



**Land off Sketchley
Lane, Burbage,
Hinckley**

DRAFT

**Arboricultural Method
Statement
(Incorporating Tree
Protection Measures)**

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On behalf of:
**Persimmon Homes North
Midlands**

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Section 1

Introduction

- 1.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement has been prepared by the Environmental Dimensions Partnership Ltd (EDP) on behalf of Persimmon Homes North Midlands (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') in relation to the proposed development of Land off Sketchley Lane, Burbage, Hinckley (hereafter referred to as 'the Site').
- 1.2 It sets out the nature and extent of tree losses and provides mitigation and protection measures to ensure the viable long-term retention of retained trees in the context of the development proposals.

SITE CONTEXT

- 1.3 The Site is located adjacent to Sketchley's industrial area to the west of Burbage and lies within the administrative boundary of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC). It consists of approximately seven fields of mixed use. The Site is bordered by Sketchley Lane and the Sketchley Grange Hotel and Spa along the north boundary; the A5 road to the south/south-west; and a residential area to the east.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.4 The purpose of this report is to:
- Identify principal trees suitable for retention;
 - Identify the constraints associated with retained trees to inform the conceptual design and layout;
 - Assess the impacts upon the tree stock from the proposed development and demonstrate which trees can be retained and which will require removal; and
 - Detail appropriate tree protection and mitigation measures, for incorporation into the development's construction plans, to allow the safe long-term retention of the retained trees.

RELEVANT BASELINE DOCUMENTS

- 1.5 EDP's Arboricultural Technical Note (**Appendix EDP 1**) is relevant to the provisions of this AMS and this should be read in conjunction with it where applicable.
- 1.6 The following best practice guidance and informative standards are relevant to the provisions of the AIA and should be read in conjunction with the AIA where applicable:
- BS 5837: 2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations*. BSI 2012; and

- BS 3998:2010 *Tree Work – Recommendations*. BSI 2010.

Section 2

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

- 2.1 The original Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) for the Site (**Edp4824_r010**) was prepared and submitted as part of an outline planning application, and authored following Site-based observations, a desktop study of the baseline survey data and consideration of the Illustrative Masterplan. In particular, it relates to the Tree Constraints Plan (contained within (**edp4824_r001, Appendix EDP 1**), which is overlaid onto the Illustrative Masterplan. The resulting drawing, a Tree Protection Plan (**Plan EDP 1**).
- 2.2 This AIA seeks to combine impacts outlined in **Edp4824_r010** and those identified following a desktop study of the Planning Layout (**Appendix EDP 2**) and the Drainage Strategy (**Appendix EDP 3**).
- 2.3 This AIA recognises that construction activities pose a threat to subject trees if treated inappropriately and assesses the likely impacts of the proposals on the tree stock and where appropriate, provides mitigation with the view of achieving a harmonious relationship between the trees and the built form.
- 2.4 Assessment of the impact of the proposals has been determined following consideration of the constraints each surveyed item poses by virtue of its position, branch spread and designated root protection area (RPA).
- 2.5 Consideration should be given to retaining all trees where possible. However, ultimately the removal of any tree is dependent on its proximity to the footprint of any proposal and associated landscaping.

CATEGORY U TREES FOR RETENTION AND REMOVAL

- 2.6 The BS 5837:2012 compliant survey identified a total of 31 category U items, of poor condition. These are summarised in **Table EDP 2.1** below and detailed in the Tree Survey Schedule contained within **Appendix EDP 1**.
- 2.7 Off-Site items remain outside of control of the development and require the landowners' consent prior to any works or removals.
- 2.8 Due to their condition, category U items are ordinarily removed, but often have ecological value and therefore any work to or removal of category U items require cross-referencing with the ecological assessment prior to any work or felling taking place.
- 2.9 If category U items are to be retained as an ecological asset, arboricultural advice should be sought to ensure this can be achieved.

Table EDP 2.1: Tree Removal for Reasons of Sound Arboricultural Management

Tree Number	Tree Species	Tree Grade
T4	Lime sp.	U
T6	Willow sp.	U

Tree Number	Tree Species	Tree Grade
H8	Common hawthorn Common ash Bramble sp. Goat willow	U
T10	Lime sp.	U
H11	Common hawthorn Bramble sp. Elder	U
G12	Common holly	U
T14	Poplar sp.	U
T15	Common ash	U
T16	Common ash	U
H17	Common hawthorn Elder	U
T19	Crack willow	U
T22	Poplar sp.	U
T25	Common ash	U
H30	Blackthorn	U
T34	Common ash	U
H35	Common hawthorn Bramble sp.	U
T39	Common ash	U
H40	Common hawthorn Common ash Bramble sp. Elder Elm sp.	U
G42	Common ash	U
H50	Common hawthorn	U
T51	Common ash	U
T52	Wild cherry	U
H58	Common hawthorn	U
H59	Common hawthorn	U
H61	Common hawthorn	U
T65	Common ash	U
H70	Common hawthorn	U
H71	Common hawthorn	U
H76	Common hawthorn	U
H85	Bramble sp.	U
T86	Common ash	U

