

# Arboricultural Method Statement for Enabling and Construction Phases of Work

# Land at Richmond upon Thames College Presented to Clarion Housing Group

Issued: April 2021

Delta-Simons Project No. 18-0573.02





### **Report Details**

Client	Clarion Housing Group
Report Title	Arboricultural Method Statement for Enabling and Construction Phases of Work
Site Address	Richmond Upon Thames College, Egerton Road, Twickenham, TW2 7SJ
Project No.	18-0573.02
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### **Quality Assurance**

Issue No.	Status	Issue Date	Comments	Author	Technical Review	Authorised
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1	Final	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021		Peter Morrell Principal Arboriculturalist	Charlotte Sanderson- Lewis Associate and Ecology Team Leader	Charlotte Sanderson- Lewis Associate and Ecology Team Leader

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Arboricultural Method Statement for Enabling and Construction Phases of Work Land at Richmond upon Thames College Delta-Simons Project Number 18-0573.02

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### 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Method Statement

Delta-Simons Environmental Consultants Limited ("Delta-Simons") was instructed by Clarion Housing Group (the "Client") to produce an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) to British Standard BS5837:2012. This AMS has been prepared for trees within and immediately beyond the boundary of an area of land situated at Richmond upon Thames College, Twickenham, in Middlesex (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). The Delta-Simons Tree Survey Report (issued March 2021, Report Reference 18-0573.02) has been used to inform this Statement. This AMS covers the Enabling (including Site clearance) and Construction Phases of Works for the Site which will comprise the demolition of existing college buildings, removal of hard-surfacing, site clearance and groundworks together with the redevelopment of the Site to provide 212 residential units across a collection of buildings up to five storeys in height; together with associated parking for 110 vehicles, cycle parking, open space and landscaping (See Drawing 1).

The purpose of this AMS is to assist with the preservation of trees shown to be retained at, and adjacent to, the Site. Trees can readily be retained and protected during the proposed development by ensuring that the tree protection methods, construction techniques and working practices are adhered to. This document provides this information; principles that are approved and enforced by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Council (LBRuTC).

### 1.2 AMS Summary

The following points are explained and qualified in more detail within this Report, and this summary is intended for reference only. Any actions consequent to this summary should be discussed with the Arboriculturalist at Delta-Simons before being undertaken in order to prevent a potential breach of tree protection legislation, whether by planning condition, area planning designation or specific tree preservation order (which may apply to individual trees or groups).

This document will give Site-specific instructions on the methods required to protect the existing tree stock agreed to be retained. These methods are set out in a logical sequence of operations and include:

- ▲ Pre-construction meeting: To review the AMS and ensure all relevant parties are familiar with its content, show the trees concerned and where protection will be required;
- ▲ Tree protection fencing and exclusion signage: To BS 5837:2012 or other agreed approach if required;
- ▲ Ground protection: Techniques to avoid compaction, disturbance or contamination of the tree root environment;
- ▲ Site clearance works, groundworks, foundations and services: Methods to allow building operations including service routing and special measures where Root Protection Areas (RPA) are unavoidably breached. To include specialist construction methods such as no-dig solutions for footpaths and paved areas, where permissible, in proximity to trees without damage to the tree, from root damage, or to the buildings, either from roots or from ground desiccation and heave;
- Erection of scaffolding for construction;
- General tree care measures and awareness; and
- ▲ Site monitoring to be undertaken by the Arboriculturalist at agreed intervals through the Site preparation and construction process.

It should be noted that this is a Site-specific AMS produced solely for the physical protection of those trees identified within the Tree Survey and is not relevant to any other site or situation. This Report has been compiled from data achieved by a visual Tree Assessment by Delta-Simons on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021.



### 2.0 Root Protection Areas

As the majority of tree roots are found in the upper metre of soil, development works, including for example even shallow excavation and soil compaction can adversely affect the health of trees in close proximity. Trees differ in their tolerance to root loss or disturbance, according to their age, speces and/or condition. All protection works within this document are in accordance with BS5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations'

Based on the tree survey data, RPAs have been determined for every retained tree as shown in the Tree Survey (Appendix A). The RPAs are designed to protect at least a functional minimum of tree root mass in order to ensure that the trees survive the construction process. The RPA has been used to inform the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ), the area to be protected during development by the use of ground protection and specialised construction techniques, outlined below.

From the assessment undertaken, the following tree needs specific consideration in this AMS:

- ▲ TG4 This tree group is located immediately adjacent to the northern boundary with a RPA that extends into the working footprint of the planned area of hard standing associated with a new substation and footpath linked to Egerton Road;
- ▲ TG6 This tree group borders the main access route within the Site with a root protection area which will extend into the proposed new road; and
- ▲ T7, T8, T9, T10, T11 and TG15 These trees are located within the Site adjacent to the southern boundary with RPAs and canopies which extend into the working footprint of proposed gardens.



### 3.0 Methodology

The following sequences are governed by operational constraints and subject to change. The Site Arboriculturalist must be noted of any changes to this schedule.

### 3.1 Sequenced Methods of Construction and Tree Protection

#### 3.1.1 Pre-Commencement

An on-Site meeting will be held if required, with all relevant parties; including the developer, Site Arboriculturalist, Architect and LPA representative. The purpose of this meeting is to record Site features including tree condition, to agree tree works (detailed below), location of permanent and temporary access, location of Site storage, the location of ground protection barriers and the timing of Site operations.

### 3.1.2 Completion of Agreed Tree Works

All tree work is to conform to BS3998:2010 'Tree Work' and to current arboricultural best practice. Tree works are to be undertaken by a professional and specialist arboricultural contractor, who carries the appropriate experience and insurance cover and following formal approval from the LPA.

The following works are specifically proposed and are shown on Figure 2:

- ▲ **TG4** No-dig construction methods are to be employed within the RPA of TG4 for the construction of the area of hard standing and footpath;
- ▲ T7, TG12, T13, T14, TG15 (three trees) TG18, T19, T20, T21 and TG22 Tree removals to allow for redevelopment of the Site; and
- ▲ T8, T9, T10, T11 and TG15 Supervision of works during installation of fencing within RPA's;

### 3.1.3 Tree Protection Barriers

Tree protection barriers will be erected in order to exclude the CEZ from significant construction activity. It is the responsibility of everyone engaged in the construction process to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them.

Inside the exclusion area of the development, the following shall apply:

- ▲ No mechanical excavation without approval from the LPA;
- No excavation by any other means without Arboricultural Site supervision;
- No hand digging without a written Method Statement having first been approved by the Site Arboriculturist;
- No ground level changes whatsoever;
- No storage of plant or materials;
- No storage or handling of any chemicals;
- ▲ If 360-degree excavators are to be used during construction, at no time is the excavating arm to encroach over the position of the protection barriers;
- No vehicular access;
- No fires should be lit within 10 metres of the nearest point of the canopy of any retained tree;
- ▲ No equipment, signage, fencing, tree protection barriers, materials, components, vehicles or structures shall be attached to or supported by a retained tree; and
- ▲ No mixing of cement or use of other materials or substances shall take place within tree RPA or tree CEZ, nor in proximity to tree RPA or tree CEZ, since leakage or displacement of those materials or substances could cause them to enter tree RPA or tree CEZ.

Following the authorised tree works, and before any works on-Site in the vicinity of the retained trees commence, including enabling works or the delivery of machinery, materials, plant or equipment to the Site or



any adjacent land, TPF will be erected in accordance with BS5837:2012 that comprises of vertical and horizontal scaffolds with vertical tubes spaced at no more than 3 m intervals and driven into the ground. Weld mesh (Heras or similar) panels will be securely fixed on to this framework with wire or scaffold clamps. Tubes will be firmed into holes in the ground made with post hole boring equipment. Post holes are to be no more than 30% larger than the scaffold tube. Supporting struts will be fixed to the inside of the barrier to ensure maximum rigidity (See Appendix C).

The location of the protection barriers is indicated on Figure 2. The position of the barriers is to be marked out with biodegradable marker paint on-Site and agreed with appropriate representatives from the LPA and the Site Contractor.

It may be necessary to remove part of the existing vegetation from under the canopy of the tree or remove overhanging branches prior to erecting the fencing. Any works of this nature are to be carried out by hand.

Once the barriers have been properly erected in position, they are to be considered fixed, and are not to be removed or altered in any way without prior approval from the Site Arboriculturist and the LPA.

Weather-proof signs shall be fixed to the outside of the walls with words such as 'CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE – NO ACCESS AND NO STORAGE OR WORKING WITHIN THIS AREA'. (See Appendix D).

All operatives and other relevant personnel are to be informed of the role of the exclusion barriers and their importance. A copy of the TPP will be displayed on-Site at all times during the construction process.

Construction of hardstanding and paths will be undertaken as part of the Construction Stage.

### 3.1.4 Removal of Existing Hard Surfaces

Reasonable notice will be given to the LPA as to the date of commencement of any removal of hard standing surfaces areas adjacent to the retained trees as part of the enabling works, noting that there is very limited above ground removal to be undertaken within the RPAs of retained trees (specifically TG6). This will provide the LPA with the opportunity to visit the Site and ensure that all tree protection methods are in place.

- A Removal of existing hard surfaces and curbs by machinery will take place with machinery on the hard surface, working backwards;
- ▲ Spoil, including soil and rubble will be removed from the Site and not stored against any protection barriers or over any ground protection;
- ▲ When working within the RPA of TG6, removal of hard surfaces will be supervised by the Delta-Simons Arboriculturist and if no protected tree roots with a diameter greater than 25 mm are found, normal techniques can be used;
- ▲ If roots with a diameter between 25 50 mm diameter are found, then they are to be pruned to a side root, or suitable point, with secateurs; or
- ▲ If a major root (50 mm plus) is found, it is to be wrapped in hessian and hand dug around the roots and casing placed at the side of it;
- ▲ The soil will be back filled to original level; and
- ▲ Spoil, including soil and rubble will be removed from the Site and not stored against any protection barriers or over any ground protection.

The enabling programme is to be undertaken across the Site. The works are not considered to impact upon any RPA of trees not already highlighted.

#### 3.1.5 Groundworks within RPA's

A no-dig method of construction for the footpath at the northern corner of Site will be employed within the RPA of TG1. Similarly, a no-dig method of construction for the creation of hard standing within the RPA of TG4 will be used using TERRAM Geocell 25/10 (Appendix E) or similar product.

▲ When working within the RPA's of TG4, no excavations will be undertaken; and



▲ Geocell ground protection as specified in Appendix E will be installed to preserve roots.

In the unlikely event that further areas of RPAs are required to be impacted by development work, the Contractor, Developers Arboriculturist, and the LPA will liaise over measures for vehicular or pedestrian access for construction operations to be located within a tree RPA. In such a case, a combination of barriers and ground protection should be adopted to form the CEZ. The objective is to minimise soil compaction.

### 3.1.6 Construction Stage, Foundations, Drainage and Services

All areas for construction of buildings, including foundations are confined to areas beyond CEZ and, therefore, no specialised foundation design is required in these areas. No drainage or other new services shall be placed within the identified RPA / CEZ.

In the event that work on utilities is required within the RPA the principles set in National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) 4 (See Appendix F) will be adopted but any approach must be approved by the Site Arboriculturalist and brought to the attention of the LPA Tree Officer.

