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Arboricultural Impact Assessment Method Statement & Tree Protection Plan (to BS:5837 2012)

149 Castelnau, London SW13 9ET

Prepared for Anna Holbrook

Prepared by Trevor Heaps BSc, MICFor, RC. Arbor. A

Date: 11th October 2024

Ref: TH 4821





Summary

It is proposed to make alterations to the front boundary and to construct a new outbuilding within the rear garden.

The proposals are within influencing distance of several trees and so some basic tree protection measures and working methodology (in accordance with BS 5837:2012) will ensure they are not detrimentally affected during works.

The relationship between the proposal and trees is sustainable and will not result in any unreasonable pressure to carry out inappropriate tree works.

If the proposal is implemented in accordance with the recommendations laid out in this report, neither the trees or wider landscape will be adversely affected.

This is an arboriculturally defensible scheme and there are no (arboricultural) reasons why planning consent should not be granted.

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1.0 Introduction

I am Trevor Heaps, Director of Trevor Heaps Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd. I hold a First-Class Honours Degree in Arboriculture; I am a Chartered Arboriculturist and a professional member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters; and I am also a Registered Consultant with the Arboricultural Association. Further information about my qualifications and experience is provided in Appendix 1.

1.2 Contact details:

Who	Name	Organisation	Details
Arboricultural	Trevor Heaps	THAC Ltd., 12 Plover Drive,	Tel: 07957 763 533
Consultant		Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire, SO41 oXF	trevor@trevorheaps.co.uk
Client	Anna Holbrook		
London Borough of	Tree Officer	Civic Centre, 44 York Street,	Tel: 020 8891 1411
Richmond upon		Twickenham TW1 3BZ	E-mail:
Thames - LPA			envprotection@richmond.gov.uk

2.0 Instruction

- 2.1 We are to survey all significant trees that could be affected by the proposed works.
- 2.2 We are then to prepare a report to appraise the effect these works will have on any nearby trees and the surrounding landscape.
- 2.3 We are then to set out recommendations for the protection of the trees during development in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations' (BS5837).

3.0 Drawings provided.

3.1 Block Plans - Ref. B81027 - 1500 A - Dated July 24 - Drawn by RESI

4.0 Report context

- 4.1 The site was surveyed by Trevor Heaps on the 10th October 2024.
- 4.2 The trees were surveyed from within the site at ground level. No climbed inspections were carried out and no root/soil samples were taken for analysis.

- The trees were inspected based on the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) developed by Mattheck & Breloer (The Body Language of Trees, 1994).
- Tree heights, crown spreads and stem diameters were measured with a clinometer, a Disto laser measure and a diameter measuring tape respectively.
- 4.5 Small trees and shrubs (with stem diameters less than 75mm) were not surveyed.
- 4.6 This report is based on the information provided (i.e. site plans, proposed drawings, scales, measurements etc.) and our observations during the site visit.
- 4.7 This report will support a planning application or an application to discharge a tree-related condition and its purpose is to assist and inform the planning process.
- 4.8 This report does not set out the detailed, working specifications of tree protection measures and engineering / design features, but provides sufficient detail to demonstrate the feasibility of the scheme in principle.
- 4.9 The report does not assess the potential influence of trees upon load-bearing soils beneath existing and proposed structures (resulting from water abstraction by trees on shrinkable soils).

5.0 Statutory tree protection

- 5.1 It is not clear from the Council's website whether the trees within and adjacent to this site are covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or growing within a Conservation Area, and so it is advisable to make further inquiries before carrying out any tree works (unless the works are approved by virtue of this report being approved as part of a planning permission but see 5.2).
- 5.2 Even if approved by way of this report, the Council's consent IS required for works on trees subject to a TPO / within a Conservation Area if:
 - Development under a planning permission has not been commenced within the relevant time limit (i.e. the permission has 'expired');
 - Only outline planning permission has been granted; or
 - It is not necessary to carry out works on protected trees to implement a full planning permission.

6.0 Ecological constraints

- 6.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) provides statutory protection to birds, bats and other species that inhabit trees.
- 6.2 In addition to any tree matters considered in this report, these protected animals could impose significant constraints on the use and timing of access to the site.

7.0 The site

7.1 This property is situated within a leafy, residential part of Barnes.

8.0 The soil and topography

- 8.1 The soils at this site were determined using information provided by the British Geological Survey and observations during the site visit.
- 8.2 The site is level with no adverse features, and the soil texture is London Clay Formation Clay and silt.
- 8.3 Given the information above, the soil has the potential of becoming compacted (which is harmful to tree roots).

