



BS5837 – Arboricultural Report

25 Courtenay Drive

Prepared for

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References

- British Standards Institution (2012). *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*.
- British Standards Institution (2010). *BS 3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations*.

1.0 Instruction

This BS5837 report has been instructed by Imogen Collins and Mat Tarrant, 25 Courtenay Drive, Emmer Green, Reading, RG4 8XH to accompany planning permission for a single storey extension to the rear of the property.

The site visit was carried out Monday 22nd December 2025.

All trees with a stem diameter over 75mm (measured at 1.5m above ground level) located on the proposed development site, or within influencing distance have been mapped, and measurements of height (estimated) and DBH (Dimeter at Breast Height – 1.5m above ground) have been taken along with crown spread. OTTIS Pear Technology has been used to calculate Root Protection Areas (RPA).

The trees were surveyed visually, externally and from ground level only. No samples or internal decay detection readings were taken for further analysis. Non-invasive inspection equipment was used (probe and mallet) to assess the trees structural integrity of the base and stem. Lazer tape measure has been used to take other relevant measurements.

This survey was undertaken during the winter season when trees were not in leaf. Assessment of physiological condition was therefore based on observable structural characteristics, bud development, bark condition and overall form.

Topographical surveys were available for the purposes of this report and have been used to inform tree positions. Tree locations are based on the topographical survey data in conjunction with geo-referenced site plans and OTTISS Pear Technology. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, this report is intended for planning and tree management guidance rather than detailed engineering design.

2.0 Limitations

- The contents are intended for the sole use of the client and the property owner. No liability is accepted for their use by any other parties to advance an argument or claim (including legal or financial) without prior consent.
- No liability is accepted for defects hidden from view by soil, vegetation or other obstacles to access.
- Formal assessment of topography, drainage, service conduits, & soil conditions will not be made and are beyond the scope of this report.
- Specific laboratory investigations of soil properties (plasticity index, moisture content, soil suction pressure) will not be made and are beyond the scope of this report.
- This report has been prepared for the purposes of BS5837:2012 (Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction) and is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of tree safety. Any references to defects, structural conditions, or potential safety concerns are preliminary observations only and should not be considered exhaustive.
- The management of tree health and safety remains the responsibility of the landowner or those in control of the land. It is recommended that a separate and detailed Tree

Condition Survey be commissioned and undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced arboricultural consultant to assess structural integrity and risk, and to enable the discharge of the landowner's 'Duty of Care' under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1984.

- Reports consider risk mitigation measures, as opposed to risk elimination. Thus, if the tree is retained, a level of risk will remain.
- Plants are biological organisms & change with time. Assessment remains valid for 12 months from the date of inspection, or until a major storm (Wind Force 6 +) and or significant snow fall is experienced.
- It is understood that any risks associated with these limitations are accepted by the clients.

3.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1 The Site

The site is located on Courtenay Drive in Emmer Green, Reading, a well-established residential area characterised by detached and semi-detached dwellings set within mature plots. The surrounding streetscape is suburban in nature, with generous rear gardens.

The front garden is predominantly laid to a generous block-paved driveway providing substantial off-street parking. The driveway extends along the side elevation of the house, offering vehicular access to a detached garage and continued access to the rear of the property.

The rear garden is of typical suburban scale and has historically been planted with predominantly Acer species (maples). These ornamental trees contribute seasonal interest, particularly through autumn colour, and form a key component of the garden's established landscape character. Immediately adjacent to the rear elevation of the house is a paved area, providing a functional outdoor space. Beyond this, a central grassed area opens out towards the rear boundary, forming the principal soft landscape of the garden and allowing for recreational use and visual amenity.



Front of property





Rear of property

3.2 Trees

A tree category table is available in the appendices.

29 trees and shrubs were surveyed in total.

