## 犐甶ArbTs

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## Arboricultural Report

Including:
Tree Survey Data \&
Tree Constraints Plan,
Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement

To the British Standard 5837:2012
(Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations)

Date - $3^{\text {rd }}$ May 2024

Site - Matrix Park Land Adjacent to Swansea Enterprise Zone SA6 8RE

Project Reference - ArbTS_1787.1_Matrix Park

## Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction ..... 3
2.0 The Tree Survey ..... 3
3.0 The Trees ..... 4
4.0 Tree Constraints Plan Information ..... 4
5.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment ..... 5
6.0 Arboricultural Method Statement ..... 5
7.0 Conclusion ..... 7
8.0 Qualifications \& Further Information ..... 8
9.0 Bibliography \& Web Information ..... 9
10.0 Appendix
1A Tree Survey Data + 1B - Detailed Tree Survey Data Summary
2 Tree Constraints Plan
3 Tree Survey Key
4 Tree Protection Plan5 Tree Photographs
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has been made.

### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to assess the quality of the trees at Matrix Park Land Adjacent to Swansea Enterprise Zone SA6 8RE, assess the arboricultural impact of the proposed development design and provide details regarding the protection of retained trees during construction work.
1.2 This report identifies the quality of the trees on this site as categorised by the British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations. The survey and findings, as reported here, represent an unbiased third-party opinion offering professional advice on the value of the trees on or adjacent to this site. To illustrate the constraints identified trees pose to the design of future development, a Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) has been drawn, as found in Appendix 2.
1.3 Arboricultural constraints within the surveyed site relate primarily to the preservation of trees recommended for retention. Identified trees must be protected during the construction phase by employing a combination of tree protection methods as illustrated in Appendix 4, Tree Protection Plan and detailed within Section 6 - Arboricultural Method Statement.
1.4 The trees' root system and the associated soil structure is often overlooked during the construction process and can be damaged or altered by compaction, causing significant damage to the health of the tree. Generally, the tree's entire root system is within the top 600 mm of soil, where it can be easily damaged. A calculated ground area around the tree should be protected during the onsite construction phase. In this report, it is referred to as the Root Protection Area (RPA).

### 2.0 The Tree Survey

2.1 The tree survey was conducted by Stephen Lucocq BSc (Hons), Tech Cert (ArborA), M.Arbor.A on $23^{\text {rd }}$ November 2023.
2.2 Trees over 75 mm were tagged where appropriate with numbered metal identification tags at around 2.0 metres above ground level.
2.3 All observations were made from the ground with an acoustic-sounding hammer. No invasive decay detective instruments were used.
2.4 The survey was carried out per British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. This standard gives a systematic, consistent, transparent evaluation method for tree surveying.
2.5 The tree survey was conducted with the aid of a topographical survey.
2.6 Preliminary management recommendations: The survey has identified preliminary management recommendations for the trees on or adjacent to this site. Details regarding these specified operations are given in this report (See Appendix 1 - Tree Survey Data). Where work priority is stated to be H - High due to safety reasons, these operations should be carried out as soon as possible. Where work priority is
said to be $\mathrm{M} / \mathrm{H}$ - medium/high or higher, these operations should be undertaken before the commencement of any works on site.
2.7 Limitations of the tree survey: Whilst every effort is made to ensure an accurate assessment of the tree's condition during the survey, no responsibility can be taken for resultant damage or injury that occurred by a failing tree. The survey only gives a snapshot of what is visible and is not obscured on the day of the survey. The survey identifies trees of varying quality and their above-ground/below-ground constraints. This survey does not constitute a full tree condition survey/tree risk assessment of the site, and this report is only valid for 24 months from the date of the tree survey.

### 3.0 The Trees

3.1 The complete tree survey data can be found in Appendix 1A Tree Survey Data
3.2 Tree Survey Summary Table (See Appendix 3 for BS5837 category definitions). (A more detailed Tree Survey Data Summary can be found in Appendix 1B)

| $\begin{gathered} \text { BS5837:2012 } \\ \text { Quality } \\ \text { Category } \end{gathered}$ | Total Number of Individual Trees Surveyed | Total Number of Tree Groups Surveyed | Total Number of Tree Areas Surveyed | Total Number of Woodland Areas Surveyed | Total Number of Hedgerows Surveyed | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A <br> (High - Most desirable for retention) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| B <br> (Moderate Desirable for retention) | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { C } \\ \text { (Low - Optional } \\ \text { for retention) } \end{gathered}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| U (Poor Unsuitable for retention) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ \text { A,B,C,U } \end{gathered}$ | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

### 4.0 Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) Information

4.1 A Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) can be found in Appendix 2 of this report. An introduction to TCP can also be found at the start of this Appendix Section. For further information and details regarding TCP, please see the British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations.

