

Land North of Arborfield Road,
Shinfield

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

February 2026
12017_AIA.001 Rev C

Project Details	
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Contents

Text:

Executive Summary 1

1 Introduction 2

2 Statutory Designations 4

3 Policy Review 4

4 Arboricultural Impact 8

5 Conclusions..... 12

5 Recommendations..... 12

Tables:

Table 1	Net Tree Removals by BS5837:2012 Category.
Table 2	RPA encroachments by type and extent.

Figures:

Figure 1	Appendix D: South of the M4 SDL.
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Appendices:

Appendix A	Tree Constraints Plan	12017 TCP 01 Rev A
Appendix B	Tree Survey Schedule	12017 TS 01
Appendix C	Tree Protection Plan	12017 TPP 01 Rev D
Appendix D	Tree Survey Methodology	12017 TSM 01

Executive Summary

- i) **Introduction:** Aspect Arboriculture are commissioned by Bellway Homes Limited (Thames Valley) to prepare an Arboricultural Survey and Impact Assessment relating to the proposed residential development of Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield.
- ii) **Proposals:** The proposals comprise a 'Full planning application for the erection of new dwellings, open space, landscaping, supporting infrastructure and associated works.'
- iii) **Surveys:** The site was surveyed by Aspect in May 2024 following the guidance contained within BS5837:2012. Copies of the tree survey information are available within appendices A and B.
- iv) **Statutory Designations:** Background checks reveal that the site does not occur within a Conservation Area and that no trees within influence of the site are afforded protection by a Tree Preservation Order.
- v) **Arboricultural Impact:** Based on the proposed layout, the arboricultural impact amounts to the clearance of three tree groups and one agricultural hedgerow, and the additional partial clearance of a further three tree groups and lapsed agricultural hedgerow. Of the proposed removals two of the tree groups and one hedgerow have been recognised as BS5837:2012 category U owing to the overwhelming level of dead components throughout, and their clearance would be recommended irrespective of any development proposals. Landscape Proposals (submitted separately) have been prepared which seek to compensate for these losses and enhance the long-term amenity of the setting. A preliminary tree protection drawing is appended to this document that demonstrates the deliverability of safeguarding measures for retained trees. Conclusions drawn against the Framework, Wokingham Borough Council and Shinfield Parish council's development control policies, conclude that on balance, the principle of the proposed development can be supported from the arboricultural perspective, subject to the provision of replacement planting and the adoption of safeguards during construction.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background & Proposals

- 1.1.1 Aspect Arboriculture are commissioned by Bellway Homes Limited (Thames Valley) to prepare an Arboricultural Survey and Impact Assessment relating to the proposed residential development of Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield.
- 1.1.2 The proposals comprise a 'Full planning application for the erection of new dwellings, open space, landscaping, supporting infrastructure and associated works.'

1.2 Purpose of the Report

- 1.2.1 This report documents the quality and value of existing trees on the application site and what, if any, constraint they impose on the development proposals. By reference to the baseline tree survey, it evaluates the direct and residual effect of the final scheme proposals and provides a review of mitigation and enhancement measures. The baseline arboricultural survey can be reviewed at Appendix A and B.

1.3 Site Overview

- 1.3.1 The application area falls within the administrative control of Wokingham Borough Council, comprising c.7ha of agricultural land situated directly north of Arborfield Road. The wider area has been subject to noticeable change over the past decade; with the introduction of the Shinfield Eastern Relief Road (opened October 2017), which runs adjacent to the application area's eastern boundary, and the adjoining Phase 1 of the Cutbush residential development to the north. Abutting the entirety of the site's western periphery are the private residential curtilages associated with Oatlands Road.
- 1.3.2 Wokingham Borough Council's Local Plan Update: Revised Growth Strategy Consultation (Nov 2021-Jan 2022), was prepared to seek views on an updated approach to managing development across the borough until 2037/38. Section 5.0 Strategic Development Locations, para 5.19; identifies the land north of Arborfield Road, Shinfield, for 191 new dwellings.
- 1.3.3 As a consequence of the application area's existing agricultural usage, the extant tree assemblage is confined to the site boundaries. Accordingly, public appreciation is currently limited to views from the surrounding highways and the private residential curtilages of Oatlands Road. Notwithstanding this, following completion and occupancy of Phase 1 of the Cutbush development, access and readily available views of the trees within the application area's northern boundary are anticipated to be enhanced.

1.4 Existing Tree Stock

- 1.4.1 The survey provides a record of the extant tree cover by way of thirty-four trees of individual distinction, seventeen groups of trees, and four hedgerows. They have all been considered in full during the design stages of the project per the guidance provided within BS5837:2012.
- 1.4.2 The application site's northern boundary contains a number of moderate and high-quality trees which collectively provide a positive contribution towards the amenity of the area. Throughout this cohort there are three English Oak¹ of particular significance. All three are considered to be large examples of their species, especially in comparison to their companions. Accordingly, they are recognised as notable trees with the capability of developing future veteran status, satisfying the criteria to warrant the highest BS5837:2012 classification; category A. Whilst the trees do not currently benefit from protection under a TPO, the proposed layout design has progressed under the presumption the designation should or will be enforced; as a precautionary measure to realise this, a Veteran Tree Buffer, fifteen times the stem diameter has been applied to the trees.
- 1.4.3 Also, of particular importance is a False Acacia², situated outside of the site's western boundary under third party ownership. Considered to be a good example of its type, recognised for an established form and visual prominence, it also satisfies the criteria to warrant BS5837:2012 category A.
- 1.4.4 The northern perimeter cohort contains a further seven English Oak³ of secondary importance. They provide a positive contribution to the setting and verdant nature of the field boundary and are capable of long-term retention, although lacking the special quality necessary to attract the highest classification. They are accordingly afforded BS5837:2012 category B.
- 1.4.5 An additional single Sycamore and Atlas Cedar⁴ have also been recognised for their positive contribution to the area. As with the aforementioned False Acacia, they too are situated outside of the application area's western boundary under third party ownership. They provide a maturity to the setting and possess all the attributes necessary to qualify for BS5837:2012 category B.
- 1.4.6 The remaining assemblage offers little by way of individual merit. Comprising low quality trees in varying states of decline and of reduced future potential, unremarkable domestic and highway buffer plantings, low quality self-set specimens, and parcels of colonising scrub. In the main, they represent inferior examples of their type and are considered to be of only transient value by virtue of their limited contribution to the setting, subsequently warranting category C only.

