

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

#### **FINAL DRAFT**

Appendix 8D -Arboricultural Baseline Note (Access Route)

Prepared by:

The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd

On behalf of: **Pennant Walters** 

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#### **APPENDICES**

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Annex EDP 5 Consideration of Trees within the Design Process

#### **PLANS**

Plan EDP 1: Tree Constraints Plan (edp6367\_d140a 28 March 2024 VMS/DGa)

### Section 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) has been commissioned by Pennant Walters ('the Applicant') to undertake a BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction compliant survey of trees in relation to the proposed development of the Access Route for Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm comprising the Application 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 surveyed area comprises the section of the proposed access route comprising the Application Site located to the west of Talywain which is located within the Local Planning Authority (LPA) of Torfaen County Borough Council. It currently comprises a car park, Farm Road and the unnamed road situated to the north-east of the Application Site at Mynydd Llanhilleth.
- 1.4 The purpose of this Baseline Note is to:
  - Identify principal trees suitable for retention;
  - Identify the benefits and constraints associated with retained trees to inform the proposed development; and
  - Inform an Arboricultural Impact Assessment where necessary to facilitate development.

# Section 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 the

  Tree Constraints Plan (Plan EDP 1) and this data has been derived from the Topographical
  survey. All surveyed items are detailed in Annex EDP 1. 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 The schedule in **Annex 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 **Schedule EDP 1**);
  - Species;
  - Height;
  - Stem diameter;
  - Branch spread;
  - Canopy clearance above ground level;
  - Life stage;
  - Physiological condition;
  - Structural condition:
  - Comments/notes;
  - Recommendations (and tree work priority);
  - Estimated remaining contribution;
  - Category grading; and

- Root protection radius.
- 2.5 All trees have been categorised according to the Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment as set out in Table 1 of BS 5837:2012. A reproduction of this table is included in **Annex EDP 2**.
- 2.6 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 proposals could change the current circumstances and may invalidate this report and any recommendations made.
- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 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.
- 2.9 The subject trees have not been tagged for identification purposes.

# Section 3 Summary of Tree Stock

- 3.1 The survey has identified 23 individual trees, 28 groups of trees and one hedgerow totalling 52 items. Of these 52 items, 17 have been categorised as B, of moderate quality; and 31 have been categorised as C and are of low quality. In addition, four items have been categorised as U and are considered unsuitable for retention.
- 3.2 All surveyed items are as noted on **Plan EDP 1** and detailed in the schedule at **Annex EDP 1**.
- 3.3 An illustrative summary of the species diversity, age distribution and grading categorisation across the surveyed area is provided in **Annex EDP 3**.
- 3.4 Overall, the items identified are primarily of low value, with the exception of 17 category B items. These category B items are located either within the route of the proposed access road or around its periphery.

# Section 4 National and Local Planning Policy

#### **PLANNING POLICY WALES (EDITION 12)**

#### 4.1 Paragraph 6.4.37 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) states:

"Trees, hedgerows, groups of trees and areas of woodland are of great importance for biodiversity. They are important connecting habitats for resilient ecological networks and make an essential wider contribution to landscape character, culture, heritage and sense of place, air quality, recreation and local climate moderation. They also play a vital role in tackling the climate emergency by locking up carbon, and can provide shade, shelter and foraging opportunities, wider landscape benefits such as air and diffuse pollution interception, natural flood management, and building materials. The importance of trees, in particular urban trees, in creating distinctive and natural places which deliver health and well-being benefits to communities, now and in the future should be promoted as part of plan making and decision taking. Planning authorities must promote the planting of new trees, hedgerows, groups of trees and areas of woodland as part of new development".

#### 4.2 Paragraph 6.4.38 of PPW states:

"Welsh native tree and hedge species, characteristic of the local area, provide a strong ecosystem resilience function, and they provide resources for local wildlife, particularly other native plants and species. Native tree and hedge species can also complement opportunities for natural regeneration. Alongside broader woodland habitat types, such as wood pasture, parkland and traditional orchards, native tree and hedge species help to define our cultural heritage and landscape, creating a strong sense of place and connection to the past."

#### 4.3 Paragraph 6.4.39 of PPW states:

"Planning authorities must protect trees, hedgerows, groups of trees and areas of woodland where they have ecological value, contribute to the character or amenity of a particular locality, or perform a beneficial green infrastructure function. Planning authorities should consider the importance of native woodland and valued trees, and should have regard to local authority tree strategies or SPG and the Green Infrastructure Assessment. Planning authorities should adopt appropriate, locally relevant, time sensitive, minimum tree canopy cover targets for their authority area and where appropriate the expansion of canopy cover. The Green Infrastructure Assessment and tools such as NRW's Tree Cover in Wales' Towns and Cities study and Forest Research's i-Tree Eco tool will help establish a baseline of canopy cover and guide the identification of appropriate and measurable canopy targets. Tools to help with design and species choice in urban areas are also available."

#### 4.4 Paragraph 6.4.40 of PPW states:

"Where trees, woodland and hedgerows are present, their retention, protection and integration should be identified within planning applications. Where surveys identify tees, hedgerows, groups of trees and areas of woodland capable of making a significant

contribution to the area, these trees should be retained and protected. The provision of services and utilities infrastructure to the application site should also avoid the loss of trees, woodlands or hedges and must be considered as part of the development proposal; where such trees are lost, they will be subject to the replacement planting ratios set out below."

#### 4.5 Paragraph 6.4.41 of PPW states:

"Whilst most focus within the planning system is targeted at urban trees, planning authorities should recognise the importance of trees within the countryside, either as woodlands, within hedgerows and hedgebanks, or free-standing trees in fields, or as wood pasture. This is particularly important as the effects of climate change are leading towards pests and diseases that are damaging many of our native species in the rural landscape. Positive mechanisms of rural tree retention should be considered, and measures taken to replace them in an effective and economic manner, either with new planting or by allowing them to grow to their full potential."

#### 4.6 Paragraph 6.4.42 of PPW states:

"Permanent removal of trees, woodland and hedgerows will only be permitted where it would achieve significant and clearly defined public benefits. Where individual or groups of trees and hedgerows are removed as part of a proposed scheme, planning authorities must first follow the step-wise approach as set out in paragraph 6.4.15. Where loss is unavoidable developers will be required to provide compensatory planting (which is proportionate to the proposed loss as identified through an assessment of green infrastructure value including biodiversity, landscape value and carbon capture). Replacement planting shall be at a ratio equivalent to the quality, environmental and ecological importance of the tree(s) lost and this must be preferably onsite, or immediately adjacent to the site, and at a minimum ratio of at least 3 trees of a similar type and compensatory size planted for every 1 lost. Where a woodland or a shelterbelt area is lost as part of a proposed scheme, the compensation planting must be at a scale, design and species mix reflective of that area lost. In such circumstances, the planting rate must be at a minimum of 1600 trees per hectare for broadleaves, and 2500 trees per hectare for conifers. The planting position for each replacement tree shall be fit to support its establishment and health, and ensure its unconstrained long-term growth to optimise the environmental and ecological benefits it affords".

#### **LOCAL POLICY**

#### **Torfaen County Borough Council Local Development Plan (Adopted December 2013)**

#### 4.7 Policy S7: Conservation of the Natural and Historic Environment states:

"Development proposals should seek to ensure the conservation and enhancement of the Natural, Built & Historic Environment of Torfaen."

#### 4.8 Paragraph 5.7.4 states:

"Biodiversity networks serve an important function in supporting the long-term sustainability of our core biodiversity resources... Trees and hedgerows also form part of

the biodiversity network. Proposals affecting such resources will be assessed against Policy BW1".

4.9 Policy BW1 General Policy - Development Proposals states:

"All development proposals will be considered favourably providing they comply with the following criteria where they are applicable:

- B Natural Environment
- v) The proposal does not result in the unacceptable loss or harm to features of landscape importance including trees and woodland that have natural heritage or amenity value".

# Section 5 Statutory Protection

#### TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS AND CONSERVATION AREAS

- 5.1 The surveyed area is not within a designated conservation area.
- 5.2 Consultation with the LPA is recommended to determine the presence of Tree Preservation Orders occurring in association with the proposed access route.

### Section 6 Protected Wildlife and Trees

#### **BATS**

6.1 All species of British bat comprise European Protected Species (EPS) and are afforded protection under the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations* 2017 (as amended). Further information is provided in **Annex EDP 4**.

#### **NESTING BIRDS**

6.2 All wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected under Section 1 of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act* 1981 (as amended). Harm to wild birds can mostly be avoided by timing works to avoid the main bird breeding season, considered to run between March and August inclusive. Further information on their protection is provided in **Annex EDP 4**.

