Land South West of Sandwich Road, Sholden

Preliminary Arboricultural Impact Assessment

5th March 2021

Tyler Grange

TG Report No. 11464_R05c_JP_MM

Report No:	Date	Revision	Author	Checked
11464_R05	5th March 2021	C	Rob Anderson Fdsc, Nd Arb, MArborA	Jack Jewell, BA(Hons), MLA, CMLI

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Contents:

Appendices:

Plans:

Summary

S.1. This report details the findings of a tree survey and the potential impacts towards existing trees to accommodate the proposed new development known as the Land South West of Sandwich Road, Sholden. The survey and assessment work has been completed by a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant of Tyler Grange Group Limited on behalf of Richborough Estates Ltd.

S.2. This site is currently used for arable farming with a small number of trees located around the field boundaries. In addition, several trees were found growing along the London/Sandwich Road at the north of the site.

S.3. The survey and assessment have been completed in accordance with the British Standard 5837 (2012) to accord with industry best practice.

S.4. None of the trees within the survey area are protected by Tree Preservation order or are within a conservation area.

S.5. Trees to the south of the survey area are at a sufficient distance from the proposed that they will not be affected by the proposed.

S.6. The potential tree loss requirement to accommodate the development has been assessed based on the proposed development parameters. This initial assessment, in the absence of detailed designs, predicts the loss of 6 trees. All trees proposed to be removed are located along Sandwich Road and where categorised as 'moderate quality' category B in accordance with BS5837:2012 Table 1. There removal is needed to facilitate the construction of the main highway site entrance and its associated visibility splays.

S.7. The opportunities for new tree planting along the road frontage and within the site as part of the development is expected to provide a future net-gain in tree cover despite the tree loss predictions. The development is therefore considered supportable in the context of the NPPF and local planning policy as it relates to trees.

S.8. Further work is recommended to include a full Arboricultural Impact Assessment once detailed designs have been prepared. This should include an Arboricultural Method Statement detailing procedures for tree protection throughout the construction stage.

Section 1: Introduction

Purpose

1.1 This Preliminary Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been prepared by Tyler Grange Group Ltd on behalf of Richborough Estates Ltd to accompany a planning application at Land South West of Sandwich Road, Sholden.

1.2 Outline planning permission is sought for the construction of 110 residential units with all associated infrastructure and a new highway access point onto Sandwich Road. The layout of the proposed development is shown on the Illustrative masterplan reference 275 PO1 included at **Appendix 1** of this report.

1.3 This report:

- Provides the findings of a field-based tree survey and the associated tree constraints towards new development; and
- Addresses the potential arboricultural impacts of the proposed development based on its parameters and in the context of local and national planning policy.

1.4 Dover District Councils Local planning policy and national planning policy pertinent to trees and the new development is set out at **Appendix 2**.

1.5 The tree survey and assessment has been guided by the recommendations set out within the British Standard 5837 (2012) 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations' (hereafter 'BS5837') to accord with industry best practice.

Section 2: Tree Survey Findings

Site Description

2.1 The site is centred on national grid reference TR 35328 52587 and its boundary is demarcated by the red line as shown on the Tree Constraints Plan 11464/P08 located to the rear of this report (See Plan 1)

2.2 The site is made up of a single arable field bounded by hedgerows along a section of the north site boundary. The site is directly adjacent arable fields along the south and west site boundary and residential housing to the north and east site boundaries. Tree are located along the periphery of the fields and within the grass verge of Sandwich road.

Tree Survey Summary

2.3 A tree survey was completed in accordance with BS5837 and the methodology as detailed at **Appendix 3**. The survey was completed by a suitably qualified Arboricultural Consultant of Tyler Grange in November 2020. A measured topographical survey (supplied by others) was used to inform the location of trees and their surrounding context.

