



# **Arboricultural Impact Assessment for Caewern House, Neath**

*Inspected by:-  
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*25<sup>th</sup> May, 2024*

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1. **BRIEF**

I have been instructed by Mr. Jon Wilks of Amity Planning to prepare an Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) in relation to a proposed development at Caewern House, Neath.

2. **TREE SURVEY AND PLAN**

The information within this document is based on the Treescene Tree Survey dated 26/03/2024 and the Treescene AIA Plan 05/2024.

3. **TREES TO BE REMOVED**

a. Arboricultural Reasons

Trees T6, T7, T11, T12, T18, T23, T24, T28, G38, G40, T42, T43, T45 and T52 are recommended for removal in the Tree Survey due to poor quality (U category).

b. To Facilitate Development

Trees T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T22, G29, T41, G50 (part- southern section) and T51 are proposed for removal to accommodate the development layout.

Trees T1, T2, T4 and T5 are B category (moderate quality) that require removal in order to create a suitable vehicular access into the site. The remaining trees proposed for removal to facilitate development are all C category trees (low quality).

Trees to be removed are indicated on the attached Treescene AIA Plan 05/2024.

4. **TREE PRUNING**

Some of the trees to be retained contain structural defects/deadwood or may impede vehicle/pedestrian movements within the site. Works to improve tree safety or remove a potential source of nuisance are detailed in the Preliminary Management Recommendations within the Tree Survey.

Additionally, it may be necessary to implement some light crown reduction to selected Sycamores on the northwestern edge of group G14 to provide suitable clearance from the southeastern corner of Block 1.

All pruning and felling/coppicing works are to be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced Arboricultural Contractors working to BS3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Work.

5. **ROOT PROTECTION AREA (RPA) INCURSIONS**

There are no conflicts between proposed structures and RPAs of trees to be retained apart from in the following circumstances;

T17- southeastern edge of adjacent car park encroaches onto the northwestern fringe of the RPA.

In this circumstance the incursion is slight (less than 2% of the total RPA affected) and therefore there will be minimal adverse impact upon the future health of the affected tree.

6. **PROTECTION OF RETAINED TREES**

All trees to be retained should be protected by fencing in accordance with the details in BS5837:2012. The implementation of the tree protection on site should be in compliance with a site-specific Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS).

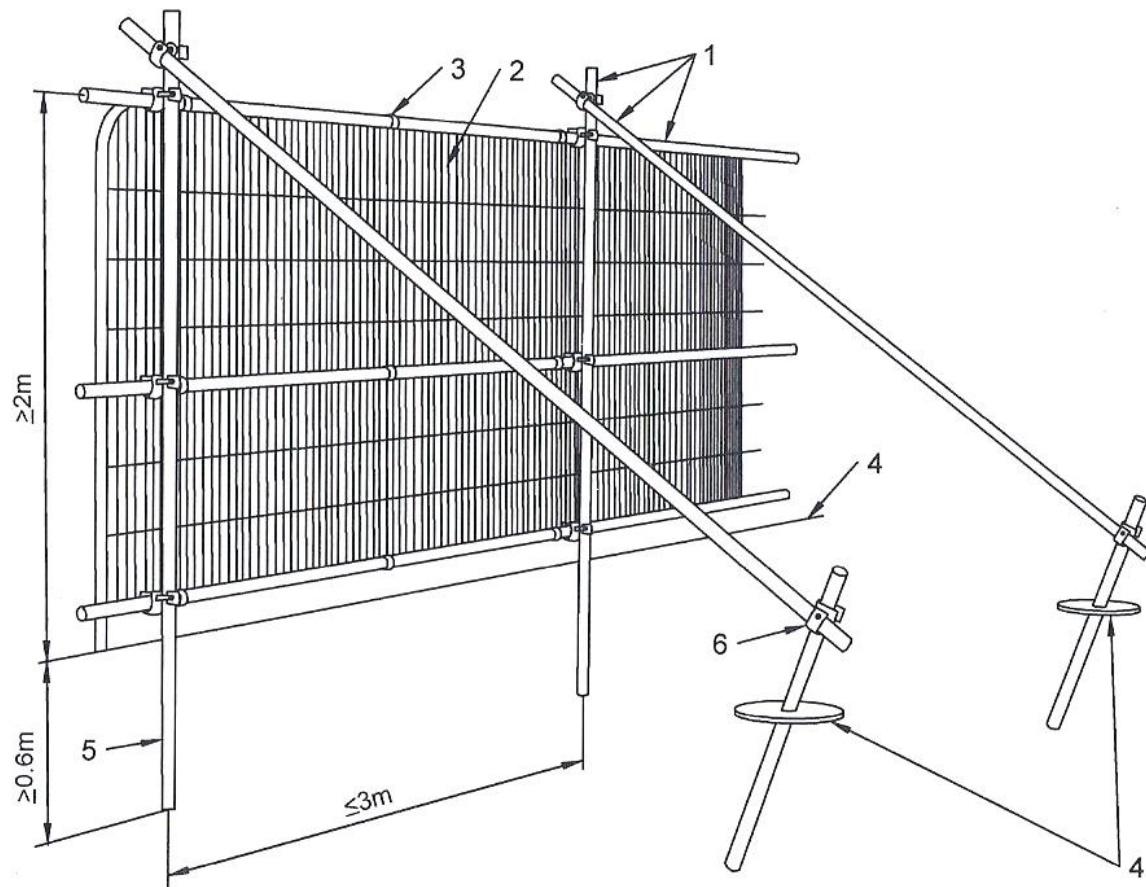
A Treescene draft TPP 05/2024 indicating suitable locations of protective barriers is attached as well as fencing detail shown on Figure 2.

7. **IMPACT ON LOCAL AMENITY**

Tree loss in relation to the development focuses primarily on the clearance of low quality trees mainly on the boundaries of the site although a few better quality trees require removal to enable installation of the site access. Most of the existing robust tree belts on the boundaries of the site are retained thus minimising any wider landscape impacts.

Extensive new tree planting within the site is proposed thus mitigating any tree loss and contributing to an enhancement of the local tree stock as a result of the proposed development.

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