## Section 7 Site-specific Constraints

- 7.1 As shown in **Annex EDP 1**, surveyed items are primarily self-sown trees of low arboricultural value.
- 7.2 A number of items are located outside but adjacent to the proposed access route and are therefore not under the control of the Applicant. Items outside of the Applicant's control will therefore require consideration when designing forthcoming proposals, so as to avoid interference with the tree canopies or Root Protection Areas (RPAs).

#### **ANCIENT WOODLAND**

- 7.3 No Ancient Woodland occurs within the route of the proposed access road.
- 7.4 Areas of Ancient Woodland<sup>3</sup> do occur outside of the surveyed area, however, as illustrated on **Plan EDP 1**, including a portion of **G218** which comprises part of a larger area of Restored Ancient Woodland Sites, and an area of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland situated to the north.
- 7.5 Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Advice to planning authorities considering proposals affecting ancient woodland states:

"We advise that planning permission should be refused if development will result in the loss or deterioration of ancient woodland, given that ancient woodland is irreplaceable unless there are wholly exceptional reasons.

Where a decision maker is satisfied there is a wholly exceptional reason, every endeavour should be made to minimise and compensate for loss. Although a compensation strategy cannot fully compensate for loss of ancient woodland, it should include:

- Planting of new native woodland or wood pasture to improve the resilience of ancient woodland;
- Restoration or management of other ancient woodland, including plantations on ancient woodland sites, and wood pasture;
- Proposals connecting woodland and ancient and veteran trees separated by development with green infrastructure;
- Long-term management plans for new woodland and ancient woodland;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ancient woodland is defined as an area which has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD and includes ASNW and Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). 'Wooded continuously' doesn't mean there has been a continuous tree cover across the whole site. Not all trees in the woodland must be old. Open space, both temporary and permanent, is also an important component of ancient woodland.

- Planting individual trees that could become veteran and ancient trees in future;
- Monitoring the ecology of the site over an agreed period".
- 7.6 NRW Also advise on the use of stand-off or protection zones:

"The BS 5837:2012 Tree Survey... should be used to inform the stand-off or protection zone for each individual woodland and veteran and ancient tree. Some zones may only require a root protection area to prevent negative impacts on individual trees or groups of trees, and others are likely to extend further. For example, the effect of air pollution from development that results in a significant increase in traffic or point source.

Where possible, a stand-off or protection zone should:

- Contribute to wider ecological networks;
- Be part of the green infrastructure of the area;".

## Section 8 Conclusion

- 8.1 Of the items surveyed, 17 have been categorised as B, of moderate quality. These items should be prioritised for retention, where practicable.
- 8.2 The arboricultural constraints information provided within this Baseline Note has been taken into consideration within the detailed design and layout of the scheme. Further information on the consideration of trees within the design process is provided at **Annex EDP 5**.

# Annex EDP 1 Tree Survey Key and Schedule EDP 1

C	T - Individual specimen;
Sequential Reference Number	i - marviduai specimen,
Reference Number	C. Group of troop that form cohocing arbaricultural features either
	G - Group of 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	Scientific names and common English names provide, the latter are used wherever possible for simplicity.
Height	An approximation of height (in metres) is provided for the highest point of the tree.
Ctom Diousets:	This is the measurement of stem diameter in millimetres taken in
Stem Diameter	accordance with Annex C of BS 5837:2012 (# is used if estimated).
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>Schedule EDP 1</b> .
Canopy Clearance	An approximation of height (in metres) of crown clearance above adjacent
Above Ground Level	ground level.
Life Stage	There are five classes to which trees are assigned:
	Young;
	Early Mature;
	Mature;
	Over Mature; and
	Veteran.
Physiological	An indication of the tree's physiological condition is represented and
Condition	classed as good, fair, poor or dead, this is informed by the following:
	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	An indication of the tree's structural condition is represented and classed as good, fair, poor or dead.
	This is informed by "the presence of any decay and physical defect4".
Comments/Notes	Observations on structural or physiological condition, historic pruning, any site-specific constraints etc. noted at the time the survey is undertaken.
Recommendations (and Tree Work Priority)	These are made on the basis of optimising the life expectancy of site trees, given their current situation and that which may result from the development proposals. 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.  Priority codes from 1 to 3 have been given for trees requiring work. The definition 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 demolition or construction works commencing on Site; and  Priority 3: Work that should be undertaken following the completion of the
	development.
Estimated Remaining Contribution	The definitions of the terms used are as follows and describe the estimated length of time (in years) over which the tree can be expected to make a safe contribution to local amenity:
	Less than 10;
	10+;
	20+; and
	40+.
Category Grading	Trees have been assigned either U or category grading A to C in accordance with the cascade chart given in BS 5837:2012.
Root Protection Radius	Measurement (in m) based on the stem diameter and calculated in accordance with BS 5837:2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> BS 5837:2012 Section 4.4.2.5

Client: Pennant Walters Site:

Mynydd Llanhilleth (Access Route)

Date of Survey:

31/05/2023 - 01-06/2023 & 26/03/2024

Consultant

David Garrick

N/A Tagged

Sunny and Clear/ Overcast Weather

		Branch Spread (m)		Father start											
Sequential Reference No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	North	East	South	West	Canopy Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments / Notes	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	Category Grading	Root Protection Radius (m)
T178	Prunus sp. (Prunus sp.)	6	170	2	2	2	2	3	Early Mature	Fair	Poor	Bark wound - Mechanical Decay - Minor Foliar / bud damage - Insect	10+	C1	2.04
H179	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Privet sp. (Ligustrum sp.) Field maple (Acer campestre)	2	70	1	1	1	1	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C1, 3	0.84
T180	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	7	# 300	3	3	3	3	2	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Access to inspect base - Not possible Access to inspect base - Restricted / obscured Off-site tree all readings estimated	20+	B1	3.6
G181	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	14	# 500	4	4	4	4	3	Mature	Fair	Good	Access to inspect base - Not possible Access to inspect base - Restricted / obscured Off-site tree all readings estimated	20+	B2,1	6
T182	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	8	6x180	4	5	5	5	2	Mature	Good	Fair	Hardstanding under canopy Arboricultural work - Historic Multi-stemmed	20+	B1	5.29
T183	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	8	250 400	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Hardstanding under canopy	20+	B1	5.66
G184	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	6	# 200	2	2	2	2	N/A	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C2	2.4
T185	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	4	6x70	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Multiple stems from base	10+	C1	2.06
G186	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Buddleja sp. (Buddleja sp.) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	4	# 140	2	2	2	2	N/A	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C2	1.68
G187	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	11	# 500	5	5	5	5	1	Mature	Good	Fair	Hardstanding under canopy Ivy or climbing plant	20+	B1,2	6
G188	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	7	# 200	3	3	3	3	N/A	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C2	2.4
G189	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	10	# 180	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age Multi-stemmed	20+	B2	2.16

Sequential Reference Number -T - Individual specimen; G - Group, Trees that form cohesive arboricultural features either aerodynamically, visually or culturally; H - Linear group of specimens that form a hedge or boundary, 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 with Annex C of BS5837:2012.

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 Plan EDP 1.

Canopy Clearance -An approximation of height (in metres) of crown clearance above adjacent ground level.

Life Stage -There are five classes to which trees are assigned: Young, Early Mature; Mature; Over Mature; Ancient; Dead.

Physiological Condition -An indication of the tree's physiological condition is represented and classed as good, fair, poor or dead, this is informed by the following: 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 defect".

Management Recommendations -These are made on the basis of optimising the life expectancy of site trees, given their current situation and that which may result from the development proposals. 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.

Tree Works Priority Codes - Priority codes from 1 to 3 have been given for trees requiring work. The definition 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 Priority 3: Work that should be undertaken following the completion of the development.

Estimated Remaining Contribution -The definitions of the terms used are as follows and describe the estimated length of time (in years) over which the tree can be expected to make a safe contribution to local amenity. Less than 10; 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 BS5837:2012.

