



ARBORICULTURAL REPORT & Impact Assessment to BS 5837:2012 at:

***97 Tithebarn Road,
Prescot,
L34 0EY***

Date: *November 2023*

Reference: *AWA5730*



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1. Introduction

1.1 Instructions and Brief

- 1.1.1 We have been instructed by Hanna Winiarska to visit the site and prepare our findings in a report.
- 1.1.2 The report is required in accordance with BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, to provide detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the context of potential development.

1.2 Survey Details

- 1.2.1 The survey took place during November 2023.
- 1.2.2 The trees were surveyed visually from the ground using “Visual Tree Assessment” techniques and in accordance with the guiding principles of British Standard 5837:2012.
- 1.2.3 Any additional off-site trees that could impact a new development design have been included in the tree survey parameters.
- 1.2.4 The tree positions were plotted on an Ordnance Survey map base-layer using enhanced GPS technology (1-2m accuracy) and laser distance measurer.
- 1.2.5 This report has been prepared by Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MArborA, Principal and Director of AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.
- 1.2.6 The tree survey data collection was carried out by Lucy Garbutt, MSc, BSc (Hons), Arboriculturist at AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.
- 1.2.7 Full qualifications and experience are included within **Appendix 1**. Explanatory details regarding the survey methodology are included within **Appendix 2**. A full explanation of the tree data can be found at **Appendix 3**. Full details of all the trees surveyed are found in **Appendix 4**. For tree locations please refer to the Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix 5** and for detail of the impacts of the new development refer to the Tree Impacts Plan at **Appendix 6**.

2. The Site

2.1 Location and Description

- 2.1.1 The site is located on Tithebarn Road, which is located in Prescott, Merseyside, and comprises a detached house with associated front and rear gardens.
- 2.1.2 The approximate area of the survey is highlighted in the (2022 Google Earth) image below:



3. The Trees

3.1 Legal

- 3.1.1 The following advice is for guidance purposes only. Some trees are protected by legislation, and it is essential that the legal status of trees is established prior to carrying out works to them. Unauthorised work to protected trees could lead to prosecution, resulting in enforcement action such as fines or a criminal record. Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas, Planning Conditions, Felling Licences or Restrictive Covenants legally protect many trees in the UK.
- 3.1.2 An online search was undertaken with Knowsley Council on 17/11/23 to check whether any trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are located within a Conservation Area. As of this date no trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area.
- 3.1.3 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, before authorising any tree works a further check should be made with the Local Planning Authority to confirm if any trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area. If either applies, then statutory permission is required before any works can take place (unless such work is approved as part of full planning permission).
- 3.1.4 The Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website was used to search for areas of ancient woodlands listed on the Ancient Woodland (DEFRA 2021), and a check for catalogued Ancient and Veteran trees using the woodland trust ancient tree inventory (ATI) (Woodland Trust 2021).
- 3.1.5 It was confirmed that there are no designated ancient woodlands or veteran or ancient trees within the survey area.
- 3.1.6 Trees provide a wide range of habitats for many species, some of which are legally protected such as bats, nesting birds, badgers and dormice. It is essential that appropriate care is taken to ensure that this legislation is not contravened.
- 3.1.7 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should be used, who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance.
- 3.1.8 All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

