

## **ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**For**

**The Construction of an Extension to an  
Existing Dwelling House**

**At**

41 Longview Drive,  
Huyton L36 6EA

**or Submission to**  
Knowsley Council

**On the Instructions of:**  
Mr John Wood

**Report Ref:**  
DTCL.310.AIA.2023

**Report Date:**  
11 September 2023



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## **Disclaimers**

### **General - Trees**

Unless otherwise stated tree inspections have been undertaken from ground level and using non-invasive techniques only. Comments on the condition and safety of any tree relate to the condition of the tree at the time of survey. It should be recognised that tree condition is subject to change due to, for example, the effects of disease, wind, or nearby development works. Changes in land use are also significant in respect of risk assessment. Trees should therefore be inspected at intervals relative to identified site risks.

Unless otherwise specified, no checks have been carried out in respect of statutory controls that may apply, e.g., Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas or planning conditions. In addition, prior to undertaking any tree works, it is necessary to ensure due diligence is followed in respect of protected species and habitats.

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## 1 Introduction & Background

- 1.1 A planning application for consent to construct an extension to an existing dwelling house at 41 Longview Drive, Huyton L36 6EA has been submitted to Knowsley Council. The Council has expressed concern that because there is a mature apple tree on the site and that the building works would be within the root protection area (RPA) of the tree, and this could cause damage to the tree. Consequently, the Council has requested an arboricultural impact assessment report, (AIA) before it can determine the application.
- 1.2 This report is an AIA report that assesses the possible impacts of the proposed development on existing tree and sets out tree protection measures in line with the guidance contained in BS5837 2012 '*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction: Recommendations*'.

## 2 The Site & Surroundings

- 2.1 The site is located on Longview Drive, in Huyton L36 6EA. It fronts on to Longview Drive to the south and is in an established residential area, (Photograph 1)

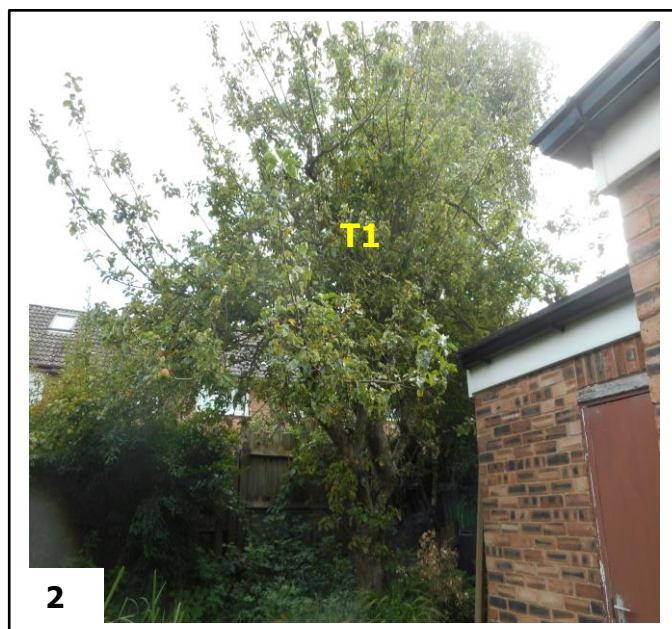


**Photo 1:** An aerial view of the site, edged in red, taken from Google Maps™ dated June 2022. The tree is shown by the yellow circle.

- 2.2 The access for the building works would be through the existing garage.

### 3 The Tree -Impacts

- 3.1 There is a single tree on the site, **T1**, which is a mature apple tree, (*Malus* spp), located in the rear garden close to the gable wall of the existing garage, (Photograph 2). It has a stem diameter of 310 mm and is approximately 7 m in height with a crown diameter of 7 m.



**Photo 2:** A view of the apple tree (**T1**) looking north from the existing house. Note that it needs pruning to reshape and balance the crown.

- 3.2 The tree has been classified using the BS5837 'Standard Cascade Chart for Tree Quality' which are colour coded as follows:

Trees unsuitable for retention – Category **U**'; and

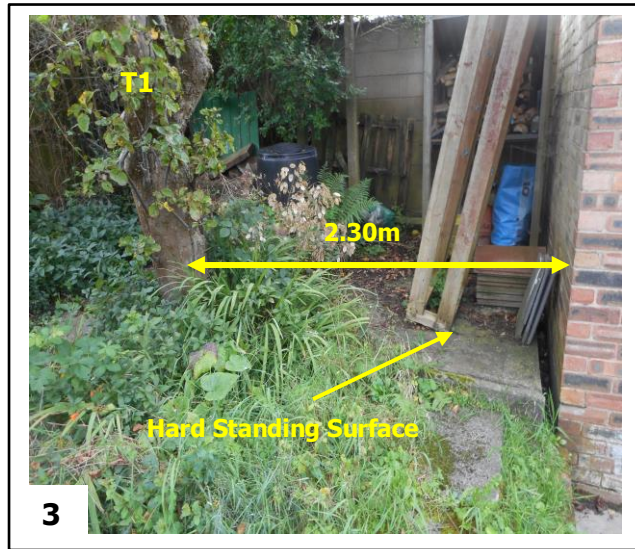
Trees to be considered for retention – Categories **A**, **B** & **C**'.

The apple tree, **T1**, has been categorised as '**B1**', '*trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition, e.g., the presence of significant though rectifiable defects, including unsympathetic past management or storm damage, such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation*'.

- 3.3 It is proposed to reduce the crown of the tree by 2 m all around to reshape and balance the crown. This can be achieved by directional pruning to prevent regrowth towards the garage.

### 3 The Tree -Impacts (Continued)

- 3.4 With a stem diameter of 310 mm would dictate that the root protection area with a nominal circle radius of 3.60 m and a total RPA of 41 m<sup>2</sup>. The tree is located at 2.30 m from the existing structure and 4.76 m from the closest part of the proposed extension. In addition, the area between the apple tree and the gable of the existing garage is a hard surface, (Photograph 3).



**Photo 3:** A view of the proximity of the apple tree (**T1**) to the gable of the existing garage. Note the existing hard standing between the tree and the garage.

- 3.5 The apple (**T1**) is 4.76 m from the closest point of the proposed extension; therefore, the proposed extension is outside the RPA of the tree and construction works would not impact on the tree root zone. However, the tree needs to be protected during the construction phase.

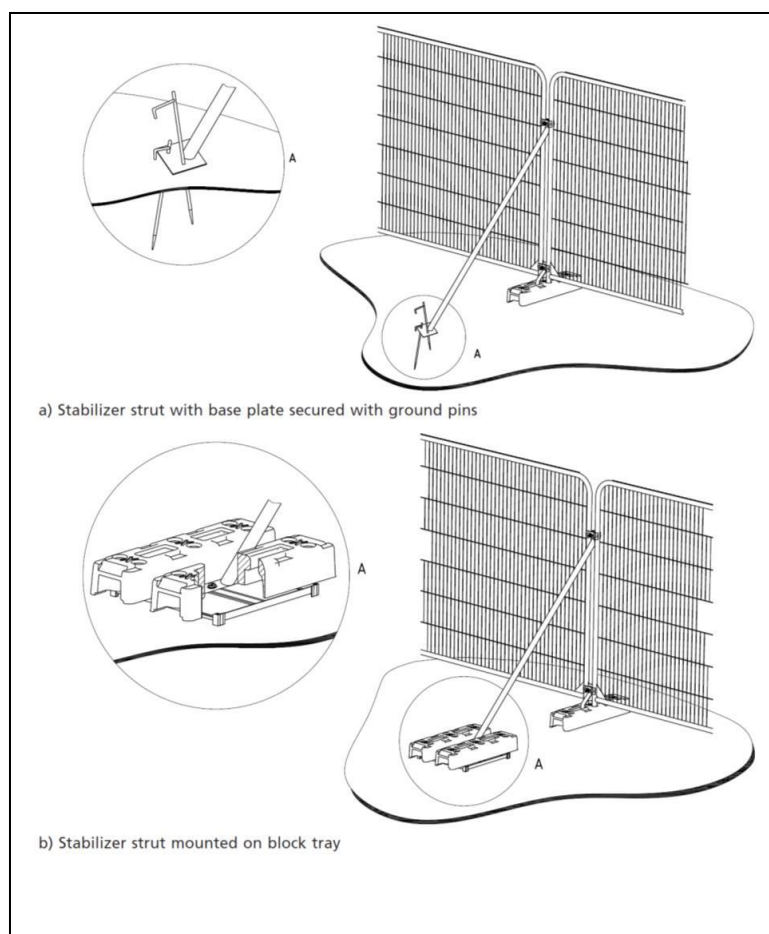
### 3.6 Tree Protection During Development

- 3.6.1 The apple tree **T1** would be protected from development impacts. Any impacts would be mitigated by creating a construction exclusion zone (CEZ) around the tree and preventing any construction works or activity from taking place inside the CEZ. The CEZ would be defined by protective fencing that conforms to that specified in BS5837: 2012, as shown in Figure 1 and Photograph 4. The location of the protective fencing is shown on drawing DTCL.310.AIA. 2023.TS.01.

### 3 The Tree -Impacts (Continued)

#### 3.6 Tree Protection During Development (Continued)

**Figure 1** - Protective Fencing Construction – As per BS5837: 2012



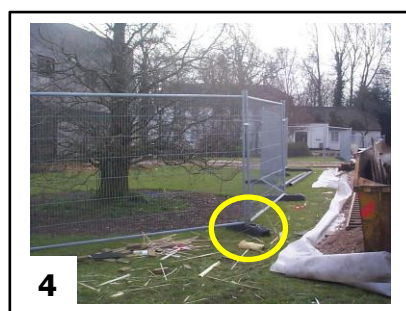
Specification: Fence panels shall be 2m high x 3m long.

As Heras® type fencing can be easily moved, it must be mounted on rubber or concrete base plates and secured, in order to provide semi-permanent protection using stabilizing struts and base plates and the Heras sections secured by 'U-Bolts' or Scaffold Clamps.

The fencing will be further identified by 'Tree Protection' warning signs.

### 3 The Tree -Impacts (Continued)

#### 3.6 Trees Protection during Development (Continued)



**Photo 4:** A view of protective fencing to protect a single tree. The ground block/base plate is shown by the yellow circle.

#### 3.7 Underground Services

- 3.7.1 The underground service for the proposed extension, i.e., drains, electricity, gas, water, and telecoms, would not impact the root zone of **T1**. The services would be connected to the existing services to the house which are routed under the access driveway to Longview Drive.

## 4 Conclusions & Recommendations

It is concluded that:

- 4.1 There is one mature tree, an apple **T1**, on the site which would be pruned to reshape and balance the crown. The apple tree would be retained and protected during the development.
- 4.2 The retained tree would be protected within construction zones (CEZ's) defined by protective fencing as specified within BS5837: 2012 '*Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction – Recommendations*'.
- 4.3 The installation of underground services would have no impact upon the retained tree.

It is recommended that:

- 4.4 It is respectfully submitted that there are no arboricultural reasons to refuse planning consent and that permission should be granted subject to condition(s) specifying tree protection measures.

Attachments: Drawing Number DTCL.3110.AIA.TS01

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**11 September 2023**





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