					Branch S	pread (m)							Fatimated		
Sequential Reference No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	North	East	South	West	Canopy Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments / Notes	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	Category Grading	Root Protection Radius (m)
G190	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	5	# 180	2	2	2	2	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Natural regeneration	10+	C2	2.16
T191	Silver birch (Betula pendula)	14	340 520	5	5	4	4	1	Mature	Good	Good	lvy or climbing plant	20+	B1	7.46
G192	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	5	# 6x70	2	2	2	2	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Multi-stemmed	10+	C2	2.06
T193	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	4	90	2	1	1	2	N/A	Young	Good	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C1	1.08
G194	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	5	# 150	2	2	2	2	N/A	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C2	1.8
G195	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	8	# 250	3	3	3	3	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C1,2	3
G196	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	8	# 200	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age Natural regeneration	10+	C2	2.4
G197	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	5	# 90	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C2	1.08
T198	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	5	7x60	3	3	3	3	N/A	Young	Good	Fair	Off-site tree all readings estimated	10+	C1	1.9
G199	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Prunus sp. (Prunus sp.) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	5	# 90	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration	10+	C2	1.08
G200	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Prunus sp. (Prunus sp.)	3	# 150	2	2	2	2	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Hedgerow - Neglected / overgrown	10+	C2	1.8
G201	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	9	# 6x120	4	4	4	4	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Off-site tree all readings estimated Multi-stemmed	20+	B2	3.53
T202	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	4	120	2	2	2	2	1	Young	Poor	Fair	Ash Dieback Present	<10	U	1.44
G203	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia)	5	# 120	3	3	3	3	1	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Off-site tree all readings estimated	20+	B2	1.44
T204	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	10	450	3	4	4	4	1	Mature	Fair	Good	No Significant Faults Observed	20+	B1	5.4

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 with Annex C of BS5837:2012.

 $\label{eq:branch Spread} \textbf{-This is taken at four cardinal points, with a stated value in metres to enable an accurate representation of the crown, as shown on Plan EDP 1.}$ 

Canopy Clearance - An approximation of height (in metres) of crown clearance above adjacent ground level.

Life Stage -There are five classes to which trees are assigned: Young; Early Mature; Mature; Over Mature; Ancient; Dead.

**Physiological Condition** -An indication of the tree's physiological condition is represented and classed as good, fair, poor or dead, this is informed by the following: 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 defect".

Management Recommendations - These are made on the basis of optimising the life expectancy of site trees, given their current situation and that which may result from the development proposals. 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.

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**Estimated Remaining Contribution** -The definitions of the terms used are as follows and describe the estimated length of time (in years) over which the tree can be expected to make a safe contribution to local amenity. Less than 10; 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 BS5837:2012.

					Branch S	pread (m)							Estimated		
Sequential Reference No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	North	East	South	West	Canopy Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments / Notes	Remaining Contribution (Years)	Category Grading	Root Protection Radius (m)
G205	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	7	# 200	3	3	3	3	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Ash Dieback Present Natural regeneration	10+	C2	2.4
G206	Willow sp. (Salix sp.) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	5	# 120	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration	10+	C2	1.44
T207	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	5	120 70	2	2	2	2	1	Dead	Dead	Dead	Dead tree / trees	<10	U	1.67
G208	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	5	# 200	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration	10+	C2	2.4
T209	Common hazel (Corylus avellana)	7	6x70	4	4	4	4	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Multi-stemmed	10+	C1	2.06
T210	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	6	210	2	2	3	3	N/A	Early Mature	Poor	Fair	Ash Dieback Present	<10	U	2.52
T211	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	4	130	2	1	2	2	N/A	Young	Good	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age Natural regeneration	10+	C1	1.56
T212	Douglas fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii)	10	300	2	3	3	2	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age	20+	B1	3.6
G213	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	6	# 180	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Ash Dieback Present Natural regeneration	10+	C2	2.16
G214	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia)	5	# 150	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration	10+	C2	1.8
T215	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	10	700	7	6	5	6	N/A	Mature	Good	Fair	Arboricultural work - Historic Deadwood - Minor	20+	B2,1	8.4
G216	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Willow sp. (Salix sp.) Common hazel (Corylus avellana) Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	7	# 150	3	3	3	3	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C2	1.8

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 with Annex C of BS5837:2012.

 $\textbf{Branch Spread} \ \hbox{-This is taken at four cardinal points, with a stated value in metres to enable an accurate representation of the crown, as shown on Plan EDP 1.}$ 

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					Branch S	Spread (m)									
Sequential Reference No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	North	East	South	West	Canopy Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments / Notes	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	Category Grading	Root Protection Radius (m)
T217	Willow sp. (Salix sp.)	10	6x200	5	6	5	6	N/A	Mature	Fair	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age Multi-stemmed	20+	B1	5.88
G218	Willow sp. (Salix sp.) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	10	# 400	5	5	5	5	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age	20+	B2,1	4.8
G219	Willow sp. (Salix sp.) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common hazel (Corylus avellana)	7	# 200	3	3	3	3	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration	10+	C2	2.4
T220	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	6	70	2	2	1	2	N/A	Young	Fair	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age Natural regeneration	10+	C1	0.84
G221	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior) Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common hazel (Corylus avellana) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	6	# 180	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C2	2.16
T222	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	7	170	3	3	3	3	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Good	No Significant Faults Observed	20+	B1	2.04
T223	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	8	200	3	3	3	3	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	20+	B1	2.4
T224	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	7	80 80 60	3	3	3	3	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C1	1.54
G225	Willow sp. (Salix sp.) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	8	# 350	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Natural regeneration Condition considered typical of species and age	20+	B2	4.2
T226	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	5	230	2	2	2	1	1	Dead	Dead	Dead	Dead tree / trees	<10	U	2.76
T227	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	7	80	3	3	3	3	N/A	Early Mature	Good	Fair	No Significant Faults Observed	10+	C1	0.96
G228	Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior) Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common hazel (Corylus avellana) Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	6	# 150	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C2	1.8
G229	Common hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) Common hazel (Corylus avellana)	4	# 120	2	2	2	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Natural regeneration Condition considered typical of species and age	10+	C2	1.44

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					Branch S	pread (m)							Estimated		
Sequential Reference No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	North	East	South	West	Canopy Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments / Notes	Remaining Contribution (Years)	Category Grading	Root Protection Radius (m)
G230	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	11	400	4	4	4	4	1	Mature	Fair	Fair	Broken branch	20+	B2	4.8
T231	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	10	390	3	4	5	4	N/A	Mature	Fair	I Poor	Fallen tree / trees - Whole tree Uprooted tree propped up in canopy of neighbouring tree	<10	U	4.68
T232	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	12	530	5	5	5	5	1	Mature	Fair	Fair	Broken branch Deadwood - Minor	20+	B1	6.36
G233	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	12	450	5	5	5	5	1	Mature	Fair	Fair	Condition considered typical of species and age	20+	B2	5.4
G234	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	12	400	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Deadwood - Minor	20+	B2	4.8
G235	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	10	330	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Deadwood - Minor	20+	B2	3.96
G236	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	10	350	4	4	4	5	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Deadwood - Minor Broken branch	20+	B2	4.2
G237	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) Common ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	14	7x280	7	7	7	7	1	Mature	Fair	Fair	Multi-stemmed Part of historic hedgerow	20+	B2	8.89
G238	Pine sp. (Pinus sp.)	10	350	4	4	4	4	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Deadwood - Minor Broken branch	20+	B2	4.2

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Category Grading -Trees have been assigned 'U' or Category Grading 'A' to 'C' in accordance with the Cascade Chart given in BS5837:2012.

# Annex EDP 2 Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment (Extract of BS 5837:2012, Table 1)

Category and Definition	Criteria (including subcategor	ies where appropriate) Ide	entification on Plan							
Trees Unsuitable for Retent	tion (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> <li>Trees that have a serious, loss is expected due to confide after removal of other cate loss of companion shelter</li> <li>Trees that are dead or are irreversible overall declined</li> </ul>	will become unviable or whatever reason, the uning);								
		other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality.								
	might be desirable to preserve;		ervation value which it							
	1 Mainly Arboricultural Qualities	2 Mainly Landscape Qualities	3 Mainly Cultural Values, Including Conservation							
Trees to be Considered for	etention									
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 semiformal 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 woodpasture).							
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.							

Category and Definition	Criteria (including subcategor	ies where appropriate) Ider	tification on Plan
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least10 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.

# Annex EDP 3 Illustrative Summary of Survey Data

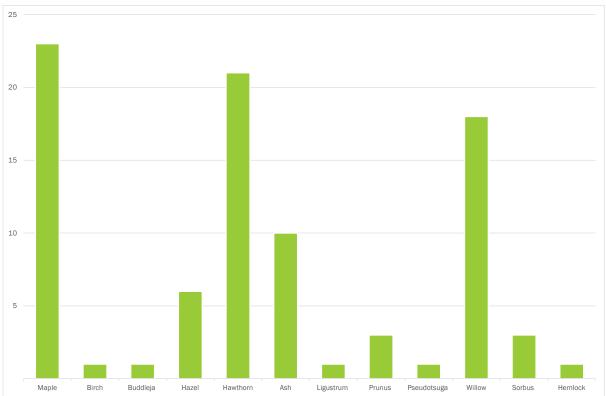


Figure EDP A3.1: Species Diversity.

