Sterling Capital PLC & Strata Homes Ltd

Barnsley West
Higham Road Roundabout

Arboricultural Report



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Document control

Document:	Arboricultural Report	
Project:	Barnsley West – Higham Road Roundabout	
Client:	Sterling Capital PLC & Strata Homes Ltd	
Job Number:	A107940-2	
File Origin:	\\LEEDS2\EnvData\Projects\A100000 - A199999\A107940\reports\Final	
Revision:	Final	
Date:	12/12/2019	
Prepared by	Checked by	Approved By
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Description of Revision		
Revision:		
Date:		
Prepared by	Checked by	Approved By
Description of Revision		
Revision:		
Date:		
Prepared by	Checked by	Approved By
Description of Revision		

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1. Summary

WYG was commissioned to consider the impact on trees of the construction of a roundabout at Higham Road, Barnsley. The roundabout is required to provide access to the proposed Barnsley West development site. WYG was also commissioned to provide recommendations for the protection of trees during the works.

WYG previously carried out a tree survey of the wider Barnsley West site in November 2018 and this informs this report.

The site of the proposed roundabout is on the B428 Higham Common Road between a bus turning circle south of the junction with Hermit Lane and a bridge over the M1 motorway.

None of the trees located on or close to the proposed new road junction are subject to a Tree Preservation Order and the site is not located in a Conservation Area.

It will be necessary to remove part of a group of trees of moderate quality and value (BS5837 B category) to allow the construction of the roundabout. All the work will take place beyond the Root Protection Area (RPA) of retained trees and hedges, and there should be no impact on them, subject to their protection in accordance with BS5837.

The report includes an Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan with proposals to protect the trees during construction. This will be through the use of protective fencing and monitoring by an arboriculturist during the works.

2. Introduction

2.1 Scope & Brief

WYG was commissioned to consider the impact on trees of the construction of a roundabout at Higham Road, Barnsley. The roundabout is required to provide access to the proposed Barnsley West development. WYG was also commissioned to provide recommendations for the protection of trees and hedges in a Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement.

WYG previously carried out a tree survey[1] on the wider Barnsley West site which is proposed for residential and commercial development. This 78ha site is located north of junction 37 of the M1 motorway and extends up to Barugh Green Road. This report contains details from the survey for the area of the proposed roundabout. The report is limited to the impact of the proposed roundabout and does not consider other development on the Barnsley West site.

A separate Arboricultural Report is being produced to assess the impact on another proposed roundabout on Barugh Green Road which provides access at the north of the Barnsley West site.

The recommendations in the report comply with BS5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations'[2].

2.2 Site Location & Boundaries

The site of the proposed roundabout (OS grid SE 31410 06780) is on the B428 Higham Common Road between a bus turning circle south of the junction with Hermit Lane and a bridge over the M1 motorway. The site is described in more detail in the WYG Tree Survey Report.

[1] *Barnsley West – Tree Survey Report.* WYG report for Sterling Capital Plc and Strata Homes Ltd, December 2018

[2] *BS5837:2012. Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations*, British Standards Institute, 2012

2.3 Geology & Soils

The British Geological Survey *Geology of Britain* viewer[3] shows that the bedrock at the site is sandstone of the Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation. No superficial deposits are recorded.

The Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute *Soilscapes* viewer[4] shows soils at the site to be slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils.

2.4 Statutory Protection

Tree Preservation Order/Conservation Area

The wider Barnsley West site contains woodland protected by Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and this is described in the Tree Survey Report, but none of the trees located close to the proposed new road junction are protected by TPO. The site does not lie within a Conservation Area.

Felling Licences

Tree felling on non-residential land is also controlled by the need to obtain a tree felling licence from the Forestry Commission before felling more than five cubic metres in any calendar quarter (e.g., Jan to Mar, Apr to Jun, Jul to Sep and Oct to Dec), as long as no more than two cubic metres are sold, subject to various exemptions and variations[5].

Protected Species

Trees and scrub provide habitat for a wide range of species, some of which are protected. Most nesting birds and their nests are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). All bats and their roosts are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and gain additional protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Birds listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 are also protected from disturbance when building a nest, nesting, or when dependent young are at or near the nest.