ITEMS IMPACTED BY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

- 2.10 Assessment of the Planning Layout and Drainage Strategy (**Appendix EDP 2&3**) determines that 20 items are impacted by the development proposals; these are detailed within **Table EDP 2.2**. 9 items are category B, of moderate quality and 5 items are category C, of low quality.

Table EDP 2.2: Items Impacted by Development Proposals

Ref. Number	Species	Impact	Category Grading
G13	Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Leyland cypress (<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>) White willow (<i>Salix alba</i>) Golden weeping willow (<i>Salix x sepulcralis</i> 'Chrysocoma')	Partial Removal	B
T18	Poplar sp. (<i>Populus</i> sp.)	Encroachment into RPA	B
G20	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Complete Removal	C
H28	Field maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>) Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>) Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>) Bramble sp. (<i>Rubus</i> sp.) Elm sp. (<i>Ulmus</i> sp.)	Partial Removal	C
H33	Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Bramble sp. (<i>Rubus</i> sp.)	Encroachment into RPA	C
T37	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Construction of drainage	B
H41	Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Bramble sp. (<i>Rubus</i> sp.) Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	Partial Removal	C2
G43	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Pear sp. (<i>Pyrus</i> sp.)	Construction of drainage	B
G46	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Crown lift by up to 2.5m from ground level	B
T49	English oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Construction of drainage	B
T73	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Construction of drainage & No Dig construction	B
H84	Common hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	Partial Removal	C
G87	Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>) English oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>) Crack willow (<i>Salix fragilis</i>) Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	Partial Removal	B
H88	Common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	Partial Removal	C
T89	English oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	No Dig Construction	B
G93	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) Common hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>) Swedish whitebeam (<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>)	Partial Removal & Encroachment into RPA	B

SUMMARY OF TREE LOSSES AND RETENTION

- 2.11 A summary of the tree losses and retention based upon the Planning Layout and Drainage Strategy (**Appendix EDP 2&3**) is provided within **Table EDP 2.3**. In this context, the term 'affected' means the partial removal, crown lifting, or encroachment into the RPA of a retained item from construction.

Table EDP 2.3: Summary of Tree Losses and Retention

	Existing	Trees, Groups and Hedgerows Lost Due to Proposals	Trees, Groups and Hedgerows Affected by Proposals	Trees, Groups and Hedgerows Unaffected by Proposals
Category A	2	0	0	2
Category B	35	1	9	25
Category C	33	1	4	28
Totals	70	2	13	55

MITIGATION

- 2.12 Existing trees identified for retention on the appended Tree Protection Plan (**Plan EDP 1**) will continue to be managed in accordance with BS 5837:2012. The implementation of physical protection measures to safeguard the retained trees, including robust protection in the form of a barrier to BS 5837:2012 (**Appendix EDP 4**), during the construction phases shall be installed on site.
- 2.13 To mitigate for construction of hard surfaces and the proposed Drainage Strategy, and Arboricultural Clerk of Works (ACW) will be appointed to oversee and directly supervise works.

Section 3

Arboricultural Method Statement

- 3.1 This section sets out management and protection details that should be implemented to ensure successful tree retention and should be read in conjunction with **Plan EDP 1**.
- 3.2 **Plan EDP 1** identifies the items to be removed as red dashed circles/lines. The existing trees to be retained are indicated with solid blue or grey circles, representing category B, C and U items respectively, along with proposed protection measures for the construction phase of the development.

SEQUENCE OF OPERATIONS

- 3.3 The day to day running of the site will take full account of the tree protection measures set out in this AMS, a copy of which will be kept on-site at all times. All site personnel will be briefed on tree protection requirements as part of the site induction process.
- 3.4 A programme for the arboricultural inputs needed at different phases of development is set out in **Appendix EDP 5**. To ensure the viable retention of retained trees, it is proposed that the following phase of arboricultural inputs and site activities is adhered to:
- Appointment of Arboricultural Clerk of Works (ACW);
 - Pre-commencement meetings;
 - Pre-commencement tree works (if required);
 - Installation of tree protection measures (**Plan EDP 1**);
 - Monitor and maintain tree protection throughout construction phases; and
 - Dismantle tree protection measures.