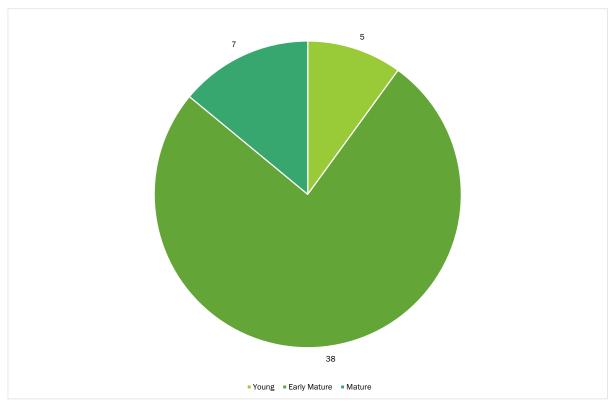


Figure EDP A3.2: Age Distribution.

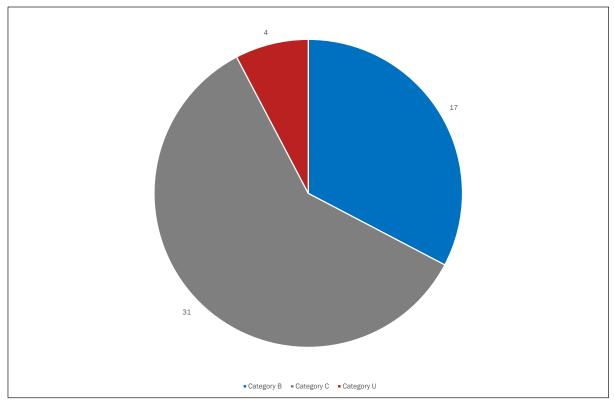


Figure EDP A3.3: Category Grading.

# Annex EDP 4 Protected Species

#### **BATS**

- A4.1 All species of British bat comprise European Protected Species (EPS) and are afforded protection under the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations* 2017 (as amended), making it an offence to:
  - Deliberately capture, injure or kill a wild individual of an EPS;
  - Deliberately disturb wild animals of an EPS wherever they are occurring, in particular, any disturbance which is likely to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong, or in the case of hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or
  - Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a wild individual of an EPS.
- A4.2 Additional protection for bats is also afforded under the *Wildlife and Countryside Act* 1981 (as amended), making it an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb bats whilst they are occupying a structure or place that is used for shelter or protection, or to obstruct access to this structure or place. As bats tend to re-use the same roosts, legal opinion is that roosts are protected whether or not bats are currently occupying these resting places/places of shelter.
- A4.3 Prior to undertaking any tree works or tree removal, further advice should be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.

#### **NESTING BIRDS**

- A4.4 All wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected under Section 1 of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act* 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:
  - i. Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;
  - ii. Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
  - iii. Take, damage or destroy the egg of any wild bird; or
  - iv. To have in one's possession or control any wild bird (dead or alive), or egg or any part of a wild bird or egg.
- A4.5 In addition, further protection is afforded to those wild bird species listed on Schedule 1 of the Act, prohibiting any intentional or reckless disturbance to these species while they are nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or to recklessly disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

# Annex EDP 5 Consideration of Trees within the Design Process

A5.1 Construction activities pose a threat to the successful retention of trees if handled inappropriately. It is important to consider the relationship between development and trees during the design process.

#### **BELOW-GROUND CONSTRAINTS - ROOT PROTECTION AREA**

- A5.2 The below-ground constraints are defined as the likely spread and distribution of the root system and are depicted on **Plan EDP 1** with pink outlined areas, representing the root protection area (RPA) around each surveyed item.
- A5.3 The RPA is defined as the minimum area (in m²) around the tree that is deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability.
- A5.4 Where pre-existing site conditions or other factors indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically, the shape of the RPA may be modified, but not reduced in area, and its shape should reflect a soundly based assessment of the likely root distribution.
- A5.5 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:
  - The morphology and disposition of the roots, when known to be influenced by past or existing site conditions (e.g. the presence of roads, structures and underground services);
  - Topography and drainage;
  - The soil type and structure; and
  - The likely tolerance of the tree to root disturbance or damage, based on factors such as species, age and condition and presence of other trees.

#### **ABOVE-GROUND CONSTRAINTS - PROXIMITY OF TREES TO STRUCTURES**

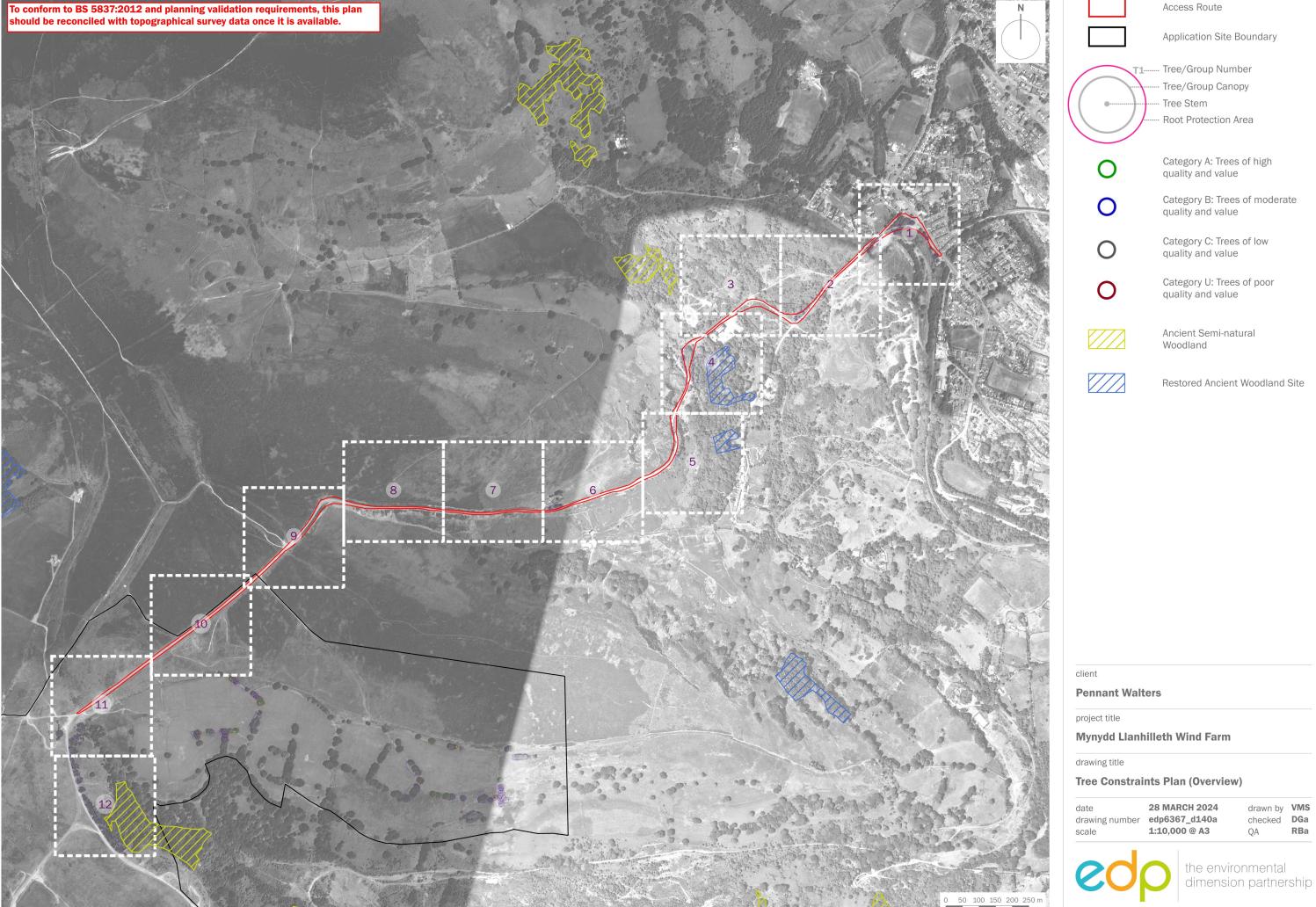
- A5.6 The above-ground parts of a tree, whilst being more visible and easily protected, are a potential constraint to development and consideration should be given to the current and ultimate height and spread of the trees.
- A5.7 Where the current and/or ultimate height of a category B or C tree will cause an unreasonable obstruction to the proposed development, this must be considered as a constraint. This is usually considered in terms of issues relating to shade and light.

#### A5.8 The above-ground constraints can be a combination of factors such as:

- Shading of buildings and open space a detailed daylight study may be necessary if any proposed buildings are in the immediate vicinity of retained trees;
- Direct damage to structures;
- Future pressure for removal;
- Seasonal nuisance (e.g. leaf fall blocking gutters, fruit fall creating slippery patches and honey dew dripping on vehicles and surfaces);
- Whether the tree is deciduous or evergreen; and
- Density of foliage.

