

# BS 5837 Arboricultural Report

Impact Assessment & Method Statement



at

**68 Caversham Road  
London  
NW5 2DS**



**Dated  
8<sup>th</sup> April 2021**



**CROWN**  
Tree Consultancy

Branching out through England and Wales



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Instruction

1.1.1. We are instructed by Caz Stuart to:

- Undertake an Arboricultural Survey at 68 Caversham Road, London and assess all trees potentially within influencing distance of proposed development within the site.
- Plot the trees on a Tree Constraints Plan and record the data in a Tree Data Schedule.
- Provide an overview of the site and any management recommendations.
- Determine if any of the trees are growing within a conservation area or are protected by a tree preservation order.
- Provide guidance for architects or developers to enable them to understand and design within the existing tree constraints.
- Assess the potential impact of the development proposals and provide guidance as to appropriate mitigation measures.
- Produce an Arboricultural Impact Assessment for submission to the local authority once the design has been finalised.
- Produce a Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement specifying how the retained trees shall be protected from inadvertent damage by demolition or construction activity.

## 1.2. Scope and Purpose of the Report

1.2.1. This report is designed to accompany a planning application for development proposals at the above site. Its purpose is to assist and inform the planning process. It is produced according to the guidance and recommendations within BS 5837: 2012 - *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction*.

1.2.2. The accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement specifies the principles to be adopted during construction and demolition that will minimise any impacts on trees. However, specific construction activities proposed within Root Protection Areas may need to be agreed in more detail if requested by the local authority at the reserved matters stage (for an outline planning applications) or via planning conditions.

## 1.3. References

1.3.1. We have liaised with the our client and studied topographical surveys and projected ground levels to attain an adequate understanding of the project to enable us to carry out an accurate assessment of the proposals and to specify suitable tree protection measures.

## 1.4. Survey Details and Findings

1.4.1. A visual ground level inspection of all trees was undertaken on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 by Ivan Button. No climbed inspections or specialist decay detection were undertaken. Details of how the survey was undertaken can be found in Appendix 1.

1.4.2. The tree locations shown on the accompanying plans which are reproduced in Appendix 6 have been plotted according to measurements taken on site.



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Crown Ref: 10732

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1.4.3. The findings of the survey are presented in The Tree Data Schedule which is provided as a separate document as well as being appended to the end of this document within Appendix 6. The vegetation is further discussed in Section 3.

1.4.4. A definition of the Retention Categories can be found in Appendix 1. All other terms used within the Tree Data Schedule are defined and explained in Appendix 2. A more detailed description of the survey method is detailed in Appendix 3.

## 1.5. Author

1.5.1. This report was compiled by Joe Taylor - FdSc (Arboriculture), M. Arbor A. Details of the author's experience that qualify him to produce such a report are detailed in Appendix 4.





## 2. Site Overview

### 2.1. Brief Description

- 2.1.1. Number 68 Caversham Road is a terraced three-storey residential property with a small garden to the front and larger garden to the rear.
- 2.1.2. The front garden measures approximately 7m x 6m and contains no significant vegetation.
- 2.1.3. The larger rear garden (see Photographs 1 - 6) measures approximately 22m x 6m and contains three Retention Category C trees (T1, T2 and T3), a small Cabbage Palm and mixed shrubs.
- 2.1.4. In the adjacent garden of Number 66, there are two further Retention Category C trees (T4 and T5). It is likely that the roots of these trees extend into the site.
- 2.1.5. The site is a rectangular plot of land and is generally flat with no abrupt level changes.
- 2.1.6. The Tree Constraints Plan and Tree Data Schedule (see Appendix 6) should be referred to for descriptions and locations of all trees.

### 2.2. Coordinates

- 2.2.1. The site coordinates are 51°32'54.74"N 0° 8'7.31"W and the altitude is approximately 38m above sea level<sup>1</sup>.

### 2.3. Survey Extent

- 2.3.1. The area indicated below<sup>2</sup> shows the extent of the survey.



<sup>1</sup> To access satellite imagery and street views of the site these co-ordinates may be entered into: <http://maps.google.co.uk/>

<sup>2</sup> Image taken from Google Earth and may not be current.



### 3. Vegetation Overview (independent of proposals)

This section summarises all the recommendations within the Tree Data Schedule regardless of whether trees are to be retained, felled or pruned to facilitate the proposed development. It does not specify works that may be required to facilitate the development proposals. The protection status of the trees is also reported in this section.

#### 3.1. Preliminary Management Recommendations

- 3.1.1. The trees were mostly deemed to be in an acceptable condition, with the only defects being some scattered dead branches throughout the canopy of T1. Consequently, no remedial works have been recommended.

#### 3.2. Future Inspections

- 3.2.1. The table below suggests a schedule of future inspections based on the condition and location of each tree:

Inspection Frequency (years)	Tree Number
0.5	None
1	None
1.5	T1
3	T2, T3, T4 and T5

- 3.2.2. The trees should be inspected sooner if there is a noticeable decline in their condition or following extreme weather events.

#### 3.3. Tree Protection Status – Site Specific

- 3.3.1. On the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, we were informed, by Rav Curry of London Borough of Camden that:

- The site lies within the Bartholomew Conservation Area.
- There are no tree preservation orders affecting trees within the site.
- There are no tree preservation orders immediately adjacent to the site.

#### 3.4. Tree Protection – General Notes

- 3.4.1. Where trees are located in a conservation area (but not protected by a TPO), works are not permitted without first giving the local authority 6 weeks' notice of intention. During this time the local authority may elect to create a tree preservation order or to inform the applicant that they have no objection to the proposed works. If the local authority does not respond within 6 weeks, then the intended work may be undertaken. Note: the local authority cannot refuse consent for works to trees within a conservation area; they may only create a tree preservation order if they wish to have further control over what works are undertaken.
- 3.4.2. Where planning permission is granted and tree works have been approved as part of the planning consent, no further application is required in respect of protected trees and no further notice is required in respect of trees within a conservation area.



### 3.5. Species Present – Additional Information

- 3.5.1. The table below contains general information about the tree *species* (rather than the actual tree *specimens*) included in the survey. Its purpose is to assist readers who are unfamiliar with the characteristics of the various species.

Species	Typical Height at Maturity (m)	Typical Canopy Spread at Maturity (m)	General Notes
Ash	25	18	Large deciduous tree with a straight bole and a high open domed crown. Native to Britain and commonly found in woodlands and adjacent roadsides. Not suitable for small gardens. Easily identified by its oppositely arranged pinnate leaves and black buds. Branches are relatively brittle resulting in a fairly high incidence of small branch failure in windy conditions. Visit <a href="http://www.pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Fraxinus+excelsior">http://www.pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Fraxinus+excelsior</a> for more info.
Elder	8	8	Deciduous tree native throughout Europe, N Africa and W Asia. Untidy, shrubby habit. Very fast growing. Covered in dense creamy flowers and deep red berries which are excellent for making wine. Visit <a href="http://www.pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Sambucus+nigra">http://www.pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Sambucus+nigra</a> for more info.
Strawberry Tree	10	10	Relatively small tree native to the Mediterranean with a dense, evergreen crown. Tolerant of maritime exposure. Produces drooping clusters of small white or pink flowers in late autumn, Strawberry like fruit ripens afterwards. The fruit is edible, but undesirable. Visit <a href="https://pfaf.org/User/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Arbutus+unedo">https://pfaf.org/User/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Arbutus+unedo</a> for more info.

- 3.5.2. The figures quoted regarding typical height and canopy spread should be treated as approximate. Actual heights and spreads vary according to several environmental factors such as soil conditions, climate and presence of competing vegetation. The figures quoted are not the maximum dimensions that the species may attain.



## 4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

### 4.1. Overview

4.1.1. It is proposed to demolish the existing outbuilding and construct a new garden room within the rear garden as indicated on the plans in Appendix 6. The existing layout is indicated in black, and the footprint of the proposed layout is indicated in green.

