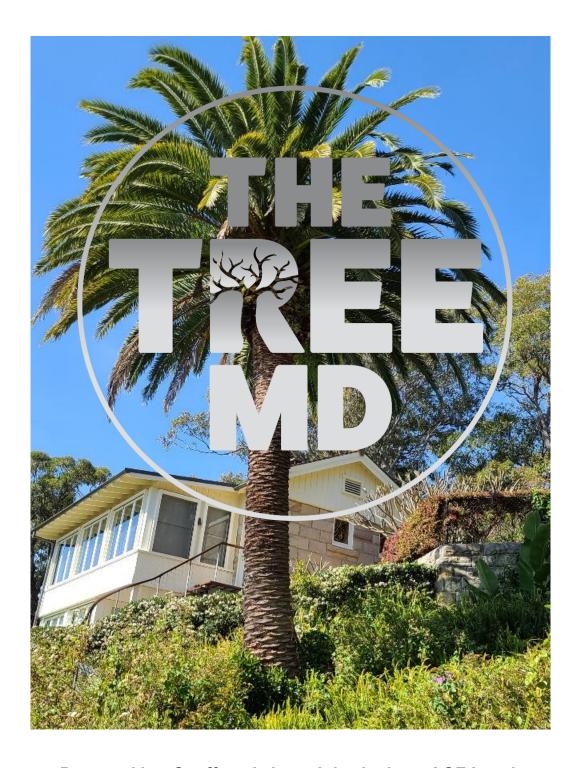
# **Arboriculture Addendum**121 Pacific Rd Palm Beach



**Prepared by: Geoffrey Ashton Arboriculture AQF Level 5** 

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## 1 Addendum Recommendations

In response to address a Northern Beaches Council response letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 in relation to development application No. DA2021/2364 at 121 Pacific Rd Palm Beach NSW<sup>1</sup>.

This addendum reiterates the recommendation to remove Tree 2 as the subject tree has significant damage to the main stem on the northern side. The tree is self-optimised however potential encroachments may reduce the trees growth optimisation and result in an increased risk of failure. The area around the tree will have an increased occupation once the development is complete and a replacement planting is the recommended long-term management for the site. It is additionally noted that the tree is likely to be exempt under the RMS 10/50 rule due to the distance from the current dwelling and could be removed prior to this application.

Tree 3 is on the boundary and believed to be in the neighbouring property to the south. A letter of consent from the owning body dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022<sup>2</sup> gives permission for Tree 3's removal. This tree is an exempt species and Northern Beaches Council has deemed the tree does not require consent within the Northern Beaches Council response letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022<sup>1</sup>.

Northern Beaches Council requested Tree 4 be retained and further discussions and information provided show minor encroachments on the subject tree within the current plan. There is a cantilevered slab, and it is understood the cantilevered slab must be above the existing root systems to maintain the minimal impact. Measurements provided which are inserted into the Appendix C Site Images show there is a total encroachment to TPZ from driveway and building of 5.6m2 which is an encroachment of 3.44 % of the formulated Tree Protection Zone. Protection measures are to be implemented throughout the development process to reduce impacts on the subject tree.

The removal of a council verge tree (Tree 14) was recommended and is still recommend as the tree is in poor health. However, the removal of the tree is not required to allow for the development to proceed. The subject tree is insignificant within the streetscape and a replacement planting would be the best long-term management for the site.

Neighbouring Trees 20 and 21 are less significant and in close proximity to the proposed building. The subject trees are in the property to the north and are recommended for removal. A letter of consent from the owning body dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022³ provides permission for the removal of these trees. This letter should suffice council's request for owning bodies consent prior to the approval of the proposed plans as outlined in the Northern Beaches Council response letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022¹.

## 2 Disclosure Statement

Trees are living organisms that provide numerous benefits to the environment; Trees within an urban environment often pose some degree of risk, this risk must be weighed up against the benefits that trees provide. Often the risks associated from trees are minimal when compared to the commonly accepted risks associated with everyday living. Some examples would be commuting in a motor car, using a stairwell or crossing a road.

There is no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied that the subject trees are defect free or do not pose any risk of harm to persons or property. Visual Tree Assessment (VTA<sup>4</sup>) as well as additional tree assessment techniques cannot identify or eliminate all tree defects and failure potential.

The Tree MD Pty Ltd provides professional tree management options in line with industry standards to allow customers or relative legislative bodies to make informed choices. The report findings, conclusions, specifications or recommendations are often based on information provided whether it is measurements, site plans, official reports or verbal discussions. The Tree MD Pty Ltd cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information provided although it may be taken in good will and utilised to make findings, conclusions, specifications or recommendations within this report.

Findings, conclusions, specifications and recommendations are given on the information provided or present at the time of inspection, the condition of the subject trees may change over time or in the event of adverse weather where further additional assessment is recommended. The Tree MD Pty Ltd or anyone employed or working on behalf of The Tree MD Pty Ltd is not to be held liable for any damage or loss due to decisions made or not made regarding findings, conclusions, specifications or recommendations provided in this report.

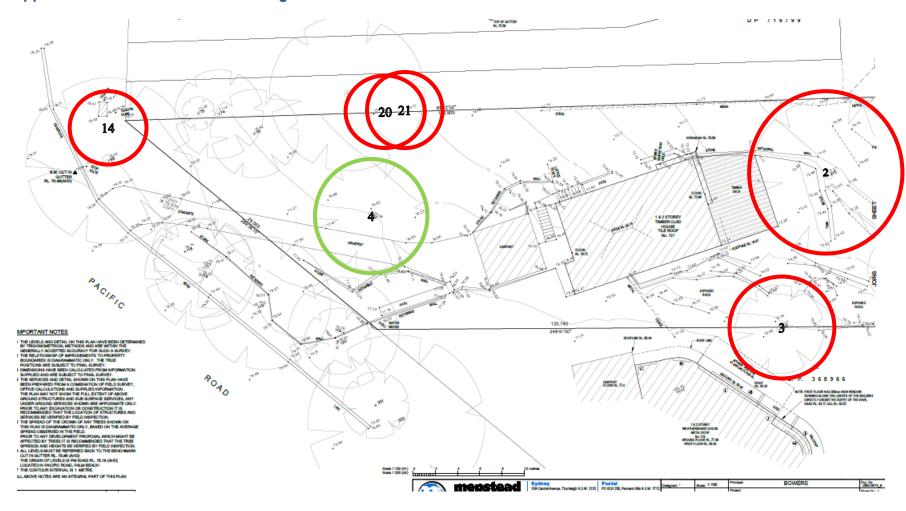
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## 3 Site

121 Pacific Rd Palm Beach NSW is Zoned Environmental living (E4) <sup>5</sup> and situated within the Northern Beaches Council and governed by the previous Pittwater Council's Local Environment Plan 2014<sup>6</sup> & Development Control Plan<sup>7</sup>. A search of the council's website and Local Environment Plan could not find a heritage listing or conservation area zoning associated with the site<sup>8</sup>

The site is Southwest facing to Pacific Rd, and slopes away from the road to the North East. The trees are located throughout the property and neighbouring residence although concentrated along the front council verge. A soil analysis was not taken however the soil media appeared to be shallow and the site located on a rock shelf.