[3] *http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain3d/index [Viewed 12/12/2019]*

[4] *www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/ [Viewed 12/12/2019]*

[5] *www.forestry.gov.uk/england-fellinglicences*

3. Tree Survey

3.1 Methodology

The site was visited during November 2018 as part of the survey of the wider Barnsley West site. The trees were surveyed in accordance with BS5837:2012.

A topographical survey plan was provided and used as a base for the Tree Constraints Plan (Appendix C).

The following information was collected for each tree: species, age class, height, stem diameter at 1.5m above ground level, crown spread in the four cardinal directions and height of the crown above the ground (excluding basal sprouts and epicormic branches).

An assessment was made of the trees' physiological and structural condition, noting any disorders or biomechanical features that present an obvious hazard to present or future users of the site or affect the trees' life expectancy.

The trees' overall quality and value for retention was assessed in accordance with BS5837:2012 Table 1 (Appendix B). This was dependent on the trees' physiological and structural condition, safe useful life expectancy and arboricultural, landscape, cultural, ecological value and amenity value (as a function of size, prominence, attractiveness and screening).

The root protection area (RPA) radius and area for each tree was also calculated in accordance with BS5837:20012. The RPA is an area of ground that provides sufficient soil rooting volume to ensure the survival of the tree.

The Tree Constraints Plan (Appendix C) shows the RPA of trees of the individually surveyed trees. The distribution and shape of the RPA reflects the opportunities for rooting available to each tree. Irregularly shaped RPAs have been drawn where there are significant obstacles to rooting caused by buildings or major roads.

3.2 Survey Limitations

Trees were assessed visually from ground level. No climbed inspection, removal of ivy or detailed investigation of decay was made.

Tree condition can change significantly over a relatively short period of time, and therefore the results and recommendations of this survey can only be held to be valid for a period of 24 months following the survey date.

3.3 Survey Results

The survey of trees at the site assessed two individual trees, four groups of trees, and one section of hedging.

The full survey results are given in the survey schedule in Appendix A and the trees, groups, and hedges are shown on the Tree Constraints Plan. The following provides a summary of these results, with a description included below.

Table 1. Number of trees, groups, and hedges assigned to BS5837 categories.

	Individual Trees	**Groups of Trees**	**Hedges**
Category A *Trees of high quality & value*	0	0	0
Category B *Trees of moderate quality & value*	0	3	0
Category C *Trees of low quality & value*	2	1	1
Category U *Trees unsuitable for retention*	0		0
Total No.	*2*	*4*	*1*

Nine species of trees were recorded during the survey; Hawthorn *(Crataegus monogyna),* ash *(Fraxinus excelsior)*, Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), wild cherry (*P.avium*), blackthorn (*P.spinosa*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), field maple (*Acer campestre*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

The survey assessed two individual trees in the vicinity of the proposed roundabout. These are two hawthorn trees (T18 and T19) on the line of a stone wall to the south-east of the proposed roundabout. These trees were assigned to the low quality and value category (BS5837 C category) because of their small size.

The survey assessed four groups of trees in the vicinity of the proposed roundabout. These include G6, which is a semi-mature roadside plantation of mixed native species running along the eastern edge of Higham Road. This group was assigned to the moderate quality and value category (BS5837 B category). The other groups include G7 and G8 which are scrubby groups of mixed semi-mature native planting associated with the bus turning circle on Higham Rad. These were assigned to the C and B categories respectively. G5 is a semi-mature plantation of mixed native species located offsite on the motorway embankment to the south, which was assigned to the B category.

The survey assessed one hedge (H25) in the vicinity of the proposed roundabout. This hawthorn hedge was assigned to the C category.

4. Arboricultural Impact

4.1 Development Proposal

This assessment is based on the following details:

- *Barnsley West – Higham Road Roundabout – General Arrangement*, Fore Consulting Limited, drawing no. A2-100-P-001, dated 02.04.2019.

It is proposed to construct a new roundabout on Higham Road to provide access to the Barnsley West proposed development site from the south-west. This report considers the road junction only and not proposed development elsewhere on the Barnsley West site.

The layout of the works is shown on the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix D).

4.2 Tree Removal Impacts

It will be necessary to fell part of one group of trees in order to construct the roundabout. The group to be removed is:

- Group G6 (part) – Mixed (B cat.)

The trees in the group require removal because they are located on the footprint of the new road junction or associated earthworks. The area to be removed comprises approximately two thirds of the group and is shown on the Tree Protection Plan.

