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Arboriculture Impact Assessment

11 Buckland Crescent, London

Written By Alastair Gavin On behalf of Tree Aware UK Ltd
on the 18th of October 2016

The purpose of this document is to assess the tree or trees and/or any significant vegetation at the above site, to fully identify any constraints that the tree/trees or significant vegetation may pose to the proposed construction or design in line with BS 5837: 2012 “trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations”.

Contents

1.0 Summary

The following points in this summary are intended for quick reference only. As we recommend that the report is read fully.

1.1 Overview of Tree Constraints

Following a site inspection on the 05/10/2016, a general preliminary assessment of the site as a whole is that the existing trees located at the site this being the property 11 Buckland Crescent, London should not pose a constraint to the construction if the recommendations within this Impact Assessment are followed.

1.2 Overview of Construction Costs in Connection to the Trees

In terms of additional costs in providing adequate tree protection, it is deemed that the presence of the trees may pose a minor additional cost. This is dependent on the final proposed design.

1.3 Notable Tree Constraints (Trees of a BS 5837 Category being either an A or B)

It was identified that the trees T4, and T5 located at the site were of a notable category being category B with the remaining trees being a category C. (Please see Appendix A, BS 5837 Tree Survey Schedule for specific tree details).

1.4 Impact on Trees

The foot print of the current proposed rear/side extension to the property does not encroach into the root protection areas of the trees identified on the site, this being 5 individual trees with no groups of trees present.

There is the potential for damage to occur to the 5 individual trees from the construction process of the extension this being in the form of direct damage to the trees stems from impacts during construction or indirect damage from compaction or contamination of the ground.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Instruction has been received from the client to assess the impact on the trees at the site from the proposed rear/side extension to the property, which might cause a constraint to the current proposed design/location of the extension.

2.2 A BS 5837 Tree Survey in accordance to BS 5837:2012 "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition, and Construction"- Recommendations was carried out on the 05/10/2016. The trees included in the survey (please see Appendix A) have been visually inspected from ground level. No climbing inspection or any decay detection equipment has been used or carried out.

2.3 As there are trees located on the site which are contributing to the character of the area it is important to assess and ascertain the quality and value of the trees and the likely impact on the trees from any proposed construction this being the rear/side extension.

2.4 Dependant on their age, condition and species trees differ in their ability to cope with root disturbance and damage. Subsequently, tree roots which are commonly located within the top metre of soil can be affected by natural and manmade topography and structures, which can restrict, redirect and affect trees root growth rate. It is therefore important to consider all relevant factors when ascertaining the retention and or removal of trees.

3.0 Site Description

3.1 The site being made up of an existing property is within an urban environment that has a medium amount of tree cover. This is made up of predominantly privately owned trees in front and rear gardens and street trees. The trees that are present near to the site are predominantly of same age but vary in species.

3.2 The area surrounding the site comprises of privately owned properties with small to medium gardens. The majority of the area is flat in gradient with little level change occurring over a wide area.

3.3 The trees in question are located in the rear garden of the property and can be classed as individual trees with no group of trees. During the BS 5837 Tree Survey no abnormal grounds conditions such as water logging or contamination were noted next to the trees surveyed.

4.0 Impact on Trees

4.1 The trees near to the proposed rear/side extension to the property have been assessed in accordance to BS 5837:2012 "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition, and Construction"- Recommendations. Please see Appendix A for tree details in accordance to the methodology of BS 5837:2012. The trees have been categorised as follows;

T1	Lilac Bush	Category C
T2	False Acacia	Category C
T3	False Acacia	Category C
T4	Horse Chestnut	Category B
T5	Lime	Category B

4.2 The proposed rear/side extension does not encroach into the root protection area of the five trees listed above and there is sufficient construction room to allow for the rear/side extension to be built without any impact to the trees.

4.3 The 5 trees are of a distance from the proposed extension to be constructed where there is a risk of damage in the form of compaction/contamination to the root protection areas and direct damage to the trees stems occurring from the construction process of the extension, if basic tree protection measures are not used. This would be in the form of tree protection fencing protecting the trees stems and root protection areas.

5.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 As there is no encroachment to T1, T2, T3, T4, and T5 from the footprint of the proposed rear/side extension the above five trees can be viably retained.

5.2 As the trees are at risk from the construction process in the form of direct damage to the trees stems and indirect damage in the form of compaction/contamination to the root protection areas of the trees from the construction of the rear/side extension, basic tree protection in the form of tree protection fencing should be used to protect the trees.

5.3 It is recommended to ensure adequate tree protection is used and to promote awareness to protect the trees during construction that an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is produced along with a Tree Protection Plan.

5.4 In terms of additional costs in the protection of the trees, to stop damage occurring during the construction of the proposed extension, it is deemed that this may pose a minimal additional cost dependant on the final design. This would be in the form of tree protection measures as recommended being tree protection fencing.

Appendix A BS 5837 Tree Survey Schedule

Sequential Reference Number	Species (Common Name)	Height	Stem Diameter	Branch Spread N S E W in meters	First Significant Branch	Canopy Height	Life Stage	General Observations	Estimated Remaining Contribution in years	BS 5837 Category
T1	Lilac Bush	4m	080mm 060mm 050mm 080mm	2, 1, 1, 2	Ground Level	30cm	Mature	Multi stemmed large Lilac bush with an average to poor form, evidence of past branch pruning, tree shows signs of good vitality, dead wood in canopy, suppressed by neighbouring vegetation.	10+	C
T2	False Acacia	4m	080mm 050mm 050mm	2, 2, 2, 2	Ground Level	1.90m	Juvenile	Multi stemmed tree being potential suckers off an original tree, average to poor form, tree shows signs of good vitality, dead wood in canopy evidence of past reduction to stems, re-growths present.	10+	C
T3	False Acacia	11m	650mm	3#, 4, 3, 3	3m	4m	Mature	Bark death to stem north side, decay likely to be present in stem, tree previously reduced with re-growths present, tree in an average to poor condition, Ivy on	10+	C

								stem impeding a full inspection from taking place. Tree potentially pollarded in the past and allowed to re-grow. **<u>Recommendation</u>** **Remove Ivy and monitor condition of tree**		
T4	Horse Chestnut	15m	720mm#	5, 5, 4, 4	3m	1.5m	Mature	Ivy on stem of tree as such tree could not be fully inspected, tree suffering with leaf minor infestation, tree significantly pollarded in the past reason unknown, re-growths present, tree further reduced by 20% tree has a good form. **<u>Recommendation</u>** **Remove Ivy and reduce tree ever 3-5 years, monitor condition of tree.**	20+	B
T5	Lime	15m	440mm#	2, 4, 3, 4	3m	2m	Mature	Tree suppressed by T4, one sided canopy favouring the south west side, could not fully inspect tree due to tree being located in neighbours garden and restricted	20+	B

								access, dead wood in canopy, Ivy on stem of tree, tree appears to be in an average condition. **<u>Recommendation</u>** **Remove Ivy and dead wood**		

Appendix B Root Protection/Constraints Plan

(Please see separate document)