3.2 Tree Survey Results

- 3.2.1 The tree survey revealed 7 items of woody vegetation, comprised of 6 individual trees and 1 hedge.
- 3.2.2 Of the surveyed trees: 1 tree is retention category 'B' and 5 trees and 1 hedge are retention category 'C' (explanatory details regarding the retention categories are included at Appendix 3).
- 3.2.3 Full details of the surveyed trees and hedge are provided in the attached tree data schedule at Appendix 4. General comments are provided below:
- 3.2.4 The only significant tree cover within the site itself consists of a Cypress hedge, G1, that spans the boundary of the site and provides a good level of screening from adjacent properties. The hedge has been planted within a raised bed which is approximately 1m higher than the site itself and has been maintained through regular pruning and management.
- 3.2.5 Species diversity at the site is good. Within the site itself there is only Cypress, but adjacent to the site, are a group of planted street trees which are mostly Cherry and Silver Birch, with one Douglas Fir.
- 3.2.6 Trees at the site are mostly semi-mature with only the occasional early mature tree.
- 3.2.7 The sites most significant tree is adjacent T7, a Douglas Fir. T7 is an early-mature planted street tree situated within a planting area to the rear of the site. T7 is in good condition and is prominent within the surrounding area. T7 has good long term prospects and has moderate amenity value, and as such it is a retention category 'B' tree.
- 3.2.8 Silver Birch T4 is situated within a planting area adjacent to the site. T4 is in fair condition and has been heavily pruned to clear away from the nearby road and lamp post.
- 3.2.9 Cherries T5 and T6 are both in fair condition, with limited long term prospects as a result. Cherry T5 has moderate dieback in the crown with recent ground disturbance to the east close to the stem. Cherry T7 has a long bark wound on the stem with some decay.
- 3.2.10 The remaining trees within the site are of particularly low value and should not pose any significant constraint on the development potential of the site.
- 3.2.11 Some trees were covered in dense Ivy or were inaccessible (as detailed in Appendix 4). In such cases measurements were estimated and the condition values are indicative only.
- 3.2.12 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree has been plotted as a

polygon centred on the base of the stem. Due to the presence of roads, structures, topography (and past tree management) the RPA is likely to be a simplified representation of the tree roots actual morphology and disposition. However, detailed modifications to the shape of the RPA would largely be based on conjecture and so have been avoided.

- 3.2.13 Some lower value tree, hedge and shrub groups do not have RPAs detailed on tree plans. The detailed extent and spread of these low value groups, in conjunction with the tree schedule, is sufficient to assess the associated potential constraints.

3.3 Photographs



Photo 1: G1 from north west.



Photo 2: G1 from south east.



Photo 3: T3 from south east.



Photo 4: T3, T4 and T5 from east.



Photo 5: T6 from west.



Photo 6: T7 from north west.

4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

4.1 Proposed New Development

- 4.1.1 It is proposed to extend the existing detached property, remove the existing swimming pool and alter the existing parking. The development proposals have been provided by my client and inform this arboricultural impact assessment and the Tree Impacts Plan at Appendix 6.

4.2 Direct Impacts

- 4.2.1 From assessing the new development proposals, 1 hedge will require partial removal to facilitate the development as it is situated in the footprint of the development.
- 4.2.2 The hedge that requires partial removal to facilitate the development is G1.
- 4.2.3 The hedge to be partially removed is a low value, retention category 'C' group. The hedge should tolerate the partial removal with little to no impact on its long-term health. Due to the low value of the hedge to be removed the works will have only a negligible negative arboricultural impact.

4.3 Indirect Impacts

- 4.3.1 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) detailed on the Tree Plans at Appendices 5 and 6, has been used as a layout design tool, to inform on the area around a tree where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.
- 4.3.2 No significant negative indirect impacts have been identified to the retained trees and hedge at the site.
- 4.3.3 The design of the new development has considered the trees crown position in relation to the dwelling. Some shade from trees may be beneficial. In particular, deciduous trees give shade in summer but allow access to sunlight in winter. However, the design proposals avoid excessive shading, and give adequate provision for future tree growth.
- 4.3.4 The buildability of the proposed development has been assessed in terms of access, adequate working space and provision for the storage of materials, including topsoil, in relation to the trees.

4.4 Suitable Mitigation

- 4.4.1 The development of the site provides an excellent opportunity to undertake new tree planting throughout the site as part of a soft landscaping scheme. As such, suitable new tree planting has the potential

to mitigate for the required tree removals and, in the longer term, has the potential to improve the sites tree cover.

4.5 Protection of the Retained Trees

- 4.5.1 An associated Arboricultural Method Statement, detailing protective fencing specifications and construction methods close to the retained trees has been provided (Ref: AWA5730AMS).

5. Signature

I trust this report provides all the required information.

Signed



.....

