

Heckington Fen Solar Park EN010123

Environmental Statement | Volume 3: Technical Appendices Appendix 6.3: Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Tree Survey, and Tree Protection Plan.

Applicant: Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited

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ARBORICULTURAL SURVEY, IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PROTECTION PLAN

Relating to:

HECKINGTON FEN ENERGY PARK

At:

HECKINGTON FEN, BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

Instructed by:

ECOTRICITY (HECK FEN SOLAR) LIMITED

MHP ref: 22045 HECKINGTON FEN SOLAR FARM_TS AIA TPP_V2







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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

- An application for planning permission is to be submitted for the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation and energy storage facility (hereafter referred to as "the Energy Park"), cable route to, and above and below ground works at, the National Grid Bicker Fen Substation (hereafter referred to as "the site" (inclusive of Energy Park)) on land at Six Hundreds Farm, Six Hundreds Drove, East Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.
- The Energy Park extends to 524ha which includes a section of the "Cable Route Corridor". The Cable Route Corridor encompasses the "Off-Site Grid Connection" at the National Grid Bicker Fen Substation, providing a total area of 644ha.
- To assist determination of the application by Secretary of State and Examining Authority, I am instructed to prepare an arboricultural assessment of the proposals in accordance with BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - recommendations'.
- I visited the site to survey the trees, assess and evaluate the impacts of the proposals on the trees and set out suitable tree protection measures.

Key points

- The key arboricultural features associated with the site are:
 - o Intermittent hedgerows, typically alongside dykes at field edges.
 - Discrete areas of scrub, possibly naturally regenerated, in areas of less intensive farm management.
 - Occasional small and medium-sized areas of early-mature mixed species plantation woodland.
 - Sporadic larger trees, generally associated with dwellings or established in unmanaged land at field boundaries and hedge/dyke intersections.



- These trees are not protected by virtue of being located within a conservation area and/or being subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).
 However, restrictions limiting timber volume extraction do apply.
- There are minimal hedgerow removals associated with the proposals and any negative effects are greatly outweighed by the cumulative positive impacts of proposed new hedgerow planting.
- More generally, construction works do have potential to directly and/or indirectly damage retained trees and hedges. These impacts can be effectively mitigated by use of fit for purpose tree protection barriers.
- My arboricultural impact assessment with associated tree protection details show that the proposals are feasible from an arboricultural perspective for the following key reasons:
 - No mature trees shall be removed to enable the construction of the proposals – however a worst-case assessment is assessed should trees or hedgerows be removed, as the final grid connection route is not determined, and a wider corridor is included.
 - Tree protection measures can be put in place to ensure that construction works do not result in damage to the retained trees.
 - New hedgerow planting shall be established to enhance the energy park site.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 My name is Matt Reid. I am a Chartered Arboriculturist and Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association and the Institute of Chartered Foresters. I hold the Level6 Diploma in Arboriculture (ABC Awards) as well as other technical and trade level qualifications. I am also a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association.
- 1.1.2 I have worked in the arboricultural industry since 1999. My initial trade and professional experience comprised six years as an arboricultural contractor and climbing arborist. Following this I spent seven years as a local government tree officer. Since 2012 I have worked in private practice as an arboricultural consultant specialising in planning related matters and tree risk management.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 A Development Consent Order for planning permission is to be submitted for a new energy park with associated infrastructure on land at Heckington Fen, near Boston, Lincolnshire; hereafter referred to as 'the site'.

1.3 Site details

- 1.3.1 For location purposes, the site can be located using the following nearby postcode LN4 4AJ and the grid reference TF 19935 45447.
- 1.3.2 The site is split between Local Planning Authorities North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) and Boston Borough Council (BBC).

1.4 Instruction and scope

1.4.1 I am instructed by Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) Limited to visit the site and to carry out an assessment of arboricultural features in accordance with British Standards (BS) 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design Demolition and Construction – Recommendations'.



1.4.2 I am to prepare the following information in relation to the proposals:

- General site information relating to soil conditions, statutory tree protection and any other relevant designations.
- General site information relating to site characteristics.
- A schedule of tree survey findings.
- General design advice relating to tree constraints.
- An assessment of arboricultural impacts associated with the proposals.
- Provision of suitable details to achieve effective retention of existing trees.
- My opinion regarding the arboricultural feasibility of the proposals.



2 GENERAL

2.1 Methodology

- 2.1.1 My methodology is as follows:
 - Desk-based check to determine presence of statutory tree protection and/or other designations.
 - Site visit to gather relevant information and tree survey data in line with BS5837:2012.
 - Present information in report format to address my instruction.

2.2 Referenced documents and other information

- 2.2.1 In preparation of relevant drawings, MHP has referred to the following:
 - Ecotricity. Indicative Solar Park Layout. Ref 6945_T0044_05. Dated November 2022.
 - Ref: 6945_1061_01_DCO_EXTENT_SOLAR_PARK. File date 23.11.2022.
 - Ref: 6945_1064_01_Indicative Grid Route. File date 08.12.2022.
 - Ref: TK_DCO_REDLINE-CONVERSION-LINE. File date 03.12.2022.
- 2.2.2 Other externally sourced information is referenced as footnotes to the text.

