

## **Tree and Hedge Protection Statement**

### **Protective Fencing**

Before the commencement of any works on site (other than those set out in the schedule of tree works), protective fencing will be erected.

The protective barriers should be located around the perimeter of the RPA, and finalisation should be agreed at the pre-commencement meeting (see 2.1.2 - Phase

The local planning authority will be notified once the fencing is in place. T3 requires a combination of protective barriers and ground protection so as to enable the erection of scaffolding along the north side of the proposed development (see appendix 4).

A 'No Access' sign will be attached to the barriers.

The barriers are intended to restrict access to the enclosed RPAs and prevent any unsupervised activities. All activities within the RPAs behind barriers must be subject to arboricultural supervision at all times.

### **Control of activities near RPAs**

No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil, bitumen or cement will be stored or discharged within 10 metres of the trunk of any tree that is to be retained.

All cement mixing and washing points for equipment and vehicles must be outside RPAs, but the contours of the site may create a risk of polluted water running off into RPAs. An appropriate precautionary measure would be to use heavy-duty plastic sheeting and sandbags to contain spillages and prevent contamination.

No fires will be lit within 20 metres of the trunk of any tree that is to be retained.

### **General tree protection principles that also apply to this site**

#### **The feasibility of proposals and detail that can be conditioned**

Due to the complex variables that make up the condition of the ground it is rarely practical or necessary to cover every detail in order to make sound decisions. Issues can arise where, through inaccurate land surveys, ground levels have not been recorded or further unexpected problems arise. This can impact upon trees and may require review of the working methods on site. This report looks at the feasibility of the proposals in principle, and further details being agreed through close consultation between operatives, site manager and the supervisory arboriculturist. If an operation is accepted as being feasible by the LPA, then the detail is a matter to be enforced through planning conditions, and it is not usually necessary to provide it before consent is given.

## **Arboricultural supervision**

BS 5837:2012 stipulates (Section 5) that where risks to retained trees are present, arboricultural supervision is required. This is essential for any operations within the RPAs. An effective means of doing this is for all operations that could affect trees to be project managed by an appointed arboricultural consultant.

Specialist supervision is a means of facilitating any conditioned tree protection being effectively implemented on site by operatives who may not be familiar with the practical requirements for successful tree retention. Effective arboricultural supervision must include provision for the following:

**Pre-commencement meeting:** This should be held on site before any of the site clearance and construction work begins. This would normally be attended by the site manager, the arboricultural consultant and a LPA representative. If a LPA representative is not present, the arboricultural consultant should inform the LPA in writing of the details of the meeting.

All tree and hedge protection measures detailed in this document should be fully discussed so that all aspects of their implementation and sequencing are understood by all the parties. Any agreed clarifications or modifications to the consented details should be recorded and circulated to all parties in writing. This meeting is where the details of the programme of tree protection will be agreed and finalised by all parties, which will then form the basis of any supervision arrangements between the arboricultural consultant and the developer.

**General site management:** It is the developer's responsibility to ensure that the details of this arboricultural method statement and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all site personnel. Copies of the agreed documents should be available on site and the site manager should brief all personnel who could have an impact on trees on the specific tree protection requirements. This should be a part of the site induction procedures and written into appropriate site management documents.

**Ongoing supervision of operations that could affect trees:** Once the site is active, the arboricultural consultant should visit at an interval agreed at the pre-commencement meeting. This would normally be every two to four weeks for general supervision, but could be at a longer interval if agreed between the parties.

The supervision arrangement should be sufficiently flexible to allow the supervision of all sensitive works as they occur. The arboricultural consultant's initial role is to liaise with developer and LPA to ensure that protective measures that are fit for purpose are in place before any works start on site. Once the site is working, that role will switch to monitoring compliance with arboricultural planning conditions and advising on any tree problems that arise or modifications that become necessary.

**Proof of compliance to help refute liability and facilitate the discharge of planning conditions:** All supervisory visits will be formally confirmed in writing and circulated to all relevant parties, including the LPA. The purpose of these written records is firstly to provide proof of compliance that will allow the developer to robustly

demonstrate adherence to best practice in the event of any disputes, and secondly to help the LPA efficiently discharge the relevant planning conditions.