¹ T1 English Oak, T11 English Oak and T13 English Oak

² T33 False Acacia

³ T2 English Oak, T3 English Oak, T4 English Oak, T5 English Oak, T8 English Oak, T9 English Oak and T10 English Oak

⁴ T20 Sycamore and T25 Atlas Cedar

- 1.4.7 There are two individual trees, two groups of trees and a hedgerow⁵ which are incompatible with the existing setting. T30, G7, G13 and H2's reduced outlook and significant, irreversible decline, and T14's serious, irremediable structural defect due to partial collapse, warrant BS53837:2012 category U. Subsequently, their removal is recommended irrespective of any development proposals.

2 Statutory Designations

2.1 Conservation Area

- 2.1.1 Background checks have confirmed that the site does not occur within a Conservation Area (Wokingham Borough Council, cited February 2026). Accordingly, the amenity value of the trees is not elevated to preserving or enhancing any unique or distinctive interest linked to the setting.

2.2 Tree Preservation Orders

- 2.2.1 Background checks have confirmed that the site is not influenced by a Tree Preservation Order (Wokingham Borough Council, cited February 2026). However, whilst no trees are currently afforded protection by a TPO, it is considered that a number of the assemblage situated throughout the application area's northern boundary do fulfil the criteria to be so. Accordingly, the iterative process has been informed as if these trees were already protected.

3 Policy Review

3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework

- 3.1.1 The NPPF (December 2024) provides planning policy guidance at a National level. With respect to arboriculture, four paragraphs are of particular relevance.
- 3.1.2 Paragraph 136 of the Framework sets out aspirations to secure increased tree cover within new developments, comprising both new tree planting, and the retention of existing trees where possible: *'Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.'*
- 3.1.3 Building upon paragraph 136, the Framework also considers that: *'decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural*

⁵ [T14] Crack Willow, [T30] Laburnum, [G7] Elder, Elm, Hawthorn, [G13] Elm and [H2] Elder, Elm, Hawthorn

capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;’ (para 187b).’

3.1.4 In respect of Veteran Trees and Ancient Woodland, paragraph 193c requires that development proposals award particular consideration to these important features, stating that: *‘development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists.’*

3.1.5 In addition, paragraph 193d also emphasises the benefit that can be secured through the provision of public access to, and resultant appreciation of, retained tree cover, stating: *‘...opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can... enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.’*

3.2 Wokingham Borough Council

3.2.1 In terms of development control at a local level, Wokingham Borough Council has a statutory obligation to ensure adequate provision is made for the preservation of trees through Section 197 of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990). The Adopted Core Strategy Development Plan Document (adopted January 2010) within the Wokingham Borough Local Development Framework, the Adopted Managing Development Delivery Local Plan (adopted February 2014) within the Wokingham Borough Development Plan and the Shinfield Parish Neighbourhood Plan (adopted January 2017) are understood to be the Council’s current primary development control documents; from the Core Strategy Policies CP1 and CP3, from the Local Plan Policies CC03 and TB21, and from the Shinfield Parish Neighbourhood Plan Policies 2 and 6 set out the Council’s tests considered relevant to trees in the context of development (relevant parts reproduced below).

3.2.2 **Policy CP1:** Sustainable Development:

‘Planning permission will be granted for development proposals that:

1) Maintain or enhance the high quality of the environment.’

3.2.3 We consider trees to be a reasonable inclusion because they add to the high quality of the site’s environment.

3.2.4 **Policy CP3:** General Principles for Development:

‘Planning permission will be granted for proposals that:

a) Are of an appropriate scale of activity, mass, layout, built form, height, materials and character to the area together with a high quality of design without detriment to the amenities of adjoining land users including open spaces or occupiers and their quality of life;

c) Have no detrimental impact upon important ecological, heritage, landscape (including river valleys) or geological features or water courses.

d) Maintain or enhance the ability of the site to support fauna and flora including protected species.'

3.2.5 Policy CC03: Green Infrastructure, Trees and Landscaping:

'2. Development proposals should demonstrate how they have considered and achieved the following criteria within scheme proposals:

a) Provide new or protect and enhance the Borough's Green Infrastructure networks, including the need to mitigate potential impacts of new development

d) Protect and retain existing trees, hedges and other landscape features

e) Incorporate high quality, ideally, native planting and landscaping as an integral part of the scheme.

3. Development proposals which would result in the loss, fragmentation or isolation of areas of green infrastructure will not be acceptable.'

3.2.6 Policy TB21: Landscape Character

'2. Proposals shall retain or enhance the condition, character and features that contribute to the landscape.'

3.2.7 Policy 2: General Design Principles

'In new residential developments, provision of an appropriate mix of size, built form and garden size, including style, design and character, will be supported in order to provide variation within a scheme, as long as this respects local distinctiveness and creates safe and sustainable environments. This can be achieved through the use of locally distinctive materials, differing layouts and positioning of dwellings, and the retention of existing trees, and provision of new trees, within new gardens and in the public realm.

Development proposals should demonstrate how they have considered and achieved the following criteria within the scheme proposals:

5) Provision of appropriately high quality and high specification sustainable landscape works and tree planting, particularly at settlement boundaries, in the public realm and along designated green routes and green route enhancement areas (existing and proposed;

7) Design of road and service layouts to ensure the sustainable retention, where appropriate, of existing landscape features, including trees and historic landscape features, and to allow space for new sustainable landscape works without the need for maintenance and upgrades to services damaging landscape works, as they mature.'

3.2.8 Policy 6: Trees, Hedgerows and Woodland

'New build development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:

- 1) Hedgerows which are appropriate for retention, as determined by the assessment of a survey of affected hedgerows to be carried out by the developer, due to their age or ecological value or in order to screen other development or land use, will have a buffer zone of sufficient width to ensure that the value provided by that hedgerow (as determined by the survey) is adequately preserved. Any buffer zone will be measured from the central stem of the hedge and will be comprised, usually on both sides, of soft landscaping that excludes any residential curtilage;*
- 2) Habitats of Principal Importance in England (Section 41 Habitats under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)), which are appropriate for retention and which are shown to have significant ecological importance as determined by the assessment of a survey of affected habitats to be carried out by the developer, will have a buffer zone of sufficient width to preserve the ecological value (as determined by the survey). This will be comprised of soft landscaping that excludes any residential curtilage. Where habitats meet the description of a section 41 Habitat type and are being retained but do not currently support significant ecological value, the developer should, where possible, put forward proposed management or other enhancement measures to improve the future ecological value of that habitat;*
- 3) Ancient Woodlands, Local Wildlife Sites and ponds which are appropriate for retention, as determined by the assessment of a survey of affected woodlands, wildlife sites or ponds to be carried out by the developer, will have a buffer zone of sufficient width to preserve the ecological value of that feature. For Ancient Woodlands, buffers should normally be of a minimum 15m width in accordance with Natural England's Standing Guidance for Ancient Woodlands, except where surveys identify the need for additional width to address a particular sensitivity, or where an alternative width can be justified under paragraph 118 of the NPPF. The optimal composition of buffers will vary depending on the feature being protected, but for Ancient Woodland will normally include an element of native woodland and scrub planting that grades into other habitats such as tall flower-rich grasslands, which excludes any residential curtilage;*
- 4) All buffer zones should consist of appropriate native species and where appropriate should be designed in such a way as to encourage public access and enjoyment of the zone and with appropriate provision for its maintenance.'*