APPOINTMENT OF ARBORICULTURAL CLERK OF WORKS

- 3.5 The developer shall appoint an ACW who shall act in the interest of ensuring that retained trees are, as far as possible, not adversely affected by the works. The ACW shall be an appropriately qualified and experienced individual (preferably a member of the Arboricultural Association), familiar with written best practice and with a proven track record in management of construction projects affecting existing trees.
- 3.6 The ACW shall be appointed at the developer's cost prior to the commencement of development and shall be retained throughout the construction period. The ACW will be responsible for monitoring and overseeing the discharge of the tasks and operations set out within this AMS.

PRE-COMMENCEMENT MEETINGS

- 3.7 Prior to the pre-commencement meeting, the developer and their appointed contractor shall produce a detailed construction programme, thus enabling the ACW to phase and programme arboricultural inputs and monitoring with the construction programme.
- 3.8 Prior to the commencement of any site operations, a pre-commencement site meeting between the developers, their appointed contractor, the ACW and HBBC's Tree Officer will be held. The purpose of the meeting will be to confirm arrangements of the tree protection measures and details concerning timing of site inspections and reporting procedures.

INSTALLATION OF TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

- 3.9 Prior to the commencement of any demolition or construction works, protective measures will be installed in accordance with BS 5837:2012. Protective barriers are reproduced as **Appendix EDP 4** and as depicted on **Plan EDP 1**.
- 3.10 Protective barriers are to be set out in accordance with **Plan EDP 1**.
- 3.11 The area enclosed by the protective barriers should be considered sacrosanct and is to remain undisturbed throughout the construction programme. Protective barriers shall be marked with all-weather notices, an example of such a notice is appended as **Appendix EDP 6**.
- 3.12 Prior to commencement of any construction works, the appointed ACW will undertake an inspection of all protective barriers to ensure that both positioning, and specification comply with **Plan EDP 1**.

SITE-SPECIFIC CONSTRUCTION METHODOLOGIES IN PROXIMITY TO TREES

Installation of Services

- 3.13 All proposed underground services will be located outside of the RPA of the retained trees.

Encroachment into RPA for Hard Surfaces

- 3.14 Where the proposed hard surfacing encroaches into the RPA of T34, H36, T37, G43, T73 and T89 this will be constructed using a 'no dig' methodology as cited in Section 7.4 of BS 5837:2012 and illustrated as **Plan EDP 1**. It is proposed that a Cellular Confinement System is utilised for this 'no dig' construction and an example of this is the CellWeb TRP Tree Root Protection System (**Appendix EDP 7**), other similar systems are also available.
- 3.15 The appropriate 'no dig' system will be installed under the supervision of the ACW and in line with the supplier's specifications. An example of the CellWeb TRP Installation Guide is provided as **Appendix EDP 7** as an example of what is required.

3.16 The areas shown for 'no dig' construction on **Plan EDP 1** shall be initially protected with vertical protective fencing (**Appendix EDP 4**). As and when each area requires construction the following methodology shall be undertaken:

- Fencing to be repositioned under the supervision of the ACW; and
- Cellular Confinement System installed under ACW supervision.

Encroachment into RPA for Drainage

3.17 Where the proposed drainage encroaches into the RPA of T34, H36, T37, G43, T49 and T73 the encroachment for the proposed drainage will be mitigated with hand digging. The ACW will oversee the hand digging. It is recommended that the following methodology is used;

- This work is undertaken under the supervision of the ACW;
- Excavations to take place by hand for the first 600mm of ground to be dug;
- Any roots encountered under 25mm can be cleanly cut with secateurs or handsaw;
- In the unlikely event that roots over 25mm are encountered, these are only to be severed under the direction of the ACW;
- Following the excavations, any exposed roots which have been cut back will be covered in damp hessian to prevent desiccation; and
- Once the work is complete, the area around any exposed roots will be backfilled with horticultural sand or soil.

Landscaping and Boundary Treatments within Root Protection Areas

3.18 The landscaping and boundary treatments comprise boundary fencing, laying of turf and new planting. The following methodology should be undertaken where any of this prescribed work lies within an RPA of retained items:

- All work detailed below to be completed under ACW supervision;
- Remove protective fencing for access; and
- Strictly no vehicles to enter into the RPA once the protective fencing is removed.

