

Arboricultural Report



Relating to:

7 Elm Grove, Epsom KT18 7LZ

Tree Survey	✓
Arboricultural Impact Assessment	✓
Arboricultural Method Statement	✓

All to BS5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations

Produced For:
Junyan Luo

Ref: APA/AP/2024/015 Rev. A
Date: 23rd February 2024

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BS 5837:2012



BSI Standards Publication

Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations

- ✓ BS5837: 2012 compliant report, supplied electronically as pdf document

This report is for the exclusive use of the client and those involved in the submission and approval of the planning application to which the report relates and the implementation of any consented works. It may not be sold, lent, hired out or divulged to any third party not directly involved in the subject matter without the express consent of APArboriculture

Introduction

1.1 Overview

- The proposal is to erect a double storey rear extension, a front porch, a front roof gable and a front dormer following demolition of the existing conservatory
- A planning application is being submitted to Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for these works
- 16 trees have been surveyed
- It will not be necessary to remove or prune any trees in connection with the project
- There are no incursions within the RPAs of retained trees
- All of the retained trees are to be protected during the development works in accordance with the BS
- A pre commencement meeting is to be convened on site prior to any development related activity commencing

1.2 Key Issues for Implementation

If the proposed development works are implemented, these are the key issues that the project manager/builder will need to be aware of:

- ***A pre-commencement meeting needs to be convened on site prior to any demolition or construction related activity starting (Section 4.2)***
- ***The tree protective fencing and ground protection need to be in place prior to any development related activity starting (specifications given in Section 4.6)***

1.3 Contact Details

Contact	Name	Company/LPA	Tel. / E-mail address	Sent report
Client	Junyan Luo	-	-	✓
Architect/Planning Agent	Louise Hair	Fluent Architectural Design Services	0203 865 4920 louise.hair@fluent-ads.co.uk	✓
Arboricultural Consultant	Andrew Pinchin	APArboriculture	01932 450104 aparboriculture@gmail.com	
LPA Tree Officer	Jeremy Young	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	01372 732464 jyoung@epsom-ewell.gov.uk	

1.4 Key Terms and Abbreviations

Arboricultural Impact Assessment <i>- An assessment of arboricultural impact</i>	AIA
Arboricultural Method Statement <i>- Contains the tree protection information</i>	AMS
British Standard 5837 2012: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations – the relevant British Standard	The BS
Root Protection Area <i>- The volume of soil a tree needs to stay healthy</i>	RPA
Local Planning Authority <i>- The Council</i>	LPA
Tree Preservation Order <i>- A legal document that is used by the LPA to protect trees</i>	TPO

1.5 The Proposal/Relevant Planning History

The proposal is to erect a double storey rear extension, a front porch, a front roof gable and a front dormer following demolition of the existing conservatory.

A planning application is being submitted to Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for these works.

1.6 Brief and Purpose

This report has been commissioned by Junyan Luo to:

- Survey the trees in the vicinity of the proposed works in accordance with the BS.
- Assess the arboricultural impact of the proposed project.
- Present an effective tree protection strategy for the duration of the project.
- Provide the necessary arboricultural information to enable a planning application to be validated and determined.

1.7 Scope

The trees in the vicinity of the proposed works have been surveyed in accordance with the BS. Trees with a stem diameter over 75mm have been included.

In addition to providing the necessary arboricultural information to enable a planning application to be validated and determined, the report is intended to be used as a working document for site personnel to inform and guide the tree protection process throughout the development works.

A full hazard assessment of the trees (including the assessment of decay or defects and their implications), has not been undertaken as this is considered beyond the scope of this report.

Detailed ecological considerations are also beyond the scope of this report.

