

Heron Eccles Playing Fields

Arboricultural Method Statement

June 2016



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Section 1

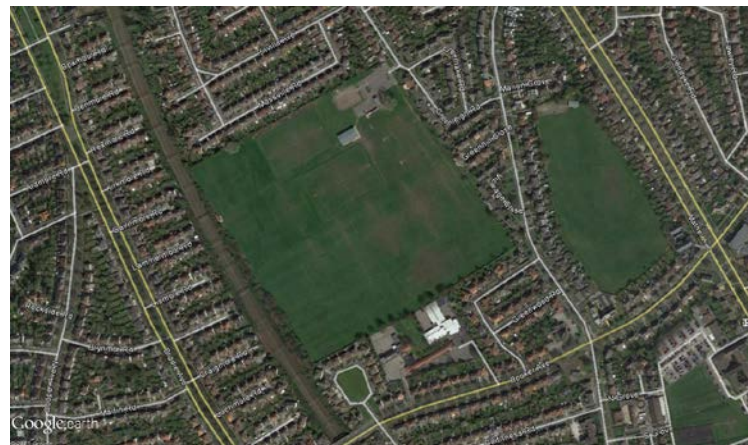
General

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is prepared on behalf of Liverpool City Council for the development of Heron Eccles Playing Fields, Abbottshey Ave, Allerton, Liverpool. L18 7JT.

This document is intended to demonstrate the degree of protection to be undertaken and demonstrate the fact that, in arboricultural terms, the development is sustainable.

This AMS sets out proposed measures to minimise and mitigate construction impact on the trees and targets for the management of the site during the construction phase. The document provides certainty of outcomes, for example details of special engineering within tree Root Protection Areas.

It is intended that the AMS remains under review during the construction of the project. Sequencing of tree protection measures has been programmed with the contractor's construction programme (being drafted). The following text contains a series of considerations that the applicant and their appointed developer will follow whilst working on the project to completion.



Section 2

Description and Location of Project	
Author:	ACS Consulting, 272 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JR.
Project Title:	Heron Eccles
Value of Project: □	£ T.B.A.
Location:	Heron Eccles Playing Fields, Abbottshey Ave, Allerton, Liverpool. L18 7JT.
Nature of Project:	Installation of three full sized fenced and floodlit 3G artificial grass pitches, new extension to the existing pavilion building with associated site access improvements and increased/new parking provision.
Contract Period:	T.B.A.

Section 3

Development

The project involves installation of three full sized fenced and floodlit 3G artificial grass pitches, new extension to the existing pavilion building providing new main entrance, reception area, club room and space for coach education together with associated site access improvements and increased/new parking provision. at Heron Eccles Playing Fields, Abbottsley Ave, Allerton, Liverpool L18 7JT.

Section 4

Planning Conditions/Statutory Protections

The application is subject to the saved Planning Policies of Liverpool City Council. The site is not located within a Conservation Area. The application is not the subject of the National Planning Policy Framework in terms of trees. This document is concerned with ancient woodland and Veteran Trees. These do not appear at this site.



Section 5

Tree Survey

I have identified seventeen individual trees, three groups and two hedgerows. The group classification is intended to identify trees that form cohesive arboricultural features either aerodynamically, visually or culturally.

Off-site trees and groups that could influence the development potential of the site, have been recorded.

The trees were surveyed for species type, age, height, crown spread, diameter-at-breast-height, condition, and their suitability for retention from ground level. Heights were measured with a Hypsometer and diameters were taken, where possible, with a diameter tape to give an average stem measurement. Canopy spreads have been measured at the cardinal points or where they significantly extend in other directions.

Each tree has been assessed using the BS 5837 2012 category ratings (a copy can be found in Appendix A). The data collection accords with the advice set out at Subsection 4.4.2.5 of BS 5837:2012.

Section 6

Risks to and Impacts on Retained Trees

Overall, the proposed development is a low level impact scheme to trees. Two trees are to be removed to allow the further extension to the car park. The removal of T5682 has some implications for visual amenity; it is a significant tree in the landscape. The loss of T5683 has a limited impact on visual amenity. A landscaping scheme off-sets their loss. The remaining trees are located some distance from the works. There are no implications from construction operations on their long-term retention.