Boundary Fencing

- All excavations required to install the posts will be carried out by hand where they lie within the RPA of retained trees;
- Any roots encountered under 25mm that obstruct the installation of the posts can be cleanly cut with secateurs or a handsaw;
- Any roots over 25mm that obstruct the installation of the posts are only to be severed under the direction of the ACW;

- Cement footings will be lined with a non-permeable membrane to prevent any cement-root interface; and
- Once complete, the area surrounding the posts will be backfilled as soon as possible with topsoil or horticultural sand.

Laying of Turf

- No mechanical rotavation to take place within the RPA of retained trees;
- Existing surface vegetation to be removed by hand;
- Ground to be lightly dug and raked by hand (to be dug to a depth of no more than 100mm, only if necessary). Where ground conditions necessitate any ground levelling, this shall be carried out by filling any depressions with either topsoil or horticultural sand; and
- Turf to be laid.

Proposed Planting

- Existing surface vegetation to be removed by hand;
- No mechanical rotavation to take place within the RPA retained trees; and
- Any planting to be undertaken by hand.

TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

Monitor and Maintain Tree Protection Measures Throughout Construction Phase

- 3.19 All tree protection measures should remain fit for purpose and serviceable throughout the construction phase of the development. The ACW shall undertake a periodic monitoring and inspection programme in accordance with the interval agreed at the pre-commencement meeting.
- 3.20 The main contractor shall contact the ACW to inform of any conflicts with the tree protection measures set out in this document and at any other time issues are raised relating to trees on site. Once notified, the ACW shall then make recommendations and/or conduct a monitoring visit as required.
- 3.21 Any changes to on-site specifications departing from those set out in this document will be agreed in writing with HBBC prior to implementation.
- 3.22 Written records of each monitoring visit will be kept in the form of a site inspection report (**Appendix EDP 8**) outlining activities undertaken. Each report will be made available to the HBBC upon their request.

- 3.23 Upon completion of the construction programme, an email will be sent to the developer, main contractor and HBBC advising of compliance with, and completion of, the agreed programme.

Site Set-up and Operation

Site Compound

- 3.24 Activities related to the establishment of a temporary site compound have the potential to impact upon retained trees by various means. In particular, the storage and mixing of chemicals and materials, such as concrete, can have a damaging effect on tree health. To prevent harm occurring to trees, provision for materials storage, site offices, deliveries and other related activities should be made available in areas away from retained trees.

Plant and Machinery

- 3.25 All plant and vehicles engaged in site set-up and ongoing construction works will be required to operate within defined zones outside of the protected areas, as agreed at the pre-commencement meetings.

Additional Precautions

- 3.26 No storage of materials or lighting of fires will take place within any protected areas; no mixing or storage of materials will take place upon a slope where they may subsequently leak and contaminate a protected area.
- 3.27 No fires shall be lit within 10 metres of the nearest point of the canopy of any retained tree within or adjacent to the site.
- 3.28 No noticeboards, cables or other services will be attached to any tree.
- 3.29 Materials that may contaminate the soil will not be discharged within 10m of any tree stem. When undertaking the mixing of materials, it is essential that any slope of the ground does not allow contaminants to run towards a tree root area.

Responsibilities

- 3.30 It will be the responsibility of the main contractor to ensure that the planning conditions attached to planning consent are adhered to at all times.
- 3.31 It will be the responsibility of the main contractor to comply with the provisions and principles of this AMS.
- 3.32 The ACW will be responsible for the monitoring regime regarding tree protection.
- 3.33 The main contractor will be responsible for contacting the ACW at any time that issues are raised related to the trees on site.
- 3.34 If at any time pruning works are required, the main contractor must inform the ACW. No works may proceed until written consent has been received from HBBC.

- 3.35 The main contractor will ensure the build sequence is appropriate to ensure that no damage occurs to the trees during the construction processes. Protective measures will remain in position until completion of all construction works on the Site.
- 3.36 The main contractor will be responsible for ensuring that sub-contractors do not undertake any process or operation that is likely to adversely impact upon any tree on site.

DISMANTLE TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

- 3.37 Upon completion of the construction programme, or phases of the construction programme, and prior to residential occupancy, all tree protection measures may be dismantled following receipt of written consent from HBBC.

