




Tylorstown Landslip Phase 4

BS5837:2012 Tree Survey, Arboricultural
Impact Assessment.

May 2021

Quality Management

Job Number	CS/100303		
Project	Tylorstown – Landslip Phase 4		
Location	Tylorstown, Rhondda Cynon Taf		
Document Title	BS5837:2012 Tree Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment. May 2021		
Document BIM Ref		Revision / Status	P05
File Reference	\\capprcawfs01.ad.capita.co.uk\ZNSH\Arb projects\Live projects\CS100303 Tylorstown P4 Landslip		
Version Date	19 May 2021		
Prepared By	Charles Bennett/ David Holmes	Signature	
Checked By	Neil Griffiths	Signature	
Authorised By	Nick Holmberg	Signature	

Revision Status / History

Rev	Date	Status/ Purpose	Prepared	Checked	Authorised
P01-3	21/01/21	First Drafts	DH	PO'B	TB
P04	19/05/21	Draft for Client Review	CB/DH	NG	NH
P05	15/06/21	Final for Issue	CB/DH	NG	NH

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1. Introduction

1.1. Brief

1.1.1. This report has been commissioned by Nicolas Holmberg, Senior Environmental Consultant with Capita, 7th Floor Lee House, Churchgate House, 56 Oxford St, Manchester, M1 6EU.

1.1.2. The Capita Arboriculture Team have been instructed to provide a report for the following site:

Tylorstown, Rhondda Cynon Taf in accordance with the fee quotation provided.

1.1.3. The report is required to address the following points of reference:

- To carry out a tree survey in accordance with '*British Standard BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*', (BS 5837), of the working areas on site.
- A schedule classifying trees according to the categorisation for tree quality assessment set out in BS 5837.
- Provide an Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Arboricultural Plan.

1.2. Scope of the Report

1.2.1. This report records trees and shrub masses in accordance with BS 5837 which could have an influence on, or be affected by the proposed development.

1.2.2. The site is located in the borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf and is shown at the site location overview plan attached as Appendix 1.

1.2.3. Section 3 of this report is the Arboricultural Impact Assessments setting out the impacts of the proposed works on the surveyed trees.

1.2.4. Section 5 provides recommendations for the good management of the surveyed trees. These works should be undertaken irrespective of the proposed works.

1.2.5. Appendix 3 is the Tabulated Tree Data Survey Schedule which details the tree survey information collected for the two groups of trees.

1.3. Limitations of the Report

1.3.1. No invasive decay testing equipment was used as part of this survey.

1.3.2. The trees on the site were surveyed from ground level using the *Visual Tree Assessment methodology*, Mattheck, C. et al (1994). None of the trees were climbed as part of this survey.

1.3.3. The tree positions have been plotted using Google Earth imagery.

1.3.4. Trees under 75mm in diameter have not been included in this survey (in accordance with BS

¹ British Standards Institution. (2012). BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations. London: BSI Publications.

Section 4.2.4 b 5837). The surveyed trees are listed in the Tabulated Tree Data Schedule in Appendix 3 of this report.

- 1.3.5. Trees are living organisms and changes to their environment can have a significant impact on their structural and physiological conditions, which could influence how the trees impact on, or are affected by, the proposed development.
- 1.3.6. Where changes to the environmental conditions have occurred, and after extreme weather events, the impact of the trees on the development and the effect of the development on the trees will need to be reassessed.
- 1.3.7. This report is valid for a period of twelve months provided that there are no changes to the tree's environment, or extreme weather events, which could affect the trees during the twelve-month time period.