9.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) and Tree Protection Methods

- 9.1 The following section describes the <u>potential</u> effects the construction works will have on the subject trees. Mitigation measures are recommended, and this information should be read in conjunction with the supporting Tree Protection Plan (TPP).
- 9.2 Further information on the subject trees is provided in Appendices 2 & 3.

9.3 Physical damage to stems of retained trees

9.3.1 There is a risk that the crowns and stems of some of the retained trees could be accidentally damaged during development.

9.3.2 To minimise this risk, protective fencing will be erected in front of their stems and, where space allows, along their canopy extents.

9.3.3 To minimise any risk of damage being caused to the Ash (street tree), its stem will be boxed in with wooden plyboards.

9.4 Soil compaction around retained trees

9.4.1 Soil compaction can be caused by various construction-related activities such as storage or materials and the use of heavy machinery (or even heavier than normal pedestrian access during works). It is harmful to tree roots because it reduces gaseous exchange and the availability of water and nutrients.

9.4.2 To avoid the soil becoming unnecessarily compacted, all vulnerable areas will be separated from the working area by protective fencing.

9.4.3 The existing hard surfaces (artificial lawn on a solid sub-base in the rear garden and block-paved driveway in the front garden) will provide ample protection for any roots growing beneath and so do not need reinforcing.

9.5 Underground services

9.5.1 It is likely that both an electrical and water supply will need to be provided to the new outbuilding.

9.5.2 To minimise root disruption, these services will be located along a route that minimises any contact with significant roots (i.e. beyond or along the edges of RPAs or radially away from the tree's stems).

9.5.3 A suggested route is shown on the TPP (as a green dashed line). Any sections that fall within the RPAs of retained trees will be hand-dug (retaining all roots over 25mm in diameter).

9.5.4 Alternatively, the electrical supply can be provided by an above-ground means (i.e. armoured cable running along the edge of the garden). IF needed, this matter can be dealt with by condition.

9.6 New walls and piers within the RPAs of retained trees

9.6.1 It is not yet known if either of the existing brick piers will need to be replaced but, if they are, the works will be within the RPAs of two third-party trees. The RPA incursions have been calculated as follows:

- S₁₆ Lilac 0.4m of 5.5m² = 7%
- T₁₇ Ash 0.4m of $17m^2 = 2.5\%$

9.6.2 To minimise root disruption, the post holes will be hand-dug and lined with plastic sheeting prior to back-filling with concrete.

9.6.3 These works will take place from on top of existing hard surfaces.

9.6.4 The trees are healthy and will tolerate these very minor works within their RPAs. Subsequently, there will be no detrimental effect on the health or appearance of the trees, nor the visual amenity or arboreal character of the area.

10.0 Conclusions

10.1 No vegetation will need to be removed to facilitate these works.

The retained / third-party trees will be protected using up-to-date methodology and guidance provided by the current British Standards (BS 58378:2012). To this end, a site-specific AMS and TPP have been provided. These are found in Section 11 and Appendix 9 respectively.

10.3 Provided the recommendations laid out in this report are followed, the proposals will not detrimentally affect the trees or the character / appearance of the local area.

The trees do not cause any significant conflicts in terms of construction activities, nor will any significant issues of post-development pressure be likely to emerge that could not be managed with routine, minor tree maintenance.

11.0 The Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

- 11.1 Effective tree protection relies on following a logical sequence of events and arboricultural supervision. This AMS lays down the methodology for all construction works that may influence significant trees and recommendations for arboricultural supervision are provided in Section 12.
- It is essential that this AMS is observed and adhered to. Therefore, a copy of this AMS <u>must</u> be issued to the building contractor to be integrated into their work schedule and <u>must</u> also be permanently made available on-site for the duration of development.
- 11.3 This AMS should be read in conjunction with the supporting Tree Protection Plan (TPP), which is found in Appendix 9.
- 11.4 At this site, operations are to occur in the following sequence (refer to Appendix 4 for further details on <u>underlined</u> methodology; which are listed in alphabetical order):
 - 1. Erect <u>protective fencing</u> along the position(s) shown by the dashed red line/s on the TPP.
 - 2. Retain all other existing hard surfaces as shown by the sandy coloured squares on the TPP.
 - 3. Commence construction.
 - 4. Working from on top of existing hard surfaces or suitable ground protection, excavate the <u>underground service</u> trench OR lay above ground.
 - 5. Working from on top of existing hard surfaces or suitable ground protection, excavate the holes for the new brick piers and wall (if needed at all).
 - 6. Remove tree protection when all construction activity has ended.
 - 7. Carry out landscaping works.