Appendix EDP 1
Arboricultural Technical Note (edp4824_r001c)

Sketchley Lane, Sketchley

Technical Note in Respect of Arboriculture

edp4824_r001c

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) has been commissioned by Barwood Development Securities Limited (the applicant) to undertake a BS 5837:2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction* compliant survey of the trees in relation to the proposed development of Sketchley Lane, Sketchley (hereafter referred to as 'the Application Site').
- 1.2 EDP is an independent environmental planning consultancy with offices in Cirencester, Cardiff and Shrewsbury. The practice provides advice to private and public sector clients throughout the UK in the fields of landscape, ecology, archaeology, cultural heritage, arboriculture, rights of way and masterplanning. Details of the practice can be obtained at our website (www.edp-uk.co.uk).
- 1.3 The Site is located adjacent to Sketchley's industrial area to the west of Burbage, and lies within the administrative boundary of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC). It consists of approximately seven fields of mixed use. Livestock, horses and free roaming chickens were encountered in some fields, whilst others have been left to revert to grassland/wild-flower meadows. The Application Site is bordered by Sketchley Lane and the Sketchley Grange Hotel and Spa along the north boundary; the A5 road to the south/south-west; and a residential area to the east.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 The purpose of this Technical Note is to provide tree constraints information which will feed into the emerging masterplanning of the Site.
- 2.2 Once masterplanning of the Application Site has been fixed, this tree constraints information will inform the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, which will be submitted to support a future planning application.

3 Methodology and Limitations

- 3.1 The methodology adopted for this survey is based on guidelines set out in BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to Design, Demolition and Construction*, especially Section 4.4, 'Tree Survey'. Site trees and other significant vegetation are as noted on the tree constraints plan (**Annex EDP 1**). All surveyed items are detailed in Schedule EDP 1 (**Annex EDP 2**). This is derived from the topographic survey data included as **Annex EDP 3**. No other trees are covered by this survey.

- 3.2 All trees have been visually inspected from ground level unless otherwise stated, with no climbing or further detailed investigative tests being undertaken. The comments on their condition are based on observable factors present at the time of inspection. All measurements are metric and have been recorded in accordance with the measurement conventions set out in Section 4.4.2.6 of BS 5837:2012.
- 3.3 Any recommendations given regarding longer-term management are made on the basis of optimising the life expectancy of site trees, given their current situation and any effects that may result from the development proposals.
- 3.4 Schedule EDP 1 provides information about the following factors in accordance with Section 4.4.2.5 of BS 5837:2012:
- Sequential reference number (recorded on **Annex EDP 1**);
 - Species;
 - Height;
 - Stem diameter;
 - Branch spread;
 - Existing height above ground level;
 - Life stage;
 - Physiological condition;
 - Structural condition;
 - Preliminary management recommendations;
 - Estimated remaining contribution;
 - Category grading; and
 - Tree works priority codes.

Limitations

- 3.5 Due to the changing nature of trees and other Site circumstances, this report and any recommendations made are limited to a 24-month period from the survey date. The site was

originally surveyed in 2019 and again resurveyed following consultation with the HBBC's and following recent storm events.

- 3.6 Any alterations to the Application Site or the development proposals could change the current circumstances and may invalidate this report and any recommendations made.
- 3.7 Trees are dynamic structures that can never be guaranteed 100% safe; even those in good condition can suffer damage under average conditions. Regular inspections can help to identify potential problems before they become acute.
- 3.8 A lack of recommended work does not imply that a tree is safe and likewise, it should not be implied that a tree will be made safe following the completion of any recommended work.
- 3.9 The subject trees have not been tagged for identification purposes.

4 Planning Policy and Statutory Protection

National Planning Policy Framework

- 4.1 The *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) assumes protection of all ancient woodlands and veteran trees unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the need for, or benefits of, development outweighs the loss. The importance of ancient woodlands as an irreplaceable habitat is set out in Paragraph 118 of the NPPF, which states:

“Planning permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.”

- 4.2 One veteran tree (T32) has been identified. This item lies on the eastern edge of the Site. Full information on this feature is provided in **Schedule EDP 1** and is discussed further in **Section 6** below. This item is identified with a star on **Annex EDP 1**.

Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas

- 4.3 Review of HBBC's online resource confirms that there are three Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) formally protecting a number of trees, on and immediately adjacent to the Site, namely:
 - “Burbage (Sketchley House) 1975” (**Annex EDP 4**) affects “all trees of whatsoever species” located on the land to the south-east of the Application Site and may include all of the boundary trees with said piece of land;

- “Burbage (Sketchley Lane) 1977” (**Annex EDP 5**) affects a number of road-side trees to the north-west of Sketchley Lane; and
- “Land off Sketchley Lane, Burbage 1999” (**Annex EDP 6**) affects a number of trees along the eastern/south-eastern boundary, including the veteran tree mentioned in section 4.2.

- 4.4 All items that are affected by the above named TPOs have been illustrated on **Annex EDP 1** with a yellow box around the identification number. Where an item affected by a TPO forms part of a group, the location of the single item within the group has been identified by a yellow circle.
- 4.5 Review of HBBC’s online resource confirms that the Application Site does lie within a conservation area.