3.2.9 It is acknowledged that Wokingham Borough Council's current Local Plans, the Core Strategy and Managing Development Delivery Plans, were designed to manage development until 2026. The Local Plan Update: Revised Growth Strategy Consultation (Nov 2021-Jan 2022), was prepared to seek views on an updated approach to managing development across the borough until 2037/38. Section 5.0 Strategic Development Locations, para 5.19; identifies the land north of Arborfield Road, Shinfield, for 191 new dwellings (illustrated within Figure 1 overleaf).

3.2.10 Figure 1: Appendix D: South of the M4 SDL.



4 Arboricultural Impact

4.1 Tree Removals⁶

4.1.1 Trees are recommended for removal where: a) it is necessary and unavoidable to site development within proximity to them, such that they cannot be confidently retained in the long-term as living features, and/or b), where the amenity value will be significantly reduced as a result of the proposals, particularly if already of a low retention priority.

4.1.2 The extent of tree loss necessary to accommodate the proposed development is detailed within Table 1 (below). Removals can be quantified as the clearance of two tree groups and one agricultural hedgerow, and the additional partial clearance of a further three tree groups and lapsed agricultural hedgerow.

4.1.3 **Table 1: Net Tree Removals by BS5837 Category.**

Category A	Category B	Category C
None	None	G5+Δ
		G11+
		G14+Δ
		G17+Δ
		H3+Δ

+ Denotes assemblage of three or more species (refer to appendix B)

Δ Denotes partial removal of tree group

4.1.4 Not included within Table 1 above are G7⁷, G13⁸ and H2⁹. Whilst their removal is required to implement the proposed development, clearance is recommended irrespective of any proposals on account of their significantly diminished outlook as an arboricultural feature owing to the overwhelming level of standing dead components occurring throughout.

⁶ All tree works should be timed to avoid the main nesting season for birds between 1st March and 31st August. If scheduled within this period it is recommended that an ecologist is present to advise on any necessary protective measures, and on hand to confirm that tree works are not likely to cause disturbance to nesting birds.

⁷ [G7] Young to Semi Mature Elder, Elm and Hawthorn

⁸ [G13] Semi Mature Elm

⁹ [H2] Young to Semi Mature Elder, Elm and Hawthorn

4.1.5 In addition to the trees and hedgerow detailed in paragraph 4.1.4, there are a further two individual trees that have been recognised as BS5837:2012 category U¹⁰. In the case of T30 clearance is proposed on account of a significant irreversible level of decline, whilst T14's state of partial collapse is considered irremediable; therefore, their removal is recommended regardless of any development proposals.

4.1.6 The removals detailed within Table 1 are necessary to make efficient use of the site. Where clearance is unavoidable, the layout design has focused on young to semi mature, unremarkable, or low-quality trees that provide limited contribution to the amenity or appearance of the setting. It will therefore be possible to compensate for their loss through the provision of replacement planting of a comparable scale and assemblage.

4.2 Vulnerable Trees

4.2.1 The development proposals unavoidably necessitate minor works within the RPAs of three trees, a group of trees, and one hedgerow: comprising small areas of excavation to facilitate the construction of garage footings and realignment of Arborfield Road, and the introduction of new above soil hard surfacing to form a base for Arborfield Road's associated footpath and proposed cycle stores. In the main, the extent of RPA encroachment is considered to be within acceptable limits for the trees to tolerate. Where RPA incursions are unavoidable, effective strategies to safeguard trees during construction are proposed to manage the effect on their root systems; these are described in more detail below and illustrated within appendix C, the type and extent of encroachment is detailed within Table 2 below.

4.2.2 **Table 2:** RPA encroachments by type and extent.

Tree No.	Supervised Excavation (m ² /%)		Above Soil Surfacing (m ² /%)	
T15	1.3m ²	1.8%	18.2m ²	25.3%
T20			1.0m ²	0.4%
T23			0.5m ²	0.9%
G16	1.2m ²	N/A	18.2m ²	N/A
H4			0.6m ²	N/A

4.2.3 Where excavation is required within the RPAs of T15 and G16 they are particularly small areas on the periphery of the RPAs where the presence of large diameter roots is not expected. Furthermore, there is available land conducive to root growth contiguous with the RPA that far exceeds the footprint of excavation required. Notwithstanding this, it is recommended that all excavation works are undertaken sensitively under direct arboricultural supervision. The preferred method of excavation is to utilise compressed air via an Air Spade. This approach will minimise the risk of damage and allow for all rooting material to be exposed prior to making any decision regarding severance, as per guidance set out within BS5837:2012 clause 7.2, or retaining within the undisturbed RPA. Under this scenario the excavations are

¹⁰ [T14] Crack Willow and [T30] Laburnum

considered to be achievable without any undue concern for the future health, vitality or stability of the trees.

4.2.4 Where proposed new hard surfacing is to be introduced above the existing soil profile, a cellular confinement system (CellWeb or similar) is an appropriate and robust solution for founding the new hard surface. This approach will prevent RPA compaction and minimise requirements for excavation, precluding the associated risk of root severance.

4.2.5 In the case of T15, it is noted that cumulative footprint of new hard surfacing to be introduced amounts to 27.1% of the overall RPA coverage, which exceeds levels set out within clause 7.4.2.3 of BS5837:2012. However, it is pertinent to note that there are equivalent areas of undisturbed soft landscape contiguous with the tree's RPA which will be capable of supporting root recovery, and mitigation opportunities exist to enhance the soil environment of the remaining parts of the RPA. In this instance the proposals have proceeded to retain T15; the alternative would be to remove the tree, which could be viewed as a premature decision which overlooks the tree's capacity to respond to mitigation.