### 3.1.7 Dismantling Protection Barriers and Landscaping Works

It is anticipated that the barriers will remain in place until the landscaping stage of works;

- A minimum of seven days' notice will be given to the LPA prior to the dismantling of the protection barriers;
- Prior to any landscaping works taking place on-Site, the Site Arboriculturist will inspect the RPA for signs of ground compaction and brief the landscaping contractors to working practices to be employed within RPAs; and
- Once the barriers have been removed, all landscaping works undertaken will avoid soil re-grading and disturbance within the CEZ, and no soil levels will be altered after the protection barriers have been removed.

#### 3.1.8 Soft Landscaping within the RPA

- ▲ All works will conform to BS 4428:1989 Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces);
- ▲ Sensitive ground preparation must be carried out in the RPA's to ensure root damage is avoided;
- ▲ Heavy machinery i.e. a rotovator, is not permitted and only clearance of vegetation by hand, is acceptable;
- ▲ Soil levelling must be carried out by hand, should soil levels require raising this will be limited to 30 cm within an RPA;
- ▲ Should soil become compacted or have poor structure, which may hinder the development of newly planted flora, advice can be sought from the Arboriculturist in regard to de-compaction works using 'air-spade' technology and 'vertimulching' techniques; and
- Trench planting should be avoided in the RPA to avoid damage to roots. Plants must be bedded individually.

#### 3.1.9 Hard Landscaping

Limited hard landscaping is proposed within the RPA of TG6. The area involved is already heavily disturbed and already supports hard standing and is towards the furthest extent of the RPA.

- ▲ When working within the RPA of TG6, works will be supervised by the Delta-Simons Arboriculturist and if no protected tree roots with a diameter greater than 25 mm are found, normal techniques can be used;
- ▲ If roots with a diameter between 25 50 mm diameter are found, then they are to be pruned to a side root, or suitable point, with secateurs; or
- ▲ If a major root (50 mm plus) is found, it is to be wrapped in hessian and hand dug around the roots and casing placed at the side of it.

Limited hard landscaping is proposed within the RPA's of T7, T8, T9, T10, T11 and the retained trees within TG15 and will consist of the erection of boundary fencing. When working within the RPAs during the installation of boundary fencing, fence post holes will be hand dug.



### 4.0 Communications/Monitoring

In order to ensure that the principles of tree protection set out in the statement are adhered to, the contact details of the key individuals involved with these works, and the tasks that require monitoring should be set out. These details should be retained by all relevant parties and available on-Site at all times. Relevant parties will be advised of any changes in personnel or contractor during the development process.

Before construction begins written confirmation that the Site contractor or its agents agree to comply in full with the principles set out within this Method Statement will be lodged with the LPA.

Specific Contacts are identified as follows:

▲ **Developers Arboriculturalist**: Pete Morrell, Delta-Simons

Pete.Morrell@deltasimons.com

07824 445051

### 4.1 Monitoring

Monitoring of all trees on-Site and immediately adjacent to the Site will be undertaken by the developer's arboriculturalist. This will take the form of Arboricultural Protection Site Inspections:

- ▲ Site inspections will be completed at regular intervals for the entire duration of on-Site external operations;
- ▲ Adherence to the approved Arboricultural Method Statement and any incidents will be monitored and recorded; and
- A Reporting Form (Appendix G) will be produced following each visit by the Developers Arboriculturalist and distributed to the LPA and Site contractor.



### 5.0 Limitations of the Arboricultural Method Statement

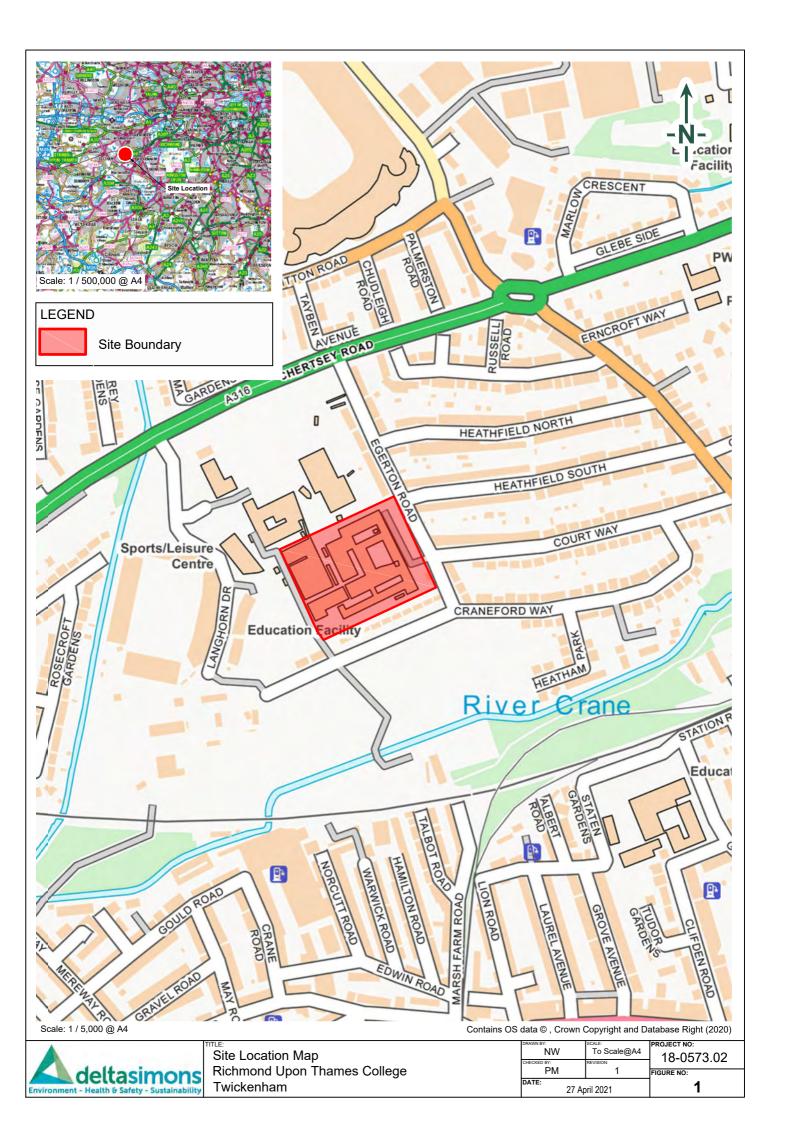
The recommendations contained in this Method Statement represent Delta-Simons' professional opinions, based upon the information referred to in Section 1.0 of this Method Statement, exercising the duty of care required of an experienced Environmental Consultant.