4.3 Impacts on Retained Trees

All the work will take place beyond the RPA of retained trees and hedges, and there should be no impact on them, subject to their protection in accordance with BS5837.

5. Arboricultural Method Statement

5.1 Introduction

This document provides an Arboricultural Method Statement for the construction of a new roundabout on Higham Road.

This method statement is provided to identify suitable procedures and methodologies to ensure the protection of trees during site works. This method statement does not provide a detailed design or specification for works to and adjacent to trees. It also does not replace the requirement for contractors to prepare a method statement for health and safety purposes.

5.2 Responsibilities for Tree Protection

The Site Manager shall provide all sub-contractors with a copy of this method statement. Each sub-contractor shall be responsible for ensuring construction and tree protection in line with this method statement.

No alteration to the construction method or tree protection measures shall take place without the prior approval of the site manager and Arboricultural Consultant (see section 5.3).

5.3 Supervision & Monitoring

The developer shall appoint an Arboricultural Consultant to supervise and monitor construction and tree protection works adjacent to the retained trees.

The Arboricultural Consultant shall visit the site at the following stages:

- Following the erection of the protective fencing; and
- Following completion of the development and removal of protective fencing.

During each visit, the Arboricultural Consultant will ensure compliance with this method statement and provide a written monitoring report to the Site Manager. All reports will be made available to the LPA.

The Site Manager will notify the Arboricultural Consultant of all deviations from this method statement. In such cases, the consultant will visit the site and provide a written report.

5.4 Key Personnel & Contacts

Details on key personnel related to tree protection shall be entered below. This information shall be made available to the LPA prior to the commencement of works on the site.

	Name	**Company / Authority**	**Telephone / Mobile No.**	**E-mail**
Project Manager				
Site Manager				
Arboricultural Consultant				
LPA Planning Officer				
LPA Arboricultural Officer				

5.5 Arboricultural Works - Felling & Pruning

The arboricultural works are limited to the tree and hedge removal described in the Tree Works Schedule in Appendix A. The Arboricultural Consultant will be advised if it is considered necessary to carry out any additional work. He will advise on the specification of works and liaise with the LPA, as required.

All works will be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 ''Tree Work – Recommendations'[6]. All arboricultural works will only be carried out by suitably experienced and competent arboricultural contractors.

5.6 Protective Fencing

Protective fencing is required to protect the retained trees and hedges during the proposed works on site. Trees are easily damaged, or even killed, on a construction site and the protective fencing will be considered an important and integral part of the development. Protective fencing will be erected before any works take place on site.

Protective fencing will be erected in accordance with the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix D). The area contained by the protective fencing will be referred to as the construction exclusion zone.

[6] *BS3998:2010. Tree Work – Recommendations*. British Standards Institute, 2010

The Tree Protection Plan includes a detail of the protective fencing to be used. The fence is to comply with BS5837: 2012 and is composed of 2.0m weld-mesh panels attached securely by wire or scaffold clamps to a scaffold framework. The scaffold framework shall comprise a vertical and horizontal framework, well-braced against impact. Vertical tubes will be placed at a maximum spacing of 3.0m and driven at least 600mm into the ground.

Within the construction exclusion zone, all damaging operations will be excluded. In particular, the following activities must not take place within the construction exclusion zone:

- changes in levels;
- excavation;
- storage of materials (including soil and rubble);
- movement or parking of plant and vehicles;
- siting of site cabins or other temporary buildings;
- mixing of materials and chemicals; and
- disposal of liquids.

Particular care should be taken that there is no run-off of concrete washings or any other liquid into the construction exclusion zone.

In addition to the above, no herbicides shall be applied within the construction exclusion zone without the consent of the arboricultural consultant and no fires will be lit on the site.

Protective fencing shall remain intact for the full duration of the demolition works on site. It shall be inspected daily and any damage shall be made good immediately. If it is necessary to make any changes to its position or construction, then prior approval must be sought from the Arboricultural Consultant, who will inform the LPA.

5.7 Works Compound & Construction Storage

Details are not currently available on the proposed location of the works compound, construction storage or contractors parking. The Arboricultural Consultant should be consulted on the proposed location and this method statement will be revised once these details are available.

5.8 Utilities & Drainage

Details are not currently available on the proposed routing of utilities and drainage. The Arboricultural Consultant should be consulted on the proposed location and this method statement will be revised once these details are available.

