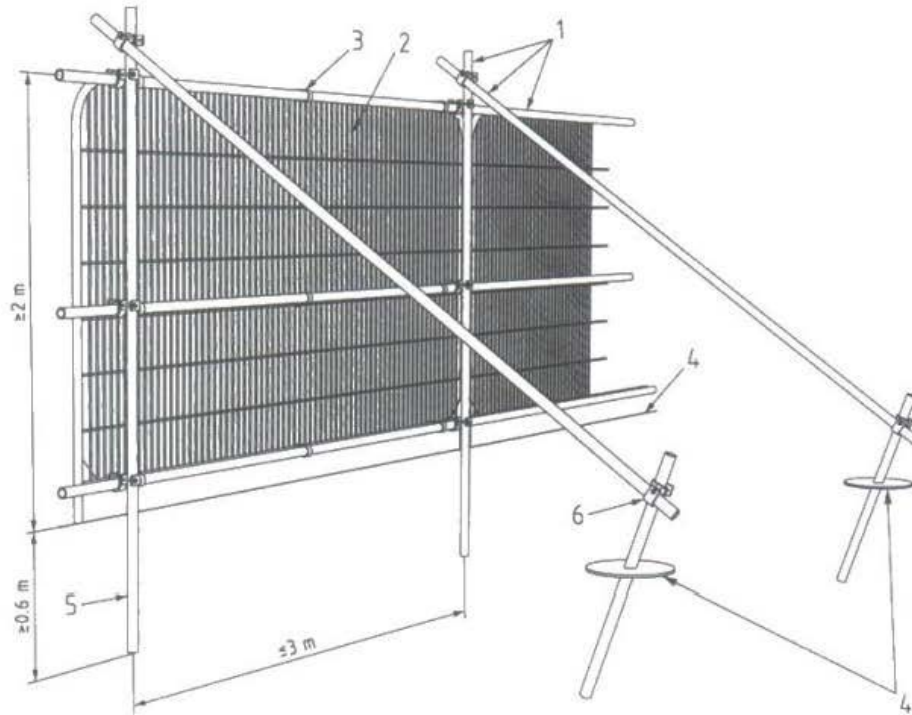
Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)		
Category U 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	- 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, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7		
	1 Mainly Arboricultural values	2 Mainly landscape values	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation
Category A Those of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	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)	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)
Category B Those of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	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 benefits
Category C Those of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	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 value

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Appendix iv: Recommended Configuration for Tree Protective Fencing (BS5837)

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



Key

- 1 Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
- 4 Ground level
- 5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
- 6 Standard scaffold clamps

Appendix v: Glossary

Aerial Inspection: A close inspection of the aerial part of a tree, either by mobile elevated work platform (MEWP) or by a tree surgeon (climbing inspection). **Adaptive Growth;** The growth of new wood in response to a stress concentration in the structure of a tree

Adventitious; A shoot which arises from tissue other than a growing shoot apex or bud, for instance in callus associated with a wound.

Anchorage; The holding of the structural root system of a tree with in the soil,.

Architecture; the formation and distribution of a trees branch system.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment: That part of the BS 5837 (2012) procedure that evaluates the tree-related constraints to a development (loss of trees, encroachment into root protection areas etc.).

Arboricultural Method Statement: That part of the BS 5837 (2012) procedure that sets out how site works should be carried out near trees to avoid accidental damage.

Arboriculturalist: A person skilled or knowledgeable in the field of arboriculture. The alternative term 'arboriculturalist' is sometimes used. A Person trained and experienced in the management of trees, and trees in relation to construction.,

Assessment; The process of examining the variables involving a trees condition and location in order to assess the risk posed by an individual tree.

Bole (trunk): The main , vertical stem or trunk of a tree.

Branch: a limb extending from the main stem or parent branch of a tree

Canopy: the combined foliage of a group of trees or a woodland, i.e. the combined area of numerous crowns.

Construction Exclusion Zone; The part of a development site from which all pedestrian and vehicular movements are excluded by protective fencing, typically to ensure the wellbeing of trees, during site works. Usually determined by the RPA of a tree.

Crown: in arboriculture the main foliage-bearing portion of a tree containing the leaves and branches

Defect: Any feature of a tree that is likely to make it less safe (in the case of a structural defect) or otherwise to reduce its health, longevity, landscape prominence or conservation value for any other reason.

Dysfunction: The cessation of physiological function in woody material, especially vascular functions such as water and sap transportation.

Failure: Fracture or deformation in any load bearing part of the tree, compromising stability or causing loss of support for part of, or all of the tree structure,

Group: More than one tree in close proximity that possess sufficient similarity or cohesiveness that they can be treated as a single entity for the purpose of this report.

Heave: deformation of shrinkable clay soil related to the expansion caused by rehydration.

Leader: the dominant, vertical shoot or stem of a tree.

Pruning: The cutting off or cutting back of tree branches or foliage to direct growth, remove an obstructing part, mitigate a nuisance, make safe, remove a diseased part, increase longevity, simulate natural damage, enhance habitat for wildlife etc.

Retained Tree: a tree that has been considered suitable for retention and therefore selected to remain as part of the final site layout.

Risk: the likelihood of a hazard to cause actual harm to people or property,

Root Protection Area (RPA); The area around the base of a tree that contains sufficient root volume to ensure the future well-being of the tree in the event of nearby soil disturbance (as on a development site). It is calculated according to guidelines in BS 5837 (2012).

Subsidence (branch): Branches, especially if spreading, tend gradually to subside under their own weight, and may eventually reach ground level in large open-grown trees. Rapid subsidence may result in crown separation or congested bark and can lead to branch failure where there is no support within the elastic limit of a given branch.