BS5837 Category	Number of Trees
U Trees unsuitable for retention	1
A Trees of high quality	0
B Trees of moderate quality	0
C Trees of low quality	28
Trees and shrubs recommended for removal for development purposes	10

T002 to T007, located at the front of the property, have been graded as Category C under BS 5837:2012. These trees are small, ornamental specimens situated within the front garden. Given their size and condition, these trees do not provide significant visual or functional screening, shade, or habitat value and have no material bearing on the proposed development, and any development works can proceed without compromising their quality or integrity.

T031 is a 6m high ornamental palm located in the corner of a third-party private garden, behind existing sheds and outbuildings, and is not visible to the public or to the residence. It offers very low public and private amenity value and is classified as Category C under BS 5837:2012.

T008 – T030 (excluding T023, T012, T013, T016, T018) These trees are small to medium-sized multi-stemmed ornamentals, predominantly maples, located within the rear garden. Individually, many stems fall below the typical diameter threshold used to assess trees under BS 5837:2012; however, many are included in the survey because the combined stem diameters meet the reporting criteria.

The trees are low in arboricultural quality, with generally modest form and structure. Their small stature (1–4 m) and location within a private garden mean that they offer limited visibility and low amenity value.

T023 exhibits poor form and structural defects, with evidence of decline affecting its physiological stability. Based on assessment, the tree has an estimated remaining life expectancy of less than 10 years and is unlikely to be a long-term arboricultural asset. In accordance with BS 5837:2012, the tree is therefore classified as Category U: unsuitable for retention. Removal of T023 would not result in significant arboricultural or amenity loss and is recommended on both safety and management grounds.

T012, T013, T016, T018, T032 - Shrubs

3.3 Data tables

U Trees unsuitable for retention
A Trees of high quality
B Trees of moderate quality
C Trees of low quality

A tree category table is available in the appendices.

Data Tables

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Survey Notes	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T002	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 3 2 stems (mm): 70, 80 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 1(S) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.3m. Area: 5 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T003	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 5 stems	Height (m): 3 5 stems (mm): 30, 50, 30, 60, 60 Spread (m): 0.5N, 2E, 0.5S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 1(E) Life Stage: Semi Mature	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.3m. Area: 5 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain

T004	Smokebush (<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 3 Stem Diam(mm): 320 Spread (m): 2N, 1E, 2S, 1.5W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 2(SW) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Historically coppiced smoke tree, Southern aspects approximately 1.5 m decay, able to probe deep into main stem. Strong epicormic growth from pollard heads.	C	Radius: 3.8m. Area: 45 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Poor Structural Condition: Poor Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T005	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 2.5 4 stems (mm): 70, 70, 50, 70 Spread (m): 1.5N, 2E, 2S, 0.5W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(N) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Acer has been planted in the ground in its original pot. A significant root girdling around the base will significantly shorten this tree's life.	C	Radius: 1.6m. Area: 8 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain
T006	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 5 stems	Height (m): 2.5 5 stems (mm): 70, 70, 40, 40, 40 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.5m. Area: 7 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain

T007	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 3 2 stems (mm): 50, 50 Spread (m): 1N, 0.5E, 1S, 0.5W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 0.9m. Area: 3 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain
T008	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 5 3 stems (mm): 50, 50, 70 Spread (m): 0.5N, 1E, 0.5S, 0.5W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0(SE) Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Southerly most stem dead northerly most stem dying back from top.	C	Radius: 1.2m. Area: 5 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove
T009	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 4 3 stems (mm): 100, 130, 90 Spread (m): 2.5N, 2.5E, 1S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(E) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 2.2m. Area: 15 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove

T011	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 4 3 stems (mm): 60, 40, 40 Spread (m): 0.5N, 1E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(N) Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.0m. Area: 3 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove
T012	Viburnum (<i>Viburnum sp.</i>)	Shrub 20 + stems	20 stems Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Multi-stemmed viburnum has not been maintained overextended limbs. Some dead limbs evident.	C	No RPA.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove
T013	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Shrub	Height (m): 1 Life Stage: Young Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Acer has been left to grow out of a pot roots exposed at base	C	No RPA	Physiological Condition: Poor Structural Condition: Poor Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove
T014	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 4 4 stems (mm): 60, 70, 70, 50 Spread (m): 1N, 2.5E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0(SE) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.5m. Area: 7 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain

T015	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 2.5 3 stems (mm): 40, 40, 40 Spread (m): 1N, 0.5E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(N) Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 0.8m. Area: 2 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T016	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Shrub	Height (m): 0.5 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Split in main stem from approximately 20 cm to 50 cm. Some decay visible in the stem.	C	No RPA	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T017	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 1.5 4 stems (mm): 20, 20, 20, 20 Spread (m): 0.5N, 0.5E, 0.5S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0(N) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Very small. Multi-stemmed Acer.	C	Radius: 0.5m. Area: 1 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T018	Mixed shrubs (<i>Mixed shrubs</i>)	Shrub Multi stemmed	Height (m): 3.5 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Typical for age and species	C	No RPA.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain

T019	Japanese maple (<i>Acer palmatum</i>)	Tree 5 stems	Height (m): 4 5 stems (mm): 150, 130, 100, 50, 50 Spread (m): 2.5N, 2E, 1.5S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0(NE) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 2.8m. Area: 25 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T020	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 3.5 2 stems (mm): 80, 120 Spread (m): 2.5N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(N) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.7m. Area: 9 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove
T022	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 3 2 stems (mm): 90, 80 Spread (m): 1.5N, 2E, 1.5S, 1.5W Crown Clearance (m): 1.5 Lowest Branch (m): 1(N) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.4m. Area: 6 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove
T023	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 2.5 2 stems (mm): 60, 60 Spread (m): 2N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(W) Life Stage: Over Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Eastern stem bark removed on its eastern aspect. Decaying heartwood exposed. Southern aspect has a dead limb Northern aspect cracking to limb heartwood exposed.	U	Radius: 1.0m. Area: 3 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Poor Structural Condition: Poor Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove

T024	Japanese maple (<i>Acer palmatum</i>)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 2 4 stems (mm): 50, 50, 50, 50 Spread (m): 0.5N, 0.5E, 1.5S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0(W) Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.2m. Area: 5 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T025	Japanese maple (<i>Acer palmatum</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 3.5 2 stems (mm): 130, 140 Spread (m): 1.5N, 1E, 1S, 2.5W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 0(E) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Northern stem exposed sapwood from historical branch tears occluding well some significant decay within stem.	C	Radius: 2.3m. Area: 17 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T026	Magnolia (<i>Magnolia sp.</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 5 3 stems (mm): 170, 140, 150 Spread (m): 1.5N, 2E, 2S, 1.5W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 0(NW) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Historically pollarded magnolia. Southern stem showing signs and decline, necrotic bark. Vigorous epicormic growth from pollard heads, crowns showing good vitality and bud formation.	C	Radius: 3.2m. Area: 32 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T027	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 4 2 stems (mm): 90, 90 Spread (m): 2N, 0.5E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(W) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.5m. Area: 7 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain

T028	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 2 4 stems (mm): 30, 30, 30, 30 Spread (m): 0.5N, 0.5E, 0.5S, 0.5W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(N) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 0.7m. Area: 2 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T029	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 3.5 4 stems (mm): 30, 30, 30, 30 Spread (m): 1N, 0.5E, 2S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 0(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 0.7m. Area: 2 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain
T030	Maple (<i>Acer sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 3.5 2 stems (mm): 80, 40 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 0(N) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species	C	Radius: 1.1m. Area: 4 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain

T031	Chusan palm (<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 6.5 Stem Diam(mm): 250 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 5 Lowest Branch (m): 5(M) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Third party tree DBH estimated.	C	Radius: 3.0m. Area: 28 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove with third party consent.
T032	Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>)	Shrub	Height (m): 3.5 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Unmaintained privet hedging plant.	C	Radius: 0.0m. Area: 633 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove

3.4 Definitions of terms

Tree Identification Individual trees are identified with the prefix ‘T’. Groups of trees forming cohesive features, whether aerodynamic (shelter), visual (screening) or cultural (parkland), are identified with the prefix ‘G’. Hedgerows and woodlands are referenced as ‘H’ and ‘W’ respectively.	Age Classification Trees are categorised by age class as follows: • Young (Y): First quarter of life expectancy • Semi-mature (SM): Second quarter • Early Mature (EM): Third quarter • Mature (M): Fourth quarter • Over Mature (OM): Exceeding typical life expectancy • Veteran (V): Exhibiting recognised veteran characteristics
Species Species are recorded by both their common and Latin names within the schedule contained in Appendix C. Within the main body of the report, species are referred to by their common names.	Physiological and Structural Condition The physiological and structural condition of each tree, group, hedgerow and woodland is assessed from ground level. Structural condition is described as Good, Fair or Poor, and physiological condition as Good, Fair, Poor, Moribund or Dead. Where relevant, observations are made regarding form, taper, forking habit, storm damage, decay, fungal fruiting bodies, pests and other defects. Where access is restricted, condition assessments are based on visible external indicators.
Height Tree heights are estimated on site and recorded in metres. All measurements are approximate.	Estimated Remaining Contribution (ERC) The Estimated Remaining Contribution (ERC) is expressed in years and reflects species characteristics alongside the observed physiological and structural condition. Trees with longer anticipated contributions are generally of greater significance in informing development layout and retention decisions.
Stem Diameter Stem diameter for single-stemmed trees is measured at 1.5 metres above ground level and recorded in millimetres. For multi-stemmed trees, each principal stem is measured separately. Where stems fork or exhibit swelling, measurements are taken at the narrowest point below the irregularity. Where access to the trunk is restricted, stem diameter is estimated they are identified within the survey schedule.	Category Grading Each tree has been assigned a category grading in accordance with BS5837:2012, reflecting its overall arboricultural value. Further details of the categorisation methodology are provided in the appendices of this report.
Crown Spread Radial crown spread is measured in metres to the nearest 0.5 metre (rounded up) and recorded for the four cardinal points where access permits. Where access is restricted, measurements are estimated and identified in the survey schedule. The canopy spreads shown on the accompanying plans reflect site measurements.	Preliminary Management Recommendations Any management recommendations provided are advisory and do not constitute a detailed specification for works. Where tree works are recommended, they should be undertaken by a suitably qualified arboricultural contractor in accordance with recognised best practice, including BS3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations. In some cases, further investigation may be recommended to determine the extent or significance of observed defects, or to confirm the assigned category grading. Where management works are advised, an indicative timeframe for implementation is provided.
First Significant Branch and Canopy Height The height and direction of the first significant branch are recorded, together with the average canopy height above ground level.	

3.5 Recommended Tree Works

Trees for removal

T031 - The calculated Root Protection Area (RPA) extends into the proposed development footprint, resulting in some encroachment.

Trachycarpus fortunei is a monocotyledonous species, differing physiologically from typical broadleaf trees. Palms do not undergo secondary thickening and do not form a woody structural root plate; instead, they develop a fibrous, adventitious root system arising from the base of the stem. This root morphology is relatively compact, and limited RPA encroachment is unlikely to cause significant arboricultural harm if appropriate construction methodology is applied.

Given its Category C status, and hidden location, removal of T031 would be arboriculturally acceptable and represents the simplest means of eliminating the constraint.

However, as T031 is situated on third-party land, the applicant has no authority to remove it. Any removal would require written consent of the landowner.

In the absence of confirmed removal, development should proceed with retention. Foundations should be designed to minimise root disturbance.