5.9 Post-development Tree Management & Inspection

All trees and hedges should be re-inspected following the completion of construction works to re-assess their condition and identify requirements for additional work.

Appendices

Appendix A – Tree Works Schedule

Barnsley West – Barugh Green Road Roundabout - Tree Works Schedule

This schedule is limited to the trees in the vicinity of the proposed roundabout, as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. Reference should be made to the WYG Tree Survey Report for details on all the trees on the wider Barnsley West site.

No.	Species	Age class	Stem Diam. (cm)	Height (m)	Crown Clear Height (m)	Branch spread (m)				Condition	Comments	Work Proposals	Remaining Contribution	Category Grade	RPA Radius (m)	RPA Area (m^2)
						N	E	S	W							
T18	Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Early-mature	27 25 21 19	3.5	2.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	Fair	Tree on line of wall.	-	20-40	C1	5.57	98
T19	Hawthorn	Mature	39	4.5	2.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	Fair	Tree on line of wall.	-	20-40	C1	4.68	69
G5	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), hawthorn	Semi-mature	10-30	2-10	1	4-8				Fair	Mixed plantation located offsite on motorway embankment. Predominantly ash. Vulnerable to chalara dieback of ash.	-	>40	B2	Crown spread	
G6	Ash, blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), sycamore, hawthorn	Semi-mature	10-30	2-10	1	4-8				Fair	Roadside plantation of mixed native species. Screening value. Predominantly ash. Vulnerable to chalara dieback of ash.	Remove part of group (see Tree Protection Plan) to implement scheme.	>40	B2	Crown spread	
G7	Hawthorn, ash, field maple, wild cherry (*Prunus avium*)	Semi-mature	10-30	2-6	1	2-6				Fair	Scrubby mixed native species plantation on centre of bus turning circle.	-	20-40	C2	Crown spread	

No.	Species	Age class	Stem Diam. (cm)	Height (m)	Crown Clear Height (m)	Branch spread (m)				Condition	Comments	Work Proposals	Remaining Contribution	Category Grade	RPA Radius (m)	RPA Area (m^2)
						N	E	S	W							
G8	Hawthorn, field maple, ash, rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)	Semi-mature	10-20	2-6	1	2-6				Fair	Scrubby group of mixed natives screening bus turning circle.	-	20-40	B2	Crown spread	
H25	Hawthorn	N/A	N/A	2-6	1	2-4				Fair	Hawthorn field hedge.	-	20-40	C2	Crown spread	