4.1.1. The table below summarises the potential impact on trees due to various activities.

Activity	Trees Potentially Affected
Tree Removal: Retention Category A	None
Tree Removal: Retention Category B	None
Tree Removal: Retention Category C	None
Tree Removal: Retention Category U	None
Tree Pruning	T1 and T2
RPA: Garden Room Foundations	T1, T2 and T3
RPA: Other Foundations	None
RPA: New Hard Surface	T1 and T3
RPA: Replace Existing Hard Surface	None
RPA: Underground Services	Unknown – To be confirmed
RPA: Change of Ground Levels	None
RPA: Soil Compaction	Trees adjacent the construction area (preventable by installing tree protection measures)

4.1.2. Other potentially damaging activities often associated with construction sites include demolition or the careless use of plant machinery, hazardous materials, or fires. All of the above potential impacts are considered in detail throughout this section.

4.1.3. The accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement (duplicated in Appendix 6) specifies the measures proposed to minimise all possible potential risks of damage to the retained trees.

### 4.2. Tree Removal

4.2.1. All trees within the site are to be retained.

### 4.3. Impact on Tree Canopies

4.3.1. The proposed garden room shall be a maximum 3.2m in height and some crown lifting to the canopy of T1 will be required to facilitate the proposal. However, the canopy height of T1 is 3m above ground level and so the required pruning shall be minimal. It is proposed to remove the lower branches of T1 to a height of 4m where they overhang the proposal. This shall ensure adequate clearance height so as to prevent accidental breakage. The pruning works should be undertaken sympathetically (working to BS 3998: 2010 guidelines). To highlight this small amount of proposed pruning, the image below shows the canopy of T1 in relation to the area where the garden room is proposed.



4.3.2. It is also proposed to prune back the branches of T2 in order to create a clearance distance from the proposed garden room, as to prevent accidental breakage. Such pruning of a Retention Category C elder shall have no impact on local visual amenity and is not considered to be a material planning consideration.

4.3.3. All other tree canopies shall be unaffected by the proposals.

## 4.4. Impact on Tree Roots

### 4.4.1. Foundations:

4.4.1. The foundations for the new garden room will extend into to the theoretical Root Protection Area of T1, T2 and T3. Given the proximity of the new structure to the stem of T1, it is imperative that specialist foundations are installed which will have minimal impact on the root system and on the soils beneath in which the roots grow. To achieve this, it is proposed to install an above-ground foundation (supported on narrow piles) with a ventilated void beneath into which rainwater may be diverted. The following mitigation measures are proposed:

- Deep strip foundations shall not be used.
- Instead, an above ground raft or beam supported on narrow piles shall be installed.
- The narrow piles shall be hand augured into the ground. Before installing such piles, their location shall be determined by trial pits excavated to a depth of 600mm using hand tools. If any roots in excess of 40mm diameter are encountered they should be retained intact, and the pile shall be relocated. If any roots between 25mm and 40mm are encountered, they shall be retained intact wherever possible and the pile shall be relocated. Any roots that need to be severed shall be pruned with secateurs.
- In the event of the roots being too close to each other, or there is no more tolerance, a hand-driven helical anchor shall be employed. Such anchors have a much slimmer profile, once the fins are hand manoeuvred past the roots.
- Excavation for the trial pits shall be overseen by the project arborist.
- No further excavation shall occur below existing ground levels (other than that required to remove any existing vegetation).





- A ventilated void shall be maintained beneath the entire foundation.
- Provision shall be made for a controlled amount of rainwater to be diverted into the void.

#### 4.4.2. **New Surfaces:**

4.4.3. The Impact Assessment Plan indicates where it is proposed to install a new pedestrian surface over the Root Protection Areas of T1 and T3). To minimise the impact on roots, the following mitigation is proposed:

- Excavation shall be limited to 200mm.
- Excavation shall be undertaken using hand tools only.
- If significant rooting activity is encountered, the finished surface shall be raised to accommodate them.
- Any edging structure used shall be installed without excavation below this depth.
- Any sub-base used shall not contain any fines (finely crushed aggregate material).
- Pavements should be used and dry jointed (i.e. no mortar joints) to permit infiltration of rainwater through to the ground beneath.

#### 4.4.4. **Underground Services:**

4.4.5. No underground services should be installed through any Root Protection Area without consulting the project arborist and if necessary, gaining approval from the local authority.

#### 4.4.6. **Changes in Ground Levels:**

4.4.7. No changes of ground levels in excess of 100mm within Root Protection Areas shall be made without consulting the arborist and if necessary, gaining approval from the local authority.

#### 4.4.8. **Soil Compaction:**

4.4.9. The majority of tree roots lie within the upper soil horizons. This is because the availability of oxygen decreases with depth and roots need to breathe to stay alive. In addition, nutrients are more readily available in the form of organic matter close to the soil surface.

4.4.10. Healthy soils contain about 25% air space between solid particles. Increased loading of the soils caused by construction activity causes air to be squeezed out as the soil becomes compacted preventing roots from breathing. Even an increase in pedestrian activity may cause some soil compaction.



4.4.11. It is important therefore that ground compaction and soil disturbance over Root Protection Areas should be avoided during the construction phase. This may be done by installing protective fencing and ground protection measures as recommended within the accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement.

### 4.5. **Demolition Activities**

4.5.1. In order to avoid inadvertent damage to roots, branches or stems, care shall need to be taken when demolishing the existing outbuilding close to T1. Hand tools only should be used during demolition. The adjacent walls should be demolished inwards onto the footprint of the structure, and foundations/surfaces carefully lifted. Tree protection fencing shall need to be installed prior to commencement of demolition. A methodology



is specified in the accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement under the header Restricted Activity Zone B to ensure minimum detrimental impact.

#### **4.6. Hazardous Materials**

- 4.6.1. All hazardous materials (including cement and petrochemical products) will need to be controlled according to COSHH regulations in order to ensure there is no detrimental impact on tree health. Provision shall need to be made to ensure that cement and cement run-off are contained outside of all Root Protection Areas.

#### **4.7. Cabins and Site Facilities**

- 4.7.1. Consideration should be given to the location of any site welfare facilities in terms of potential impact on trees. Where it is proposed to install cabins or site facilities in Root Protection Areas, the project arborist should be consulted, and approval obtained from the local authority.

#### **4.8. Boundary Treatments**

- 4.8.1. We are not aware of any changes are proposed to the existing boundary features that might impact on trees.

#### **4.9. Impact of Retained Trees on the Development**

- 4.9.1. The outbuilding is not considered to be a living space so the shade cast by the trees is not considered to be relevant from a planning perspective.
- 4.9.2. The suggested crown lifting of T1 shall ensure no further pruning will be required for several years.
- 4.9.3. The foundations and any new surfaces should be designed to accommodate all potential impacts due to future tree rooting activity. These include potential vegetation related subsidence, vegetation related heave, and lifting of surfaces / light structures due to direct root pressure.

#### **4.10. Summary**

- 4.10.1. The proposal seeks to retain all of the vegetation surveyed.
- 4.10.2. T1 and T2 require minimal pruning to create an adequate clearance from the proposal.
- 4.10.3. The new pedestrian surface over the RPA of T1 and T3 shall be installed sympathetically and with minimal excavation.
- 4.10.4. Foundations are proposed within the Root Protection Area of T1, T2 and T3. However, the sympathetic foundation design shall ensure no detrimental impact to tree roots or the rooting environment.
- 4.10.5. So long as suitable protection measures are implemented during demolition and construction stages, I see no arboricultural reasons why the proposal should not proceed.
- 4.10.6. Suitable protection measures are specified in the accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement ref CCL/10732 The Method Statement is thorough and enforceable so may be conditioned upon the granting of planning consent.



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## 5. Photographs

Photograph 1.



Photograph 2.







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Photograph 3.



Photograph 4.







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Photograph 5.



Photograph 6.







## Appendix 1: BS 5837: 2012 – Guidance Notes

This Standard prescribes the principles to be applied to achieve a satisfactory juxtaposition of trees and structures. It sets out to assist those concerned with trees in relation to design, demolition and construction to form balanced judgements.

It acknowledges the positive contribution trees may offer to a site, as well as the negative aspects of retaining inappropriate trees. It addresses the negative impacts that construction activity may have upon trees and offers mitigation strategies to minimise these impacts.

The Standard suggests a three stage approach to ensure best practice is followed when developing close to trees:

### A1.1 Stage 1: Survey Details and Notes

A ground level visual survey was undertaken. No climbed inspections or specialist decay detection were undertaken. Only trees with a stem diameter over 75mm, which lie within the site boundary or relatively close to it, were included.