### 5.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)

5.1 The following Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been made for the proposed development design.
5.2 Tree Loss - AIA - N/A - No trees are required to be removed to facilitate the construction of the proposed development design.
5.3 Root Protection Area (RPA) - AIA - LOW - RPA potential damage can all be managed through the installation of tree protective fencing, arboricultural watching brief for sewer trench excavation works within RPA etc., as designed by an Arboriculturist will ensure no significant long-term adverse impact will occur to any of the retained trees.
5.4 Tree surgery work - AIA - LOW - Some minor branch reduction/branch lifting pruning work will be required to facilitate this proposed scheme, as detailed in the tree protection plan (Appendix 4). This work will be carried out to the British Standard 3998:2010 tree work recommendations. Adhering to this standard will ensure no adverse impact on these trees' long-term health or visual amenity.
5.5 Future Tree Pressures - AIA - LOW / MODERATE - Overall, the design has considered the size and value of the trees on this site to minimise any future pressures to heavily prune or fell the higher-value trees.
5.6.1 Conclusion - AIA - LOW - The site has several Arboricultural constraints that must be considered in the development design phase. No trees are required to be removed to facilitate the construction of the proposed development design.
5.6.2 The construction of the proposed development, whilst complying with the tree protection scheme as detailed in section 6, will ensure that no significant long-term adverse Arboricultural impact occurs on the health of any retained trees on or adjacent to this site or the long-term amenity of the area.

### 6.0 Arboricultural Method Statement

6.1 The Tree Protection Plan to facilitate the construction of the development design can be found in Appendix 4 of this report. The Tree Protection Plan must comply with all of the following:

- Be regarded as sacrosanct and follow the sequence of events as detailed in the table below
- Be installed before commencement of any demolishing or construction works on site
- Must not be removed or altered without prior approval of the local planning authority


### 6.2 The following table below provides a detailed sequence of events that must occur to protect the retained trees during all stages of the construction process. These methods must be communicated to the entire construction team before any work on site.

| Stage | Arboricultural Method Statement (In the sequence of events) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1.) Preconstruction <br> (Prior to any on-site construction work, including demolition work, site material storage etc.) | 1.1 - Design areas for construction site storage by the site supervisor and the appointed Arboriculturist. |
|  | 1.2 - Design position, form and construction methods of all utility services with Arboricultural consideration. All underground service designs MUST conform to the NJUG Volume 4 Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees. The full document is available at http://www.njug.org.uk/and BS5837:2012. Local Planning Authority to be consulted on utility service design details and, if satisfied, to be approved in writing before installation during the construction phase. |
|  | 1.3- Tree surgery work to be carried out is detailed in the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 4) of this report and to the British Standard:3998:2010: Recommendation for tree works. |
|  | 1.4 - Tree protective fencing installed in the position and form as detailed in the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix - 4). Installation is to be supervised by the appointed Arboriculturist. All weather tree construction exclusion zone posters are to be secured to fencing at regular intervals. |
|  | 1.5 - Site storage area containers installed as designed and supervised by the site supervisor and the appointed Arboriculturist. |
|  | 1.6- Appointed Arboriculturist to document all tree protection methods in situ and photographs taken for reference purposes. Copy of document report sent to all parties. |
| 2.) Construction | 2.1 - The site supervisor is to be briefed by the appointed Arboriculturist regarding the Tree Protection Plan/Methods, and a laminated copy of the plan/methods is to be secured onto the wall in the site supervisor's office. Contact details of the appointed Arboriculturist, Council's Tree Officer, to be included. Emphasis is to be made to the site supervisor on the importance of the Tree Protection Plan/Methods and possible planning enforcement action (Stop Notice), problems with discharging tree protection conditions and/or legal action for noncompliance with these tree protection methods. |
|  | 2.2 - All contractors are to be briefed by the site supervisor and/or the appointed Arboriculturist regarding the tree protection plan and methods before starting work on site. Emphasis made to contractors on the importance of the Tree Protection Plan/Methods and possible planning enforcement action (Stop Notice), problems with discharging tree protection conditions and/or legal action for noncompliance with these tree protection methods. |
|  | 2.3 - The construction phase begins |
|  | 2.4 - Tree Safe Construction (Throughout site) - areas outside of the construction exclusion zones, as shown on the tree protection plan, must adhere to the following: - Building materials and fuels such as oil, bitumen or cement should not be stacked or discharged within 20 metres of the tree's stem. <br> -Fires will not be lit beneath any tree or in a place where flames could extend to within 10 metres of the tree. <br> -Trees to be retained and protected should not be used as anchorage for services or equipment. <br> -The use of cranes and large machinery on site should be planned and care taken not to damage the trees during the process. |


