

## Supporting Statement

### **Tree works application for T7 Ash, shown as T7 (TPO) on Tree Protection Plan WARREN CREEK TPP 06942/2026 0.2.**

Proposed works: fell T7 Ash to ground level.

Reason for works: T7 Ash is in advanced decline. The project arboricultural consultant, Sarah Duckworth of Duckworths Arboriculture Ltd, inspected the tree and recorded that approximately 25–30% of the canopy is now dead, with the remaining canopy retrenching and in advanced decline. Sarah Duckworth categorises T7 as a BS5837 Category U tree with an anticipated remaining contribution of less than 10 years and recommends removal, subject to the necessary separate consent process.

The application is made separately from the discharge of conditions application for planning application PL/24/1614, because T7 is shown as retained on the approved/current tree protection documents. The Natural Environment Officer has advised that removal should be dealt with through a separate tree works application.

Replacement planting is proposed with 1 no. native oak, *Quercus robur*, to be planted in the vicinity of the current T7 location. The precise planting position will be finalised with Sarah Duckworth's arboricultural guidance and the final agreement of the Local Planning Authority, having regard to the approved landscape scheme, retained TPO trees T3 and T5, W21 TPO woodland adjoining the eastern boundary, service routes, floodplain constraints and the long-term space required for the replacement oak to establish successfully.

Floodplain impact: The site lies within Flood Zone 3 / functional floodplain context associated with the River Thames / Warren Creek. The proposed tree works comprise the removal of T7 Ash and replacement planting with 1 no. native oak, *Quercus robur*, in the vicinity of the current T7 location. The application does not propose any new building, increase in built footprint, new impermeable surfacing, regrading, raising of ground levels, alteration to drainage, or obstruction to flood conveyance.

The replacement tree planting shall be carried out so that floodplain function is not adversely affected. The site-specific requirements are:

1. No general raising of ground levels shall occur as part of the T7 removal or replacement planting.
2. The stump shall be cut as close to ground level as reasonably practicable. Stump grinding shall only be undertaken if agreed as acceptable and shall not involve importation of fill or creation of a raised mound.
3. Arisings from felling, stump works and planting shall be removed from site or stored temporarily in a safe location where they cannot be mobilised by floodwater. No loose timber, brash,

soil, mulch, packaging, fuel, oil or other materials shall be left where they could enter Warren Creek / the River Thames corridor.

4. Replacement planting shall be limited to the tree pit and associated local planting operations required for the new *Quercus robur*. Excavated soil shall be reused locally where suitable, or removed from site if surplus. No surplus spoil shall be spread across the floodplain in a way that raises levels.

5. The replacement planting pit shall be backfilled to existing surrounding ground level. No bunding, mounding or level raising shall be formed around the replacement tree.

6. The works shall not alter existing surface-water flow paths, drainage arrangements, flood storage or flood conveyance.

7. Works shall be avoided during flood events, flood warnings affecting the site, or when the ground is waterlogged such that soil damage, sediment mobilisation or pollution risk would occur.

8. No fuels, oils, cementitious materials, chemicals or polluting substances shall be stored within the works area except in sealed containers and only for the duration necessary to carry out the works. Spill control materials shall be available during the works.

9. The final replacement planting location shall be agreed having regard to the approved landscape scheme, the retained TPO trees T3 and T5, W21 TPO woodland adjoining the eastern boundary, service routes, construction access requirements and the Flood Zone 3 / functional floodplain constraints.

10. The works shall be carried out in accordance with the submitted arboricultural evidence and replacement planting note. The purpose of the replacement planting is to maintain long-term tree cover and landscape/ecological value without affecting floodplain capacity or flood flow.