

Arboricultural Method Statement

Development at Frenches Farm, Wigley Bush Lane, South Weald

February 2024

CONTENTS:

1. INTRODUCTION
2. DEVELOPMENT STAGES AND MONITORING
3. TREE WORKS
4. TREE PROTECTION
5. AVOIDANCE OF DAMAGE TO TREE STEMS AND BRANCHES
6. DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES AND SURFACES WITHIN RPAs
7. CONSTRUCTION OF HARD SURFACES WITHIN RPAs
8. INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND SERVICES
9. SOFT LANDSCAPING WITHIN RPA

APPENDICES

- 01: 'Demolition Phase' tree protection plan ref LSDP 2202.01.
02: 'Construction Phase' tree protection plan ref LSDP 2202.02.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background: LSDP were appointed to prepare an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and tree protection details, to satisfy local authority requirements, relating to the proposed development. This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Arboricultural Report and Tree Protection Plan; copies of each must be available for all relevant site personnel, to ensure that existing trees are adequately protected during the construction process.

2. DEVELOPMENT STAGES

Generally: The following items are set out in likely chronological order. Should any variance be required, (for example, some existing surfacing in Root Protection Areas may be removed during the construction rather than demolition phase), then the Project Arboriculturist shall be consulted to ensure works are in compliance with Local Authority requirements.

- **Pre-development stage:**
 - Tree removal and pruning required to facilitate development
 - Installation of protective barriers and ground protection

- **Demolition / Site Clearance Stage:**
 - Review compliance of implemented tree protection with approved details
 - Review works requiring access to RPA's and arboricultural supervision if required
 - Agree storage areas for materials, locations of site facilities etc, to be outside of RPA's .
 - Demolition and site clearance

- **Construction Stage:**
 - Review compliance of implemented tree protection with approved details
 - Review works requiring access to RPA's and arboricultural supervision if required
 - Agree storage areas for materials, locations of site facilities etc.
 - Ground work and installation of services
 - Construction of development

- **Post-development stage:**
 - Removal of tree protection barriers and temporary ground protection.
 - Identification and carrying out of any arboricultural works considered necessary to mitigate the impact of the development.
 - Implementation of soft landscaping

3. TREE WORKS

Generally: No works to existing trees protected by TPO, Conservation Area, or planning condition shall be carried out without the prior approval of the local planning authority.

Works to retained trees shall be carried out by a competent arborist and in accordance with BS3998 (2010) 'Recommendations for Tree Work'.

The 'Countryside and Wildlife Act (1981)' must be complied with; in particular, if the presence of nesting birds or bat roosts is suspected.

Tree stumps located in Root Protection Areas (RPA's) of retained trees must not be mechanically excavated; they may cut at ground level, or, if removal is necessary, then this shall be carried out by hand, or by stump grinder ensuring surrounding land is not disturbed, or compacted.

SCHEDULE OF TREE WORK

Ref	Species	Proposed Work
T1	Oak	Sever ivy stems and remove ivy a week or two later, once it has begun to wilt but before it becomes desiccated.
T3	Hawthorn	Remove to accommodate development.

4. TREE PROTECTION

Generally: Before any machinery or materials are brought onto site and before any demolition, development or stripping of soil commences, The Root Protection Area (RPA) indicated on the Tree Protection Plan shall be set out and the Protective Barriers installed on the accompanying 'Demolition Phase' tree protection plan ref LSDP 2202.01.

Immediately following removal of existing structures and surfaces from individual RPAs the barriers shall be relocated to the positions shown on the accompanying 'Construction Phase' tree protection plan ref LSDP 2202.02. Ground Protection shall also be installed as shown on the drawing.

The Protective Barriers shall remain in place until all external construction works are complete. The ground protection will remain in place permanently.

The areas protected by fencing and ground protection shall be subject to the following restrictions:

- I. Existing soil levels within the protected areas shall not be altered
- II. No excavation of any kind shall take place within the protected areas.
- III. The protected areas shall not be used for storage of any kind
- IV. No vehicles or machinery shall be allowed into the areas protected by fencing
- V. No dumping of waste liquids or other materials