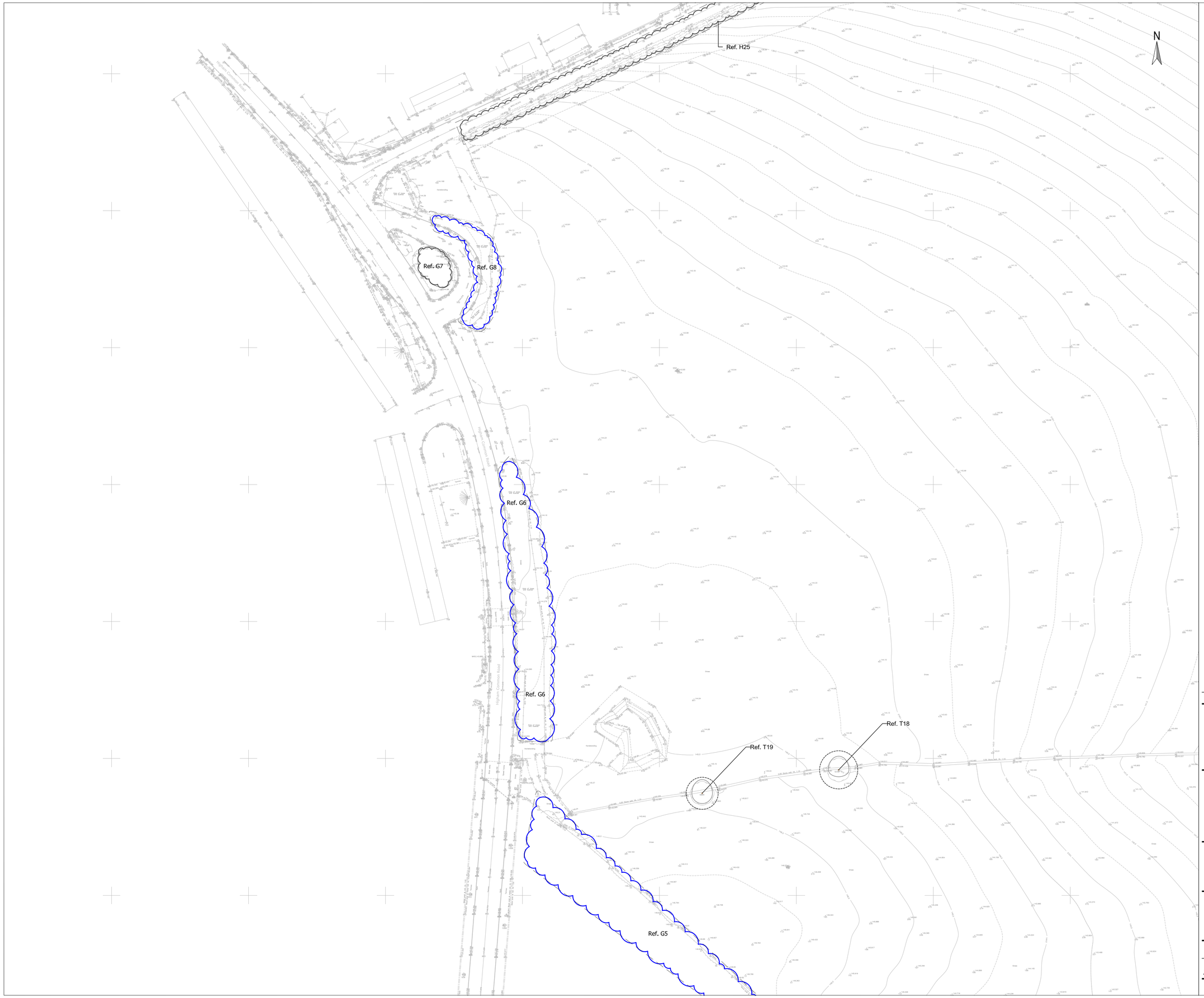
Appendix B – Tree Quality & Value Assessment Categories

Tree Quality & Value Categories

(from BS5837:2012, Table 1 – 'Cascade chart for tree quality assessment')

Category and definition	*Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)*			*Plan colour*
TREES UNSUITABLE FOR RETENTION				
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 *NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve*			Dark red
TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION				
	1. Mainly arboricultural values	**2. Mainly landscape values**	**3. Mainly cultural values, including conservation**	
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)	Light green
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	Mid blue
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	Grey

Appendix C – Tree Constraints Plan



DO NOT SCALE: CONTRACTOR TO CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS AND REPORT ANY OMISSIONS OR ERRORS

KEY

Ref. 3	TREE REFERENCE
Ref. G1	GROUP REFERENCE
Ref. H3	GROUP REFERENCE
	CATEGORY A
	CATEGORY B
	CATEGORY C
	CATEGORY U
	ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	CATEGORY A TREE GROUP OR HEDGE
	CATEGORY B TREE GROUP OR HEDGE
	CATEGORY C TREE GROUP OR HEDGE

NOTE: Tree Constraints Plan based on 'Barnsley West - Higham Road Roundabout - General Arrangements', by Fore Consulting Limited, drawing no: A2-100-P-001, dated 02.04.2019.

FOR PLANNING

0 2 4 6 8 10m
SCALE 1:500

REV	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK	APP	DATE

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Project:

Barnsley West
Barugh Green Road
Barnsley

Drawing Title:

Tree Constraints Plan
Higham Road Roundabout

Scale @ A1	Drawn	Date	Checked	Date	Approved	Date
1:500	NR	05.12.18	GM	05.12.18	MA	06.12.18

Project No.	Office	Type	Drawing No.	Revision
A107940-2	41	24	TCP1	

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Appendix D – Tree Protection Plan