#### **Plans**

Plan EDP 1: Tree Constraints Plan (edp6367\_d140a 28 March 2024 VMS/DGa)

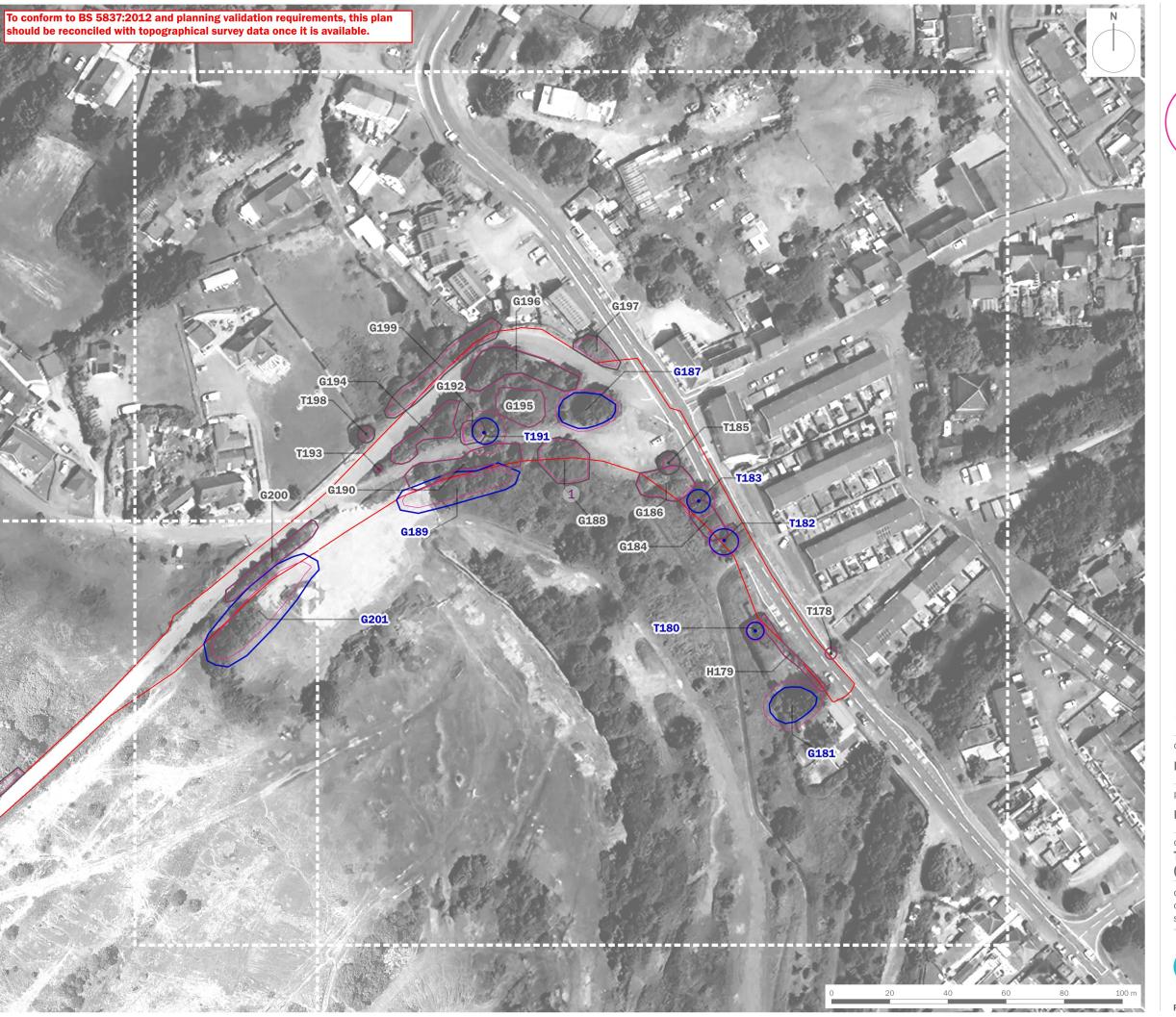


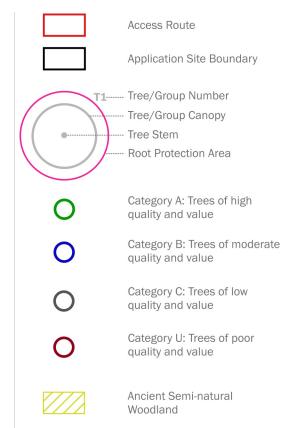
drawn by VMS

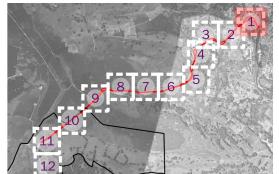
checked **DGa** 

RBa

QA







#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

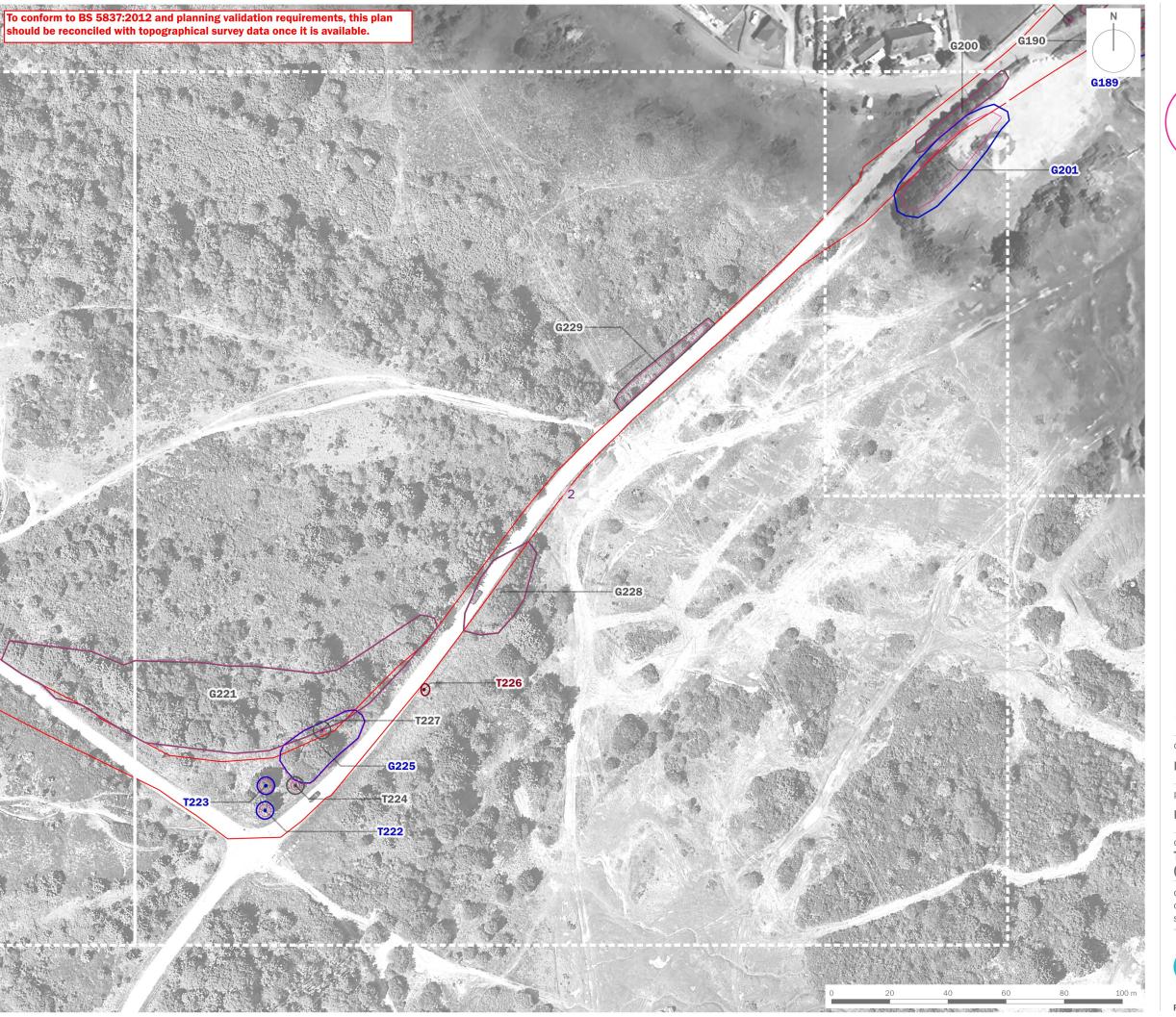
**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 1 of 12)