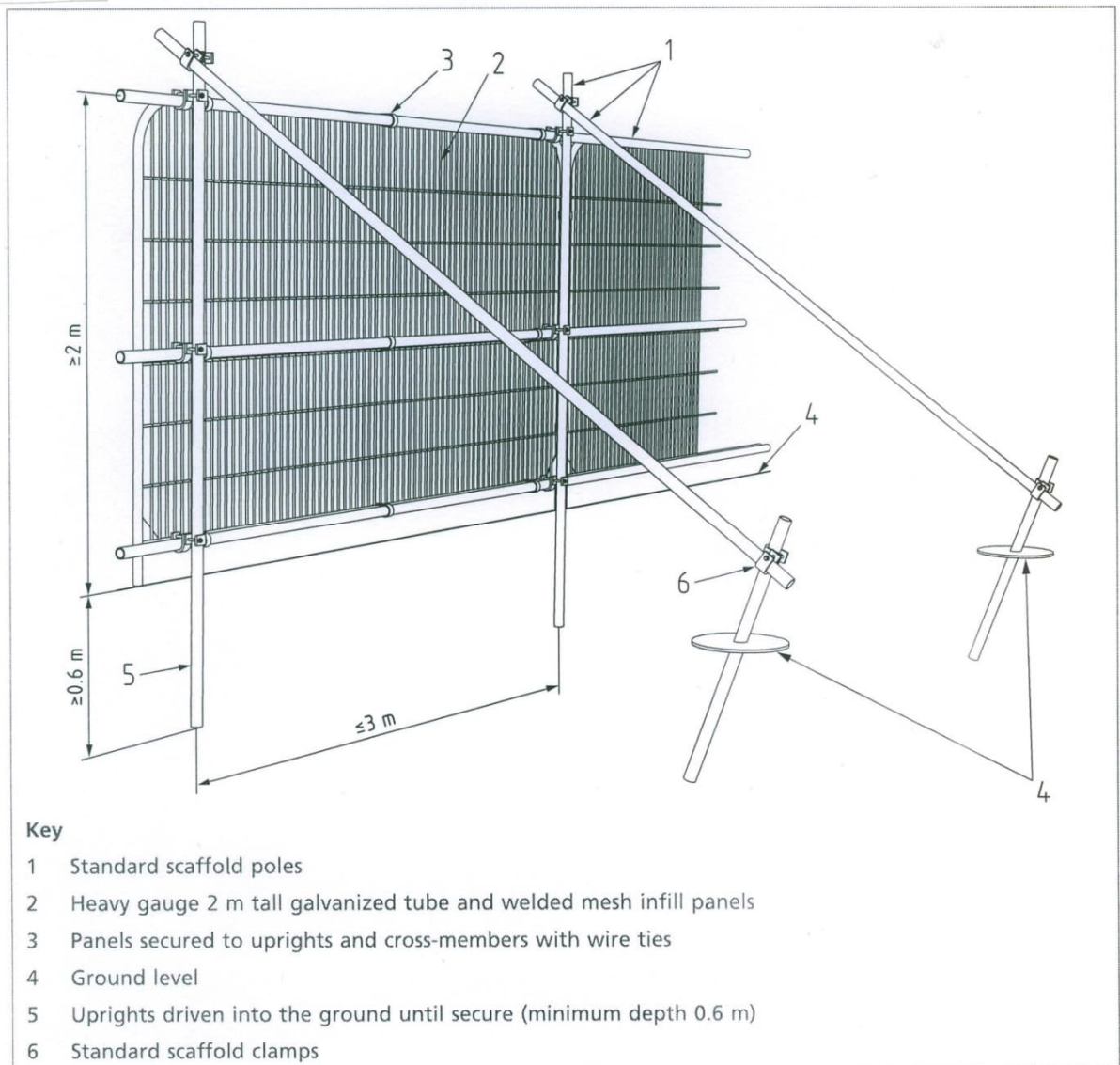
Additionally, the following restrictions apply to the areas beyond the RPA of retained trees:

- I. Waste liquids which may be harmful to trees, such as cement washings, shall not be tipped within 10m of root protection areas.
- II. Chemicals which may be harmful to trees such as oil, diesel and bitumen shall not be stored or poured within 10m of Root Protection Areas.
- III. Fires should not be allowed within 15m of Tree canopies, or Root Protection Areas

Should the developer require the above restrictions to be breached for unforeseen reasons, an appropriate method of works must be agreed with the Local Authority prior to any works taking place within the protected areas.

Protective Barriers: Protective Barriers shall be erected to prevent access into designated areas around retained trees. Once installed, all weather notices shall be attached to each barrier with words such as: "Construction Exclusion Zone – No Access". Protective Barriers shall be erected in accordance with BS5837: 2012 Fig 2 - See diagram overleaf.