2.4 The distribution of the trees surveyed is illustrated on the **Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) (See Plan 1)**, which includes plotted details of their constraints to new development in accordance with BS5837, including:

- Tree quality gradings[1];
- Root Protection Areas (RPAs)[2];
- Tree canopy spreads[3]; and
- Tree shading[4].
- Ancient Woodland and Veteran Tree Buffers[5]

2.5 Findings for each of the trees surveyed are detailed in the Tree Survey Schedule (**See Appendix 5**). This provides a tabulated record of the trees surveyed, including; reference numbers, species composition, tree dimensions, life stage, physiological and structural condition, and the arboricultural value of each survey entry.

2.6 The trees surveyed have been categorised using the 'cascade chart for tree quality assessment' (**See Appendix 4**) recommended by the BS5837. The grading system allows informed decisions to

[1] The value of arboriculutral features surveyed in accordance with the methodology set-out Appendix 3.
[2] a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority. See further explanation at Appendix 3.
[3] Dimensions of the trees crown spread and clearance from ground level. See further explanation at Appendix 3.
[4] Shade cast by existing trees which may affect the availability of sunlight and daylight within a new development. See further explanation at Appendix 3.
[5] A buffer zone around an ancient or veteran tree should be at least 15 times larger than the diameter of the tree. The buffer zone should be 5m from the edge of the tree's canopy if that area is larger than 15 times the tree's diameter ('Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: protecting them from development', Forestry Commission and Natural England as updated November 2018). See further explanation at Appendix 3.

made concerning the design and impact of the development in relation to the arboricultural value of the trees surveyed.

2.7 A breakdown of category gradings across the trees, groups and hedgerows, surveyed is provided in **Table 1** below.

Table 1: Category Grading of Arboriculture Features by Number

	Category U	Category A	Category B	Category C
Trees	None	None	15	17
Groups	None	None	None	None
Hedgerows	None	None	None	None
Woodlands	None	None	None	None

2.8 No trees were found to be of High quality (category A) within the survey. Additionally, no trees where found of declining health and condition (Category U).

2.9 Trees of moderate arboricultural value (Category B) are denoted by a Blue tree canopy outline, as illustrated on the TCP. 'B' category trees on the site are those trees with moderate individual quality, or trees present in numbers, growing as groups with landscape value, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals. 'B' category trees are those that might be included in the high category, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage) Category B trees are considered as desirable to retain as part of the development as they include mature trees and others with good future potential.

2.10 Trees of low arboricultural value trees are denoted by a Grey tree canopy outline as illustrated on the TCP. Except for Category U trees, all remaining tree cover is considered to provide limited or transient benefits which may be readily replaced in the existing context. Such trees subsequently presented a minimal constraint to proposed development from an arboricultural perspective.

Tree-related Designations

2.11 Following a background check of available online mapping, the presence or absence of tree-related designations is detailed in **Table 2** below.

2.12 With the use of the local planning authority mapping service a check was conducted on the 23rd February 2021 for the presence of any statutory protection that may cover trees on this site.

Table 2: Tree-related Designations

Designation Type	Tree Reference Numbers
Tree Preservation Order[6]	**None**
Conservation Area[7]	**None**
Ancient Woodland [8]	**None**
Woodland Habitat [9]	**None**

6 A Tree Preservation Order is an order made by a local planning authority in England to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity. An Order prohibits the any works and damage to trees (with some exceptions) without the local planning authority's written consent. More information can be found online https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas#tree-preservation-orders--general.
7 Trees in a conservation area that are not protected by an Order are protected by the provisions in section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. These provisions require people to notify the local planning authority, using a 'section 211 notice', 6 weeks before carrying out certain work on such trees, unless an exception applies. More information can be found online https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas#tree-preservation-orders--general.
8 Ancient woods are areas of woodland that have persisted since 1600 in England and Wales, and 1750 in Scotland. The Magic Maps website https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx has been used to search for ancient woodland on or adjacent to a site.
9 Spatial data of woodlands identified under the Priority Habitat Inventory (England) Published by Natural England. The Magic Maps website https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx has been used to search for woodland on or adjacent to a site.

Section 3: Preliminary Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1. The assessment of arboricultural impacts has been based on the proposed illustrative layout which is shown on the Preliminary Tree Retention and Removal Plan ('TRRP', ref 11464_P09). Given the outline nature of the design (and in the absence of detailed proposals for layout and engineering etc), this report seeks to present a worst-case scenario of potential tree removal to accommodate the development, based on its parameters alone. It is therefore, reasonable to expect that, as part of future detailed designs, the implications of the development towards trees will be refined further and could be subject to change.

3.2. The assessment is informed by a composite overlay of the BS5837 tree survey information and proposed development parameters which are shown on the TRRP located to the rear of this report.

Expected Tree Retention and Removal

3.3. The likely extent of tree removal to accommodate the development is illustrated on the TRRP and consists of the removal of six Category B trees shown as T5, T6, T7, T8, T9 & T10 that are growing within the grass verge off Sandwich Road. The removal of these trees is required to be able to facilitate the main access point into the site. At the design stage of the illustrative layout, the location of the entrance was discussed, and due to highways safety constraints required by Kent County Council, the location must be as shown with the associated tree removal works being unavoidable.

New Tree Planting Opportunities

3.4. A detailed soft landscaping proposal has not been produced at this outline stage. However, within the illustrative masterplan indictive planting is shown throughout the site and if implemented as shown would greatly increase the tree canopy cover within the site and mitigate for the number of trees removed. It is recommended that a detailed soft landscape plan can be conditioned as part of the planning consent.

Proximity of Development Parameters to Retained Trees

3.5. The location of the proposed development parameters has been considered in relation to the retained trees. Overall, the majority of the trees within the survey area are located at a suitable distance from the proposed development so as not to adversely impact them.

3.6. The retained trees growing along the site frontage to Sandwich Road are closest to the proposals but will be separated from the buildings by two large attenuation ponds. This means amenity issues associated with trees such as shading, and leaf fall are not anticipated as being a concern on this site to future occupants.

3.7. As can be seen on the TRRP all proposed construction including the construction of the attenuation points is located outside the RPA's of the retained trees.

Construction Mitigation

3.8. Given the indicative nature of the proposed design at this stage, a detailed methodology for tree protection during the site preparation and constructions stages has not been prepared.

3.9. It is recommended that arboricultural advice continues into the detailed design stage of the development to ensure that trees are duly considered in terms of site layout, engineering, landscape, and future management. It is therefore recommended that a full Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is prepared as part of a reserved matters application or to discharge applicable and suitably worded planning Conditions should the outline planning application be consented.

3.10. An AMS will set out a practical methodology to the protection of retained trees based on fully detailed designs, phasing and construction management. The AMS will typically include the following key items:

- A schedule and specification of tree removal and pruning works;
- Specifications for tree protection barriers and ground protection;
- Procedures for any specialist construction techniques / any supervised excavations within RPAs (if required)
- Phasing of work;
- Site monitoring (where required); and
- A Tree Protection Plan.

Conclusion

3.11. This report sets out the findings of a tree survey and provides a preliminary assessment of arboricultural impact to accompany the planning application.