4.2.6 Where trees are to receive new hard surfacing, it is recommended that installation is carried out in conjunction with decompaction and soil improvement measures. Decompaction should occur within the areas contiguous to the RPA and during the subsequent growing season, the retained portion of RPA should receive a one-off soil drench application to apply key nutrients. These measures are considered prudent for promoting future root development.

4.3 Pruning Works¹¹

4.3.1 To provide sufficient working room to facilitate construction of garages and cycle stores along the site's western boundary it will be necessary to crown lift the eastern canopies of T16, T23 and G16. The exact extent of pruning should be determined onsite; however, it is anticipated to amount to the shortening of secondary branches only and to be achievable without detriment to their health or amenity value. Pruning works should be undertaken in accordance with section 7.6 (for crown lifting) of BS3998:2010, by a competent tree contractor.

4.3.2 Although not required to accommodate the proposals, it is recommended that dead branches are removed from the canopies of the retained trees where oversailing areas of high use (within the applicant's control). This will help mitigate the risk of future tree related hazards emerging and associated apprehension. Pruning works should be undertaken in accordance with section 7.3 (for removal of deadwood) of BS3998:2010, by a competent tree contractor.

¹¹ All tree works should be timed to avoid the main nesting season for birds between 1st March and 31st August. If scheduled within this period it is recommended that an ecologist is present to advise on any necessary protective measures, and on hand to confirm that tree works are not likely to cause disturbance to nesting birds.

4.4 Protective Barriers

- 4.4.1 It will be important to protect retained trees' above-ground structures and underlying RPAs from damage during construction. To achieve this, tree protection barriers should be erected prior to the commencement of any works in the locations illustrated with a blue line within the appendix C and consist of the default specification set out within BS5837:2012 clause 6.2.2.
- 4.4.2 It will be necessary to relocate tree protection barriers to a secondary position when installing proposed new features within the RPAs of T15, T20, T23, G16 and H4. Where this is necessary secondary positions are illustrated within appendix C with a dotted pink line.

4.5 Compensation Replanting

- 4.5.1 The principle of tree removal generates a requirement for replacement planting, which has been recognised during the design stage. Accordingly, the proposed layout has been designed to provide opportunities for incorporating new and replacement trees throughout the site.
- 4.5.2 The submitted Planting Plan sets out an approach that compensates for the tree removals and further enhances throughout areas of open space along the site's northern, eastern and southern boundaries, and within a central play area. Throughout these spaces large canopy bearing species can be readily introduced without concern regarding their ultimate size and associated residual pressure at maturity.
- 4.5.3 Within the proposed residential parcel, areas available to receive tree planting are unavoidably slightly more restricted. Throughout this part of the development planting will generally occur as tree lined streets or within incidental pockets of soft landscaping; comprising species suitable for the setting that soften the built form and create a verdant street scene, commensurate to NPPF aspirations.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1.1 Pursuant to Wokingham Borough Council's Policy requirements, the proposals have been informed by a survey of the existing tree stock using the guidance provided at BS5837:2012.
- 5.1.2 The impact of the proposed development on trees has been reduced as far as is practical to ensure an efficient use of the site. Where tree removal is unavoidable, the layout design has focused on the clearance of young to semi mature, low-quality trees that can be compensated for with new plantings of comparable scale and assemblage.
- 5.1.3 Planting proposals are provided that seek to introduce a greater canopy area than that to be removed that will strengthen and enhance the existing boundary tree cover and soften the development with the introduction of tree lined streets.
- 5.1.4 A preliminary scheme for safeguarding retained trees has been prepared which relies on the use of standard barrier techniques and appropriate construction methodologies and mitigation measures. The application of these provides a high degree of technical confidence that the proposals will not result in harm to the site's important tree cover and ensure long term retention.
- 5.1.5 In conclusion, it is considered that the principle of the proposed development responds appropriately to the arboricultural constraints. The retention and future protection of the site's most important arboricultural assets is evident, pursuant to Wokingham Borough Council and Shinfield Parish Council's Policies CP1, CP3, CC03, TB21, 2 and 6, and the Framework. Therefore, on balance the proposals can be supported from the arboricultural perspective.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1.1 A detailed Arboricultural Method Statement supported by 1:500 scale technical drawings should be prepared which expand on appendix C, this could be secured by Condition. Details of proposed levels and service routes should be included; a scheme for auditing tree protection and subsequent reporting to the Council should feature explicitly throughout.

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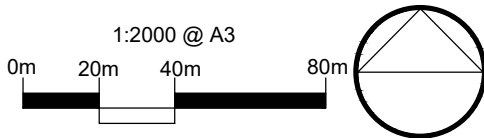
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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN (12017 TCP 01 Rev A)



- KEY:
- Site Boundary
 - Tree Numbers
 - Tree Canopies
 - Category 'U' Trees
 - Category 'A' RPA
 - Category 'B' RPA
 - Category 'C' RPA
 - Shading Arc
 - Veteran Buffer

Note: Trees 1-13, 23, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, groups G1-G3, G15, G16 and hedgerow H1 have been plotted using measurements onsite in conjunction with aerial imagery. Their locations were not recorded on the topographical survey of the site (drawing ref: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg).

Note: The RPA footprint for Trees 13, 15, 17 and 18 have been displaced to allow for the effect of the adopted highway and existing building foundations. The surface area of the RPA has not been reduced.



Client: Bell Homes Limited

REV	DATE	NOTE	Drawn	Chk'd
REVISIONS				

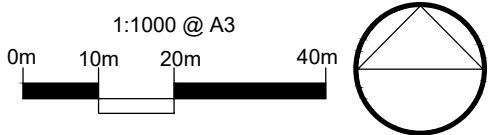
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TITLE
Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield
Tree Constraints Plan

CLIENT
Bell Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

SCALE 1:2000 @ A3	DATE AUG 2024	DRAWN JH
DRAWING NUMBER 12017 TCP 01 Rev A (Overview)		REVISION A

Based on: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg



- KEY:**
- Site Boundary
 - Tree Numbers
 - Tree Canopies
 - Category 'U' Trees
 - Category 'A' RPA
 - Category 'B' RPA
 - Category 'C' RPA
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REV	DATE	NOTE	Drawn	Chk'd

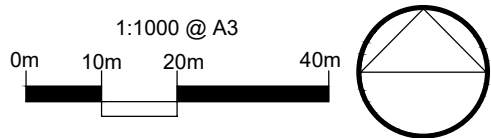
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TITLE
Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield
Tree Constraints Plan

CLIENT
Bellway Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

SCALE 1:1000 @ A3	DATE AUG 2024	DRAWN JH
DRAWING NUMBER 12017 TCP 01 Rev A (1/2)	REVISION A	

Based on: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg



- KEY:**
- Site Boundary
 - Tree Numbers
 - Tree Canopies
 - Category 'U' Trees
 - Category 'A' RPA
 - Category 'B' RPA
 - Category 'C' RPA
 - Shading Arc
 - Veteran Buffer

Note: Trees 1-13, 23, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, groups G1-G3, G15, G16 and hedgerow H1 have been plotted using measurements onsite in conjunction with aerial imagery. Their locations were not recorded on the topographical survey of the site (drawing ref: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg).

