

THIS PLAN MUST BE VIEWED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ARBORICULTURAL REPORT: GH2303

# **Arboricultural Method Statement GH2303**

# 1. Phased Development in relation to Tree Protection – in order of events A to I A. A person with relevant experience, must design the details relating to the services and rainwater soakaways/holding tanks, or waste pumps (section 4), and garage foundation design (section 3). These must include accurate locations of installation, including cross-sections, detailing levels of existing / proposed finished levels and construction method statements for each specific operation, which will be required prior to or at the pre-commencement meeting. Written approval of the design, in relation to trees, should be acquired from the developer's acting Arboricultural Consultant or the LPA Arboricultural Officer.

**B.** installation of Tree Protection measures - see section 2

**C.** Pre-commencement meeting, post installation of Tree Protection measures including the chemical storage/mixing bund, (detailed within Figures 1, 2, 3 & 4, section 2 and plan GH2303b), and prior to construction. The pre-commencement meeting should be held and attended by the developer's Arboricultural Consultant and the designated site foreman to discuss details of the working procedures. A representative from the Local Planning Authority may request attendance at the meeting.

**D.** additional Tree Protection - see section 9.2(4) & Appendix 5(1) within Arboricultural Report GH2303

**E.** specific construction technique - see section 3: garage foundations

**F.** services installation - see section 4

**G.** main construction & main construction completion

**H.** removal of Tree Protection measures - see section 5

landscaping - see Appendix 5 (8) within Arboricultural Report GH2303

= Arboricultural Supervision required

The project manager will give the Arboricultural Consultant at least 48 hours' written notice prior to any Arboricultural Supervision activity. If there is a specific request from a representative of the LPA wishing to attend, 7 days' notice shall be required. An Arboricultural Supervision statement will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority, in writing after each supervision event.

## 2. <u>Tree Protection Measures</u> see also section 9.2(4) & Appendix 5 within Arboricultural Report GH2303

Tree Protection fencing design for construction and demolition, requires Heras panels with stabilisers, on rubber or plastic concretefilled feet. For fencing design and specific locations see plan GH2303b and Figure 2. Laminated Construction Exclusion signs (Figure 1) should be placed upon the side of the fencing, facing the development at 3 metre intervals.

Ground Protection in the form of rigid Ground Guards will be used, see Figure 4. For specific locations see plan GH2303b. They will be laid on top of a base layer of Geotextile membrane to separate the Ground Protection from the soil. The Geotextile separation fabric will be of such a design that will not be punctured, ripped, or allow fines (e.g. fine particles, sand, broken stone, brick, soil etc.) to penetrate. The Ground Guards should be securely attached (using the product specification), both together and to the existing ground, having first established the exact location of any underground services.

Chemical storage/mixing & welfare units Storage and mixing of chemicals will be required near Root Protection Areas, where the use of a water-tight and chemical resistant bund will be essential, to avoid any run-off from toxic materials. Figure 3 details design of such a bund. Site cabins / welfare units must be located outside the tree Root Protection Areas, unless otherwise agreed. All temporary services should run above ground or be contained within the facility and managed as appropriate. In direct relation to these operations, see Appendix 5 (3 & 5) within Arboricultural Report GH2303.

**Working Method:** During demolition and construction, the Tree Protection measures should not be removed or moved at any stage, unless agreed upon by a representative of the Local Planning Authority and/or the acting Arboricultural Consultant for the site, or unless otherwise stated within this report.

Throughout the proposal, it is important to monitor the condition of the Tree Protective measures, assess whether they are still fit for purpose and meet the design standard within this report. It is recommended that Tree Protection be added to the on-site risk assessment and protective fencing should be subject to a Fixed Scaffolding Safety Checklist.

**Reason:** Retained trees and associated soil structure within this report take priority. Entering within areas designated for construction exclusion, will inevitably compromise the health of valuable trees. Barriers should be fit for excluding construction activity and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work taking place around retained trees.

# 3. Specific construction techniques (within RPA)

The location of the foundation is marked as a yellow polygon, which should be designed by a structural engineer with relevant

**Working Method:** Notwithstanding the approved foundation design and construction method statement, the entire Root Protection Area (RPA) of the trees should be protected using Ground Guards (section 2) until completion of installation, or until such time as they serve limited use for the intended protection. There should be no excavation or grading of existing soil, unless otherwise agreed with the sites acting Arboricultural Consultant and/or LPA Arboricultural Officer. An impermeable heavy gauged plastic should be used over existing soil, between the reinforced floor and existing ground, thus preventing cement from leaching into the soil within the tree RPA. The Tree Protection measures within this report and approved construction design must be followed.

**Reason:** This working method will avoid tree roots and rooting areas being compromised, unlike conventional strip foundations.

4. Services (electricity, gas, water, foul water & broadband) see section 9.2.4 within report GH2303

Services and rainwater soakaways/holding tanks, or waste pumps should be constructed outside the tree Root Protection Areas (unless otherwise agreed and specific provisions are applied). A structural / drainage engineer with relevant experience should design the service locations and rainwater disposal; see section 1A. Where possible, services should be connected to existing, within or associated to the structure. All gutters, rainwater downpipes and drains must have gutter or drain guards to reduce the risk of blockage from tree-related debris.

# 5. Removal of Tree Protection

The removal of any Tree Protection can only take place upon completion of Phased Development and upon completion of the project, or under agreement with the acting Arboricultural Consultant. Written consent may be required from the Local Planning Authority to undertake such an operation.

This report does not give guidance on building near trees, hedgerows, and shrubs in shrinkable soils [National House Building Council (NHBC) guidance in relation to trees, chapter 4.2], as this should be addressed during the Building Regulations phase, unless otherwise requested.