

# **Land North of Barkby Road, Syston**

# **Arboricultural Impact Assessment**

(Incorporating Tree Protection Measures)

Prepared by:
The Environmental
Dimension Partnership
Ltd

On behalf of: **Taylor Wimpey (UK) Ltd** 

November 2021 Report Reference: edp4685\_r003e

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(Extract from BS 5837:2012, Figure 2 'Protective Barrier')

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(edp4685\_d031b 02 November 2021 GY/BW)

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# Section 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) has been prepared by the Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) on behalf of Taylor Wimpey (UK) Ltd in relation to the proposed development of Land North of Barkby Road, Syston (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). It sets out the nature and extent of tree losses and provides mitigation and protection measures, to ensure the viable long-term retention of retained trees in the context of the development proposals.
- 1.2 The Site is located on the south-eastern urban edge of the town of Syston and lies within the administrative boundary of Charnwood Borough Council (CBC). It consists of two arable fields bounded by hedgerows. The site is bordered by further agricultural land to the north; the Queniborough Road runs the length of the eastern boundary; Barkby Road runs the length of the southern boundary; and residential properties lie to the west.
- 1.3 This AIA has been prepared using EDP's arboricultural constraints information contained within the Arboricultural Technical Note (edp4685\_r002) found to the rear of this report as Appendix EDP 1. This baseline survey data was collected by EDP on 15 March 2018. In line with the Arboricultural Technical Note, there is a need to resurvey after a period of 24 months. However, given the minor layout change of the proposed and the trees' proximity to it, it is felt that there has been no material change to tree stock, and therefore this period has been extended.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

- 1.4 The purpose of this AIA is to assess the impacts upon the tree stock from the proposed development and demonstrate which trees can be retained and which will require removal. In addition, it will provide mitigation measures, such as protective fencing, to ensure the safe, long-term retention of any retained tree, should the development be permitted.
- 1.5 This AIA has been prepared to inform an Outline planning application for up to 195 dwellings, together with associated affordable housing, open space, landscaping, drainage and play space facilities. All matters reserved bar access which is proposed from Barkby Road.

#### **Relevant Baseline Documents**

- 1.6 EDP's Arboricultural Technical Note (**edp4685\_r002**) is relevant to the provisions of this AIA and this AIA should be read in conjunction with the Technical Note, where applicable.
- 1.7 The following best practice guidance and informative standards are relevant to the provisions of this AIA and should be read in conjunction with the AIA where applicable:

- BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction Recommendations. BSI 2012;
- NJUG Volume 4 Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees. National Joint Utilities Group 2007; and
- BS 3998: 2010. Tree Work Recommendations. BSI 2010.

# Section 2 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

- 2.1 This Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) has been prepared following site-based observations, a desktop study of the survey data and consideration of the Concept Masterplan (**Appendix EDP 2**). It relates to the baseline arboricultural assessment and constraints information contained within **Appendix EDP 1**, which is overlaid onto the Concept Masterplan (**Appendix EDP 2**). The resulting drawing, a Tree Protection Plan (**Plan EDP 1**), is provided at the rear of this report.
- 2.2 This AIA recognises that construction activities pose a threat to subject trees if they are treated inappropriately, assesses the likely impacts of the proposals on the tree stock, and where appropriate, provides mitigation with the view of achieving a harmonious relationship between the trees and the built form.
- 2.3 Assessment of the impact of the proposals has been determined following consideration of the constraints each surveyed item poses, by virtue of its position, branch spread and designated root protection area (RPA).
- 2.4 Consideration should be given to retaining all trees where possible. However, ultimately the removal of any tree is dependent on its proximity to the footprint of any proposal and associated landscaping.