The boundary fence is to be renewed. The method statement details the precautions to be taken.

Section 7

Construction Methods and Sequence
A Construction Timetable is being drafted.

Section 8

Conclusions

The development can be achieved with no impact to the retained trees using standard tree protection methods as detailed. The development loses two trees. The loss of these trees is off-set by mitigation planting.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Timing of Works

The timing of the primary works which may have an impact on the trees are listed below. These timings are approximate and are influenced by a number of factors. All the tree works and fencing requirements will be undertaken prior to top soil strip and other ground works. The critical Arboricultural Operations in relation to the Construction Programme are outlined below.

Targets

- Appointment of an Arboricultural Clerk of Works to oversee works.

Critical Arboricultural Operations
Undertake tree works
Set up tree protection measures
Fence renewal and installation
Removal of tree protection measures

Construction Exclusion Zone Root Protection

The works are located some distance from the retained trees. The placing of fencing around each retained tree would be impractical therefore; Construction Exclusion Zone fencing will be erected around the works site as shown on the Tree Protection Plan 3283/200. The following issues should be considered.

Targets

- Type B Heras fencing erected as indicated on the Plan 3283/200.
- Fencing installed at locations shown on the plan and marked on site.
- Location and adequacy signed off by Arboricultural Consultant and LPA advised.
- Tool Box Talk – make construction staff aware of the importance of areas by site manager.
- Signs to be erected advising of the area's importance.

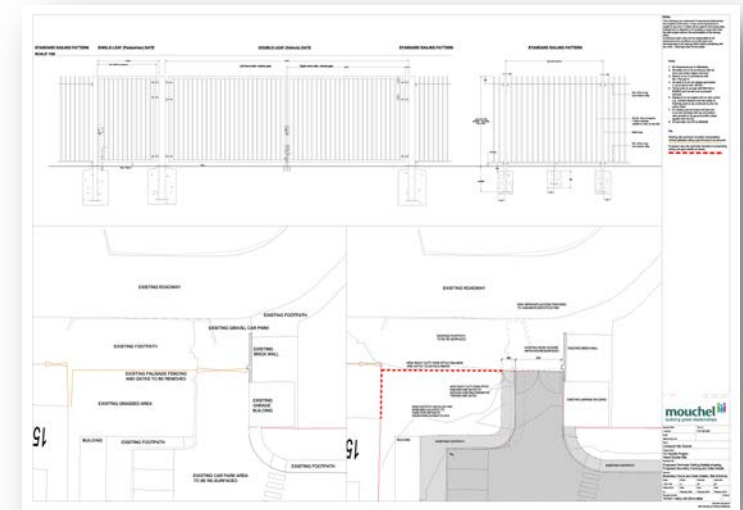


Boundary Fencing

New boundary fencing is proposed to the site. This will comprise 2.1-metre high railing with posts at 2275-millimetre centres located on a 400 x 300 millimetres foundation. The fence will follow the route as the current fence except for the western side of the site where it will be located at the foot of the slope and take a meandering route through the trees. The following precautions are to be taken.

Targets

- The new fence foundation holes are to be measured and marked to a maximum of 2275-millimetre centres.
- Where this conflicts with trees and buttress roots, the foundation post hole will be adjusted.
- The foundation post will also be compared to current fence foundation holes and, where the current fence post hole can be used they will be.
- The existing fence is to be removed and where necessary the post holes to be filled in with topo soil to BS3882:2015 Multipurpose Topsoil.
- New post holes are to be excavated using compressed air displacement where they are located in tree protection areas.
- Where roots <25mm Ø are found they are to be relocated.
- Post holes are to be lined with 1000 gauge polyene.
- Post mix is to be brought to the working area in buckets and poured into the foundation hole.



General Precautions

The retention of trees requires a number of general precautions to be taken. Compliance is to be maintained on site by the appointed Clerk of Works and visits by the Arboricultural Consultant. The site visits are detailed at criterion 1 – Timing of Works.

Targets

- Services to be installed following NJUG 4.2 methodology.
- Spoil from the foundation pits or other excavations shall not be placed within the Construction Exclusion Zone.
- No materials, equipment, spoil or washout water may be deposited, stored or parked within the Root Protection Area/ Construction Exclusion Zone.
- Any defects requiring rectification shall be notified to the Contractor/Site Manager/Arboricultural Consultant and the client.
- A site logbook for tree protection measures is kept to record all stages of the development from the erection of the protective fencing, right through to the completion of the project. This will be made available to the Arboricultural Consultant and the local planning authority, if required, to show evidence of continuous site monitoring.

Emergency Procedure/Contacts

Adherence to the method statement, appointment of an Arboricultural Clerk of Works and the involvement, at the critical demolition and construction phases, of the Arboricultural Consultant should negate any incident. The contact page at Appendix B details those personnel who should be contacted if an incident involving a retained tree should take place.

Targets

- Spill kit available.
- On site fuels to be located away from RPA/CEZ and contained in a bunded tank at 110% capacity.
- All incidents involving trees to be reported by telephone and email.

Appendix A

Contents

Key

BS5837: 2012

Tree Tables

KEY

Age	<p>Y – Young: Out-planted trees that have not yet established</p> <p>SM – Semi-mature: Established trees up to 1/3 of expected height and crown</p> <p>EM – Early mature: Between 1/3 and 2/3 of expected height and crown</p> <p>M – Mature: Between 2/3 and full expected height and crown</p> <p>FM – Fully mature: Full expected height and crown</p> <p>OM – Over mature: Crown beginning to break-up and decrease in size</p> <p>S – Senescent: Crown in advanced stage of break-up</p>
Physiological Condition	<p>Good – Very few defects a reasonable long life expectancy depending on age class</p> <p>Fair – Some defects giving the tree a shortened life expectancy</p> <p>Poor – Limited life with major problems</p>
Structural Condition	<p>Good – Very few defects</p> <p>Fair – Some defects rectifiable with minor tree surgery</p> <p>Poor – Significant defects rectifiable with major tree surgery or felling</p>

Table 1 – 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 U category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning).Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline.Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality. <p><i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7</i></p>			RED
	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 essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dormant 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)	GREEN
Category B Tress 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.	BLUE
Category C Tress 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 benefits	GREY