Where applicable, trees with significant defects have been highlighted and appropriate remedial works have been recommended. However, this report should not be seen as a substitute for a full *Safety Survey* or *Management Plan* which are specifically designed to minimise risk and liability associated with responsibility for trees.

Wherever practicable dimensions were obtained using diameter tapes, logger's tapes, distometers and clinometers. Where obstacles prevent accurate measurement, dimensions are estimated. Trees on privately owned third party are surveyed from the best available vantage point and observations relating to the condition of these trees should be treated accordingly. All height measurements should be regarded as approximate.

Data is recorded for each tree and is presented in a Tree Data Schedule. Each tree is allocated a **Retention Category** according to its size, amenity value, condition and safe useful life expectancy. The categories are allocated independently of development proposals. Our interpretation of the Retention Categories is explained below:

#### A1.1.1 Retention Categories

**A Category:** Trees of high quality and amenity value. Usually, mature trees with a significant life expectancy which would enhance any development. Retention of these trees is strongly encouraged.

**B Category:** Trees of moderate quality and amenity value. Usually these are maturing trees or younger trees with exceptional form. Retention of these trees is desirable though the removal of occasional specimens may be acceptable.

**C Category:** Trees of low quality or small specimens with a relatively low amenity value. These trees are not considered to be a material planning constraint and their removal will generally be seen as acceptable in order to facilitate development.

**U Category:** Trees of such low quality that their removal is recommended regardless of development proposals.

Occasionally trees are borderline and do not fall neatly into one of the categories A, B or C. In such cases we apply a superscript (+/-) such that:

**C<sup>+</sup>** Indicates borderline C/B, though Category C is deemed to be most appropriate.

**B<sup>-</sup>** Indicates borderline C/B, though Category B is deemed to be most appropriate.



The British Standard suggests that each of the A, B and C categories may be further subdivided (A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, B3 etc) such that subcategory 1 denotes mainly arboricultural values, subcategory 2 denotes mainly landscape values and subcategory 3 denotes mainly cultural values (including conservation). Multiple subcategories may be used.

Our experience suggests that these subdivisions lack clarity and can be confusing. Within this report subcategories are **not** denoted. Where appropriate, the use of phrases such as 'Part of a formal group', or 'Has a high ecological value', or 'Offers good screening to the site' are incorporated into the observation section of the Tree Data Schedule. We believe this conveys all relevant landscape and cultural information without any confusion.

**Tree Constraints Plan (TCP).** This indicates the position, crown spread, Retention Category and Root Protection Area of each tree. It is used to inform where development may proceed without causing damage to trees.

**Root Protection Area (RPA).** This is the area around each tree likely to contain the majority of roots. It should ideally remain undisturbed to avoid a detrimental impact on tree health. For single stemmed trees it is calculated according to the formula "radius of RPA" = "12 x stem diameter". Where a tree has more than one stem, the equivalent-single-stem diameter is usually recorded. This is calculated by adding the squares of the stems and then finding the square root of this total. The radius of the Root Protection Area is then calculated by multiplying the equivalent-stem-diameter by 12.

**Shade Constraints.** The previous Standard (BS 5837 2005) suggested that shade constraints should be indicated on the TCP. These are denoted as a circle-segment drawn northwest to due east with a radius equal to the height of the tree. These do not represent the actual shade pattern which varies through the seasons. Rather, they indicate the area most shaded by the tree throughout the course of the year. Ideally habitable room windows should be located outside of these shade constraints. Where we consider it appropriate, we will include shade constraints information on our Impact Assessment Plan or Proposed Layout Plan.

## A1.2 Stage 2: Arboricultural Impact Assessment

After the initial survey and the production of the Tree Constraints Plan, arborists and designers are encouraged to work together to establish a design proposal with minimal impact on the high quality trees. An assessment should be made of all possible impacts including the impact that the trees may have upon the proposal. The arborist may recommend mitigation strategies to minimise these impacts and help achieve a more harmonious juxtaposition between buildings and trees.

## A1.3 Stage 3: Arboricultural Method Statement

This type of report specifies the measures necessary to protect trees against damage from construction activity. The Method Statement should be written in a manner that it may be conditioned and enforced by the local authority upon granting of planning permission. The site manager should be familiar with all aspects of the Method Statement and should ensure that all persons working on the site are aware of those aspects which appertain to their work. This includes service installation engineers and operators of plant machinery.



## Appendix 2: Explanation of Tree Data & Glossary

This section explains the terms used in the **Tree Data Schedule** (see Section 3 and Appendix 6).

### A2.1 General Observations

<b>Numbering System:</b>	Each item of vegetation has its own unique number prefixed by a letter such that T1=Tree 1, G2=Group 2, H3=Hedge 3 and W4=Woodland 4, S5=Shrub 5.
<b>Age Categories:</b>	
<b>Young</b>	Usually less than 10 years old.
<b>Semi-Mature</b>	Significant future growth to be expected, both in height and crown spread (typically below 30% of life expectancy).
<b>Early-Mature</b>	Full height almost attained. Significant growth may be expected in terms of crown spread (typically 30-60% of life expectancy).
<b>Mature</b>	Full height attained. Crown spread will increase but growth increments will be slight (typically 60% or more of life expectancy).
<b>Veteran</b>	A level of maturity whereby significant management may be required in order to keep the tree in a safe condition.
<b>Over Mature</b>	As for veteran except management is not considered worthwhile.
<b>Species:</b>	Common names and Latin names are given.
<b>Height:</b>	Measured from ground level to the top of the crown.
<b>Stem Diameter:</b>	Taken at 1.5m above ground level where possible. On multi-stemmed trees this measurement may be taken at ground level, though usually an indication of the number of stems and average diameter is given, e.g. 3 x 30cm.
<b>Crown Height:</b>	Measured from ground level to the height at which the main crown begins. Where the crown is unbalanced it is measured on the side deemed to be most relevant. This is usually the side facing the area of anticipated development.
<b>Tree Diagram:</b>	This scaled drawing is computer generated based on measurements taken for stem diameter, crown height and spread, and overall height. It is designed to help the reader rapidly assess the data. It is not an accurate representation of the form of the tree.
<b>Crown Spread:</b>	Measured N, E, S & W, taken from the centre of the stem and usually rounded up to the nearest metre.
<b>Observations:</b>	If a tree's position is considered to be relevant it will be commented upon (e.g. overhanging a children's play area). Tree form and pruning history are also recorded along with an account of any significant defects. Defects and descriptive terms are dealt with in more detail at the end of this section.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Usually based on any defects observed and intended to ensure that the tree is in an acceptable condition.
<b>Priority Scale:</b>	Depending upon the threat posed by the tree, and the likelihood of failure, recommendations should be carried out according to the following priority scale:
<b>Urgent</b>	To be carried out as soon as possible.
<b>Very High</b>	To be carried out within 1 month.
<b>High</b>	To be carried out within 3 months.
<b>Moderate</b>	To be carried out within 1 year.
<b>Low</b>	To be carried out within 3 years.
<b>Inspection Frequency:</b>	An interval of 6 months, 1 year, 1.5 years or 3 years is allocated before the next inspection is due. Wherever practical, consideration should be given to seasonal changes so that deciduous trees are not always surveyed in winter when they have no leaves, or in summer when leaves may obscure branches within the upper crown.
<b>Vigour:</b>	An indication of growth rate and the tree's ability to cope with stresses:
<b>High</b>	Having above average vigour.
<b>Moderate</b>	Having average vigour.
<b>Low</b>	Having below average vigour.
<b>Very Low</b>	Tree is struggling to survive and may be dying.
<b>Physiological Condition:</b>	
<b>Good</b>	Healthy and with no symptoms of significant disease.
<b>Fair</b>	Disease present or vigour is impaired.
<b>Poor</b>	Significant disease present or vigour is extremely low.
<b>Very Poor</b>	Tree is dying.
<b>Structural Condition:</b>	
<b>Good</b>	Having no significant structural defects.
<b>Fair</b>	Some defects observed though no high priority works are required.
<b>Poor</b>	Significant defects found. Tree requires monitoring or remedial works.
<b>Very Poor</b>	Major defects which will usually require significant remedial works or tree removal.
<b>Amenity Value:</b>	
<b>Very High</b>	Exceptional specimen, observable by a large number of people.
<b>High</b>	Attractive specimen, observable by a significant number of people.
<b>Moderate</b>	One of the above factors is not applicable.
<b>Low</b>	Unattractive specimen or largely hidden from view.
<b>Life Expectancy:</b>	The estimated number of years before the tree may require removal. Classified as (<10), (10 – 20), (20 – 40), or (40+).
<b>Retention Category:</b>	These are explained in detail in Appendix 1.