This Method Statement was prepared by Delta-Simons for the sole and exclusive use of the Client and for the specific purpose for which Delta-Simons was instructed as defined in Section 1.1 of this Method Statement. Nothing contained in this Method Statement shall be construed to give any rights or benefits to anyone other than the Client and Delta-Simons, and all duties and responsibilities undertaken are for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Client and not for the benefit of any other party. In particular, Delta-Simons does not intend, without its written consent, for this Method Statement to be disseminated to anyone other than the Client or to be used or relied upon by anyone other than the Client. Use of the Method Statement by any other person is unauthorised and such use is at the sole risk of the user. Anyone using or relying upon this Method Statement, other than the Client, agrees by virtue of its use to indemnify and hold harmless Delta-Simons from and against all claims, losses and damages (of whatsoever nature and howsoever or whensoever arising), arising out of or resulting from the performance of the work by the Consultant.



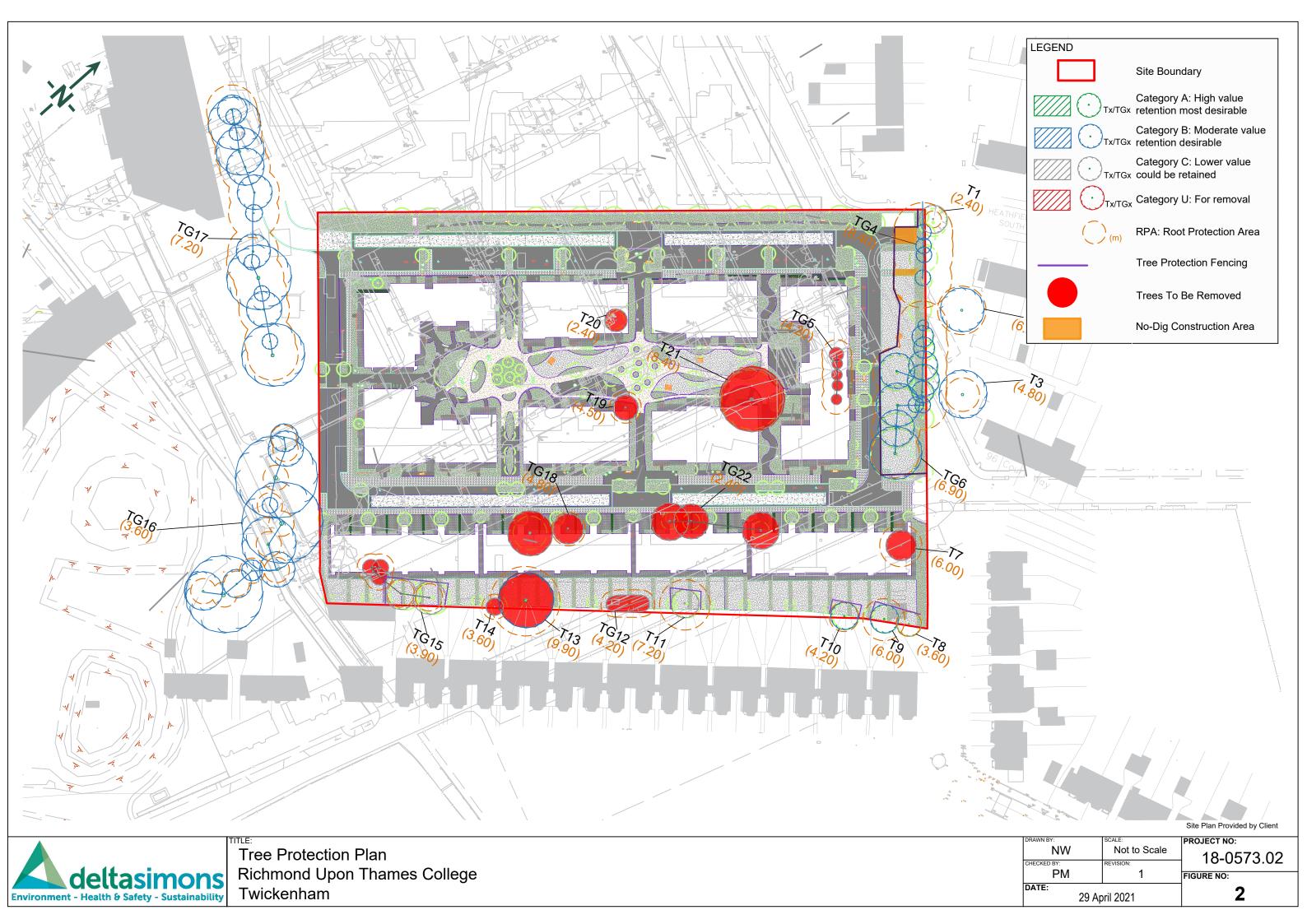
## Figure 1 – Site Location Map





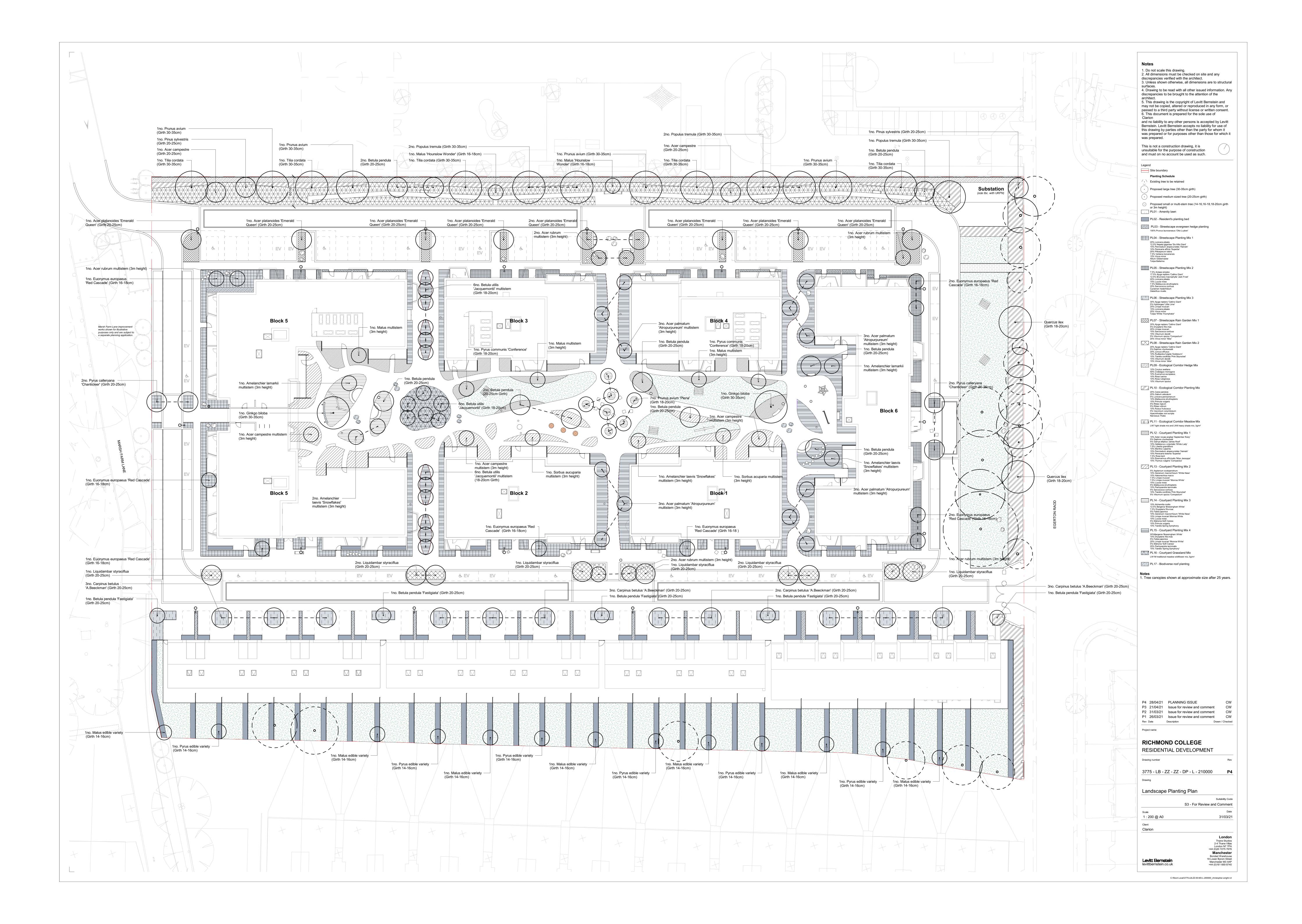
