

**TREE SURVEY**

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SOUTH OF IRELAND TREE SURVEYS  
1 WESTBOURNE TERRACE  
THE LOUGH  
CORK**

**(MOBILE): 086 – 3470487**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### **Terms of Reference:**

South of Ireland Tree Surveys have been instructed by O’Flynn Construction to conduct a tree survey of those trees identified by the site survey drawing provided prior to the master planning of the site for a proposed housing development.

South of Ireland Tree Surveys considered those tree and tree groups that might potentially be impacted upon by a proposed residential development and produced a subsequent Tree Survey Report presenting our findings in accordance with BS 5837:2012), together with recommendations for their best practice management in relation to the proposed development.

South of Ireland Tree Surveys carried out an assessment of the arboricultural implications of the proposed development, giving recommendations for the protection of retained trees and highlighting where the removal of other trees will be necessary. This involved a survey of the principle trees and tree groups concerned, together with an assessment of the arboricultural impact of the proposed development in accordance with BS 5837:2012.

Documents supplied to South of Ireland Tree Surveys for purposes of conducting a Tree Survey include:

- Precise Control Ltd. Surveyors Dwg
- Con Sheehan Surveys Dwg. No. 893\_IV.
- Wilson Architecture Dwg. No. 1921-103.

### **Site Inspection and Methodology:**

The site was surveyed on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 by a qualified Arborist.

A visual inspection from the ground was performed on all existing trees on site. Measurements were then taken and observations made.

A description was recorded of each tagged tree, group of trees, their species, age class, all relevant measured dimensions (height, stem diameter, crown spread, radii and crown clearance height) and an assessment of the tree health / vitality, structural form, life expectancy and quality categorisation. Recommended remedial works required were outlined in the Report.

The findings of the survey are recorded and presented in:

- Tree Schedule (Appendix 1).
- Tree Survey (Dwg No. 893\_IV.

This report is subject to the scope and limitations as given at the end of the report.

### **Accompanying Drawings:**

The Tree Survey report should be read in conjunction with:

- Tree Survey (Dwg No. 893\_IV.

### **Site Location:**

The site is an open site located to the north of Ballincollig and adjacent to the west of the former Officers’ Mess.

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING TREES.

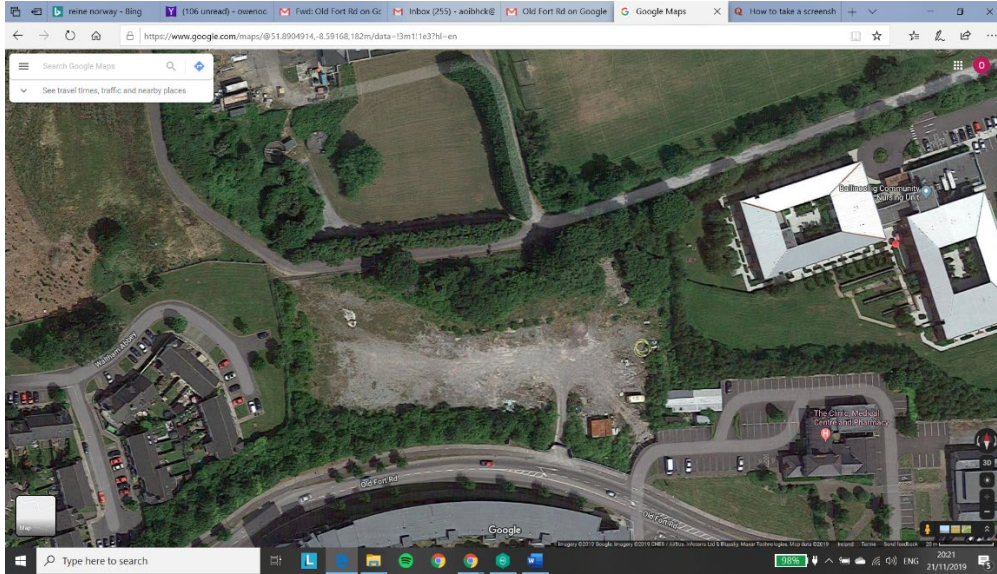


Fig. 1: *Aerial photograph of site*

- 2.1 The site area (highlighted red, Fig. 1) is currently an undeveloped site, located to the north of Ballincollig. Site levels appear to have been raised by a number of metres (3m approximately) over the years.

A total of seventeen trees, Oak and Lawson Cypress were inspected. See Con Sheehan Surveys Dwg No. 893\_IV.

- 2.2 The quality of trees on the site may be described as a mixture of Oak and Lawson Cypress (6 Oak, 6 Lawson Cypress) with self-seeded Pussy Willow, Hawthorn (1), Birch (1). (See Report).

It is immediately apparent that while the Oak and Lawson Cypress are providing a screen to the north at this section of the site, the Lawson Cypress are impeding the development of the high value Oak trees.

The Lawson Cypress are also highly prone to wind throw.

The Pussy Willow are self-seeded varieties and are not high value trees.

The Hawthorn, similarly, is a self-seeded variety.

One multi-stemmed Birch appears out of place and may have been planted in an incorrect position.