### A2.2 Evaluation of Defects

Cavities, wounds, deadwood etc are all evaluated as follows:

<b>Major</b>	Such that structural integrity is, or will become, compromised and the tree is, or will inevitably become, hazardous.
<b>Significant</b>	A defect that may over time become a major defect, though not necessarily so. This will depend on the vigour of the tree and its ability to deal with decay etc.
<b>Minor</b>	A defect that is not likely to compromise the tree's structural integrity.



## General Glossary

<b>Aerobic</b>	Conditions in which oxygen is freely available, or to biomechanical processes that depend on the presence of oxygen.
<b>Anaerobic</b>	A condition marked by the absence of oxygen; Generally such areas are unsuitable for normal life and growth of plant tissues. These sites tend to be populated by bacteria capable of surviving low oxygen conditions often associated with Slime Flux.
<b>Arboriculture</b>	The culture and management of trees as groups and individuals primarily for amenity and other non-forestry purposes.
<b>Arborist</b>	A person possessing the technical competence through experience and related training to provide management of trees or other woody plants in a landscape setting. Generally involved with the development or management of trees for visual amenity or land management rather than the growth of trees for product or profit.
<b>Barrier zone</b>	A layer within an annual increment of wood which contains abnormal xylem cells, laid down by the cambium in response to wounding or other trauma.
<b>Bracket</b>	A type of fruiting body produced by various fungal species, plate like to hoof like in shape and often a one sided attachment to the wood or bark.
<b>Branch bark ridge</b>	A ridged area located at the union of a branch to a trunk or stem.
<b>Branch Collar</b>	Trunk tissue that forms around the base of a branch between the main stem and the branch, or between a main branch and a lateral branch. As a branch decreases in vigour or begins to die, the collar usually becomes more pronounced and completely encircles the branch.
<b>Brown Rot</b>	Form of decay where cellulose is degraded, while lignin is only modified.
<b>Buttress Root</b>	Roots that emerge from the base of the tree stem, normally large and well developed that rapidly reduce in diameter to create the Root Plate this offers structural support for the tree. Buttress roots divide rapidly forming the connection between the stem and the transport roots.
<b>Cabling Bracing</b>	Installing cables within the crown of a tree to prevent collapse.
<b>Cambium</b>	A thin layer of actively growing and dividing cells, located between the xylem (sapwood) and bark of a plant; the part responsible for radial growth of a tree stem or branch.
<b>Canopy</b>	The topmost layer of twigs and foliage in a woodland, tree or group of trees.
<b>Canker</b>	A localised area of dead bark and cambium on a stem or branch, caused by fungal or bacterial organisms, characterised by woundwood development on the periphery. This may be annual or perennial.
<b>Cavity</b>	An open and exposed area of wood, where the bark is missing and internal wood has been decayed and dissolved.
<b>Chlorotic</b>	Also Chlorosis. A condition of the plant marked by yellowing of normally green foliage, often indicating nutrient deficiency or plant dysfunction.
<b>Co-dominant stems/trunk</b>	Are forked branches or trunks of nearly the same size in diameter and lacking a normal branch union.
<b>Compacted soils</b>	Soils in which the air-space (oxygen space) has been reduced or eliminated, reducing water infiltration and percolation, reducing root presence and inhibiting new root development.
<b>Compartmentalisation</b>	The physiological process that creates the chemical and mechanical boundaries that act to limit the spread of disease and decay organisms.
<b>Compression Wood</b>	Abnormal wood formed on the lower side of branches and curved stems, with physical properties different from normal wood.
<b>Conservation Area</b>	In Great Britain, designated areas of architectural or historical interest, in which there are special procedures for planning applications. Additionally tree works cannot generally be undertaken without prior notification (Currently 6 weeks) to the relevant local planning authority. See also Tree Preservation Orders.
<b>Core Sample</b>	A sample of wood extracted from a trunk or branch, using an increment borer tool. The resulting core can be analysed for characteristics of growth, wood strength, structure, decay, and for species identification.
<b>Crotch</b>	The union of two or more branches; the auxiliary zone between branches.
<b>Crown</b>	The upper canopy of a tree, including upper trunk, scaffold branches, secondary branches, stems and leaves.
<b>Crown lifting / raising</b>	Crown Lift The removal of the lowest branches, usually to a given height. It allows more residual light and greater clearance underneath for vehicles etc.
<b>Crown reduction</b>	The reduction of a tree's height or spread while preserving its natural shape.
<b>Crown thinning</b>	The removal of some of the density of a tree's crown, usually 5-25% allowing more light through its canopy and reducing wind resistance.
<b>Deadwood (noun)</b>	Deadwood is often present within the crown or on the stems of trees. It may be an indication of ill health, however, it may also indicate natural growth processes. If a target is present beneath the tree, deadwood may fall and cause injury or damage and should be removed, otherwise deadwood can remain intact for conservation purposes (insects, fungi, birds etc.).
<b>Deadwood (verb)</b>	The removal of dead branches from a tree's canopy, usually of a specified size (in diameter).
<b>Decay</b>	Progressive deterioration of organic tissues, usually caused by fungal or bacterial organisms, resulting in loss of cell structure, strength, and function. In wood, the loss of structural strength.
<b>Decay Detection</b>	The assessment of decay within a tree has been traditionally difficult, but recent advances have made it possible to achieve accurate representations of the internal section of a tree in both 2D and 3D, removing doubt over the condition of the tree and allowing accurate management decisions.
<b>Defoliation</b>	The losing of plants foliage.
<b>Dieback</b>	Progressive death of buds, twigs and branch tissues, on individual limbs resulting in Deadwood, or throughout the canopy, extreme cases can result in Stag Heading.
<b>Epicormic shoots</b>	Fast growing, weakly attached shoots/branches that often grow as a response to stress factors upon a tree or branch removal.
<b>Failure</b>	In connection with tree hazards, a partial or total fracture within the wood tissue or loss of cohesion between roots and soil. (In total failure affected parts will snap or tear away completely, Partial failure there is a crack or deformation, which results in an altered distribution of mechanical stress.
<b>Feeder Roots</b>	Fine fibrous Water and nutrient absorbing roots located in the outer root system.
<b>Flush-Cut</b>	In trees and shrubs, a pruning cut close to the parent stem, which removes the branch bark ridge.
<b>Foliage</b>	The live leaves or needles of the tree; the plant part primarily responsible for photosynthesis.
<b>Formative pruning</b>	The trimming of a tree to remove weaknesses and irregularities which may lead to problems. The formative pruning operation is aimed at reducing the potential for future weaknesses or problems within the tree's crown.
<b>Girdling Root</b>	In woody plants, a root that grows across the buttress, or across other roots, eventually causing constriction of the radial growth.