#### **Tree Removals for Reasons of Sound Arboricultural Management**

- 2.5 The BS 5837:2012 compliant survey identified a total of five category U items, four of which whose conditions were considered to be impaired to such an extent that they should be removed, irrespective of any development proposals, and are therefore not included in the calculations to follow. These are summarised in **Table EDP 2.1** below and detailed in the Tree Survey Schedule contained within **Appendix EDP 1**.
- 2.6 The removal of any items off-site would require permission from the landowner.
- 2.7 The exception to this is the fifth category U item, an ash tree (T10) which has bat roost potential and is to be retained as an ecological feature. Due to the condition of this tree, it is recommended that should the development proceed, this tree is periodically assessed to ensure it can be safely retained. If this tree requires any work or felling in the future, ecological advice should be sought prior to any work being undertaken.

Table EDP 2.1: Tree Removal for Reasons of Sound Arboricultural Management

Tree Number	Tree Species	Tree Grade
H12	Common hawthorn (Crataegus	U
	monogyna)	
H14	Common hawthorn (Crataegus	U
	monogyna)	

Tree Number	Tree Species	Tree Grade
H15	Common hawthorn (Crataegus	U
	monogyna); Elder (Sambucus	
	nigra); English elm (Ulmus	
	procera)	
H16	Common hawthorn (Crataegus	U
	monogyna); English elm	
	(Ulmus procera)	
T10	Common ash (Fraxinus	U
	excelsior)	

#### **Damage to Rooting Environment during Construction Activities**

- 2.8 The required RPA for each item is described in the tree survey schedule and is depicted on the Tree Constraints Plan, both found within **Appendix EDP 1**. To ensure appropriate protection is afforded to the roots, the extent of the RPA shall be defined by means of the installation of protective barriers in accordance with BS 5837:2012, the specification for which is included as **Appendix EDP 3** of this report.
- 2.9 Tree root morphology can be difficult to predict where constraints such as historically ploughed fields can influence root distribution, and the nominal circular root protection areas, in line with BS 5837, must be regarded with some caution. This is discussed further in paragraphs 2.10 and 2.11.

#### Non-circular root distribution and protection

- 2.10 Item T13, a mature, category B English oak, lies on an east-to-west boundary between two arable fields. Root development is expected to be limited to the north and south, where the soil has been regularly compacted and perforated by historic ploughing operations and waterlogging.
- 2.11 The RPA and resulting Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) for T13, therefore, diverges from the nominal circular root protection area described in BS 5837:2012, as shown on the Tree Protection Plan (Plan EDP 1). This is justified in Section 4.6.2 of BS 5837:2012, which states:

"The RPA for each tree should initially be plotted as a circle centred on the base of the stem. Where pre-existing site conditions or other factors indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically, a polygon of equivalent area should be produced. Modifications to the shape of the RPA should reflect a soundly based arboricultural assessment of likely root distribution."

#### **Items Impacted by Development Proposals**

2.12 Assessment of the Concept Masterplan determines that three items are impacted by the development proposals; these are detailed in **Table EDP 2.2**. All three items are category C, of low quality and value.

Table EDP 2.2: Items Impacted by Development Proposals

Ref. Number	Species	Impact	Category Grading
H1	Common hawthorn ( <i>Crataegus</i> monogyna); Blackthorn ( <i>Prunus</i> spinosa)	Partial removal for access	С
НЗ	Blackthorn ( <i>Prunus spinosa</i> ); Elder ( <i>Sambucus nigra</i> ); English elm ( <i>Ulmus procera</i> )	Partial removal for internal road alignment	С
H4	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior); Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa); Elder (Sambucus nigra)	Partial removal for internal road alignment	С

#### **Summary of Tree Losses and Retention**

2.13 A summary of the tree losses and retention, based upon the Concept Masterplan, is provided in **Table EDP 2.3**. In this context, the term 'affected' means a retained item where partial removal is required, or encroachment into the RPA of a retained item is required, in order to facilitate the development.

Table EDP 2.3: Summary of Tree Losses and Retention

Existing		Trees and Groups Lost Due to Proposals	Trees and Groups Affected by Proposals	Trees and Groups Unaffected by Proposals	
Category B	3	0	0	3	
Category C	11	0	3	8	
Totals	14	0	3	11	

#### Mitigation

2.14 Existing trees identified for retention on the appended Tree Protection Plan (**Plan EDP 1**) will continue to be managed in accordance with BS 5837:2012. Critically, this requires the implementation of physical protection measures to safeguard the retained trees, including robust protection in the form of a barrier to BS 5837:2012 specification (**Appendix EDP 3**), during the demolition and construction phases. The importance of such matters cannot be overlooked if a successful outcome is to be ensured.

# **Section 3 Conclusions**

- 3.1 Masterplanning of the development has been informed by arboricultural recommendations throughout and has sought to retain all trees where possible. The partial loss of three low quality items will be more than compensated for through the provision of new trees and hedgerows, as well as hedgerow reinforcement across the Site. The new planting has potential for greater longevity within the landscape, in accordance with appropriate management, and will increase the species diversity for the Site. Furthermore, addition of new tree and hedgerow stock will contribute towards improving the quality of the Green Infrastructure in the area.
- 3.2 Existing trees identified for retention on the appended Tree Protection Plan (**Plan EDP 1**) will continue to be managed in accordance with BS 5837:2012. Critically, this requires the implementation of physical protection measures to safeguard the retained trees, including robust protection in the form of a barrier to BS 5837:2012 specification, during the demolition and construction phases. The importance of such matters cannot be overlooked if a successful outcome is to be ensured.
- 3.3 A suitably worded condition can secure any mitigation measures which would be required to minimise harm and ensure safe, long-term retention to trees.

### Glossary

Arboricultural Impact Assessment	Study, undertaken by an Arboriculturist, to identify, evaluate and possibly mitigate the extent of direct and indirect impacts on existing trees that may arise as a result of the implementation of any site layout proposal.				
Arboricultural Method	Methodology for the implementation of any aspect of development that				
Statement	has the potential to result in loss of, or damage to a tree.				
Construction Exclusion	Area based on the RPA (in m²), identified by an Arboriculturist, to be				
Zone	protected during development, including demolition and construction				
	work, by the use of barriers, and/or ground protection fit for purpose to				
	ensure the successful long-term retention of a tree.				
Detailed Investigation	During a visual inspection, a tree may be identified as requiring further				
	detailed investigation. Examples of further assessment can include				
	invasive boring tests, Picus reports, climbing inspections or root scans.				
Root Protection Area	Layout design tool indicating the area surrounding a tree that contains				
(RPA)	sufficient rooting volume to ensure the survival of the tree, shown in plan				
	form in m <sup>2</sup> .				
Services	Any above ground and piped and/or ducted underground infrastructure				
	including water main, electricity supply, gas supply, fibre-optic utilities,				
	telecommunications cabling, storm and foul water drainage, including				
	temporary storage for run-off, pumping stations, interceptors and other				
	allied buried structures.				
Special Engineering	Design of a structure with the physiological requirements of trees as a priority.				
Tree Constraints Plan	Plan prepared by an Arboriculturist for the purposes of layout design				
	showing the RPA and representing the effect that the mature height and				
	spread of retained trees will have on layouts through shade, dominance,				
	etc.				
Tree Protection Plan	Scale drawing prepared by an Arboriculturist showing the finalised layout				
	proposals, tree retentions, and tree and landscape protection measures				
	detailed within the arboricultural method statement (AMS), which can be				
	shown graphically.				
Veteran Trees	A tree that, by recognised criteria, shows features of biological, cultural				
	or aesthetic value that are characterised of, but not exclusive to,				
	individuals surviving beyond the typical age range of the species				
	concerned.				