# 4 Appendix A Tree Protection Plan Diagram

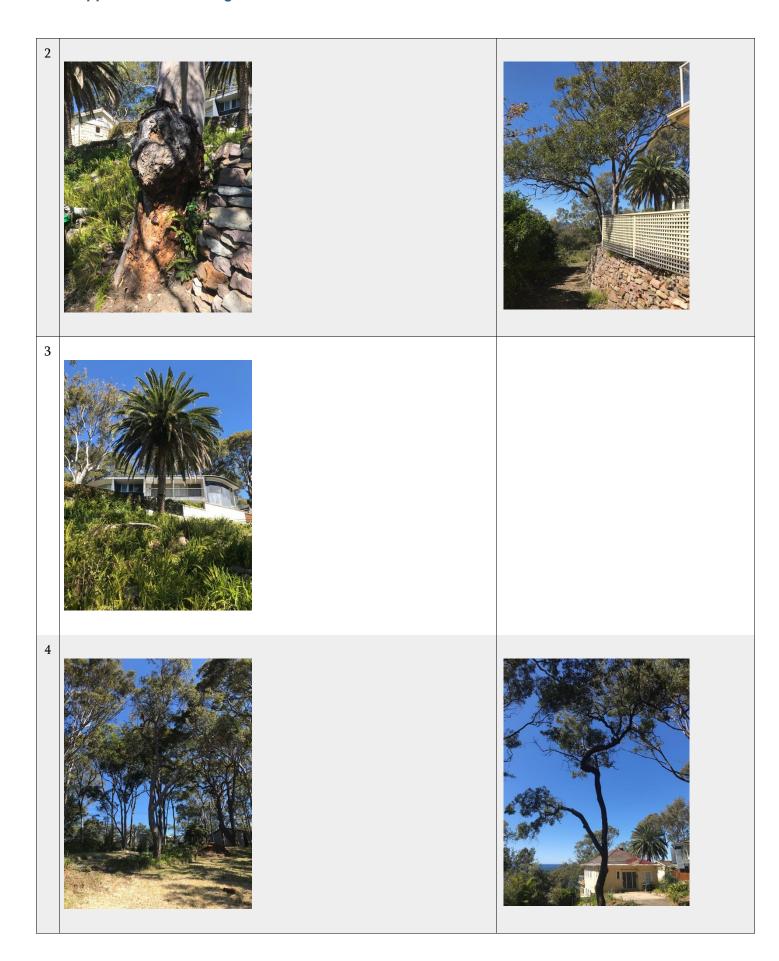


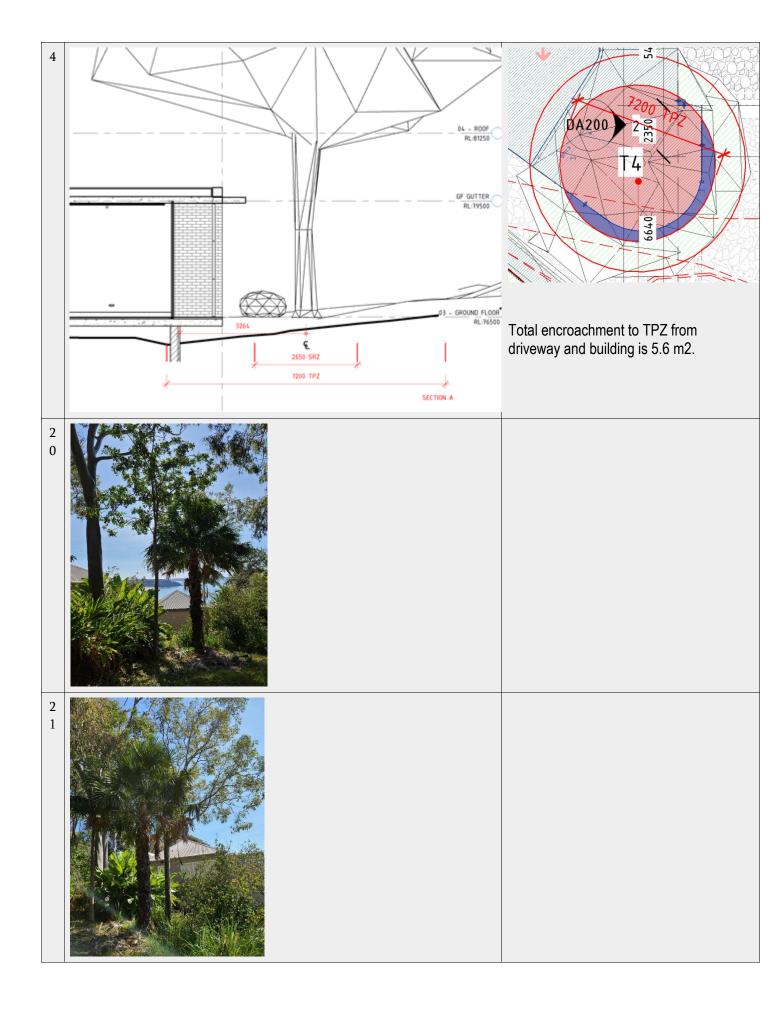
# 5 Appendix B Tree Profile Table

Tree no.	Genus Species Common Name	STARS© RATING	STARS© Life Exp.	Structure	Health	Age Class	Height(M)	Canopy N	Canopy E	Canopy S	Canopy W	Est. Encr.	SRZ	TPZ	DAB (M)	DBH Stem1	Notes/Comments	Recommendations
2	Spotted Gum Corymbia maculata	Medium The tree is in fair condition with good vigour, the trees growth is moderately restricted, and the tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character of the local area.	Short	Average	Average	M	16	6	5	6	10	100	3.20	10.32	0.92		10.8m from existing house, growing at base of rock retaining wall, short lower stem with wound up n side to 2m where stem divides into 2, large swelling on stem just below stem division, many borer holes present within wound, typical dead wood	Remove/Replace
3	Phoenix Palm Phoenix canariensis	Medium The tree is in good condition with good vigour, the tree has a form typical of its species, and the tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character of the local area.	Long	Good	Good	M	11	3	3	3	3	45.09	2.71	6.48	0.62	0.54	growing in fence line between properties on top of sandstone retaining wall, 9m from rear of house. Unlikely to be significant root systems due to elevation within rock face.	Protect Arborist supervision when working within TPZ, potential root pruning in accordance with AS4373-2007