12.0 Arboricultural supervision

12.1 A suitably-qualified arboriculturalist will provide on-going supervision during construction. The occasions when supervision is required are outlined in Table 2. If the LPA wish to see further supervision, this matter can be dealt with by amending the report and/or by condition.

Table 2: Indicative arboricultural supervision requirements

Supervision details	Required (Y / N)	When	Details	Nature	Sign off
Pre- commencement site meeting	N	Prior to any site activity To ensure contractors are briefed & understand the AMS & TPP. A site supervisor will be appointed to oversee tree protection & the reporting of any damage to trees or deviation from the AMS - to the project arboriculturist / LPA		Informal and open discussions. Induction form signed by attendees	Details of meeting to be sent to LPA within 5 days
Meeting with tree contractors	N measures		To ensure tree work instructions are clear and understood.	Informal meeting	No follow up required
Protective measure check	Y	Prior to any site activity	To ensure that protective measures are fit- for-purposed and correctly positioned.	Photos to be provided to consultant	Details of to be sent to LPA within 5 days
On-going supervision	Ŋ	Every 2 weeks during construction	To ensure that the protective measures have not been moved and continue to be fit-for-purpose.	Site meeting with a site monitoring report to be prepared	Details of to be sent to LPA within 5 days
Supervision of excavation works	И	During construction	To supervise key stages of works near trees (insert which / when)	Site meeting with a site monitoring report to be prepared	Details of to be sent to LPA within 5 days
Meeting with landscape contractors	<u>u</u>	After construction	To provide advice on tree / shrub selection (if not conditioned)	Informal meeting	No follow up required

- 12.2 A site inspection record (see Appendix 8) will be prepared after each visit and will state the condition of tree protection measures and outline any required remedial action (and timescales).
- 12.3 To demonstrate compliance, and to help the LPA discharge relevant planning conditions, all site monitoring reports will be forwarded to the LPAs arboricultural officer within 5 working days of the visit.
- NOTE: It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange meeting dates with the arboriculturist.

13.0 Signature

This report represents a true and factual account of the potential arboricultural impacts, and makes recommendations for appropriate protective measures, at the subject property.

Signed



Trevor Heaps

Chartered Arboriculturist

BSc, MICFor, RC. Arbor. A

Dated

11th October 2024

Appendix 1 - Professional résumé

I am Trevor Heaps, Director of Trevor Heaps Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd. I hold a First-Class Honours Degree in Arboriculture; I am a Chartered Arboriculturist and a professional member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters; and I am also a Registered Consultant with the Arboricultural Association.

Professional training

- Arboriculture and Bats: Scoping Surveys for Arborists (BCT & AA) October 2017
- Tree Science (AA) June 2016
- OPM (Oak Processionary Moth) Training (FC) May 2016
- Visual Tree Assessment (Arboricultural Association) October 2015
- Trees and the Law (Dr Charles Mynors) June 2015
- Mortgage (Home Buyers) Report Writing (LANTRA / CAS) February 2015
- Tree Preservation Orders effective application (LANTRA / CAS) November 2014
- Professional Tree Inspection 3-day course (LANTRA / AA) July 2014
- Arboricultural Consultancy Course (AA) May 2014
- Further down the subsidence trail 1-day course (AA) April 2013
- Getting to grips with subsidence 1-day course (AA) November 2012

AA - Arboricultural Association

BCT - Bat Conservation Trust

CAS - Consulting Arborist Society

FC - Forestry Commission

Appendix 2 - Tree data schedule

Ref	Name	Age	DBH (mm)	Hgt.	Can. hgt. (m)	Can N (m)	Can E (m)	Can S (m)	Can W (m)	Physio cond.	Struct cond.	Life Exp.	Ret. Cat.	Comments	Rec's (proposed works are highlighted)
Tı	Acer palmatum (Japanese Maple)	EM	150	5	3	1.5	2	2	1.5	Normal	Normal	40+	C2		N/A
T2	Pyrus 'Chanticleer' (Ornamental Pear)	EM	200	7	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Normal	Normal	40+	B2		N/A
Т3	Prunus 'Amanogawa' (upright Cherry)	SM	100,50,50	6	3	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	Normal	Normal	40+	C2		N/A
T ₄	Corylus avellana (Hazel)	EM	100	7	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Normal	Fair	20+	C2	Multi-stemmed.	N/A
T5	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	EM	100	6	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Normal	Fair	20+	C2	Multi-stemmed.	N/A
Т6	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)	EM	400	15	5	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	Normal	Fair	20+	B2	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated). Twin- stemmed. Tight forks noted. Major bark wounding on stem (sealing).	N/A
Т7	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	М	500	16	6	7	7	7	7	Normal	Normal	40+	A2	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated).	N/A
Т8	Prunus nobilis (Bay)	Y	50	1	0.5	1	1	1	1	Normal	Normal	40+	C2	Replacement tree	N/A
Т9	Parrotia persica (Persion Ironwood)	Y	50	4	2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Normal	Normal	40+	C ₂	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated).	N/A
Т10	Magnolia Grandiflora (Evergreen Magnolia)	EM	200	7	3	3	3	3	3	Normal	Normal	40+	B2	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated). Twin- stemmed.	N/A
T11	Olea europaea (Olive)	Y	50	1.5	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Normal	Normal	40+	C ₂	Replacement tree	N/A
T12	Ginkgo biloba (Ginkgo)	EM	260	8	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Normal	Normal	40+	A2		N/A
T13	Prunus 'Hilleri Spire' (Flowering Cherry)	EM	300	6	3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Fair	Fair	20+	B2	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated). Sparse.	N/A