<b>Growth Increment</b>	The incremental growth added as new annual ring develops each season over existing wood. This is seen as (growth) rings in cross-sections of wood.
<b>Hazard beam</b>	An upwardly curved branch in which strong internal stresses may occur without the compensatory formation of extra wood (longitudinal splitting may occur in some cases).
<b>Heartwood</b>	Inner non functioning tissues that provide structural support to trunk.
<b>Heave</b>	In relation to shrinkable clay soils, expansion due to rewetting of a volume of soil previously subjected to the removal or water by plant / trees following felling or root severance. Also in relation to root growth, the lifting of pavements and other structures by radial expansion. Also in relation to tree stability, the lifting of one side of a wind rocked root plate.
<b>Included Bark</b>	Bark that becomes embedded in a crotch between branch and trunk or between co-dominant stems, usually found in narrow or tight crotches, and causes a weak structure.
<b>Increment Borer</b>	A tool that cuts and extracts a narrow cylinder of wood from a tree for analysis of the wood tissue and growth increments.
<b>Limb</b>	A large lateral branch growing from the main trunk or from another larger branch.
<b>Lopping</b>	In trees, a general term that related to the removal of branches from a tree.
<b>Mycelium</b>	A mass of growing filaments (hyphae) formed by fungi.
<b>Mycorrhizae</b>	The symbiotic relationship between roots and certain beneficial fungi. Mycorrhizae are the combined root / fungal growth.
<b>Occluding tissue</b>	The general term of wood, cambium and bark that develop around the site of a wound on a woody plant
<b>Pathogen</b>	A microorganism that causes diseases within another organism.
<b>Phloem</b>	The principle conductive tissue that the products of Photosynthesis are transported around the plant
<b>Pollard</b>	A term for a pollarded tree.
<b>Pollard head</b>	The swollen section of branch / stem that forms behind the pollarding cut.
<b>Pollarding</b>	The complete or partial removal of the crown of a young tree so as to encourage the development of numerous branches either for amenity or historically as fodder, repeated management is required cyclically to maintain the feature
<b>Reaction Wood</b>	Wood with distinctive anatomical characteristics, formed in parts of leaning or crooked stems and in branches to provide additional strength / support. In hardwoods, tension wood usually forms. In conifers, compression wood is usually found.
<b>Reaction Zone</b>	A zone normally darker than surrounding wood that denoted the boundary often a defensive one between functional sapwood and dysfunctional or decaying wood.
<b>Remedial pruning</b>	The removal of old stubs, deadwood, epicormic growth, rubbing or crossing branches and other unwanted items from the tree's crown.
<b>Resistograph</b>	Invasive decay detection technique whereby the resistance offered by the timber to a spinning probe is measured and plotted.
<b>Root Barriers</b>	Both Buildings and services can benefit from the installation of root barriers to protect a soil volume from the ingress of roots.
<b>Root Collar</b>	The basal area of the tree; transition zone from trunk to root. Also sometimes called trunk flare.
<b>Root Plate</b>	The primary support area for the tree; an area of the root system close to the base that structurally anchors the tree to the soil.
<b>Root Zone</b>	The area and volume of soil around the tree in which roots are expected. May extend to three or more times the branch spread of the tree, or several times the height of the tree.
<b>Sail Area</b>	That area or the tree subjected to wind load.
<b>Sapwood</b>	Xylem wood tissue, usually light in colour, representing the outer growth rings of the wood. Usually living, reactive wood tissue, in a healthy tree. See heartwood
<b>Scaffold limbs / scaffold Branches</b>	The branches that from the main network framework of the crown of a tree.
<b>Soft Rot</b>	A kind of wood decay, were a fungi degrades cellulose within the cell wall, without causing overall degradation.
<b>Soil Compaction</b>	The compression of soil, causing a reduction of pore space and an increase in the density of the soil. Air is squeezed out and nutrients become locked. Tree roots cannot grow in compacted soil.
<b>Sonic Decay Detection</b>	Non invasive method whereby sound waves are passed through the tree and the speed is measured. Slow speeds indicate decay and a tomography picture representing the inner stem is produced.
<b>Stag Heading</b>	In a tree, a state of dieback were dead branches protrude beyond the current living crown.
<b>Stump Grinding</b>	The removal of a tree stump using a specialist grinding machine.
<b>Subsidence</b>	In relation to vegetation, the removal of water by plant growth resulting in localised shrinkage in the soil volume.
<b>Suppressed</b>	Trees which are dominated by surrounding vegetation and whose crown development is restricted from above.
<b>Target</b>	Any person or object within reach of a falling tree or part of a tree that may be injured or damaged.
<b>Target Pruning</b>	The pruning of a branch were the wound affects only branch material, often result in a target shaped wound.
<b>Tension Wood</b>	Reaction wood typically formed on the upper side of limbs or curved stems; characterized by lack of cell wall lignifications (higher ratios of cellulose to lignin).
<b>Tight Union / Tight Crotch</b>	Also, narrow crotch. A crotch with a narrow angle between branches, often having included bark.
<b>Tomography</b>	The comparison of sound or stress waves through the tree allows the creation of a 2D or 3D representation of the internal structure of a stem or branch section and highlights areas of damage. Virtually non-injurious.
<b>Topping</b>	Cutting large limbs back severely, without regard to form or habit of the tree. Cuts are usually made between lateral branch nodes. This practice is extremely injurious to trees, and promotes decay and structural weakness within the crown.
<b>Tree Preservation Order</b>	In Great Britain, an order made by the local planning authority, where consent must be gained before undertaking all but exempt works to a tree.
<b>Veteran Tree</b>	Veteran trees are often found in large parks or estates and commonly affected by extensive decay or have been subject to extensive works. These trees are retained for historical importance and often pose greater risk than normal, which is generally justified. They need careful management and often propping or bracing to support them, some require fencing to limit access.
<b>Vigour</b>	Active, healthy growth of plants: ability to respond to stress factors.
<b>Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)</b>	An assessment of the mechanical condition of trees based upon their 'body language'. Trees are dynamic and respond to faults / decay / environmental factors in various ways, these responses can be indicative of structural integrity.
<b>Wetwood</b>	An infection caused by bacteria living inside the plant tissues. The bacteria ferment the plant fluids, resulting in death of nearby cells, and often causing exudations of fluid from the bark, often referred to as a Slime Flux.
<b>White Rot</b>	A kind if wood decay were a fungi attacks the lignin within the wood matrix
<b>Witches Broom</b>	A deformed or unusual growth of twigs from adventitious buds, caused by insects, disease, or dieback of twigs and buds.
<b>Wood</b>	Secondary Xylem; the main structural support and water conducting tissue of trees and shrubs.
<b>Wound Wood</b>	Wood with atypical features, formed in the vicinity of a wound and a term to describe the occluding tissues around a wound
<b>Xylem</b>	Plant tissues with special function of translocation of water and dissolved nutrients.





## Appendix 3: Survey Methodology

Ground level visual surveys are carried out using the *Visual Tree Assessment* technique described by Mattheck and Broeler (1994) and endorsed by the Arboricultural Association (LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection course, 2007).

Structural condition is assessed by inspecting the stem and scaffold branches from all angles looking for weak branch junctions or symptoms of decay. Particular attention is paid to the stem-base. Cavities are explored using a metal probe in order to assess the extent of any decay. If this is not possible further inspection is recommended in the form of a climbed inspection or using specialist decay detection equipment.

The physiological condition is assessed by inspecting the stem, branches and foliage for symptoms of disease. The overall vigour of the tree is also taken into account.

Where significant defects are observed, recommendations are made according to a scale of priority in order to reduce the likelihood of structural failure. The position of the tree and its potential targets are taken into account.

Measurements are obtained using a diameter tape, clinometer, distometer and loggers tape. Where this is not practical measurements are estimated.

Some trees are surveyed as groups, though this is usually avoided close to areas likely to be developed.

Finally, a *Retention Category* is allocated as described in Appendix 1.1.1.



## Appendix 4: Author's Qualifications

### **Qualifications & Experience of Ivan Button N.C.H. (Arb), FDS (Arb), BSc (Hons), P.G.C.E., M. Arbor. A.**

Between 1983 and 1995 Ivan worked primarily within the construction industry and received training in a broad range of practical building skills and general construction principles. During this time he obtained a BSc (Hons) at Leeds University followed by a P.G.C.E at The University of Wales.

In 1995, Ivan obtained a NCH (Arboriculture) at the University of Lincoln and became a member of the Arboricultural Association. He then worked for an Arboricultural Consultancy for one year before establishing a tree surgery and landscaping business in 1998. In 2005 Ivan commenced full time employment with a leading Arboricultural Association approved consultancy and soon adopted a senior role responsible for five consultants.

He obtained a FDS in arboriculture at the University of Lancashire, which he passed with distinction and is now a Director and Principal Consultant of Crown Consultants Ltd. He is accredited as a LANTRA *Professional Tree Inspector*. A qualification produced in association with the Arboricultural Association and generally recognised as appropriate for all levels of tree inspection.

Ivan is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association, the International Society of Arboriculture and the Consulting Arborist Society

Ivan is trained and licensed in QTRA (Quantified Tree Risk Assessment). He has undertaken professional expert witness training provided by Bond Solon and has been registered as a Sweet and Maxwell Checked Expert Witness from 2008-2017, after which the service was no longer offered.

Throughout 2009 acted as the principal Tree Officer for Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

Ivan has produced several hundred Arboricultural Reports for the purposes of Development, Safety, Management, Mortgage, Subsidence, Mitigation and Litigation.

