Tree Report, Buckley Road Industrial Estate Rochdale 14th August 2020

A mature Sycamore tree is growing close to industrial premises and overhanging branches and leaf fall are contributing to causing damage to the adjacent building.

The request is to prune back overhanging branches to mitigate property damage.

The tree in question is protected under Rochdale TPO101

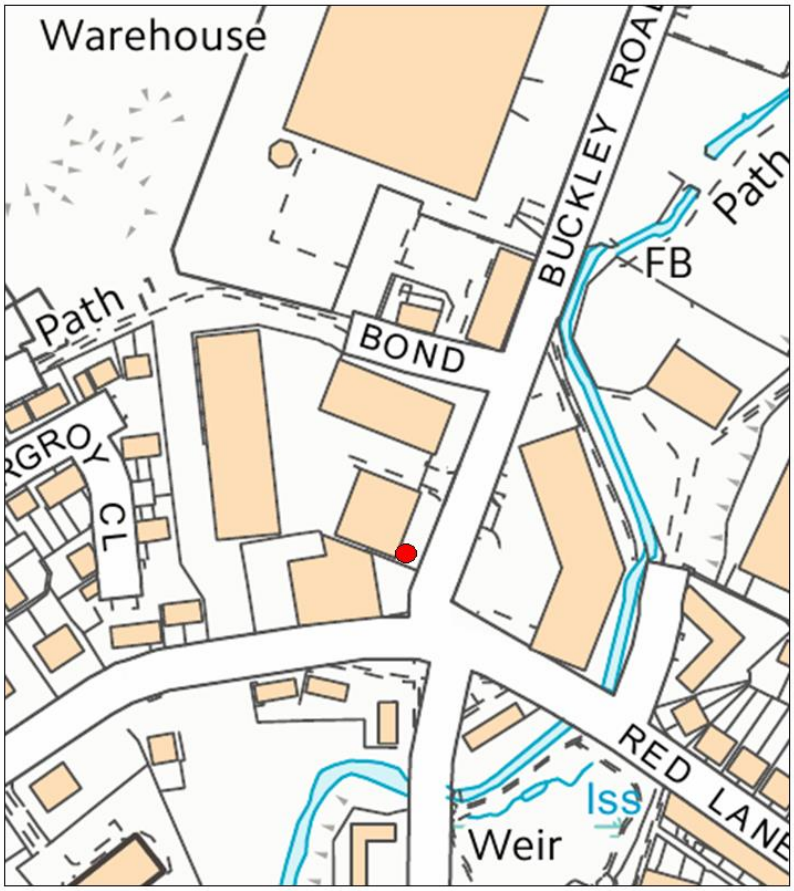

Fig 1 Location of Tree Described in the text

Tree Location

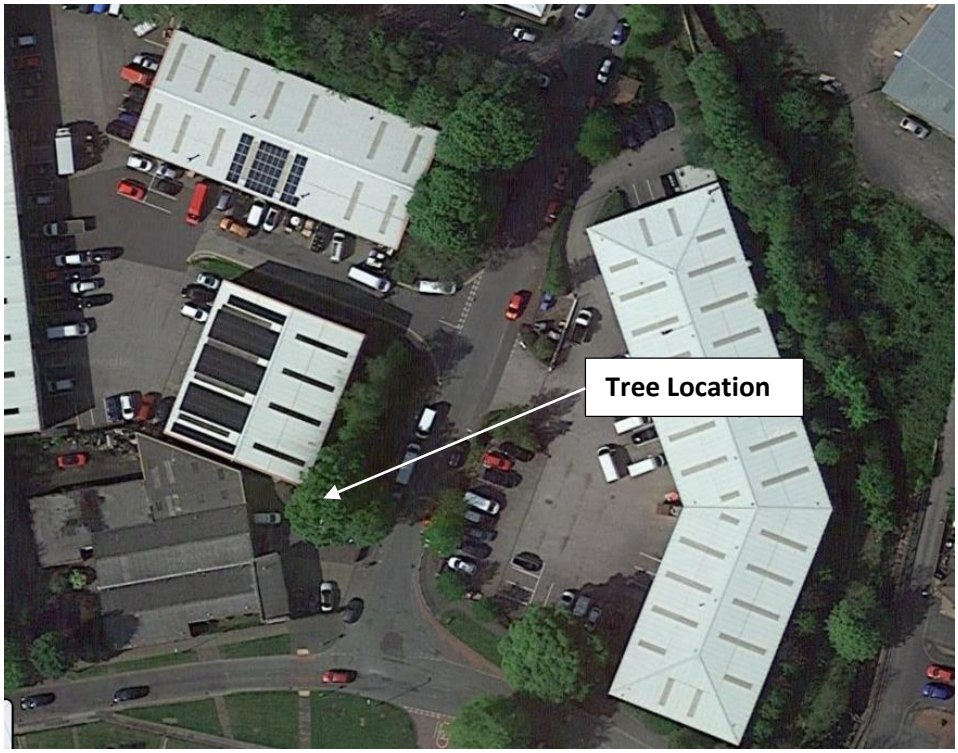

Fig 2 Aerial view of tree location

The tree is a mature Sycamore growing close to buildings. It exhibits some bark damage and loss at the base but otherwise appears sound and healthy. There is little risk that the tree will imminently fail. But branches are growing over, and encroaching onto, the adjacent building. This encroachment is causing damage to the adjacent building.

Pruning is justified to prevent further damage to property.

Although Sycamores can withstand hard pruning this tree has been poorly pruned in the past a number of times to remove overhanging branches. The effect has been poorly executed crown lifting. Some of this pruning has removed large branches, sometimes not respecting branch collars. Such ad-hoc pruning should be avoided as it will leave the tree with an even more poor shape and may affect tree health and stability.

A more professional approach should be taken to pruning the tree to mitigate property damage on this occasion. If just the overhanging branches are removed this will leave the tree even more misshapen. I would **recommend that the crown of the tree is reduced by up to 2m to leave a well-balanced shape. All branches should be cut to the nearest available growth point. Branches encroaching on property should be cut back to leave a clearance of 1.5 m.** Works must be undertaken by a suitably qualified and insured arborist and to appropriate standards in line with Best Practice, BS3998 – 2010.

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Photographs (August 2020)



