

Tree Management & Pruning Specification

Project: Detached Home Office at 91 Buckingham Road, Manchester, M21 0QT **Planning Reference:** 144097/FH/2025 **Date:** December 2025

1. Introduction & Purpose

This document details the specific arboricultural works required to facilitate the construction of the approved detached garden office while ensuring the long-term health and retention of the adjacent trees (Group G1 and Tree T2). It provides clarification on the pruning methodology mandated in the approved **Arboricultural Method Statement (Arbtech AMS 01 Rev B)**.

2. Tree Survey Context

- **Subject Trees:** Group G1 (Leyland Cypress) and Tree T2 (Leyland Cypress).
- **Location:** Situated along the north-western boundary, adjacent to the Metrolink line.
- **Conflict:** The canopies of these semi-mature conifers currently overhang the proposed footprint of the new office building by approximately 1.5m - 2.0m.
- **Removal:** One individual tree within Group G1, identified as having a severe lean and poor structural form, is to be removed as per the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP 01 Rev B).

3. Pruning Specification: Asymmetric Crown Lifting

To achieve the required clearance for construction without compromising the screening value or physiological health of the trees, an **Asymmetric Crown Lifting** strategy will be employed.

3.1 Clearance Requirement

As specified in AMS 01 Rev B (Table 8), a **1.0-meter clearance** must be created between the tree canopy and the proposed office structure (walls and roof).

3.2 Methodology

The pruning works will be targeted specifically to the **building-facing side** of the canopy only.

1. **Vertical Clearance:** Lower branches overhanging the office footprint will be removed back to the main trunk up to a height of approximately **3.55 meters** from ground level.
 - *Calculation:* 2.55m (Ridge Height) + 1.0m (Clearance Buffer).
2. **Upper Canopy Retention:** The upper canopy (above 3.55m) will remain intact, retaining the tree's natural apical dominance and overall height.
3. **Boundary Screening Retention:** The canopy on the **rear/boundary side** (facing the Metrolink line) will be **retained in full**. No lower branches will be removed on this side unless dead or hazardous. This ensures the visual screen between the property and the

tram line is preserved.

4. **Targeted Removal:** Only the specific "wedge" of foliage infringing on the 1m construction buffer zone will be removed.

3.3 Justification

- **Tree Health:** This method avoids a "vertical face prune" which would cut into the dead wood zone of the Cypress, permanently damaging the aesthetic and potentially destabilizing the tree. Crown lifting is a recognized and less stressful arboricultural practice.
- **Visual Amenity:** By retaining the full canopy on the boundary side, the trees continue to function as an effective green screen.
- **Structural Stability:** Retaining the upper canopy ensures the wind loading remains relatively balanced compared to a harsh side-reduction.

4. Tree Removal (Malformed Specimen)

One specific stem within Group G1 is approved for removal.

- **Identification:** The tree is identified on TPP 01 Rev B as a "leaning cypress tree" within G1.
- **Reason for Removal:** Severe lean, poor structural form, and direct conflict with the proposed foundation location.
- **Replacement:** Mitigation planting will be provided as detailed in the Landscape Plan (e.g., *Sorbus aucuparia* or similar native species).

5. Protection Measures During Works

- **Timing:** All tree works will be completed **prior** to the commencement of construction or the delivery of materials.
- **Standard:** All pruning will be carried out by a qualified tree surgeon in accordance with **BS 3998:2010 'Tree Work – Recommendations'**.
- **Supervision:** The Project Arboriculturist will be notified prior to works to ensure the correct extent of pruning is marked and understood.

Refer to the attached "Tree Pruning Diagram" for a visual representation of the Asymmetric Crown Lift.