1.4. Relevant Background Information

- 1.4.1. Following a written instruction to complete an Arboricultural survey of the site, a drawing based on the Lidar survey of the area was made available in PDF format.
- 1.4.2. There are no Tree Preservation Orders in effect upon the trees on site and it is not within a Conservation Area.
- 1.4.3. No works should be carried out to trees without first checking with the Local Planning Authority the protected status of trees on site, and if necessary, gaining the requisite consents. It should be noted that the consent of the local planning authority is not required where such work is necessary to implement a full planning permission.
- 1.4.4. A proposal has been put forwards to remove colliery material from the upper area of landslip and deposit this at the receptor site. The basic proposals are to remove the majority of the remain colliery material from the remnant landslip site and deposit it at a nearby receptor site. The two sites will be joined with a haul road, established along the path of an existing tramway. In addition to the earth-moving activities and the creation of a haul road, drainage will be installed throughout the site and some temporary uses such as a construction compound and soil stockpile areas will also be required.

1.5. Qualifications

- 1.5.1. This report is based on the site observations of the author and the survey information provided and coming to conclusions in the light of their experience. A summary of the author's qualifications has been included in Appendix 5.

2. Tree Survey

2.1. Site Visits

- 2.1.1. A site visit by David Holmes, accompanied by Emma Carney, Ecologist with Capita, was undertaken on the afternoon of Monday the 12th of January 2021 with an unaccompanied site visit carried out in the morning of the following day, Tuesday the 13th January. Conditions for the survey were fair on the Monday, with a slight breeze, and continuous light cloud cover, visibility was good. Weather conditions on the Tuesday were overcast with a persistent drizzle which was considered acceptable enough to proceed. Access on the Monday was to the lower part of the slip (donor site) and was undertaken using a 4-wheel drive light-utility vehicle. Access on the Tuesday was made to the upper part of the site, around the compound and receptor site.
- 2.1.2. A second site visit by Charles Bennett, accompanied by Olga Krylova, Ecologist with Capita, was undertaken on the 13th and 14th May 2021. Conditions for the survey were good with occasional light train showers, a light breeze and good visibility. Access to the site was restricted by the steep uneven ground and dense gorse.
- 2.1.3. The surveyed trees are shown on the Arboricultural Plan attached as Appendix 2.

2.2. Site Description

- 2.2.1. The site is approximately 6.5 miles north west of Pontypridd town centre. The Rhonnda Fach runs through the bottom of the valley, which is a tributary of the Afon Rhondda. To the west of the river, on the opposite side of the valley is the settlement of Tylorstown.
- 2.2.2. The immediate survey area is made up of open moorland. The north-west part of the site is sloping down to the river and this is where the landslip occurred (donor site).
- 2.2.3. A receptor site for the colliery material is proposed at the south-east part of the site, behind Tylorstown Tip, a man-made hill known colloquially as 'Old Smokey'. The 2 sites will be connected by a haul road.

2.3. Tree Survey Data Collection

- 2.3.1. BS 5837 recognises that there are many factors that will ultimately determine development design layout. Information in this report is not meant to be interpreted rigidly. It is presented to allow an informed judgement on tree constraint and opportunity.
- 2.3.2. The tree survey is based on the methodology set out in BS 5837 and has been adapted to reflect the scale and nature of the proposed development.
- 2.3.3. The tree survey data was recorded on paper sheets. The detailed results can be found in the Tabulated Tree Data Survey Schedule in Appendix 3. The recorded data categories have been summarised in the list below:
 - Tree/Group number. Individual trees are prefixed by a 'T', groups by a 'G', and hedgerows by a 'H'.
 - Species.
 - Height.

- Trunk diameter measured at 1.5m from the surrounding ground level; and in accordance with BS 5837 for multi-stemmed trees.
- Crown spread to the four cardinal points, (NESW).
- Height from existing ground level of the first prominent branch and its direction of growth.
- Crown clearance of the lowest part of the crown above existing ground level.
- Age class.
- Physiological condition of the tree.
- Structural condition of the tree.
- Comments and Management recommendations.
- Estimated remaining contribution.
- Tree quality category in accordance with section 4.5 BS5837.

2.3.4. All measurements are estimated unless otherwise indicated in the table at Appendix 3. A range of heights and stem diameters is given to reflect the differing sizes of trees in the groups.

2.4. Tree quality categorisation

2.4.1. BS 5837 sets out a system of tree valuation which is a recognised and consistent approach in the arboricultural industry for making informed judgements on development opportunity and constraint.

2.4.2. Under BS 5837, the categorisation process allows a weighting to be given to each tree in respect of arboricultural, cultural, ecological and/or landscape value. BS 5837 is not a rigid or prescriptive system but a tool to inform decisions about tree retention and protection. The attribution of 'high value' to a tree does not necessitate its protection, nor does a lower classification mean that a tree should not be properly considered during the development process.

2.4.3. BS 5837 recognises that there are many additional factors that will ultimately determine development design layout. Information in this report is not meant to be interpreted rigidly and is presented in order to allow an informed judgement on tree constraint and opportunity.

2.4.4. The BS5837 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment is included in Appendix 4

3. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1. Arboricultural Appraisal

3.1.1. A total of 5 groups were identified and recorded as having the potential to influence, or be affected by, the proposed development.

Groups 1-3

3.1.2. All dimensions for tree stems and heights for G1 and G2 have been estimated as the topography and physical restrictions did not allow access to the trees on the lower area of the landslip. The location and general condition could, however, be observed.

3.1.3. The tree-stock of the valley sides is a sporadic mix of birch and oak (G2) with a group of mature oak adjacent to the river (G1). Sitka Spruce are slowly populating the upper sections of the site around 'Old Smokey' (G3), presumably self-seeded from the adjacent plantation sites. G3 constitutes approximately 40 stems.

Groups 4-5

3.1.4. Group 4 comprised 1 large birch in the north east corner of the group and numerous small self-seeded and planted birch, ash, willow, hazel, hawthorn and oak with a gorse understory. The root protection area of the large birch is 9.00m.

3.1.5. Group 5 consisted of four alder and one ash with an understory of Hazel. It was noted that the ash tree was infected with *Perenniopia fraxinea*. Fungal brackets are present around the entire circumference of the base of the tree, and on the west side of the trunk are large indicating extensive decay.

3.1.6. *Perenniopia fraxinea* can cause severe decay leading to the failure of the tree. The risk of harm from the failure of this tree is acceptable in the current situation. However, during the works to install the proposed drainage channel workers will come within falling distance of the tree. It is understood that this tree has a medium potential for bats. At the time of writing the required surveys to confirm the presence of a bat roost in the tree had not been carried. However, an assumption has been made that there is an aspiration to retain this tree. Therefore, it is recommend that the tree's crown is reduced to minimise weight and wind loading, and that fencing is installed to ensure that site staff cannot get close enough to the tree to be harmed if it does fail during the works.

3.1.7. The root protection area of the large alders is approximately 9.60m. The root protection area of the large ash is 11.40m.

Summary

3.1.8. Section 4.5 BS 5837:2012 recommends that trees are evaluated and categorised according to their 'Retention Value'. The values are summarised below in Table 1. The purpose of the tree categorisation method is to identify the quality and value, (in a nonfiscal sense), of the existing tree stock, allowing informed decisions to be made with regard to retention and removal of trees in the event of any development.

Table 1: Arboricultural Appraisal Summary

Group	BS 5837 Category
G1	A
G2	B
G3	C
G4	C
G5	B

3.2. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.2.1. The Arboricultural impacts of the proposed development are set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Group Number (Tree)	Number of Trees	Impact	Severity of impact	Mitigation
G1	Not counted – restricted access	None	n/a	None
G2	Not counted – restricted access	None	n/a	None
G3	Approx. 20 – 30 stems	Trees requiring removal to facilitate development resulting in a small loss of amenity.	Low	None
G4 (Large Birch)	1	Tree requiring removal to facilitate development resulting in a small loss of amenity.	Moderate	Replacement Planting
G4 (Self-seeded trees)	Numerous	Trees requiring removal to facilitate development resulting in a small loss of amenity.	Low	Replacement Planting
G5 (Alder)	4	Damage to rooting area from installation of drainage channel.	Low/moderate	Install tree protection fencing. Move alignment of channel outwith the root protection area of the trees.
G5 (Ash)	1	Damage to rooting area from installation of drainage channel.	Moderate	Install tree protection fencing. Move alignment of channel outwith the root protection area of the trees.

3.2.2. Additional small self-seeded trees were noted on the upper donor site landslip and 1 small tree noted on the part of the proposed haul road that connects with Blaenllechau Road, these trees were under the 75mm minimum diameter and as such are not material considerations.

3.2.3. The lower part of the landslip has presently been deemed secure and no further excavations are proposed in this area that would impact any of the trees in groups G1 and G2 and no protection is considered necessary.

3.2.4. Further up the hillside Group G5 could potentially be affected by the new drainage works associated with the remediation of the donor site. This group comprises four alders and one ash. The ash has potential for bats and is heavily infected with *Perenniopia fraxinea* creating

a risk to staff when installing any drainage channel close by. The tree should be crown reduced to reduce weight and sail area to reduce the risk of failure. Due to the size of these trees and their proximity to the edge of the slip there is a low to moderate risk of harm due to damage to their rooting environments. If possible, the proposed drainage channel should be located so that it is no closer than 12.4m to the trees. The tree protection fencing should be installed no closer to the trees than 11.4m allowing for 1m working space to install the channel. Around the ash tree the fencing should be at an appropriate distance from the tree to ensure that if the tree did fail no part of the tree would land outside the fencing. The crown reduction should be carried out prior to commencement of works in proximity to the ash tree.

- 3.2.5. Group 4 comprises predominantly small self-seeded trees with one large birch present; they are all category C trees. They are also within the area of the Llanwonno Upper Tip to be excavated and will need to be removed to facilitate this work. There will be a modest loss of amenity arising from the removal of the group, particularly the birch. Category C trees should not constrain a development (in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Section 4.2.4 b) and as mitigation it is proposed to undertake replacement planting of these trees with similar native species as set out in the Environmental Statement (ES) accompanying the application.
- 3.2.6. At the receptor site to be prepared for the colliery material, G3 will also need to be removed. These trees are self-seeded, category C spruce trees which have a low amenity value. There will be a modest loss of amenity arising from the removal of G3, however, it will not significantly alter the character of the local area in the mid to long-term. Category C trees should not constrain a development (in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Section 4.2.4 b). In the case of G3, as advised by the scheme ecologists, new tree planting is not recommended in this location. The regeneration of the majority of both sites will rely on stripped topsoil and turfs being used to naturally regenerate with native vegetation. The rationale for this decision is fully set out in the ES.

4. Conclusions

4.1. Conclusions

- 4.1.1. A total of five groups of trees were recorded within the development site, two in Category C, two in Category B and one in Category A.
- 4.1.2. Several smaller trees identified on the upper land slip site and 1 stem on part of the proposed haul road were under the minimum 75mm diameter at breast height and are therefore not included within this impact assessment.
- 4.1.3. Access to two of the groups (G1 and G2) was severely restricted, due to the area of landslip. However, none of the development proposals are considered likely to affect these groups in any way.
- 4.1.4. To achieve the proposal, two Category C groups (G3 and G4) will need to be removed. Group 3 consists of approximately 20 - 30 stems. G4 contains the only large tree – a single birch but mostly consists of small self-seeded native species.
- 4.1.5. Category C trees should not constrain a development (in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Section 4.2.4 b).
- 4.1.6. As advised by the scheme ecologists replacement planting will not be provided for the loss of G3 as the trees are of low amenity value. The preferred methodology to enhance the ecology of both sites has been designed and predominantly involves reusing the topsoil and original turfs to promote its natural regeneration.
- 4.1.7. In the case of G4, replacement planting is recommended to compensate for the loss of the area of deciduous native species. The precise location and scale of the planting is still to be determined but will consist of similar native species and is likely to cover the original G4 group area plus an additional compensation area to the west of it within the planning boundary. As discussed previously, natural regeneration across the majority of the site is preferred from an ecological perspective.
- 4.1.8. The proposed works also have the potential to affect one the other group – G5. The proposed installation of drainage channels could damage the rooting area of this group if associated works are too close. The impact is assessed as potentially low-moderate and therefore, it is recommended that tree protection fencing is installed and that the alignment of any drainage channel is moved outside the root protection area of the trees.