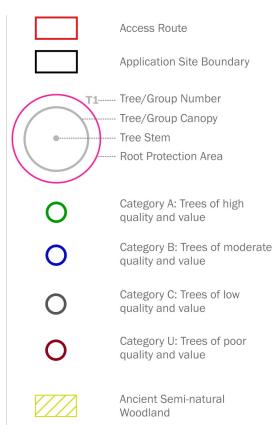
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28 MARCH 2024 1:1,250 @ A3

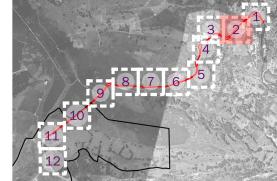
drawn by VMS checked **DGa** RBa QA

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project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

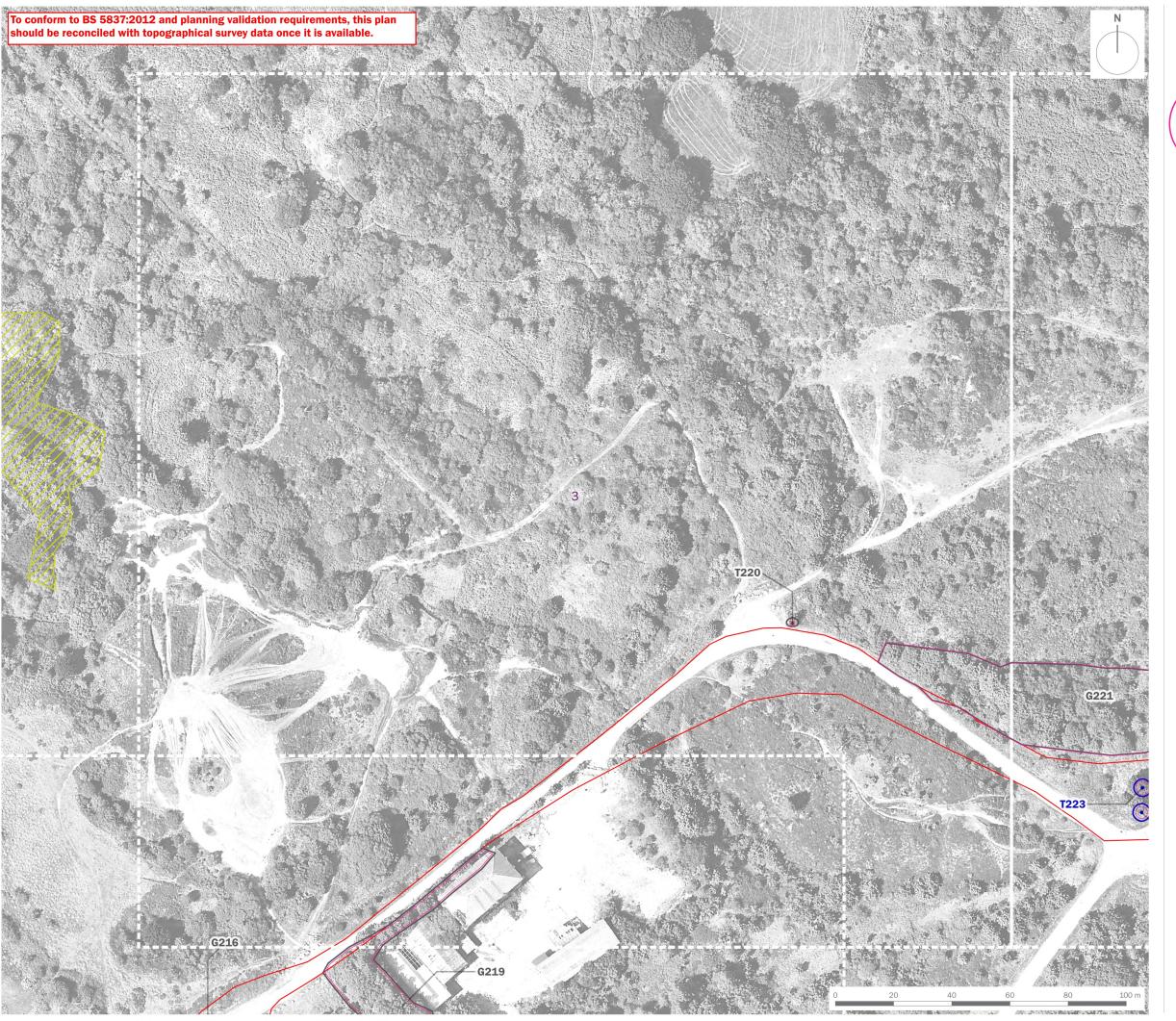
#### **Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 2 of 12)

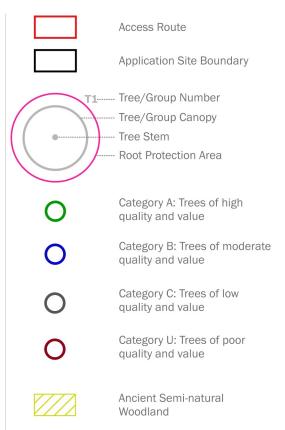
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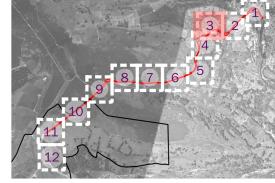
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drawn by VMS checked **DGa** RBa









#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 3 of 12)

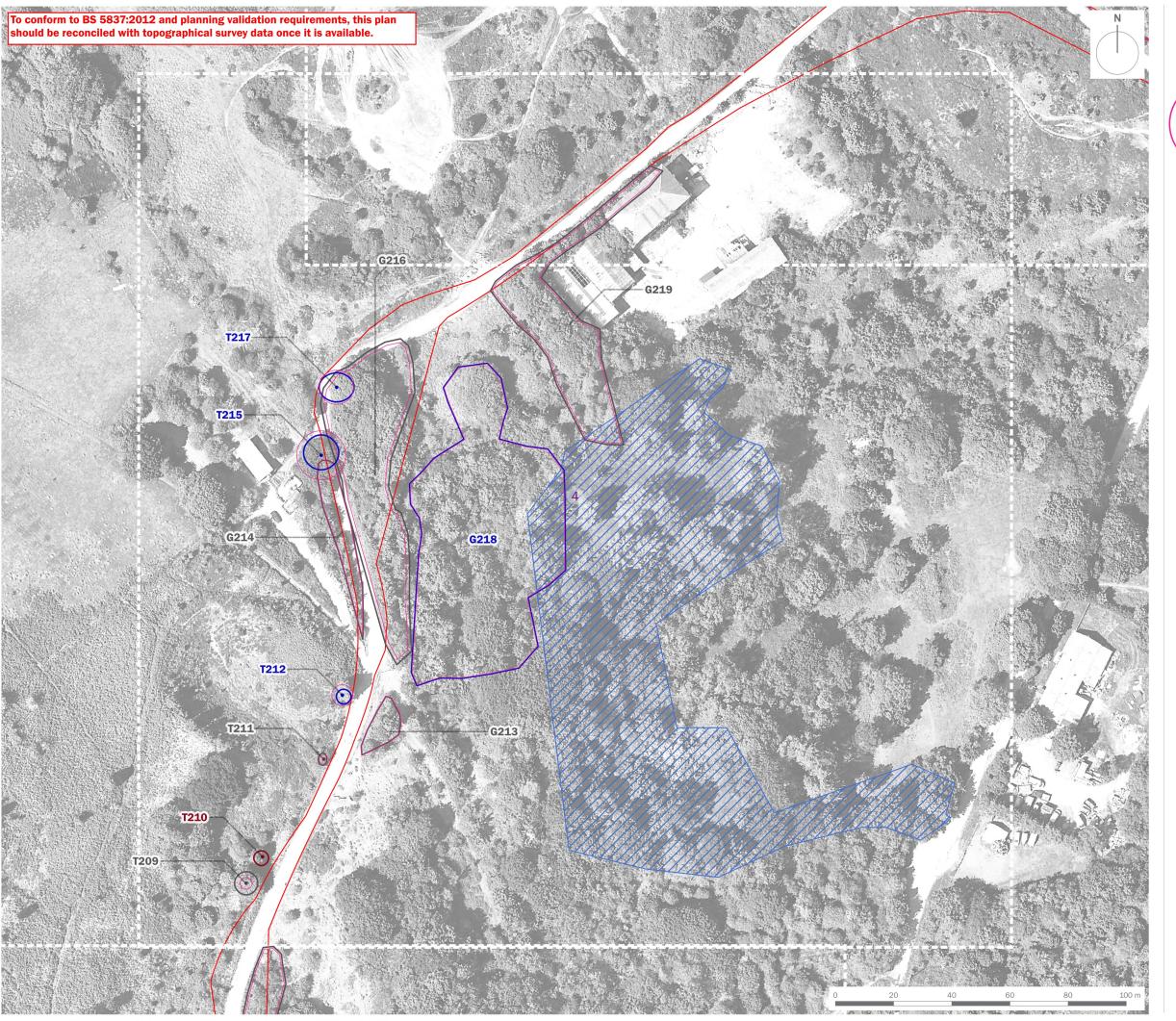
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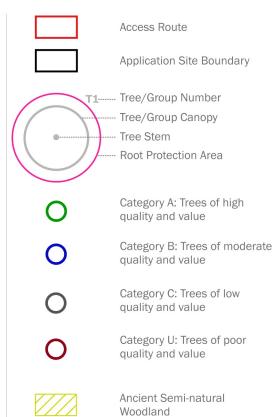
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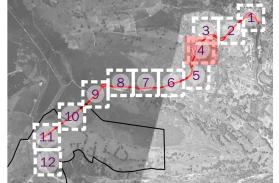
drawn by VMS checked **DGa** 