Trachycarpus fortunei – On third party land

T008, T009, T011, T020 - are located within the site boundary or have RPAs that extend into the footprint of the proposed development. These trees have been assessed as Category C, representing trees of low quality and limited arboricultural value. Due to their position in direct conflict with the proposed construction and associated infrastructure, retention of these trees is not considered feasible.

Shrubs T012, T013 and T032 Are present within the area of the proposed development and are recommended for removal to facilitate adequate clearance from the proposed structure and to improve light availability. These features consist of low-value ornamental or incidental shrub planting and do not constitute trees as defined within BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction. Their removal is therefore not considered to result in a significant arboricultural constraint and can be undertaken as part of normal site clearance works to accommodate the proposed development.

T023 – Category U tree recommended for removal in line with BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction.

4.0 Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS).

This method statement has been prepared in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction. It sets out the measures required to protect retained trees and their Root Protection Areas (RPAs) during the proposed development.

Tree Protection

All retained trees and RPAs will be protected in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP). Protective fencing will be installed as shown on the TPP and maintained for the full duration of the construction period. The fencing will be erected prior to the commencement of any site clearance, demolition, or construction works and will remain in place until completion of the development unless otherwise agreed with the project arboricultural consultant.

The protective fencing will be robust and installed in accordance with BS5837 recommendations (e.g., scaffold framework with welded mesh panels securely fixed). Clear signage such as “*Tree Protection Area – Keep Out*” will be attached to the fencing. No materials, plant, spoil, chemicals, or construction activities shall take place within the RPAs unless otherwise approved by the project arboricultural consultant.

Storage of Materials and Equipment

All materials, plant, equipment, spoil, fuel, and chemicals will be stored outside RPAs. Where possible, storage will take place on the existing driveway located to the east of the property, which lies outside the protected rooting areas of retained trees. This designated storage and working area will be clearly communicated to all contractors to ensure compliance with tree protection requirements.

Mixing of Materials

No cement, concrete, mortar, or other construction materials will be mixed within RPAs. All mixing operations will take place on a suitable impermeable surface located outside RPAs to prevent contamination or alkaline leaching into the soil.

Fires

No fires will be lit on site and the burning of waste materials is strictly prohibited. This is to avoid potential heat damage to retained trees, roots, or surrounding soil.

Protection of Tree Stems and Canopies

No plant, machinery, tools, equipment, or materials shall be leaned against or attached to retained trees. Tree stems and branches must not be used to support cables, signage, lighting, or temporary fixings. Care will be taken during construction activities to avoid mechanical damage to tree stems, branches, and canopies, particularly when operating plant or moving materials in proximity to retained trees.

Unexpected Root Encounters

If roots are unexpectedly encountered during works near RPAs, all works in the affected area will cease immediately and the project arboricultural consultant will be notified. Exposed roots will be protected from desiccation by covering with damp hessian or similar material and kept moist until appropriate remedial action is agreed.

