

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

For Trees On

Land Adjacent To Preston Street,

Whitehaven



For Avison Young







Document Verification

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 We are instructed by Avison Young to provide an Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) for the significant trees located within a specified area adjacent to Preston Street, Whitehaven.
- 1.2 This report is produced to evaluate the proposed construction of a retail food store with associated infrastructure. The developments juxtaposition with the existing trees is considered.
- 1.3 We were provided with the following documents:
- Existing plan in digital AutoCAD format
- Proposed development plans in digital AutoCAD format
- 1.4 This assessment is concerned with recording the species, size and condition of the trees. Recommendations are made where appropriate to establish acceptable levels of safety for the site and also to establish a higher level of arboricultural management.
- 1.5 The trees are also evaluated for the purposes of British Standard 5837-2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition & construction, with regard to their quality and value. The type and size of the root protection area is calculated and the position of the protective barriers is determined. The remaining contribution or safe useful life expectancy is estimated as an indication of the trees period of retention.
- 1.6 All observations were from ground level without detailed investigation. No invasive examination or climbing inspections were carried out to confirm visual or audible signs of defect and no tissue or soil samples were taken for laboratory analysis.
- 1.7 Trees are living organisms whose health and condition may change rapidly and all observations, recommendations and conclusions are based on the status of the tree at the time of inspection. The recommendations contained within this report are valid for a period of one year only.
- 1.7.1 Both abiotic and biotic factors can alter the health/structural integrity of trees rapidly. No liability can be accepted for any physiological or structural deterioration of the tree occurring after the date of our inspection or that was not evident on the day of inspection. Where this report is relied upon at a later date the reader should be aware that the physiological and structural condition of the surveyed trees may have changed; Re-inspection may lead to significantly different observations, recommendations and conclusions.
- 1.7.2 Any significant alteration to the site which may affect the trees (demolition activity, construction activity, alterations to infrastructure, level

changes, hydrological changes, extreme climatic events, etc) will necessitate a re- assessment of the trees.

1.8 This report was prepared for use by our client in accordance with the terms of the contract and for planning purposes only. It is not a substitute for a tree condition, insurance, or mortgage service. Information provided by third parties used in the preparation of this report is assumed to be correct. The contents are copyright and may not be duplicated or used by third parties without the written consent of AllAboutTrees Ltd.

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.
- 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 <u>full</u> 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 Copeland Borough Council (the Local Planning Authority) on Thursday 3rd August 2023 that there are no restrictions protecting the trees on the site. The site is not within a Conservation area and there are no TPOs imposed on any trees within the site.

3. Site Visit & Description

Site location – N 54° 32' 32.84 W 03° 35' 19.98 O/S Grid reference- NX 973 175 GB Grid



Figure 1 - The study area is indicated by the red boundary line as shown on the above image.

- 3.1 A site visit was undertaken on Friday 1st September 2023 by Tim Archment. The weather was fine with no visibility constraints.
- 3.2 The study area is located to the east of Preston Street, Whitehaven. For descriptive purposes the study area can be split into three areas:
- To the north is a carpark with boundaries defined by stone walls. The surfacing is poor and the pay machines were out of order at the time of the site visit. Despite this the car park appeared relatively well used.
- The second area is found to the south, to the rear of the 'The Ginns' and has been fenced off from the remainder of the site. The plot does not appear to have been managed in a fair quantity of time and is being colonised by Buddleja. Old concrete pads remain and a quantity of old worn tyres have been deposited here.
- The final area is the large space which forms the majority of the site.
 Following demolition of the buildings which formerly occupied the area,
 the plot appears to have been left unmanaged. It has now been colonised
 with a dense swathe of pioneer species, primarily Goat willow. Navigation
 of this portion of this site is arduous given the density of stems. Japanese
 knotweed was also found in multiple locations.
- 3.3 The site slopes uphill to the south. There were no apparent drainage issues at the time of the survey.