5 Overview of Tree Stock

- 5.1 The survey has identified 34 individual trees, 28 groups of trees and 38 hedgerows totalling 100 items. Of these 100 items, two have been categorised as A, of high quality and value; 35 have been categorised as B, of moderate quality; and 33 have been categorised as C, of low quality. In addition, 30 items have been categorised as U and due to their impaired condition are considered unsuitable for retention, irrespective of development.
- 5.2 The 2022 resurvey of the tree stock identified one tree (T52) has collapsed during recent storm events. This tree has been removed from **Annex EDP 1**.
- 5.3 An illustrative summary of the species diversity, age distribution and grading categorisation for the Application Site is provided in **Annex EDP 7**.
- 5.4 All surveyed items are as noted on **Annex EDP 1** and detailed in Schedule EDP 1 (**Annex EDP 2**).

Veteran Tree T32

- 5.5 The veteran tree identified on the eastern boundary of the Application Site has been classified as category B3 due to its condition (as documented in **Schedule EDP 1**). It is recommended that this tree is retained in line with the standing advice by Natural England and the Forestry Commission. This is discussed further in **Section 6**. Notwithstanding this and due to its current condition, it is recommended that the remedial work specified in Schedule EDP 1 is undertaken in accordance with BS 3998:2010.

Pests and Diseases

- 5.6 The survey has identified two items displaying fungal fruiting bodies from the *Ganoderma* genus. These are located separately to the north-west (T10) and to the south-east (G42). These comprise one lime tree (*Tilia* sp.) and one ash tree (*Fraxinus excelsior*) respectively.
- 5.7 The fungal pathogen *Innonotus hispidus* is widespread amongst the ash population throughout the Site. A large proportion of the category U trees (trees unsuitable for retention) identified can attribute their classification to this fungus, and the effect it has on its hosts.

Development of Sketchley House to South-east of Site

- 5.8 At the time of survey, there was an active construction site on the land to the south-east of the Application Site (land to the north of Sketchley House). It was noted that the off-site tree protection measures did not appear adequate to protect the root systems of the trees affected. However, access was not possible to inspect further.
- 5.9 Trees which may be negatively affected have been identified in Schedule EDP 1 (**Annex EDP 2**) and it is recommended that these items are monitored regularly over the coming years to identify any potential issues before they become acute.

6 Site Constraints

- 6.1 Of the items surveyed, two have been identified as category A, of high quality and value, and a further 35 items have been identified as category B, of moderate quality and value. All trees provide landscape, environmental and/or amenity value to their surroundings, but the retention and protection of both category A and B items should be prioritised due to their condition, age and retention span.
- 6.2 All off-site items indicated on **Annex EDP 1** remain outside of the direct control of the scheme, however, their above- and below-ground constraints will need to be considered during the design process.
- 6.3 The required RPA for each item is as described in Schedule EDP 2 (**Annex EDP 8**) and is depicted on **Annex EDP 1**. To ensure appropriate protection is afforded to the roots, the extent of the RPA shall be defined by means of the installation of protective barriers in accordance with the recommendations given in Section 6.2 of BS 5837:2012. The extent of this enclosed area, known as the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ), will be depicted on a Tree Retention and Removal Plan at the detailed design stage.
- 6.4 One veteran tree (T32) has been identified within the Site. A veteran tree is a tree that, by a recognised criteria, shows features of biological, cultural or aesthetic value that are

characteristic of, but not exclusive to, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species¹.

- 6.5 The standing advice from Natural England and the Forestry Commission² recommends that any development should be kept as far as possible from veteran trees, leaving a buffer at least 15 times larger than the diameter or 5m from the edge of its canopy, if that's greater; therefore a 17.3m RPA has been calculated and is reflected on **Annex EDP 1**.
- 6.6 The RPA/buffer area for the veteran tree should be allowed to develop into a semi-natural habitat. Developments such as gardens should not be included within the RPA/buffer as there is limited control over how they may be used or developed in the future.
- 6.7 HBBC's online resource confirms that three TPOs are registered against the Site. Any works to or felling of TPO trees requires a formal application to the Local Planning Authority. Alternatively, the works or felling of TPO trees can be agreed by way of an Arboricultural Survey as part of an approved, detailed planning application.