Note: The RPA footprint for Trees 13, 15, 17 and 18 have been displaced to allow for the effect of the adopted highway and existing building foundations. The surface area of the RPA has not been reduced.



REV	DATE	NOTE	Drawn	Chk'd

aspect arboriculture

TITLE
Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield
Tree Constraints Plan

CLIENT
Bellway Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

SCALE 1:1000 @ A3	DATE AUG 2024	DRAWN JH
DRAWING NUMBER 12017 TCP 01 Rev A (2/2)	REVISION A	

Based on: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg

APPENDIX B

TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE (12017 TS 01)

**BS 5837:2012 Tree Schedule: Land North of Arborfield Rd,
Shinfield**

Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
1	English Oak	1205	12	6.5	5.25	5.5	4		3	1.75	Notable	Below Average	Poor	Previously heavily reduced Large cavity in northern aspect of trunk, extensive hollowing within with suspected fire damage Large diameter deadwood throughout crown Prominent boundary feature Recommend PICUS investigation to determine extent of dysfunctional wood Considered to be of Notable status with capability of developing into Veteran, high arboricultural value	A12	14.4 18.1 VTB
2	English Oak	740 oi	12	8.25	3.75	7.5	7.25		2.5	2.5	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Moderate example of species Moderate collective value	B12	9
3	English Oak	790 oi	15.5	9.5	5.75	10.25	9.5		2.5	2.5	Early Mature	Below Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Slightly sparse crown for species Average internal deadwood with large diameter in lower crown Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Moderate example of species Moderate collective value	B12	9.6
4	English Oak	970 oi	16.5	12.5	6.75	11.5	8.75		3.5	2.5	Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Prominent boundary feature Moderate example of species	B12	11.7
5	English Oak	690 oi	16	7.75	7.75	8.25	5.5		2	1.5	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Moderate example of species Moderate collective value	B12	8.4
6	English Oak	635	12	9	6.25	7.5	7.5		2	1.75	Early Mature	Below Average	Indifferent	Above average internal deadwood Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Sparse crown for species Dieback to upper crown Tip dieback Appears to be in a state of decline Low arboricultural quality	C1	7.5
7	English Oak	735 oi	14	7.5	3.75	8.5	6.5		3.5	3	Early Mature	Below Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Above average internal deadwood Sparse crown for species Dieback to upper crown Appears to be in a state of decline Low arboricultural quality	C1	8.7
8	English Oak	730 oi	16	7.25	7.25	9.75	5.25		2.25	2	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Moderate example of species Moderate collective value	B12	8.7

Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
9	English Oak	930	17	7.75	8.25	10	7.25		3.25	4	Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Above average internal deadwood Occasional large diameter deadwood in lower crown Previous pruning to lower crown to crown lift Moderate example of species Moderate collective value	B12	11.1
10	English Oak	670 oi	15	7.25	6	7.75	5		2.25	2.25	Early Mature	Below Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Slightly sparse crown for species Mutually suppressed and cohesive with companions Moderate collective value	B2	8.1
11	English Oak	1250	13	6.75	4	6.25	6.75		3.5	3	Notable	Below Average	Poor	Extensive burring on all aspects of trunk Previous unsympathetic pruning to crown Minor impact damage to surface roots Extensive dieback to crown Epicormic growth in lower crown forms bulk of live crown Areas of bark staining on northern and western aspects of trunk Considered to be of Notable status with capability of developing into Veteran, high arboricultural value	A12	15 18.8 VTB
12	Hybrid Black Poplar	440 350 390	20	6.25	7.75	4.25	3.25		3	1.75	Early Mature	Average	Poor	Multi stemmed from ground level, unions tight and included to c.1.5m Leans east from ground level Low arboricultural quality	C1	8.1
13	English Oak	1315 oi	9.5	5.75	6#	5.75	6.75		2	2.5	Notable	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Squat canopy form Minor dieback to tips Average internal deadwood with large diameter in lower crown Extensive burring on all aspects of trunk Minor cavities between buttress flares Considered to be of Notable status with capability of developing into Veteran, high arboricultural value	A12	15 19.7 VTB
14	Crack Willow	3*700 1000 #	14	9.75	9#	10.25	8.25		1.5	0	Over Mature	Average	Hazardous	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially collapsed at base Multi stemmed from c.1m Hazardous structural condition, unsuitable for retention	U	N/A
15	Lime	400#	13#					4.5#	1#	1#	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Stem inaccessible due to dense understory Radial crown measurement due to restricted access Situating within roadside verge Unremarkable example of species	C1	4.8
16	Tree of Heaven	150 2*130 #	5.5					3.25	0.5	2.5	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Ornamental planting Previously topped Unremarkable example of species	C12	3.9

Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
17	Sycamore	2*100#	5					2#	1.5#	1.5#	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Partially obscured by bramble, unable to thoroughly inspect Stem inaccessible due to dense understory Appears self set Low arboricultural quality	C12	1.8
18	Sycamore	130#	6#					3#	1.5#	1.5#	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Partially obscured by bramble, unable to thoroughly inspect Stem inaccessible due to dense understory Appears self set Low arboricultural quality	C12	1.5
19	Walnut	200#	5#					3#	1.75#	2#	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Unsympathetic pruning to crown Low arboricultural quality	C12	2.4
20	Sycamore	3*450#	16					8	3#	3#	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Appears to be multi stemmed from c.1m Moderate example of species	B1	9.3
21	Crack Willow	450 2*320 #	10.5					8.75	3.5	0.5	Early Mature	Average	Poor	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Structure appears typical for species within current context	C1	7.8
22	Buddleia	5*100#	5					4	0.5	0.5	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Stem inaccessible due to dense understory Appears to be situated on site boundary Low arboricultural quality	C12	2.7
23	Lawson Cypress	350#	10					4.25	1.5#	1.5#	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Structure appears typical for species within current context Unremarkable example of species	C1	4.2
24	Lawson Cypress	320	10					5.25	1.5#	1.5#	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Structure appears typical for species within current context Unremarkable example of species	C1	3.9
25	Atlas Cedar	520#	12					7.5	2.5#	1	Early Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Structure appears typical for species within current context Moderate example of species	B1	6.3
26	False Acacia	200#	8	3#	6.25	3#	0.5#		3.75	1.5	Semi Mature	Average	Poor	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land Leans east from ground level Low arboricultural quality	C1	2.4

Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
27	False Acacia	280 250 120 80 #	11					7.25	1.75	1.5	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land Low arboricultural quality	C1	4.8
28	False Acacia	170 135	9.5	4.25	5.25	3	1.5#		1.75	1.5	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Situated on site boundary Low arboricultural quality	C12	2.7
29	False Acacia	155	9.5	3.25	4.75	3	1#		0.25	1	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Situated on site boundary Low arboricultural quality	C12	1.8
30	Laburnum	2*160 300 oi	6	3	4	3#	0.5		2#	3	Early Mature	Below Average	Poor	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land Leans east from ground level Extensive dieback to crown Unsympathetic pruning to lower crown Unlikely to offer long term contribution	U	N/A
31	False Acacia	135	6	4#	4.25	2.25	1#		1.5	1	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Low arboricultural quality	C12	1.5
32	False Acacia	100 180 #	9	4#	3.5	1#	2#		3	4#	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Low arboricultural quality	C12	2.4
33	False Acacia	1000#	16					8#	2#	5.25 over site	Mature	Average	Indifferent	Clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land Well balanced radial crown and scaffold structure Good example of species	A1	12
34	False Acacia	300#	9					5	1.5	1.75	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Partially obscured by bramble, unable to thoroughly inspect Stem inaccessible due to dense understory Radial crown measurement due to restricted access Unremarkable example of species	C1	3.6
G1	Leyland Cypress	220 av	6 av					3.25 av	0.5 av	0.5av	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Parcel of Leyland Cypress to west of PROW Limited access due to dense understory Structures appear typical for species within current context Unremarkable collection	C12	2.7
G2	Field Maple Yew Holly Blackthorn Hazel Cherry Laurel Hawthorn English Oak	420 av	11.5 av					5 av	2 av	3 av	Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to poor	Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Structures appear typical for species within current context Cohesive collection of established specimens and self set scrub Oak components appear to be in decline Unremarkable collection	C12	5.1

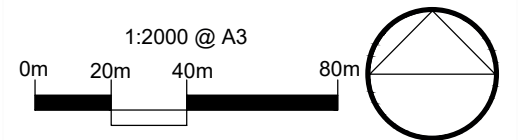
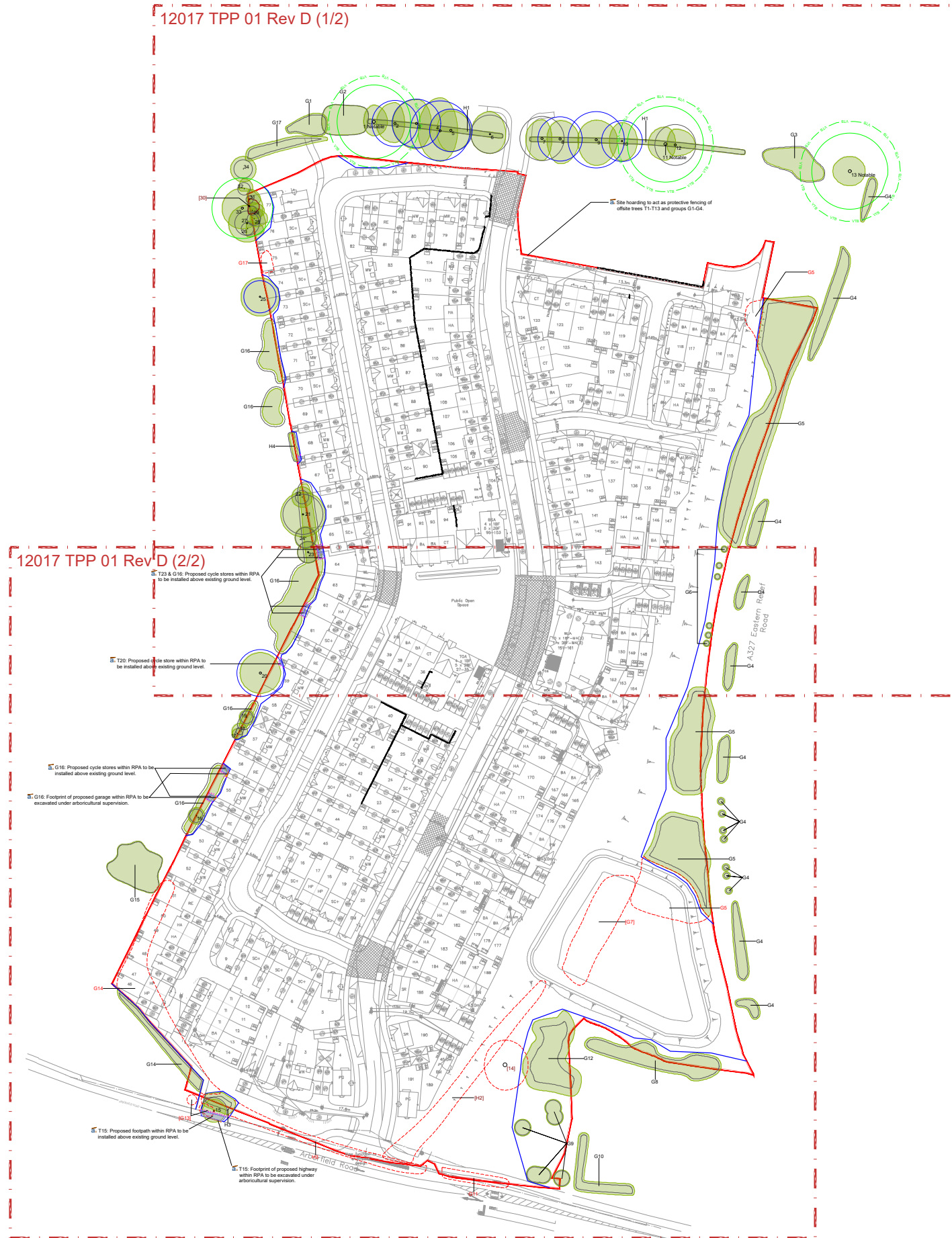
Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
G3	English Oak Field Maple Hawthorn	610 max	8 max					6.75 max	2 av	2 av	Semi Mature to Early Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Parcel of lapsed hedgerow components and 1no. early mature English Oak Unremarkable collection	C12	7.2
G4	Blackthorn Cherry Field Maple Hazel Rowan	75 av	4 av					1.5 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young	Average	Indifferent	Intermittent collection of highway buffer plantings Structures appear typical for species within current context Unremarkable collection	C12	0.9
G5	Alder Crack Willow Goat Willow Hawthorn White Willow	160 av	9 av					3.5 av	1 av	1 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Cohesive collection of highway buffer plantings with self set scrub understory Limited access due to dense understory Occasional standing dead occurring throughout Structures appear typical for species within current context Collection appears to be both on and offsite Unremarkable collection	C12	1.8
G6	Alder	65 max	5.5 max					1.25 max	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young	Average	Indifferent	Collection of young Alder Unremarkable collection	C12	0.9
G7	Elder Elm Hawthorn	145 av	6 av					2.5av	1 to 3	0.5 to 3.5	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Collection composed of predominantly dead Elm with occasional Hawthorn and Elder Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy and Bramble, unable to thoroughly inspect	U	N/A
G8	Apple Blackthorn Cherry Plum Elder Hawthorn	100# av	6 av					2 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Intermittent collection of scrub Unremarkable collection	C12	1.2
G9	Ash	2*180# av	10 av					3.25 av	2 av	2 av	Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Parcels of self set Ash Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Structures appear typical for species within current context Unremarkable collection	C12	3

Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
G10	Blackthorn Cherry Plum Hawthorn Leyland Cypress	100# av	5 av					2 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Cohesive collection lining access track, appears to be offsite Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Unremarkable collection	C12	1.2
G11	Elder Elm	90 av	6 av					3 av	0.5 av	1 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Cohesive collection of scrub and lapsed hedgerow components lining site boundary Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Beginning to interfere with overhead utilities Unremarkable collection	C12	1.2
G12	Crack Willow	250# av	12.5 av					6 av	1# av	1# av	Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Limited access due to dense understory Components predominantly clad and obscured by Ivy, unable to thoroughly inspect Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Occasional standing dead occurring throughout Collection composed of predominately low value individuals	C12	3
G13	Elm	150# av	5 av					2 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Semi Mature	Dead	Hazardous	Collection of dead Elm Failed components within	U	N/A
G14	Buddleia Elder Hawthorn Hazel Plum Privet	75 av	4 av					1.5 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young	Below Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Limited access due to dense understory Partially clad and obscured by Bramble Dense collection of scrub and Bramble Unremarkable collection	C12	0.9
G15	Apple Norway Maple Purple Plum	350# max	12# max					4# av	1# av	1# av	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Surveyed from a distance Collection of domestic ornamental plantings Unremarkable collection	C12	4.2

Tree Number	Common Species Name	Trunk Diameter (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)					First Significant Branch (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
				N	E	S	W	Radial								
G16	Beech													Inaccessible, offsite within neighbouring residential land, unable to thoroughly inspect Parcels of domestic ornamental plantings Unremarkable collection	C12	1.8 av 4.8 max
	Elaeagnus															
	Hawthorn															
	Pear															
	Privet															
	Rowan															
	Silver Birch															
	Cherry plum	150# av	6# av													
	Got willow							4# av	1# av	1#av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor			
	Buddleia	400# max	10# max													
	Sycamore															
	English Oak															
	Lawson Cypress															
	Elder															
	Copper Beech															
	Holly															
	Japanese Maple															
	Ceanothus															
G17	Blackthorn							1.75 max	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young	Average	Indifferent	Parcel of cohesive colonising scrub Unremarkable collection	C12	0.9
	English Oak	75 max	4.5 max													
	Field Maple															
H1	Blackthorn													Partially maintained hedgerow spanning both sides of stream Occasionally intermittent Occasional self set specimen within Unremarkable collection	C12	0.9
	Cherry Laurel															
	Elder	75 av	2 av					1 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor			
	Hawthorn															
	Hazel															
	Holly															
H2	Elder Elm Hawthorn	75# av	5.5 max					1.5 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Intermittent collection of lapsed hedgerow components Very high level of dead Elm components within	U	N/A
H3	Blackthorn Elm Field Maple Hawthorn Hazel	75# av	4 av					2.5 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Young to Semi Mature	Average to Below Average	Indifferent to Poor	Previously maintained field boundary hedgerow Unremarkable collection	C12	0.9
H4	Cherry Laurel	120# av	3 av					1 av	0.5 av	0.5 av	Semi Mature	Average	Indifferent	Maintained domestic hedgerow Unremarkable collection	C12	1.5

APPENDIX C

TREE PROTECTION PLAN (12017 TPP 01 Rev D)



KEY:

- Site Boundary
- Tree Numbers
- Tree Canopies
- Category 'U' Trees
- Category 'A' RPA
- Category 'B' RPA
- Category 'C' RPA
- Veteran Buffer
- Trees to be Removed
- Tree Protection Barrier
- Tree Protection Barrier (2nd Position)
- Supervised Excavation
- Above Soil Surfacing

Note: Trees 1-13, 23, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, groups G1-G3, G15, G16 and hedgerow H1 have been plotted using measurements onsite in conjunction with aerial imagery. Their locations were not recorded on the topographical survey of the site (drawing ref: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg).

Note: The RPA footprint for Trees 13, 15, 17 and 18 have been displaced to allow for the effect of the adopted highway and existing building foundations. The surface area of the RPA has not been reduced.



Client: Bell Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

REV	DATE	NOTE	Drawn	Chk'd
REVISIONS				

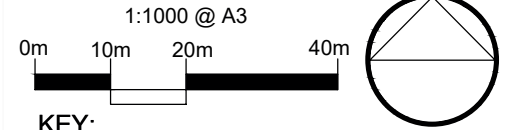
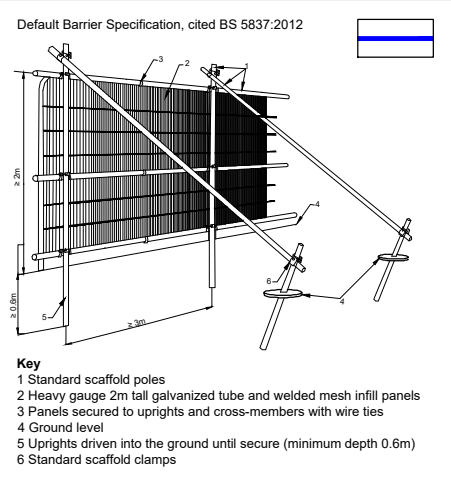
aspect arboriculture

TITLE
Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield
Tree Protection Plan