Land North of Barkby Road, Syston Arboricultural Impact Assessment edp4685\_r003e

Appendix EDP 1
Arboricultural Technical Note
(edp4685\_r002)



### Land North of Barkby Road, Syston Technical Note in Respect of Arboriculture edp4685\_r002e

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) has been commissioned by Taylor Wimpey (UK) Ltd (the applicant) to undertake a BS 5837:2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction* compliant survey of the trees in relation to the proposed development of Land North of Barkby Road, Syston (hereafter referred to as 'the site').
- 1.2 EDP is an independent environmental planning consultancy with offices in Cirencester, Cardiff and Cheltenham. The practice provides advice to private and public sector clients throughout the UK in the fields of landscape, ecology, archaeology, cultural heritage, arboriculture, rights of way and masterplanning. Details of the practice can be obtained at our website (www.edp-uk.co.uk).
- 1.3 The Site is located on the south-eastern urban edge of the town of Syston and lies within the administrative boundary of Charnwood Borough Council (CBC). It consists of two arable fields bounded by hedgerows. the site is bordered by further agricultural land to the north; the Queenborough Road runs the length of the eastern boundary; Barkby Road runs the length of the southern boundary; and residential properties lie to the east.

#### 2. Methodology and Limitations

- 2.1 The methodology adopted for this survey is based on guidelines set out in BS 5837:2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction*, especially Section 4.4, 'Tree Survey'. Site trees and other significant vegetation are as noted on **Annex EDP 1**. This is derived from the topographic survey data included as **Annex EDP 2**. All surveyed items are detailed in **Schedule EDP 1** (**Annex EDP 3**). No other trees are covered by this survey.
- 2.2 All trees have been visually inspected from ground level unless otherwise stated, with no climbing or further detailed investigative tests being undertaken. The comments on their condition are based on observable factors present at the time of inspection. All measurements are metric and have been recorded in accordance with the measurement conventions set out in Section 4.4.2.6 of BS 5837:2012.
- 2.3 Any recommendations given regarding longer-term management are made on the basis of optimising the life expectancy of site trees, given their current situation and any effects that may result from the development proposals.



- 2.4 **Schedule EDP 1** provides information about the following factors in accordance with Section 4.4.2.5 of BS 5837:2012:
  - Sequential reference number (recorded on **Annex EDP 1**);
  - Species;
  - Height;
  - Stem diameter;
  - Branch spread;
  - Existing height above ground level;
  - Life stage;
  - Physiological condition;
  - Structural condition;
  - Preliminary management recommendations;
  - Estimated remaining contribution;
  - Category grading; and
  - Tree works priority codes.

#### Limitations

- 2.5 Due to the changing nature of trees and other site circumstances, this report and any recommendations made are limited to a 24-month period from the survey date. Any alterations to the site or the development proposals could change the current circumstances and may invalidate this report and any recommendations made.
- 2.6 Trees are dynamic structures that can never be guaranteed 100% safe; even those in good condition can suffer damage under average conditions. Regular inspections can help to identify potential problems before they become acute.
- 2.7 A lack of recommended work does not imply that a tree is safe and likewise, it should not be implied that a tree will be made safe following the completion of any recommended work.
- 2.8 The subject trees have not been tagged for identification purposes.



#### 3. Aims and Objectives

3.1 The tree constraints information contained within this technical note will be used to inform the masterplanning of the site and, in turn, the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, which will be submitted in support of the Outline Application.

#### 4. Overview of Tree Stock

- 4.1 The survey has identified four individual trees, two groups of trees and 13 hedgerows, totalling 19 items. Of these 19 items, three have been categorised as B, of moderate quality; and 11 have been categorised as C, of low quality. In addition, five items have been categorised as U and due to their impaired condition are considered unsuitable for retention, irrespective of development.
- 4.2 An illustrative summary of the species diversity, age distribution and grading categorisation for the site is provided in **Annex EDP 4**.
- 4.3 All surveyed items are as noted in **Annex EDP 1** and detailed in **Schedule EDP 1** (**Annex EDP 3**).

#### 5. Statutory Protection

#### **Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas**

5.1 Review of CBC's online resource confirms that there are no Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) registered against this Site, nor does the site lie within a designated conservation area.