2.3 Statutory tree protection and other designations

2.3.1 I have carried out desk-based tree-related constraints checks in relation to the site.

These are outlined in *Table 1*.



	Statutory tree protection and other designations	
	General summary information	Relevant to site?
Conservation Area ¹	 All trees with a trunk diameter greater than 75mm at 1.5m height are protected in the same way as for TPO (see below). Six weeks' notice must be given to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) prior to carrying out any tree works so that possible requirement for TPO can be assessed. 	No
Tree Preservation Order (TPO) ²	 It is an offence to cut down, uproot, top or lop, wilfully damage or wilfully destroy relevant trees or woodlands. Formal permission must be applied for (and granted) by the LPA before carrying out tree works. Penalties of up to £20K (Magistrates Court) or unlimited fine (Crown Court). 	No
Timber volume	 Forestry Act 1967 limits felling of volumes of timber in any calendar quarter to 5 cubic metres (m³) unless a Felling Licence has been issued by the Forestry Commission. Any felling beyond this threshold may result in prosecution and/or issue of a Restocking Notice 	Yes
Ancient woodland ³	 Ancient Woodland is broadly defined as land that has been continuously wooded since 1600AD. It is irreplaceable habitat and is afforded a high level of protection by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). 	No
Ancient/veteran trees ⁴	 Broadly defined as trees that are old for their species that have biodiversity, cultural and heritage value. Like ancient woodland such trees are irreplaceable habitats and are afforded a high level of protection by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). 	None recorded

Table 1- statutory tree protection and other designations.

2.4 Limitations

- 2.4.1 In some instances, I have been unable to access or clearly observe the trunks of trees.
 Where this is the case, I have done my best to accurately estimate dimensions and tree condition.
- 2.4.2 Trees are living organisms and self-supporting dynamic structures. Their physiological and structural condition can change rapidly in response to a wide range of biotic/abiotic factors. As such, the findings and recommendations of my tree survey are limited to 24 months from the date of my site visit (23.05.2022).
- 2.4.3 Due to lack of topographical information in relation to the cable route, the locations of

¹ Email communication from Boston Borough Council Thu 15/12/2022 12:00 & <u>Map of Tree Preservation</u>
Orders and conservation areas | North Kesteven District Council (n-kesteven.gov.uk) Accessed 25.01.2023

² Email communication from Boston Borough Council Thu 15/12/2022 12:00 & <u>Map of Tree Preservation</u> <u>Orders and conservation areas | North Kesteven District Council (n-kesteven.gov.uk)</u> Accessed 25.01.2023

³ https://magic.defra.gov.uk/magicmap.aspx Accessed 04.01.2023.

Accessed 04.01.2023.



arboricultural features are approximated in relation to fixed features on site.

2.5 Wildlife informative

- 2.5.1 Tree works should not be carried out until a reasonably detailed inspection of relevant trees has been carried out to determine if bat roosts and/or bird nests are present.
- 2.5.2 It is a criminal offence to intentionally damage/destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Similarly it is an offence to intentionally/recklessly disturb roosting bats or to damage or destroy a bat roost.
- 2.5.3 The Arboricultural Association publishes useful advice in relation to trees and nesting birds⁵.
- 2.5.4 Helpful advice with regards to bats and tree work is published by the UK Government⁶, the Arboricultural Association⁷ and The Bat Conservation Trust⁸.

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⁶ https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bats-protection-surveys-and-licences



3 THE SITE

3.1 Site description

- 3.1.1 The site of the proposed energy park is presently in agricultural use and consists of a series of arable fields. These are enclosed by a series of dykes and intermittent hedgerows and accessed via a network of agricultural tracks.
- 3.1.2 To the north, east and west the application site is bordered by similar agricultural land.

 To the south lies the A17 Sleaford to Boston road, with arable farmland beyond.
- 3.1.3 The grid connection for the new proposed energy park is located approximately 9km away from the northern boundary of the site. The new grid connection will join into the existing substation at Bicker Fen. As part of the proposals an interconnecting cable must be installed through the agricultural land lying in-between.
- 3.1.4 The general topography is level and flat and enables extensive views in all directions.

3.2 Soil

- 3.2.1 The underlying geology⁹ relating to the site is derived from three bands of Jurassic mudstone. From north to south, these are Ampthill Clay Formation Mudstone, West Walton Formation Mudstone and siltstone. Oxford Clay Formation Mudstone. Sedimentary bedrock.
- 3.2.2 Soil characteristics ¹⁰ are moderately fertile and consist of :
 - Soilscape 21:
 Loamy and clayey soils of coastal flats with naturally high groundwater
 - Soilscape 18:
 Slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils

Accessed 04.01.2023.

