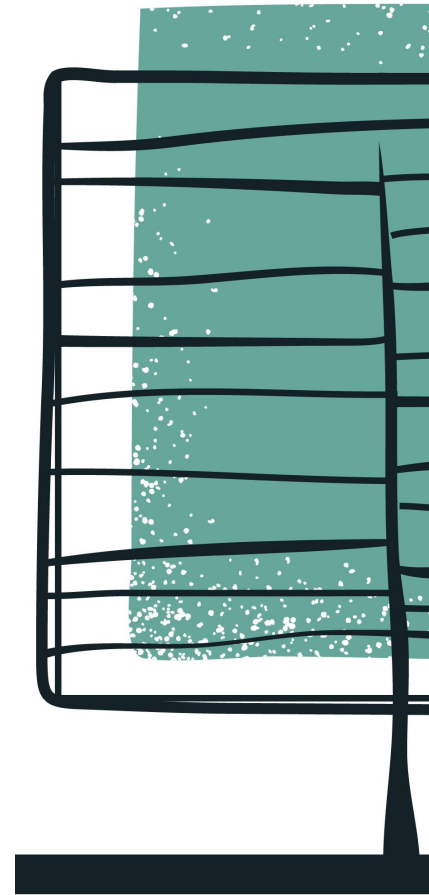




**Report No:** LTM0777.PAA.01

**Date:** 23/03/2023

**Project:** Max Trax. Delamere Park, Openshaw M11

# **BS 5837:2012 Preliminary Arboricultural Assessment**

**Inspection Record.**

| Date of Inspection | Surveyor                    |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 21/03/2023         | Matthew Lally. FdSc MArborA |
|                    |                             |

**Lally Tree Management.**

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| Revision | Date       | Prepared by | Status   |
|----------|------------|-------------|----------|
| Final    | 23/03/2023 | M. Lally    | Complete |
|          |            |             |          |
|          |            |             |          |

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## Executive Summary

The proposed development site is located within a suburban public park in Openshaw which lies approximately 1.3 kilometre, as the crow flies, south-east from Openshaw Town centre. The tree assessment area is a 1500m<sup>2</sup> area in the centre of this park.

Trees present that could be potentially affected by the development are as follows:

| Category A | Category B        | Category C        | Category U |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 0          | 1 Tree<br>1 Group | 1 Tree<br>1 Group | 0          |

All the trees within the survey area are highly visible from public viewpoints and any losses would have a material affect on the park.

T1, Ash has been categorised as a low quality tree due to the presence of ash dieback disease, however, it is not recommended any works are undertaken at this time.

T2, Sycamore has been categorised as moderate quality as the tree is highly visible from public viewpoints, is expected to live more than 40 years and is of a size and form that offers a material benefit to the public space in which it stands.

G3, Hawthorn x 3 have been categorised as low quality due to their condition. This group has significant stem decay, dieback in their crowns and stem leans, however, I would expect these trees to be still standing in the next 10 years and the trees do offer some visual interest being so close to the internal path.

G4, Ash, sweet chestnut & lime are the largest of the trees surveyed and the vitality of these trees appears to be normal although the ash tree does have some early signs of ash dieback disease. The lime tree is also suffering from multiple stem bleeds but does not appear to be affecting the overall vitality. These trees have been categorised as moderate quality as I would expect these trees to be still standing in the next 40 years and they are also quite dominant within the public space that they stand.

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.0.1 The Author of this report is Matthew Lally (MAborA) FdSc. Matthew is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association, The Consulting Arborist Society and an Associate member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters and is therefore required to uphold ethical standards laid out by these institutions.
- 1.0.2 This Arboricultural Assessment has been commissioned by Kerrie Rimmer of MaxTrax CIC, 3 Newhaven Avenue, Manchester, M11 1HU and is prepared in relation to a proposed development at Delamere Park, Openshaw M11.

An outline of the assessment boundary can be found in figure 1.



**Figure 1.** Assessment Boundary Plan

- 1.0.3 The tree survey & assessment of existing trees has been guided by the recommendations within British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations'. The recommendations set out a structured assessment methodology to assist in determining which trees would be deemed either as being suitable or unsuitable for retention.
- 1.0.4 British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations' includes guidance for considering the relationship between existing

trees and how to integrate their needs into a successful development. A harmonious and sustainable relationship between any retained trees and new structure and/or hard surfaces is at the heart of the guidance.