Accordingly, it is recommended that the Lawson Cypress be removed so as to allow the Oak trees to develop fuller crowns.

One Oak tree (0629) has an internal cavity and is not worthy of retention long-term.

### **Further Information:**

A large Lawson Cypress is present on the eastern edge of the boundary and it is not clear if it is within the boundary of the site.

## 3. ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 Category U trees (13) are recommended for immediate removal to facilitate the development of the Oak trees.
- 3.2 Protection should be afforded the remaining Oak trees with fit for purpose barriers in accordance with the root protection areas.
- 3.3 Open space provided with the removal of the Lawson Cypress trees may be used for further planting in accordance with the recommendations of the landscape architect.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS – Arboricultural Method Statement**

- 4.1 Removal of the Lawson Cypress trees should be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 by the reputable tree surgery company.
- 4.2 Compaction of the ground adjacent to the Oak trees must be avoided. Accordingly, heavy equipment should not encroach on the root plates.

4.3 Protective Fencing: Tree fencing should enclose the minimum protection areas indicated in the Tree Schedule Report.

Additional Information:

4.4 The southern boundary adjacent to the roadway has been planted with mixed variety deciduous trees over the last 10 years. Re-use of these trees within the site will prove difficult and is not recommended.

4.5 A mature Lawson Cypress hedge is present outside the site and screens the water treatment plant at this location. These trees are approximately 40 years old with full vigorous crowns. Whilst the owners of the proposed development site (O'Flynn Construction) benefit from the presence of these trees, it is to be recognised that they have no control over their retention.

Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown spread ((m)	Trunk Dia @ 1.5m (mm) RPA circle radius (m) RPA sqm.	Ht of lowest branch (m) & direction of growth	Life stage (years)	Estimated remaining contribution (years)	General Observations: (Physical Condition)	Preliminary management recommendations	Category of retention + sub-category
0615	Oak Quercus. Robar	18m	9m N 9M S 10.5m E 8m W	8.5m  10m  314sq.m.	3.5m (N)	M	40	Broad Crown Good	Thin 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> upper crown.	A
0616	Pussy Willow Salix	10m	6m N 6m S 5m E 4m W	Multi-stemmed at ground level	Multi-stemmed	M	10+	Self-seeded. Extensive ivy. Water pocket at base.	Remove	U
0617 0618 0619	Pussy Willow x 3	9m	---	Multi-stemmed at ground level	Multi-stemmed	Y	40+	Self-seeded. Sparse crown.	Remove	U
0620	Oak	17m	7m N 10m S 7m E 9m W	900 10.8 366sq.m.	0.5(W)	M	40+	Limb loss to east. Twin stemmed. Good	Will not survive proposed development.	U
0621	Oak	18m	6m N 5m S 4m E 10.5m W	700 8.4 222sq.m.	0.5(W)	M	40+	Raised bank position. Extensive ivy.	Remove lower limbs and flush cut stumps.	B
0622	Lawson Cypress Cupressus Leylandii	16m	3m N 9m S 8m E 8m W	1400 17m	At g/l (W) Girth 1.7m	M		Encroaching on Oak, southern side (0621).	Remove	U
0623	Lawson	15m	3m N 4m S 5m E 5.5m W	800	1.2m S/W			Extensive decay	Remove	U
0624	Lawson	17m	4.5m N 0 S 3m E 7m W	700	Twin-stemmed at 9/4.	M		Poor. Liable to splittance	Remove	U

Tree No.		Ht (m)	Crown spread ((m)	Trunk Dia @ 1.5m (mm) RPA circle radius (m) RPA sqm.	Ht of lowest branch (m) & direction of growth	Life stage (years)	Estimated remaining contribution (years)	General Observations: (Physical Condition)	Preliminary management recommendations	Category of retention + sub-category
0625	Lawson	17m	5m N 7.5m S 3m E 3.5m W	650		M		Liable to wind throw.	Remove	U
0626	Hawthorn	5m	1.5m N 1.5m S 1.5m E 1.5m W	M/S	All @ ground level	Y	20	Multi-stemmed (1).	Remove ivy	B
0627	Oak	17m	8m N 0 S 7m E 5m W	T/S @ 1m g/l. 700 8.4sq.m.	2.5m 5	M	40+	Deadwood and broken limbs	Remove deadwood and broken limbs Thin crown	A
0628	Lawson	15m	5m N 7.8m S 5m E 3.5m W	700	1m (west)	M		Exposed root plate liable to wind throw.	Remove	U
0629	Oak	14m	2m N 7.5m S 0 E 4m W	T/S @ 1.3m from ground level.	1.8 SW	Early Mature	15	Internal cavity, western side	Remove	U
0630	Oak	15m	6m N 9m S 4m E 6m W	530 129sq.n,	2.3 NW	2.3 E/M	40+	Small broken limbs	Lift ? growth. Remove ivy to facilitate inspection	A
0631	Birch Betula pendula	7m	1.5m N 1.5m S 1.5m E 1.5m W		M/S x 4 All	Y	-	Insignificant	Self-seeded	U
0632	Lawson Cypress	16m	7m N 9.5m S 7m E 4m W	800 1m S		M		Extreme lean to the south	Remove	U