4	Grey Ironbark Eucalyptus paniculata	Medium The tree is in good condition with good vigour, the tree has a form typical of its species, and the tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character of the local area.	Long	Average	Good	M	20	7	9	10	4	30	2.65	7.20	0.59	0.60	1.5m from driveway, no grade changes to proposed driveway. Encroachment from proposed building	Protect Arborist supervision when constructing within TPZ, root pruning in accordance with AS4373-2007 Flexible planting locations to avoid significant rootsystems
14	Spotted Gum Corymbia maculata	Low	Short	Poor	Poor	M	9	1	1	1	3	0.00	1.53	2	0.16	0.13	most of crown dead	Remove/Replace

Tree no.	Genus Species Common Name	STARS© RATING	STARS⊚ Life Exp.	Structure	Health	Age Class	Height(M)	Canopy N	Canopy E	Canopy S	Canopy W	Est. Encr.	SRZ	TPZ	DAB (M)	DBH Stem1	Notes/Comments	Recommendations
20	Tuckeroo Cupaniopsis anacardioides	Medium The tree is in good condition and good vigour, , the tree has a form typical of its species, and the tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character of the local area.		Good	Good	M	10	3	3	1.5	3	25	1.5	2	0.21	0.16	on or close to boundary	Protect Arborist supervision when constructing within TPZ, root pruning in accordance with AS4373-2007 Flexible planting locations to avoid significant rootsystems
21	Washingtonia spp.	Medium The tree is in good condition and good vigour, the tree has a form typical of its species, and the tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character of the local area.		Good	Good	M	8.00	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	40		3.6	0.30	0.30	on or close to boundary	Protect Arborist supervision when constructing within TPZ, root pruning in accordance with AS4373-2007 Flexible planting locations to avoid significant rootsystems

