MARK WELBY
CONSULTING ARBORISTS

Arboricultural Method Statement

For condition U0165805 of 23/2052/HOT at:

16 Seymour Road, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 4HW

Reference: MW.2407.KOT.AMS
Client: Jake Gilkes & Tamsin Blow
Date: 3 July 2024

AA Registered CONSULTANT trees.org.uk

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Arboricultural ASSOCIATION Fellow Member

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1. Instructions and Terms of Reference

1.1. In June 2024, I was instructed by Jake Gilkes & Tamsin Blow to produce this method statement to address condition U0165805 of Planning consent 23/2052/HOT issued by Richmond Council on 29th September 2023:

> *U0165805 Arboricultural Method Statement*
>
> *1. Prior to the commencement of development, an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS), shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The AMS must:*
>
> *a. Be written in accordance with and address sections 5.5, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 7 of British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - recommendations;*
>
> *b. Be written in conjunction with the schemes Construction Method Statement and Construction and Environmental Management Plan (where applicable);*
>
> *c. Outline any tree constraints and explain any impacts for both above and below ground;*
>
> *d. Details of all servicing runs (existing and proposed)*
>
> *e. Detail all tree protection (including plans);*
>
> *f. Detail any facilitation pruning that may be required. The specification for tying*
>
> *back and/or pruning must be measurable and prepared by a suitably qualified Arboriculturalist or Arboricultural Contractor. All tree work must be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree work. Recommendations. unless approved by the Councils Arboricultural Officer;*
>
> *h. Confirmation of the appointment of an Arboricultural Consultant for the duration of the development; a schedule of inspections to ensure an auditable monitoring and supervision programme; and a timetable for submission to the Local Planning Authority. 2. The development shall not be implemented other than in accordance with the approved AMS.*

1.2. Following the recommendations of the British Standard[1], this report includes the necessary information to ensure the retained tree is successfully protected throughout construction.

1.3. A tree's root protection area (RPA) represents a minimum area in m^2 that shall be left undisturbed around it. This is initially represented by a circle but is fundamentally an area of rooting volume. It is often adjusted to account for constraints to root growth within the site (primarily highways and buildings). The British Standard provides recommendations regarding the protection of existing trees during the construction process. This is achieved by ensuring a tree protection strategy is implemented before any demolition or construction on site.

Documents Supplied

- Consent: 23/2052/HOT
- Proposed: 3729000 proposed ground floor plan.pdf

[1]BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction

Statutory Legislation

1.4. I have not checked the status of the tree because Richmond Council do not provide online mapping access. This must be checked before any tree surgery work is carried out.

2. Summary of Provided Details

Condition U0165805

The condition is summarised in section 1. The following is a brief summary of the itemised points.

a. Acknowledged

b. n/a

c. Tree constraints shown on appended plan

d. No new service runs in RPA

e. See protection plan

f. No pruning required

g. Regular monitoring visits are inappropriate for this single tree in a low-impact environment, and are not propsoed.

3. Arboricultural Method Statement

3.1. The tree protection on this site is subject to implementation as detailed in the following sections.

3.2. The recommendations of the British Standard have been applied where viable. Where deviations from the preferred approach are required, the impact on any retained trees is minimised through a combination of supervision from an arboriculturist and adherence to the associated method statement.

3.3. Once permission is granted, the strategy must be followed to avoid impacting the trees and adhere to any planning conditions.

3.4. The information within this section must be passed to the site foreman and cascaded to all relevant personnel involved in the project.

3.5. Any questions about the content or its implementation shall be directed to **Mark Welby Consulting Arborists at 01730 239492** before action is taken.

3.6. A tree protection plan showing the types of tree protection and their locations is appended. It includes the tree survey data, existing site features and the approved construction. The plan must be read in conjunction with this method statement.

Phasing

3.7. It is essential that the following phasing is followed if trees are to be effectively protected throughout construction.

1	Installation of protection barriers (Appendix i: TPF 2 or 3)
2	Construction phase
3	Resufacing of patio- no excavation into any sub base in RPA.
4	Removal of tree protection barriers upon completion of work

Table 1: Timing of operations in relation to trees

3.9. The above has been drafted at the planning stage. Shall any of the protection measures prove incompatible with elements of the build program, contact the project arboriculturist to discuss options.

Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ)

3.10. The CEZ is a root-sensitive area where construction activities are to be excluded. The default method of doing so is through the installation of tree protection barriers. If construction access is required in the CEZ then ground protection can be used to facilitate this.

3.11. Everyone engaged in the construction process is responsible for respecting the tree protection measures and observing the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them.

3.12. Inside the exclusion zone, the following shall apply:

- No mechanical excavation whatsoever;
- No excavation by any other means without arboricultural site supervision;
- No hand digging without a written method statement having first been approved by the project arboriculturist;
- No lowering of levels for any purpose (except removal of grass sward using hand tools);
- No storage of plant or materials;
- No storage or handling of any chemical including cement washings;
- No vehicular access (unless ground protection is installed);
- No fire lighting.

3.13. In addition to the above, further precautions are necessary adjacent to trees:

- No substances injurious to tree health, including fuels, oil, bitumen, cement (including cement washings), builder's sand, concrete mixing and other chemicals shall be stored or used within or directly adjacent to the protection area of retained trees;
- No fire shall be lit such that flames come within 5m of tree foliage.

3.14. Variations from the above may be specified in the following sections of this method statement. This is only acceptable where detailed and will typically be subject to supervision by the arboriculturist.

Protection Barriers

3.15. Barriers must be fit to exclude construction activity and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work around the retained tree(s). Barriers shall be maintained to ensure that they remain rigid and complete.

3.16. See Appendix *i* for barrier specifications.

3.17. On this project, types TPF 2 or TPF 3 are to be used.

Site Induction

3.18. All site staff are to be briefed on the tree protection strategy for the site as part of the general site induction procedure. This can be carried out by the site manager once he has been briefed by the project arboriculturist.

3.19. In general, this will include the following:

1. Explanation of the purpose of the tree protection barriers and any ground protection
2. Explanation of the demolition procedures near trees
3. Explanation of the sensitive/supervised excavation areas
4. What to do if access is needed within a protected area for any reason
5. What to do if damage occurs to any tree protection barriers and how to contact the project arboriculturist if necessary.

Tree Surgery

3.20. Should any pruning work be required, the following must be adhered to once any requisite permissions are obtained.

3.21. All work will be carried out under BS3998[2] industry best practice and in line with any works already agreed upon with the council.

3.22. The statutory protection[3] [4] will be adhered to. If further advice is required, particularly if bats are discovered during tree work, it will be obtained from Natural England or other competent persons and recommendations adhered to.

3.23. The stumps of any trees removed from within the Construction Exclusion Zone or the RPAs of retained trees will be either cut flush to ground level and left in situ or ground out using a stump grinder. They will not be winched out.

3.24. All operations shall be carefully carried out to avoid damage to the trees being treated or neighbouring trees. No trees to be retained shall be used for anchorage or winching purposes.

[2] *BS3998:2010- Recommendations for Tree Work.* London: British Standards Institute

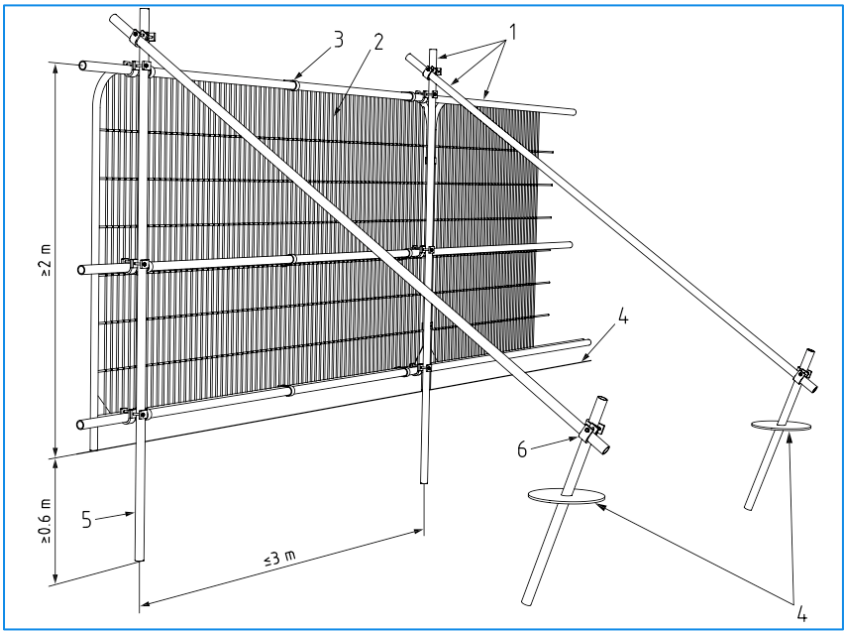
[3] *Wildlife and Countryside Act.* (1981) London: HMSO.

[4] *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017)* London: HMSO.

4. Limitations of Use and Copyright.

Appendix

i. Tree Protection Barriers



1 Standard scaffold poles
2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanised tube and welded mesh infill panels
3 panels secured to up rights and cross members with wire-ties
4 ground level
5 uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
6 Standard scaffold clamps

TPF1: Default specification for protective barrier (Fig 2 from BS5837:2012)

TPF 2: Alternative fencing option: scaffold uprights with backstay

TPF 3:Alternative fencing option: on boots with backstay

TPF 4: Plastic barrier for low intensity areas of construction

TPF 5: Chain-link for low intensity areas on large projects

ii. Tree Categories Explained

BS5837:2012 Table 1 -**Cascade chart for tree quality assessment**			
Category and definition	**Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)**		
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)			
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	*Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) *Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline *Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality *NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see **4.5.7.***		
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	**2 Mainly landscape qualities**	**3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation**
Trees to be considered for retention			
Category A **Trees of high quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)
Category B **Trees of moderate quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value
Category C **Trees of low quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value

iii. Protection Plan

See the following page

BS5837 Tree Survey: Trees & Groups to be Retained

Retained Trees / Groups

Ref	Species	Common Name	Height	Stem Diameter	Canopy NESW	Crown Clearance	Age Class	Observations	Tree Surgery	Est. Remaining Contribution	No.	BS Cat
T1	Betula pendula	Common Silver Birch	16m	261mm	3 N 3 E 3 S 3 W		Mature	Fair quality and condition. Pre-exisitng patio in RPA (retained and resurfaced)		20 Years	1	B1
											Total :1	

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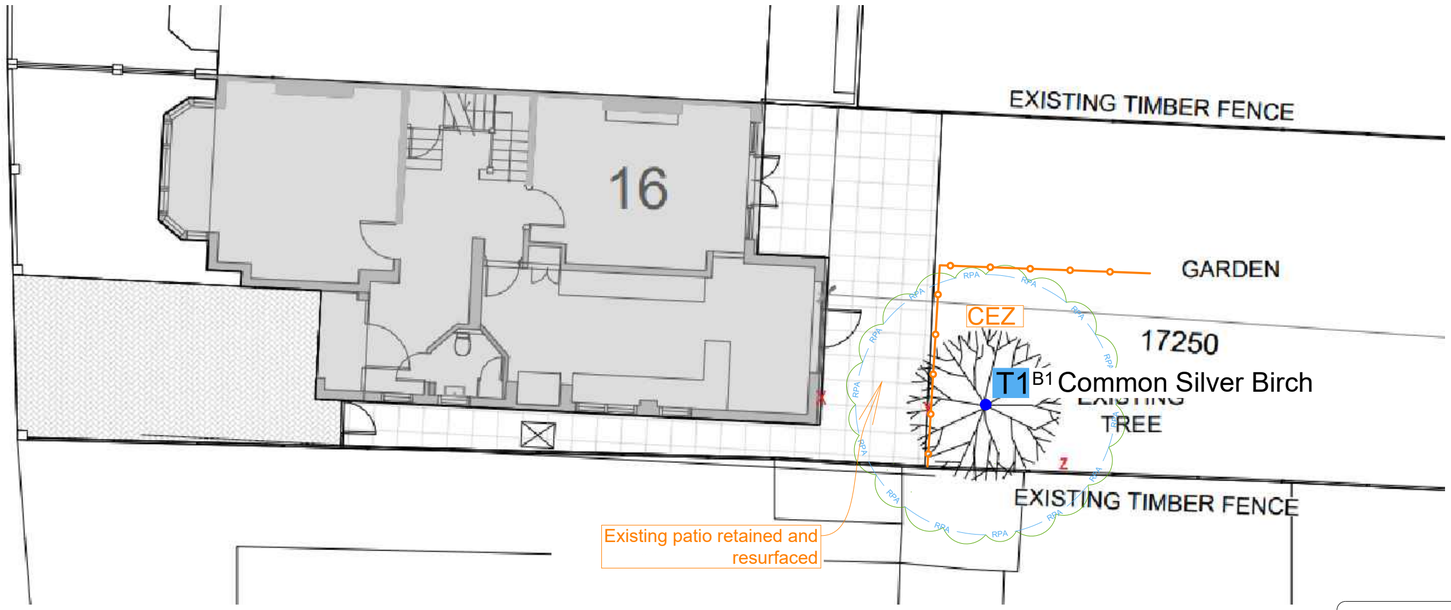
# denotes estimated dimension. Typically due to the tree being inaccessible.
Where dimensions are not listed please refer to the plan graphics for an indicatvie representation (typically for groups).

1:100 (1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 6.0m)

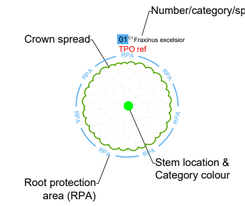
REV:	DATE:	UPDATES:	DRAWN:

N



TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT!
(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)
TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR ARE THE SUBJECT OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER. CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER, MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION
THIS FENCING MUST NOT BE REMOVED WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

Key



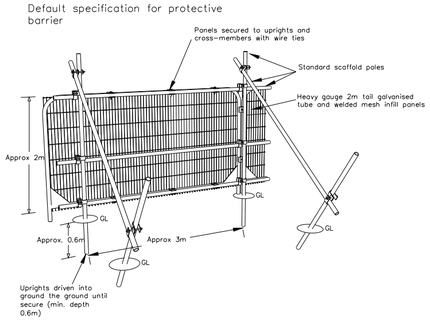
BS 5837:2012 Tree Quality Categories - Table 1

- Category A - High quality
- Category B - Moderate quality
- Category C - Low quality
- Category U - Unsuitable for retention

CEZ — Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ)

CEZ extent. To be protected with temporary protective barriers See inset and method statement for details.

Default specification for protective barrier



Construction Exclusion Zone

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All weather signs shall be erected at reasonable intervals on the barriers. See example inset

NOTES
This Tree Survey has been undertaken within the recommendations of British Standards 5837:2012 and current arboricultural best practice.
- The reference numbers of surveyed trees and groups of trees are shown. Stem locations within groups may be estimated, and indicative of canopy only
- The tree survey was carried out from ground level only, with the aid of binoculars as necessary, following the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method.
- Where trees are located on neighbouring land an estimated appraisal has been made of their quality and dimensions.
- Where stems or branches are obscured by ivy or other materials a full assessment of those parts will not be possible.
- Height dimensions are estimated and are given in metres.
- Trunk/stem diameters are measured in mm at 1.5 metres above ground level, unless otherwise stated. Where this is not possible, then Figure C.1 of the British Standard is followed.
- Tree canopies, where markedly asymmetrical, were measured (or estimated by pacing) in four directions using a laser measure. Symmetrical canopies are measured in one direction only, with dimensions in the remaining directions assumed to be similar. For the canopies of groups of trees, the maximum radius for each compass point is measured (more complicated groups will have further notes taken and an accurate representation will be shown on the plan).

Base plan/site survey reference:
3729000 proposed ground floor plan.pdf

Guidance on the implementation and use of this information, along with its limitations and more can be downloaded here: http://bit.ly/BSGuidance

This plan has been drafted in colour. A monochrome version must not be relied upon

Tree Protection

16 Seymour Road,
Kingston Upon Thames,
KT1 4HW

Date: 02/07/2024
Scale: 1:100 @A2

DWG Ref: MW.2407.KOT.TPP

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