- 1.0.5 The survey was carried out Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 by means of inspection from ground level by an experienced and qualified arboriculturalist. The inspection can be restricted in cases where trees were Ivy clad or surrounded by dense vegetation.
- 1.0.6 Due to the size and nature of the site, it was decided that the survey methodology would include broadly grouping trees that share very similar characteristics. This method is in line with point 4.2.4 of BS 5837:2012 that states 'Trees forming groups should be identified and considered as groups where the arboriculturist determines that this is appropriate. It may be appropriate to assess the quality and value of trees as a whole, rather than individuals.'
- 1.0.7 British Standard 5837:2012 recommends the assessment of trees is made as objectively as possible, but the findings will always remain the opinions of the surveyor. The tree categorisation method identifies the quality and value of the existing tree stock, allowing informed decisions to be made concerning development design layout.
- 1.0.8 Table 1 provides a summary of the documents that have been made available by the client:

*Table 1 – Documents made available by client.*

| Document Type        | Reference No.   | Author         | Date |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|------|
| Topographical Survey | 12267 / 001 / 2 | ND Oliver & Co | -    |

- 1.0.9 The supplied drawing did include tree positions.
- 1.0.10 Weather conditions during the survey were dry and still.
- 1.0.11 Assessing the potential influence of trees upon load bearing soils, beneath existing and proposed structures resulting from water abstraction by trees or rehydration of shrinkable soils was not included in the contract brief and is therefore not considered in the report. The consultant cannot be held responsible for damage arising from such action.
- 1.0.12 Potentially hazardous trees are highlighted, and appropriate recommendations are made. However, this report is not a substitute for a full tree risk assessment or management plan which are specifically designed to minimise risk and liability associated with responsibility for trees.

## **2.0 Planning Policy**

### **2.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**

2.1.1 When determining planning applications, Local Planning Authority's (LPA) should apply the following principles:

- If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternate site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused.
- Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused unless there are wholly exceptional reasons, and a suitable compensation strategy exists.
- Development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity.

### **2.2 Local Planning policy**

#### **Guide to Development in Manchester Supplementary Planning Document and Planning Guidance Adopted April 2007**

**4.15:** DP Part 1 Policies E2.3 and E2.4 require the protection of wildlife, wildlife habitats, and where possible, the creation of new nature reserves and features which will sustain wildlife. Part 1 Policy E2.6 states that the City Council wishes to prevent the loss of existing trees. Developers will need to contribute to Manchester's Biodiversity Strategy by demonstrating in their Environment Standards Statement how they have taken full account of the effect of their proposed development on biodiversity. This should highlight how existing species and habitats would be protected and how the proposed development would enhance the ecological value of the site. Mature trees and hedges should be retained on site wherever possible. Where this is not possible, developers will be expected to agree an appropriate scheme for replanting with the Development Control case officers. Developments should result in no net loss in overall biodiversity value and maximise opportunities to meet and exceed our target to achieve a 10% net increase in tree cover across new developments. In exceptional cases, where planting is unachievable on site, permission may be granted to plant elsewhere in the City to ensure no overall net loss in tree resources. Existing green links across the site should be maintained and the opportunity taken to create new links as appropriate. Landscaping and new planting should include species appropriate for the proposed development that will encourage wildlife. Full plans should be included in the report showing retained, enhanced and new ecological features, the number of on-site trees pre and post development, and a 5 year management plan. Wood and wood products should come from Forest Stewardship Council sources. Tropical hardwoods should be avoided.

### 3.0 Legislation

#### Statutory Considerations

3.0.1 A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is an order made by a local planning authority to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. A TPO prohibits the:

- cutting down
- topping
- lopping
- uprooting
- willful damage
- willful destruction

of trees without the local planning authority's written consent. If consent is given, it can be subject to conditions which have to be followed. In the Secretary of State's view, cutting roots is also a prohibited activity and requires the authority's consent. Anyone found guilty of such an offence is liable and in serious cases, may result in prosecution and incur an unlimited fine.

