

tree:fabrik/ar/tf913/03

7th December 2017

Berkeley Homes (West London) Ltd  
FAO Mr Maull  
Latchmere House  
Latchmere Close  
Richmond  
TW10 5HH

Dear Mr Maull,

**LATCHMERE HOUSE, RICHMOND**  
**False Acacia (G122)**

I refer to my site visit on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and subsequent inspection of the above trees. Whilst on site, I noted that a False Acacia located within the rear garden of 24 Garth Road displayed decline.

The purpose of this letter is to provide a record of my site visit and evaluate the findings in relation to tree maintenance and management options. Access was not available to the tree and therefore a visual inspection of the tree was carried out from ground level outside of the property.

I understand from checks with Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames Council that the trees are not subject to a Tree Preservation Order and the trees are not located within a Conservation Area. However, whilst located beyond the boundary wall of Latchmere House, the tree remains within the curtilage of Latchmere House and as such, the existing planning Consent should be reviewed. Whilst not affording statutory protection to the trees a planning condition may require written agreement with the Council prior to carrying out tree works.

False Acacia (G122)

The mature tree is located within the rear garden of No 24 Garth Road. The tree is identified as False Acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) and located 0.5m south of the boundary wall to Latchmere House.

For ease of reference, the tree is identified as G122 0.1 within the group of three False Acacia.

G122 0.1 - The tree is approximately 6m in height and displays dysfunctional wood extending up the main trunk from ground level. The crown has previously been subject to significant crown reduction forming truncated stems and displays poor crown architecture. At approximately 5m above ground level a nest hole is present on the eastern side indicating a decay within the trunk and possibly hollowing.

In conclusion, the tree is outwardly of poor quality and in terminal decline. Significant decay is likely to be present within the truncated stems and branches weakly attached. The tree therefore has high potential for failure within an amenity garden.

### Recommendations

G122.01

- Fell to ground level, grind out core of stump to detach roots and provide replacement planting.  
or
- Carryout climbing inspection to ascertain extent of decay and defects within upper crown. Provide recommendations as to feasibility of retention and extent of crown reduction required to retain tree as a potential standing habitat.

Your attention is drawn to the responsibilities under the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This may place additional constraints on the tree above that considered within this report and it is recommended that the Project Ecologist be consulted prior to carrying out works.

Trees and shrubs are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly. The health, condition and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis and conclusions and recommendations can only be valid for one year. These periods of validity may alter in the case of any changes in conditions in proximity to the trees or buildings. If the tree is retained it should be checked at least once a year and after severe winds. If the resident notices any change in the trees condition or any mushrooms or fungal brackets are observed, then these should be investigated by an arboriculturist.

I trust that the above addresses the concerns raised and if you have any queries or wish to discuss please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Richardson  
For and on behalf of *tree:fabrik* Limited

Appendix 1 Photographs



Photo 1 View of False Acacia from No.1 Garth Close

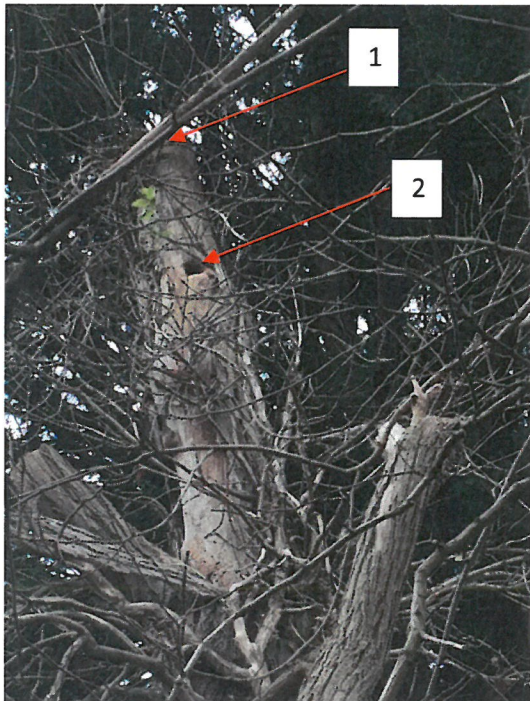


Photo 2 G122 0.1 arrow 1 – truncated stems, arrow 2 – potential nest hole