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#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 4 of 12)

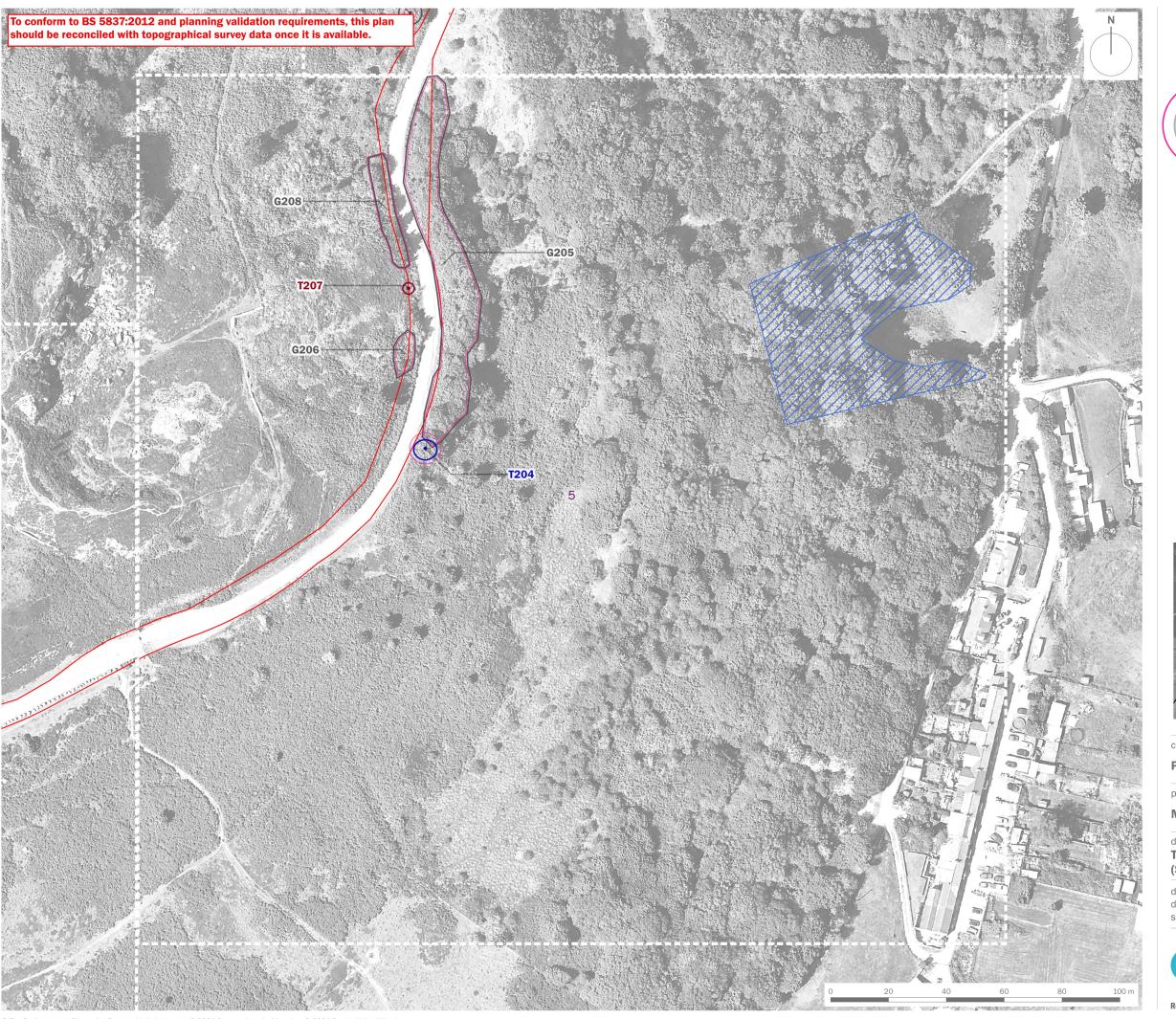
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28 MARCH 2024 1:1,250 @ A3

drawn by VMS checked **DGa** RBa QA



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#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 5 of 12)

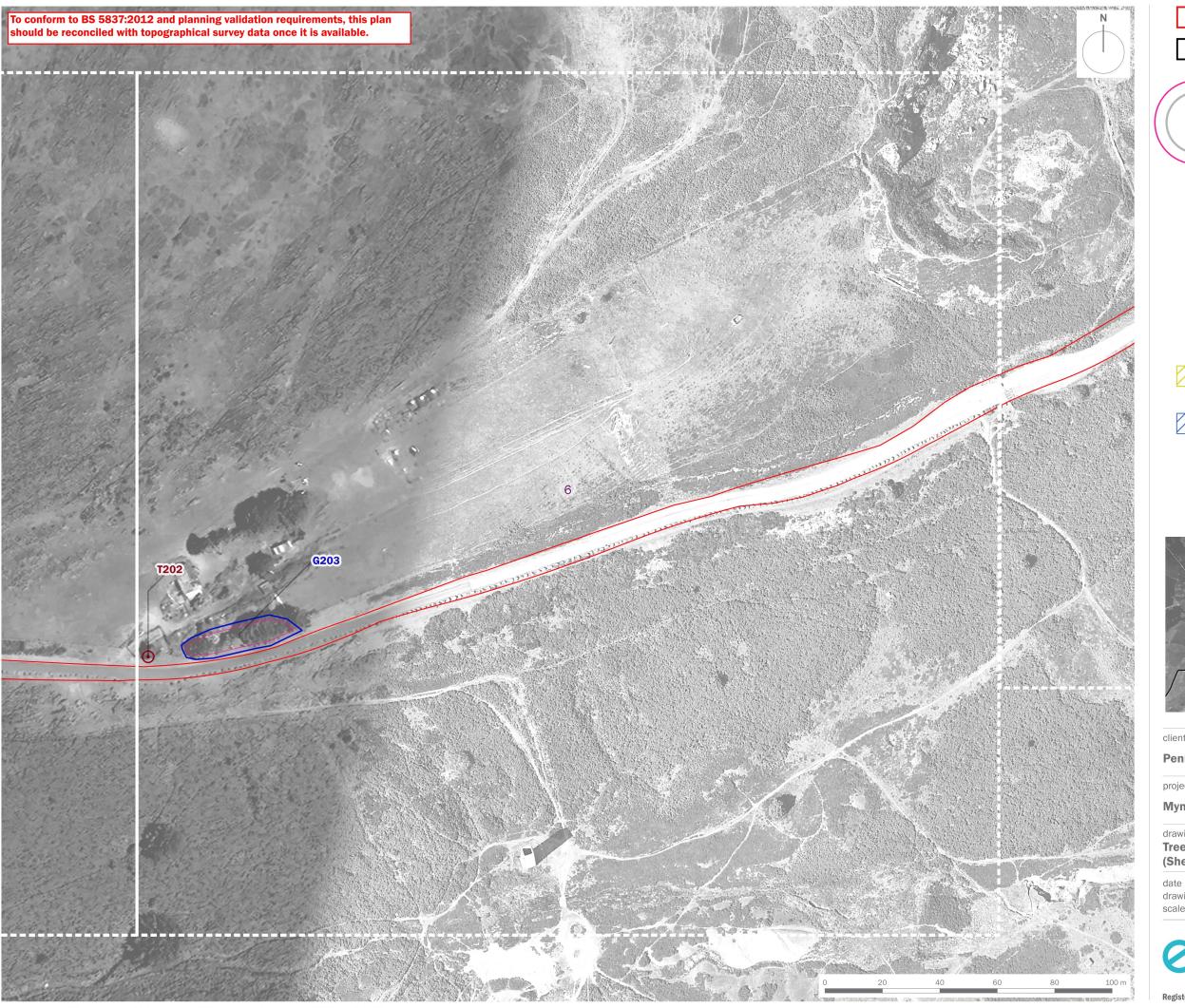
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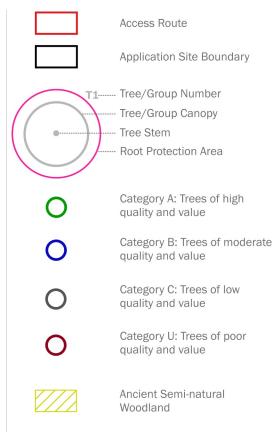
28 MARCH 2024 1:1,250 @ A3