3.0.2 The presence of any Tree Preservation Orders or Conservation Area designations that may affect the site has yet to be confirmed by Manchester City Council. Once this information has been received, the report will be updated accordingly. Before any tree works are undertaken confirmation of the presence of the statutory constraints should be sought from the Local Authority.

#### 3.0.3 Felling Licence

3.0.4 Tree felling is also restricted under the Forestry Act 1967. Under this act, there is an exemption from the need for a felling licence for "Felling trees immediately required for the purpose of carrying out development authorised by planning permission (granted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) ..."

3.0.5 If full planning permission is granted, then any trees which require felling to implement the approved plans are exempt from this statutory protection. Outline planning permission does not provide an exemption to the regulations that control tree felling in the Forestry Act 1967.

## 4.0 Survey Methodology

- 4.0.1 The trees were surveyed in accordance with Chapter 4 of BS5837:2012. The tree metrics have been recorded in the tree schedule in appendix one. Where groups of trees and woodland groups have been recorded, average height, average crown spread and average diameter at breast height (DBH) are reported. Where access to the base of any trees was limited then measurements were estimated.
- 4.0.2 Trees have been assessed as individual trees (T), groups of trees (G), hedgerows (H) or woodland Groups (W) where it has been determined appropriate.
- The term group has been applied where trees form cohesive arboricultural features either aerodynamically, visually or culturally.
  - For the purposes of this assessment, a hedgerow is described as any boundary line of trees or shrubs less than 5m wide at the base and are managed or have been managed under a regular pruning regime.
  - For the purposes of this assessment, woodland is described as a habitat where 'trees are the dominant plant form. The individual tree canopies generally overlap and interlink, often forming a more or less continuous canopy'.
- 4.0.3 All the trees were assessed using: a grading A to C (retention) and U (removal); condition and age class as defined in appendix two.
- 4.0.4 Where appropriate, canopy spread for each tree was recorded at four cardinal points in order to reproduce an accurate representation of the crown shape of the tree on the tree plan in appendix four.
- 4.0.5 The survey included all trees within the proposal area and trees near to the proposal.

## Veteran and Ancient Trees

4.0.6 Veteran trees and Ancient Woodland are important components of the landscape, their importance can be for a number of reasons including that of their ecological, social, cultural and historic value.

4.0.7 Veteran Trees and Ancient Woodlands are material considerations within the planning process and their importance is specifically recognised within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019

4.0.8 Ancient Tree Guide No4 Published by the Woodland Trust and the Ancient Tree Forum states that:

*'An ancient tree is one that has passed beyond maturity and is old, or aged, in comparison with other trees of the same species. Its canopy may be small. It will probably have a very wide trunk relative to other trees of the same species and it is very likely that it will be hollow'*

AND

*'Veteran is a term describing a tree with habitat features such as wounds or decay. The terms ancient and veteran have been used interchangeably in the past, however, it is important to know what the differences between them [are]. A veteran tree is a survivor that has developed some of the features found on an ancient tree, not necessarily as a consequence of time, but of its life or environment. Ancient veterans are ancient trees, not all veterans are old enough to be ancient. A veteran may be a young tree with a relatively small girth in contrast to an ancient tree but bearing the 'scars' of age such as decay in the trunk, branches or roots, fungal fruiting bodies, or dead wood. These veteran features will still provide wildlife habitat'*

4.0.9 Different methodologies are available for the defining of Veteran & Ancient trees in the field. Lally Tree Management use RAVEN (Recognition of Ancient, Veteran and Notable Trees) allowing quick and easy assessments to be made, whilst trying to ensure these valuable assets to our environment do not go un-noticed.

