

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT REPORT BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction' - recommendations

NMA in respect of 2020/3461/P

SITE:

2 Chester Road, N19 5BP, in the London Borough of Camden

CLIENT:

Morgan Sindall Construction and Infrastructure Limited

Sharon Durdant-Hollamby FICFor FArborA BSc (Hons) Tech Cert (ArborA)

> DATE: June 2024 OUR REF: SHA 1741

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Executive summary

This report provides information in connection with a Non Material Amendment of 2020/3461/P for re-development of a former hostel at 2 Chester Road.

This report follows the Arboricultural Impact Assessment reference supplied by DF Clark (DFC) Bionomique Ltd (reference *4636* Arboricultural Impact Assessment Rev A) (AIA) dated May 2020 and an approved Arboricultural Method Statement (DFC4363 AMS February 2022).

The DFC AMS did not benefit from receiving sufficient information on logistics and foundations. Having reviewed information and explored all possibilities, this Non Material Amendment seeks to remove T13 sugar maple (DFC T12) to facilitate approved development. The tree will be replaced with a species, size and location to be agreed with Camden Council. In addition, the Non Material Amendment route was also agreed with Tom Little, Camden Council's Arboricultural officer, in April 2024.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Planning consent was granted with the AIA as an approved document and DFC AMS was subsequently approved to discharge condition 17. This showed retention of a mature silver maple (DFC T12, SHA T13) 1.5m from the building and an indication of how construction vehicles would access the site.
- 1.2 Trees shown to be removed as part of the approved AIA and AMS have been removed. The retained trees were surveyed in December 2023 by Sharon Hosegood Associates (hence the different numbering). There has been a design team work shop in January/March and April 2024 to discuss construction methodology; including piling mat installation and site logistics.

2.0 The tree T13 sugar maple

- 2.1 The tree is a mature 15m high silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) with a crown spread of 12m and a stem diameter of 550mm, equating to a root protection area of 137 square metres (radius of 6.6m). The tree is in a reasonable form and condition with minor defects, and has been heavily pruned in the past.
- 2.2 Following a meeting with the structural and civil engineers, it would not be possible to construct the approved development without piling in this area, including the piling mat.



Photo 1 looking east. SHA numbers.



Plan 2 – extract from DFC 4363_TPP2. Do not scale, north is vertical. Annotated by SHA



Plan 3 – extract from SHA 1741 TIP NMA. Do not scale, north is vertical. Hatching is tree to be removed. Orange rectangle – piling mat.

2.3 The impact of the approved building is as follows:

- Impact on the crown the tree would have to be significantly pruned back in the lower and mid crown to allow clearance for the building. This would have a big impact on tree vitality and create large wounds which would be subject to potential decay and crowded suckering on the pruned branches. Such work would be contrary to BS 3998:2020 Tree Works: Recommendations. This would also remove a large area of the crown; reducing the potential for photosynthesis.
- Impact on the roots excavating just over 0.5m from the trunk would result in main root severance. This would have the potential to de-stabilise the tree and result in a significant section of the root plate being lost, disrupting the trees physiological function to abstract water, nutrients, carry out gaseous exchange and store carbohydrates. In brief, the tree might fall, and if not, it would most likely die from lack of roots.

3.0 Conclusion

3.1 The approved building is too close for the tree SHA T13 to be safely retained. This Non Material Amendment seeks to remove the tree and replace it in a location and with a species to be agreed with Camden Council as part of the landscaping scheme. A detailed Arboricultural Method Statement has been produced in accordance with conditions 17 and 18 of consent reference 2020/3461/P.

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