CLIENT
Bell Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

SCALE	DATE	DRAWN
1:2000 @ A3	FEB 2026	JH/GW
DRAWING NUMBER	REVISION	
12017 TPP 01 Rev D (Overview)	D	

Based on: 022307-BEL-TV-01 - REV G - PRELIM - 06.01.25.dwg
HD008-006-P7 Proposed Access Arrangement.dwg



KEY:

- Site Boundary
- Tree Numbers
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- Category 'U' Trees
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Client: Bellway Homes Limited

REV	DATE	NOTE	Drawn	Chk'd
REVISIONS				

aspect arboriculture

TITLE
Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield
Tree Protection Plan

CLIENT
Bellway Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

SCALE 1:1000 @ A3	DATE FEB 2026	DRAWN JH/GW
DRAWING NUMBER 12017 TPP 01 Rev D (1/2)	REVISION D	

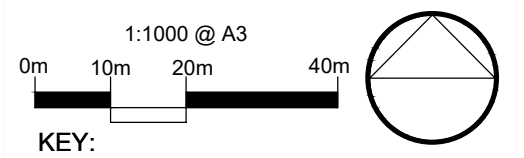
Based on: 022307-BEL-TV-01 - REV G - PRELIM - 06.01.25.dwg
HD008-006-P7 Proposed Access Arrangement.dwg



a. Site hoarding to act as protective fencing of offsite trees T1-T13 and groups G1-G4.

a. T23 & G16: Proposed cycle stores within RPA to be installed above existing ground level.

a. T20: Proposed cycle store within RPA to be installed above existing ground level.



- KEY:**
- Site Boundary
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 - Category 'U' Trees
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Note: Trees 1-13, 23, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, groups G1-G3, G15, G16 and hedgerow H1 have been plotted using measurements onsite in conjunction with aerial imagery. Their locations were not recorded on the topographical survey of the site (drawing ref: 3064-Land North of Arborfield Road (PS) REV B.dwg).

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REV	DATE	NOTE	Drawn	Chk'd

aspect arboriculture

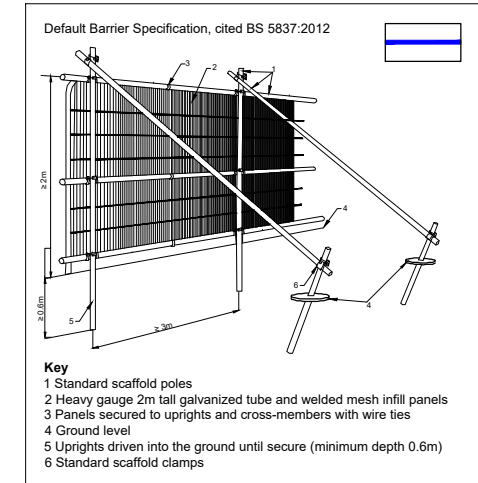
TITLE
Land North of Arborfield Road, Shinfield
Tree Protection Plan

CLIENT
Bellway Homes Limited (Thames Valley)

SCALE 1:1000 @ A3	DATE FEB 2026	DRAWN JH/GW
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DRAWING NUMBER 12017 TPP 01 Rev D (2/2)	REVISION D
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Based on: 022307-BEL-TV-01 - REV G - PRELIM - 06.01.25.dwg
HD008-006-P7 Proposed Access Arrangement.dwg



APPENDIX D

TREE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Tree Survey Methodology

The tree survey is a form of Visual Tree Assessment undertaken during May 2024. Tree locations are identified via a topographical survey; locations of any trees excluded from the topographical survey were plotted on site. The purpose of the survey is to record information about trees on or adjacent to the site to inform design options. In keeping with clause 4.4 of BS5837: 2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Construction and Demolition', the survey provides a record of the following parameters:

Tree Numbers: all individual trees are sequentially numbered. Groups of trees, woodlands and hedgerow are also sequentially numbered with a corresponding prefix relevant to their type e.g. G, W or H respectively; the identification of trees as woodland, groups of trees or within hedgerows is undertaken where appropriate. The identification of trees as individuals within collections has been made where it is considered sensible to make such a differentiation.

Species: listed by common name

Stem Diameter: given in millimetres and obtained by measuring single/multiple stems at 1.5m using a diameter tape in accordance with Annex C within BS5837:2012. Diameters of inaccessible trunks are estimated and provided with the suffix '#'.

Tree Heights: determined using a clinometer and measured to the nearest 500mm. Heights are estimated where specific triangulation is not achievable and by reference to measured trees nearby (provided with the suffix '#').

Crown Spreads: measured at cardinal points using a Leica Disto™ laser distance measurer. Measurements were recorded to the nearest 250mm. Inaccessible crown spreads are estimated based on measured canopies nearby and provided with the suffix '#'

Crown Clearance: The height of the first significant living branch and/or canopy (as appropriate) is recorded using a Leica Disto™ laser distance measurer to inform vertical ground clearance. Crown clearance may be higher or lower than the first significant branch. Estimated clearances are provided with the suffix '#'. Height of first significant branch will be provided where considered advantageous to make the distinction.

Life Stage – The age of trees, groups of trees, hedges and woodlands are defined as follows:

- Young - A tree that has been recently planted or established and is still in the early stages of growth.
- Semi-mature - A tree that has passed the early establishment phase but has not yet reached its full size.
- Early Mature - A tree that has reached a stage where it is structurally developed and possesses a near full size crown.
- Mature - A fully developed tree that has reached or is near its maximum size and is functioning at full capacity.
- Notable - a significant tree because of its age or size but does not yet possess sufficient features to be considered veteran.
- Veteran - old and large for the species and possesses aged features associated with senescence.
- Ancient - a tree of significant age and size by comparison to others of the same species. All ancient trees are veteran trees, although very few trees of any species reach ancient life-stage.

Physiological and structural condition: physiological condition defined as follows; good, above average, average, below average, poor or dead. Structural condition is defined as: good, moderate, indifferent, poor or hazardous

Comments: further observations were recorded where necessary i.e. details regarding defects, preliminary management recommendations, presence of pest/disease and perceived significance.

BS5837 Category: pursuant to BS5837:2012 section 4.5 and cascade chart for tree quality assessment (refer to reproduced Table 1 overleaf). Trees qualifying under a given category (A-C and U) and any appropriate subheading (1-3) are considered to fall within the scope of that category's definition.

Estimated Remaining Contribution. Described as a guideline only and in terms of years: <10, 10+, 20+ and 40+ relevant to category U, C, B and A respectively. This information is not provided on the tree schedule to avoid conclusions based upon 'life expectancy'.

Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)		
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)			
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	- Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline - Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>		
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation
Trees to be considered for retention			
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value

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