|  | 2.5 - Unforeseen issues which require the alteration of the Tree Protection Plan/Methods, required tree surgery work or immediate remedial work will be summited to the Local Planning Authority for approval in writing. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3.) Post <br> Construction (Once all construction work has been completed, this includes all utility services) | 3.1 - Tree Protection fencing Removed. |
|  | 3.2 - Hard and soft landscaping commence - All landscape team members are to be briefed regarding tree protections by an Arboriculturist. Sewer Trench Excavation under Arboricultural Supervision to be carried out in areas highlighted in the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix - 4). This work is to be carried out with the use of hand tools and air spade under the constant supervision of the appointed Arboriculturist. The excavator will only work from existing hard surfacing before its removal. Any roots discovered less than 25 mm in diameter should be pruned cleanly with a securer or pruning saw. The careful excavation working method is as follows: <br> - Digging started outside the Root Protection Area towards the retained tree. <br> - No roots found to be ripped, pulled or crushed during excavation <br> - Any exposed roots are to be covered with wet Hessian material <br> - Any roots less than 25 mm in diameter to be cut with a sharp knife/ secateurs covered with wet Hessian material <br> - If any roots greater than 25 mm in diameter are discovered, Arboriculturist to instruct further action. Innovative engineering methods will be sort to retain these roots. |
|  | 3.3 - Any required remedial tree action is taken, such as Leaf Mulch Application, soil de-compaction methods, contamination clean up etc., to be carried out. |

### 7.0 Conclusion

### 7.1 Adhering to the tree protection details in this report, the proposed development can be constructed without any significant long-term adverse impact on the retained trees or the area's amenity.

### 8.0 Further Information \& Qualifications

Stephen Lucocq has been involved in Arboriculture within South Wales for over twenty years. He has worked as an Arborist for many of these years and has an excellent working knowledge of the practical side of the profession. He has always taken an active interest in all areas of Arboriculture and kept up to date with current research and developments.

## Qualifications

- $\quad$ First Class BSc (Hons) Degree - Combined Studies - Biology and IT
- Arboricultural Association Technicians Certificate - Level 4 - (Merit)
- PTI - Professional Tree Inspection (Lantra Awards)
- 2D Computer-Aided Design (City and Guilds - Level 3)
- Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) - Mike Ellison
- Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) - Mike Ellison
- Arboriculture and Bats (Lantra)
- Industrial Rope Access Trade Association (IRATA)
- Practical Arboriculture Qualifications (NPTC)


## Membership

- Arboricultural Association Professional Member (M.Arbor.A)


### 9.0 Web Information \& Bibliography

## Web Information

- Arboricultural Association
http://www.trees.org.uk/
- Cellular Confinement System

GeoWeb - GreenFix
CellWeb - Geosynthetics Cellweb

- Underground Utilises Installation
http://www.njug.org.uk/


## Bibliography

- British Standards 3998 (2010) Recommendations for Tree Work UK; British Standards Intuition
- British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations UK; British Standards Intuition
- Coombes, A.J (1992) Trees London; Dorling Kindersley
- Lonsdale, D (1999) Principle of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management Edinburgh; Forestry Commission
- Mattheck, C (2007) Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment Germany; Karlsruhe Research Centre
- Shigo, A.L (1991) Modern Arboriculture USA; Shigo and Trees, Association
- Sterry, P (2007) Collins Complete British Trees London; Collins
- Strouts, R.G (2000) Diagnosis of ill-health in trees Edinburgh; Forestry Commission
- Weber, K \& Mattheck, C (2003) Manual of wood decay UK; Arboricultural Association
10.0 Appendix 1A -Tree Survey Data