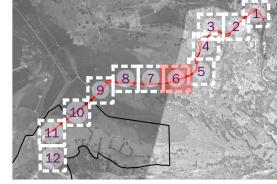
drawn by VMS checked **DGa** RBa

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 $Registered\ office: \textbf{01285}\ \textbf{740427} \cdot www.edp-uk.co.uk \cdot info@edp-uk.co.uk$ 







#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 6 of 12)

drawing number edp6367\_d140a scale

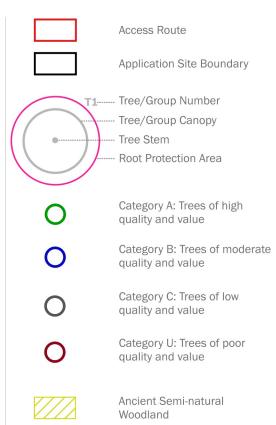
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drawn by VMS checked **DGa** RBa

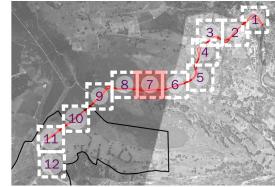


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#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 7 of 12)

date drawing number edp6367\_d140a scale

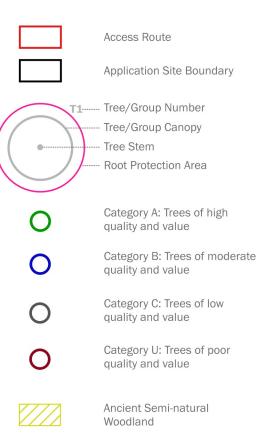
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drawn by VMS checked **DGa** QA

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client

#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

#### **Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 8 of 12)

date drawing number edp6367\_d140a scale

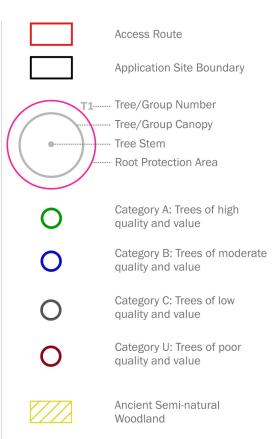
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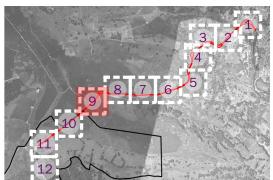
drawn by VMS checked **DGa** 

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#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 9 of 12)

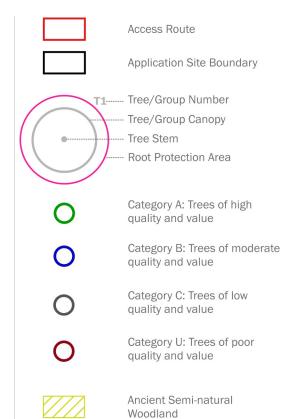
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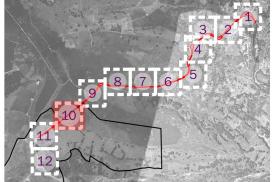


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#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

**Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 10 of 12)

drawing number edp6367\_d140a

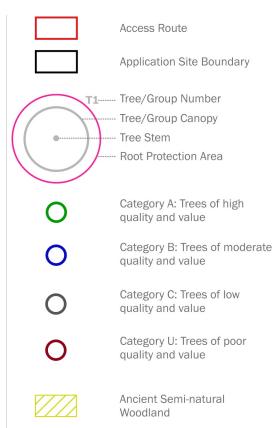
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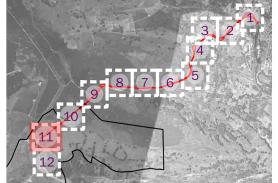
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#### **Pennant Walters**

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#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

#### **Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 11 of 12)

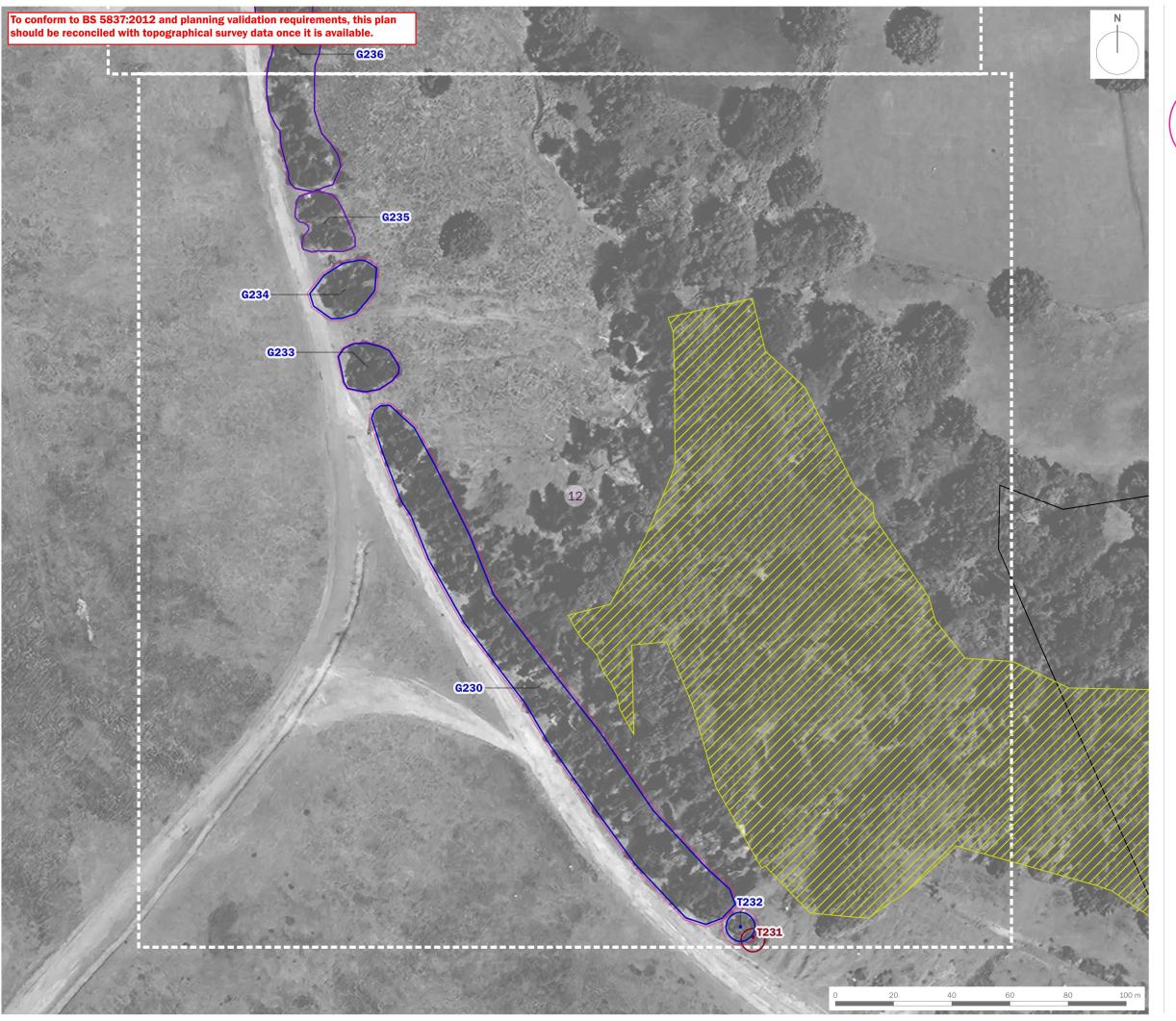
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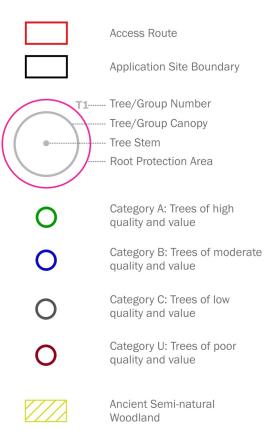
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drawn by VMS checked **DGa** RBa

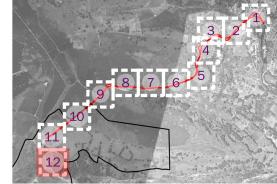


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client

#### **Pennant Walters**

project title

#### **Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm**

drawing title

#### **Tree Constraints Plan** (Sheet 12 of 12)

drawing number edp6367\_d140a scale

28 MARCH 2024 1:1,250 @ A3

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