## Figure 2 – Tree Protection Plan





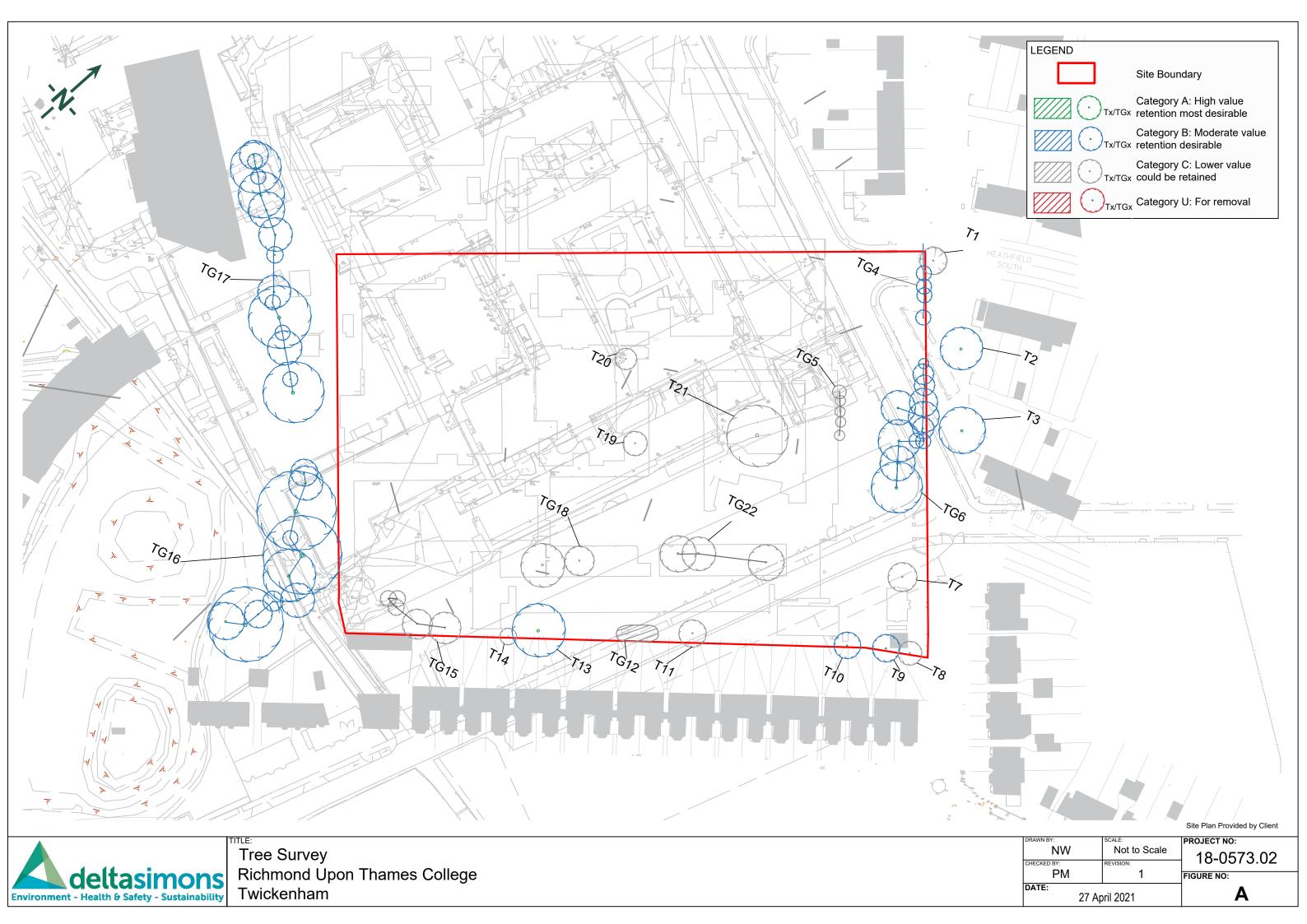
## Drawing 1 – Landscape Planting Plan





## Appendix A – Tree Survey





## Appendix B – Tree Schedule



### Tree Schedule

Table 1 - BS 5837:2012 Tree Schedule

	Tree Species		I	leasur	eme	nts		С	rown (	m)		Tree Condition							Management	
Tree Number	Common Name	Latin Name	Maturity	Height (m)			Average Height	N	E	s	w	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Structural	Life Expectancy (yrs)	Category	RPA (m)	Works
T1	Cherry	Prunus sp.	SM	5	1	210	4	3	3	2	3	Girdled to the west of the root flare	Single stem. Vertical	Balanced, previously reduced	Damage to basal area to the east	F	<20	C2	2.4	
T2	Cherry	Prunus sp.	М	13	1	570	4	5	5	5	5	No visual signs of damage	Single stem. Vertical	Balanced, previously reduced	Damage to main stem on west at 2 m	F	>20	B2	6.9	
Т3	Cherry	Prunus sp.	М	8	1	410	4	4	4	4	4	No visual signs of damage	Single stem. Vertical	Balanced, previously reduced		F	>20	B2	4.8	
TG4	Lawson cypress	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	М	11 Av	1	700 Av	0	4	4	4	4	No visual signs of damage	Single stems. Vertical	Mutually shared canopy	Bifurcated stems at 1 m	F	20 - 40	B2	8.4	