Accessed



4 FINDINGS

4.1 Site visit

4.1.1 MHP visited the site on 23rd, 24th and 25th of May 2022 to carry out the tree survey.

4.2 Tree survey

4.2.1 Tree survey findings are set out within the survey schedule with explanatory key at **Appendix 1**.

4.3 Key arboricultural features

- 4.3.1 Key arboricultural features associated with the application area are limited to:
 - Intermittent hedgerows, typically alongside dykes at field edges.
 - Discrete areas of scrub, possibly naturally regenerated, in areas of less intensive farm management.
 - Occasional small and medium-sized areas of early-mature mixed species plantation woodland.
 - Sporadic larger trees, generally associated with dwellings or established in unmanaged land at field boundaries and hedge/dyke intersections.



5 TREE CONSTRAINTS

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 Normally, high and/or moderate quality 'Key Trees' are prioritised for retention and form the main constraints to development.
- 5.1.2 The potential for harm to be caused 'Key Trees' by new development is an important consideration as part of the planning decision-making process. Tree constraints exist both below and above the ground.

5.2 Below ground tree constraints

Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

- 5.2.1 Add default description of RPAs
 - Potential causes of damage
- 5.2.2 Effective tree retention requires that the 'invisible' parts of the tree beneath the ground are not harmed. Tree roots can be damaged by:
 - Root severance for example, by ground works or excavations for services/foundations.
 - Soil compaction for example by passage of heavy plant or repeated pedestrian access.
 - Contamination by spilled materials for example by cement mixing, diesel spills.

5.3 Above Ground Constraints

Overbearing effect

- 5.3.1 Retained trees can cause overbearing or dominating effects as they continue to grow near occupied dwellings. For example:
 - Increased size and dominance giving rise to perceived risk of harm caused by tree failure in stormy conditions.
 - Excessive shading.



- Branch spread dominating gardens or contacting with structures,
- Seasonal nuisance such as leaf loss or mess associated with aphid honeydew.
- 5.3.2 If not adequately considered, above ground constraints can lead to incremental pressure to fell or heavily prune retained protected trees.
 - Potential causes of damage
- 5.3.3 As well as the above, the above ground parts of trees can be damaged in several ways:
 - Impact damage and wounding through contact with construction site plant.
 - Inappropriate pruning.
 - Other factors, for example, heat damage caused by bonfires.



6 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (AIA) AND TREE PROTECTION PLAN

6.1 AIA plan

- 6.1.1 A combined arboricultural impact assessment and tree protection plan is at **Appendix**
 - **2.** It shows the tree survey and constraints information in relation to the proposed layout and confirms that there will be a negligible impact on surveyed key trees as a result of implementation of the proposals.

The energy park

- 6.1.2 Within the main body of the proposed energy park, the layout of panels and infrastructure has been designed to sit within the existing fields and network of agricultural access tracks. This means that no existing trees or hedges will be removed.
- 6.1.3 The implementation of the proposals will require extensive logistics and therefore engineering and construction activities have potential to spread and result in impact-type damage to arboricultural features. These impacts can be effectively mitigated however by erecting protection barriers on site prior to the commencement of any works on site. This is addressed by the outline CEMP (document reference 7.7). I anticipate that this requirement can be reasonably secured by means of a suitably worded pre-commencement planning condition.

The cable route

- 6.1.4 The cable route has been designed to avoid existing arboricultural features wherever possible.
- 6.1.5 Despite this, at the point where the cable intersects with the railway line and the 'South Forty Foot Drain' (to the west of Swineshead Bridge) there is clearly potentially need for some removals: H11 (category C) and G32 (category B). However, these arboricultural constraints can be effectively avoided by directionally drilling beneath the area.
- 6.1.6 Hedge removal may be required on the northernmost, west/east orientated section of H22 (category C). This hedge is a low-quality feature that can be justifiably temporarily removed to enable the cable installation and then subsequently reinstated by means of replacement planting. In my opinion, the hedge is not significant enough



- to act as material constraint to development and as such, removal and replacement is a viable management option.
- 6.1.7 There is also very limited potential for the cabling operations to affect the RPAs of the trees making up G38 (category C) and G39 (category B). The use of temporary tree protection around G39 has been agreed with the applicant and therefore any impact for construction of the cable route near G39 has been mitigated'.
- 6.1.8 T1 (category B) and G2 (category C) are listed as potentially to be removed, however this is considered a worst case scenario. This is because the cable route corridor in this location is wide and is likely they will be avoided. However, should they be removed, there will be some visual impact associated with loss of the moderate quality 16m high Lombardy poplar (T1), but no obvious impact associated with the loss of G2; which only consists of four low-quality trees. In this scenario, there would be a commitment to plant suitable replacements. This should consist of the native species *Populus tremula* (aspen) in place of the more incongruous upright form of the existing Lombardy poplar.
- 6.1.9 H15 (category C) is a hedgerow remnant which comprises hawthorn and contains a significant proportion of gaps. It sits within a ditch close to an area of archaeological interest. The cable route corridor is wide in this area to facilitate movement of the cable following detailed design of the final cable route. Should H15 need to be removed a replacement hawthorn hedge can be planted. In my view, within a relatively short period of time of five to ten years the established new plants will effectively mitigate insubstantial harm caused to the low quality hedgerow.
- 6.1.10 A small section of W5 (category B) sits within the Order Limits at Bicker Fen Substation. This area could be removed to facilitate the grid connection, however it could alternatively be directionally drilled or avoided altogether. In my view the area can easily be avoided. However, should removal be required, a commensurate area of new tree planting shall be established. The mix and density of replacement tree species shall proportionately match those in the remainder of the W5.
- 6.1.11 In a wider context I also note that the proposals will be subject to substantial ecological and landscape mitigation enhancement. In this context, I am confident that any new tree planting, as deemed necessary in the outline LEMP (document ref 7.8) as