# 6 Appendix C Site Images





# 7 Appendix D Glossary

Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)  A systematic method of tree assessment (developed by Claus Mattheck & Helge Breloer) using biological and biomechanical indicators to evaluate overall vitality and structural integrity of a tree.  AQF Level 5 Arborist  An Arborist with a AQF level 5 qualification such as a Diploma in Arboriculture <sup>9</sup> This with relevant experience enables the person to perform the tasks required by the standard AS 4373 2007 and legislative bodies  Arborist <sup>10</sup> An Arborist with a AQF level 3 qualification of the person to perform the tasks required by the standard AS 4373 2007 and legislative bodies
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11 or above of equivalent recognized and
·· or above or equivalent recognised and
relevant experience that enables the
person to perform the tasks required by the
standard AS 4373 2007 and legislative
bodies
Tree As determined by the Burwood Council
Tree Preservation Order.
Tree Worker A worker who through related training (
minimum AQF level 2 in Arboriculture) or
equivalent recognised and relevant on the
job experience has demonstrated
competence in pruning in accordance to
the standard AS 4373 2007
Selective pruning The removal of target branches
Dead wooding The removal of dead branches
Non-invasive excavation Excavation that is carried out without
damage to a trees rootsystem. This can be the careful use of hand tools or may utilia
the careful use of hand tools or may utilis hydraulic jetting or an Airknife to reduce
the amount of labour required.
Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)  A specified area at a given distance from
Or Modified Tree Protection Zone the trunk set aside for the protection of a
trees root system and canopy during land
development works to ensure the long tel
viability and stability of a tree, calculated
accordance with AS 4970:2009.
Canopy The crown of a tree, comprising all of the
foliage and branches
Pruning The selective removal of branches,
severed at the branch collar near the
junction with another branch in accordance
with Natural Target Pruning techniques a
specified in AS4373:2007.
Structural Root Zone (SRZ ) The Structural Root Zone is located within
the Tree Protection Zone; it provides the
bulk of mechanical support and anchorage
for the tree.



### IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS)©

(IACA 2010)©

In the development of this document IACA acknowledges the contribution and original concept of the Footprint Green Tree Significance & Retention Value Matrix, developed by Footprint Green Pty Ltd in June 2001.

The landscape significance of a tree is an essential criterion to establish the importance that a particular tree may have on a site. However, rating the significance of a tree becomes subjective and difficult to ascertain in a consistent and repetitive fashion due to assessor bias. It is therefore necessary to have a rating system utilising structured qualitative criteria to assist in determining the retention value for a tree. To assist this process all definitions for terms used in the Tree Significance - Assessment Criteria and Tree Retention Value - Priority Matrix, are taken from the IACA Dictionary for Managing Trees in Urban Environments 2009.

This rating system will assist in the planning processes for proposed works, above and below ground where trees are to be retained on or adjacent a development site. The system uses a scale of High, Medium and Low significance in the landscape. Once the landscape significance of an individual tree has been defined, the retention value can be determined. An example of its use in an Arboricultural report is shown as Appendix A.

Tree Significance - Assessment Criteria

#### 1. High Significance in landscape

- The tree is in good condition and good vigour;
- The tree has a form typical for the species;
- The tree is a remnant or is a planted locally indigenous specimen and/or is rare or uncommon in the local area or of botanical interest or of substantial age;
- The tree is listed as a Heritage Item, Threatened Species or part of an Endangered ecological community or listed on Councils significant Tree Register;
- The tree is visually prominent and visible from a considerable distance when viewed from most directions within the landscape due to its size and scale and makes a positive contribution to the local amenity;
- The tree supports social and cultural sentiments or spiritual associations, reflected by the broader population or community group or has commemorative values;
- The tree's growth is unrestricted by above and below ground influences, supporting its ability to reach dimensions typical for the taxa in situ
- tree is appropriate to the site conditions.

#### 2. Medium Significance in landscape

- The tree is in fair-good condition and good or low vigour;
- The tree has form typical or atypical of the species;
- The tree is a planted locally indigenous or a common species with its taxa commonly planted in the local area
- The tree is visible from surrounding properties, although not visually prominent as partially obstructed by other vegetation or buildings when viewed from the street,
- The tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character and amenity of the local area,
- The tree's growth is moderately restricted by above or below ground influences, reducing its ability to reach dimensions typical for the taxa in situ.

#### 3. Low Significance in landscape

- The tree is in fair-poor condition and good or low vigour;
- The tree has form atypical of the species;
- The tree is not visible or is partly visible from surrounding properties as obstructed by other vegetation or buildings,
- The tree provides a minor contribution or has a negative impact on the visual character and amenity of the local area
- The tree is a young specimen which may or may not have reached dimension to be protected by local Tree Preservation orders or similar protection mechanisms and can easily be replaced with a suitable specimen,
- The tree's growth is severely restricted by above or below ground influences, unlikely to reach dimensions typical for the taxa in situ
- tree is inappropriate to the site conditions,
- The tree is listed as exempt under the provisions of the local Council Tree Preservation Order or similar protection mechanisms.
- The tree has a wound or defect that has potential to become structurally unsound. Environmental Pest / Noxious Weed Species
- The tree is an Environmental Pest Species due to its invasiveness or poisonous/ allergenic properties,
- The tree is a declared noxious weed by legislation.