5. Recommendations

5.1. Management Recommendations

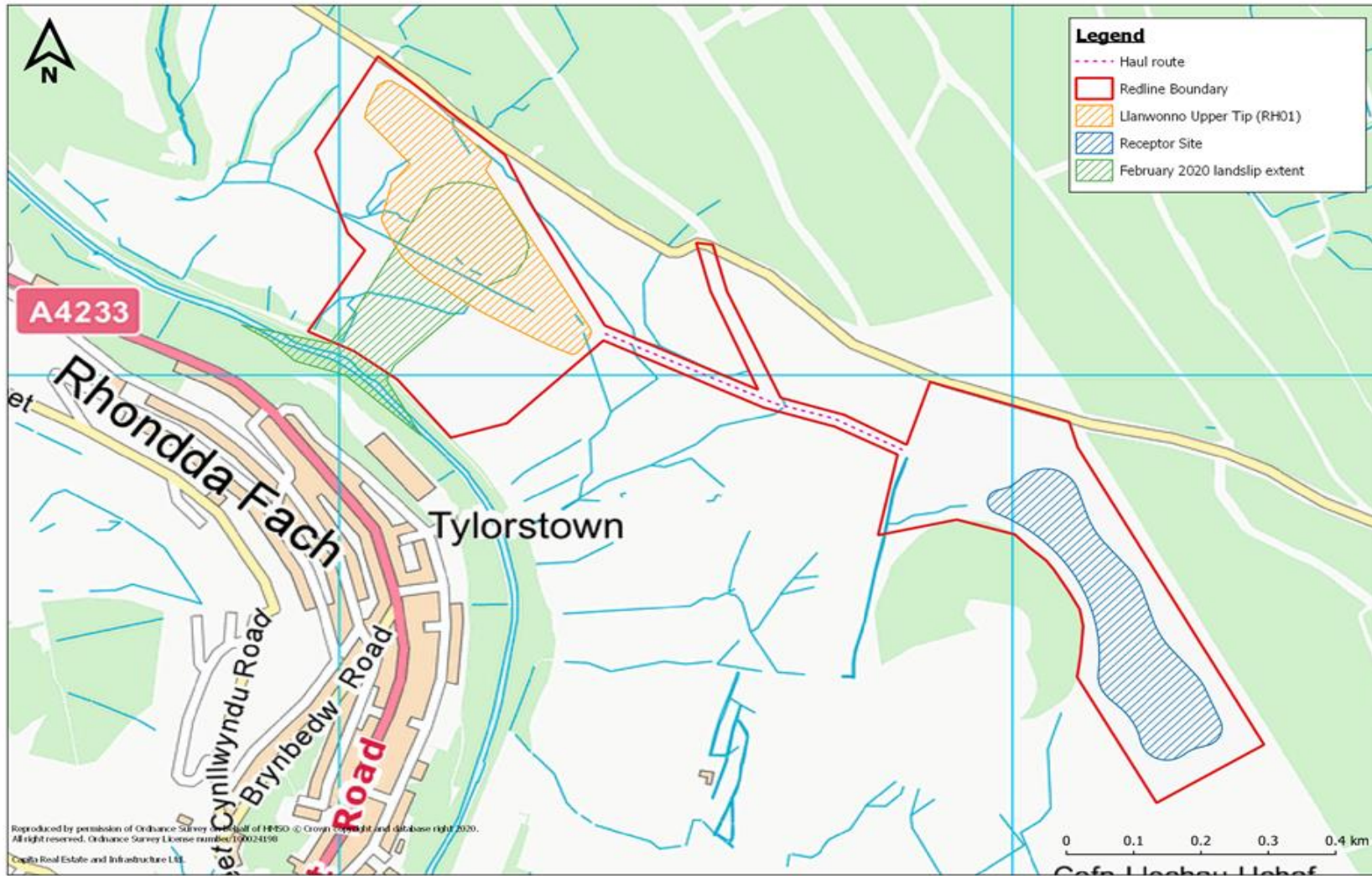
5.1.1. The following works are recommended to minimise the risk to the users of the site.

