

# Arboricultural Impact Report

Capdoo

Clane

Co. Kildare

<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Revision</b>
TCLA001	Capdoo	31,05,19	A

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## 1. Introduction

This report is designed to outline the impact on trees of the proposed development at Capdoo, Clane, Co. Kildare 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 Ltd on instruction from Ardstone Homes between February and May 2018.

The survey methodology, supporting drawings and documentation follow the recommendations contained within BS 5837 (2012).

Drawings / Reports	Number	Revision
Tree Survey & Constraints drawing	102	C
Arboricultural Impact drawing	103	C
Tree Protection drawing	104	B
Arboricultural Assessment report	-	-
Tree Protection Strategy report	-	-

**Table 1.** Arboricultural drawings and reports

A total of one hundred and nineteen individual trees were identified within the site with a detailed analysis of the trees contained within sections 2 & 6 of the Arboricultural Assessment report. In addition, there are a number of hedgerows and remnants of a forestry plantation on the site. Table 2 outlines the categorisation of the trees within the arboricultural assessment report.

Category	Number	% of total
A	0	0
B	51	43
C	57	48
U	11	9

**Table 2.** Tree Categories

The location of trees / hedgerows and their categorisations are outlined within the Arboricultural Assessment report and within drawing TCLA001 Tree Survey & Constraints 102 Rev C.

## 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 and hedgerows with potential for retention based on these factors with the trees shown for retention and removal within drawing TCLA001 103 Arboricultural Impact Rev C the result of these considerations.

## 2.1 Impact on trees & hedgerows

The impact on trees and hedgerows is shown on drawing TCLA001 103 Rev A and outlined within table 3.

Trees to be retained are located within three open space areas with individual trees shown for retention on the northern and eastern boundaries.

The trees within the open space areas of the site have been retained as groups and incorporate a section of a hedgerow which

contains a relatively high number of multi-stemmed ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), a section of hedgerow with one standard tree, a mixed species cluster of trees toward the eastern section of the site and mature ash and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) on the eastern boundary with the public road and a neighbouring property.

The retention of trees within groups in areas designated for open space provision is to be welcomed. These trees can be more appropriately managed during construction and as groups will not become isolated individuals more open to changes in wind direction following the development of the site.

The individual trees retained on the northern and eastern boundaries are relatively well-developed mature specimens which have the potential to contribute to the character of the development in these locations. The appropriate management of all retained trees during construction and into the future will be crucial for their long-term potential.

Category	Number	% of total
A	0	0
B	22	18
C	37	31
U	11	9

**Table 3.** Tree Removal Categories

In terms of tree loss, a total of 49% of the category B & C trees have been identified for removal based on the impact of the proposed development. In addition, there will be a number of hedgerows and the remains of a former forestry plantation will also be removed. The main concentration of trees is located on the northern boundary where the distributor road enters the site, around the former dwelling and stables and within a hedgerow in a more central area of the site. The quality of the trees is mixed in these locations with the majority within arboricultural categories B & C (moderate & poor). A smaller percentage are within category U (very poor).

In addition, eight sections of hedgerow are proposed for removal in full or in part. The majority of the hedgerows are now primarily composed of un-managed hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) with an under-story of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg), the original hedgerow structure having been lost over time through lack of management. However, these hedgerows provide a range of ecosystem services and their loss will impact negatively on the provision of these services.

## 3. Mitigation

To mitigate the loss of trees extensive new tree plantings are proposed. These include screen planting along the proposed distributor road, street tree and hedge plantings. There is a strong emphasis on native species within screen plantings with a range of species and cultivars proposed for ornamental streetscape plantings. Full details of these plantings are to be found within the landscape masterplan and landscape strategy report.