### Control of activities within RPAs

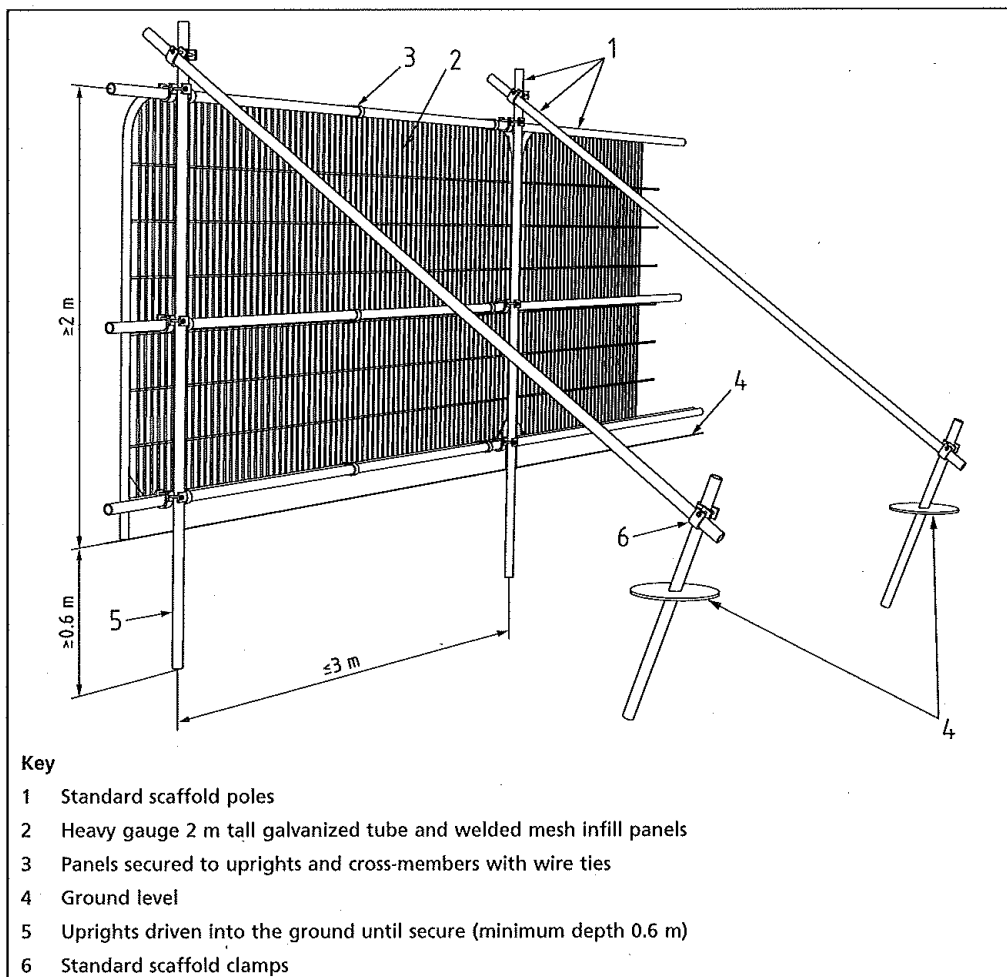
Other than ground protection, there will be no activity within the RPA of any retained tree throughout the duration of this development.

The fencing will remain in place until completion of the main construction phase and then only removed with the consent of the local planning authority to permit completion of the scheme.