TG5	Lawson cypress	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	SM	11 Av	1	340 Av	2	2	2	2	2	No visual signs of damage	Single stems. Slight lean to east	Balanced	Located adjacent to front elevation. Two trees ivy clad, Low BRP	F	<20	C2	4.2	
TG6	Alder Cherry	Alnus glutinosa Prunus sp.	M/ SM	13 Av	1	575 Av	2	5	5	5	5	Girdled roots with mower damage	Single stems. Vertical	Mutually shared canopy		F	<20	B2	6.9	
T7	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	SM	10	1	6 x 200	4	4	4	5	4	No obvious damage	Multiple stems at 1 m. Vertical	Balanced		F	>20	C2	6.0	
Т8	Holly	llex aquifolium	SM	8	1	Est 250	4	4	4	4	4	No obvious damage	Single stem, vertical.	Conical canopy		F	20 -40	C2	3.6	
Т9	Portugal laurel	Prunus lusitanica	SM	8	1	6 x 200	2	4	4	4	4	No obvious damage	Multiple stems from base at various angles	Rounded dense canopy.		F	20 - 40	B2	6.0	
T10	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	SM	8	3	350 Est	2	2	2	2	2	No visual signs of damage	Multi-stemmed. Vertical	Balanced		F	20 - 40	B2	4.20	
T11	Purple leaved plum	Prunus pissardii 'Nigra'	SM	8	1	600	5	5	5	5	5	No obvious damage	Single stem, vertical	Unbalanced canopy	Impacted by surrounding vegetation	F	10 -20	C2	7.2	
TG12	Leyland cypress Portugal laurel	X Cupressocyparis leylandii Prunus lusitanica	SM	12	M S	Av 350	0	5	5	5	5	No obvious damage	Single and multiple stems, vertical	Canopies read as one.		F	20 - 40	C2	4.2	