part of this process will, as it establishes and matures, result in an incrementally positive arboricultural outcome.

6.2 Tree Protection Plan

- 6.2.1 The Tree Protection element of the plan demonstrates how retained trees can be effectively retained as part of the construction of the proposals.
- 6.2.2 Protection on and adjacent to the solar park shall be achieved by a combination of temporary tree protection barriers (as specified on the plan) and the erection of the permanent site perimeter fencing *prior to the commencement of any other works on site*.
- 6.2.3 Tree protection in relation to the cabling route can be erected locally and prior to work being carried out in each specific area.
- 6.2.4 In my opinion, this fit-for-purpose approach will achieve effective tree protection in relation to the proposals overall.



7 CONCLUSION

7.1 Conclusion

- 7.1.1 I conclude that the development proposals for the new energy park and associated cable route are feasible from an arboricultural perspective for the following key reasons:
 - No trees shall be removed to enable the construction of the proposals.
 - Tree protection measures can be put in place to ensure that construction works do not result in damage to the retained trees.
 - New hedgerow planting shall be established to enhance the developed site.



APPENDIX 1 – TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE



TREES

Ref	Common name	Height (m)	Est	Stem dia (mm)	Est	N	Est	E	Est	S	Est	W	Est	Estimated canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius (m)	RPA area (m2)	ТРО
T1	Lombardy poplar	16	#	400	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	1	М	None	Typical for species and age.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	5	72	None
T2	Sycamore	9	-	400	#	3	-	4	-	3	-	4	-	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed tree on N bank of ditch.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	5	72	None
Т3	Ash	12	-	750	#	8	-	6	-	5	-	4	-	3	М	None	Leader lost @ 10m, cavities & deadwood in upper canopy, early onset of ash dieback symptoms, main limbs reduced in past, owl nesting box present.	Fair	Fair	10+	С3	9	254	None
T4	Ash	15	-	950	#	6	-	6	-	7	-	7	-	3	ОМ	None	In decline. Significant dieback, deadwood, and cavities on main limbs in upper canopy. Innonotus hispidus fruiting body on main scaffold limb. Habitat value.	Fair	Poor	10+	C3	11	408	None
T5	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
Т6	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
Т7	Hawthorn	4	-	250	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	3	28	None
Т8	Hawthorn	2	-	200	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
Т9	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T10	Hawthorn	2	-	200	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T11	Hawthorn	2	-	150	#	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	2	10	None
T12	Hawthorn	2	-	150	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	2	10	None
T13	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T14	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	3	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T15	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	3	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	2	18	None
T16	Hawthorn	2	-	150	#	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	0	SM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	2	10	None
T17	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	3	-	2	-	3	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T18	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	3	-	2	-	2	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T19	Hawthorn	4	-	200	#	2	-	2	-	2	-	3	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T20	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	3	-	2	-	3	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T21	Hawthorn	3	-	200	#	2	-	3	-	2	-	3	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T22	Ash	17	#	1000	#	8	-	8	-	8	-	6	-	2	М	None	Multiple leaders from base. large basal cavity. ash dieback not evident.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	12	452	None
T23	Field maple	4	-	250	#	3	-	2	-	4	-	2	-	1	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	3	28	None
T24	Hawthorn	3	-	150	#	2	-	3	-	2	-	3	-	0	М	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	10	None