Default specification for protective barrier



Ground Protection: Ground protection shall be installed where indicated on the 'Construction Phase' tree protection plan ref LSDP 2202.02.

Ground protection shall take the form of a permeable surface laid on a cellular confinement system, constructed using a no-dig specification. See diagram 3.

Where parts of the RPA are currently covered with concrete, or asphalt hard-standing, ground protection will not be required unless the existing surfacing is removed. Extreme care shall be taken to ensure the soil beneath the paving construction is not disturbed. The ground protection shown on diagram below shall be implemented immediately after removal of the existing hard-standing and no machinery or vehicles shall be allowed over the area whilst it is uncovered.

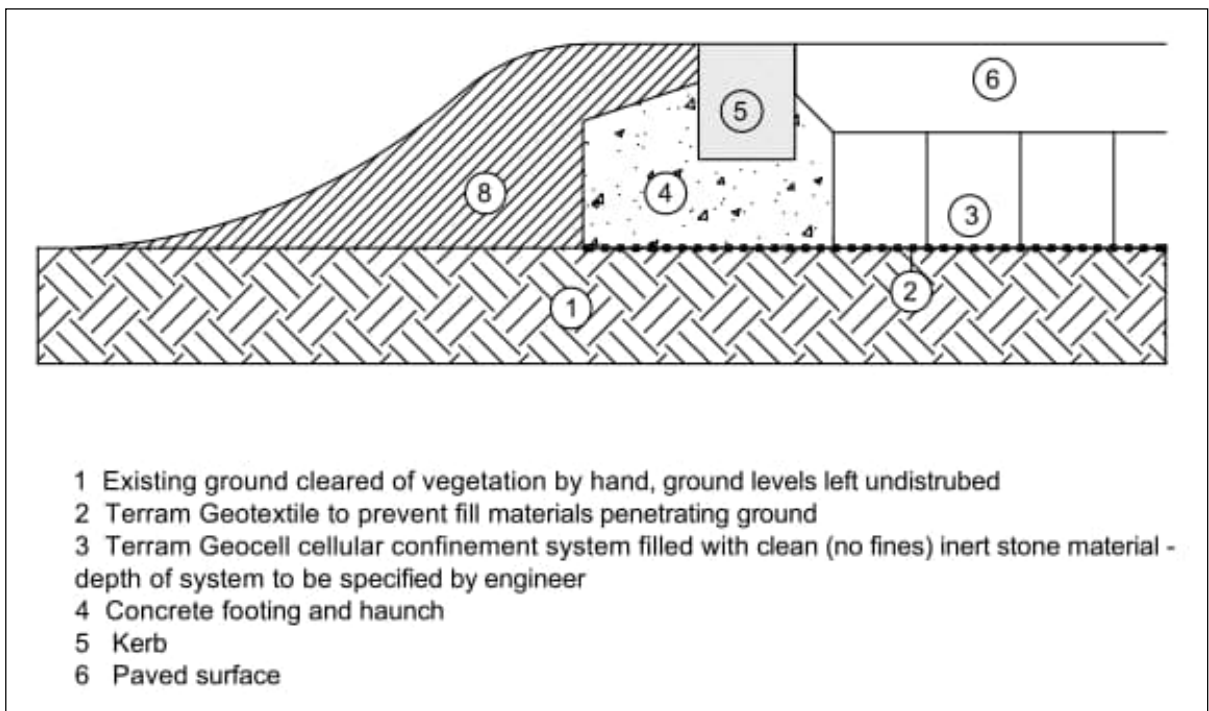


Diagram 2: Ground Protection – No-dig cellular confinement paving construction

- The above detail shall be implemented where vehicular access is required within Root Protection Areas
- NB Items 1-3 form the ground protection and must be implemented prior to vehicles being allowed access over the Root Protection Area. If required items 4-6 can be implemented at a later stage, in which case a temporary wearing course of Type 1 or similar should be added.

5. AVOIDANCE OF DAMAGE TO TREE STEMS AND BRANCHES

Generally: The site manager shall ensure that machinery and vehicles do not come into contact with trees during demolition and construction stages. A banksman shall oversee site operations that are in close proximity to trees.

If additional pruning is required to facilitate access, then this must be of a minimal nature and in accordance with the instructions of the Project Arboriculturist and with the approval of the Local Planning Authority Arboricultural Officer.

6. DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES AND SURFACES WITHIN RPAs

Generally: Existing areas of hardstanding located in parts of RPAs, where new paved surfaces or structures are proposed, may be retained, either temporarily to provide ground protection / piling mat, or permanently as a sub-base to new paving. Where it is necessary to remove structures or surfaces from RPA's, works shall be carried out as follows:

- Existing structures, floor slabs and surfaces shall be carefully broken up, with a mechanical hand-held tool, taking care not to compact or disturb the ground beneath as there may be root growth immediately below the surfaces or structures.
- The broken material shall be removed immediately by hand. Alternatively by mechanical excavator, fitted with toothless bucket, working from the edge closest to the trees outwards, ensuring that the ground surface below the structure is not disturbed machine does not run over unprotected ground within of the RPA.
- If surface roots are present, then the area shall be covered with a damp hessian, or a layer of sharp sand, to minimise desiccation.
- If roots over 25mm diameter are uncovered, the advice of the Project Arboriculturist should be taken in respect of pruning, or adapting the proposed structure / surface to accommodate them.
- Existing sub-bases should be retained where possible as part of the proposed pavement structure; where this can be achieved and additional compaction is not required, the use of cellular confinement ground protection will not be necessary.
- Immediately upon completion of demolition, reinstate tree protection measures (ground protection / barriers as shown on the accompanying drawing.
- Locate Tree Protection Barrier to 'Construction Phase' position – see tree protection plan.

7. CONSTRUCTION OF HARD SURFACES WITHIN RPA's:

Generally: Please refer also to diagram in earlier section. The following methodology shall be applied when constructing hard surfaces within RPA's:

- Grass or other vegetation will be close cut/mown and all arisings removed by hand. All arisings will be wheel barrowed out of the RPA.
- No excavation shall be carried out, other than as strictly necessary to accommodate the cross-over and the paved link between cross-over and the 'No-Dig' surface
- Any depressions will be filled in with sharp sand.
- Geo-textile membrane will be laid out over the area where the proposed surfacing will be constructed within the RPA.
- Cellular confinement system will be laid over the geo-textile membrane e.g. Geo-web cellular confinement matting.
- The cells will be hand filled with granular material that allows air and water flow such as 10mm washed gravel chippings (no fines) (working from the edge of the RPA towards the tree).
- Apply surface dressing of gravel chippings and construct timber edging to retain the surface.
- Bank up the edging with topsoil, which can be grass seeded in spring/autumn. This will form a gentle slope from the edging to the surrounding ground level. The area of 'no dig' construction is identified on the accompanying drawing

8. INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND SERVICES

Generally: Underground services should avoid RPA's wherever possible. If excavations to accommodate services within RPA have become necessary, advice must be obtained from the Project Arborist in order to agree measures to minimise root disturbance, such as use of air-spade to remove soil, or trenchless technology.

Refer also to National Joint Utilities Group NJUG Volume 4 2007 'Guidelines for the planning and installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees' (NJUG - <http://www.njug.org.uk>)

No excavation to accommodate services within RPAs will be allowed without the prior approval of the Local Authority.

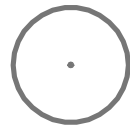
9. SOFT LANDSCAPING WITHIN RPA

Generally: The following restrictions apply to soft landscape works within RPA's:

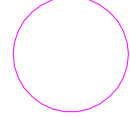
- Cultivation within RPAs shall be kept to a minimum and shall be by hand; rotovators must not be used within RPA's.
- Herbicides must not be used within RPA's
- Fine grading of surface must be carried out by hand, existing ground levels should not be otherwise altered.



KEY



Existing Tree



Root Protection Area (RPA)



0 10 m 20 m 30 m 40 m 50 m

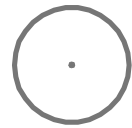


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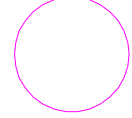
SITE : Frenches Farm, Wigley Bush Lane, South Weald
DRG : Tree Protection Plan - Demolition Phase
DRN BY : GH
SCALE : 1:500 @ A3
DATE : Feb 2024
No : LSDP 2202.01



KEY



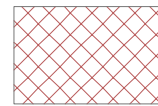
Existing Tree



Root Protection Area (RPA)



Tree Protection Barrier: To be weldmesh panels installed in accordance with BS 5837: 2012 Fig 2



Permanent Ground Protection: See arboricultural report.



SCALE: 1:500

SITE : Frenches Farm, Wigley Bush Lane, South Weald
DRG : Tree Protection Plan - Construction Phase
DRN BY : GH
SCALE : 1:500 @ A3
DATE : Feb 2024
No : LSDP 2202.02