

Arboricultural Method Statement & Tree Protection Plan For construction works on land at Eastleigh Court in Bishopstrow



On behalf of Kindred Living Project Ltd
28 Petley Road
London
W6 9ST

Inspected and Prepared by Nick Baxter BSc(Hons) MArborA
9th February 2026

Contents

1	Introduction.....	1
1.1	Background information.....	1
2	Method Statement Timeline.....	1
3	Specification for Tree Protection Fencing	2
4	Specification for Ground Protection	4
5	General Method Statement for Effective Tree Protection.....	5
6	Method Statement for Installing Cellular Confinement Systems.....	6
6.1	Detailed procedure of installing the cellular confinement system.....	7
7	Method Statement for Removing Existing Hard Surfacing Near Trees.....	9
8	Method Statement for Landscaping Operations	10
9	Tree Protection Plan.....	11

Project arboriculturist: Nick Baxter, Tel. 07415 890038; nick@nbtreemanagement.co.uk

If contractors need any advice on tree protection measures during the project, they should contact the project arboriculturist.

Site manager: TBC

The principal contractor must be provided with a copy of this document and a copy should be available on-site at all times. It is the site manager's responsibility to pass on the information in this document to all construction staff and site contractors.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background information

Kindred Living Project Ltd proposes to convert Eastleigh Court and the former Eastleigh Court Stables to luxury short stay self-catering accommodation where guests can hold celebrations and events in Bishopstrow near Warminster (BA12 9HW); this land is hereafter referred to as the 'site'.

This document accompanies an Arboricultural Impact Assessment dated 9th February 2026.

2 Method Statement Timeline

Following the written approval of this document by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), the following sequence of operations will need to be carried out. Arboricultural supervision will be required for at least four tasks during this project and an agenda for arboricultural supervision is also included on the tree protection plan. A record of each site visit will be made available to the planning case officer.

Table 1: *Sequence of arboricultural operations for this project.*

Stage	Action
Pre-construction	Undertake permitted tree works to facilitate the construction of the development. Install tree protection fencing and ground protection as specified in Section 3 & 4 of this document and as illustrated on the tree protection plan (TPP-1C). A site visit from the project arboriculturist will be required at the start of the project to check the position of tree protection measures and to discuss any potential conflicts to trees with the contractors.
During construction	The general restrictions and protocol listed in Section 5 must be adhered to at all times. When it is time to install the cellular confinement systems within the RPAs of T46, T54 & T84, Section 6 of this document must be followed and arboricultural supervision will be required. When it is time to remove the hard surfacing near T62, Section 7 of this document must be followed and arboricultural supervision will be required. Further arboricultural supervision will be required if any unforeseen construction activity is to take place within the root protection area of any of the retained trees on or near the site. This supervision must be carried out by the project arboriculturist.
Post-construction	Once all the construction activity has been completed, the tree protection fencing may then be removed and Section 8 must be followed. A final visit from the project arboriculturist will be required at this stage so any subsequent landscaping operations can be discussed.

3 Specification for Tree Protection Fencing

There are increased chances of damage to retained trees from construction activity. As a result, fencing will be required in order to protect the retained trees. The information below specifies suitable fencing requirements for this project.

Location

The location of necessary tree protection fencing is shown by the blue and red lines on the tree protection plan. The fenced off areas will be construction exclusion zones and should be regarded as sacrosanct.

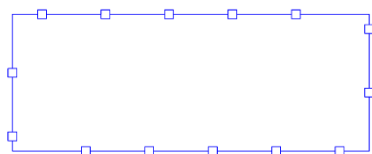


Figure A: How Type 1 tree protective fencing is shown on the tree protection plan.

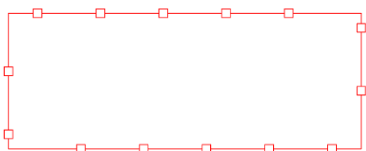


Figure B: How Type 2 tree protective fencing is shown on the tree protection plan.

Specification

Tree protection fencing must be fit for the purpose of excluding construction activity and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work taking place around the retained trees.

For this project given some trees are at much further distances from the proposed works than others, two types of fencing are proposed.

Type 1 will be standard Heras panels used supported by a stabiliser strut secured by a block tray (see Figure D). Alternatively, the panels may be secured with a construction pin through the rubber feet.