4. Appraisal

- 4.1 The trees have been surveyed on site and plotted on the site plan. Their positions (trees 2-5) are considered accurate given the provision of a detailed topographical survey. Some trees however were missed during the land survey and the positions of these have been determined using a laser distometer and triangulation calculations (tree 1) or aerial photography (trees 6-9).
- 4.2 All significant trees have been inspected and the smaller specimens included for accuracy. Individual recommendations are included within Appendix 1 of this report.

4.3 Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

4.3.1 The British Standard Root Protection Areas (RPAs) are indicated by the red circles surrounding the trunk position of the trees on the associated plans. These indicative circles do not take into consideration site specific conditions such as the presence of buildings, roads, footpaths, topography, underground utility services etc. and are representative of typical root morphology where said structures are not encountered.

4.4 Tree Removals

- 4.4.1 It will be necessary to remove some of the existing trees to facilitate the proposed development:
- Trees 2-9
- Groups 2, 3, 5
- The majority of group 4

will need to be removed to facilitate the construction of the new building and associated infrastructure.

4.4.2 A breakdown of recommended removals, alongside their BS5837 category rating is provided in the table below. For further information regarding the BS5837 quality categorisation system please refer to Appendix 2 (II).

Tree Category Rating	Remove To Facilitate The Development
A – High	-
B – Moderate	Trees 6-9
C – Low	Trees 2-5
	Groups 2, 3, 5 and
	The majority of group 4
U – Unsuitable For Retention	-

4.4.3 A fair quantity of the recommended removals are due to direct conflict (trees 2-4, 6, and large portions of groups 2 & 4). The remainder have been

specified for removal to allow new landscaping to be implemented on an unrestricted canvass. Removal of trees and groups will also allow the Japanese knotweed to be addressed via excavation rather than repetitive herbicide applications (if appropriate).

4.4.4 The proposed plans indicate a planting scheme will be implemented to complement the proposed development. Careful consideration should be given to all new planting positions to ensure the trees can grow fully into maturity without requiring major or regular pruning works. New specimens should not be positioned in close proximity to buildings, windows or utility services.

4.5 Retained Trees

4.5.1 Protective barriers as per section 5.1 of this report should be erected around all retained trees in the position indicated by the blue line on the Tree Protection Plan prior to any works on site. Signs should also be attached stating that the area is a protected zone and should not be entered.

4.6 Japanese Knotweed

4.6.1 Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is established at multiple locations within the study area among group 4. It is also present on the adjacent vacant plot immediately east of the study area.



Figure 2 - Japanese Knotweed (Fallopia japonica)

4.6.2 Japanese knotweed is an invasive perennial introduced to the UK from Japan between 1825 and 1841 as an ornamental plant, and as cattle fodder. Today Japanese knotweed is recognised as an invasive and threatening species. It is classed as a 'controlled waste' in Britain under part 2 of the Environmental protection Act 1990 which requires disposal of all parts, and infected soil, by a licensed waste controller.

- 4.6.3 Japanese knotweed can spread prolifically through rhizomes, generating from fragments as small as 0.4g. This makes a thorough control strategy extremely important, given Japanese knotweeds ability to damage manmade structures. Japanese knotweed's invasive manner and strong growth is capable of damaging foundations, buildings, roads, paths etc.
- 4.6.4 As a non-native Japanese knotweed thrives in the UK as many of the pests and diseases which control it in Japan are not present in the UK. Our native flora cannot compete with the vigorous summer growth or the thick mulch of decaying canes and leaves over winter. As such Japanese knotweed thrives in the UK, to the detriment of our native species.
- 4.6.5 Legislation relevant to Japanese knotweed is as follows:
- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981): Under Schedule 9, Section 14
 of the Act, it is an offence to plant or otherwise cause the species to
 grow in the wild.
- Environmental Protection Act (1990): Japanese knotweed is classed as 'controlled waste' and as such must be disposed of safely at a licensed landfill site according to the Environmental Protection Act (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991. Soil containing rhizome material can be regarded as contaminated and, if taken off site, must be disposed of at a suitably licensed landfill site and buried to a depth of at least 5m.
- Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act (2014): Under the powers of this act police and local council authorities have the power to issue individuals and businesses with Community Protection Notices. This notice could require the recipient to make reasonable efforts to remove the knotweed from their property or prevent the knotweed from returning. Failure to meet the requirements of this notice, without a reasonable excuse, could be treated as a criminal offence making the recipient liable to a fixed penalty notice or prosecution.
- Third party litigation Landowners can be sued for costs and damages
 if they fail to prevent knotweed from spreading to a neighbouring property.
 Failure to manage and dispose of Japanese knotweed responsibly may
 lead to prosecution.
- 4.6.6 We would recommend a full invasive species survey is conducted of the site and adjacent surroundings. This will allow an informed management plan to be implemented.