Adam Winson, *Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, ACIEEM*

21st November 2023

**AWA Tree Consultants Limited
Union Forge
27 Mowbray Street
Sheffield
S3 8EN**

www.awatrees.com



Institute of
Chartered Foresters
Registered Consultant

Appendices

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications and Experience

Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations

Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

Appendix 4: Tree Data

Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan

Appendix 6: Tree Impacts Plan

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications & Experience

Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MARborA, ACIEEM, QTRA Registered

Adam is the company Director and Principal Consultant. He has a mix of the highest-level academic qualifications and relevant work experience. He has worked within the tree care profession for over 20 years and was awarded an MSc in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, with distinction. Adam is a Chartered Arboriculturist and a Registered Consultant with the Institute of Chartered Foresters, a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association and he has original research published by the UK Forestry Commission. His work ranges from individual expert tree inspections to managing trees on major infrastructure projects. His work often involves trees with preservation orders or litigation, and he has appeared as a tree expert, at planning appeal hearings up to the crown court. Adam also regularly undertakes locum Tree Officer work for several Local Planning Authorities.

James Brown, BSc (Hons) Arboriculture, MARborA, PTI (Lantra), QTRA Registered

James is a highly experienced and qualified Arboricultural Consultant. He has a BSc (Hons) in Arboriculture, attaining first class honours, as well as being awarded the Institute of Chartered Foresters student award. He is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association, an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, and he is working towards becoming a Chartered Arboriculturist. James joined AWA in 2016, he has many years' experience as an Arboricultural Consultant, he previously worked in Europe's largest container tree nursery and he has experience of local authority Tree Officer work.

James Godfrey, BA (Hons), FdSc Arboriculture and Tree Management, TechArborA, PTI (Lantra), QTRA Registered

James has had extensive arboricultural experience working as an arborist within the public and private sector. While working at AWA, James completed his FdSc in Arboriculture and Tree Management, graduating with a distinction and was also awarded for achieving the highest overall mark in his year. James has used his arboricultural knowledge to inform and carry out accurate tree surveys and produce detailed reports that aim to balance appropriate tree retention with the requirements of landowners.

Joe Thomas, MSci Biology, Award L4 Arboriculture, TechArborA, QTRA Registered

Joe achieved a first class degree in Biology with an integrated Masters (MSci) from the University of Sheffield. Additionally, he has a Level 4 Award in Arboriculture. Joe joined AWA after an Urban Forestry role with the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust and Sheffield City Council, where he gained a variety of experience in different aspects of the arboriculture sector.

Lucy Garbutt, MSc Animal Behaviour, BSc (Hons) Biology, CIEEM membership

Lucy graduated with a masters degree in Animal Behaviour from the UK's highest rated university, St Andrews of Scotland, immediately following the completion of her BSc degree in Biology from Lancaster University. Lucy has experience in botany and plant science and moved into arboriculture after previous experience of protected species and botanical surveys with a large environmental consulting company.

Sophie Beckerman, BA (Hons), Dip Arboriculture Level 4, TechArborA

Sophie has more than 10 years' experience as an arborist, working for a variety of private companies as well as undertaking tree management with Sheffield City Council Ranger Service and The Wildlife Trust. Her expertise in arboriculture is demonstrated in the practical NPTC qualifications gained, and her excellent knowledge is reflected in the L4 diploma in Arboriculture, which she completed while working. Her roles as a climbing arborist and team leader included estimating for jobs and project management, supervising tree contracting teams - ensuring that work is carried out safely and efficiently and that health and safety standards are adhered to, and risk assessments are carried out.

Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations

The survey was undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*. The trees were assessed objectively and without reference to any proposed site layout. The trees were surveyed from the ground using 'Visual Tree Assessment' (VTA) methodology. VTA is appropriate and is endorsed by industry guidance. It is used by arboriculturists to evaluate the structural integrity of a tree, relying on observation of trees biomechanical and physiological features. Measurements are obtained using a diameter tape, clinometer, laser distometer and loggers tape. Where this is not practical measurements are estimated. Tree groups have been identified in instances as defined in BS 5837:2012. Shrubs and insignificant trees may have been omitted from the survey.

This report represents a BS 5837:2012 tree survey and should not be accepted as a detailed tree safety inspection report; however, tree related hazards are recorded and commented upon where observed, yet no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. All recommended tree work must be to BS 3998:2010 - '*Tree Work: Recommendations*'.

The findings and recommendations contained within this report are valid for a period of twelve months from the date of survey. The author shall not be responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which were not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with these guidelines and terms.

Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

HEIGHT of the tree is measured from the stem base in metres. Where the ground has a significant slope the higher ground is selected.

CROWN HEIGHT is an indication of the average height at which the crown begins.

