

# METHOD STATEMENT FOR TREE PROTECTION AND PRUNING

**Planning Reference:**  
21/01153/FUL

**Site:** Land South Of 1 Walnut Close  
Eynsford KENT DA4 0ES

**Development:** Proposal for a new 3  
Bedroom dwelling with private  
garden and 2no. parking spaces at 1  
Walnut Close.

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## Methodology Statement of Tree Protection and Proposed Pruning during Construction

- 1) All trees to remain on site to be adequately protected during construction and other operations in accordance with BS 5837 : 2012 “Trees in relation to Design, Demolition and Construction.” protection fencing shall be erected prior to any operations on site, and shall be considered sacrosanct. It shall not be removed or reached during operations without prior consultation with an arboricultural specialist and the approval of the Local Authority.
- 2) As large an area around each tree as possible shall be protected;
  - A. For large deciduous trees, the tree’s root system extends horizontally through the soil beneath the tree in all directions approximately as far as its branches. Mark the perimeter on the ground by driving in half a dozen tent stakes or some other kind of marker. Aim to protect at least 50 percent of the root system from construction vehicles to ensure the tree will survive construction.
  - B. Many coniferous trees (e.g., pines) have relatively narrow branches. The roots extend much farther than the branches. Measure the diameter of the tree at 4.5 feet (1.4 m) off the ground. Multiply the result—in inches—by 1.5 to calculate the critical root zone (CRZ) in feet. Measure this distance around the tree and mark the perimeter on the ground
- 3) Metal posts and orange netting will be positioned at the outer edge of the Root Protection area, securely staked and with RPA warning signs attached. Fencing shall be secured on posts at either end and at intervals of not more than 4.5 meters, in accordance with the distance around each tree.
- 4) No activities or materials shall be allowed within the fenced-off area. Notices should be erected on the fencing with such words as “Protected Area – no operations or materials within the fenced area.
- 5) If it is essential that protective fencing must be moved closer to the trunk than the distance stipulated above; it should be as far away from the tree as possible. Boarding should protect the ground between this fencing and the building (eg. Scaffold boards). A single thickness of boarding laid on the soil surface will provide sufficient protection for the pedestrian loads, but more substantial boarding should be left undisturbed and should be protected with a porous geotextile fabric. If necessary, sand should be laid on the fabric to level the ground. When required, the building scaffolding should be erected on the boards. The boarding should be left in place until the building works are finished.
- 6) Trees located within the building site will be watered every 1-2 weeks during construction.
- 7) It will be necessary to examine the trees on the construction site weekly for signs of damage such as scorched leaves, drooping or dead branches, excessive needle shedding, or excessive winter dieback. If any areas of the tree that look dead or damaged, cut the affected branches off with a pair of pruning shears.