Ref	Name	Age	DBH (mm)	Hgt.	Can. hgt. (m)	Can N (m)	Can E (m)	Can S (m)	Can W (m)	Physio cond.	Struct cond.	Life Exp.	Ret. Cat.	Comments	Rec's (proposed works are highlighted)
T14	Prunus nobilis (Bay)	SM	75	4	1	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	Normal	Normal	40+	C2		N/A
T15	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)	EM	180	9	1.5	0.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Fair	Fair	10+	B2	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated). Pruned (badly) in past. Has been cut back to boundary line.	N/A
S16	Syringa vulgaris (Lilac)	SM	50	4	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Normal	Normal	40+	C2	Growing on third-party land (dbh estimated).	N/A
T17	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)	EM	195	6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Normal	Normal	40+	B2	Street tree growing in tarmac.	N/A

Appendix 3 - Tree data schedule explanatory notes

This section explains the terms used in the **Tree data schedule** (Appendix 2).

Ref: Each item of vegetation has its own unique number, prefixed by a letter such that:

T1=Tree S2=Shrub or stump G3=Group H4=Hedge W5=Woodland

Species: Latin (and common names in brackets) are given.

Age:

- Y Young Usually less than 10 years' old
- **SM Semi-mature** Significant future growth to be expected, both in height and crown spread (typically below 30% of life expectancy)
- **EM Early-mature** Full height almost attained. Significant growth may be expected in terms of crown spread (typically 30-60% of life expectancy)
- **M Mature** Full height attained. Crown spread will increase but growth increments will be slight (typically 60% or more of life expectancy)
- **V Veteran** A level of maturity whereby significant management may be required to keep the tree in a safe condition
- OM Over-mature As for veteran except management is not considered worthwhile

DBH (mm): Stem diameter, measured in mm, taken at 1.5m above ground level where possible.

Hgt. (m): Height: Measured from ground level to the top of the crown in metres.

Can Hgt. (m): Crown height: Measured from ground level to the lowest tips of the main crown begins in metres. Where the crown is unbalanced it is measured on the side deemed to be most relevant. This is usually the side facing the area of anticipated development.

Can N, S, E, W: - Canopy extents

Approximate radial crown spread measured to the four cardinal points (for individual trees only)

Physio cond.: Indicates the physiological condition of the tree as one of the following categories:

- Normal Healthy tree with no symptoms of significant disease
- Fair Tree with early signs of disease, small defects, decreased life expectancy, or evidence of less-thanaverage vigour for the species
- Poor Significant disease present, limited life expectancy, or with very low vigour for the species and evidence of physiological stress
- Very poor Tree is in advanced stages of physiological failure and is dying
- **Dead** No leaves or signs of life

Struct cond.: Indicates the structural condition of the tree as one of the following categories:

• Normal - No significant structural defects noted

Fair - Some structural defects noted but remedial action not required at present

Poor - Significant defects noted resulting in a tree that requires regular monitoring or remedial action

 Very poor - Major defects noted that compromise the safety of the tree. Remedial works or tree removal is likely to be required.

• Dead - No leaves or signs of life

Life Exp.: The estimated number of years before the tree may require removal (<10), (10 - 20), (20 - 40), or (40+).

Ret. Cat.: - Retention category: BS5837:2012 Category where:

• **U** = **Trees unsuitable for retention**. Trees in such a condition that cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years. These trees are shown on the tree plans with red centres.

• **A** = **Trees of high quality**. Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. These trees are shown on the tree plans with green centres.

• **B** = Trees of moderate quality. Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years. These trees are shown on the tree plans with blue centres.

• C = Trees of low quality. Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. These trees are shown on the tree plans with grey centres.

Trees of notable quality are graded as Category A or Category B. These trees are sometimes divided further into subcategories:

• Sub-category 1 is allocated where it has been assessed that the tree has mainly arboricultural qualities.

• Sub-category 2 is allocated where it is assessed that the tree has mainly landscape qualities.

 Subcategory 3 is allocated where it is assessed that the tree has mainly cultural qualities, including conservation.

Trees may be allocated more than one sub-category. All sub-categories carry equal weight, with for example an A3 tree being of the same importance and priority as an A1 tree.

Comments: Tree form and pruning history are also recorded along with an account of any significant defects.

Rec's - Recommendations: Usually based on any defects observed and intended to ensure that the tree is in an acceptable condition.

Appendix 4 - Specifications for tree protective measures

Excavations by hand for service trenches - close to the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees

The RPA of the subject tree/s shall be clearly marked on the ground with fluorescent marker paint - by tying the spray can to the tree/s stem using a pre-determined length of string to represent the root protection radius (RPR) and keeping the string taught when spraying the ground. Cross reference the fourth column of the table in Appendix 2 (DBH mm) with the 2nd column in table 1 below to determine the length of string required.

Table 1. The RPRs given below are for single-stemmed trees.

Please contact the project arboriculturist if the subject tree is multi-stemmed.

Single stem diameter (mm)	Radius of nominal circle (m) / RPR	RPA (m²)	Single stem diameter (mm)	Radius of nominal circle (m) / RPR	RPA (m²)	Single stem diameter (mm)	Radius of nominal circle (m) / RPR	RPA (m²)
75	0.9	3	475	5.7	102	875	10.5	346
100	1.2	5	500	6	113	900	10.8	366
125	1.5	7	525	6.3	125	925	11.1	387
150	1.8	10	550	6.6	137	950	11.4	408
175	2.1	14	575	6.9	149	975	11.7	430
200	2.4	18	600	7.2	163	1000	12	452
225	2.7	23	625	7.5	177	1025	12.3	475
250	3	28	650	7.8	191	1050	12.6	499
275	3.3	34	675	8.1	206	1075	12.9	523
300	3.6	41	700	8.4	222	1100	13.2	547
325	3.9	48	725	8.7	238	1125	13.5	572
350	4.2	55	750	9	254	1150	13.8	598
375	4.5	64	775	9.3	272	1175	14.1	624
400	4.8	72	800	9.6	289	1200	14.4	651
425	5.1	82	825	9.9	308	1225	14.7	679
450	5.4	92	850	10.2	327	1250	15	707

The turf layer shall be removed and excavations (by hand) of the service trench can commence using a fork and trowel (where within the RPAs of retained trees).

Roots below 25mm in diameter can be cut cleanly back to a suitable growth point using sharp secateurs or a sharp pull saw. Roots over 25mm in diameter should be retained (unless their removal is agreed by the arboricultural consultant).

The exposed soil on the sides of the trench will be covered with damp hessian (to maintain soil moisture and protect any retained roots from desiccation).

The various pipework shall then be fed through/ beneath the retained roots.

The trench shall be back-filled with soil as soon as practical.

Excavations for wall footings within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees

The RPA of the subject tree/s shall be clearly marked on the ground with fluorescent marker paint - by tying the spray can to the tree/s stem using a pre-determined length of string to represent the root protection radius (RPR) and keeping the string taught when spraying the ground. Cross reference the fourth column of the table in Appendix 2 (DBH mm) with the 2nd column in table 1 below to determine the length of string required.

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75	0.9	3	475	5.7	102	875	10.5	346
100	1.2	5	500	6	113	900	10.8	366
125	1.5	7	525	6.3	125	925	11.1	387
150	1.8	10	550	6.6	137	950	11.4	408
175	2.1	14	575	6.9	149	975	11.7	430
200	2.4	18	600	7.2	163	1000	12	452
225	2.7	23	625	7.5	177	1025	12.3	475
250	3	28	650	7.8	191	1050	12.6	499
275	3.3	34	675	8.1	206	1075	12.9	523
300	3.6	41	700	8.4	222	1100	13.2	547
325	3.9	48	725	8.7	238	1125	13.5	572
350	4.2	55	750	9	254	1150	13.8	598
375	4.5	64	775	9.3	272	1175	14.1	624
400	4.8	72	800	9.6	289	1200	14.4	651
425	5.1	82	825	9.9	308	1225	14.7	679
450	5.4	92	850	10.2	327	1250	15	707

To ensure the roots are cut as cleanly as possible, a hand-spade will first be used to cut along the edge of the excavation - to a depth of at least 300mm (spade depth).

Once complete, all severed roots shall be cut cleanly back to a suitable growth point using sharp secateurs or a sharp pull saw.

All spoil from the above process shall be removed from site using a wheelbarrow.

Once exposed, the soil will be covered with damp hessian (to maintain soil moisture and protect any retained roots from desiccation). Before backfilling with concrete, the trench shall be lined with plastic sheeting (to avoid concrete residues leaching into the roots).

Ground Protection (IF NEEDED)

The following *italicised* text is based on an extract from British Standard 5837:2012 - Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction—Recommendations.

Temporary ground protection should be able to support any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil and might comprise one of the following:

a) for pedestrian-movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane:

b) for pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;

c) for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2 t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

The location of the temporary ground protection is shown on the tree protection plan and detailed within the arboricultural method statement.

In all cases, the objective will be to avoid the unnecessary compaction of soil (which can arise from a single passage of a heavy vehicle, especially in wet conditions) so that tree root functions remain unimpaired.

All ground protection is to be maintained in good order, so it is fit for purpose throughout development. The ground protection will not be altered in any way, or prematurely removed without prior consent of the project arboriculturist or the LPA arboricultural officer.

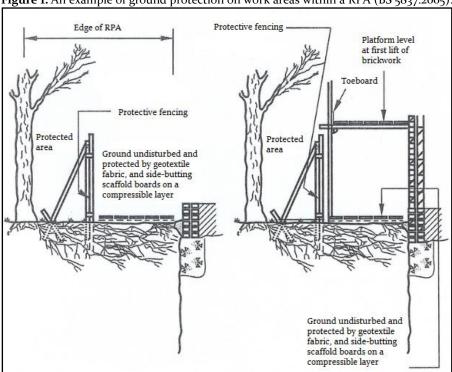
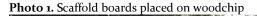
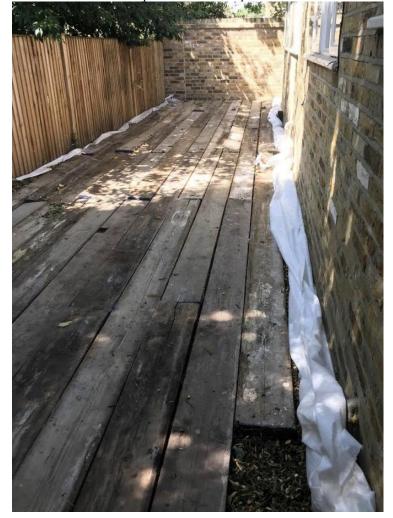


Figure 1: An example of ground protection on work areas within a RPA (BS 5837:2005).



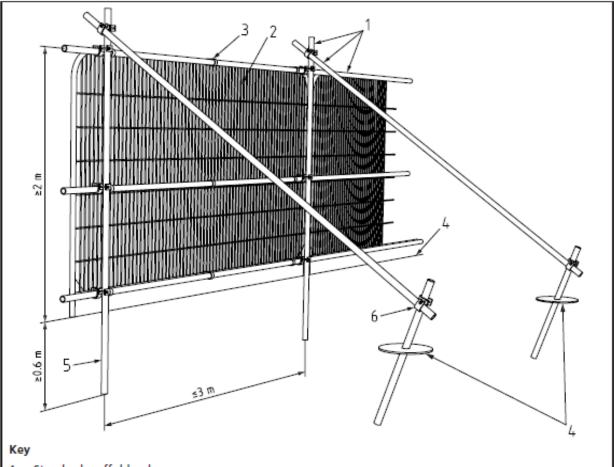


Protective fencing

The following is based on an extract from British Standard 5837:2012 - Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction- Recommendations.

The framework support (shown in Figure 2 and photo 1) is the usual method of support for 'Heras' fencing. Some variations are possible if site conditions are appropriate; i.e. support by wooden posts (75mm x 75mm x 2.75m) dug or concreted into the ground (dry mix concrete contained within a plastic bag), or if there is no pressure for access, a lighter form of netting on stakes.

Figure 2: Default specification for protective barrier (BS 5837:2012)



- 1 Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights 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



Photo 1: A worked example of the default specification for protective barrier (BS 837:2012)

Durable, all-weather signs are to be attached to the fencing (an example sign is provided below). These shall be printed, laminated and attached at regular intervals along the fencing.

Once erected, the protective fencing is to be regarded as sacrosanct and there is to be no access into the area protected by it - the construction exclusion zone (CEZ).

The protective fencing is to be maintained in good order, so it is fit for purpose throughout the construction process. The fencing will not be altered in any way, or prematurely removed without prior consent of the project arboriculturist and/or (if necessary) the LPA arboricultural officer.

Where specified in the AMS, the tree(s) stem/s shall be boxed off with wooden ply boards or wrapped in hessian and chestnut pale fencing / trunk protection (see example below). This will help avoid any direct damage to tree stems from passing machinery (see photo 2).

Photo 2: Trees protected by hessian & chestnut pale fencing / limbs protected by wooden boxing





TREE PROTECTION FENCING

KEEP OUT

This fencing must not be removed or altered in any way without prior consultation with the project arboriculturist!

Please report any damage to trees and/or fencing to the site manager or the project arboriculturist

Trevor Heaps

07957 763 53

Removal of existing hard surfaces / rubble

Working off either an existing hard surface or suitable <u>ground protection</u>, machinery can be used to carefully peel back and remove existing tarmac or concrete. Other surfaces, such as rubble or block paving, must be removed by hand.

Sub-bases can be removed mechanically if it is unlikely that roots will be found beneath it (this must be approved by the arboricultural consultant). Underlying (soft) ground levels must be retained and will not be excavated.

All newly exposed soil and exposed roots will be covered with damp hessian or 100 mm of topsoil.

Machinery can be used to move the topsoil close to the exposed area, but the topsoil itself will be spread by hand.

Machinery will not be sited on any exposed rooting area / RPA.

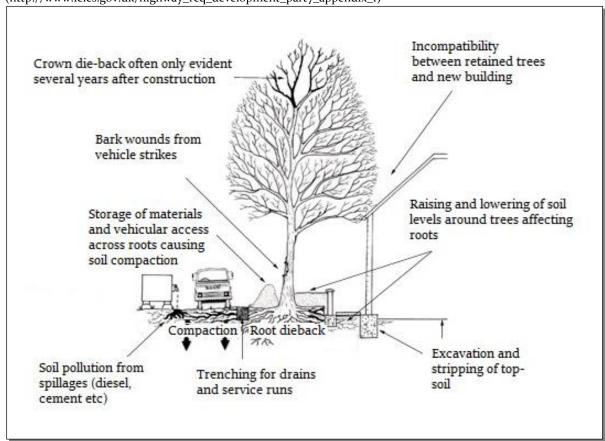
Soft landscaping within or close to the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees

The following precautions are necessary to avoid damage to trees (where activities are to take place within their RPAs):

- Ground levels will not be changed;
- Soil must be of good quality and free of contaminants and other foreign objects potentially injurious to tree roots. The topsoil must satisfy the requirements of BS3882:200;
- No heavy machinery will be operated within the RPAs of retained trees during the installation of soft landscaping;
- Unwanted vegetation shall be removed manually or by using systemic herbicide that will not damage tree roots;
- No fuels or chemicals shall be used or stored within these areas; and
- No irrigation or drainage pipes shall be installed within the RPAs

Appendix 5 - General precautions and further information

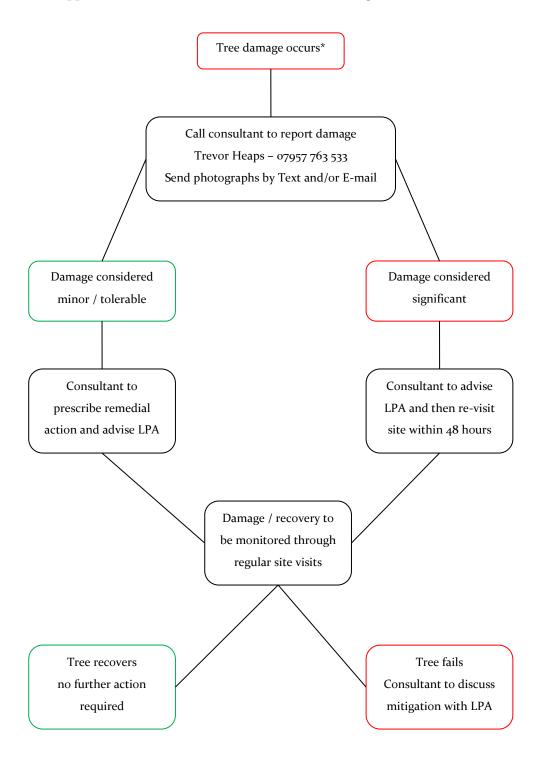
Figure 4: Common problems for trees on development sites (http://www.leics.gov.uk/highway_req_development_part7_appendix_f)



- **Services and drainage:** Surface run-off water shall be sent to existing drains and/or soakaways located outside the RPAs of retained tree(s). If trenching is required within the RPA of retained trees to provide routes for services, this work shall be undertaken using mole boring and / or hand digging (under arboricultural supervision).
- **Storage of materials:** No materials or spoil are to be stored within areas protected by protective fencing and/or ground protection. The same applies for existing hard surfaces that are being used as ground protection.
- **Spillages:** If any cement residues fall within root protection areas, it shall be swept up, bagged and removed from site it shall <u>not</u> be washed away with water.
- **Demolition:** Where any existing structures are to be demolished, they will be done so inwardly (away from root protection areas / retained soil).

- **Levels:** There is to be no alteration of ground levels within the area protected by protective fencing and/or ground protection, unless previously specified and agreed upon. The same applies for existing hard surfaces that are being used as ground protection.
- **5.6 Fires:** No fires are to be lit within 20 metres of the stems of retained trees.
- Above ground damage to trees: Care must be taken in planning the location and operation of machinery to avoid above ground damage to trees. BS5837 (2012) Section 6.2.4.1 states 'Planning of site operations should take sufficient account of wide loads, tall loads and plant with booms, jibs and counterweights (including drilling rigs) in order that they can operate without contacting retained trees. Such contact can result in serious damage to trees and might make their safe retention impossible. Consequently, any transit or traverse of plant in proximity to trees should be conducted under the supervision of a banksman, to ensure that adequate clearance of trees is always maintained. Access facilitation pruning should be undertaken where necessary to maintain this clearance.
- **Remedial works and soil improvement:** Exposed soils are easily compacted resulting in loss of water and gaseous exchange; this can lead to root death (and subsequently tree death).
- 5.8.1 To relieve ground compaction, which may have resulted from the use of vehicles or by the storage of materials, the soils should be broken up to allow air to penetrate and for the soil structure to be restored. There are various methods to achieve this, such as: auguring the soil by hand / fork or pneumatic excavation (e.g. with an air spade); both should be combined with soil structure improvements (see 5.8.2).
- 5.8.2 The soil structure can be improved by incorporating a compost or mulch within the topsoil, of 75-100mm in depth. This can be spread over the surface and gently forked into the soil. If bark chip is used as mulch, NPK fertilizer should be added to counteract the nitrogen depletion of the soil. There is also the option of adding mycorrhizal fungal which may also improve root function.
- **Choosing an arborist:** When appointing a tree works contractor, please only use properly qualified and experienced companies who comply with current British Standards (3998) and always check that they carry Public Liability Insurance within a minimum of £2,000,000 cover, and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance. A list of contractors approved by the Arboricultural Association can be found at www.trees.org.uk or by calling 01242 522 152.

Appendix 6 - Procedure to follow in case of damage to retained trees



*Tree damage could include: unauthorised branch / root pruning; accidental damage to roots, stem, branches or crown; bark damage to vehicle / machinery strikes; and spillage of toxic materials within root protection areas (RPAs)

Appendix 7 - Induction form for all site personnel

Site name:
App. No.:
Appointed Site Supervisor:
I have had explained to me by the Site Manager the key implications of the Arboricultural Method Statement relating to the development at the above site.
I am aware that trees have shallow roots and any excavation works beneath the canopy could cause irreparable damage.
I am aware that the tree protective fencing / ground protection must remain in its original position and must not be moved without the approval of the appointed Arboricultural Consultant.
I understand that certain operations must be supervised by the appointed Arboricultural Consultant and that these must not start until the consultant is present and has given approval.
I confirm that I will bring any concerns about potential damage to trees to the attention of the Site Manager.
I am aware that I must not cause damage to any of the retained trees on or adjacent to the site. Damage may be caused by direct means (i.e. physical damage caused to roots or the trunk/branches of the tree) or by indirect means (e.g. by fire or toxic materials entering the rooting environment of the tree).
Print Name:
Sign Name:
Date:

Appendix 8 - Site inspection record

Date: Time:		Planning refere	nce:
Site:			
Those present in addit	ion to proj	ect arboriculturist	· ·
•	1 /		
Client / Agent:			
Project / Site manager:			
LPA arboricultural officer:			
Other (specify):			
		_	
	Yes	No	Notes
Tree protection measures located in accordance			
with TPP?			
A 19 1 1911 1 1911			
Any disturbance within construction exclusion			
zone?			
Any materials stored within construction exclusion			
zone?			
Any evidence of damage to tree roots, stems or			
canopies?			
canopics.			
Any works programmed before next planned site			
visit that may affect retained trees? (if yes, provide			
details below)			
details below)			
Additional site visit required to ensure compliance wi	th require	d action? (Y / N)	
Proposed visit date:			
		Б.:	
Signed:		Date:	

