

Ashley Tree Surveys



Re-survey & Arboricultural Report

Commissioned by : Mr Anthony Sharp

1a New Road, Reading, RG1 5JD



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1.0 Contact Details

Client: Mr Anthony Sharp

Architect: Trace Architects

Site Details: 1a New Road, Reading, RG1 5JD

Controlling Authority: Reading District Council

Date of Survey: 25th February 2026

Arboriculturist: Kate Ashley
Dip Arb L4 ABC Tech. Arbor. A.

Ashley Tree Surveys
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Proposal: Construction of a new dwelling in a currently undeveloped site, inside a Conservation Area.

2.0 Executive Summary

3.0 Tree Quality Assessment

The table of data in Appendix 2 along with the Tree Constraints Plan submitted plan shows the condition of the trees according to *“BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations”*.

8 trees and have been surveyed for planning purposes & categorized according to BS 5837:2012. It was found that there were:

TREES

- 3 Category 'B' Tree (Lime, Cedar, Bay)
- 5 Category 'C' Tree (Birch, Apple, Lime, Hawthorn)

4.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)

See previous

5.0 Sequence of Events

See previous

6.0 Root Protection Areas (RPAs) & Restrictions within RPA's

Based on the tree survey, root protection areas (RPAs) have been determined for all retained trees. The RPA's are designed to protect at least a functional minimum of tree root mass, to ensure that the trees survive the construction process.

It is the responsibility of everyone engaged in the construction process to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions with and adjacent to them.

Inside the Construction Exclusion Area (defined as the area inside the Protective Fencing), the following shall apply :

- No mechanical excavation
- No excavation by any other means without arboricultural site supervision
- No hand digging without a written method statement having first been approved by the developers arboriculturalist
- No ground-level changes whatsoever (without prior approval of the approved arboriculturist
- No storage of plant or materials
- No storage or handling of any chemicals
- No mixing of cement
- No vehicular access

7. Tree Protection Fencing

The Tree Constraints Plan shows the location of protective fencing (Appendix 3). Tree Protection Fencing is required on this site and should be installed prior to any construction activity starting. It should also be in place before any materials or machinery are brought onto the site, and before any demolition, development or stripping of soil commences.

Once erected the fencing should not be altered or moved without prior agreement of an arboriculturist and approval of the local planning authority. BS 5837:2012 states that all "Barriers should be fit for the purpose of excluding construction activity and should be appropriate to the degree of proximity of work taking place around the retained tree. Special attention should be paid to ensuring that barriers remain rigid and complete".

There is a default specification of barriers (Fig1) which is recommended and these are designed to be permanent barriers and positioned as per the TPP. In most instances this takes the form of welded 'Heras' panels, secured onto a scaffolding framework, which is then braced and secured into the ground. The panels should be difficult to move and should form permanent rigid structures. Should site conditions mean this default fencing is impossible to install, then an alternative fencing can be suggested by the retained arboriculturist. Once the Exclusion Zone has been protected by barriers, construction can commence. All weather notices should be fixed to the barriers with the words : 'Construction exclusion zone – Keep Out' - see Fig 2

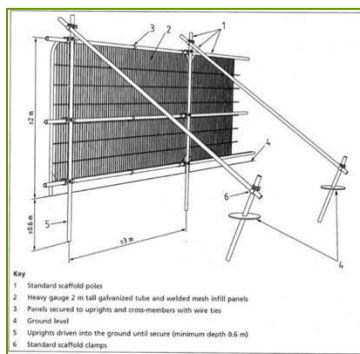


Fig 1 Shows the default specification of protective barriers (taken from BS5837)

Fig 2 Shows examples of the all-weather signage to be attached to protective barriers.

All works taking place within the RPA of retained trees are subject to Arboricultural supervision and monitoring. A schedule for which will be agreed between the site manager and the retained arboriculturist, prior to the commencement of any works.

8.0 Legal Constraints

9.0 Conclusion

APPENDIX

- APPENDIX 1 - KEY TO BS 5837 TREE SURVEY DATA
- APPENDIX 2 - ARBORICULTURAL TREE SURVEY DATA
- APPENDIX 3 - TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN (TCP)

APPENDIX 1 – KEY TO BS 5837:2012 TREE SURVEY

T / G	Tree or Group numbers which follow on the enclosed plan
Species	Common name followed by botanical name (Latin) in brackets
DBH:	The Diameter at Breast Height which measures the girth of the stem (in mm) measured at 1.5m from ground
level	
Height (H):	Approximate height of tree canopy, measured in meters
First Branch (FB):	Approximate height of the first significant branch and its cardinal directional
Canopy Spread (CS):	Approximate Canopy spread measured in metres, shown as compass points N,E,S,W