Type 2 will be either chestnut pale fencing, wire stock fencing or orange plastic barrier fencing. In general, fences of this nature are 1.2-2m high, and they can be installed with construction pins or timber posts that are hammered into the ground (see Figure E).

Notices

All-weather notices should be attached to the fencing with words such as: 'Construction Exclusion Zone - No Access'. Throughout the construction period attention should be paid to ensure that barriers remain rigid and complete.



Figure C: An example of signs that should be attached to the fencing.

Installation

The tree protection fencing must be installed before any heavy plant machinery is used on the site and remain in place until the construction works have been completed.

Removal

The tree protection fencing may only be removed once construction activity is completed. The fencing should not be removed or altered without prior consultation with the project arboriculturist and, where necessary, approval from the local planning authority.

Some landscaping works may be necessary at this stage but it is crucial that root damage does not occur so vehicles must stick to designated transit routes and any digging near trees should be carried out with the use of hand tools only.

Works inside a construction exclusion zone

Arboricultural supervision will be required whenever construction and development activity is to take place within a construction exclusion zone. This supervision must be carried out by a suitably qualified arboriculturist.

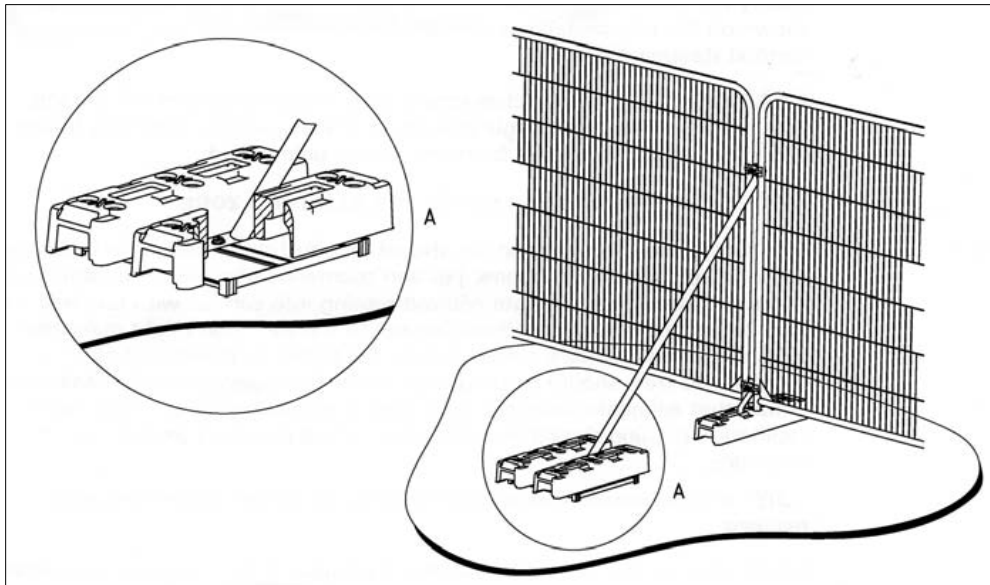


Figure D: Tree protection fencing supported by a stabiliser strut mounted on block tray (Type 1).



Figure E: Lightweight fencing (Type 2).

4 Specification for Ground Protection

Ground protection will be required to minimise ground disturbance near T71 whilst a new shed is being built. It will also be required to minimise ground disturbance near trees whilst a new underground foul drain is installed in the eastern corner of the site. The information below specifies suitable ground protection requirements for this project.

Location

The location of necessary ground protection is shown as orange hatching on the tree protection plan.

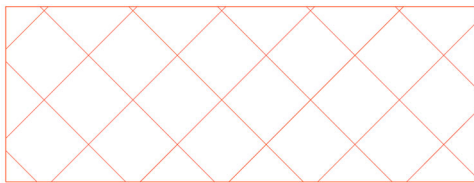


Figure F: *An example of how ground protection is shown on the tree protection plan.*

Installation

The ground protection must be installed before any heavy plant machinery is used on the site and remain in place until the construction works have been completed.

The ground protection should not be removed or altered without prior consultation with the project arboriculturist and, where necessary, approval from the local planning authority.

Removal

The ground protection measures may only be removed once construction activity has been completed.

Specification

The ground protection will comprise a 5-10cm layer of woodchip mulch covered with heavy-duty load-spreading boards ('TuffTrak' or similar); this is illustrated in Figure G.

Construction exclusion zone

The restrictions for this area are the same as those for the construction exclusion zone.



Figure G: *An example of load-spreading boards to be used as ground protection.*

5 General Method Statement for Effective Tree Protection

Retained trees are an important factor on construction sites, whether on or near the working areas. Guidance for the protection of trees during development projects is provided in BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.

Trees are vulnerable to root damage caused by ground disturbance, direct injury of the trunk or branches, environmental change, pests, and diseases. Construction work often exerts pressures on existing trees, and a tree that has taken many decades to reach maturity can be damaged irreparably in a few minutes by unwitting or negligent actions.

For this project temporary fencing and ground protection will be used during demolition and construction to protect the retained trees at the site (see Sections 3 & 4 for further guidance). **These protected areas will be Construction Exclusion Zones.**

Two areas of existing hard surfacing will be changed near T59-63 & T146 will not be fenced off from construction activities because these spaces are already used for vehicular access. Sections of these areas are within root protection areas of adjacent trees, so they will be designated as **Precautionary Zones.**

All construction staff should be made aware of the following restrictions that apply to the **Construction Exclusion Zones** and **Precautionary Zones**:

No excavations	Unless specified in this report, no excavations (including utility trenches) or raising of soil levels is permitted within the Construction Exclusion Zones or Precautionary Zones without written permission from the project arboriculturist.
No storage or mixing of materials	No materials of any kind are to be stored, dumped or discharged within the construction exclusion zone or precautionary zone unless over an existing impermeable hard surface. Contaminants such as diesel oil, cement and bitumen must be stored at least 10m from any trees, with provision made for any spillage or run-off to be contained away from the protected areas. Mixing of cement and concrete must also take place away from the construction exclusion zones and precautionary zone unless over a suitable impermeable hard surface or bunded trap to prevent soil contamination from spillage or washing out.
Avoid fires	Fires should be avoided; however, if permitted by the site manager, they must not be lit in a position where heat could affect foliage or branches (at least 15m from the base of a tree would normally be sufficient).
Tie branches back to prevent harm	Care must be taken when planning site operations to ensure that wide or tall loads, or plant with booms, jibs and counterweights, can operate without coming into contact with retained trees. Branches may be tied back so that they are out of the way if necessary.

6 Method Statement for Installing Cellular Confinement Systems

New parking bays and driveways are required throughout the site and three trees (T46, T54 & T84) will be rooting beneath the areas to be surfaced. A cellular confinement system will be used for the new hard surfaces because it's a 'no-dig' approach which removes the chances of damaging tree roots. This system also allows for permeability and reduces the bearing pressure on the subsoil which lessens the chances of damaging roots by soil compaction.

Location

The location the new no-dig surface is illustrated by the orange honeycomb pattern on the tree protection plan which accompanies this report.

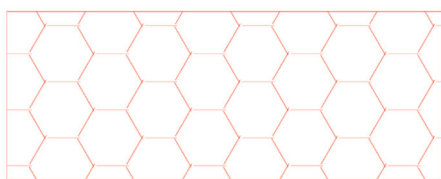


Figure H: An example of how the no-dig system is shown on the tree protection plan.

Specification

A 150mm thick geocell system is suggested at this stage but it is advised that the final specification is produced by an engineer.

Cellular confinement system providers include Greenfix, Wrekin ProtectaWeb and Core LP.

Materials

The following items will be needed for this project; however, the contractor will need to determine exact quantities. Depending on the needs of the contractor, additional materials may be needed:

1. A 150mm thick cellular confinement system
2. Non-woven geotextile
3. 20-40mm clean angular stone with no fines
4. Timber 'peg & board' edging, timber sleepers or kerb stones
5. Stabilisation grid
6. Suitable self-binding gravel, top soil and grass seed.

Ground preparation

A relatively even surface will be required before the surface is laid. The removal of up to 50mm of leaf litter, surface vegetation and rocks will first be required; any depressions may be filled with sharp sand or clean angular stone.

A mini digger may be used to remove the surface vegetation but it must not be allowed to pass over unprotected soil. If there is no alternative, then load spreading boards ('TuffTrak' or similar) as specified in Section 4 may be laid over the surface to facilitate temporary access.

Surface edging

The trenching required for conventional kerb edging set in concrete is likely to result in damaged roots and must be avoided. Edging is not required for the cellular confinement system, but it will be required to retain the surface layer. Either kerb stones or timber sleepers set above ground level are advised. Alternatively, treated timber 'peg & board' edging may be used.

Installation summary

The first step is to lay a non-woven geotextile over the prepared ground. This is followed by the geocells which are then infilled with clean angular stone (4-20mm or preferably 20-40mm) and then settled by tracking the digger over the cells. A second geotextile layer is then laid down prior to a permeable bedding layer.

A stabilisation grid will be laid over the top of the bedding layer with either a gravel (for new tracks) or loam mix with grass infill for parking bays.

A step-by-step guide for installing cellular confinement systems is listed on the next page.

6.1 Detailed procedure of installing the cellular confinement system

When it is time to install the cellular confinement systems near T46, T54 & T84, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Ensure that all the necessary materials & equipment are on site and an arboriculturist is present to supervise the works;
2. Remove the surface vegetation to create an even surface. A mini-digger with a grading bucket may be used to remove the very top layer of vegetation but it must be positioned beyond the area to be surfaced;
3. Install the edging – these may be treated timber boards (min. 25mm thick), kerb stones or timber sleepers but they must be set above the existing ground level to avoid root damage;
4. Cover the whole area with a non-woven geotextile, ensuring sheets overlap by at least 30cm;
5. Expand the cellular confinement panels to their full length. Pin the panels with staking pins to anchor open the cells and staple adjacent panels together to create a continuous mattress. Remove surplus cells using a sharp knife;
6. The expanded panels shall be infilled with clean angular stone 4-20mm with no fine material. The cells need to be overfilled by 25mm to protect their upper edges from being bent out of shape. Construction vehicles may only track over cells that have already been stone-filled;
7. Settlement of the gravel should be with 4 passes of a smooth roller (max weight of 1,000kg/m width without vibration) or several passes with a mini-digger. Once the gravel has settled, more may be added to maintain 25mm excess above the upper edge of the cells;
8. Lay a second geotextile over the whole of the surface with a permeable bedding layer and stabilisation grid over the top.
9. Where the new surface is required for parking bays (south-east of T46 and west of T84), the stabilisation grid may be infilled with a loam mix with suitable grass seed;
10. Where the new surface is required for the new drive (north and east of T46 and beside T54), the stabilisation grid may be infilled with a decorative loose gravel;
11. A layer of topsoil and may be applied between the new surface and the adjacent trees to create a new gradient. This new layer must be no deeper than 250mm;
12. Re-erect the tree protective fencing as per the Phase 2 positions indicated on the tree protection plan.

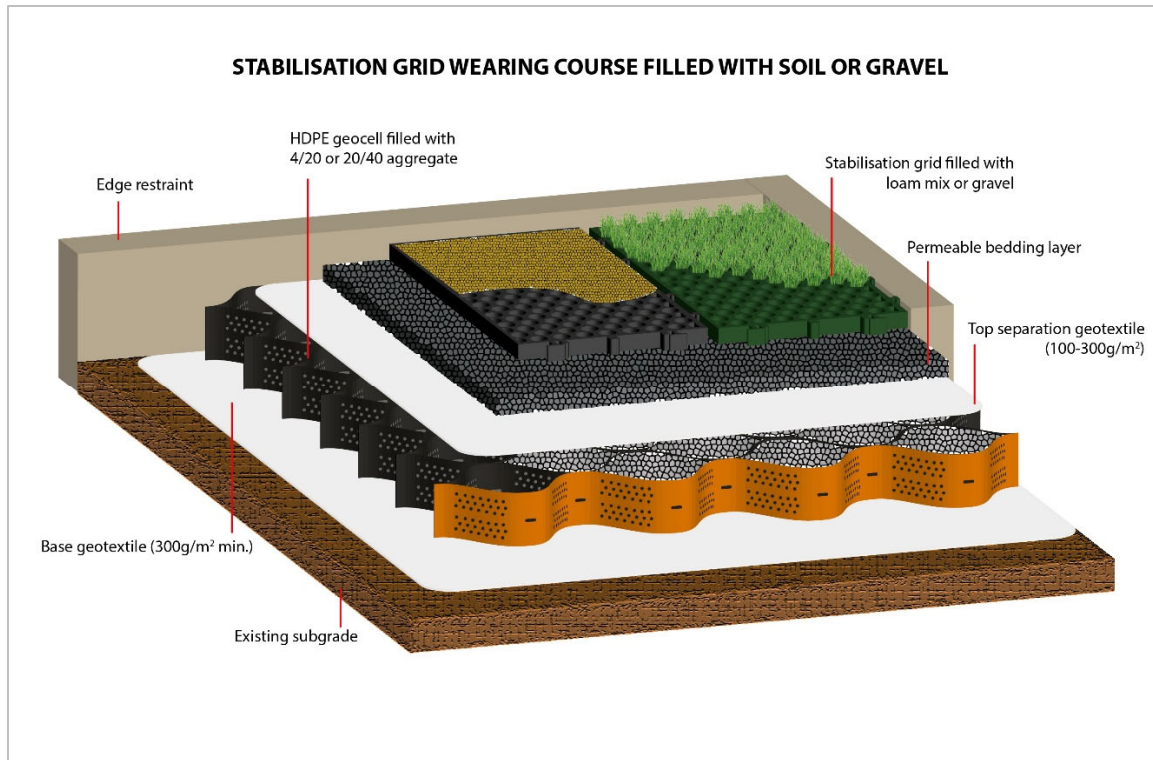


Figure I: *The new surfaces will be topped with gravel and grass.*

7 Method Statement for Removing Existing Hard Surfacing Near Trees

The proposal includes the removal of a small area of tarmac near a mature sycamore tree (T62) so it can be reverted to a soft landscape space. There are likely to be some tree roots beneath or directly adjacent to the tarmac surface and so care will need to be taken when it is removed. The removal of the existing tarmac surface must be carried out in accordance with the method statement detailed below and whilst under the supervision of the project arboriculturist.

Location

The location of where special measures will need to take place are indicated by blue hatching on the tree protection plan.

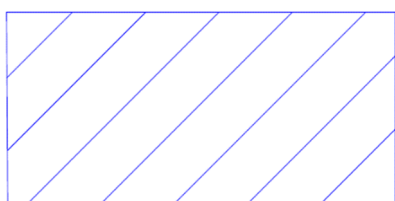


Figure J: *An example of the hatching used to indicate the location of the special measures required on the tree protection plan.*

Use of hand tools

In the areas immediately adjacent to the trees only hand tools should be used to remove the tarmac surface, taking care not to damage any roots that may be beneath or beyond the edge of the surface. Workers should be mindful that the roots are likely to be extending in a straight line from the trunk and so they should try and face the tree when using a pickaxe. Obviously, any roots encountered should be avoided and worked around.

Use of machinery

Tracked vehicles may be used to remove the tarmac if it is too difficult to remove with hand tools, but they must always be positioned on top of current hard-standing or beyond the root protection areas of adjacent trees. If tracked vehicles are used then extra care must be taken not to disturb the soil with the bucket, as this will damage the roots beneath.

Temporary ground protection

If the ground is left exposed for more than 12 hours, damp hessian should be used to wrap any exposed roots. Ground protection should also be laid (see Section 4) over this area until the new surface is laid.

Summary of works

When it is time to remove the tarmac surfacing from the area indicated on the tree protection plan, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Ensure that the project arboriculturist is present to oversee the works.
2. Mark out on the ground the areas of tarmac that can be removed mechanically.
3. Remove tarmac and kerbstones near trees taking care not to disturb the roots and soil beneath (no construction traffic may pass over the exposed ground before the new surface is laid).
4. Apply a layer of topsoil over the newly exposed ground as soon as it has been uncovered. This layer of topsoil must not be deeper than 250mm.
5. Sprinkle grass seed or roll turf over the area and water generously.

8 Method Statement for Landscaping Operations

When construction activity has been completed, it will be necessary to carry out soft landscaping works within the construction exclusion zones.

Final visit from the arboriculturist

At this time a final site visit from the project arboriculturist will be required to witness the tree protection fencing being removed, and during this visit the contractors will be briefed on how to carry out potentially damaging operations near trees.

The supervising arboriculturist will make a record of this visit and make this available for the local authority tree officer.

Prohibited works

Although the fencing will no longer exclude access to the root protection areas, groundworks of any kind such as rotavating, trenching or altering ground levels will remain prohibited within the construction exclusion zones during the landscaping works (unless carried out under arboricultural supervision).

After the tree protection fencing has been taken down, vehicles must stick to designated transit routes. The tree protection plan should be used as a guide by the landscaping contractors to identify the sensitive areas.

New fencing

Where new fencing is specified within the root protection areas of retained trees, the excavation of fence postholes must be carried out using hand tools only, but a powered hand-held breaker may be used when large rocks or a bed of solid rock is encountered. Obviously, any roots encountered should be avoided and so there will need to be some flexibility in positioning fencing/fence posts. Where fences are installed within 1m of retained trees, posts must not be positioned adjacent to the tree base; instead, the panel should span the tree as illustrated in Figure K.

If any roots greater than 25mm diameter are uncovered whilst digging a posthole they will be retained intact, and the excavation backfilled. A second hole will be excavated closer to the previous post so that the root is avoided, and the fence panel will be cut shorter to marry up with the position of the post. Roots smaller than 25mm diameter may be pruned back using a sharp tool to make a clean cut (e.g. using secateurs) at the edge of the excavation.

A postcrete mix will be used to anchor the fence posts because it does not require machine mixing and once introduced to the posthole, it sets quickly so minimising the opportunities for the contamination of surrounding soil. One bag of postcrete per post is normally adequate

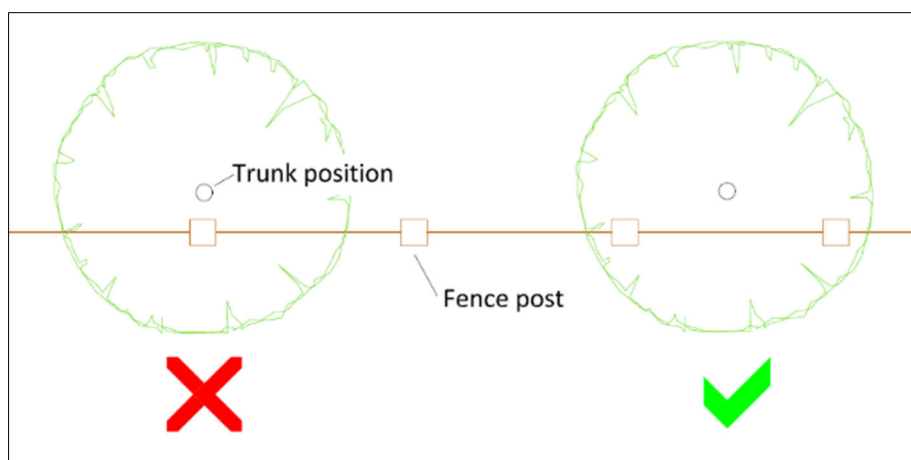


Figure K: An illustration of how fence posts should be positioned away from trees.

Agenda for Arboricultural Supervision	
Stage	Action
Pre- construction	A pre-commencement site visit from the project arboriculturist will be required to check the position of the tree protection measures and to discuss any potential conflicts to trees with the contractors.
During construction	Arboricultural supervision will be required again to oversee the ground preparation in advance of laying the cellular confinement system near T46, T54 & T84. Arboricultural supervision will be required to oversee the removal of hard surfacing near T62. Further arboricultural supervision will be required if any unforeseen construction activity is to take place within the root protection area of any of the retained trees on or near the site. This supervision must be carried out by the project arboriculturist.
Post-construction	A final visit will be required at the end of the project when fencing is removed, and subsequent landscaping operations can be discussed.

Construction Exclusion Zones & Precautionary Zones

The areas beyond the tree protection fencing and surfaces which are ground protected are designated as Construction Exclusion Zones.

The areas within the light blue hatching are designated as Precautionary Zones.

The following restrictions apply to the Construction Exclusion Zone and Precautionary Zones;

- No excavations (including utility trenches) without the supervision of the project arboriculturist.
- No mixing or storage of materials.
- No welfare facilities.
- No fires.

Further details are included in the arboricultural method statement.

