



**James Royston**  
Arboricultural Consultant

# Arboricultural Impact Assessment

at

**Darley Grove**

Worsbrough



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# 1 Purpose and scope of report

This report has been created in accordance with BS5837:2012 to assess the impacts of proposed development as shown in drawings provided (see drawings as supplied by the client and as shown in our method statement Ref: 170812 MS) and includes consideration of:

- The effect of the development proposals on the amenity value of trees, both on and near the site
- Above and below ground constraints
- Construction of the proposed development
- The possibility of modifying the development to accommodate the retention of trees which would otherwise be lost
- The end use of the space
- Whether tree planting could acceptably mitigate any tree losses due to development

The consultant shall not be responsible for events which happen after the date of survey due to factors which were not apparent at the time of the survey.

It is advisable to have trees regularly surveyed by a suitably qualified and experienced arboricultural consultant. In this instance it is recommended that the next survey is undertaken within 12 months of this report. If the site or adjacent areas change use, or if there are significant changes to the condition of the site or adjacent areas, or if there are significant changes to the trees surveyed, it is recommended that professional arboricultural advice is obtained.

No liability can be accepted by the consultant unless the recommendations of this report are undertaken within the time period recommended. Where no time period is indicated then recommendations should be carried out as soon as reasonably practicable.

The plans included as part of this report are based on those provided by the client or their representatives. Whilst reasonable steps are taken to ensure plans are accurate and correct, the consultant will not be responsible for errors or omissions arising due to information provided by the client or the client's representatives.

All tree works should be carried out to BS 3998:2010 - '*Recommendations for tree work*' unless otherwise specified, and by a suitably qualified, experienced and insured contractor.



## **2 The effect of the development proposals on the amenity value of trees, both on and near the site**

Trees T3, T4, T10, T11, T13, T14, T15, T22 and T23 are to be removed as part of the development. Of these T3, T10, T11, T13, T14, T15 and T23 are either of low value or are in poor condition.

T4 was covered in dense ivy at the time of survey, so it was not possible to check for the presence of the dangerous decay pathogen observed on the neighbouring T3. Subsequent to the tree survey the ivy has been stripped from most of the stems and no fruiting bodies were observed – however, this work was done by non-specialists and this consultant remains cautious about the condition of this tree.

T22 was not inspected for its potential to affect existing buildings, but the close proximity of this tree to existing buildings suggests the possibility of potential structural damage. It is unusual for mature trees in such close proximity to built structures to be retained.

The current owner has undertaken considerable past tree planting over large areas of the site with the view to replace trees which will be removed because of changes to management of the site, or because of natural deterioration of existing trees. This is generally considered as good arboricultural practice.

On balance, and taking into account past tree planting on this site, this proposal will have minimal impact on the value of the local tree-scape.

## **3 Above and below ground constraints**

The development does not require any significant excavation or construction within any root protection areas of trees to be retained.

Some minor excavations will be required for the installation of new garden features etc – these will not harm retained trees if they are done in accordance with our method statement.

## **4 Construction of the proposed development**

On the assumption that any demolition and construction activity is undertaken in accordance with a BS5837:2012 Method Statement, it is unlikely that retained trees will suffer any significant impacts from the proposed development.

There are no indications at this stage that demolition and construction in accordance with a BS5837:2012 Method Statement would be difficult.

## **5 The possibility of modifying the development to accommodate the retention of trees which would otherwise be lost**

The layout has been modified to incorporate information regarding trees – it is understood that modification will impact on the feasibility of development of this site.



## **6 The end use of the space**

The end use is dwellings with associated gardens and access. The design has considered possible nuisance from trees – eg where shading from trees might be a concern. The topography, aspect and layout of the site will be such that potential future nuisance is minimised and should not be a major concern.

## **7 Mitigation through tree planting**

Detailed plans for new planting are not known, but it is understood that in addition to the large amounts of tree planting already undertaken, there is an intention for considerable new tree planting on this site.



## 8 Consultant's qualifications and experience

This report has been undertaken by James Royston who has over twenty years experience in arboriculture, forestry, and urban forestry, of which the last 12 years have been spent as a full-time consultant specialising in trees and development, tree related hazards, and sustainable tree management.

In addition, this experience has included work as a tree officer in a local authority planning department, expert witness work for the courts, subsidence investigation works for loss adjusters and insurance companies, and undertaking the role of president of the Consulting Arborist Society.

### **Academic qualifications include:**

MSc Arboriculture and Urban Forestry,  
BSc (Hons) Forestry.

### **Recent professional development courses have included:**

Tree Preservation Order Workshop *by the Consulting Arborist Society,*  
Trees and Mortgage/Insurance Reporting *by the Association of Mortgage Users Insurance Group,*  
Professional Tree Inspection *by LANTRA Awards,*  
BS5837:2012 Workshops *by the Arboricultural Association,*  
The Future of Tree Risk Management part I and II *by the Treeworks Environmental Practice,*  
Trees and Subsidence *by OCA Ltd,*  
CTLA Tree Valuation Seminar *by the Consulting Arborist Society,*  
Expert Witness Training *by Bond Solon*  
THREATS training *by Julian Forbes-Laird.*  
Homebuyers Tree Reports *by the Consulting Arborist Society*

### **Professional associations include:**

Professional member of the Arboricultural Association and the Consulting Arborist Society.  
Chartered Environmentalist.  
Trustmark Approved Consultant – Working to Government Approved Standards.



## 9 Contact Details

I hope this report provides all the required information. However, if further advice is needed then please contact me and I will be happy to help.

### **James Royston – Independent Arboricultural Consultant**

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