Site Supervision and Compliance

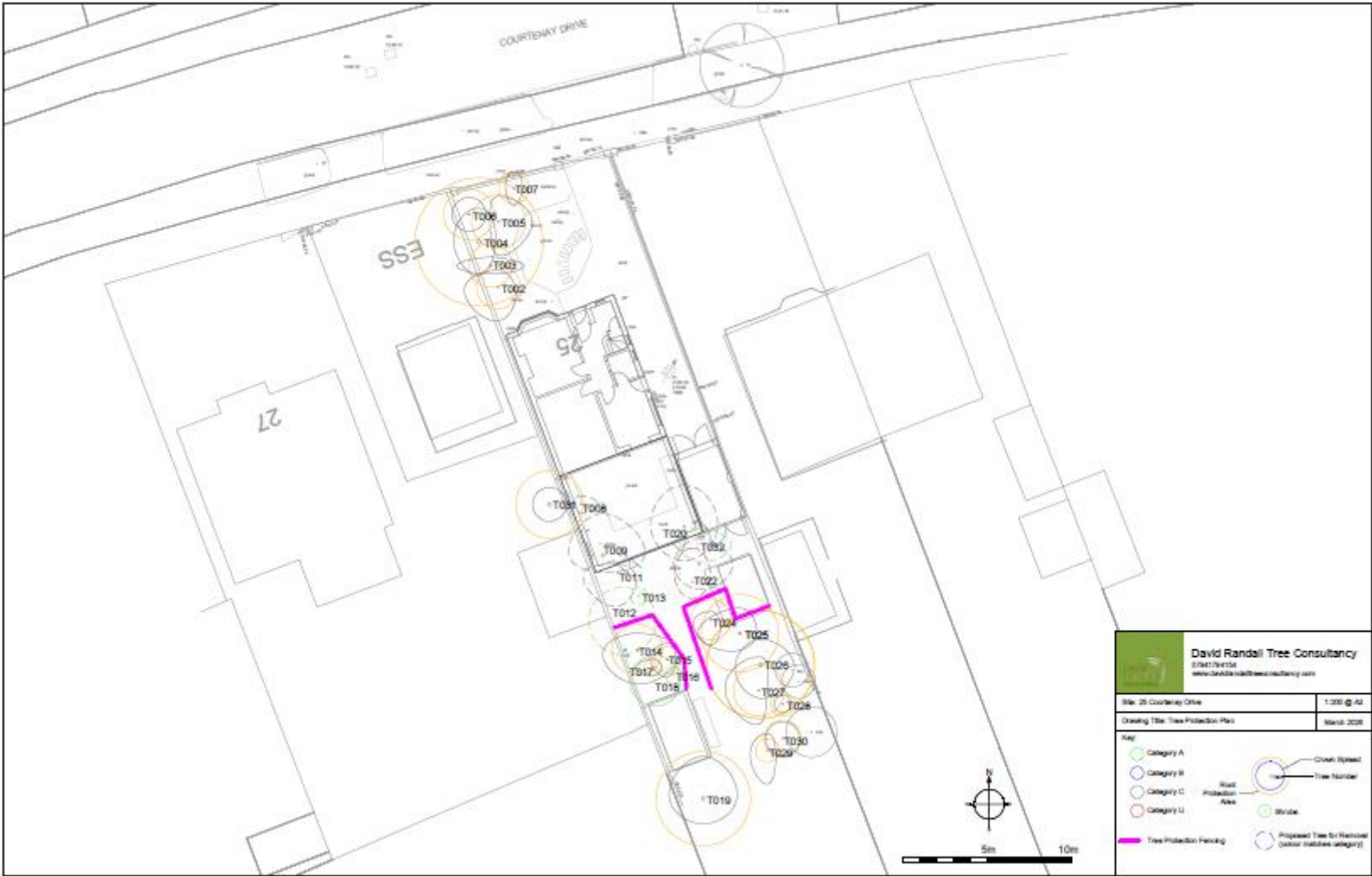
All contractors and site operatives will be briefed on the tree protection measures prior to the commencement of works. The location of the Tree Protection Areas and protective fencing will be clearly identified on site. Protective fencing, ground protection (if required), and other tree protection measures must not be removed, repositioned, or breached without prior written approval from the project arboricultural consultant.

5.0 Appendices

5.1 Tree Impact Assessment and Constraints Plan *(A separate PDF copy will be made available with the Arboricultural report)*



5.1.1 Tree Constraints (including proposed removals) and Protection Plan (A separate PDF copy will be made available with the Arboricultural report)



5.2 Cascade Chart for Tree Quality (*Table 1 BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*)

Category and definition	Criteria (Including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	- Trees that have a serious, Irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and Irreversible overall decline - Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>			See Table 2
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category 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 formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	See Table 2
Category 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	See Table 2
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2

5.3 Tree Protection Methods

Extracts from *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*,
showing best practice for protecting RPA with matting and fencing.

6.2.3.3 New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

NOTE The ground protection might comprise one of the following:

- a) for pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- b) for pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- c) for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2 t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier