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations/ Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading
				N	E	S	W								
5682	Poplar	30	1320	13	13	12.5	10.5	2	3	FM/OM	Good	Good	Multi-stemmed at 4/5m. Dead wood due to natural branch suppression. Significant specimen. Limited life expectancy due to age. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape. Loss to development.	20+	B1/2
5683	Sycamore	13	635	6	6	5.5	3.6	3	3	M	Fair	Good	Severely suppressed by adjacent poplar. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Loss to development.	10+	C1/2
5684	Sorbus	13	515	1	0.5	3	4	3	4	M	Fair/Poor	Fair	Eastern canopy has been removed leaving a single stem. Poor specimen of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
5685	Sorbus	13	505	4	#6	5	5	3	5	M	Fair	Fair	Outbreak of Pholotia around the northern stem. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
5686	Sycamore	12	845	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	6	6	M	Fair	Fair	Recently pollarded. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
5687	Sorbus	12	540	5	#7	5	6	4	4	M	Good	Fair	Past pruning wounds with decay. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height	Stem Diameter	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations/ Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading
		M	MM	N	E	S	W								
5688	Sorbus												Poorly pruned and extensively decayed.	-	U
5689	Sorbus	12	480	4	#6	3	5	5	5	M	Good	Good	Slightly suppressed by adjacent sycamore. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2
5690	Sycamore	18	815	6	#6	6.5	6	6	5	M	Good	Fair	Multi-stemmed at 4m. Partly included stem unions. Significant specimen of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2
5691	Beech	20	1010	6	#10	#10	5	6	6	FM	Good	Fair	Stem injury to south east with decay. Reasonable wound occlusion. No evidence of fruiting bodies of known decay fungi. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Re-asses decay with decay detection equipment due to location adjacent to Primary school.	10+	C1/2
5692	Horse-chestnut	15	890	4	5	#5	1	4 (E)	5	M	Good	Good	Small amount of decay on south western stem at ground level with good wound occlusion. Crown asymmetry due to the influence of adjacent tree. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations/ Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading
				N	E	S	W								
5693	Sycamore	15	600	6.5	2	#8	5	6	6	M	Poor	Poor	Large stem injury on south western stem with advanced decay. Poor wound occlusion. Poor distribution of buds and twigs throughout the canopy. Decay at pruning wounds and storm tears. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
5694	Sycamore	18	945	7	5.5	#8	6.5	5	5	M	Good	Good	A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2
T1	Lime	18	#500	4	4	4	4	2 (N)	3	M	Good	Good	Located within the grounds of the school. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
T2	Alder	13	450	5	2	#6	6	3 (N)	3	M	Good	Good	Located within the grounds of the school. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2
5695	Sycamore	14	380, 260	3	3	4	3	3	3	EM	Good	Fair/ Poor	Twin stemmed. Defective stem union at ground level. Stem injuries. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
5696	Lime	18	920	6	6	6	7	2 (N)	3	M	Good	Good	Profusion of epicormic growth in the canopy and around base – typical of species. Damage to surface roots from grounds maintenance. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height	Stem Diameter	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations/ Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading
		M	MM	N	E	S	W								
5697	Beech	18	950	5	7	8	7	3	4	M	Good	Fair	Multi-stemmed at 3m. Defective stem unions. Included stem and branch unions - typical of species. Canopy bias to south. Dead wood. Root exposure and damage to surface roots from grounds maintenance. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape. Work Remove dead wood over playground.	20+	B1/2
5698	Sycamore	18	800	6	6	3	6	4	4	M	Fair	Fair	Mediocre distribution of buds and twigs. The southern canopy has been extensively reduced over the playground. Large pieces of dead wood and cavities at pruning wounds. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Remove dead wood.	10+	C1/2
G1	Group	<12	<300	4	4	5	5	3 (N)	3	SM/EM	Good	Good	3 trees. Two oaks and one birch. Off site trees of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height	Stem Diameter	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations/ Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading
		M	MM	N	E	S	W								
G2	Group	<16	<500	4	6	6	6	2	2	SM-M	Good	Good/ Fair	Linear group of broadleaved trees – sycamore, prunus, hawthorn, birch and oak. Located with railway land with canopies extending into the site. Would benefit from crown lifting – in particular a large oak. A group of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown lift oak adjacent to football pitch to give 5m clear branch height, cutting back to suitable lateral branches of around 60mm in diameter.	40+	A1/2
5699	Group	<12	<300	4	4	4	4	2	2	SM/ EM	Good	Good	Mixed group of oak, sycamore, goat willow, elderberry and hawthorn located on raised bank. A group of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2
H1	Cypress	9	150	2	2	2	2	0	0	M	Good	Good	Screen hedge of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2
5700	Cypress	10	200	2	2	2	2	0	0	SM	Good	Fair	Multi-stemmed. Included stem unions - typical of species. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations/ Comments	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading
				N	E	S	W								
5701	Poplar	25	1305	#5	10.5	12.5	8	2 (S)	5	FM	Good	Good	Northern canopy has been crown reduced. Storm damage and tears. Large pieces of dead wood up to 120mm in diameter. Large split limb on eastern canopy that has partially collapsed. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape but low rating due to short life expectancy. Work Crown clean.	10+	C1/2
H2	Hedge	<3	<100	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0	M	Good	Good	Sporadic cypress and privet hedging marking the boundary with private housing. Of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2
T3	Sorbus	6	200	2	2	2	2	2	2	SM/EM	Good	Good	A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2

Appendix B

Contents

Tree Protection

Contact List

Title	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Arboricultural Consultant	I Murat	ACS 272 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4JR	0141 354 1633 07595 280404	ian@acsconsulting.co.uk
Architect	John Jager	Kier Business Services	0151 600 5583	
Arboricultural Clerk of Works	TBA			
Arboricultural Consultant (Council)	Joe Barnes	Planning Liverpool City Council Cunard Building Pier Head Water Street Liverpool L3 1DS	0151 233 3021	joe.barnes@liverpool.gov.uk
Planning Consultant (Council)	TBA	Liverpool City Council Cunard Building Pier Head Water Street Liverpool L3 1DS		

Site Inspection Form

Site Address	[]
Site Visit Date	[]
Persons Present	[] - Contractor Ian Murat - ACS

Tree No.	Issue	Comments	Recommendations	Action
[]	[]	[].	[]	[]

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