4.7 Wildlife Habitats

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

Bats

- 4.7.2 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
- Damage or destroy a bat roosting place (even if bats are not 3. 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.)

- 4.7.3 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.
- 4.7.4 No visual signs were found to indicate the presence of bats in the surveyed trees.
- 4.7.5 When carrying out tree works it is essential that the contractor or other competent person carriers 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 we should be contacted so that our licenced Ecologist can advise further.

Birds

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

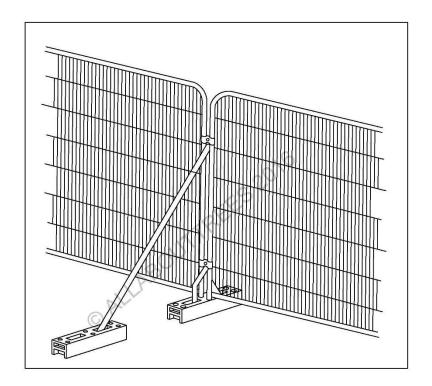
In England, Scotland and Wales the legislation that protects wild birds is:

- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Countryside (or CRoW) Act 2000
- 4.7.7 No nesting birds were seen at the time of inspection though given the scope of the site, and the extent of vegetation, significant potential exists for birds to nest and as such caution must be exercised.
- 4.7.8 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.

5. Tree Protection Measures

5.1 Root Protection Area & Barrier Specification

- 5.1.1 Trees on development sites are prone to damage during the course of demolition and construction works. Retained trees need to be protected in line with British Standard 5837–2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition & construction.
- 5.1.2 This usually involves identifying a construction exclusion zone around the tree which should remain undisturbed with appropriate protective barriers preventing access to this Root Protection Area for the duration of the project.
- 5.1.3 The minimum root protection areas (measured in a radius from the centre of the tree to the protective barrier) are outlined for each individual tree and the barrier layout is indicated on the plan.
- 5.1.4 The exact root spread of an individual tree is difficult to quantify, but in general, the bulk of a tree's roots are situated in the upper 600mm of the soil with the finer absorbing roots prevalent in the upper 250mm.
- 5.1.5 Dependant on soil conditions and the species of the tree, the root plate may extend radially for distances in excess of the height of the tree.
- 5.1.6 In the case of development sites, the root protection area is designed to prevent any significant long-term damage to the tree by protecting the root plate and to some extent the lower branches of the tree.
- 5.1.7 The barriers should be erected prior to work commencing on site and should remain until construction activities have been completed. The root protection area should be considered essential and should not be removed or altered without prior recommendation by an Arboriculturalist and approval of the local planning authority.
- 5.1.8 The barrier should consist of a 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.
- 5.1.9 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.
- 5.1.10 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.



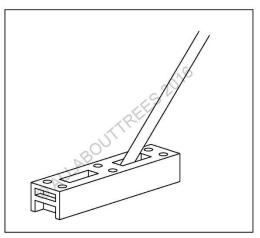


Figure 3 - Stabiliser strut mounted on block tray.