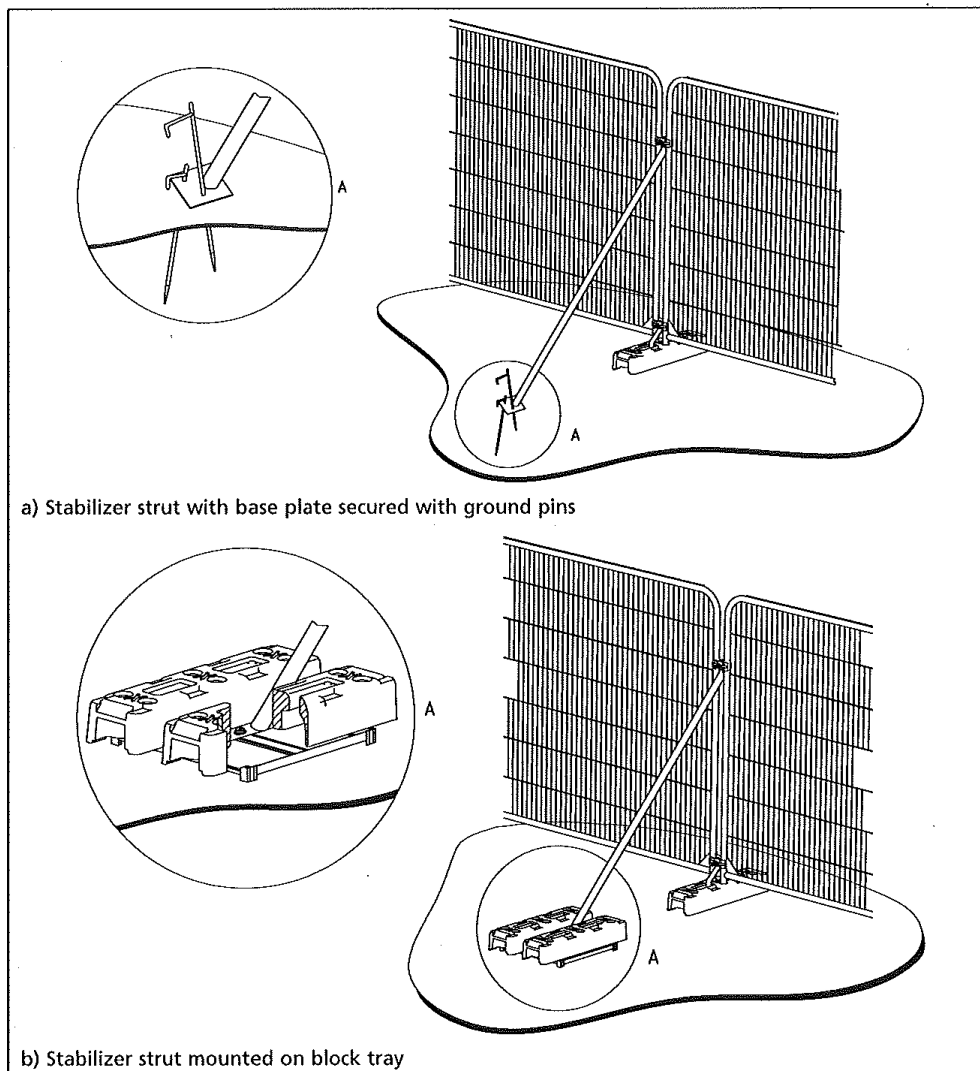
### Protective fencing

Fencing will be erected as per the Tree Protection Plan.

BS 5837:2012, Default specification for protective barrier



Where practicable, the uprights should be driven securely into the ground to a minimum depth of 600mm. However, where site conditions prevent this an above ground stabilizing system can be adopted. Examples are given in Fig below.



## Ground protection

Ground protection will comprise of a single thickness of scaffold boards on top of 100mm of bark chippings, laid onto a geosynthetic membrane such as Terram® or similar.

A 'No Access' sign must be installed clearly on the protective barriers. This must be durable and waterproof and replaced immediately if damaged or removed.

# **CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE**



## **NO ACCESS**

**THE FOLLOWING MUST BE OBSERVED BY ALL  
PERSONS:**

- ☒ THE PROTECTIVE FENCING MUST NOT BE MOVED**
- ☒ NO PERSON SHALL ENTER THE PROTECTED AREA**
- ☒ NO MACHINE SHALL ENTER THE PROTECTED AREA**
- ☒ NO MATERIALS SHALL BE STORED IN THE PROTECTED AREA**
- ☒ NO SPOIL SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE PROTECTED AREA**
- ☒ NO EXCAVATION SHALL OCCUR WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA**

**ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE  
WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL  
PLANNING AUTHORITY**