#### 6. Site Constraints

- 6.1 All off-site items indicated in **Annex EDP 1** remain outside of the direct control of the scheme, however, their above- and below-ground constraints will need to be considered in during the design process.
- 6.2 The required RPA for each item is as described in **Schedule EDP 2** (**Annex EDP 5**) and is depicted in **Annex EDP 1**. To ensure appropriate protection is afforded to the roots, the extent of the RPA shall be defined by means of the installation of protective barriers in accordance with the recommendations given in Section 6.2 of BS 5837:2012. The extent of this enclosed area, known as the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ), will be depicted on a Tree Protection Plan, to follow on with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment.



#### 7. Conclusion

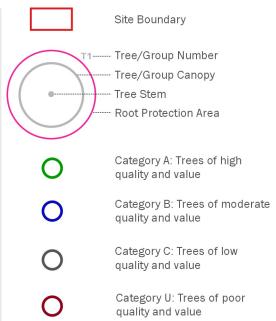
- 7.1 Of the items surveyed, three items have been identified as category B, of moderate quality and value, and should be prioritised for retention due to their condition, age and retention span.
- 7.2 The arboricultural constraints information provided with this Technical Note will feed into the proposed masterplanning for the site and inform the site Layout.
- 7.3 Once the site Layout has been fixed, an Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan will be undertaken to support the Outline Application and to ensure the safe, long-term retention of the arboricultural items for the Site.

Land North of Barkby Road, Syston Technical Note in Respect of Arboriculture edp4685\_r002e



Annex EDP 1 Tree Constraints Plan (edp4685\_d010b 25 June 2018 LB/LM)





client

Taylor Wimpey (UK) Ltd

roiect title

Land North of Barkby Road, Syston

drawing title

Annex EDP 1: Tree Constraints Plan

 date
 25 JUNE 2018
 drawn by LB
 LB

 drawing number
 edp 4685\_d010b
 checked
 LM

 scale
 Refer to scale bar
 QA
 GY



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Land North of Barkby Road, Syston Technical Note in Respect of Arboriculture edp4685\_r002e



Annex EDP 2 Topographical Survey



TOPOGRAPHICAL & MEASURED BUILDING SURVEYS ABBREVIATIONS & SYMBOLS

FL Floor Level

FP Flag Pole

FW Foul Water GG Gully Grate

GV Gas Valve HH Head Height

P/Wall Partition Wall

RL Ridge Level

FH Fire Hydrant SP Arch Spring Point Height

IC Inspection Cover THL Threshold Level

OHL Overhead Line (approx) USB Under Side Beam

P/R Post & Rail Fence WL Water Level P/W Post & Wire Fence WM Water Meter

SV Stop Valve

SW Surface Water

Tac Tactile Paving

TC Telecom Cover

ToW Top of Wall

TP Telegraph Pole

TV Cable TV Cover UB Universal Beam

UC Unknown Cover

VP Vent Pipe

WH Weep Hole

TH Trial Pit

Original Sheet Size A0H

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY Sheet 2 of 2

TAYLOR WIMPEY STRATEGIC LAND 10/1/2018 PDS

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enquiries@survey-solutions.co.uk