Figure 4 – An example of a barrier erected on a site

5.2 Service Runs

- 5.2.1 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.
- 5.2.2 Acceptable techniques (fuller details in the appendices) for the laying of services in order of preference are:
- Trenchless- by using thrust boring or similar techniques
- Broken Trench- to be dug by hand
- Continuous trench- to be dug by hand
- 5.2.3 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.
- 5.2.4 When underground apparatus is to pass within the RPA of a retained tree, trenchless insertion methods should be used (see table below) with entry and retrieval pits sited outside the RPA.
- 5.2.5 Shallow services runs may be dug with hand tools if appropriate and preferably by compressed air soil displacement. Roots, whilst exposed, should immediately be wrapped or covered to prevent desiccation and to protect them from rapid temperature changes. Any wrapping should be removed prior to backfilling, which should take place as soon as possible.

Trend	chless Soli	utions For	Installation O	f Underground Se	ervices
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 pipes, 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	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

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 As with any construction exercise near trees, there are potential areas of conflict where damage could be caused to retained trees.
- 6.2 By using the protective elements dictated by British Standard 5837, no significant damage should take place during the construction phase and the tree cover should flourish in the longer term.
- 6.3 It is anticipated that all of the retained trees can be incorporated into the site design; however, it is vital that the ultimate size and spread of the trees should be considered when retaining trees near to the building and that shading and light penetration should also be considered when positioning the windows in the building.
- 6.4 All tree works must conform rigorously to BS 3998 (2010) 'Tree Work Recommendations'. The contractors undertaking tree work must comply with the legal obligations to wildlife as outlined in both the AIA and AMS.

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	0	Crov	vn Sp	read ((M)	iameter	Stems	Of Canopy	gnificant Position		ogical on	ral on	otection idii (M)	ed ing ution	Tree Quality Assessment	Comments	Maintenance		Ultima Size F Specie	or	
	Latin Name	Height (M)	N	s	E	w	Trunk D (MM)	No. Of 8	Height (Lower (First Sig Branch (M)	Age	Physiol Conditi	Structura Condition	Root Pr Area Ra	Estimat Remain Contrib (Years)					Height	Spread	Priority
1	Wild Cherry Prunus avium	9.5	6	6	5	6	450	1	2	2.5 S	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	5.4	20+	B - Moderate	Some dimensions estimated. Minor/small diameter deadwood retained in canopy.	This tree is retainable and will be adequately protected by virtue of its position and the existing infrastructure. Repointing of the boundary wall will not affect the tree.	None	17	16	-
																	Base obscured by shrubs.	No tree works required at the present time.				
2	Goat Willow Salix caprea	4.5	1.5	2	1.5	2.5	108	2	0.5	0.5 N	Young	Fair	Fair	1.3	20+	C - Low	Subdominant stem from ground level. Self-set scrub in unused yard.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	12	12	А
3	Goat Willow Salix caprea	6.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	114	2	0.5	0 NW	Young	Fair	Fair	1.4	20+	C - Low	Stem divides below 1.5m. Self-set scrub in unused yard.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	12	12	А
4	Goat Willow Salix caprea	3.5	2	1.5	1	2	100	1	0.5	0 NW	Young	Fair	Fair	1.2	20+			This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	12	12	Α
5	Goat Willow Salix caprea	4	2.5	2	2	1.5	120	1	1	1 N	Young	Fair	Fair	1.4	20+	C - Low		This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	12	12	Α
6	Sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus	8.5	4	3	4	3	255	2	1.5		Middle aged	Fair	Fair	3.1	20+	В-	No access to tree, remote survey with dimensions estimated	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	22	20	А