7 Conclusion

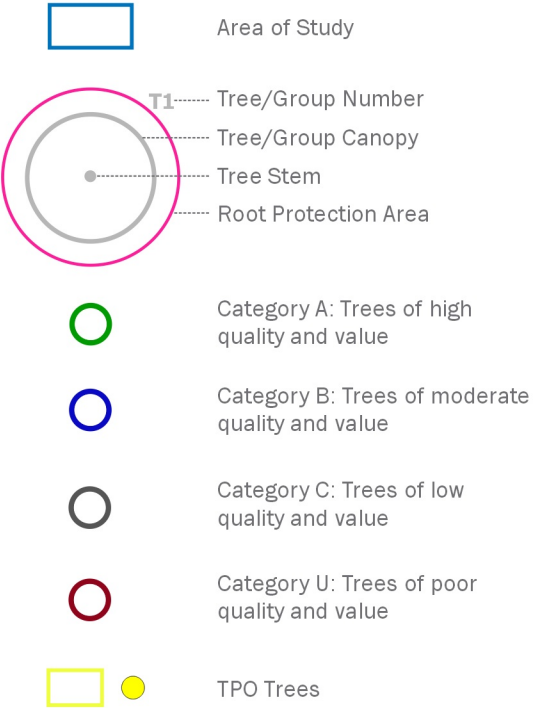
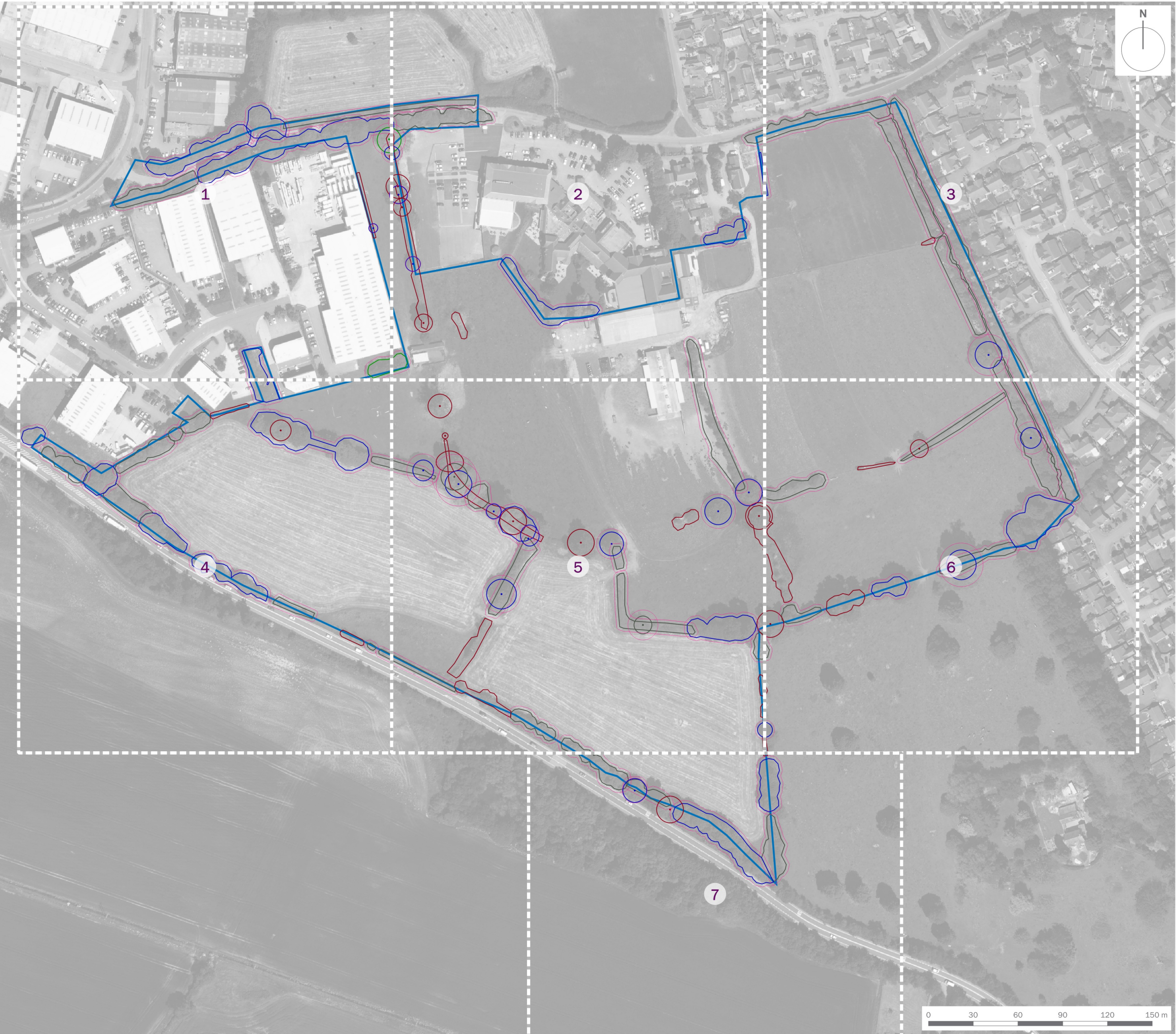
- 7.1 Of the items surveyed, two have been identified as category A, of high quality and value and a further 35 items have been identified as category B, of moderate quality and value. Both category A and B items should be prioritised for retention due to their condition, age and retention span.
- 7.2 One veteran tree (T32) lies to the east of the Application Site and, as per the standing advice from Natural England and the Forestry Commission, a 17.3m RPA has been calculated and is depicted on **Annex EDP 1**.
- 7.3 The arboricultural constraints information provided with this Technical Note will feed into the proposed masterplanning for the Site.
- 7.4 Once the masterplanning of the Application Site has been fixed, an Arboricultural Impact Assessment will be undertaken to support the future planning application.