| $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Tree ID } \\ \# \end{array}\right\|$ | Tree Species | Age | Stems | $\left\|\begin{array}{l} \text { Stem } \\ \text { Diam } \\ \text { (mm) } \end{array}\right\|$ | Cat | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Height + } \\ & \text { (Lower } \\ & \text { Branch } \\ & \text { Height) } \\ & \hline 10(1){ }^{2} \end{aligned}$ | Nrth | Est | Sth | Wst | Phys Cond | Struc Cond | Est. <br> Remain <br> Contrib | Comi | ments | Preliminary Management Recommendations | Work Priority | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RPR } \\ & (\mathrm{m}) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RPA } \\ & (\mathrm{m} 2) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 61 | Alnus glutinosa (Common Alder),Fraxinus excelsior (Ash), Ulmus glabra (Wych Elm),Betula pendula (Silver Birch),Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore), Quercus robur (Common Oak),Corylus avellana (Hazel) | EM | 1 | 250 | B2 | 14(2) | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | G/F | N/A | 20+ | Surrounding vegetation prevented close inspection of the tree therefore all observations and measurements are estimated. | boundary group of trees and scrub of similar age and medium size, mainly upright and slender in form, as a whole overgrown and untidy in form, tree located on embankment along side or near to footpath, some signs of ash dieback disease noted, individually trees generally upright and multistem in form, no detail assessment of every tree undertaken for this planning tree survey, edge sprawling scrub regeneration noted |  |  | 3 | 28.28 |
| G2 | Alnus glutinosa (Common Alder),Fraxinus excelsior (Ash), Quercus robur (Common Oak),Acer campestre (Field Maple),Acer platanoides (Norway Maple),Betula pendula (Silver Birch),Pinus nigra 'maritima' (Corsican Pine),Corylus avellana (Hazel), Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn) | EM | 1 | 250 | B2 | 11(2) | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6/F | F | $20+$ | Surrounding vegetation prevented close inspection of the tree therefore all observations and measurements are estimated. | boundary group of trees, mainly small to medium sized trees of similar age, located along side boundary offsite and footpath, some signs of ash dieback disease, no detailed assessment of every tree undertaken in this planning tree survey |  |  | ${ }^{3}$ | 28.28 |

### 10.0 Appendix 1B - Detailed Tree Survey Data Summary

(Please see Appendix 3 - Tree Survey Key)


### 10.0 Appendix 2 - Tree Constraints Plan

## An introduction to the Tree Constraints Plan (TCP)

Trees identified to be retained should be treated as constraints to the design of future development. A Tree Constraints Plan has been drawn and can be found over leaf.

- Tree Quality - The TCP highlights the above and below-ground constraints each tree poses to design future development schemes. Further, the BS5837 tree quality category (A - High, B - Moderate, C - Low and U- Unsuitable for retention) are coloured coded as solid circles at the centre of the tree's position.
- Root Protection Area - The magenta circle on the TCP sets out the root protection area (RPA). No construction work in this area, ground-level alteration or site traffic (machinery or persons) should occur. This prevents damage to tree roots and soil compaction. (Where possible, an Arboriculturist can design suitable tree protection methods to facilitate construction work/site traffic within these areas).
- Tree Canopy - The green circle/oval on the TCP sets out the above-ground constraints of tree canopy spread. Within this area, no construction work or site traffic (machinery or persons) should occur if the tree is to be retained. This prevents damage to the tree branches and trunk. (Where possible, an Arboriculturist can design suitable tree protection methods to facilitate construction work/site traffic within these areas).
- Tree Shading - Shade from the retained trees should be considered in the development design. Depending on the tree's height and width, the shade cast will be from a North West to East pattern through the central part of the day.
- Tree Future growth - Within future development design, consideration should also be given to the ultimate height and extent of the canopy spread of all trees within site identified to be retained.