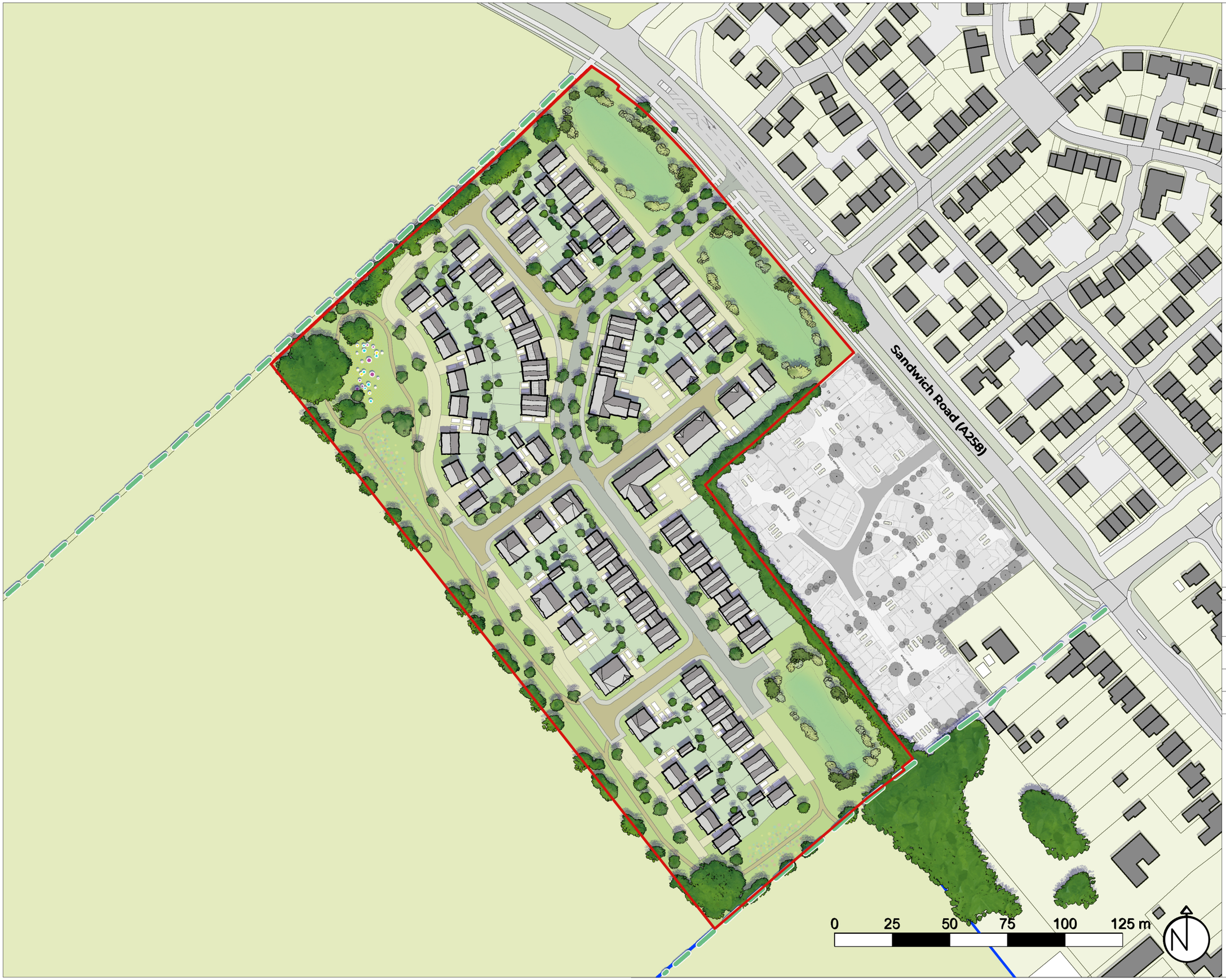
3.12. None of the trees surveyed are subject to a Tree Preservation Order nor are they located within a Conservation Area. The site's tree cover includes trees of low to moderate value which comprise of established trees typical of a field boundary growth or roadside planting.

3.13. The proposed development will result in the loss of six moderate-quality trees along the road frontage of Sandwich road. The removal of such trees is not directly referenced within the local or national planning policy.

3.14. The loss of the six trees can be mitigated through a soft landscaping plan at the detailed design stage under a suitably worded planning condition.

3.15. The proposed scheme is therefore considered to demonstrate accordance with national and local planning policy as it relates to trees. Further work is recommended to include an arboricultural assessment through the detailed design stage and an adoption of tree protection measures throughout the construction stages.

Appendix 1: Illustrative Master plan



PLANNING

Site Boundary *(4.99ha)*

Land in same ownership

Rev.	Date	Description

Land South West of Sandwich Road, SHOLDEN

Illustrative Masterplan

Job ref:	Drawing number:	Revision:
275	P01	-

Scale:	Date:
1:1,500 @ A3	March 2021

part of
edge Placemaking Group Ltd
Company Reg No: 11447550 VAT No: 299072069

Suite 2
7 Buttermarket
Thame
Oxfordshire
OX9 3EW

01865 522395
enquiries@edgeUD.co.uk
www.edgeUD.co.uk

Appendix 2: Planning Policy Context

National and Local Planning Policy

A2.1. The consideration for existing trees and woodlands in relation to planning and new is set out within Section 15 'Conservation and Enhancing the Natural Environment' within the NPPF.

A2.2. Paragraph 175 states that "development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons, and a suitable compensatory strategy exists".

A2.3. At a national level, the consideration for trees is recognised in the context of their contribution green infrastructure and biodiversity networks, and also in terms of their contribution in landscape terms to the local setting and character to a place. Great weight is also applied to the importance of conserving existing aged trees, including ancient woodland and trees and trees considered to be 'veterans'. The site's network of veteran tree cover must therefore be adequately protected as part of the emerging design.

A2.4. The site falls within the administrative borough of Dover District Council. A new Local Plan is currently being produced which will cover the period 2021 to 2037 which will replace the current adopted Development Plan documents. The Council's planning policies are set out in the Dover District Local Development Framework: Core Strategy which was adopted in February 2010.

Policy C08 – Hedgerows

A2.5. Development which would adversely affect a hedgerow will only be permitted if: no practicable alternatives exist; suitable native replacement planting is provided; and future maintenance is secured through the imposition of conditions or legal agreements.

Policy CP7 – Green Infrastructure Network

A2.6. The integrity of the existing network of green infrastructure will be protected and enhanced through the lifetime of the Core Strategy. Planning permission for development that would harm the network will only be granted if it can incorporate measures that avoid the harm arising or sufficiently mitigate its effects. Proposals that would introduce additional pressure on the existing and proposed Green Infrastructure Network will only be permitted if they incorporate quantitative and qualitative measures, as appropriate, sufficient to address that pressure. In addition, the Council will work with its partners to develop the Green Infrastructure Framework and implement proposed network improvements.

Appendix 3: Tree Survey Methodology, Constraints Mapping and Report Limitations

Field Work

A3.1. In accordance BS5837, the tree survey included all trees within / in influence of the site and the site boundaries that were over 75mm diameter at breast height (1.5m).

A3.2. Measured topographical survey data (supplied by others) was used to inform tree locations their surrounding context. Any trees not identified on the topographical survey are prefixed with (*) and their locations have been approximated using measurements during the tree survey and further informed by aerial photography where required.

A3.3. The trees surveyed were visually inspected from ground level only. No invasive investigations or climbing inspections were necessary to confirm visual or audible signs of defect or debility and no tissue or soil samples were undertaken. For further clarification please refer to the tree survey explanatory notes in below.

Tree Numbers

'T' prefixes have been used to identify individual trees and commence with 'T1'.

'G' prefixes have been used to identify groups of trees.

'H' prefixes have been used to identify hedgerows.

'W' prefixes have been used to identify woodlands.

Species

Species are listed by their common name, both in the schedule and in the report text.

Height and Stem Diameter

A3.4. The stem diameter is measured at 1.5m above ground level and given in millimetres (mm). Tree heights are measured in metres (m) using a clinometer where access and land typography allowed. In instances where access to tree's stem and height measurements were not possible, the dimensions have been estimated by eye.

Crown Spread and Height of Crown Clearance

A3.5. Radial crown spread is measured in metres and is listed for each of the four cardinal points where access has been possible to obtain a measurement. Where access was not possible to measure the spread of the canopy, such distances have been estimated by eye or informed by aerial photography.

