TREE CONSULTANTS

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

& Impact Assessment

to **BS 5837:2012** at:

340A New Road,
Staincross,
Barnsley
S75 6GP

Prepared for:
White Agus

Date: *December 2023*

Reference: *AWA5780*

Institute of Chartered Foresters
Registered Consultant

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Contents

1. Introduction 3
1.1 Instructions and Brief 3
1.2 Survey Details 3
2. The Site 4
2.1 Location and Description 4
3. The Trees 5
3.1 Legal 5
3.2 Tree Survey Results 6
3.3 Photographs 8
4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment 9
4.1 Proposed New Development 9
4.2 Direct Impacts 9
4.3 Indirect Impacts 9
4.4 Protection of the Retained Trees 10
5. Signature 11
Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications & Experience 13
Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations 14
Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions 15
Appendix 4: Tree Data 16
Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan 17
Appendix 6: Tree Impacts Plan 18

1. Introduction

1.1 Instructions and Brief

1.1.1 We were instructed by White Agus to visit the site and prepare our findings in a report.

1.1.2 The report is required in accordance with BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations,* to provide detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the context of potential development.

1.2 Survey Details

1.2.1 The survey took place during August 2023.

1.2.2 The trees were surveyed visually from the ground using "Visual Tree Assessment" techniques and in accordance with the guiding principles of British Standard 5837:2012.

1.2.3 Any additional off-site trees that could impact a new development design have been included in the tree survey parameters.

1.2.4 The tree positions were plotted on an Ordnance Survey map base-layer using enhanced GPS technology (1-2m accuracy) and laser distance measurer.

1.2.5 This report has been prepared by Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MArborA, Principal and Director of AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.

1.2.6 The tree survey data collection was carried out by Joe Thomas, MSci Biology, Level 4 Award Arboriculture, TechArborA, Arboriculturist at AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.

1.2.7 Full qualifications and experience are included within **Appendix 1**. Explanatory details regarding the survey methodology are included within **Appendix 2**. A full explanation of the tree data can be found at **Appendix 3**. Full details of all the trees surveyed are found in **Appendix 4**. For tree locations please refer to the Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix 5** and for detail of the impacts of the new development refer to the Tree Impacts Plan at **Appendix 6**.

2. The Site

2.1 Location and Description

2.1.1 The site is located off New Road in Staincross, Barnsley, South Yorkshire and comprises of a residential dwelling with associated access, driveway, and garden. The site is bordered by further residential properties to the south east, south west, and north west, and by an adjacent woodland to the north east.

2.1.2 The approximate area of the survey is highlighted in the (2023 Google Earth) image below:



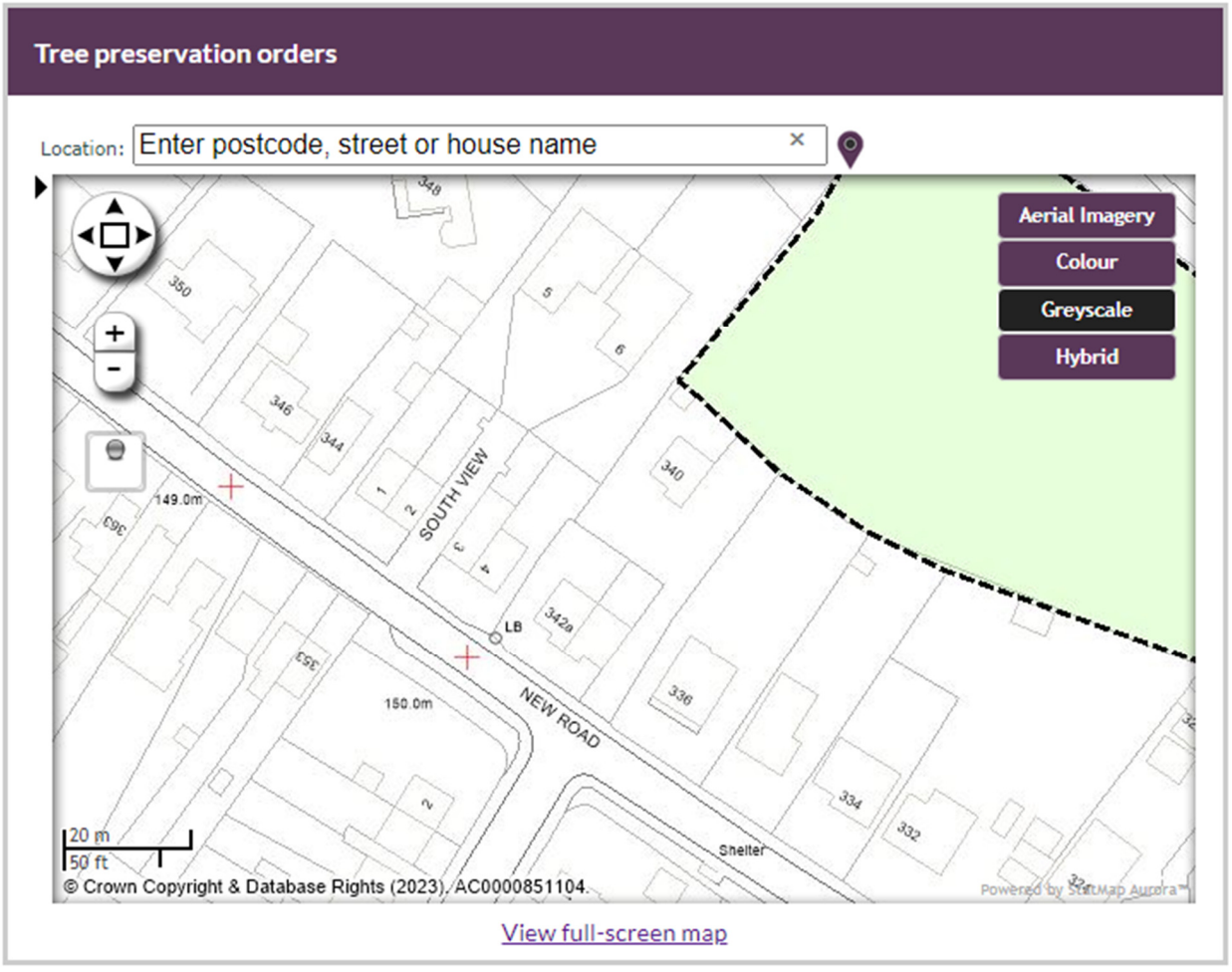
3. The Trees

3.1 Legal

3.1.1 The following advice is for guidance purposes only. Some trees are protected by legislation, and it is essential that the legal status of trees is established prior to carrying out works to them. Unauthorised work to protected trees could lead to prosecution, resulting in enforcement action such as fines or a criminal record. Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas, Planning Conditions, Felling Licences or Restrictive Covenants legally protect many trees in the UK.

3.1.2 An online search was undertaken with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council on 07/12/23 to check whether any trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are located within a Conservation Area. Trees adjacent to the site are protected by a group Tree Preservation Order. As such all trees within the group are legally protected.

3.1.3 The accessed map image from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council is detailed below:



3.1.4 Before carrying out any works to protected trees the permission of the local planning authority is required. There are large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees. Statutory permission is not required for the removal of deadwood.

3.1.5 The Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website was used to search for areas of ancient woodlands listed on the Ancient Woodland (DEFRA 2021), and a check for catalogued Ancient and Veteran trees using the woodland trust ancient tree inventory (ATI) (Woodland Trust 2021).

3.1.6 It was confirmed that there are no designated ancient woodlands or veteran or ancient trees within the survey area.

3.1.7 Trees provide a wide range of habitats for many species, some of which are legally protected such as bats, nesting birds, badgers and dormice. It is essential that appropriate care is taken to ensure that this legislation is not contravened.