### 10.0 Appendix 3 - Tree Survey Data Key

- Tree ID \# - Identifies the location of individual trees (T-ID Number), Groups of trees
(G-ID Number), Area of trees (A-ID Number), Hedgerow (H-ID Number), Woodland (W-ID Number), Row of trees (R-ID Number) and tree Stumps (S-ID Number) on the accompanying plan. (Please note: A group of trees here refers to two or more standing trees that form a visual whole, whereas an area of trees refers to dispersed individual trees standing within the site)
- Tree Species - Scientific names and common tree name in brackets are generally shown.
- Age
o (Y) Young - Less than $1 / 3$ of life completed
o (SM) Middle Aged - 1/3-2/3 of life completed
o (EM) Early Mature - Just entering Maturity
o (M) Mature - more than $2 / 3$ of life completed
- (OM) Over Mature - more than $3 / 3$ of life completed and declining
o (V) Veteran - (v) Veteran - Veteran trees have no precise definition but are trees considered to be of biological aesthetic or ecological value because of their age
- Stems - Number of tree stems used to calculate the RPR/RPA
- Stem Diam (mm) - Diameter of tree stem measured in millimetres for single stem trees or average stem diameter calculated for multi-stemmed trees as detailed in section 4.6 \& Annex C of the British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. The height above ground level where the stem measurement was taken will be shown if not measured at 1.5 metres above ground level. (Please note: that the stem diameter of certain trees will have to be estimated due to difficulties in taking measurements or for trees with a large number of stems)
- Cat - Tree Quality Category - British Standard 5837:2012 A, B, C, U + 1, 2, 3

Based on BS5837:2012, categories A, B, C, and U provide the basis for prioritising trees for retention:
o A - Those of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. (*Most desirable for retention*)
o B - Those of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years. (*Desirable for retention*)
o C - Those of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm . (*Optional for retention*)
o $\quad \mathrm{U}$ - 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. (*Unsuitable for retention unless provides high conservation value*)

Retention Criteria Subcategories: Used for identifying subcategories
E.g. A2 = A high-quality tree with high landscape qualities (further details can be found in British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations UK; British Standards Intuition)
o $\quad 1$ - Mainly Arboricultural qualities
o 2 - Mainly landscape qualities
o 3-Mainly cultural values, including conservation

- Height + (Lower Branch Height) - Tree height in metres and in brackets height in metres of the crown (tree branches) clearance at its lowest point above adjacent ground levels.
- Nrth, Est, Sth, Wst - Crown Spread (Metres) -Tree branch spread in metres measured in four directions (North, East, South, West) from the trunk.
- Phys Cond - Physiological Condition Indicating the health of the tree -
o (G) Good
- (F) Fair
- (P) Poor
- (D) Dead
- Struc Cond - Structural Condition indicating the structural integrity of the tree -
o (G) Good - No, or remediable physical defects or decay
o (F) Fair - Physical non-remediable defects or decay present, not presenting imminent danger but should be monitored
o (P) Poor - physical non-remediable defects or decay present, tree liable to imminent collapse or loss of major limbs.
o (D) Dead
- Est. Remain Contrib - (<10, 10+, 20+, 40+)

The trees estimated remaining contribution in years, recorded as:
o $<10$ - less than 10 years
o $10+-$ at least 10 years
o 20+- at least 20 years
o $40+$ - at least 40 years

- Comments - Additional Comments, if required
- Preliminary Management Recommendations - Work Recommendations, including further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment and pose potential for wildlife habitat.
- Work Priority - Work Priority -This gives a work priority rating of preliminary management for each tree.
o H - High - Urgent work to be carried out as soon as practicable due to safety reasons (Within 14 days).
o H/M - High - Medium - Work to be carried out within 6 months/or before the construction phase begins
o M - Medium - Work to be carried out in 12 months
o L- Low - After consideration/Re-inspect in 18-24 months
o Blank - No work required.
- RPR - Root protection radius / RPA - Root Protection Area - Is a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority. RPR is a circular area measured as a radius in metres from the tree's centre, or RPA is an area in metres squared. This area may be changed in shape but not reduced in size, providing adequate protection for the tree's rooting system.


### 10.0 Appendix 4 - Tree Protection Plan

### 10.0 Appendix 5 - Tree Photographs

Tree ID\#G2


Tree ID\#G1


Tree ID\#G2 - Along outer western footpath


Tree ID\#G1 - North Eastern corner
Tree ID\#G1 - along eastern outer track