Subsidence (soil): Broadly, the downward movement of ground and an affected foundation influenced by soil properties, weather, foundation depth and nearby vegetation.

Targets: An element of tree risk: the subject of injury or damage within range of a hazard.

Tree: The definition of 'tree' is a composite of tree species, tree form and tree size. The blue book offers the following: A perennial plant with a self-supporting woody main stem, usually developing woody branches at some distance from the ground and growing to a considerable height and size. This definition has the three main elements in general form. **For the purposes of 5837 surveys, only plants with a stem diameter of 75mm or above are considered trees.**

Tree Constraint Plan (TCP): Site plan showing the tree-related constraints to development as envisaged in BS 5837 (2012). Common constraints are the loss of trees, encroachment into a tree's root protection area.

Tree Condition Inspection/Survey: A procedure to inspect a tree or trees. Variables used to describe a tree include position (if not already plotted on a topographical survey), species identity, maturity, various dimensions (main stem diameter, height, crown radius etc.), aspects of form, vigour, condition, incidence of pests, diseases, damage and defects, evidence of past management etc. Site factors, position in the landscape and site usage may also be relevant, usually including its position, species identity, dimensions, age class, condition, conservation value etc. as appropriate, and to identify and evaluate defects. It is also common to make management recommendations (see schedule of works). Tree inspection is a fundamental of tree management and advisory practice in arboriculture.

Tree Preservation Order: (UK) an order made by a local authority or other planning authority to protect a tree, group of trees, area of (scattered) trees or woodland under Part VIII of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. There have been several amendments, the latest being the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012. An order is generally made on the grounds of amenity and expediency. Anyone proposing works to a TPO tree must seek prior consent from the authority using the form IAPP. With the advent of the 2012 regulations, some of the detail in existing TPOs in England has been revoked.

Tree Protection Plan: scale drawing prepared by an arboriculturalist showing the final layout proposals, tree retention and tree and landscape protection measures detailed within the arboricultural method statement (AMS), which can be shown graphically.

Trunk: see bole.

Vigour: The health and resilience of a tree (from the Latin 'to be strong'), reflected in the capacity of the whole tree to grow (see growth rate). The term is often used as a description of overall condition on a qualitative scale from 'high' to 'low'.

Visual Tree Assessment (VTA): The standard approach to tree risk assessment consisting of the diagnosis of structural defects and the evaluation of their significance from visible signs and the application of biomechanical criteria. Simple equipment such as a sounding mallet, probe and binoculars are commonly used.

Wind exposure: the degree to which a tree or other object is exposed to wind, with regard both to duration and velocity, often taking into account prevailing wind directions.

Windthrow: the blowing over of a tree at its roots.

Appendix vi: References

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Terms and conditions

The Client is the party commissioning and funding the survey. The Consultant is any person(s) employed by Tree Check Arboriculture LTD to carry out any related works, as well as Tree Check Arboriculture LTD as an entity.

Limitations

1. This survey reflects the condition of the trees as they were observed on 04/10/2023. The condition of trees can change quickly and if any significant change is observed then a qualified arboriculturist should be consulted regardless of the recommended reinspection period.
2. While every attempt has been made to provide accurate recommendations based on the condition of the observed trees, Tree Check Arboriculture Ltd. can accept no liability for damage, injury, or loss of property caused by faults that were not apparent at the time of inspection. These include but are not limited to faults that may only be visible seasonally such as fungal fruiting bodies, or faults that were obscured or inaccessible to the surveyor such as those high up in the crown or obscured by ivy.
3. During adverse weather conditions such as storms, otherwise healthy trees can fail. Trees should be visually inspected after any high winds.
4. This report cannot predict the reaction of inspected trees to external factors such as extreme climate events, accidents, or vandalism.
5. The author(s) can accept no liability for damages if the recommended works are not carried out as per this report in line with BS:3998.
6. Operational recommendations (e.g.) climb and dismantle, are for loose guidance only. It remains the responsibility of the assigned contractor to decide on the safest work method. Tree Check Arboriculture LTD. accepts no responsibility for damages occurring during the carrying out of recommended works.
7. This report does not cover any underground part of trees, nor does it consider any affect inspected trees may have on shrinkable clay soils since these issues are almost entirely restricted to areas of shrinkable clay soils and soil analysis was not specified in the brief.
8. **Recommendations made in this report do not override any legislation covering the affected trees. Trees in a conservation area, trees subject to preservation orders and groups of trees requiring felling licenses still require relevant permissions before work can be carried out. Unless otherwise agreed the Tree Check Arboriculture LTD will not be checking for the presence of this legislation or be applying for these permissions. The Client must contact the consultant if they are unsure on this matter.**
9. Certain areas of the site were inaccessible in the time scale of this survey due to dense vegetation cover. Areas and trees where this has been an issue are described in certain trees and groups in the survey table.
10. **The findings of this report cannot be relied upon after 12 months from the time of inspection or the recommended reinspection date (if sooner).**

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2. It is prohibited to make any amendments or omissions to this report under any circumstances. This report should be provided unaltered and in full to any third-party advisors, contractors or other involved parties to ensure that the hazards highlighted are understood and the necessary remedial works are commissioned. Failure to comply will invalidate the report and Tree Check Arboriculture Ltd. will accept no liability for damages occurring.
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4. This report only covers the scope described in the introduction of this report, as discussed with the client, Trees, and methods of inspection not described in the scope were not included, and it is the client's responsibility to bring it to the attention of Tree Check Arboriculture LTD if they feel the scope doesn't fully meet their requirements.
5. The consultant is under no obligation to inspect trees in areas that are not freely accessible. It is the client's responsibility to ensure that all relevant areas of site are legally and practically accessible to the consultant.
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