3.1.8 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should be used, who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance.

3.1.9 All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

3.2 Tree Survey Results

3.2.1 The tree survey revealed 6 items of woody vegetation, comprised of 3 individual trees and 3 tree groups or hedges.

3.2.2 Of the surveyed trees: 1 tree group is retention category 'B' and 5 trees, tree groups and hedges are retention category 'C' (explanatory details regarding the retention categories are included at Appendix 3).

3.2.3 Full details of the surveyed trees, tree groups and hedges are provided in the attached tree data schedule at Appendix 4. General comments are provided below:

3.2.4 There is little significant tree cover within the site itself, with only a semi-mature Privet boundary hedge G1 and a line of young planted Cypress trees to the south east and south western boundaries respectively. These trees of little arboricultural significance.

3.2.5 The most significant trees surveyed were those adjacent to the north eastern boundary. A large adjacent woodland type group of mostly semi-mature Oak trees, G6, extends away to the north east. This group is of

arboricultural significance being prominent throughout the site and surrounding area, providing a high amenity value.

3.2.6 Adjacent Oak T3, Sycamore T4, and Sycamore T5 also border the north eastern boundary of the site and are part of the larger woodland type group. These trees are situated behind the boundary fence/wall on a bank which slopes down to the site, the crowns just overhang the boundary. These trees feature some defects but are generally in good condition with good long-term prospects and are prominent throughout the site. Sycamore T5 is in good vigour but does have a poor form with many stems at the base, some of which have tight unions with partially included bark.

3.2.7 Some trees were covered in dense Ivy or were inaccessible (as detailed in Appendix 4). In such cases measurements were estimated and the condition values are indicative only.

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

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

3.3 Photographs


Photo 1: T3 looking north east

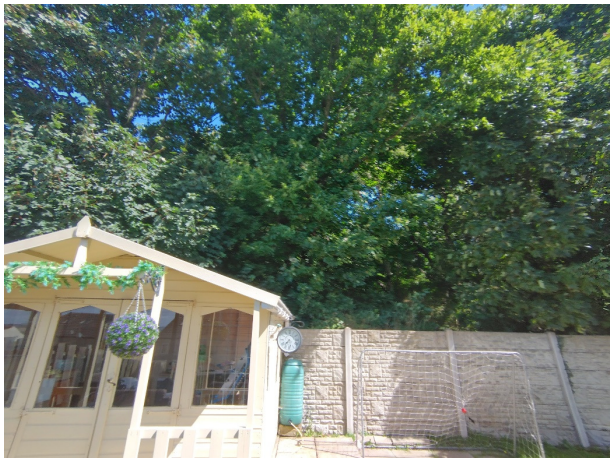
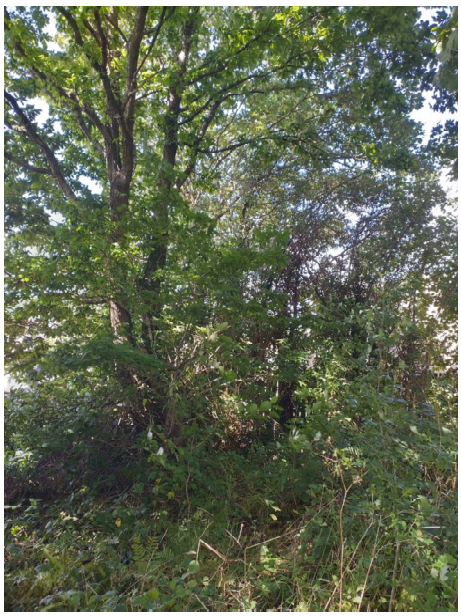

Photo 2: T4 looking north east


Photo 3: T5 and G6 looking east


Photo 4: T5 looking south east


Photo 5: T5 looking south west


Photo 6: T3 and T4 looking west

4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

4.1 Proposed New Development

4.1.1 It is proposed to build an extension to the existing dwelling. The development proposals have been provided by my client and inform this arboricultural impact assessment and the Tree Impacts Plan at Appendix 6.