Group 5	Recommended Works
Ash	Crown reduce by 2m all round

5.1.2. All tree work should be carried out to BS3998:2010 *Tree work - Recommendations*.

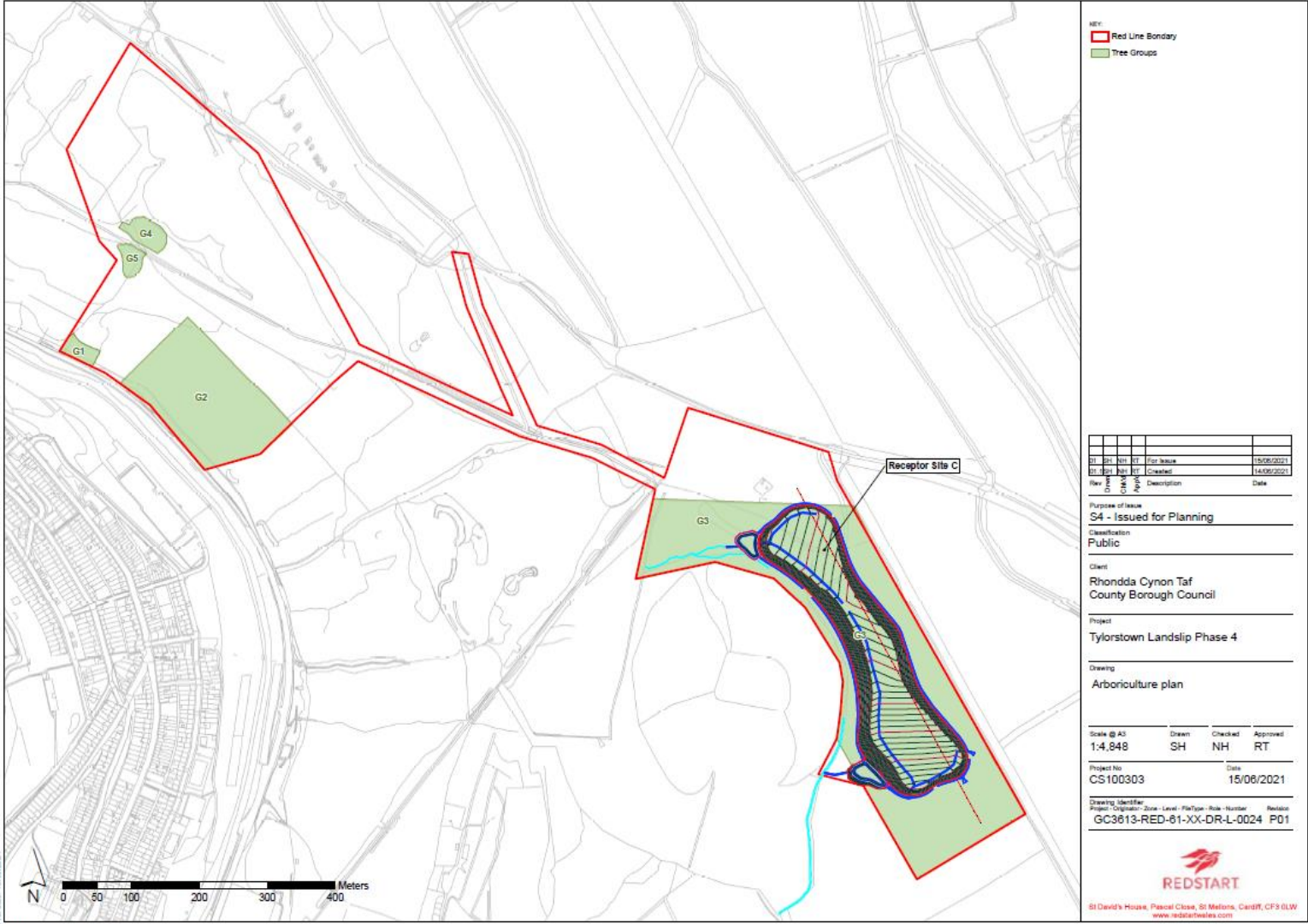
5.1.3. Tree maintenance can be a hazardous profession therefore it is important that all operatives have the necessary and relevant training, health and safety and insurance certification.

Appendix 1 – Site Location Overview Plan



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Appendix 2 – Arboricultural Plan



KEY
 Red Line Boundary
 Tree Groups

Rev	Drawn	Checked	Approved	Description	Date
01	SH	NH	RT	For Issue	15/06/2021
02	SH	NH	RT	Created	14/06/2021

Purpose of Issue
S4 - Issued for Planning

Classification
Public

Client
 Rhondda Cynon Taf
 County Borough Council

Project
 Tylorstown Landslip Phase 4

Drawing
 Arboriculture plan

Scale @ A3
 1:4,848

Drawn: SH
 Checked: NH
 Approved: RT

Project No: CS100303
 Date: 15/06/2021

Drawing Identifier:
 Project - Originator - Zone - Level - FileType - Role - Number - Revision
 GC3613-RED-61-XX-DR-L-0024 P01



Plot date: 15/06/2021
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Appendix 3 – Tabulated Tree Data Survey Schedule

Group No.	Species	Height	Trunk Dia @ 1.5m	Crown Spread				1st Branch height/direction	Crown Clearance	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments and Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution	Tree quality assessment Category
				N	E	S	W								
G1	Birch; Oak	15	≤ 550	6	6	6	6	0:N	0	Mature	Good	Good	Access difficult – inspection from nearest safe position. Riverside group – part of much larger woodland feature flanking river. No works required.	40+	A2
G2	Birch; Oak	12	≤ 450	5	5	5	5	0:N	0	Early Mature	Good	Good	Access difficult – inspection from nearest safe position. Sloping site – obvious signs of ground disturbance. No works required.	20-40	B2
G3	Sitka Spruce	6	≤ 300	2	2	2	2	0:N	0	Young	Good	Good	Self-seeded sporadic group. No works required.	10-20	C2
G4	1 large birch in the north east corner and numerous small self-seeded birch, ash, willow, hazel, hawthorn and oak with a gorse understory.	4 to 8	75 to 750	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	Young to Mature	Fair	Fair	Group of small self-seeded trees and one large birch abutting the landslip.	20+	C2

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Group No.	Species	Height	Trunk Dia @ 1.5m	Crown Spread				1st Branch height/direction	Crown Clearance	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments and Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution	Tree quality assessment Category
				N	E	S	W								
G5	4 alder and 1 ash with hazel understory	8 to 14	800 to 950	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	Mature	Fair	Fair	Group of 4 alder and one ash with hazel understory. Ash infected with <i>Perenniopia fraxinea</i>	20+	B2

Explanatory notes to the tabulated tree data schedule

- The tree locations have not been plotted as part of a land survey/topographical survey. These stem locations have been positioned without the use of electronic measuring equipment. The accuracy given for the tree stem locations is $\pm 2\text{m}$.
- The tree species is given in the common name.
- The tree height is measured using a sunnto clinometer and is given an accuracy of $\pm 2\text{m}$.
- The trunk diameter is measured at 1.5m from the surrounding ground level. The accuracy is given as $\pm 50\text{mm}$.
- The tree crown spread is measured at the four cardinal directions. The accuracy for the measurement is given as $\pm 1\text{m}$.
- The height in meters above ground level and the direction of the first significant.
- The height in meters above the ground level of the substantial part of the trees crown. The accuracy for the measurement is given as $\pm 1\text{m}$.
- # indicates an estimated measurement.
- The Age Class is defined as follows;
 - Y – Young; establishing trees, should be fast growing, primarily in height than spread but only having a limited impact upon the landscape.
 - EM – Early Mature; established young trees should be fast growing, primarily in height than spread but having some impact upon the landscape.
 - M – Mature; well established trees still developing with some vigour but now have filled out, increasing in crown spread. In middle or half of useful life expectancies
 - OM – Over Mature; fully mature with declining vitality and likely to have features that could be regarded as potential faults, such as broken branches and old wounds. Likely also to have high visual amenity value
 - V – Veteran tree which can survive for many years, with health growth continuing although the tree may be of low vitality. Crown size is usually reducing through natural branch loss or tree management. Sites of decay are normally present which may represent a hazard to public or property. These trees have high conservation or historic or amenity value.
- The Physiological Condition is an assessment of relative vitality of the tree indicated by; Dead, Poor, Fair, and Good.
 - Dead – dead or moribund
 - Poor – low vigour and declining growth, many dead twigs and branches within the outer crown
 - Fair – normal growth and twig extension

