

Arboricultural Method Statement

Melksham Community Hospital,
Melksham, Wiltshire

27 January 2026

Ecology
Arboriculture
Land Management



Quality Assurance

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Final	27 January 2026	Matt Underwood BSc MArborA CEnv	Jon Garner BSc MCIEEM	N/A

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Site Details

Site Name and Location	Melksham Community Hospital, Melksham, Wiltshire
Central OS Grid Reference	ST 90921 63151
Client	Kendall Kingscott

Boundary





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1 Introduction

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) for Melksham Community Hospital, Melksham, Wiltshire provides a methodology on how retained arboricultural features (and their rooting medium) will be protected during the construction process. The Method Statement was commissioned by Kendall Kingscott.

This method statement has been informed by an arboricultural survey undertaken by RSK Highline on the 26th June 2025 (ref. RSKHL_8795.25_TCR). Details of those trees surveyed can be found in **Appendix 1**. The survey and method statement has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations' based on information available at the time of writing.

The Method Statement includes the production of a Tree Protection Plan which can be found in **Appendix 2**.

This document should be retained on site as a reference document for the duration of the demolition and construction works. Failure to abide by this method statement could be considered a breach of planning and may result in enforcement action being taken by the local planning authority.

2 Arboricultural Method Statement

Section	Work Phase	Relevant Arboricultural Feature(s)	Protection Measure/Methodology	Responsibility
1	Enabling	See Appendix 3	Initial Tree Works – Removals and Pruning - All works to be carried out in accordance with the works specified in Appendix 3 and following BS3998:2010 'Tree Works – Recommendations'. - No bonfires are permitted within 5m of the canopy of any retained tree. - Ground level vegetation and tree stumps will be removed using powered hand tools e.g. brush cutter and stump grinder if it is to be undertaken in the root protection areas of retained trees. Stump grinding must not penetrate further than 100mm below ground level and plant machinery must not be used to scrape vegetation or remove stumps in the root protection areas of retained trees.	Contractor/ Arborist
2	Enabling	All retained trees and hedgerow	Tree Protection Fencing (TPF) - All TPF will be installed in the locations as shown on the Tree Protection Plan in Appendix 2 following completion of the initial tree works prior to the commencement of any groundworks, demolition or construction works on site. - The specification for the TPF can be found in Appendix 4. - Adequate signage denoting the importance of TPF will be affixed to the fencing. Example signage can be found in Appendix 5. - The TPF will denote and form the boundary to the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). - Fencing to remain in place for duration of construction.	Contractor with sign off from project arboriculturist.
3	Enabling	All retained trees and hedgerow	Temporary Site Buildings and Materials Storage - All buildings and materials shall be located outside of the CEZ as denoted by the TPF. - Harmful chemicals/materials must be stored on an impermeable membrane and at a sufficient distance from the CEZ so that any potential spillages will not enter the root protection areas of retained trees.	Contractor with sign off from project arboriculturist.

			 The location of site cabins and materials store will be agreed with the project arboriculturist during the pre-commencement meeting.	
4	Landscape	All retained trees and hedgerow	Landscaping within Root Protection Areas  To be undertaken as final phase of development.  Where soil preparation is required, this will be done so by raking or light tilling. Use of rotavators is prohibited.  Where top soil is imported it will not increase the ground level by 100mm to prevent root suffocation.  Scaffold boards will be used to transport planting materials across the RPA to prevent compaction of the rooting medium.  All planting pits will be dug by hand to accommodate the root and prevent their damage/severance.	Contractor
5	All	All retained trees and hedgerow	Unpredictable Tree Impacts  If, during demolition and/or construction damage is inadvertently caused to the retained trees, the project arboriculturist will be contacted immediately. The arboriculturist will be able to assess the impact of the damage and prescribe remedial measures where necessary.  Inadvertent damage includes significant root severance (roots in excess of 25mm diameter or densely matted fibrous roots), direct strikes to tree stem/limb, chemical spillages in RPA and fire damage.	Contractor
6	All	All retained trees and hedgerow	Site Monitoring  The project arboriculturist will undertake regular site visits during the construction phases of development to ensure that the arboricultural features on site are protected in accordance with this arboricultural method statement.  The visits should include but not be limited to those shown in the Arboricultural Monitoring Schedule in Appendix 6. This monitoring regime will be agreed with the local authority arboricultural officer prior to the commencement of works on site.	Project arboriculturist following appointment by contractor.



			 A fully auditable site monitoring log will be prepared following each visit, a copy of which will be retained on site and provided to the local authority arboricultural officer.	
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Appendix 1 – Tree Survey Schedule

Extracted from Arboricultural Constraints and Implications Report (RSK Highline, RSKHL_8795.25_TCR).

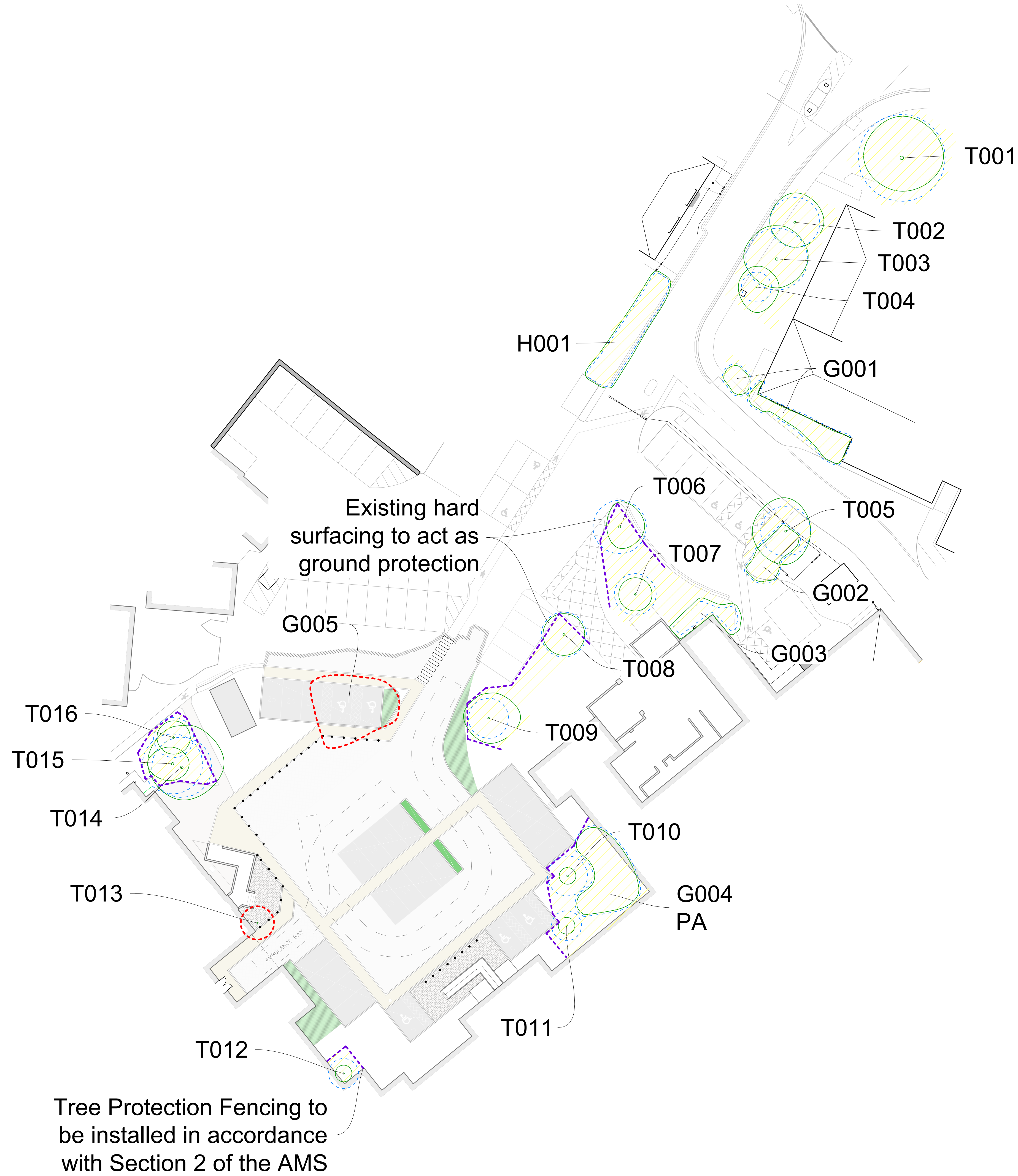
APPENDIX A – TREE INVENTORY SCHEDULE:

Ref.	Common Name	Botanical Name	Height	Ult. Height (M)	Num. Stems	Stem dia (cm)	RPA radius	RPA (m²)	North	East	South	West	Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch (m)	Lowest Branch Direction	Age Class	General Observations	Rem. Contrib.	Retention Category
G001	Mixed species	Mixed species	1.5	3	10+	10	1.2m	4.52	1	1	1	1	0	0	Multiple	Early Mature	Good vitality, well maintained. Small mixed species shrub/ hedge	20	C2
G002	Mixed species x2	Mixed species x2	3	5	5	10	1.2m	4.52	1	1	1	1	0	0	Multiple	Early Mature	Persian ivy shrub and viburnum shrub. Fair vitality. Minor deadwood in crown	10	C2
G003	Mixed species	Mixed species	2	5	5	10	1.2m	4.52	2	2	2	2	0	0	Multiple	Early Mature	2 x leather leaf viburnum shrub. Good form and vitality	20	C2
G004	Mixed species	Mixed species	2	6	3	10	1.2m	4.52	1	1	1	1	0	0	Multiple	Early Mature	Group of three small buddleia, close to hospital building. Coppiced	20	C2
G005	Cotoneaster x3	<i>Cotoneaster sp. x3</i>	5	7	10+	20	2.4m	18.09	3	3	3	3	0	0	Multiple	Early Mature	Multi-stemmed cotoneaster x 3. estimated diameter for all three as multiple stems on each tree. Good vitality	20	C2
H001	Common beech x10	<i>Fagus sylvatica x10</i>	7	25	~10	15	1.8m	10.17	2	2	2	2	0	0	Multiple	Early Mature	Good condition. Mixed species hedgerow, mostly beech, with some lapsed stems growing taller. Well maintained on sides. Some deadwood present on heavily ivy clad stem but considered low risk	50+	C2
T001	Lime	<i>Tilia sp.</i>	12	25	1	44	5.28m	87.58	5	4.9	4	4.6	1.5	2.1	SW	Mature	Good vitality and form, minimal defects	50+	B2
T002	Wild cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	8	12	1	25	3m	28.27	3.3	3.4	2.8	3.2	1.7	3	E	Early Mature	Fair condition. Minor dieback in crown. Decay at pruning wounds	30	B2
T003	Wild cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	8	12	1	31	3.72m	43.47	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.5	1.6	4	SW	Mature	Fair vitality and form, minor crown dieback. Surface roots damage by mower	20	B2
T004	Wild cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	6	12	1	15	1.8m	10.17	2.2	2.5	2.9	2	2	3.5	S	Semi Mature	Poor vitality. Significant crown dieback. Strip of cambial dieback on west side of tree from 0.5m to 3.5m up stem, likely to die in next 5-10 years	5	U
T005	Wild cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	7	12	1	25	3m	28.27	4	3	4	4	2	1.7	SE	Early Mature	Heavily ivy clad. Minor to moderate crown decline	10	C2

T006	Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	12	15	1	27	3.24m	32.97	3.1	2.7	2.6	1.4	1.7	1.6	S	Mature	Good form and vitality. Pruned away from telephone cables on west and south side, producing slightly unbalanced crown	30	B2
T007	Cherry plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	5	8	1	21	2.52m	19.95	2	2	2	2	1	1.5	N	Early Mature	Good form and vitality. Typical of species and age class	20	C2
T008	Pear	<i>Pyrus sp.</i>	8	15	1	23	2.72m	23.24	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	0.3	0.1	W	Early Mature	Good vitality. Basal epicormic growth on west/ south west side of tree	20	C2
T009	Lily magnolia	<i>Magnolia liliflora</i>	3	5	2	20	2.4m	18.09	3	3.4	3	2.3	0	0.3	W	Mature	Good vitality. Pruned away from hospital driveway. Good example of species.	40	C2
T010	Laurustinus	<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	1	5	5	20	2.4m	18.09	1	1	1	1	0	0	N	Mature	Viburnum coppiced at 1m. Good healthy epicormic growth	20	C2
T011	Viburnum	<i>Viburnum sp.</i>	1.5	5	5	15	1.8m	10.17	1	1	1	1	0	0	Multiple	Mature	Leatherhead viburnum. Coppiced to 0.5m. Healthy growth response. Diameter of multi stems estimated	20	C2
T012	Common holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	2	15	~3	15	1.8m	10.17	1	1	1	1	0	0	Multiple	Semi Mature	Holly Bush, growing right against wall. Estimate RPA as stem of tree inaccessible	20	C2
T013	Pyracantha	<i>Pyracantha sp.</i>	1.5	3	~3	10	1.2m	4.52	2	2	2	2	0	0	Multiple	Semi Mature	Good vitality. Typical form, minor deadwood in crown. grown right up against wall between main entrance and ambulance turning/ parking area.	10	C2
T014	Apple	<i>Malus sp.</i>	12	15	1	30	3.6m	40.71	5	5	4	4	2	1.5	SE	Mature	Heavy ivy coverage. Estimate measurements due to limited access (bramble). Bramble inhibit basal access	40	B2
T015	Western red cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	9	25+	~3	30	3.6m	40.71	2	2	2	3	0	1	W	Semi Mature	Fair vitality. Limited assessment, covered in ivy and surrounded by bramble	40	B2
T016	Holly	<i>Ilex sp.</i>	8	15	3	20	2.4m	18.09	2	2	2	2	1.7	1.7	NE	Early Mature	Minor dieback in crown. Measurement estimates, bramble inhibit access	30	B2



Appendix 2 – Tree Protection Plan



Key:

- Root Protection Area
- Tree Canopy
- Tree Protection Fencing
- Construction Exclusion Zone
- Tree To Be Removed

Tree Protection Fencing Specification

a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins

b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

Example Tree Protection Fencing Signage

0 5m 10m 15m 20m 25m

Scale @ A1: 1:250

Drawing should be viewed in colour.

Location of trees suffixed with PA (position approximate) have been estimated on site.

Drawing Title:
Tree Protection Plan

Project:
Melksham Community Hospital

Client:
Kendall Kingscott

Date: 27/01/2026	Drawn: MU
Drawing Number: 3209-TPP-MU	Revision: -





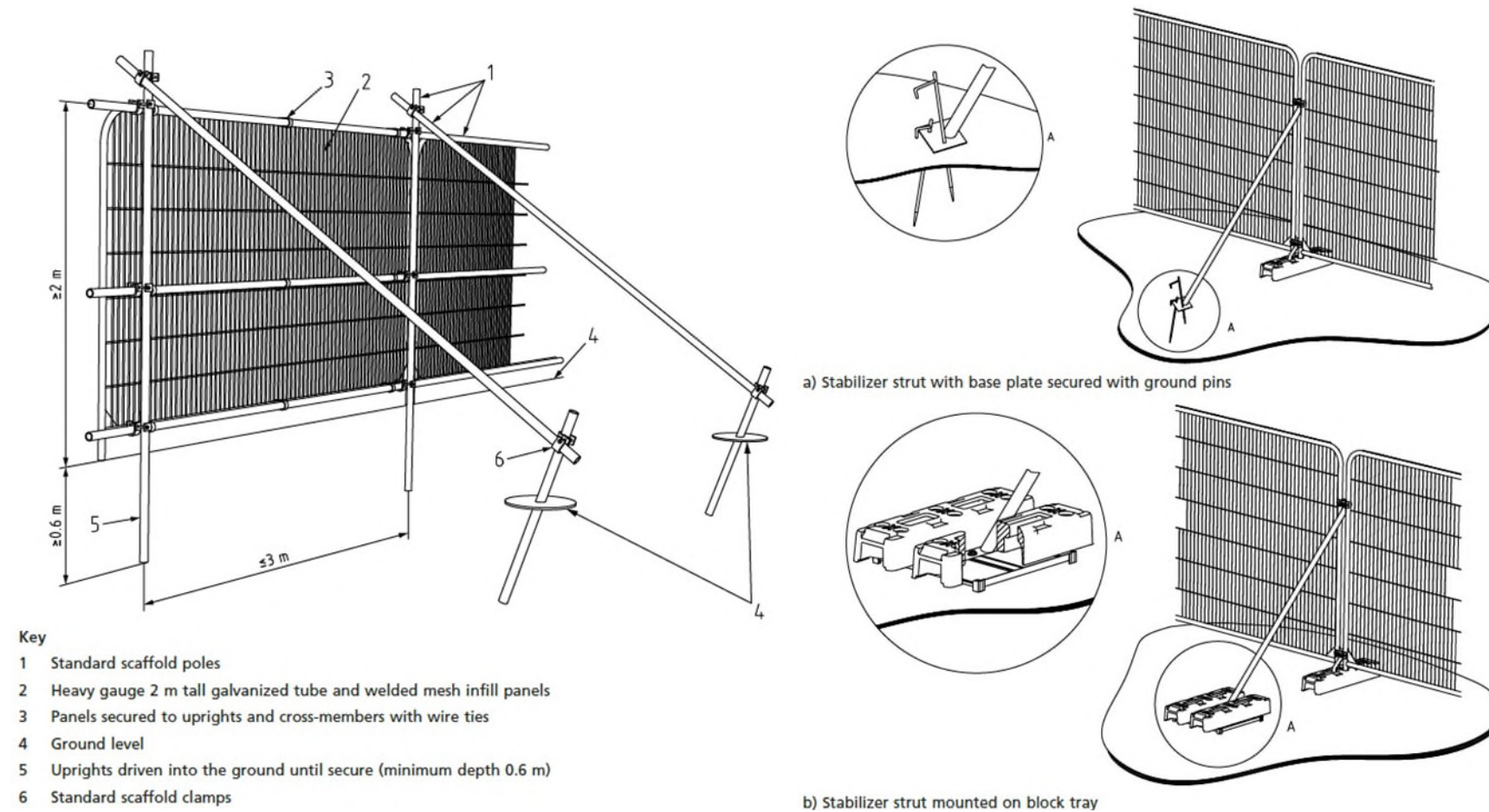
Appendix 3 – Tree Works Specification

Arboricultural Feature	Species	Works Required
G005	Cotoneaster	Fell
T009	Magnolia	Reduce lateral growth by 0.5m to allow surfacing works
T013	Pyracantha	Fell

All works to be carried out in accordance with BS3988:2010 'Tree Work – Recommendations'

All trees should be checked for protected species e.g. roosting bats and nesting birds prior to any works being undertaken.

Appendix 4 – Tree Protection Fencing Specification



Default Specification

Above-ground Stabilising System

(Images extracted from BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations')

Appendix 5 – Example Tree Protection Fencing Signage



Appendix 6 – Arboricultural Monitoring Schedule

Work Phase	Relevant Arboricultural Feature(s)	Arboricultural Supervision Required	Responsibility
Enabling	All arboricultural features	Pre-commencement site meeting to discuss tree protection measures and phasing of works.	Contractor/ arboriculturist/ client
Enabling	All retained trees and hedgerows	Certification of completed tree works by project arboriculturist to ensure the works have been undertaken to the approved tree works specification.	Project arboriculturist.
Enabling	All retained trees and hedgerows	Certification of tree protection barriers by project arboriculturist to ensure they have been erected in accordance with the specification detailed in BS5837:2012.	Project arboriculturist/ contractor
Enabling and Construction	All retained trees and hedgerows	Ad-hoc arboricultural site visits to inspect tree protection measures.	Project arboriculturist
Completion	All retained trees and hedgerows	Certification that works have been completed and tree protection barriers can be removed without residual risk to arboricultural features.	Project arboriculturist/ contractor

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