Ref	Common name	Height (m)	Est	Stem dia (mm)	Est	N	Est	E	Est	S	Est	W	Est	Estimated canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius (m)	RPA area (m2)	ТРО
T25	Goat willow	6	-	200	#	3	-	4	-	3	-	4	-	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed growing in base of ditch.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T26	Goat willow	6	-	200	#	3	-	4	-	3	-	4	-	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed growing in base of ditch.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T27	Goat willow	5	-	150	#	2	-	3	-	2	-	3	-	1	EM	None	Multi-stemmed growing in base of ditch.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	10	None
T28	Elm	6	-	150	#	3	-	3	1	3	-	3	-	1	EM	None	Multi-stemmed, affected by Dutch elm disease.	Poor	Poor	<10	U	2	10	None
T29	Elm	5	-	150	#	3	-	3	-	3	-	3	-	1	EM	None	Multi-stemmed.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	10	None
T30	Ash	4	-	100	#	2	-	2	1	2	-	2	-	0	SM	None	Multi-stemmed.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	1	5	None
T31	Goat Willow	8	-	200	#	4		5		4		5		1	М	None	Multi-stemmed.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T32	Ash	14	-	300	#	4		4		4		4		2	М	None	Significant dead wood, advanced stages of ash dieback.	Poor	Poor	<10	U	4	41	None
T33	Ash	14	-	600	#	4		4		4		5		1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	7	163	None
T34	Ash	14	-	650	#	5		5		5		5		1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	8	191	None
T35	Ash	16	-	700	#	5		5		5		4		1	М	None	Multi- Stemmed. Significant dead wood, advanced stages of ash dieback.	Poor	Poor	<10	U	8	222	None
T36	Hawthorn	3	-	150	#	2		2		2		2		1	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	10	None
T37	Ash	14	-	500	#	5		5		5		5		1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	6	113	None
T38	Hawthorn	3	-	150	#	3		2		3		2		0	EM	None	Small field edge tree.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	10	None
Т39	Horse Chestnut	6	-	200	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	2	EM	None	Just off site, typical for age and species	Good	Good	20+	B1	2	18	None
T40	Horse Chestnut	8	-	250	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	2	EM	None	Just off site, typical for age and species	Good	Good	20+	B1	3	28	None
T41	Horse Chestnut	10	-	300	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	2	EM	None	Just off site, typical for age and species	Good	Good	20+	B1	4	41	None
T42	Horse Chestnut	9	-	250	#	4	#	4	#	3	#	3	#	2	EM	None	Just off site, typical for age and species	Good	Good	20+	B1	3	28	None
T43	Horse Chestnut	9	-	250	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	2	EM	None	Just off site, typical for age and species	Good	Good	20+	B1	3	28	None
T44	Horse Chestnut	9	-	250	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	2	EM	None	Just off site, typical for age and species	Good	Good	20+	B1	3	28	None
T45	Ash	10	#	300	#	5	#	5	#	5	#	5	#	3	М	None	Early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	4	41	None
T46	Ash	8	#	200	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	3	#	1	EM	None	Early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	2	18	None
T47	Ash	11	#	400	#	4	#	4	#	6	#	4	#	2	М	None	Ivy clad, canopy bias to S.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	5	72	None
T48	Ash	11	#	400	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	2	М	None	Ivy clad, Ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	5	72	None
T49	Common ash	16	#	600	#	7	#	7	#	7	#	6	#	4	М	None	Standalone landscape feature tree. No symptoms of ash dieback.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	7	163	None
T50	Horse chestnut	18	#	700	#	6	#	10	#	7	#	5	#	2	М	None	Standalone prominent tree.	Fair	Fair	20+	B1	8	222	None
T51	Ash	8	#	350	#	4.5	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	1	EM	None	Reasonable tree, no ash dieback symptoms.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	4	55	None
T52	Silver birch	9	#	250	#	3	#	3	#	3.5	#	3.5	#	1	EM	None	Twin stemmed @1.5m	Good	Good	20+	B1	3	28	None



Ref	Common name	Height (m)	Est	Stem dia (mm)	Est	N	Est	Е	Est	S	Est	w	Est	Estimated canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius (m)	RPA area (m2)	ТРО
T53	Ash	12	#	250	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	5.5	#	1	EM	None	Reasonable condition.	Good	Fair	10+	C1	3	28	None
T54	Silver birch	7	#	100	#	3	#	2.5	#	3	#	2.5	#	1	EM	None	Typical for species and age.	Good	Good	10+	C1	1	5	None
T55	Sycamore	7	#	350	#	3.5	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	1	EM	None	Typical for species and age.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	4	55	None
T56	Horse chestnut	6	#	200	#	3	#	3.5	#	3	#	3.5	#	2	EM	None	Typical for species and age.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T57	Horse chestnut	7	#	300	#	4.5	#	4	#	4	#	4	#	1	EM	None	Typical for species and age.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	4	41	None
T58	Horse chestnut	7	#	300	#	4	#	4	#	4.5	#	4.5	#	1	EM	None	Typical for species and age.	Fair	Good	10+	C1	4	41	None
T59	Horse chestnut	5	#	200	#	3	#	2.5	#	2.5	#	3	#	1	EM	None	Twin leaders from base.	Good	Good	10+	C1	2	18	None
T60	Ash	15	#	500	#	8	#	8	#	7	#	8	#	2	М	None	Typical for species and age.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	6	113	None
T61	Ash	16	#	650	#	7	#	6	#	5	#	6	#	3	М	None	Twin leaders from base. otherwise no significant defects.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	8	191	None