### **Qualifications & Experience of Emma Hoyle FDS (Arboriculture), ED (Forestry & Arboriculture), M. Arbor. A.**

Emma is a qualified Arboricultural Consultant educated to Level 5 in Arboriculture at Askham Bryan College and is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association. She has worked for Crown Consultants since 2015 and has since written numerous reports relating to all aspects of arboriculture including; planning and development, vegetation related subsidence, tree preservation orders and tree risk assessment. Emma regularly attends seminars and events in order to keep abreast with current knowledge and best practise in Arboriculture.

Prior to becoming an arboricultural consultant, Emma worked for two reputable tree surgery firms from 2008 and became an NPTC Qualified tree surgeon after completing a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture at Askham Bryan College. Emma also has experience in other areas of arboriculture such as forest clearance, tree planting, tree maintenance and landscaping.

### **Qualifications & Experience of Joe Taylor - MArborA, FdSc (Arboriculture)**

Joe began his career in Arboriculture as a tree surgeon/climber. During his time as a tree surgeon, Joe has achieved City & Guilds NPTC qualifications in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross Cutting, Tree Climbing and Rescue, Safe Use of Manually Fed Wood-chipper and Supporting Colleagues Undertaking Tree Related Operations.

Joe obtained a Foundation Degree in Arboriculture at Askham Bryan College in 2015 which he passed with merit. Joe is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association, the International Society of Arboriculture and the Royal Forestry Society and regularly attends industry related seminars in order to keep abreast of industry best practice.

Studying at Askham Bryan College reinforced Joe's passion for trees and drove his enthusiasm to learn more. Learning how trees interact with their surrounding environment and their importance within our urban and rural landscapes highlighted an interest in pursuing a career in consultancy.

Since working for Crown Consultants Joe has undertaken numerous surveys and produced numerous reports for the purpose of planning (BS 5837), tree condition surveys, subsidence risk assessments, root surveys and decay detection investigations.



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Arboricultural Report to BS 5837: 2012 for: Caz Stuart

Crown Ref: 10732

Site: 68 Caversham Road, London

Author: Joe Taylor

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## Appendix 5: Further Information

### Building Near Trees – General

National Joint Utilities Group publication # 10 (1995), *Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Services in Proximity to Trees*. Downloadable at [www.njug.demon.co.uk/pdf/NJUG%20Publication10.pdf](http://www.njug.demon.co.uk/pdf/NJUG%20Publication10.pdf)

NHBC Standards Chapter 4.2., *Trees and Buildings*.

Horticulture LINK project 212. (University of Cambridge, 2004), *Controlling Water Use of Trees to Alleviate Subsidence Risk*.

### Tree Planting and aftercare

See [www.trees.org.uk/leaflets.php#](http://www.trees.org.uk/leaflets.php#) for downloadable leaflets on selecting a garden tree, planting, aftercare and veteran tree management.

### British Standards

BS 5837: 2012. Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.

Bs 3998: 2010. Recommendations for Tree Work.

BS 3936: 1992. Nursery Stock. Part 1: Specification for Trees and Shrubs.

BS 3936: 1992. Nursery Stock. Part 10: Specification for Groundcover Plants.

BS 4043: 1989. Transplanting Root-balled Trees.

BS 8004: 1986. Foundations.

BS 8103: 1995. Structural design of Low-Rise Buildings.

BS 8206: 1992. Lighting for Buildings.

BS 8545:2014. Trees: From nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations

BS 3882: 2007. Topsoil.

BS 4428: 1989. General Landscaping Operations (excluding hard surfaces).

### Permission to do Works to Protected Trees / Tree Law

Forestry Commission (Edinburgh, 2003), *Tree Felling – Getting Permission*. Country Services Division - Forestry Commission. Downloadable at [www.forestry.gov.uk/website/pdf.nsf/pdf/wgsfell.pdf/\\$FILE/wgsfell.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/pdf.nsf/pdf/wgsfell.pdf/$FILE/wgsfell.pdf)

Transport and the Regions (Department of the Environment, 2000), *Tree Preservation Orders, A Guide to the Law and Good Practice*. Downloadable at [www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/tposguide](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/tposguide)

C. Mynors, *The Law of Trees, Forests and Hedgerows* (Sweet and Maxwell, London, 2002)

Communities and Local Government website with numerous downloadable documents, from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/treeshighhedges/>

### Lighting Levels

P.J. Littlefair, B.R.E. 209: *Site layout planning for daylight and sunlight A guide to good practice*. B.R.E. Bookshop, London.

British Standards Institution. Code of practice for day lighting. *British Standard BS 8206: Part 2* (1992).

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers. *Applications manual: Window Design* (London, 1987).

NBA Tectonics. A study of passive solar housing estate layout. *ETSU Report S-1126*. Harwell, Energy Technology Support Unit (1988).

I.P. Duncan; D. Hawkes, Passive solar design in non-domestic buildings. *ETSU Report S-1110*. Harwell, Energy Technology.

P. J. Littlefair, Measuring Daylight, *BRE Information Paper 23/93 f3.50*. (Advises on measuring daylight under the real sky or an artificial sky, allowing for the changing nature of sky light).

### High Hedges

Communities and Local Government website with numerous downloadable documents, from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/treeshighhedges/>

### Tree Specific Websites

[www.crowntrees.co.uk](http://www.crowntrees.co.uk)

Crown Consultants site containing useful information

[www.trees.org.uk](http://www.trees.org.uk)

Arboricultural Association

[www.rfs.co.uk](http://www.rfs.co.uk)

Royal Forestry Society of England, Wales and N. Ireland

[www.treehelp.info](http://www.treehelp.info)

The Tree Advice Trust

[www.woodland-trust.org.uk](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk)

The Woodland Trust

[www.treecouncil.org.uk](http://www.treecouncil.org.uk)

The Tree Council



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## Appendix 6: Tree Data Schedule and Site Plan(s)

The Tree Data Schedule and any drawings accompanying this report follow this page.  
They are also provided as separate documents for ease of printing and screen viewing.

Reference G = Group H = Hedge	Age & Species	Height (m)	Crown Ht (m)	Diameter (cm)	Crown Spread (m) N W      E S	Scaled Tree Diagram (m)	Notes		Recommendations (Independent of any development proposals)		Vigour	Amenity Value
									Priority	Inspect Freq (yrs)	Physiological Condition	Life Expectancy (yrs)
											Structural Condition	Retention Category
T1	Semi-Mature  Ash  Fraxinus excelsior.	8	3	29	4      3.5 2      4		Form: Single stemmed and leaning with a sparse crown. History: No significant defects observed. Defects: Significant cavities developing at 2.5 meters and 5 meters above ground level.. Scattered minor dead branches throughout. Other: T1 has been plotted according to measurements provided to Crown Consultants following the original tree survey.	No action required.		Very Low  Very Poor  Poor	Low  10-20  C	
	n/a	1.5										
T2	Semi-Mature  Elder  Sambucus nigra.	4.5	2	22	2      1 2      2		Position: Adjacent rear boundary. Form: Shrub with multiple entwined stems. History: No evidence of significant pruning. Defects: No significant defects observed.	No action required.		High  Good  Fair	Low  10-20  C	
	n/a	3										
T3	Young  Bay Laurel  Laurus nobilis.	2.5	1	22 @ Base	1      1 1      1		Position: 6.2 meters from rear boundary. Form: Multi-stemmed at ground level with a compact crown. History: Maintained by regular trimming. Defects: No significant defects observed.	No action required.		High  Good  Good	Low  20-40  C	
	n/a	3										
T4	Semi-Mature  Strawberry Tree  Arbutus unedo.	3	1.5	20 @ Base	2      1.5 2      1 2      2		Position: Situated on third party land. Form: Multi-stemmed at ground level with a compact crown. History: No evidence of significant pruning. Defects: No significant defects observed. Other: Limited inspection, dimensions estimated.	No action required.		Moderate  Good  Fair	Low  20-40  C	
	n/a	3										
T5	Semi-Mature  Prunus  Prunus sp.	5.5	3	13	1.5      1.5 1.5      1.5		Position: Situated on third party land. Form: Twin-stemmed at 4m with a compact crown. History: No evidence of significant pruning. Defects: No significant defects observed. Other: Limited inspection, dimensions estimated.	No action required.		Moderate  Fair  Fair	Low  10-20  C	
	n/a	3										



Photographs

Photograph 1.