Tre			Height (M)	Crow N	yn Sp S	read (W	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 Adjacent 1.5m retaining wall.	Maintenance	Bat Roost Potential	Ultima Size Fo Specie Height	or es (M)	Priority
7	Sycamore Acer pseudoplatar	nus	9	4	4	4	4	300	1	2	2 S	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	3.6	20+	B - Moderate	photography.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	22	20	А
8	Sycamore Acer pseudoplatar		13.5	2	2.5	3	4	300	1	1		Middle aged	Fair	Fair	3.6	20+	B - Moderate	Plotted with use of aerial photography. Adjacent 1.5m retaining wall. Asymmetric canopy exposed by removal of adjacent tree.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	22	20	А
9	Sycamore Acer pseudoplatar		13.5	4.5	2	2.5	4.5	400	1	1.5	2 SW	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	4.8	20+	B - Moderate	Ivy starting to climb the stem. No access to tree, remote survey with dimensions estimated.	This tree is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	22	20	А



Tree No.	Species Common Name		Crov	vn Sp	read ((M)	iameter	Stems	Of Canopy	ynificant Position		ogical on	al on	otection Idii (M)	imated naining ntribution ars)	Tree Quality Assessment	Comments	Maintenance	Bat Roost Potential	Ultima Size F Specie	or	
	Latin Name	Height (M)	N	s	E	w	Trunk D (MM)	No. Of S	Height (Lower C (M)	First Sig Branch (M)	Age	Physiol Condition	Structur Condition	Root Pr Area Ra	Estimat Remain Contrib (Years)					Height	Spread	Priority
Grou	ps																					
1	Apple, Sycamore, Rowan, Silver birch, Ebbing's Silverberry, rose Malus, Acer pseudoplatanus, Sorbus aucuparia, Elaeagnus × submacrophylla, Rosa sp.	Up to 11	-	-	-	-	≤250	1	-	-	aged	Fair	Fair	≤3.0	10+	C - Low	separated from stie by the stone boundary wall, a footpath and small level change. Recently pruned to clear footpath leaving stub cuts – looks a little rough. Primarily shrubs with a small number of trees.	wall will not affect the group. No tree works required at the present time.		22	20	-
2	Buddleja Buddleja Davidii	Up to 4.0	-	-	-	-	≤150	1	-	-	Young to middle aged	Fair	Fair	≤1.8	10+	C - Low	Unmanaged, self-set pioneers located in unused yard. Multiple stems from ground level.	This group is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	5	5	А
3	Buddleja, Goat willow, Tree Cotoneaster Buddleja davidii, Salix caprea, Cotoneaster frigidus	Up to 3.5	-	-	-	-	≤150	1	-		Young to middle aged	Fair	Fair	≤1.8	10+	C - Low	Unmanaged, self-set pioneers located in unused yard. Multiple stems from ground level. No access among trees due to density of planting, terrain and discarded rubbish.	This group is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	12	12	Α
4		Up to 6.0	-	-	-	-	≤150	1	-	-	Young to middle aged	Fair	Fair	≤1.8	10+	C - Low	>80% goat willow, with the remainder made of low numbers of sycamore, silver birch, tree cotoneaster, Buddleja and hawthorn.	development. Remove all of group within application boundary – retain sections beyond the site boundary. The retained sections of the group will be adequately	None	22	20	Α



Tree No.	Species Common Name		Cro	wn Sp	read (M)	meter	sms	ydou	ificant osition		jical		ection ii (M)	g ion	Tree Quality Assessment	Comments	Maintenance		Ultima Size F Specie	or	
	Latin Name	Height (M)	N	s	E	w	Trunk Dia (MM)	No. Of Ste	Height Of Lower Ca (M)	First Sign Branch Po (M)	Age	Physiolog Condition	Structural Condition	Root Prot Area Radi	Estimatec Remainin Contribut (Years)					Height	Spread	Priority
	Cotoneaster frigidus, Crataegus monogyna																stems. Some areas completely inaccessible. Japanese knotweed found at multiple locations through group.	the protective barrier as indicated by the blue line on the TPP.				
5	Goat willow Salix caprea	Up to 10	-	-	-	-	≤300	1	-	-	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	≤3.6	10+	C - Low	Four individuals growing adjacent to the eastern boundary. Asymmetric canopies exposed by removal of trees in adjacent plot	This group is in conflict with the proposed design and will need to be removed to facilitate the development.	None	12	12	А

