



Tree Survey

At

Mount Surgery
Tai Bach, Port Talbot

Inspected by:-
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Brief

I have been instructed by Mr. James Barnes of Hatcher Prichard Architects to carry out a survey on trees at Mount Surgery, Tai Bach, Port Talbot.

Scope of Report

This Tree Survey has been undertaken within the recommendations of British Standards 5837:2012 and current good arboricultural practice.

The survey entailed a visual inspection from ground level of all trees.

Each tree has been numbered and, where instructed, have been tagged using small durable metal or plastic tags.

Due to variations of existing ground levels through the site, height dimensions are estimated and are given in metres.

Trunk/stem diameters are measured at 1.5 metres above ground level, or immediately above the root flare for multi-stemmed trees.

Estimated branch spread is taken in metres from the centre of the trunk, at the four cardinal points of a compass, to achieve an accurate representation of crown shape.

An assessment of a tree's age classification is made in terms of its maturity within the site's landscape.

An assessment of a tree's physiological condition is made as good, fair, poor, dead.

Data on the structural condition of the tree has been entered, e.g., collapsing, leaning and the presence of any decay or physical defect has been noted.

Preliminary management recommendations include further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment or potential for wildlife habitat.

An assessment of a tree's future life expectancy is made as <10, 10-20, 20-40 or >40 etc.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

BRITISH STANDARD BS 5837:2012

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)		
<u>Category U</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 U category trees (i.e. 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; see 4.5.7		
	1 Mainly Arboricultural values	2 Mainly landscape values	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation
<u>Category A</u> Those 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 essential components of groups, or of 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)
<u>Category B</u> Those 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 benefits
<u>Category C</u> Those of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	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

Tree No.	Species	Height(m)	Single/Multi Stemmed	Stem Diameter(m)	Branch Spread(m)				Height of Crown(m)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Prel. Man. Recommendations	Est. Remaining Contribution	Category
					N	E	S	W							
T1	Birch (Betula pendula)	8	Single	0.13	1	3	3	2	4	Middle aged	Poor	Tree of variable form and low vigour with evidence of significant basal and stem decay that could lead to structural failure in the foreseeable future	Remove and replace	<10	U
T2	Birch (Betula pendula)	10	Single	0.28	4	4	4	5	2	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of reasonable form with some evidence of thinning of foliage within crown	Prune to remove deadwood with diameter >50mm. Monitor for health.	10-20	C
T3	Birch (Betula pendula)	10	Single	0.21	2	3	3	3	3	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form and low vigour with evidence of thinning and die-back of foliage throughout crown	Prune to remove deadwood with diameter >50mm. Monitor for health.	10-20	C
T4	Birch (Betula pendula)	10	Single	0.15	2	3	2	3	3	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of variable form and low vigour with significant thinning and die-back of foliage throughout crown	Prune to remove deadwood with diameter >50mm. Remove tree stake from base. Monitor for health.	10-20	C

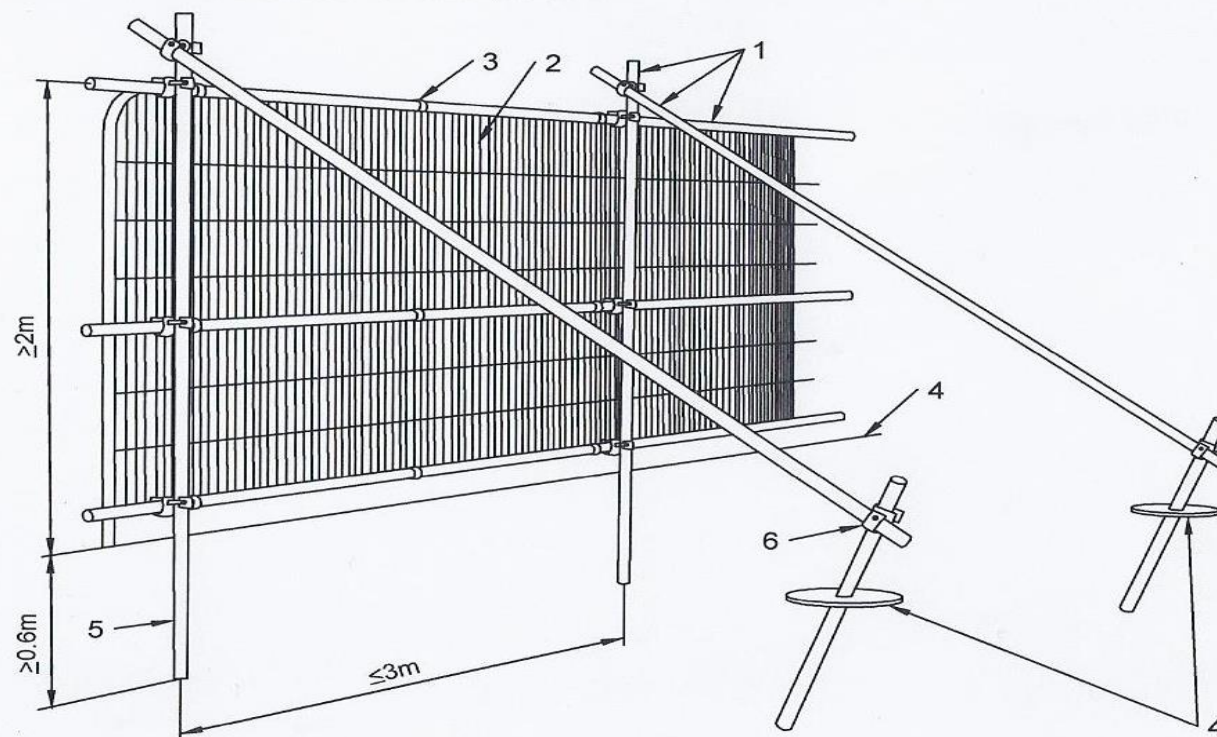
Tree No.	Species	Height(m)	Single/Multi Stemmed	Stem Diameter(m)	Branch Spread(m)				Height of Crown(m)	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Prel. Man. Recommendations	Est. Remaining Contribution	Category
					N	E	S	W							
T5	Birch (Betula pendula)	11	Multi	0.4	3	6	5	5	2	Middle aged	Fair	Twin stemmed specimen of reasonable form and vigour. Pruning wound on north-western side of lower crown has led to commencement of some internal decay within lowest branch. There is a risk of failure of lateral branch at the pruning point.	Shorten lateral branch extending to the north-west by 2m, pruning back to a suitable growing point. Monitor for safety.	10-20	C
T6	Birch (Betula pendula)	11	Single	0.14	0	0	3	3	3	Middle aged	Poor	Tree of poor form with significant die-back throughout crown. This specimen is unsuitable for retention.	Remove and replace	<10	U
T7	Birch (Betula pendula)	6	Multi	0.2	3	1	1	1	0	Middle aged	Poor	Multi stemmed specimen of variable form with significant die-back in upper crown. This specimen is unsuitable for retention.	Remove	<10	U
T8	Birch (Betula pendula)	9	Single	0.18	1	3	2	2	3	Middle aged	Poor	Tree of poor form with evidence of significant die-back throughout crown. This specimen is unsuitable for retention.	Remove	<10	U

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					N	E	S	W							
T9	Birch (Betula pendula)	15	Single	0.37	6	3	5	5	3	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of reasonable form and vigour with evidence of die-back of foliage in upper crown. Previous pruning wounds in lower crown have led to commencement of some internal decay within lower branches.	Monitor for safety	10-20	C
T10	Birch (Betula pendula)	14	Single	0.29	4	6	3	3	3	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Tree of reasonable form and vigour with evidence of commencement of die-back of foliage in upper crown. Some minor mechanical damage on northern side at base of main stem associated with tree stake.	Monitor for health	10-20	C
T11	Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia)	9	Multi	0.3	3	3	3	3	1	Middle aged	Fair	Multi stemmed specimen of relatively low stature. Some evidence of slight thinning of foliage throughout crown.	Monitor for health	10-20	C
T12	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	2	Multi	0.15	1	1	1	1	0	Middle aged	Fair to poor	Ornamental specimen that has been previously heavily reduced at 1m above ground level leading to development of multiple growths in mid crown	No action required at this time	10-20	C

Recommendations for Tree Protection during Development

Due to the high risk to established trees we would recommend the installation of protective fencing prior to commencement of **any** works on site in accordance with BS 5837:2012 “Trees in relation to Construction”. Trees should be protected using scaffold frame supporting weld mesh panel fencing sited on the edge of the Root Protection Area as defined in BS5837:2012. These fenced areas should not be used for the storage of any plant machinery or materials and personnel should be excluded at all times; these fences should remain in situ until after final landscaping has been carried out, removed by hand with great care to prevent compaction or root damage to established trees. The services of a suitably qualified arborist should be sought **prior** to the commencement of each stage.

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



Key

- 1 Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
- 4 Ground level
- 5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6m)
- 6 Standard scaffold clamps