Photograph 3.



Photograph 2.



Photograph 4.








Photograph 5.



Photograph 6.



Tree Data Schedule

Reference G-Group or Range	Age & Species	Height (m)	Crown Ht (m)	Diameter (cm)	Crown Spread (m) W N E S	Scaled Tree Diagram (m)	Notes	Recommendations (Independent of any development proposals)		Vigour		Amenity Value		
								Priority	Inspect (Free (m))	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Life Expectancy (yrs)	Recreation Category	
T1	Semi-Mature  Ash	8	3	29	4	3.5		Form: Single stemmed and leaning with a sparse crown. History: No significant defects observed. Defects: Significant cavities developing at 3.5 meters and 5 meters above ground level. Scattered minor dead branches throughout. Other: T1 has been plotted according to measurements provided to Crown Consultants following the original tree survey.	No action required.	Very Low	Low	10-20	C	
	n/a	1.5	Poor											
		Fraxinus excelsior.												
T2	Semi-Mature  Elder	4-5	2	22	2	1		Position: Adjacent rear boundary. Form: Shrub with multiple entwined stems. History: No evidence of significant pruning. Defects: No significant defects observed.	No action required.	High	Good	Fair	10-20	C
	n/a	3												
		Sambucus nigra.												
T3	Young  Bay Laurel	2-5	1	22 @ Base	1	1		Position: 6.2 meters from rear boundary. Form: Multi-stemmed at ground level with a compact crown. History: Maintained by regular trimming. Defects: No significant defects observed.	No action required.	High	Good	20-40	C	
	n/a	3	Good											
		Laurus nobilis.												
T4	Semi-Mature  Strawberry Tree	3	1.5	20 @ Base	2	1.5		Position: Situated on third party land. Form: Multi-stemmed at ground level with a compact crown. History: No evidence of significant pruning. Defects: No significant defects observed. Other: Limited inspection, dimensions estimated.	No action required.	Moderate	Good	Fair	20-40	C
	n/a	3												
		Arbutus unedo.												
T5	Semi-Mature  Prunus	5-5	3	13	1.5	1.5		Position: Situated on third party land. Form: Twin-stemmed at 4m with a compact crown. History: No evidence of significant pruning. Defects: No significant defects observed. Other: Limited inspection, dimensions estimated.	No action required.	Moderate	Fair	10-20	C	
	n/a	3	Fair											
		Prunus sp.												

Drawing No: CCL 10732 / TCP Rev 1  
Title: Tree Constraints Plan (Existing Layout)  
Site: 68 Caversham Road NWS 2DS  
Scale: 1:100  
Paper Size: A1



Tree Retention Categories		Stems & canopies shown
	Category A tree	Trees of high quality with an estimated life expectancy of 40+ years. Usually large trees with significant presence or smaller trees with excellent form. Retention of these trees is highly desirable.
	Category B tree	Trees of moderate quality with a life expectancy of 20+ years. Usually medium trees with good form. Retention of these trees is desirable though less than Category A trees.
	Category C tree	Unremarkable trees of low quality and merit. Individual specimens are not considered to be a material planning consideration.
	Category U tree	Trees unsuitable for retention due to their very poor condition.

T1 has been plotted according to measurements provided to Crown Consultants following the original tree survey.

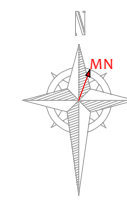
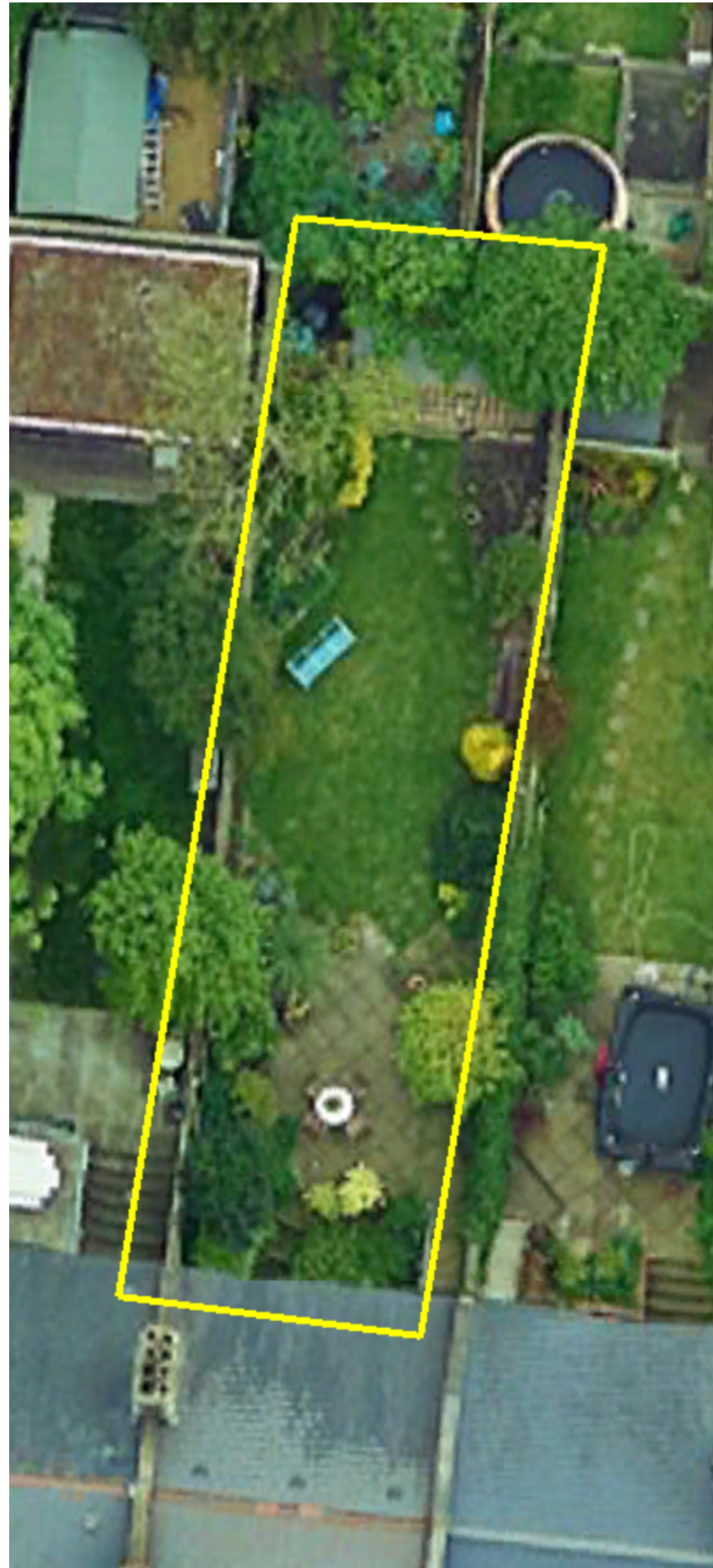
Small Cabbage Palm  
Ht: 2m  
Dia: 10cm

Shrubs  
Ht: 1-2m

Shrub  
Ht: 2.5  
Multiple Stemmed

No 66 No 68 No 70

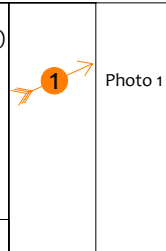
Site Overview



Tree Constraints Plan  
(Existing Layout)

Tree Constraints Plan

	B5 5837 Root Protection Area (radius = 12xstem diameter)
	Root Protection Area needing amendment due to site conditions, e.g. presence of existing road or building.
	Root Protection Area having been amended to account for for site conditions.
T1 = Tree No 1	G2 = Group No 2 H3 = Hedge No 3



MN = Measured North:  
Canopy spreads are sometimes measured to an approximate N defined by site features. Often more accurate, especially where rows of trees are not aligned N-S or E-W.

Tree Ref.	Species	Height (m)	Root Protection Area		
			Radius (m)	cm	Square (m)
T1	Ash	8	3.5	38	6.2
T2	Elder	4.5	2.6	22	4.7
T3	Bay Laurel	2.5	2.2	15	3.9
T4	Strawberry Tree	3	2.0	13	3.5
T5	Prunus	5.5	1.6	8	2.8



Excerpts from the  
Arboricultural  
Impact Assessment

Overview

It is proposed to demolish the existing outbuilding and construct a new garden room within the rear garden as indicated on the plans in Appendix 6. The existing layout is indicated in black, and the footprint of the proposed layout is indicated in green.