**4.0.10 No Veteran Trees or Ancient Trees were identified on this site.**

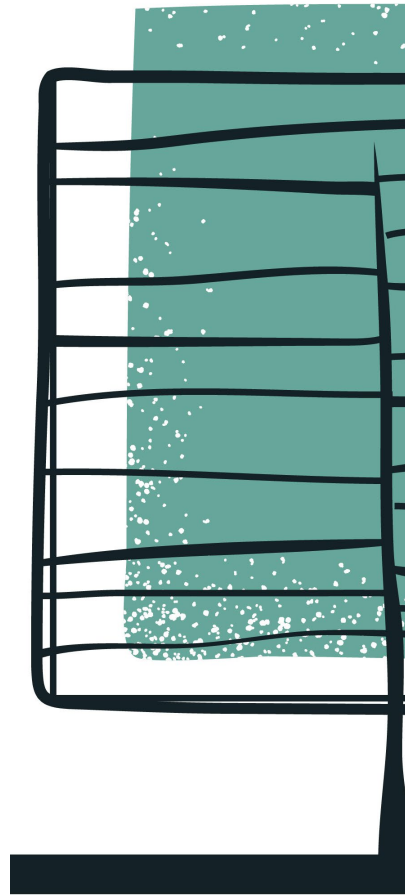
## **5.0 Caveats and Limitations**

- 5.1 The report is for the sole use of the client and its reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.
- 5.2 This is an arboricultural report and as such no reliance should be given to comments relating to buildings, engineering, soils ecological or archaeological data. If either is commented upon within the report further professional advice should be sought.
- 5.3 This is not a Tree Risk Assessment. As such this report should not be taken to mean or imply that any of the inspected trees should be considered safe. A Tree Risk Assessment can be provided but would be subject to additional survey requirement and further fees.
- 5.4 Trees are growing dynamic structures. Whilst reasonable effort has been made to identify defects within the trees inspected, no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. No tree is ever absolutely safe due to the unpredictable laws and forces of nature. As a result of this, natural failure of intact trees will occur; extreme climatic conditions can cause damage to even apparently healthy trees.
- 5.5 For the purposes of this survey all dimensions of trees and their associated parts are based on estimation unless otherwise stated.
- 5.6 Trees are living organisms whose health, condition and structure can change quickly and without warning. Therefore, the contents of this report are valid for a period of one year from the date of this survey.

# Appendix One

## Tree Survey Data & Site Notes

\*The recommendations in this section are based on the site survey only and are NOT recommendation based on any proposed development plans. For recommended tree works for the development please refer to the Method Statement.