STEM DIAMETER is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed at this point; the diameter is measured close to ground level or else a combined stem diameter is calculated.

CROWN SPREAD is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches in all four cardinal points.

AGE CLASS of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, or over-mature.

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair, poor, or dead. This is an indication of the health of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.

STRUCTURAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair or poor. This is an indication of the structural integrity of the tree and takes into account significant wounds, decay and quality of branch junctions.

LIFE EXPECTANCY is classed as; less than 10 years, 10-20 years, 20-40 years, or more than 40 years. This is an indication of the number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.

Retention Categories

A (marked in green on Appendix 5) = retention most desirable. These trees are of very high quality and value with a good life expectancy.

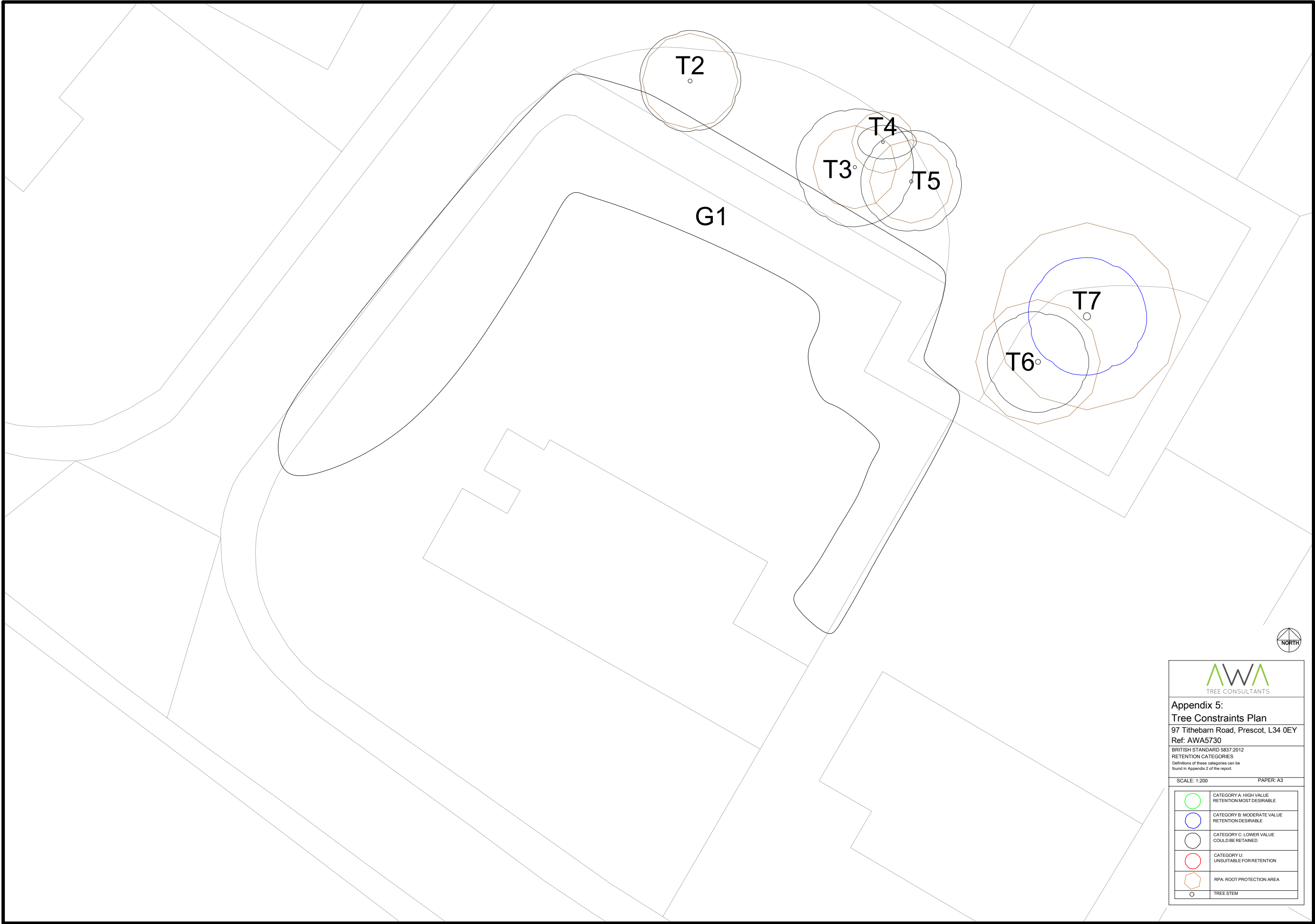
B (marked in blue on Appendix 5) = retention desirable. These trees are of good quality and value with a significant life expectancy.