Construction Exclusion Zone Fencing Setting Out Points

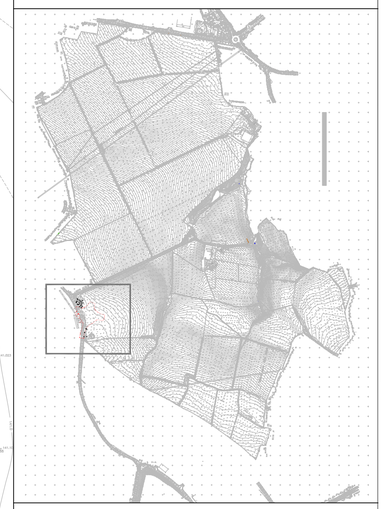
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05	431386.790	406826.835
06	431388.178	406821.447
07	431387.571	406815.297
08	431384.883	406811.043
09	431380.852	406807.838
10	431388.220	406804.330
11	431391.688	406808.878
12	431394.852	406822.573
13	431391.775	406832.114
14	431371.282	406830.315
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23	431409.607	406685.535
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25	431401.797	406701.944



DO NOT SCALE: CONTRACTOR TO CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS AND REPORT ANY OMISSIONS OR ERRORS

KEY

Ref. 3	TREE REFERENCE
Ref. G1	GROUP REFERENCE
Ref. H3	GROUP REFERENCE
	TREE TO BE RETAINED
	TREE TO BE FELLED TO ACCOMMODATE DEVELOPMENT
	ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE GROUP OR HEDGE TO BE RETAINED
	TREE GROUP OR HEDGE TO BE FELLED TO ACCOMMODATE DEVELOPMENT
	CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE FENCING Refer to detail below
XX	CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE FENCING SETTING OUT POINT (See table for xy coordinates)



Tree Protection Detail

Not to scale

1. Standard scaffold poles.
2. Uprights to be driven into ground.
3. Mesh secured to vertical and horizontal poles with wire ties on inside face to avoid easy dismantling.
4. Standard scaffold clamps.

FOR PLANNING

0 5 10 15 20 25 m

SCALE 1:500

REV	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK	APP	DATE

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& Strata Homes Limited

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Project:

Barnsley West
Barugh Green Road
Barnsley

Drawing Title:

Tree Protection Plan
Higham Road Roundabout

Scale @ A1	Drawn Date	Checked Date	Approved Date
1:500	NR 05.12.19	GM 05.12.19	EJ 06.12.19

Project No.	Office	Type	Drawing No.	Revision
A107940-2	41	24	TPP1	

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Appendix E – Report Conditions

This report is produced solely for the benefit of Sterling Capital PLC & Strata Homes Ltd and no liability is accepted for any reliance placed on it by any other party unless specifically agreed by us in writing.

This report is prepared for the proposed uses stated in the report and should not be relied upon for other purposes unless specifically agreed by us in writing. In time technological advances, improved practices, fresh information or amended legislation may necessitate a re-assessment. Opinions and information provided in this report are on the basis of WYG using reasonable skill and care in the preparation of the report.

This report refers, within the limitations stated, to the environment of the site in the context of the surrounding area at the time of the inspections. Environmental conditions can vary and no warranty is given as to the possibility of changes in the environment of the site and surrounding area at differing times.

This report is limited to those aspects reported on, within the scope and limits agreed with the client under our appointment. It is necessarily restricted and no liability is accepted for any other aspect. It is based on the information sources indicated in the report. Some of the opinions are based on unconfirmed data and information and are presented accordingly within the scope for this report.

Reliance has been placed on the documents and information supplied to WYG by others, no independent verification of these has been made by WYG and no warranty is given on them. No liability is accepted or warranty given in relation to the performance, reliability, standing etc of any products, services, organisations or companies referred to in this report.

Whilst reasonable skill and care have been used, no investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or not fully representative information. Any monitoring or survey work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations, including for example timescale, seasonal, budget and weather related conditions.

Although care is taken to select monitoring and survey periods that are typical of the environmental conditions being measured, within the overall reporting programme constraints, measured conditions may not be fully representative of the actual conditions. Any predictive or modelling work, undertaken as part of the commission will be subject to limitations including the representativeness of data used by the model and the assumptions inherent within the approach used. Actual environmental conditions are typically more complex and variable than the investigative, predictive and modelling approaches indicate in practice, and the output of such approaches cannot be relied upon as a comprehensive or accurate indicator of future conditions.

The potential influence of our assessment and report on other aspects of any development or future planning requires evaluation by other involved parties.

The performance of environmental protection measures and of buildings and other structures in relation to acoustics, vibration, noise mitigation and other environmental issues is influenced to a large extent by the degree to which the relevant environmental considerations are incorporated into the final design and specifications and the quality of workmanship and compliance with the specifications on site during construction. WYG accept no liability for issues with performance arising from such factors.

8 November 2012