The table below summarises the potential impact on trees due to various activities.

Activity	Trees Potentially Affected
Tree Removal- Retention Category A	None
Tree Removal- Retention Category B	None
Tree Removal- Retention Category C	None
Tree Removal- Retention Category U	None
Tree Pruning	T1 and T2
RPA: Garden Room Foundations	T1, T2 and T3
RPA: Other Foundations	None
RPA: New Hard Surface	T1 and T3
RPA: Replace Existing Hard Surface	None
RPA: Underground Services	Unknown – To be confirmed
RPA: Change of Ground Levels	None
RPA: Soil Compaction	Trees adjacent the construction area (preventable by installing tree protection measures)

Other potentially damaging activities often associated with construction sites include demolition or the careless use of plant machinery, hazardous materials, or fires. All of the above potential impacts are considered in detail throughout this section.

The accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement (duplicated in Appendix 6) specifies the measures proposed to minimise all possible potential risks of damage to the retained trees.

**Tree Removal**

All trees within the site are to be retained.

**Impact on Tree Canopies**

The proposed garden room shall be a maximum 3.2m in height and some crown lifting to the canopy of T1 will be required to facilitate the proposal. However, the canopy height of T1 is 3m above ground level and so the required pruning shall be minimal. It is proposed to remove the lower branches of T1 to a height of 4m where they overhang the proposal. This shall ensure adequate clearance height so as to prevent accidental breakage. The pruning works should be undertaken sympathetically (working to BS 3998:2000 guidelines).

It is also proposed to prune back the branches of T2 in order to create a clearance distance from the proposed garden room, as to prevent accidental breakage. Such pruning of a Retention Category C elder shall have no impact on local visual amenity and is not considered to be a material planning consideration.

All other tree canopies shall be unaffected by the proposals.

**Impact on Tree Roots**

**Foundations:**

The foundations for the new garden room will extend into to the theoretical Root Protection Area of T1, T2 and T3. Given the proximity of the new structure to the stem of T1, it is imperative that specialist foundations are installed which will have minimal impact on the root system and on the soils beneath in which the roots grow. To achieve this, it is proposed to install an above-ground foundation (supported on narrow piles) with a ventilated void beneath into which rainwater may be diverted. The following mitigation measures are proposed:

- Deep strip foundations shall not be used.
- Instead, an above ground raft or beam supported on narrow piles shall be installed.
- The narrow piles shall be hand augured into the ground. Before installing such piles, their location shall be determined by trial pits excavated to a depth of 600mm using hand tools. If any roots in excess of 40mm diameter are encountered they should be retained intact, and the pile shall be relocated. If any roots between 25mm and 40mm are encountered, they shall be retained intact wherever possible and the pile shall be relocated. Any roots that need to be severed shall be pruned with secateurs.
- In the event of the roots being too close to each other, or there is no more tolerance, a hand-driven helical anchor shall be employed. Such anchors have a much slimmer profile, once the fins are hand manoeuvred past the roots.
- Excavation for the trial pits shall be overseen by the project arborist.
- No further excavation shall occur below existing ground levels (other than that required to remove any existing vegetation).
- A ventilated void shall be maintained beneath the entire foundation.
- Provision shall be made for a controlled amount of rainwater to be diverted into the void.

**New Surfaces:**

The Impact Assessment Plan indicates where it is proposed to install a new pedestrian surface over the Root Protection Areas of T1 and T3). To minimise the impact on roots, the following mitigation is proposed:

- Excavation shall be limited to 200mm.
- Excavation shall be undertaken using hand tools only.
- If significant rooting activity is encountered, the finished surface shall be raised to accommodate them.
- Any edging structure used shall be installed without excavation below this depth.
- Any sub-base used shall not contain any fines (finely crushed aggregate material).
- Pavours should be used and dry jointed (i.e. no mortar joints) to permit infiltration of rainwater through to the ground beneath.

**Underground Services:**

No underground services should be installed through any Root Protection Area without consulting the project arborist and if necessary, gaining approval from the local authority.

**Changes in Ground Levels:**

No changes of ground levels in excess of 100mm within Root Protection Areas shall be made without consulting the arborist and if necessary, gaining approval from the local authority.

**Demolition Activities**

In order to avoid inadvertent damage to roots, branches or stems, care shall need to be taken when demolishing the existing outbuilding close to T1. Hand tools only should be used during demolition. The adjacent walls should be demolished inwards onto the footprint of the structure, and foundations/surfaces carefully lifted. Tree protection fencing shall need to be installed prior to commencement of demolition. A methodology is specified in the accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement under the header Restricted Activity Zone B to ensure minimum detrimental impact.

**Summary**

The proposal seeks to retain all of the vegetation surveyed.

T1 and T2 require minimal pruning to create an adequate clearance from the proposal.

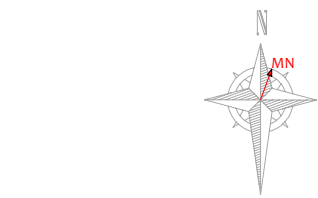
The new pedestrian surface over the RPA of T1 and T3 shall be installed sympathetically and with minimal excavation.

Foundations are proposed within the Root Protection Area of T1, T2 and T3. However, the sympathetic foundation design shall ensure no detrimental impact to tree roots or the rooting environment.

So long as suitable protection measures are implemented during demolition and construction stages, I see no arboricultural reasons why the proposal should not proceed.

Suitable protection measures are specified in the accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement ref CCL10733. The Method Statement is thorough and enforceable so may be conditioned upon the granting of planning consent.

See Section 4  
for a more  
detailed assessment



Impact Assessment Plan

(Existing Layout with Proposals Overlaid)



The proposed garden room shall be a maximum 3.2m in height and some crown lifting to the canopy of T1 will be required to facilitate the proposal. However, the canopy height of T1 is 3m above ground level and so the required pruning shall be minimal. It is proposed to remove the lower branches of T1 to a height of 4m where they overhang the proposal. This shall ensure adequate clearance height so as to prevent accidental breakage. To highlight this small amount of proposed pruning, the adjacent image shows the canopy of T1 in relation to the area where the garden room is proposed.

Small Cabbage Palm  
Ht: 2m  
Dia: 10cm

Shrubs  
Ht: 1-2m

Shrub  
Ht: 2.5  
Multiple Stemmed

No 66

No 68

No 70

Drawing No:	CCL 10732 / IAP Rev: 1
Title:	Impact Assessment Plan (Existing Layout with Proposals Overlaid)
Site:	68 Caversham Road NWS 2DS
Scale:	0 5m 1:100 Paper Size: A1



Tree Retention Categories
Category A tree
Category B tree
Category C tree
Category U tree

Trees of high quality with an estimated life expectancy of 40+ years. Usually large trees with significant presence or smaller trees with excellent form. Retention of these trees is highly desirable.
Trees of moderate quality with a life expectancy of 20+ years. Usually maturing trees, or younger trees with good form. Retention of these trees is desirable though less than Category A trees.
Unremarkable trees of low quality and merit. Individual specimens are not considered to be a material planning consideration.
Trees unsuitable for retention due to their very poor condition.

Impact Assessment Plan

(Existing Layout with Proposals Overlaid)

BS s837 Root Protection Area (radius = 1xstem diameter)
Root Protection Area needing amendment due to site conditions, e.g. presence of existing road or building.
Root Protection Area having been amended to account for site conditions
T1 = Tree No 1 G2 = Group No 2 H3 = Hedge No 3

Tree to be removed to facilitate the proposal
Tree to be removed due to its low quality
Proposed pruning

**MN** = Measured North:

Canopy spreads are sometimes measured to an approximate N defined by site features. Often more accurate, especially where rows of trees are not aligned N-S or E-W.

Tree Ref.	Species	Height (m)	Root Protection Area			
			Radius (m)	m <sup>2</sup>	Square (m)	
T1	Ash	8	3.5	38	6.2	
T2	Elder	4.5	2.6	22	4.7	
T3	Bay Laurel	2.5	2.2	15	3.9	
T4	Strawberry Tree	3	2.0	13	3.5	
T5	Prunus	5.5	1.6	8	2.8	