T13	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	М	14	1	825	5	9	8	6	9	No visual signs of damage	Single stem. Vertical	Unbalanced	Rot hole on stem. Low BRP	F	20 - 40	B2	9.9	
T14	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	SM	12	1	Est 300	4	4	4	4	4	No obvious damage	Single stem. Vertical	Open rounded canopy		F	20 - 40	C2	3.6	
TG15	Apple Purple leaved plum Silver birch Elder	Malus sp. Prunus pissardii 'Nigra' Betula pendula Sambucus nigra	SM	8 Av	1	330 Av	2	7	5	4	5	No visual signs of damage	Single stems. Vertical	Suppressed crowns by neighbouring trees	lvy cladding on plum. Low BRP	F	<20	С	3.9	
TG16	Willow Sycamore Pedunculate oak Tree of heaven	Salix sp. Acer pseudoplatanus Quercus robur Ailanthus altissima	SM	8 Av	1	300 Est	3	3	4	3	4	Unable to assess due to access	Single stems. Vertical	Mutually shared canopy	Private trees	G	20 - 40	B2	3.6	
TG17	White poplar Cherry Leyland cypress	Populus alba Prunus sp X Cupressocyparis leylandii	М	18 Av	1	600 Av	5	9	6	8	5	No visual signs of damage	Single stems. Vertical	Unbalanced	Bifurcated at ground level. Ivy covered. Low BRP	F	20 - 40	B2	7.2	
TG18	Ash Hornbeam	Fraxinus excelsior Carpinus betulus	SM	11 Av	1	410 Av	2	5	5	4	5	No visual signs of damage	Single stems. Vertical	Balanced	Fused stems to hornbeam	F	<20	C2	4.8	
T19	Cherry	Prunus sp.	SM	6	1	375	2	4	4	4	4	No obvious damage	Single stem. Vertical	Open rounded canopy.		F	20 - 40	C2	4.5	
T20	Alder	Alnus glutinosa	SM	15	1	200	2	4	4	4	4	No obvious damage	Single stem, vertical	Conical canopy.		F	>40	C2	2.4	
T21	Cherry	Prunus sp.	М	16	1	450 525	2	8	8	8	8	No obvious damage	Bifurcated at base, vertical.	Rounded canopy, lifted to 2 m.		F	<20	C2	8.4	
TG22	Sycamore Cherry Goat willow	Acer pseudoplatanus Prunus sp. Salix caprea	SM	12 Av	1	Av 200	2	7	5	7	6	No visual signs of damage	Single stems. Vertical. Ivy clad	Unbalanced	Damage to roots and decay present on stem from root flare to 0.5 m on willow Two trees ivy clad, Low BRP.	F	<20	C2	2.40	Sever and remove ivy



Table 2 - Key to Tree Schedule

Measurements	Age – Class	Overall Condition	BS 5837 2005 : Cascade Chart for Quality Assessment/Retention Category	Symbols:
MS – Multi-stemmed	Y - Young	G – Good	A – High	< = less than
Ht - Height in metres	SM – Semi-Mature	F – Fair	B – Moderate	~ = approximately
Stem – Stem Diameter at 1.5m in mm	EM – Early-mature	P – Poor	C – Low	> = greater than
Crown – Crown spread in metres	M – Mature	D - Dead	R – Trees for Removal	
TD - Trunk division (height in metres)	V - Veteran Est Yrs – estimate of years remaining (>40 years; 20 –40 years; <20 years)		Sub-categories: 1 = mainly arboricultural values 2 = mainly landscape values 3 = mainly cultural values.	

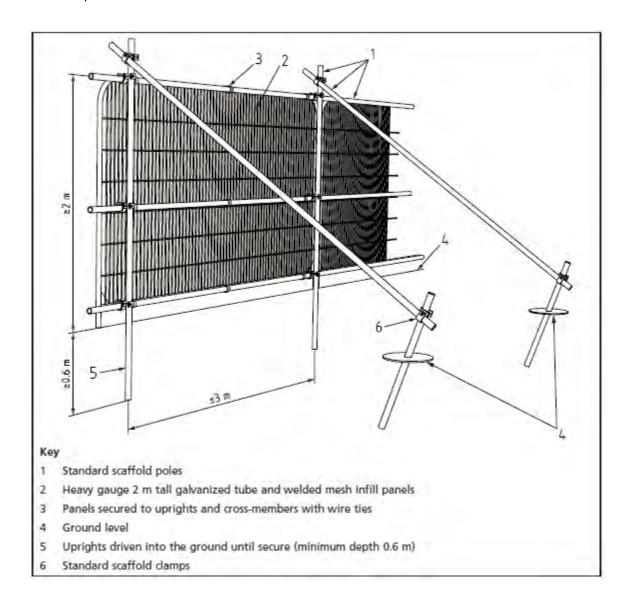
RPA = Root Protection Area (equivalent to a circle with a radius 12 x the stem diameter for single stem trees and 10 x the basal diameter for trees with more than one stem arising below 1.5m above ground level).



## Appendix C – Tree Protection Barriers



### Default Specification for Protective Barrier



## Appendix D – CEZ Warning Sign



# - TREE PROTECTION AREA - KEEP OUT!

(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)
THE TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITIONS, THE CONTRAVENTION OF WHICH MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

THE FOLLOWING MUST BE OBSERVED BY ALL PERSONNEL:

- **△ THE PROTECTIVE FENCING MUST NOT BE MOVED**
- **NO PERSON SHALL ENTER THE CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE**
- Δ NO MACHINE, PLANT OR VEHICLES SHALL ENTER THE EXCLUSION ZONE
- **NO MATERIALS SHALL BE STORED IN THE EXCLUSION ZONE**
- **NO SPOIL SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE EXCLUSION ZONE**
- **NO EXCAVATION SHALL OCCUR IN THE EXCLUSION ZONE**
- **NO FIRES SHALL BE LIT IN THE EXCLUSION ZONE**

ANY INCURSION INTO THE EXCLUSION ZONE MUST BE WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

## Appendix E – Example of Geocell Root Protection

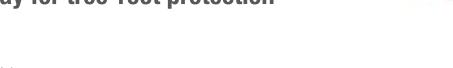




# **Case Study**



## No-dig driveway for tree-root protection



Client: Essex Arb
Location: St Albans

Product: TERRAM™ Geocell 25/10

#### **PROBLEM**

The conversion of a grass lawn into a driveway suitable for parking a car was required in an area where a tree preservation order was in place. In order not to damage the roots, planning requirements stipulated that a no-dig solution should be used. A TERRAM geocell was specified as it would provide a stable, no-dig solution for a new parking area whilst protecting the tree roots from damage, and yet still allow drainage - unlike with concrete and asphalt.