GROUPS

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Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated average trunk diameter at 1.5m (mm)	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)	TPO
G1	10no Elm	200	5 & 5	5	0	М	None	Group of multi-stemmed trees from base, some with symptoms of DED.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G2	4no Goat willow	200	5 & 4	5	1	М	None	Group of multi-stemmed trees from base.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G3	2no Hawthorn	200	4 & 4	4	0	М	None	Small field edge trees, typical for age and species.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G4	4no Hawthorn	200	5 & 4	4	1	М	None	Small field edge trees, typical for age and species.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G5	3no Hawthorn	200	5 & 4	4	0	М	None	Small field edge trees, typical for age and species.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G6	Sycamore, oak, ash, apple, cherry, hawthorn, elder	300	15 & 4	10	1	М	None	Approx 30no trees + understorey in garden area of disused cottage.	Fair	Fair	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G 7	3no Hawthorn	150	4 & 3	3	0	М	None	Small field edge trees, typical for age and species.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G8	2no Goat willow	200	4 & 3	4	1	EM	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G9	6no Elm	200	7 & 2	5	1	EM	None	Multi-stemmed. Growing on bank, several trees affected by Dutch elm disease.	Fair	Poor	<10	U	As shown on plan	None
G10	4no Goat willow	150	4 & 3	4	1	SM	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G11	3no Goat willow	200	6 & 2	4	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None



Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated average trunk diameter at 1.5m (mm)	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)	ТРО
G12	7no Goat willow	200	7 & 2	4	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G13	5no Goat willow	200	6 & 2	4	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G14	3no Goat willow	250	10 & 8	9	1	ОМ	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G15	26no Ash, 9no Sycamore, 3no Oak, 1no lime, 1no cherry, 1no Field maple	300	15 & 8	10	1	EM	None	Linear group adjacent to farm track. Ash displaying symptoms of ash dieback.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G16	6no Goat willow	150	7 & 5	6	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, growing on bank edge.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G17	2no Ash	650	16 & 14	15	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G18	4no Ash	300	12 & 11	12	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G19	1no Hawthorn, 4no Ash	200	14 & 11	13	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G20	15 no Ash, 2no Goat willow	250	14 &10	12	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G21	12no Ash	300	14 & 12	14	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, early onset of ash dieback evident.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G22	2no Elm	200	5 & 4	5	1	EM	None	Multi-stemmed.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G23	3no Elm, 1no hawthorn	200	5 & 4	5	1	EM	None	Small field edge trees, typical for age and species.	Fair	Good	>10	C2	As shown on plan	None
G24	2no Goat willow	200	5 & 4	5	1	М	None	Multi-stemmed, growing in ditch base.	Fair	Good	>10	C2	As shown on plan	None
G25	22no Lombardy poplar	400	20 & 12	15	1	М	None	Linear group, typical for age and species.	Fair	Good	>20	B2	As shown on plan	None
G26	Hawthorn	200	5 & 4	5	1	М	None	Growing along ditch.	Fair	Good	>10	C2	As shown on plan	None
G27	Sycamore, horse chestnut	350	12	12	1	EM	None	Two trees. Cohesive form.	Good	Good	>20	B2	As shown on plan	None
G28	Oak, lime	450	12 & 8	10	1	EM	None	Linear group either side if access track.	Good	Good	>20	B2	As shown on plan	None
G29	Oak, lime, pine	450	12 & 8	10	2	EM	None	Linear group either side if access track.	Good	Good	>20	B2	As shown on plan	None
G30	Elm, field maple, elder, lime	300	10 & 8	9	1	EM	None	Compact mixed species group at field edge.	Fair	Good	>20	B2	As shown on plan	None
G31	Hybrid black poplar, sycamore, elder, elm	500	16-4	10	1	М	None	Unmanaged linear group following ditch.	Fair	Good	>20	B2	As shown on plan	None
G32	Ash, hawthorn, oak, beech, field maple, holly, willow, field maple	250	12 & 10	11	1	EM	None	linear informal tree group following line of drain.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G33	Hawthorn, dog rose	75	3 & 2.5	3	0	EM	None	Growing along ditch edge.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G34	Hawthorn, dog rose	75	3 & 2.5	3	0	EM	None	Growing along drain edge, dense in places.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G35	Elm, elder	250	8 & 3	6	1	EM	None	Self-set group at field intersection, Dutch elm disease present.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None



IIIStruct	ed by Ecotricity (Heck Fen Solar) L													•
Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated average trunk diameter at 1.5m (mm)	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)	TPO
G36	Silver bircg, sycamore, cherry	250	12 & 4	10	2	EM	None	Remnant garden trees.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G37	4no Silver birch	200	6 & 5	5.5	2	EM	None	4 evenly spaced ornamental birch within hedgerow.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G38	Hawthorn, elder, crab apple, damson, cherry, elder, Leyland cypress, crack willow	300	17 & 5	10	0	EM	None	Haphazard mix, neglect farm edge boundary, cypress outgrowing location.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G39	2no ash, 1no oak	800	20 & 14	16	2	М	None	Prominent large trees next to derelict farm buildings. Assess oak tree for veteran status.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G40	6no Oak	300	12 & 10	11	1	EM	None	Even aged linear group adjacent to road.	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
G41	Ash	250	11	11	4	EM	None	Growing in hedgerow, symptoms of ash dieback.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G42	4no Oak	300	10 & 7	8	1	EM	None	Severely pruned on S side to provide highway clearance.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G43	7no Oak	300	10 & 7	8	1	EM	None	Severely pruned on S side to provide highway clearance.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G44	2no Oak	300	10 & 7	8	1	EM	None	Severely pruned on S side to provide highway clearance.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G14	2no Oak	400	10 & 7	8	1	EM	None	Severely pruned on S side to provide highway clearance.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan	None
G46	Common ash	450	17-16	16	2	М	Aged/ancient	Cohesive group of 14 trees with canopy closure. Significant crown dieback.	Fair	Poor	>10	C2	As shown on plan	None