¹ BS 5837 Trees in Relation to design, demolition and construction 2012.

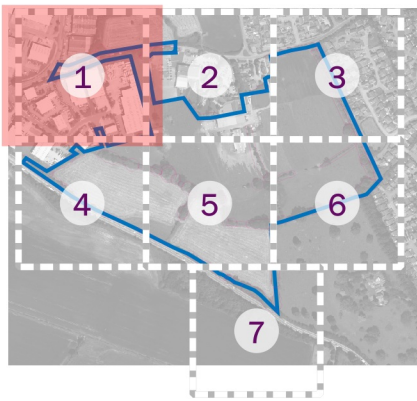
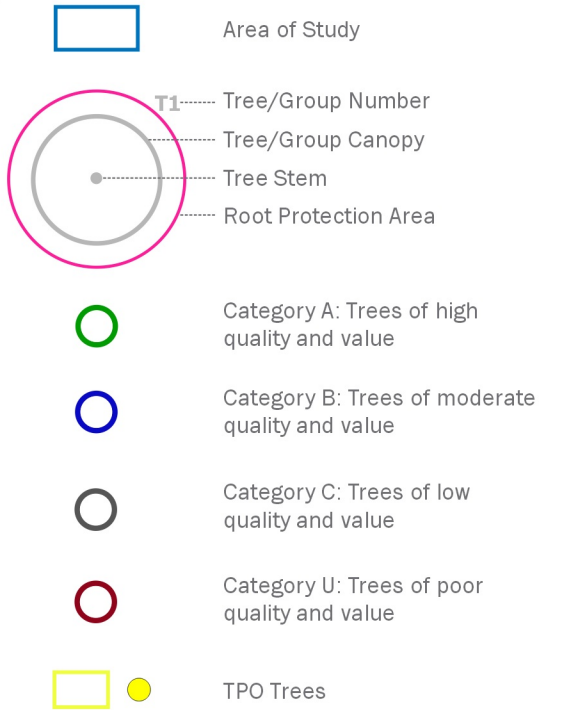
² <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-and-veteran-trees-protection-surveys-licences#history>



Annex EDP 1
Tree Constraints Plan
(edp4824_d005c 11 March 2022 GY/RC)



client	Barwood Development Securities Limited			
project title	Sketchley Lane, Sketchley			
drawing title	Plan EDP 1: Tree Constraints Plan (Overview)			
date	11 MARCH 2022	drawn by	GY	
drawing number	edp4824_d005c	checked	RC	
scale	1:2,500 @ A3	QA	VP	



client	Barwood Development Securities Limited		
project title	Sketchley Lane, Sketchley		
drawing title	Plan EDP 1: Tree Constraints Plan (Sheet 1 of 7)		
date	11 MARCH 2022	drawn by	GY
drawing number	edp4824_d005c	checked	RC
scale	1:1,000 @ A3	QA	VP



Area of Study

T1

Tree/Group Number

Tree/Group Canopy

Tree Stem

Root Protection Area

Category A: Trees of high quality and value

Category B: Trees of moderate quality and value

Category C: Trees of low quality and value

Category U: Trees of poor quality and value

TPO Trees

client	Barwood Development Securities Limited		
project title	Sketchley Lane, Sketchley		
drawing title	Plan EDP 1: Tree Constraints Plan (Sheet 2 of 7)		
date	11 MARCH 2022	drawn by	GY
drawing number	edp4824_d005c	checked	RC
scale	1:1,000 @ A3	QA	VP

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