C (marked in grey on Appendix 5) = trees which could be retained. These trees are of low or average quality and value, and are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established.

U (marked in red on Appendix 5) = trees unsuitable for retention. These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years.

Tree Species				Measurements			Crown (m)				Tree Condition							Value		Management			
Tree ID	Common Name	Latin Name		Maturity	Height (m)	Stems	Stem Diameter (mm)	Estimated	Crown height	N	E	S	W	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Physiological	Structural	Life Expectancy	Amenity	Category	Works
	G1	Cypress	Cupressus sp.	Early-mature	8	10 +	300 avg.	Yes	1.5	See plan.				Cypress hedge. Situated within raised bed approx 1m above site. Some stems ivy covered				Good	Good	>40 yrs	Moderate	C	Partial removal required to facilitate the development.
	T2	Cherry	Prunus sp.	Semi-mature	6	1	230	No	2	3	3	3	3	Exposed roots	Single stemmed. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Epicormic growths	Old pruning wounds. Minor dieback. Minor deadwood	Within planting area adjacent to the site.	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Low	C	No works required.
	T3	Silver Birch	Betula pendula	Semi-mature	6	1	200	No	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	No visual defects	Single stemmed. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Epicormic growths	Old pruning wounds. Minor dieback. Minor deadwood	Within planting area adjacent to the site.	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Low	C	No works required.
	T4	Silver Birch	Betula pendula	Semi-mature	14	1	150	No	2.5	1	2	1	1.5	No visual defects	Single stemmed. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Epicormic growths	Old pruning wounds. Minor dieback. Minor deadwood	Crown in contact with nearby lamp post. Heavily pruned and crown reduced. Within planting area adjacent to the site.	Fair	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	No works required.
	T5	Cherry	Prunus sp.	Semi-mature	6	1	200	No	2	3	3	3	3	No visual defects	Single stemmed. Old pruning wounds. Epicormic growths	Old pruning wounds. Moderate dieback. Minor deadwood	Ground disturbance to east at base. Within planting area adjacent to the site.	Fair	Fair	10 to 20 yrs	Low	C	No works required.

Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)				Tree Condition							Value		Management		
Tree ID	Common Name	Latin Name	Maturity	Height (m)	Stems	Stem Diameter (mm)	Estimated	Crown height	N	E	S	W	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Physiological	Structural	Life Expectancy	Amenity	Category	Works
T6	Cherry	Prunus sp.	Semi-mature	7	1	300	No	2.5	3	3	3	3	Fungus. Exposed roots	Single stemmed. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Epicormic growths. Minor cavity	Old pruning wounds. Minor dieback. Minor deadwood	Bark wound on stem with some decay. Within planting area adjacent to the site.	Fair	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	No works required.
T7	Douglas Fir	Pseudotsuga menziesii	Early-mature	16	1	450	No	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Exposed roots	Single stemmed. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Epicormic growths	Old pruning wounds. Minor dieback. Minor deadwood	Within planting area adjacent to the site.	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Moderate	B	No works required.



Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan	
97 Tithebarn Road, Prescot, L34 0EY Ref: AWA5730	
BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012 RETENTION CATEGORIES Definitions of these categories can be found in Appendix 2 of the report.	
SCALE: 1:200	PAPER: A3
	CATEGORY A: HIGH VALUE RETENTION MOST DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY B: MODERATE VALUE RETENTION DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY C: LOWER VALUE COULD BE RETAINED
	CATEGORY U: UNSUITABLE FOR RETENTION
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM



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**Appendix 6:
Tree Impacts Plan**

97 Tithebarn Road, Prescot, L34 0EY
Ref: AWA5730
BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A3

Green Circle	TREE TO BE RETAINED
Orange Circle	TREE TO BE REMOVED
Orange Polygon	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
Small Circle	TREE STEM