#### **SOLUTION**

A TERRAM geocell confines the infill so that trafficking forces are spread laterally thus reducing the pressure on the underlying soil. Without the cellular system, the surface would be subject to deformation and this would inevitably result in damage to tree roots; possibly killing the trees.

The parking area was constructed on top of the existing ground within kerbs. A geotextile was first laid, followed by geocell which was fixed in place then filled with a free-draining, mediumsized, angular, granite stone. The geotextile will ensure that there is no intermixing of the stone and the underlying soil.

### **BENEFITS**

Adopting this technique ensured minimum disruption to the tree roots. Disruption can, in itself, damage tree roots. Now the driving surface is stable and supportive. Traffic loads are controlled and directed away from the roots. The long-term result should be an environmentally friendly drive which is both attractive and functional.



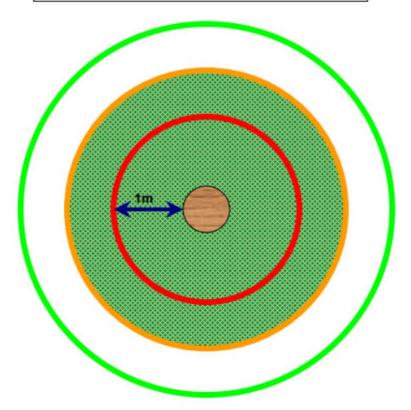
## Appendix F – NJUG Volume 4





### NJUG Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees

### FIGURE 1 - Tree Protection Zone





Trunk of tree



Canopy or branch spread



**PROHIBITED ZONE – 1m from trunk.** Excavations of any kind must not be undertaken within this zone unless full consultation with the local authority Tree Officer is undertaken. Materials, plant and spoil must not be stored within this zone.



PRECAUTIONARY ZONE – 4 x tree circumference. Where excavations must be undertaken within this zone the use of mechanical excavation plant should be prohibited. Precautions should be undertaken to protect any exposed roots. Materials, plant and spoil should not be stored within this zone. Consult with the local authority Tree Officer if in any doubt.



**PERMITTED ZONE – outside of the precautionary zone.** Excavation works may be undertaken within this zone, however caution must be applied and the use of mechanical plant limited. Any exposed roots should be protected.

#### DAMAGE TO TREES

Tree roots keep a tree healthy and upright. Most roots are found in the top 600mm of soil and often grow out further than the tree's height. The majority of these roots are very fine; even close to a tree few will be thicker than a pencil. Most street tree roots grow under the footway but may also extend under the carriageway. If roots are damaged the tree may suffer irreversible harm and eventually die.

#### PROTECTING ROOTS - DO'S and DON'TS

There are three designated zones around a tree each of which has its own criteria for working practices.

#### THE PROHIBITED ZONE

Don't excavate within this zone.

Don't use any form of mechanical plant within this zone

Don't store materials, plant or equipment within this zone.

Don't move plant or vehicles within this zone.

Don't lean materials against, or chain plant to, the trunk.

Do contact the local authority tree officer or owner of the tree if excavation within this zone is unavoidable.

Do protect any exposed roots uncovered within this zone with dry sacking.

Do backfill with a suitable inert granular and top soil material mix as soon as possible on completion of works.

Do notify the local authority tree officer or the tree's owner of any damage.

#### THE PRECAUTIONARY ZONE

Don't excavate with machinery. Where excavation is unavoidable within this zone excavate only by hand or use trenchless techniques.

Don't cut roots over 25mm in diameter, unless advice has been sought from the local authority tree officer.

Don't repeatedly move / use heavy mechanical plant except on hard standing.

Don't store spoil or building material, including chemicals and fuels, within this zone.

Do prune roots which have to be removed using a sharp tool (e.g. secateurs or handsaw). Make a clean cut and leave as small a wound as possible.

Do backfill the trench with an inert granular material and top soil mix. Compact the backfill with care around the retained roots. On non highway sites backfill only with excavated soil.

Do protect any exposed roots with dry sacking ensuring this is removed before backfilling.

Do notify the local authority tree officer or the tree's owner of any damage.

#### THE PERMITTED ZONE

Don't cut roots over 25mm in diameter, unless advice has been sought from the local authority tree officer.

Do use caution if it is absolutely necessary to operate mechanical plant within this zone.

Do prune roots which have to be removed using a sharp tool (e.g. secateurs or handsaw). Make a clean cut and leave as small a wound as possible.

Do protect any exposed roots with dry sacking ensuring this is removed before backfilling.

Do notify the local authority tree officer or the tree's owner of any damage.

## Appendix G – AMS Reporting Form



### **Technical Note**



Project: Subject: Author:	Richmond College, Twicker Arboricultural Inspection Vis Pete Morrell		Job No: Report Date: Inspection:	18-0573.02
Date of Inspection				
1.0 Results				
2.0 Actions to be t	taken			
3.0 Photographs				
Date of next visit –				
Distribution				
Tree Officer				
Site Engineer				
Site Manager				
Job File		18-0573.	02	
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