# BS5837:2012 TREE SCHEDULE



DATE OF SURVEY: 21/03/2023

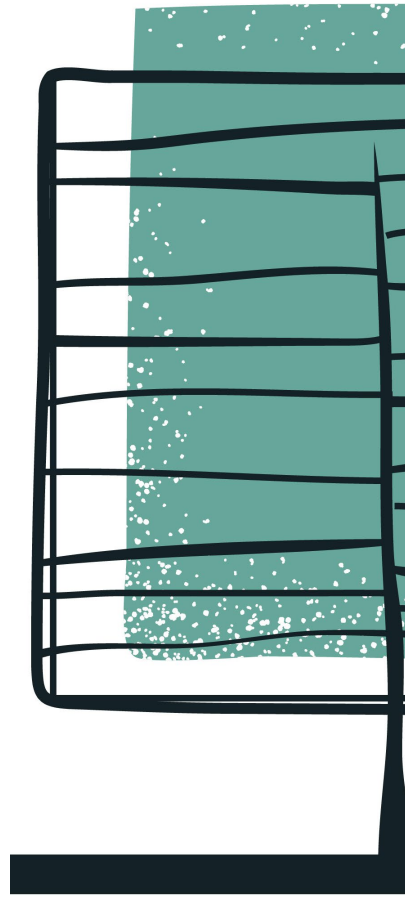
JOB REFERENCE: LTM0777.AIA.01

SITE ADDRESS: Delamere Park

| Tree No. | Species                               | Stem Dia (mm) | RPA (m <sup>2</sup> ) | RPA Radius (m) | Height (m) | Age Class | Crown Spread (m) |   |   |   | Crown Clearance (m) | Condition | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Recommendations                                     | Remaining Contribution | BS5837 Retention Category |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|------------------|---|---|---|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
|          |                                       |               |                       |                |            |           | N                | E | S | W |                     |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                     |                        |                           |
| T1       | Ash                                   | 450           | 92                    | 5.4            | 11         | SM        | 3                | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3W                  | B         | Reduced vitality and epicormic sprouts on branches, dieback of tips evident suggesting ash dieback disease. Minor deadwood also present. Small lower stem wounds but of little concern. Tree appears stable at this time but expected reduced life expectancy due to disease. | No action                                           | 10+                    | C1                        |
| T2       | Sycamore                              | 380           | 65                    | 4.56           | 11         | SM        | 3.5              | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3.5W                | A         | Good form and vitality. No significant risk features observed. Highly visible from public viewpoints.                                                                                                                                                                         | No action                                           | 40+                    | B1                        |
| G3       | Hawthorn x 3                          | 320           | 46                    | 3.84           | 8          | M         | 3                | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2.5E                | B         | Averaged measurements. A linear group of Hawthorn adjacent to path. Dieback in upper crowns. Stem decay and cavities present. 1x tree is leaning. Trees appear stable at this time. Acceptable condition.                                                                     | Monitor stability and progression of decay annually | 10+                    | C1                        |
| G4       | Ash x 1. Sweet Chestnut x 1. Lime x 1 | 600           | 163                   | 7.2            | 17         | EM        | 6                | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2.5W                | B         | Stem bleeds present on lime tree but appears to not have affected vitality. Ash has early stage ash dieback disease. Minor deadwood present in all 3 trees. Trees appear stable. Acceptable condition.                                                                        | No action                                           | 20+                    | B2                        |

# Appendix Two

## Glossary of Terms



The following terms are concurrent with best Arboricultural practice and within the guidelines set by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Arboricultural Association (AA) and the British Standards Institute (BSI).

### Age Range:

Age is site specific and categorised:

|                          |                                                           |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Young (Y)</b>         | Out-planted trees that have not yet established.          |
| <b>Semi-Mature (SM)</b>  | Established trees up to 1/3 of expected height and crown. |
| <b>Early Mature (EM)</b> | Between 1/3 and 2/3 of expected height and crown.         |
| <b>Mature (M)</b>        | Between 2/3 and full expected height and crown.           |
| <b>Fully Mature (FM)</b> | Full expected height and crown.                           |
| <b>Over Mature (OM)</b>  | Crown beginning to break-up and decrease in size.         |
| <b>Senescent (S)</b>     | Crown in advanced stage of break-up.                      |

**Height:** Height is estimated and recorded in metres.

**DBH:** Diameter at Breast Height is measured at 1.5m and recorded in metres. Where a tree becomes multi-stemmed below 1.5m the highest possible diameter is measured and indicated. Alternatively, above 1.5m the diameter of each stem or an average diameter is measured and indicated.

**Condition:** Assessment of current physiological condition and structural morphology incorporating vigour and vitality and categorised:

- A -** Tree needing little, if any attention
- B -** Tree with minor, but rectifiable defects, or in the early stages of physiological stress
- C -** Tree with significant structural and physiological flaws and/or extremely stressed
- D -** Tree that is dead, biologically/physically moribund or dangerous.

**Desirability to Retain** – As Outlined in Table 1 of BS 5837:2005 (Trees in Relation to Construction - Recommendations)

## Definition of Physiological & Morphological Terms

**Adaptive Growth** - The process whereby wood formation is influenced both in quantity and in quality by the action of gravitational force and mechanical stresses on the cambial zone.

**Bifurcation** – Forked or divided union.

**Brown Rot** - Form of decay where cellulose is degraded, while lignin is only modified.

**Cankers-** A localised area of dead bark and cambium on a stem or branch, caused by fungal or bacterial organisms, characterised by wound wood development on the periphery. This may be annual or perennial.

**Cavity** - An open wound, characterised by the presence of extensive decay and resulting in a hollow.

**Chlorotic Leaf** - Lacking in chlorophyll, typically yellow in colour.

**Compartmentalisation** - The physiological process that creates the chemical and mechanical boundaries that act to limit the spread of disease and decay organisms.

**Crack** - Longitudinal split in stem or branch, involving bark and/or underlying wood. These may be vertically and horizontally orientated.

**Decay** - Process of degradation of woody tissues by fungi and bacteria through decomposition of cellulose and lignin.

**Deadwood** - Deadwood is often present within the crown or on the stems of trees. In some instances, 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.).