Appendix 2(1)

Glossary of Terms

Reference number: An individual identifying number

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

Height: Height is estimated to the nearest metre. On computerised surveys this may be 3

within a range of heights. When measured height is required, a clinometer is used

to measure to the nearest metre

Diameter: Trunk diameter measured at 1.5 metres from ground level and recorded in

millimetres. In some surveys this is indicated as a range

Measurement of canopy from the trunk to the nearest metre in four directions, Spread:

North, South, East, and West in metres

Lower crown Clearance:

Height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level

Either an estimate (or statement if accurately known) of the age of the tree, 7 Age:

classified as:

Υ = 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 &

= Mature, more or less at full height but still increasing in girth & spread М

OM = Over mature, grown to full size and becoming senescent,

= Veteran tree, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species

Physiological

Good = Healthy tree with good vitality, Condition:

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

Structural Good = No visible structural defects

Condition: Fair = Only minor structural defects

Poor = Defects which may need to be rectified or regularly monitored Remove = Severe defects which may result in immanent failure or collapse

10 Management General comments on the condition of the tree or group and any action required.

Recommendations: potential for wildlife habitats

11 Estimated Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE): in some cases the age ranges are modified

Remaining Short: 0 - 10 years Medium: 10-20 Years Intermediate: 20-40 Contribution: 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.

14 Ultimate Size: Based on site specific features and the individual specimen in its surroundings.

Measured to nearest metre (m)

15 Root Protection

Area:

The distance at which the protective barrier should be erected measured in a radii

from the centre of the trunk in metres.

16 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.



17 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.

18 Deadwood Removal: Dead-wooding shall be defined as the removal of all dead and dying branches and limbs from the tree.

19 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.

20 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		Criteria – Subcategories		Identification						
Category and deminition	1. Mainly arboricultural values	2. Mainly landscape values	3. Mainly cultural values,	on plan						
Trees to be considered for retention	1. Mainly arboricultural values	2. Mainly lanuscape values	including conservation	On plan						
Category High = A Trees 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 those that are essential components of groups, or of formal or semiformal 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						
Category Moderate = B Trees 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 value	Blue						
Category Low = C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories NOTE Whilst C category trees will	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 usually not be retained where they would impose	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural benefits	Yellow						
years; or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm		diameter of less than 150mm should be considered								
Category = U Trees unsuitable for retention		able, structural defect, such that their early loss is exper er removal of other U category trees (i.e. where, for what ated by pruning)		Red						
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	 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 appropriately appropriat	opriate (e.g. U category trees used as a bat roost-insta	llation of bat box in nearby tree)							

Appendix 2(111)

Guidelines for the Planning, installation and Maintenance of utility services in proximity to trees-Based on information from National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG)

Ideally all services should be placed outside of the tree's root protection area, but in some situations this is not feasible due to the confines of the site. If services must be laid within the root protection area acceptable techniques are detailed below in order of preference.

- 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.
- **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 a qualified 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

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.

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

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.

Planning of services

When laying new or replacement services it is wise to plan ahead to prevent future direct damage to the services from root growth by placing the services within a duct.

If roots have grown into a drain or duct and proliferated to cause a blockage, removal of the root mass will only have a temporary affect and the root will regrow. The fault is in the pipe or duct, not the tree roots and the only answer is to repair or replace the damaged area. Particular problems occur with old salt glazed pipes where clay has been used to seal the joints and has subsequently dried out leaving a gap for the roots to infiltrate.

A popular myth has arisen that tree roots are attracted to water or nutrients within piped systems, this is not so. Roots are adventitious and grow in all directions proliferating in areas where moisture or nutrients are present. They tend to grow near to the pipe to make use of the condensation or moisture build up on the outside of the pipe but will enter the pipe through any crack or damaged joint. They are not capable of breaking into sound pipes.



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