WOODLANDS

Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated average trunk diameter at 1.5m (mm)	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)	ТРО
W1	Ash, horse chestnut, oak, poplar, sycamore, elder, red horse chestnut, hawthorn, field maple, robinia	450	20 & 12	16	2	М	None	Diverse copse containing a number of older oaks. Ash showing symptoms of ash dieback.	Good	Good	40+	A2	As shown on plan	None
W2	Leyland cypress, oak, field maple, hawthorn, sycamore, ash	200	15 & 8	12	1	EM	None	Early mature mixed copse. Ash displaying symptoms of ash dieback.	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
W3	Ash, oak, hawthorn, field maple, elder	200	14 & 7	11	1	EM	None	Early mature copse, ash displaying symptoms of ash dieback.	Fair	Fair	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
W4	Ash, oak, sycamore, field, lime, hawthorn, cherry	200	16 & 9	14	1	EM	None	Early mature copse, ash displaying symptoms of ash dieback.	Good	Fair	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
W5	Oak, goat willow, silver birch, hazel, field maple, aspen, lime, ash, dogwood	250	14 & 12	13	1	EM	None	Woodland planting mix for landscape screening purposes.	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None



Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated average trunk diameter at 1.5m (mm)	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)	ТРО
W6	Oak, goat willow, silver birch, hazel, field maple, aspen, lime, ash, dogwood	250	14 & 12	13	1	EM	None	Woodland planting mix for landscape screening purposes.	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None
W7	Silver birch, oak, goat willow, hawthorn, alder, cherry, dogwood, hazel, aspen, blackthorn	200	12 & 4	9	1	EM	None	Diverse native broadleaf woodland mix	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan	None

HEDGEROWS

Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average trunk diameter (mm)	Estimated average lateral spread (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)
H1	Elder, hawthorn, sycamore, Robinia	8 & 4	6	200	3	0	М	None	Approx 40m section of hedgerow on E side of ditch.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
H2	Hawthorn, elder, willow	6 & 1	3	100	1.5	0	М	None	Gappy hedgeline, predominately made up of hawthorn. In places gaps of up to 5m.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
НЗ	Hawthorn	5 &2	3	100	1.5	0	EM	None	Gappy hedge. In places gaps of up to 5m.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
H4	Hawthorn, elder, willow	7 & 2	4	150	2	0	М	None	Gappy hedgeline, predominately made up of hawthorn. In places gaps of up to 5m.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
Н5	Hawthorn, elder, willow	8 & 2	4	150	2	0	М	None	Gappy hedgeline, predominately made up of hawthorn. In places gaps of up to 5m.	Fair	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
Н6	Hawthorn, cherry, oak	6 & 3	4	150	2	0	EM	None	Dense, early mature hedge.	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
Н7	Hawthorn, elm, field maple	2-1	2	100	1.5	0	EM	None	Reasonable condition.	Good	Good	20	B2	As shown on plan
Н8	Hawthorn, field maple, elder, oak,	8 & 6	8	200	4	0	М	None	Dense hedge/linear tree group.	Good	Good	20	B2	As shown on plan
Н9	Hawthorn	1	1	75	1	0	EM	None	Low hedge, small proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10	C2	As shown on plan
H10	Hazel, hawthorn, field maple, oak, blackthorn	6-3	5	200	2	0	EM	None	Dense mixed species	Good	Good	20	B2	As shown on plan
H11	Hawthorn	4-3	3.5	100	1.5	0	EM	None	Informal planting on far side of railroad.	Fair	Good	10	C2	As shown on plan
H12	Hawthorn, dog rose	4 & 2	3	75	3	0	EM	None	unmanaged with low proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H13	Hawthorn	3 & 2	2.5	75	2	0	EM	None	hedgerow remnant with high proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H14	Hawthorn	3 & 2	2.5	75	2	0	EM	None	hedgerow remnant with high proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H15	Hawthorn	3 & 2	2.5	75	2	0	EM	None	hedgerow remnant with high proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan



Ref	Common names of woody species present	Estimated minimum & maximum heights (m)	Estimated average height (m)	Estimated average trunk diameter (mm)	Estimated average lateral spread (m)	Estimated average canopy height (m)	Life stage	Special status	General observations & management recommendations	Struct. cond.	Phys. cond.	ULE	Quality grading	RPA radius from canopy edge (m)
H16	Hawthorn	3 & 2	25	75	2	0	EM	None	hedgerow remnant with high proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H17	Hawthorn	4 & 2	3	75	3	0	EM	None	hedgerow remnant with high proportion of gaps.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H18	Hawthorn	1.5	1.5	75	1.5	0	М	None	maintained by flailing.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H19	Hawthorn, sycamore	1.5	1.5	75	1.5	0	EM	None	Compact hedge adjacent to access drive to derelict farm. Contains 8 sycamore pollards.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H20	field maple, hazel, dogwood, goat willow, blackthorn, hawthorn	8 & 6	7	100	5	0	EM	None	Diverse roadside hedgerow.	Good	Good	20+	B2	As shown on plan
H21	Hawthorn, hazel, field maple, dog rose	4 & 2	3.5	50	1	0	EM	None	Effective screening for sub station.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan
H22	Hawthorn	3 & 2	2.5	100	2	0	EM	None	Gappy hedge line.	Fair	Good	10+	C2	As shown on plan

KEY

Assessment criteria	Description					
Reference number on plan T: Tree, G: Group, W: Woodland, H: Hedgerow. This reference is recorded on the Tree Survey and Constraints Plan against the relevant survey item.						
Common name (Scientific name)	Common names: normal type. Scientific names where required: italic type in brackets					
Heights	Unit: metres (m). Recorded to the nearest half metre for heights upto 10m and to the nearest whole metre for heights above 10m.					
Stem diameter	Unit: millimetres (mm). Rounded to the nearest 10mm. Single and multi-stemmed trees are measured at 1.5m above highest ground level or otherwise as in accordance with Annex C, BS5837:2012.					
Estimates	Measured tree dimensions are identified by an '-' in the adjacent 'Estimate' column. Where dimensions have been estimated (offsite, or otherwise inaccessible survey items) this is clearly identified by a '#' in the adjacent 'Estimate' column.					
Crown spread	Unit: metres (m). Directions refer to the four compass points (north, east, south, west). Dimensions are rounded-up to the nearest half metre for heights up to 10m and to the nearest whole metre for heights above 10m.					
Estimated average lateral spread	Unit: metres (m). For hedgerows only. An estimate of the average width between branch tips.					
Crown clearance height	 Unit: metres (m). The existing height above ground level of: First significant branch and the compass direction of its growth: North (N), North-east (NE), East (E), South-east (SE) etc. Canopy (height between branch tips and ground level). 					
Life stage	Y – young (stake dependent), SM - Semi-Mature (still capable of being transplanted without preparation, up to 30cm girth and not yet sexually mature), EM – Early Mature (not yet having reached 75% of expected mature size), M – Mature (anything else up to normal life expectancy for the species), OM – Over Mature (anything beyond mature and in natural decline), V – Veteran, A - Ancient (any tree displaying characteristics described by the Ancient Tree Forum and referenced by Natural England).					
Special status	 None Veteran: any tree judged to meet criteria as defined by the Ancient Tree Forum Ancient: any tree judged to meet criteria as defined by the Ancient Tree Forum1 					
General observations and preliminary management recommendations	General observations are recorded in relation to a survey item's structural and/or physiological condition (eg the presence of any decay and physical defect) and /or any preliminary management recommendations that may be appropriate.					

¹ LONSDALE, D. (Ed). Ancient and other veteran trees: further guidance on management. The Tree Council. London. 2013.



Assessment criteria	Description								
	Good: without any observable significant biomechnical structural weaknesses								
Structural condition	Fair: with minor biomechanical structural flaws. Some remedial action may be required								
	Poor:with significant biomechanical weaknesses requiring intervention particularly where risk management is required.								
	Good: no indications of impaired physiological function and in optimum condition for age and species								
Physiological condition	Fair: with indicators of reduced vitality. Some intervention may be required								
	Poor: with significantly impaired physiological function for age and species								
Remaining contribution Useful life expectancy, or the length of time a tree's is estimated to be able to make a useful contribution, is expressed in years as: <10, 10+, 20+, 40+.									
	Assessed in accordance with Table 1, BS5837:2012. Colours relate to depiction on the Tree Constraints Plan.								
	Category A (Green) Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of 40 years								
	Category B (Blue) Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.								
Quality grading	Category C (Grey) Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.								
	• Category U (Red) Unsuitable for retention. Trees in such a poor condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.								
	Note - A, B and C trees are also given a sub-category of 1, 2 or 3 which reflects their arboricultural, landscape or cultural and conservation values respectively. Each subcategory has an equal weight, for								
	example an A1 tree has the same retention priority as an A3 tree. More than one sub-category may be applied to a survey item as appropriate.								
RPA radius	Root Protection Area (RPA): a layout design tool. Unit: metres (m). Radial distance from tree centre to define a circle that indicates on the Tree Survey Plan the minimum rooting area required to								
RPATadius	maintain tree's viability. Calculated in accordance with Annex D, BS5837:2012								
RPA area	Unit: square metres (m²). The area of the RPA radius circle described above. Applies only to individual trees.								



APPENDIX 2 – ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND TREE PROTECTION PLAN