4.2 Direct Impacts

4.2.1 From assessing the new development proposals, no trees or tree groups will require removal to facilitate the development.

4.2.2 Sycamore T5 will require pruning works to facilitate the development. It is recommended to reduce the south western crown of T5 by 2m, pruning to suitable pruning points. Additionally, the tree should be formatively pruned to provision for future tree growth and reduce future nuisance issues.

4.3 Indirect Impacts

4.3.1 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) detailed on the Tree Plans at Appendices 5 and 6, has been used as a layout design tool, to inform on the area around a tree where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.

4.3.2 No significant indirect impacts have been identified to the retained trees at the site.

4.3.3 Potentially damaging activities are proposed in the vicinity of a retained tree. The new development encroaches close to and into the edge of the RPA of T5. Construction within the RPA, can have negative impacts on tree roots. However, the encroachment is minor and only likely to have a minor impact on the tree, which it will tolerate in the long-term. The detailed RPA for these trees is likely to be a slightly exaggerated representation of the trees actual rooting area. As such, it is likely the retained tree should remain largely unaffected by the works, provided care is taken during construction.

4.3.4 The design of the new development has considered the trees crown position in relation to the dwelling. Some shade from trees may be beneficial. In particular, deciduous trees give shade in summer but allow access to sunlight in winter. However, the design proposals avoid excessive shading. Some future nuisance issues may arise, however, these will be reduced by the formative pruning of T5 to ensure its crown remains clear of the extension.

4.4 Protection of the Retained Trees

4.4.1 The retained trees will require protection by fencing in accordance with BS 5837: 2012, during the development phase.

4.4.2 An associated Arboricultural Method Statement, detailing protective fencing specifications and construction methods close to the retained trees has been provided.

5. Signature

I trust this report provides all the required information.

Signed



.....

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

7th December 2023

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications and Experience
Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations
Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions
Appendix 4: Tree Data
Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan
Appendix 6: Tree Impacts Plan

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications & Experience

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

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

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

Joe Thomas, *MSci Biology, Award L4 Arboriculture, TechArborA, QTRA Registered*
Joe achieved a first class degree in Biology with an integrated Masters (MSci) from the University of Sheffield. Additionally, he has a Level 4 Award in Arboriculture. Joe joined AWA after an Urban Forestry role with the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust and Sheffield City Council, where he gained a variety of experience in different aspects of the arboriculture sector.

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

Sophie Beckerman, *BA (Hons), Dip Arboriculture Level 4, TechArborA*
Sophie has more than 10 years' experience as an arborist, working for a variety of private companies as well as undertaking tree management with Sheffield City Council Ranger Service and The Wildlife Trust. Her expertise in arboriculture is demonstrated in the practical NPTC qualifications gained, and her excellent knowledge is reflected in the L4 diploma in Arboriculture, which she completed while working. Her roles as a climbing arborist and team leader included estimating for jobs and project management, supervising tree contracting teams - ensuring that work is carried out safely and efficiently and that health and safety standards are adhered to, and risk assessments are carried out.

Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations

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

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

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

Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Retention Categories

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

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

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

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

	Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)					Tree Condition					Value		Management
Tree ID	*Common Name*	*Latin Name*	*Maturity*	*Height (m)*	*Stems*	*Stem Diameter (mm)*	*Estimated*	*Crown height*	*N*	*E*	*S*	*W*	*Roots*	*Stem*	*Crown*	*Comments*	*Physiological*	*Structural*	*Life Expectancy*	*Amenity*	*Category*	*Works*
G1	Privet	*Ligustrum ovalifolium*	Semi-mature	2	10	80	No	0	See plan				Privet hedge following boundary. Some screening value				Good	Good	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	No works required
G2	Cypress	*Cupressus sp.*	Young	2.5	10	80	No	0	See plan				Line of planted ornamental Cypress varieties following fence line				Good	Good	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	No works required
T3	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Semi-mature	12	3	350, 100, 80	No	2	3.5	2	3	3.5	No visual defects. Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at 0.5m. Vertical. Epicormic growths. Old pruning wounds. Stubs. Bark damage. Ivy covered	Minor deadwood. Old pruning wounds	Protected by Tree Preservation Order. Adjacent Sycamore other side of boundary wall/fence. On banking raised above site level. Access and ivy prevented detailed inspection. Part of a larger adjacent woodland group	Good	Good	20 to 40 yrs	Moderate	C	No works required
T4	Oak	*Quercus petraea*	Semi-mature	12	2	340	No	2	3.5	3	3.5	3	No visual defects. Limited access around base	Twin stemmed at 0.5m. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Stubs. Ivy covered. Tight union	Minor deadwood. Old pruning wounds	Protected by Tree Preservation Order. Adjacent Oak situated other side of wall/fence. Situated on banking raised above site level. Part of larger woodland type group. Access and ivy prevented detailed inspection	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Moderate	C	No works required

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	Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)					Tree Condition					Value		Management
Tree ID	*Common Name*	*Latin Name*	*Maturity*	*Height (m)*	*Stems*	*Stem Diameter (mm)*	*Estimated*	*Crown height*	*N*	*E*	*S*	*W*	*Roots*	*Stem*	*Crown*	*Comments*	*Physiological*	*Structural*	*Life Expectancy*	*Amenity*	*Category*	*Works*
T5	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Semi-mature	12	10	180	No	2	3	3	3.5	4	No visual defects. Limited access around base	Multiple stemmed at base. Vertical. Old pruning wounds. Stubs. Bark damage. Ivy covered. Tight union. Partially included bark	Minor deadwood	Protected by Tree Preservation Order. Adjacent Sycamore other side of boundary wall/fence. On banking raised above site level. Access and ivy prevented detailed inspection. Part of a larger adjacent woodland group	Good	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Moderate	C	Reduce south western crown by 2m and formatively prune to provision for future tree growth
G6	Oak, Maple, Ash, Hawthorn, Birch, Beech, Sorbus, Hazel	*Quercus sp., Acer sp., Fraxinus sp., Crataegus sp., Betula sp., Fagus sp., Sorbus sp., Corylus sp.*	Semi-mature	14	10	250	No	0	See plan				Protected by Tree Preservation Order. Adjacent woodland group extending away from site. Predominantly semi-mature Oak woodland with occasional other species. Mainly Oak, with occasional Sycamore, Ash, Hawthorn, Birch, Beech, Rowan, and Hazel. Good amenity value for surrounding residential area with good long-term prospects				Good	Good	>40 yrs	High	B	No works required

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T3

T4

G6

T5

Young
Apple

Buddleia
sapling

G2

G1

NORTH

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Appendix 5:
Tree Constraints Plan

340A New Road, Staincross, Barnsley
Ref: AWA5780

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012
RETENTION CATEGORIES
Definitions of these categories can be found in Appendix 2 of the report.

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A3

	CATEGORY A: HIGH VALUE RETENTION MOST DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY B: MODERATE VALUE RETENTION DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY C: LOWER VALUE COULD BE RETAINED
	CATEGORY U: UNSUITABLE FOR RETENTION
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM

T3

T4

G6

T5

Young
Apple

Buddleia
sapling

G2

G1

NORTH

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Appendix 6:
Tree Impacts Plan

340A New Road, Staincross, Barnsley
Ref: AWA5780

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A3

	TREE/ TREE GROUP/ HEDGE TO BE RETAINED
	TREE/ TREE GROUP/ HEDGE TO BE REMOVED
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM