

ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Relating to development proposal at
White Street, West Lavington

Client:
C G Fry and Son Ltd

Aspect reference:
06163

Date:
24/03/26

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1 Summary

The proposal is for a residential development	The proposal is for a residential development with access, attenuation, open space and landscaping.
KEY trees have been identified for retention & protection	A baseline site survey and structured quality assessment of the existing trees and hedgerows established key arboricultural constraints to development. The moderate quality trees and hedgerows currently present on the southern and western boundaries, and offsite trees on the south-east side provide a range of benefits to the wider landscape.
The effects of tree loss are moderate to low impact in the short term	Removal of one early mature sycamore and a section of hedgerow to facilitate access into the site from White Street will have a localised impact on the street scene. The retention of neighbouring vegetation will preserve the leafy character of the area. The design has prioritised retention of neighbouring more prominent offsite beech trees and a nearby sycamore. The loss of two small sections of western boundary hedgerow for pedestrian access, low growing scrub growth and small elms will have a low impact.
The layout has been redesigned to maximise space for boundary trees	The layout has undergone a redesign to address the proximity of the access point from White Street to an offsite boundary tree group. Greater space has been provided to ensure impacts to these beech trees are at a low level, with sufficient clearance from Root Protection Areas. The design has been informed by Tree Officer feedback and low invasive air spading works to assess the spread of tree roots into the site and towards the road.
A method statement is recommended for achievable works	The vehicle access route into the site from White Street involves a minor incursion into the RPA of a retained mature sycamore, with some localised pruning works required. This is a healthy tree and it is considered that implementation of an arboricultural method statement, with soil amelioration works to the remainder of the RPA and works carried out according to best practice, will ensure that impacts to this tree are kept to a moderate to low level.
Extensive tree & hedge planting is proposed	Extensive tree and hedgerow planting is proposed across the site and will more than mitigate the loss of vegetation. The planting, once successfully established will result in enhancement of the site for the future.
Retained trees require physical protection	Retained trees are to be protected with Tree Protection Fencing to create Construction Exclusion Zones. Minor pruning works to provide clearance of branches from the fencing will have a low impact. The RPA of one offsite beech tree is to be protected by temporary ground protection measures
The proposal accords with planning policies & best practice	The development is in keeping with relevant local planning policies, the NPPF and best practice guidance.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report

White Street, West Lavington

2 Introduction

Instruction

- 2.1 I have been instructed by C G Fry and Son Ltd (Client) to provide an arboricultural impact assessment, professional opinion, and advice in relation to the proposed development.
- 2.2 This report includes evaluation of the direct and indirect effects of the proposed development and the resulting impacts on trees and local amenity.

Scope

- 2.3 Details of the report author, a general disclaimer and the limitations of this report are included as *Appendix 1*.

Accompanying Documents

- 2.4 This report must be read in conjunction with the following plan(s) and document(s); also instructed by the Client and/or produced as part of the design stage process:

Document/Drawing:	Name/Ref:	Produced by:
Tree Survey	06163 Tree Survey 14.10.24	Aspect Tree Consultancy
Tree Constraints Plan	06163 TCP 12.11.24	Aspect Tree Consultancy
Air Spading Investigations	06163 Air Spading 21.05.25	Aspect Tree Consultancy
Landscape Plan	1427-000 – Landscape GA Model	Macgregor Smith
Tree Protection Plan	06163 TPP 24.03.26	Aspect Tree Consultancy

Table 1 - Supporting plan & documents

3 Relevant Background Information

Statutory Designations

- 3.1 The presence of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and Conservation Area status has been checked with the Local Planning Authority, Wiltshire Council on 16/01/26 via their online portal.
- 3.2 There are no TPOs covering trees on or directly adjacent to the site.
- 3.3 The West Lavington and Littleton Panell Conservation Area borders the south-east corner of the site.

4 Baseline information and data collection

Brief site overview

- 4.1 The site is located on the west side of West Lavington, north-west of White Street.
- 4.2 The general layout and position of the existing site features are shown on the following aerial image.



Image 1: Aerial site photo

Site survey

- 4.3 I undertook the site visit and tree survey assessment on the 14 October 2024.
- 4.4 The survey methodology and the tree quality assessment criteria are described in the accompanying Tree Survey document (see 2.4); which includes the survey data schedule.

Key trees & features

- 4.5 Individual trees and tree groups are present in or close to mainly native hedgerows along the southern and north-west boundaries.
- 4.6 Trees on the north-west side include a mature ash, a small plum and cherries, as well as dead semi-mature elms which have succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease.
- 4.7 Trees along the southern boundary include early-mature and mature sycamore, hawthorn and elm in poor condition or dead.
- 4.8 There is an offsite managed mixed species hedge growing offsite, close to the eastern boundary. There are mature trees growing offsite along this boundary to the south-east, including cherry plum, silver birch and mature beech.

5 Proposed Development

- 5.1 The proposal is for a residential development with access, attenuation, open space and landscaping.

6 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Terms & Definitions

- 6.1 When describing impacts on arboricultural features; reference is made to the following parameters, as appropriate or relevant to the specific issue:
1. **Positive or negative**
 2. **Magnitude:** Refers to the 'size' or 'amount' of an impact, determined on a quantitative basis where possible.
 3. **Duration:** The time for which the impact is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource of feature, (defined in relation to the feature - rather than human time frames). The duration of an activity may differ from the duration of the resulting impact caused by the activity. For example, if short-term construction activities cause soil compaction around mature trees, there may be longer-term implications for tree health.
 4. **Reversibility:** An irreversible (permanent) impact is one from which recovery is not possible within a reasonable timescale or for which there is no reasonable chance of action being taken to reverse it. A reversible (temporary) impact is one from which spontaneous recovery is possible or for which effective mitigation, is both possible and an enforceable commitment has been made.
 5. **Timing and frequency:** Some changes may only cause an impact if they happen to coincide with the critical life-stages or seasons (for example, the bird nesting season). This may be avoided by careful scheduling of the relevant activities.
 6. **Compensation:** Measures taken to make up for the loss of, or permanent damage to, arboricultural resources through the provision of replacements.
 7. **Enhancement:** A new benefit - unrelated to any negative impact.
 8. **Impact:** The way in which an arboricultural resource is affected by the project.
 9. **Mitigation:** Measures taken to avoid or reduce negative impacts.
 10. **IMPACTS:** These will be determined using the above assessment criteria to distil into the following headings:
 - **HIGH:** impacts that are irreversible and can only be addressed with compensation.
 - **MEDIUM:** Impacts that are reversible over the long-term or with negative impacts that will be tolerable with mitigation and/or some compensation.
 - **LOW:** impacts that are reversible with no long-term detriment to trees or people. Impacts that can be mitigated for with standard protection measures and no compensation is required.
 - **NEUTRAL:** impacts that are present in the pre-development situation. No additional impact will occur.
- 6.2 Individual trees, hedgerows, groups, woodland, and other vegetative features have been assessed in relation to the submitted layout. Issues identified are evaluated in the following sub-sections.

Vegetation Removal & Retention

- 6.3 Trees and hedgerows which make a positive contribution to the layout have been retained wherever possible. Vegetation to be removed is shown on the accompanying Tree Protection Plan (TPP) with a dashed canopy outline and included on the following table:

Tree Ref:	Species/Description of feature:	BS5837 category	Reason for removal & Impact:
H1	Unmanaged wide-spreading native hedgerow	B2	Remove one 4m section on southern end and one 3.5m section on northern part, to provide pedestrian access, low impact
H16	Mainly native unmanaged boundary hedgerow	B2	Remove 20m section to provide vehicle and pedestrian access into the site, moderate impact
T17	Early-mature twin stem sycamore in hedgerow	B2	Remove to provide vehicle and pedestrian access into the site, moderate impact
T20	Early-mature elm in poor physiological condition	C2	Remove to provide vehicle and pedestrian access into the site, low impact
G22	Two 2m high elms	C2	Remove to provide space for attenuation basin, low impact
T23	Dead 2m high elm	U	Remove to facilitate play area, low impact
S34	2-4m high blackthorn, hawthorn, bramble and elm scrub	C2	Remove to provide space for public open space, low impact

Table 2 - Trees to be removed

Pruning Works

- 6.4 The following pruning works are required to facilitate the development.
- 6.5 All works are to be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced arborist in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations.

Tree Ref	Species	BS5837 category	Proposed works & Impact
G5, G9 - northern tree, T19, T24, T31	Wild cherry, hawthorn, elm	B2, C2	Crown lift to 2.5m above ground to provide clearance from the Tree Protective Fencing in the location shown on the TPP. Low impact.
T18	Sycamore	B2	Crown reduce the spread of lateral branches on the eastern and southern sides of the tree by up to 2m, pruning back to suitable growth points. Low impact.

Table 3 – Pruning works

- 6.6 Removal of two small sections of boundary hedgerow on the western side of the site to provide pedestrian access will have a localised low impact. Similarly removal of low growing scrub growth adjacent to the hedgerow will not be generally noticeable in the wider landscape.
- 6.7 The loss of three small elms will have a very low impact.
- 6.8 Removal of a section of hedgerow, an early-mature sycamore and one elm to provide vehicle and pedestrian access from White Street will have a moderate impact. This vegetation loss will be noticeable when viewed from immediately next to it on White Street and from the offsite public footpath close to the eastern side of the site, but retention of immediately adjacent vegetation will ensure that the leafy character of the area is preserved. Mitigation planting is required.

- 6.9 Minor pruning works are proposed to crown reduce two sides of the crown of one sycamore in proximity to the access point from White Street and to crown lift several trees to provide clearance from temporary tree protective fencing. These works will have a low impact on the amenity of the area and should not impact the long-term health of the trees.

Impact of proposed development on amenity value

- 6.10 Generally, there will be a short term temporary negative impact due to the removal of trees and hedgerow sections required to develop the site. This impact is to be limited by planting an extensive number of replacement trees, infill hedgerow section on White Street and hedgerows across the site which once established will mean that the mid-long term impact is positive.

Retained trees - General minor impacts

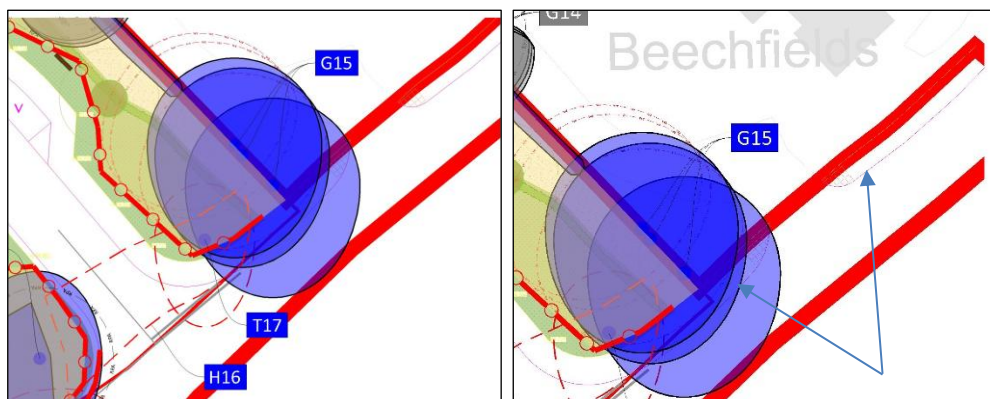
- 6.11 There are several impacts of no discernible significance which are not discussed in detail in this report. These relatively minor issues are adequately mitigated through standard clause recommendations for construction stage tree protection measures, as indicated on the accompanying TPP.

Retained Trees - Key issues

- Key impact 1 – access route and offsite G15 tree group, three beech trees
 - Key impact 2 – access route and T18 sycamore
 - Key impact 3 – Root Protection Area of G9 offsite beech tree
- 6.12 The above issues are individually evaluated in the following sub-sections.

Key Impact 1 – access route and offsite G15 tree group, three beech trees

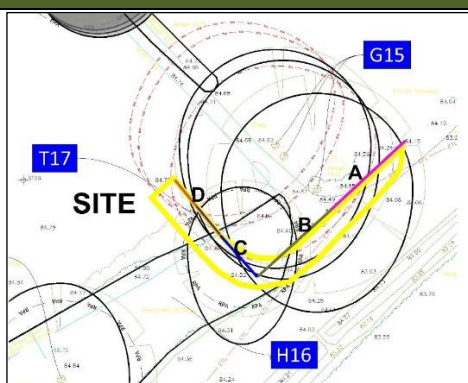
Tree Protection Plan extracts a and b:



Description, magnitude, and extent of IMPACT(s):

- 6.14 The proposed vehicle and pedestrian access route into the site have involved a potential significant impact upon the Root Protection Areas of a group of three neighbouring offsite beech trees, G15, depending on the location of the access point.
- 6.15 Air spading is a low invasive technique using air to blow soil out of the way, in order to determine if tree roots are present. This technique was used to inform the site layout with regard to an access point into the site from White Street, including a pavement on the north-west side of White Street.
- 6.16 The outcome of the air spading works was that just one relatively small significant root (25mm diameter or greater) and several insignificant roots were found in the field and were clearly linked to G15 (area marked D on the image below). Given the limited number and size of roots linked to the beech trees, it was assessed that installation of the access route could be carried out avoiding significant negative impacts to these neighbouring beech trees.
- 6.17 A preapplication submission was made, showing the location of the access point with a route that was informed by the air spading investigation involving an incursion into the edge of the Root Protection Areas of these trees. The feedback from the Tree Officer to the layout expressed concern regarding the impact to these trees, despite the very limited roots found.

Air Spading Location (line A-D) along the edge of proposed pavement (yellow):

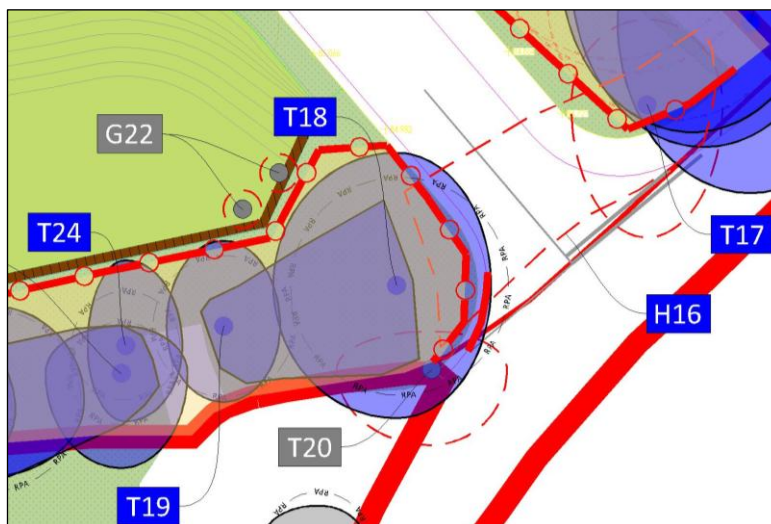


Mitigation recommended to reduce IMPACT(s):

- 6.18 In view of the feedback from the preapplication submission and in order to prioritise space for the offsite beech trees, the location of the access point has been adjusted.
- 6.19 The access point has been moved to the south-west and has been located outside of the RPAs of G15 where they come into the site.
- 6.20 In order to facilitate this access, removal of one early-mature sycamore (T17) is proposed. This tree is considered less prominent in the locality, with significantly less amenity value than G15 and also less prominent than another nearby sycamore (T18) which is to be retained. Removal of a section of hedgerow (H16) is also necessary to allow access into the site, with the majority of the hedgerow retained.
- 6.21 The impact of providing the access point into the site, informed by the air spading investigations and responding to the Tree Officer feedback, will have a low impact on G15 tree group.
- 6.22 New paving proposed on White Street in proximity to G15 (indicated by the two arrows in the TPP extract image b above) will have a low impact on these trees. No significant roots were found by the air spading works in this area. Works to install the paving will be carried out according to an Arboricultural Method Statement, to ensure that works are kept to a low level.

Key Impact 2 – access route and T18 sycamore

Tree Protection Plan Extract:



Description, magnitude, and extent of IMPACT(s):

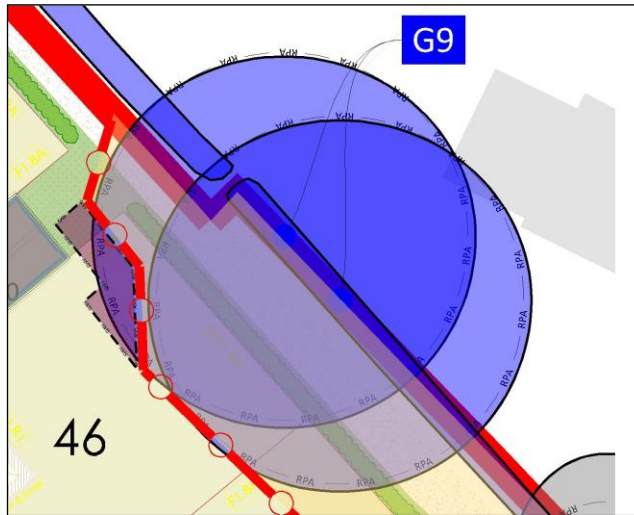
- 6.23 In order to prioritise the offsite beech tree group G15, the location of the proposed access route into the site from White Street is in proximity to a sycamore (T18).
- 6.24 The access route involves an incursion of the access road by 12.5% into the RPA of T18. Pruning works are also required to provide clearance of branches from the access point.
- 6.25 There is the potential for a significant negative impact to T18 sycamore from this incursion, depending on how these works are carried out.
- 6.26 Mitigation is required in order to limit the impacts to an acceptable level.

Mitigation recommended to reduce IMPACT(s):

- 6.27 T18 is in healthy condition and pruning works to reduce the eastern and southern lateral spread of branches by up to 2m can be carried out without harming the tree. Works are to be carried out according to BS3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations.
- 6.28 Works to install the access point will be carried out once temporary tree protection fencing has been erected and secured, to provide protection for T18, as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. This shows a greater area than the RPA to be protected on the north and west sides of the tree, with a Construction Exclusion Zone.
- 6.29 Soil amelioration works in the remainder of the RPA are also to be carried out, with an application of biochar and bark mulch, in order to help the tree respond well to the works.
- 6.30 It is considered that these works can be carried out, according to a detailed Arboricultural Method Statement with a moderate to low impact to T18.

Key Impact 3 – Root Protection Area of G9 offsite beech tree

Tree Protection Plan extract:



Description, magnitude, and extent of IMPACT(s):

- 6.31 The RPAs of G9, an offsite pair of beech trees extend into the site.
- 6.32 There is the potential for significant negative impacts to these neighbouring trees, depending on the detail of how these trees are protected during the construction works on site.
- 6.33 Mitigation is required in order to limit the impacts to an acceptable level.

Mitigation recommended to reduce IMPACT(s):

- 6.34 Plots 45 and 56 are to be located in the vicinity of these trees.
- 6.35 The majority of the RPAs are to be protected by temporary tree protection fencing to create a Construction Exclusion Zone to avoid negative impacts to the tree roots during the construction process.
- 6.36 In order to avoid negative impacts to a small section of the RPA of the northernmost tree, outside of the tree protective fencing, temporary ground protection is to be installed to protect the tree roots that might be present in this area.
- 6.37 It is considered that these works can be carried out, according to a detailed Arboricultural Method Statement with a low impact to G9.

7 Mitigation & Compensation Strategy

Tree Protection

- 7.1 No access to the RPA of any retained tree will be permitted before or during construction activity, unless detailed in an approved *Arboricultural Method Statement* or otherwise agreed in advance with the LPA following advice from the appointed specialist.
- 7.2 BS5837 recommends that retained trees (and areas suitable for new planting) are incorporated into CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONES (CEZs) and suitably protected throughout the development process.
- 7.3 The CEZs are clearly marked on the accompanying TREE PROTECTION PLAN and general details (heads of terms) for an accompanying *Arboricultural Method Statement* are included in the appendices of this report.
- 7.4 A detailed Arboricultural Method Statement is recommended to address protection of T18 sycamore and G9 beech with regard to the access route, pruning works and temporary ground protection.

Compensatory Planting

- 7.5 The proposal includes an extensive range of tree and hedgerow planting across the site. Establishment of this planting will mean the mid to long-term impact becomes positive.
- 7.6 Where new tree planting is planned it is imperative that consideration is given to future management and maintenance. It is recommended that a minimum five-year plan is constructed and submitted with the new landscape proposals.

New planting should be in accordance with the National House Building Council Standards NHBC 4.2 'Building near Trees' – 2020.

8 Trees & Planning Policy

- 8.1 Trees are a material consideration throughout the planning process and therefore the arboricultural information presented in this report and accompanying plans has been aligned with the objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the general tree-related policies and development objectives of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Key - National planning policy

- 8.2 **NATIONAL POLICY (NPPF) 2025:** National planning policy is described within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). In considering how trees are planned for on development sites regard ought to be given to the following principles:
 - Achieving sustainable development (Introduction) is described as having three roles of the economy, the social and the environmental.
 - Achieving well-designed places (Section 12 - 136) recognises the important contribution trees make to the character and quality of urban environments and helping to mitigate and adapt to climate change. New streets are to be tree-lined, opportunities should be taken to incorporate trees into

developments (such as parks and community orchards) and existing trees are to be retained wherever possible.

- Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (Section 15 – 187(b)) refers to the benefits of natural capital and ecosystem services, including trees and woodland.
- Biodiversity and habitats (Section 15 – 193(a & c)). The NPPF makes specific reference to the need to safeguard irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees.

Key - LPA planning policies

- 8.3 The following Wiltshire Council Core Strategy (adopted 2015) policies are relevant to this report:
- i. Core Policy 51: Landscape
 - ii. Core Policy 52: Green infrastructure
- 8.4 No veteran trees or ancient woodland are present and there is no requirement for buffer zones associated with these irreplaceable features as identified in the NPPF.
- 8.5 By identifying the current condition and limitations of the existing vegetation and then providing space to provide extensive tree and hedgerow planting, the proposed development accords with the relevant sections of the above LPA policies.

9 Conclusions

- 9.1 The proposal is for a residential development with access, attenuation, open space and landscaping.
- 9.2 The moderate quality trees and hedgerows currently present on the southern and western boundaries, and offsite trees on the south-east side provide a range of benefits to the wider landscape.
- 9.3 Removal of one early mature sycamore and a section of hedgerow to facilitate access into the site from White Street will have a localised impact. The retention of neighbouring vegetation will preserve the leafy character of the area. The loss of two small sections of western boundary hedgerow for pedestrian access, low growing scrub growth and small elms will have a low impact.
- 9.4 Priority has been given to provide space for a prominent offsite tree group of three beech trees. The access point into the site has been adjusted to take into account feedback from the Tree Officer and the findings of low invasive air spading investigations with regard to avoiding harm to these trees. New paving for pedestrians along the edge of White Street will have a low impact on these beech trees, works will be carried out according to a method statement.
- 9.5 The vehicle access route into the site involves a minor incursion into the RPA of a retained mature sycamore, with some localised pruning works required. This is a healthy tree and implementation of an arboricultural method statement, with soil amelioration works to the remainder of the RPA and works carried out according to best practice, will ensure that impacts to this tree are kept to a moderate to low level.
- 9.6 The proposal includes an extensive range of tree and hedgerow planting across the site. Establishment of this planting will mean the mid to long-term impact becomes positive.
- 9.7 Retained trees are to be protected with tree protection fencing to create Construction Exclusion Zones, with additional temporary ground protection. Minor pruning works to provide clearance of branches from the fencing will have a low impact on the amenity of the area.
- 9.8 The proposal can be delivered to accord with the relevant LPA planning policies, the NPPF and best practice guidance.

10 Recommendations

- 10.1 The tree protection measures discussed in this report and shown on the accompanying Tree Protection Plan should be implemented according to an Arboricultural Method Statement.
- 10.2 The appropriate use of well worded planning condition(s) is considered a key element of successful tree retention during development and construction.
- 10.3 It is important that the tree protection measures are clearly communicated to, and understood by, the entire construction team prior to commencement of any site works – this process should involve the Local Planning Authority so as to ensure any planning conditions are not breached. This is most effectively managed by monitoring the development on a regular basis, checking tree protection measures in relation to the Tree Protection Plan.
- 10.4 It is recommended that development is carried out in the following order:

- a) Remedial tree works undertaken.
- b) Tree protection measures installed.
- c) Initial site clearance, demolition, and ground works.
- d) Development of site.
- e) Removal of tree protection measures.

11 Appendices

- A1** Appendix 1 - Disclaimer, Limitations & Author
- A2** Appendix 2 - Default Tree Protection Measures
- A3** Appendix 3 - AMS heads of terms

A1.1 Disclaimer

The statements made in this Report do not take account of extremes of climate, vandalism, or accident, whether physical, chemical or fire. Aspect Tree Consultancy cannot therefore accept any liability in connection with these factors, nor where prescribed work is not carried out in a correct and professional manner in accordance with current good practice. The authority of this Report ceases at any stated time limit within it, or if none stated after two years from the date of the survey or when any site conditions change, or pruning or other works unspecified in the Report are carried out to, or affecting, the Subject Tree(s), whichever is sooner.

A1.2 Limitations

The survey and report are concerned with the arboricultural aspects of the site only. This report is primarily concerned with the condition of existing trees and the application of current guidance for their retention. No documented information has been provided regarding any site-specific history of ground disturbance, root damage or severance, changes in soil levels, previous utility installations or any changes in site conditions.

Trees are large dynamic organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly, therefore due to the changing nature of trees and other site considerations, this report and any recommendations made are only valid for the 12-month period following the site survey.

Subsidence Risk Assessment: Any discussion of soil characteristics is only presented where this may have a direct effect on tree growth. This report does not seek to address the specific area of subsidence risk assessment.

Foundation Design: The design and construction of foundations should be informed by appropriate soil sampling and laboratory testing in accordance with NHBC Chapter 4.2. This report does not specifically relate to risks associated with subsidence, heave or other forms of disturbance associated with tree root growth or tree removal.

Third Party Liability: The limit of Aspect Tree Consultancy indemnity over any matter arising out of this report extends only to the instructing Client. Aspect Tree Consultancy cannot be held liable for any third-party claim that arises following this report. The content and format of this Report are for the exclusive use of the Client. It may not be sold, lent, hired out or divulged to any third party not directly involved in the subject matter without the written permission of Aspect Tree Consultancy Ltd.

A1.3 Author

Richard Fletcher

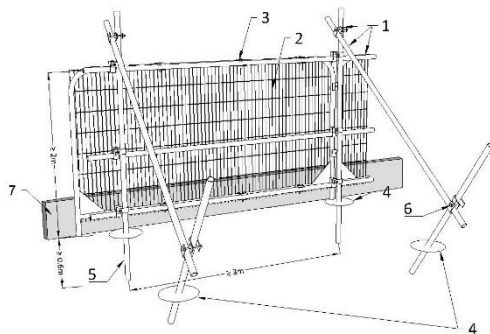
FdSc (Arb), MArborA, CEnv

I am a Chartered Environmentalist and Professional member of the Arboricultural Association. I am a professional tree specialist and I have skills and experience directly relating to the management of trees through the planning, development, and construction processes such that I am a suitably qualified and experienced competent person as defined by **BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations [BS5837]**.

A2.1 Tree Protection Measures

Retained trees should be protected by barriers and/or ground protection before any materials are brought onto site, and before any demolition, development or stripping of soil commences. Where all activity can be excluded from the RPA, vertical barriers should be erected to create a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). Where, due to site constraints, construction activity cannot be fully or permanently excluded in this manner from all or part of a tree's RPA, appropriate ground protection should be installed.

A2.2 Default Tree Protective Fence (TPF) – Type1:

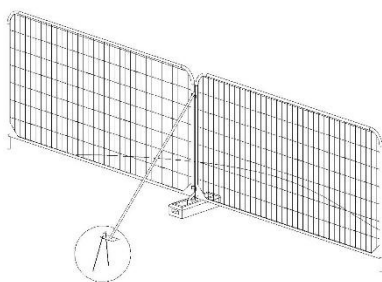


Key

- 1 Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2m 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 0.6m)
- 6 Standard scaffold clamps
- 7 Toe board 600mm to prevent soil running through fence (In timber or fabric)

A2.3 Default TPF – Type2a:

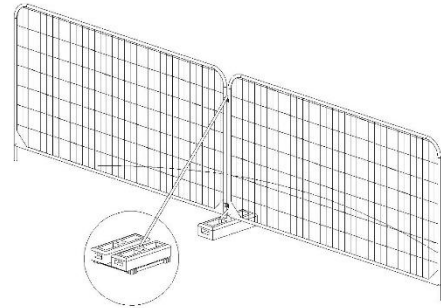
Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins

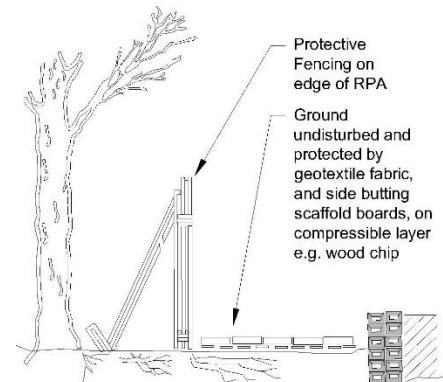
A2.4 Default TPF – Type2b:

Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems

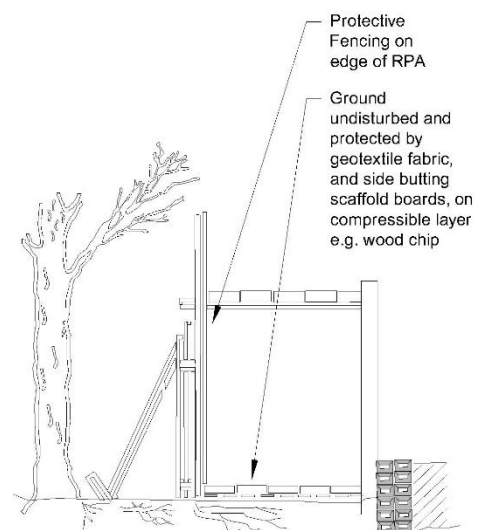


b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

A2.4 TPF + Ground Protection in RPA:



A2.5 TPF + Scaffolding in RPA:



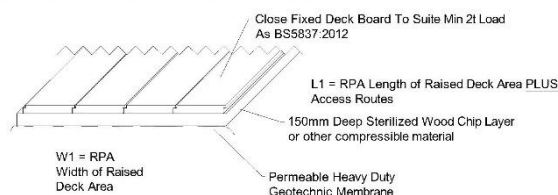
A2.6 Ground Protection in RPA – pedestrian:



A2.6 Ground Protection in RPA – up to 2 ton:

Ground Level Protection

Provide As Plan For Whole Extent of Area Within The RPA



A2.7 Example Warning Sign for TPF:



The final construction stage **Tree Protection Plan** shall be accompanied by a detailed **Arboricultural Method Statement** which will include details necessary to ensure the protection of trees throughout the demolition and construction stages of the proposed development.

A2.8 Tree Protection Plan (TPP)

The final TPP shall include details covering the following site-specific items:

- 1) Site Construction Access.
- 2) All hard surfacing within RPAs.
- 3) Construction Exclusion Zones.
- 4) Precise location of TREE PROTECTION FENCING - dimensioned – including temporary fencing & set back positions.
- 5) Barriers & Ground protection details – dimensioned.
- 6) Special protection measures (see AMS A4.2)
- 7) Location of utilities routes.
- 8) Areas for drainage / attenuation.
- 9) Working space for cranes, plant, scaffolding and access during works.
- 10) Position of site huts & welfare facilities.
- 11) Contractor car-parking.
- 12) Materials storage areas.
- 13) Build sequence/phasing of construction works.

A2.9 Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

The final AMS will be prepared and agreed with the LPA prior to start. The AMS may cover the following:

- 1) Pre-start Meeting.
- 2) Contact details for key personnel.
- 3) Site Monitoring Schedule.
- 4) Detailed Tree Work Schedule & Pruning Specification.
- 5) Final details of all operations within RPAs.
- 6) Methodology for White Street paving installation.
- 7) Utilities: methods of installation near trees.
- 8) Emergency Procedures.

A3.1 General / Standard AMS information

Pre-commencement site meeting: Prior to the commencement of the development, site clearance or groundworks a site meeting shall be arranged and held between the Site Manager, the Arboriculturist, and the Tree Protective Fence contractor. Any defective tree protection measures will be reported to the site manager immediately and made good in the same day. The site manager is responsible for informing the LPA or an appointed arboricultural specialist of any damage to or breaches of the Tree Protection Measures immediately.

Construction Exclusion Zone – CEZ: The CEZs are to be afforded protection at all times and will be protected by robust FENCING and/or GROUND PROTECTION as detailed. No works will be undertaken within any CEZ that causes compaction to the soil or severance of tree roots.

Tree Protective Fences (TPF): Protective fencing will be erected in accordance with the TPP prior to the commencement of any site works i.e. before any materials or heavy machinery is brought on site. The fencing may only be removed following completion of all construction works or with the formal agreement of the LPA. The location of the TPF will be as accurate as possible to the approved TPP. Any change to the position or construction of the fencing must be approved by the Arboriculturist and subsequently agreed by the LPA. No vehicles will drive or be parked within the CEZ. No materials will be stored within the CEZ.

Warning Notices will be affixed to every third panel or at 12m centres and will be made of all-weather signs.

After installation of the TPF the CEZ must be considered sacrosanct and off limits for any access or construction activity without the formal consent of the LPA or otherwise detailed on the TPP.

On-site environmental good practice guidelines:

Storage and use of Liquids and Hazardous Materials.

Liquids (fuel etc.) should be stored as far away from CEZ areas as is reasonably practicable. Spill kits and drip trays should be provided and maintained in close proximity to where liquids are stored, dispensed and used. Materials should be stored in accordance with manufacturer's Safety Data Sheets.

Drip trays or absorbent mats should be placed under filling points during the transfer/dispensing of liquids e.g. during the refuelling of plant to avoid any form of soil contamination in or immediately adjacent to CEZs or area for new landscape planting.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the Building Contract Manager (TBC) to ensure that the planning conditions attached to planning consent are adhered to at all times.

The Building Contract Manager will be responsible for contacting the LPA at any time issues are raised related to the trees on site. If at any time pruning works are required permission must be sought from the Local Planning Authority first and then carried out in accordance with BS 3998 2010.

The Building Contract Manager will ensure the build sequence is appropriate to ensure that no damage occurs to the trees during the construction processes.

Protective fences will remain in position until completion of ALL construction works on the site.

The fencing and signs must be maintained in position at all times and checked on a regular basis by an on-site person designated that responsibility.

Emergency Departures & Incident Reporting:

The contractor shall contact an appointed arboricultural specialist or the LPA Tree Officer if any breaches of the CEZ and tree protection measures occur.

An action plan to incorporate mitigation measures where necessary will be agreed and effectively implemented.

Contingency Plan - Water is readily available on site and will be used to flush spilt materials through the soil and avoid contamination to tree roots. At the time of any spillage the main contractor will contact the arboriculturist for advice.

Arboricultural Site Monitoring: Monitoring will be undertaken at a frequency agreed with the construction site manager during the initial pre-commencement site meeting.

The arboriculturist shall be present during the following **Key Stages:**

- 1) Pre-start meeting & initial positioning of the TPF & ground protection measures.
- 2) Minimum bi-monthly monitoring visit by specialist.
- 3) All operations near trees (as detailed in AMS) are supervised.

Detailed specific AMS required.

Where the accompanying TPP shows specific AMS areas outline details covering the identified issues are included on the plan.