

Arboricultural Impact Report
Stocking Lane
Rathfarnham
Dublin 18

Project No.	Project name	Date	Revision
TSTO005	Stocking Lane	24,09,21	A

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1. Introduction

This report is designed to outline the impact on trees of the proposed development at Stocking Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin 18 and provides supporting documentation to the arboricultural element of the planning submission for the site. Refer to table 1 for a list of all relevant arboricultural reports and drawings associated with this application.

The background data on tree condition and the categorisation of trees is based on the tree survey undertaken by CMK Hort + Arb on behalf of McCabe Durney Barnes Architects between the 12th and 14th of July 2017.

The survey methodology, supporting drawings and documentation follow the recommendations contained within BS 5837 (2012). The analysis of the trees was undertaken using the VTA methodology as developed by Mattheck and Breloer (1994).

Drawings / Reports	Number	Revision
Tree Survey and Constraints drawing	101	A
Arboricultural Impact drawing	102	B
Tree Protection drawing	103	B
Tree Survey report	-	C
Tree Protection Strategy report	-	-

Table 1. Arboricultural drawings and reports

A total of 103 trees were identified on the site with a detailed analysis of the individual trees contained within section 7 of the Tree Survey report. Table 2 outlines the categorisation of trees within this report.

The location of trees and their categorisations are outlined within the Tree Survey report and on drawing TSTO005 101 Tree Survey and Constraints Rev A.

Category	Number	% of total
A	1	1
B	50	49
C	35	36
U	17	18

Table 2. Tree Categories

2. Arboricultural Impact

2.1 General approach to tree retention

The rationale for retaining / removing trees on this site is based on the condition of the individual trees, the suitability of trees in terms of their species and/or form and the impact of the proposed development. The initial pre-planning and design stage identified trees with potential for retention based on their condition and their potential root spread as outlined within the Tree Constraints drawing. These factors were addressed within the design and development stage with the trees shown for retention within drawing TSTO005 102 Arboricultural Impact Rev B the result of these considerations.

2.2 Tree retention / removal

The retention of trees within this proposed development has been developed from a number of revisions to the site design particularly with reference to sight lines at the entrance on Stocking Lane and the retention of trees within rear gardens. There has

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been particular effort made to retain the two most valuable trees on the site ie a large mature oak (*Quercus robur*) #444 and a beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) #455 both of which were identified as specimens of high arboricultural, landscape and possibly ecological values. These trees are located on the western boundary where a number of trees have been retained within a public open space area. A cycle and pedestrian path will be constructed in the area but will be sufficiently far away from the trees to not impact on them.

Other trees shown for retention are located within rear gardens on the northern and southern boundaries.

Trees for removal based on condition and the impact of the proposed development are outlined within table 3. A total of 29 trees have been shown for removal within categories B & C representing 28% of the total trees on the site. All of the category U trees which amount 17% of the total trees on the site are to be removed based on their poor condition.

The total loss of trees has been significantly reduced from the previous planning submission for the site and this loss should be considered in relation to the species to be removed. A high percentage (13%) of the total category B & C trees to be removed are Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) and poplar (*Poplar sp*) which are generally undesirable species with smaller private areas.

Category	Number	% of total
A	0	0
B	10	10
C	19	18
U	17	17

Table 4. Tree Removal Categories

The better-quality trees on the western boundary with Stocking Lane are being retained. These trees will contribute to the public open space provision and there are a relatively large number of trees being retained on the northern boundary.

The future management of trees on the site will require regular assessments of both retained trees and newly planted specimens. This will be necessary to ensure that issues such as ash dieback are addressed prior to trees failing and also to ensure that all trees receive appropriate management inputs as necessary.

3. Mitigation

Proposed new tree planting is contained within the accompanying Landscape Masterplan drawings submitted as part of the planning package. These plantings will provide a new generation of trees which have the potential to develop and add to the existing tree cover on the site.

A Tree Protection Strategy document is provided as part of the arboricultural element of the submission with the aim of ensuring retained trees are maintained for the duration of the construction stage of the development without negative construction related impacts. Tree protection details and locations are shown on drawing TSTO05 103 Rev A.