AGE CLASS:	Y : Young (less than 15 years old and 1/3 fully grown)
	SM : Semi-mature tree (1/3 to 2/3 full height tree)
	EM : Early Mature (2/3 to virtually full height tree)
	M : Mature – fully grown tree
	LM : Late Mature – fully grown tree possibly with declining vigor
	OM : Over mature – fully grown tree with declining vigor, but having historical or ecological value
	VET : Veteran tree, usually very old and having significant biological, cultural or aesthetic value

SULE:	Refers to the remaining Safe Useful Life Expectancy and is the estimated number of years the tree will continue to make a safe and useful contribution to its environment. SULE is recorded as <10 years, 10+, 20+ or 40+ years
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APPENDIX 2 –ARBORICULTURAL TREE SURVEY DATA

(SEE TABLE BELOW)

No.	Common Name / Latin Name	DBH	Height(m)	Canopy	AC	SU LE	Observations	Physic	Struct Form	Cat	RPA	Other Notes
T1	Common Lime <i>Tilia X europaea</i>	680	H 18m FB 3m/S	N 7.5 E 7.5 S 7.5 W 7.5	EM	40+	Lime with stem close to boundary wall and boundary fence. Canopy to E has been reduced over the adjacent garden. Heavy coverage of ivy observed which is covering stem and is invading crown.	GOOD	GOOD	B1	R = 8.16.	OFF SITE TREE
T2	Atlantic Cedar <i>Cedrus libani</i>	580	H 24m FB 3m/S	N 7.0 E 7.0 S 7.0 W 7.0	EM	40+	Stem close to the boundary wall. Large area of understory ivy noted directly underneath cedar (on-site) with some self-generated trees have also established	GOOD	GOOD	B1	R = 6.96	OFF SITE TREE
T3	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	150 115 = 190	H 6m FB 1m/E	N 2.5 E 2.5 S 2.5 W 2.5	SM	10+	Self-generated birch with 2 small leaning stems, base on boundary (0.2m) from the party wall and therefore foundations of adjacent extension. Both stems lean away from the party wall and towards the site. Roots will soon start to undermine neighbours foundations	FAIR	POOR	C1	R = 2.28	FELL Birch is not sustainable. Birch roots will cause damage to neighbours foundations.
T4	Common Apple <i>Malus domestica</i>	185	H 4m FB 0.1m/S	N 2.5 E 2.5 S 2.5 W 2.5	M	20+	Pruning wounds and some decay noted on stem and branches	FAIR	FAIR	C1	R = 2.22	No works required

T5	Common Lime <i>Tilia X europaea</i>	630	H 6m FB 0.25m/N	N 2.0 E 2.0 S 2.0 W 2.0	EM	20+	Pollarded lime close to boundary wall with regrowth and large amounts of epicormic at base. Brambles covering base.	FAIR	FAIR	C1	R = 7.56	Lime is close to street therefore has amenity value.
T6	Bay Laurel <i>Laurus nobilis</i> Multi-stem	160 x 6 stems = 392	H 8m FB 0.25m/N	N 3.0 E 3.0 S 3.0 W 3.0	EM	20+	Large bay with stem close to boundary fence. Access to base not possible but appears to be 4 stems and well balanced canopy. <i>T6 stem is 18.5m from front of site</i>	FAIR	FAIR	B1	R = 4.70	OFF SITE TREE
T7	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	75	H 3m FB 0.25m/N	N 1.0 E 1.0 S 1.0 W 1.0	Y	20+	Young tree planted in the far right corner of the plot. Good form and vitality and a tree which can be safely moved when it is the winter dormant season	GOOD	FAIR	C1	R = 0.9	MOVE IN DORMANT SEASON
T8	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	75	H 3m FB 0.25m/N	N 1.0 E 1.0 S 1.0 W 1.0	Y	20+	Young tree planted in the far right corner of the plot. Good form and vitality and a tree which can be safely moved when it is the winter dormant season	GOOD	FAIR	C1	R = 0.9	MOVE IN DORMANT SEASON

SUPPORTING IMAGES



Image 1 – Showing T1 Lime & T2 Cedar at rear of site



Image 2 – T2 off-site Cedar



Image 3 – T3 Silver Birch which is close to adjacent dwelling



Image 4 – Showing front of site towards New Road



Image 5 – Showing T5 Pollarded Lime



Image 6 – Showing T6 off-site Bay Laurel