A3.6. The measured canopy shapes have been plotted on the Tree Constraints Plan at the four cardinal points. For groups of trees, the extent of the canopy has been measured as an average across the group and plotted using the topographical survey mapping. In some instances, Tyler Grange will use aerial photography to inform the canopy spread of larger tree groups and woodlands where topographical data is limited for such features.

A3.7. The distance between the ground level and the first significant branch or radial tree crown, whichever is the lower, has been measured in metres.

Age Class

The age of each tree is defined as follows:

Young - within the first third of reaching full maturity;

Semi-Mature - within the second third of reaching full maturity;

Early-Mature - within the last third of reaching full maturity;

Mature - specimen at full maturity; and

Veteran – tree that, by recognised criteria, shows features of biological, cultural or aesthetic value that are characteristic of, but not exclusive to, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species concerned.

Physiological and Structural Condition

A3.8. The physiological or structural condition of each tree is defined as either; good, fair, poor or dead. For each tree, where appropriate, notes on the structural integrity are provided on form, taper, forking habit, storm damage, decay, fungi, pests, etc.

A3.9. An assessment of a tree's physiological condition is defined as:

Good – fully functioning biological system showing expectant vitality for the species i.e. normal bud growth, leaf size, crown density and wound closure.

Fair – fully functioning biological system showing below average vitality i.e. reduced bud growth, smaller leaf size, lower crown density and reduced wound closure.

Poor – a biological system with limited functionality showing clear physiological decline, disease or significantly below average vitality i.e. limited bud growth, small and chlorotic leaves, low crown density and limited wound closure.

Dead – tree observed to fully dead with no living parts.

An assessment of a tree's structural condition is defined as:

Good – no significant structural defects.

Fair – structural defects which could be alleviated through remedial tree surgery or arboricultural management practices

Poor – structural defects which cannot be alleviated through tree surgery or arboricultural management practices.

Tree Quality Gradings

A3.10. The value of trees has been assessed in accordance with the BS5837 Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment (See Appendix 4). Grading subcategories (1, 2 and 3) reflect arboricultural, landscape and cultural values, respectively.

Root Protection Areas

A3.11. The Tree Constraints Plan shows the approximate extent of Root Protection Areas (RPAs). The RPAs have been plotted and calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in Appendices C and D of BS5837, using the tree stem diameter dimensions obtained during the site visit.

A3.12. Plotted RPAs serve as a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.

A3.13. Where pre-existing site conditions or other factors indicate that rooting may occur 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 observed on-site. Any deviation in the RPA from the original circular plot should take account of the following factors whilst still providing adequate protection for the root system:

a) the morphology and disposition of the roots, when influenced by past or existing site conditions (e.g. the presence of roads, structures and underground apparatus);

b) topography and drainage;

c) the soil type and structure;

d) the likely tolerance of the tree to root disturbance or damage, based on factors such as species, age, condition and past management.

A3.14. The plotted RPAs have therefore informed the design of the proposed development where possible. While developing within RPAs should be avoided, special working methods can be adopted to alleviate the RPA disturbance for cases where the development is considered necessary and unavoidable.

Veteran Tree and Ancient Woodland Buffers

A3.15. The TCP identifies the minimum buffers required from ancient woodland and veterans' trees in accordance with the Government Standing Advice, which states that:

"*A buffer zone's purpose is to protect ancient woodland and individual ancient or veteran trees. The size and type of buffer zone should vary depending on the scale, type and impact of the development.*

For ancient woodlands, you should have a buffer zone of at least 15 metres to avoid root damage. Where assessment shows other impacts are likely to extend beyond this distance, you're likely to need a larger buffer zone. For example, the effect of air pollution from development that results in a significant increase in traffic.

A buffer zone around an ancient or veteran tree should be at least 15 times larger than the diameter of the tree. The buffer zone should be 5m from the edge of the tree's canopy if that area is larger than 15 times the tree's diameter.