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Good – very good growth extension, normally found in young and young mature specimens.

- The Structural Condition is an assessment of the condition of the structural form of the tree which includes the branching system and stem and buttresses indicated by; Obvious Defects, Poor, Fair, Good.

Obvious Defects – the tree has already suffered significant level of structural failure and is at risk of collapse in whole or part in the short term.

Poor – defects that are likely to result in actual failure in the medium to long term, not foreseeable in the short term.

Fair – minor or potential incipient defects that may require remedial tree work to reduce the risks to public safety.

Good – no obvious structural defects.

- Comments and Management Recommendations notes the condition, problems, or peculiarities to do with the tree and where appropriate provides management recommendations.
- Estimated Remaining Contribution is an estimate of the length of time in years that a tree might be expected to continue to make a useful contribution to the locality at an acceptable level of risk (based on an assumption of continued maintenance). <10 = Less than 10 years; 10+ years, 20+ years, 40+ years.
- The tree quality assessment category classifies the trees as category U, A, B or C, based on criteria given in BS5837. See Appendix 4 – BS5837 Cascade chart for tree categorisation. Categories A, B and C are further characterised using sub-categories: (1) refers to qualities of the tree of an arboricultural nature, (2) indicates qualities concerned primarily with their situation within the landscape and (3) refers to other values such as those of a cultural, historic or ecological nature. Examples of these qualities for each of the three categories are given below, although these are indicative only. A summary of the definitions follows

U – UNSUITABLE TREES (●): 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.

A – TREES OF HIGH QUALITY (●): Important or valuable trees or groups of trees that are likely to make a substantial contribution to the locality for 40 years or more.

A1 - Notably fine specimens; rare or unusual specimens; essential component trees within groups, semi-formal or formal plantings (e.g. dominant trees within an avenue etc.).

A2 - Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural or landscape features, (including avenues & other features that may be assessed collectively as groups).

A3 - Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture).

B – TREES OF MODERATE QUALITY (●): Trees or groups of some importance and likely to make a significant contribution for in excess of 20 years.

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- B1 - 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.
 - B2 - Numbers of trees, groups or woodlands forming distinct landscape features that are of higher collective value than they would warrant as individuals (e.g. non-category A trees within avenues). Also, trees internal to the site that are of little visual impact within the wider locality.
 - B3 - Trees, groups or woodlands with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits.
- C – TREES OF LOW QUALITY (●):** Trees or groups of low quality, but capable of retention for at least approx. 10 years, e.g. until new planting is established. Small, young trees (below 150mm diameter) whose loss would be easily mitigated by new planting, or which would be capable of transplanting.
- C1 - Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.
 - C2 - 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.
 - C3 - Trees with no material conservation or other cultural benefit.

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Appendix 4 – BS5837 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p><i>NOTE</i> Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</p>			See Table 2
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Trees to be considered for retention				
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)	See Table 2
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	See Table 2
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	See Table 2

Appendix 5 – Qualifications of Charles Bennett

I am a Chartered Arboriculturist having 40 years' experience working with trees. My qualifications include the Level 6 Professional Diploma in Arboriculture and I am a professional member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters (MICFor Chartered Arboriculturist)

I maintain an active CPD programme and details of recent training can be provided on request.

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