### Annex EDP 3 Tree Survey Key and Schedule EDP 1

Sequential Deference	T. Individual anasimans			
Sequential Reference	T - Individual specimen;			
Number				
	G - Group, Trees that form cohesive arboricultural features either			
	aerodynamically, visually or culturally;			
	H - Linear group of specimens that form a hedge or boundary; and			
	W - A larger group or area of trees that should be regarded as a single woodland			
	unit			
Species	Common English names are used wherever possible for simplicity			
Height	An approximation of height (in metres) is provided for the highest point of the tree.			
Stem Diameter	This is the measurement of stem diameter in millimetres taken in accordance			
Stelli Diameter	with Annex C of BS 5837:2012.			
Dronch Chrood				
Branch Spread	This is taken at four cardinal points, with a stated value in metres to enable an			
	accurate representation of the crown, as shown on <b>Annex EDP 1</b> .			
Existing Height Above	An approximation of height (in metres) of crown clearance above adjacent ground			
Ground Level	level.			
Life Stage	There are six classes to which trees are assigned:			
	Young;			
	Semi Mature;			
	Early Mature;			
	Mature;			
	Over Mature; and			
	Veteran.			
Physiological	An indication of the tree's physiological condition is represented and classed as			
Condition	good, fair, poor or dead, this is informed by the following:			
Contaction	good, fall, poor of dead, this is informed by the following.			
	Canany Dansity, It should be taken that junious atherwise stated with each			
	Canopy Density: It should be taken that, unless otherwise stated with each			
	individual entry, the canopy density of the trees is typical of the species; and			
	Leaf Size and Colouration: It should be taken that, unless otherwise stated with			
	each individual entry, leaf size and colouration is typical of the species.			
Structural Condition	Additional notes are provided giving details of the tree's structural condition. This			
	is informed by "the presence of any decay and physical defect1".			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BS 5837:2012 Section 4.4.2.5



Г						
Preliminary	These are made on the basis of optimising the life expectancy of site trees, given					
Management	their current situation and that which may result from the development proposals.					
Recommendations	The survey process pays particular attention to implications for life and/or					
	property; defects recorded under the structural condition have the necessary					
	mitigation measures proposed within this section of the schedule.					
Estimated Remaining	The definitions of the terms used are as follows and describe the estimated length					
Contribution	of time (in years) over which the tree can be expected to make a safe contribution					
	to local amenity:					
	to local amornity.					
	Less than 10;					
	Less than 10,					
	101.					
	10+;					
	20+; and					
	40+.					
Category Grading	Trees have been assigned 'U' or Category Grading 'A' to 'C' in accordance with the					
	Cascade Chart given in BS 5837:2012.					
Tree Works Priority	Priority codes from 1 to 3 have been given for trees requiring work. The definition					
Codes	of the codes used is as follows:					
	Priority 1: Work that should be undertaken urgently due to the identification of a					
	potential hazard;					
	Priority 2: Work that should be undertaken prior to any works commencing on					
	site; and					
	5.55, 5.75					
	Priority 3: Work that should be undertaken following the completion of the					
	development.					
	development.					