Where possible, a buffer zone should:

- *contribute to wider ecological networks*
- *be part of the green infrastructure of the area*

It should consist of semi-natural habitats such as:

- *woodland*
- *a mix of scrub, grassland, heathland and wetland planting*

You should plant buffer zones with local and appropriate native species.

You should consider if access is appropriate and can allow access to buffer zones if the habitat is not harmed by trampling.

You should avoid including gardens in buffer zones.

You should avoid sustainable drainage schemes unless:

- *they respect root protection areas*
- *any change to the water table does not adversely affect ancient woodland or ancient and veteran trees".*

Tree Canopies and Shading

A3.16. The distribution of tree canopy cover on and within influence of the site is illustrated on the TCP. Canopies have been plotted at cardinal points for individual and groups of trees. The Tree Survey Schedule included at Appendix 5 to the rear of this report lists the vertical clearance from site ground level to significant tree branching of individual trees. This measurement informs the impacts of accessibility and development beneath tree canopies.

A3.17. The principal tree shadow constraints are shown on the TCP and have been plotted in accordance with BS5837 using the current height of surveyed trees. The indicative shade cast by existing surveyed trees signifies the area within which the amenity interests of shading, available daylight and the proximity of trees to any future site uses may be impacted upon should a tree be retained as part of development.

A3.18. Where shading is unavoidable, the potential adverse impact of shadowing should also be reviewed on balance with the positive aspects of retaining a degree of canopy shade. BS5837:2012 (para. 5.3.4, a) NOTE 1) states that "shading can be desirable to reduce glare or excessive solar heating, or to provide comfort during hot weather. The combination of shading, wind speed/turbulence reduction and evapotranspiration effects of trees can be utilised in conjunction with the design of buildings and spaces to provide local microclimatic benefits".

Limitations

A3.19. The comments made are based on observable factors present at the time of inspection. Although the health and stability of trees in their current context is an integral part of their suitability for retention, it must be understood that this report is not a tree risk assessment and should not be

construed as such. While every attempt has been made to provide a realistic and accurate assessment of the trees' condition at the time of inspection, it may have not been appropriate, or possible, to view all parts or all sides of every tree to fulfil the assessment criteria of a risk assessment.

A3.20. No tree can be considered entirely safe, given the possibility that exceptionally strong winds could damage or uproot even a mechanically 'perfect' specimen. It is therefore usually accepted that hazards are only recognisable from distinct defects or from other failure-prone characteristics of the tree or the site. An assessment of the potential influence of trees upon existing buildings or other structures resulting from the effects of trees upon shrinkable load-bearing soils or the effects of incremental root or branch growth, are specifically excluded from this report.

Un-assessable Risks

A3.21. Any alteration to the application site or development proposals could change the current circumstances and may invalidate this report and any recommendations made.

A3.22. The Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended) makes it an offence to disturb nesting birds or recklessly endanger a bat or its roost. Bats are also a European protected species and are additionally protected under the Conservation (Habitats & c) Regulations 1994 and 2010 (as amended). The survey findings, constraints, opportunities and design or mitigation recommendations included within that report must be read alongside this document.

A3.23. A lack of recommended work does not imply that a tree does not pose an unacceptable level of risk and likewise, it should not be implied that a tree will present an acceptable level of risk following the completion of any recommended work.

Appendix 4: Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment

TREES FOR REMOVAL				
Category and Definition	**Criteria**			**Identification on Plan**
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	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 (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning).			DARK RED
	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)			
TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION				
Category and Definition	**Criteria - Subcategories**			**Identification on Plan**
	1.Mainly Arboricultural Values	2. Mainly Landscape Values	3. Mainly Cultural Values, including Conservation	
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)	` LIGHT GREEN
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 remedial 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.	MID BLUE
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 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 temporary/transient landscape benefit.	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.	GREY

Appendix 5: Tree Survey Schedule