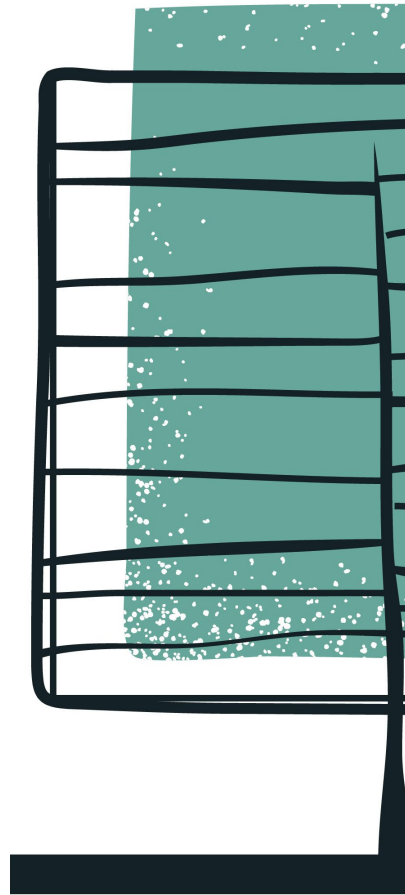
|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>End Weight -</b>          | The concentration of foliage at the distal ends of stems and deficient in secondary branches.                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Girdling Root -</b>       | Root which circles and constricts the stem or roots causing death of phloem and/or cambial tissue.                                                                                                                                 |
| <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>Included Bark Union -</b> | Pattern of development at branch junctions where bark is turned inward rather than pushed out. Potential weakness due to a lack of a woody union.                                                                                  |
| <b>Ivy Growth -</b>          | Ivy growth may ascend into the tree's crown, increasing wind resistance, concealing potential defects and reducing the tree's photosynthetic capacity. Ivy growth is often acceptable in woodland areas as a conservation benefit. |
| <b>Live Crown Ratio -</b>    | The relative proportion of photosynthetic mass (leaf area) to overall tree height.                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Reaction Wood -</b>       | Specialised secondary xylem, which develops in response to a lean or similar mechanical stress, attempting to restore the stem to the vertical.                                                                                    |
| <b>Root Plate Lift -</b>     | The physical movement of the rooting plate causing soils to shift and crack. May occur during adverse weather conditions. Trees may become unstable.                                                                               |
| <b>Structural Defect -</b>   | Internal or external points of weakness, which reduce the stability of the tree.                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Suppressed -</b>          | Trees which are dominated by surrounding vegetation and whose crown development is restricted from above.                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Topping -</b>             | A highly disfiguring practise, likely to cause severe xylem dysfunction and decay in major structural parts of the wood.                                                                                                           |

- White Rot -** Form of decay where both cellulose and lignin are degraded.
- Wound -** Any injury, which induces a compartmentalisation response.
- Wound wood -** Wood with atypical anatomical features, formed in the vicinity of a wound and a term to describe the occluding tissues around a wound as opposed to the ambiguous term "callus."
- Woodland Structure -** The vertical and horizontal arrangement of trees within a group or woodland i.e. Dominant - trees with a crown above the upper layer of the canopy, Co-dominant - trees that define the general upper edge of the canopy, Intermediate - trees that have been largely overgrown by others, Suppressed - trees that have been overgrown and occupy an under storey position and grow slowly, often severely asymmetrical.

**Note:** *The definitions described above, may not necessarily be included within the Arboricultural Survey Data.*

# Appendix Three

## Cascade Chart



|                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Trees for removal                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                       |
| Category and definition                                                                                                                                                   | Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Category U</b><br>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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o 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 U Category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning)</li><li>o Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline.</li><li>o Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby) e.g. Dutch elm disease), or very low-quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality.</li></ul> <p>NOTE: <i>Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which might be desirable to preserve; see section 4.7.5</i></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                       |
| Trees to be considered for retention                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                       |
| Category and definition                                                                                                                                                   | Criteria and sub-categories                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                           | 1) Mainly arboricultural values                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2) Mainly landscape values                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 3) Mainly cultural values<br>(including conservation)                                                                                 |
| <b>Category A</b><br><b>Trees of high quality:</b> 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 essential components of groups, or of 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-pastures) |
| <b>Category B</b><br><b>Those of moderate quality:</b> 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 area | Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits                                                               |
| <b>Category C</b><br><b>Those of low quality</b> with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm        | Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in the higher categories                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary screening benefit.                                                                               | Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value                                                                           |

# Appendix Four

## Tree Constraints Plan