### Annex EDP 4 Illustrative Summary of Survey Data

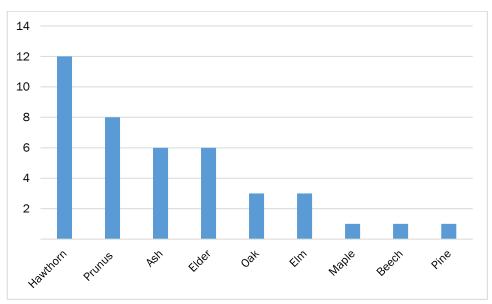


Figure EDP 4.1 Species Diversity

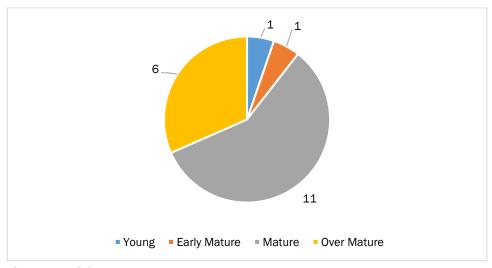


Figure EDP 4.2: Age Distribution



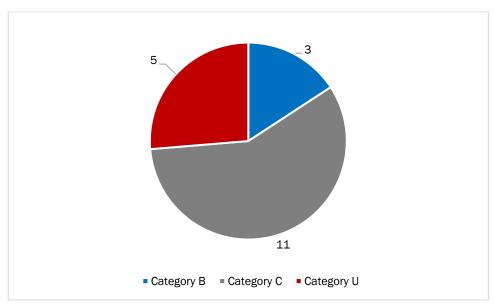


Figure EDP 4.3: Category Grading



#### Annex EDP 5 Schedule EDP 2 Tree Constraints Schedule

Reference	Cat	No of	RPA	RPA	Ultimate	Ulti	vn Spread	ıd (m)	
No.	Grading	stems	Radius (m)	Area m <sup>2</sup>	Height (m)	N	E	s	w
H1	C2	1	1.2	4.5	2	1	1	1	1
H2	C2	1	1.8	10.2	5	1	1	1	1
Н3	C2	1	1.8	10.2	2	1	1	1	1
H4	C2	1	1.8	10.2	2	1	1	1	1
H5	C2	1	1.2	4.5	2	1	1	1	1
Н6	C2	1	1.2	4.5	2	1	1	1	1
H7	C2	1	1.2	4.5	3	1	1	1	1
T8	B1	1	4.0	49.3	15	5	5	5	5
Н9	С	1	1.8	10.2	5	1	1	1	1
T10	U	1	11.4	408.3	11	2	4	5	5
H11	С	1	1.2	4.5	1	1	1	1	1
H12	U	1	1.2	4.5	1	1	1	1	1
T13	В	1	11.4	408.3	23	11	12	10	12
H14	U	1	1.2	4.5	1	1	1	1	1
H15	U	1	1.2	4.5	1	1	1	1	1
H16	U	1	1.2	4.5	3	1	1	1	1
T17	C1	1	1.2	4.5	6	2	2	2	2
G18	С	1	1.8	10.2	8	1	1	1	1
G19	B2	1	2.4	18.1	11	2	2	2	2

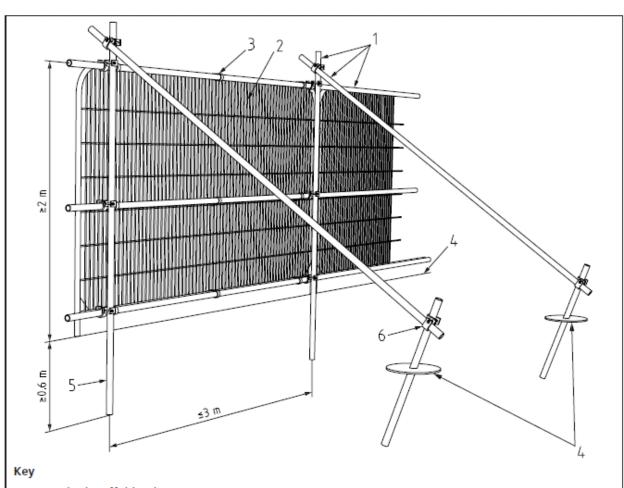
### **Appendix EDP 2**

Concept Masterplan Drawing Number P20-3155 003 Sheet No: 1 Rev: F





# Appendix EDP 3 Tree Protection Barrier on Scaffold 2.0m High (Extract from BS 5837:2012, Figure 2 'Protective Barrier')

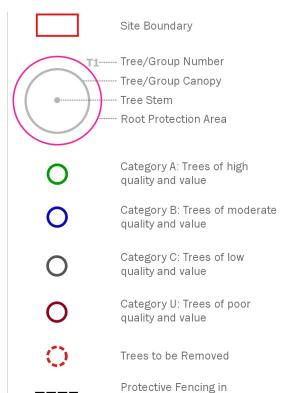


- Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
- 4 Ground level
- 5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
- 6 Standard scaffold clamps

### Plan

Plan EDP 1 Tree Protection Plan (edp4685\_d031b 02 November 2021 GY/BW)





accordance with BS 5837:2012

client

#### Taylor Wimpey (UK) Ltd

project title

Land North of Barkby Road, Syston

drawing title

**Tree Removal and Retention Plan** 

date 02 NOVEMBER 2021 drawn by GY drawing number edp4685\_d031b checked BW scale 1:1,750 @ A3 QA RB



the environmental dimension partnership

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