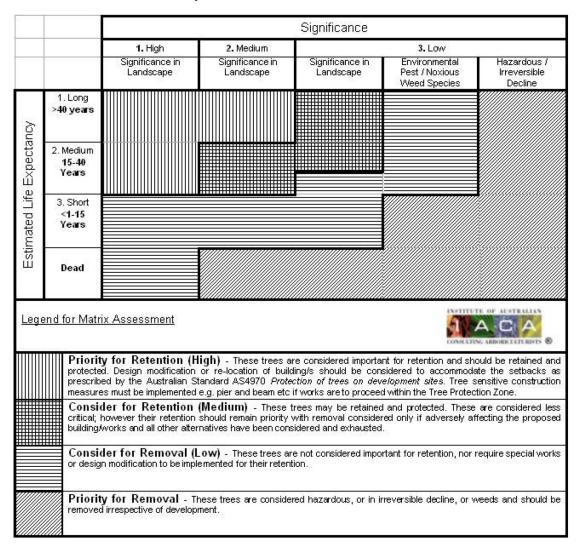
#### 4. Hazardous/Irreversible Decline

- The tree is structurally unsound and/or unstable and is considered potentially dangerous,
- The tree is dead, or is in irreversible decline, or has the potential to fail or collapse in full or part in the immediate to short term.

#### The tree is to have a minimum of three (3) criteria in a category to be classified in that group.

Note: The assessment criteria are for individual trees only, however, can be applied to a monocultural stand in its entirety e.g.

Table 1.0 Tree Retention Value - Priority Matrix



#### USE OF THIS DOCUMENT AND REFERENCING

The IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS) is free to use, but only in its entirety and must be cited as follows:

IACA, 2010, IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS), Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists, Australia, www.iaca.org.au

# 9 Bibliography/References

<sup>1</sup> Northern Beaches Council response letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 in relation to development application No. DA2021/2364 at 121 Pacific Rd Palm Beach NSW

- <sup>6</sup> Pittwater LEP 2014 | Northern Beaches Council. 2017. *Pittwater LEP 2011* | *Northern Beaches Council*. [ONLINE] Available at: <a href="https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2014/320/full">https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2014/320/full</a>. [Accessed 8th November 2021].
- <sup>7</sup> DCP | Northern Beaches Council. 2017. *DCP 2011* | *Northern Beaches Council*. [ONLINE] Available at: <a href="https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/pages/plan/book.aspx?exhibit=PDCP">https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/pages/plan/book.aspx?exhibit=PDCP</a> [Accessed 09<sup>th</sup> October 2019].
- 8 NSW Legislation. 2019. NSW Legislation. [ONLINE] Available at: <a href="https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/maps/aa9b1d6e-cbf5-4f8e-b9b8-d0bbc5a4ad83/6370\_COM\_HER\_015\_010\_20150924.pdf">https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/maps/aa9b1d6e-cbf5-4f8e-b9b8-d0bbc5a4ad83/6370\_COM\_HER\_015\_010\_20150924.pdf</a> [Accessed 8th November 2021].
- <sup>9</sup> Australian Standard Pruning of Amenity Trees AS 4373 2007
- <sup>10</sup> WorkCover. 2016. *Home WorkCover*. [ONLINE] Available at: http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au. [Accessed 8th November 2021].
- <sup>11</sup> Australian Standard Pruning of Amenity Trees AS 4373 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Letter of Consent dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March Author BR & CE Brownjohn Development Application DA2021/2364

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Letter of Consent dated 28th February Author P McCarroll Development Application DA2021/2364

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Matheck, C. Updated Field Guide For Visual Tree Assessment. Karlsruhe: Forschungszentrum Karlsuhe, 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Planning Maps . 2017. *Planning Maps* . [ONLINE] Available at: <a href="https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2014/320/maps">https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2014/320/maps</a> [Accessed 8th November 2021].