1.8 Documents Supplied/Used

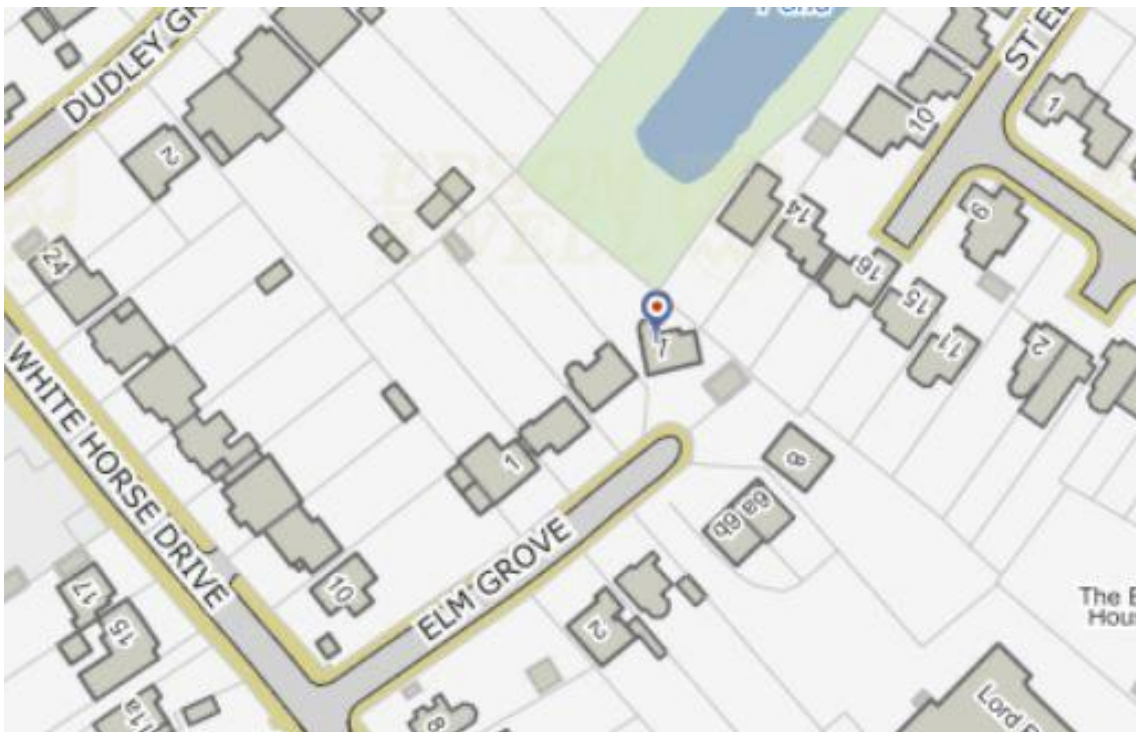
Document	Obtained From	Format/Ref
Proposed plans	Fluent Architectural Design Services	Pdf & Dwg

1.9 Site Details

The site in question is within the administrative jurisdiction of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council. It is situated in Elm Grove in Epsom.

In terms of levels, the site is essentially level with no inclines of significance from an arboricultural perspective. Surrounding land use is predominantly residential.

Site Location Plan



2 Tree Survey

2.1 Survey Method

The trees were surveyed on 1st March 2023.

Locations of the trees were plotted with a laser using triangulation and trilateration techniques.

The trees were inspected from ground level using widely accepted Visual Tree Assessment techniques. No climbing inspections were undertaken. No samples of soil, tree tissue or suspected pests/pathogens were taken.

Heights of the trees were estimated by eye. Crown spreads at each of the four cardinal points were measured using a laser measuring device. The diameters of the trees were measured at a height of 1.5m above ground level (using a diameter tape) as per Annexe C of The BS.

Photographs were taken on site using a digital camera.

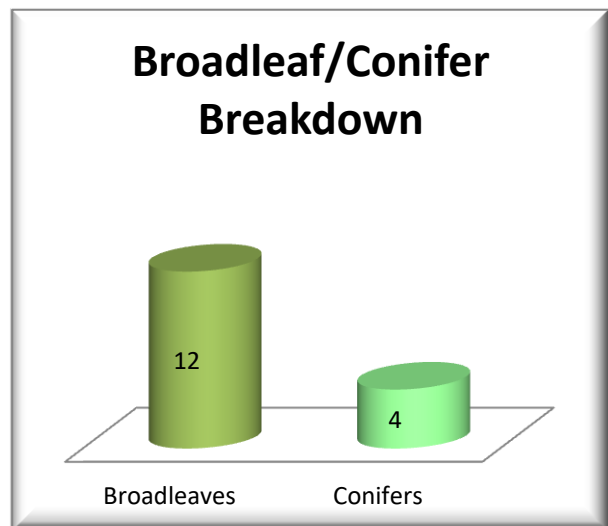
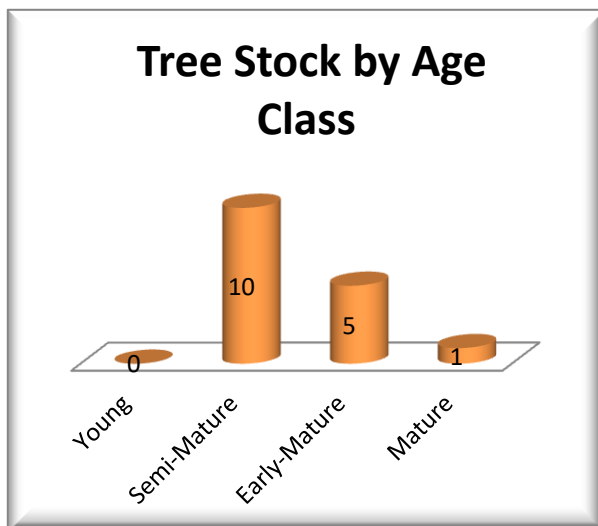
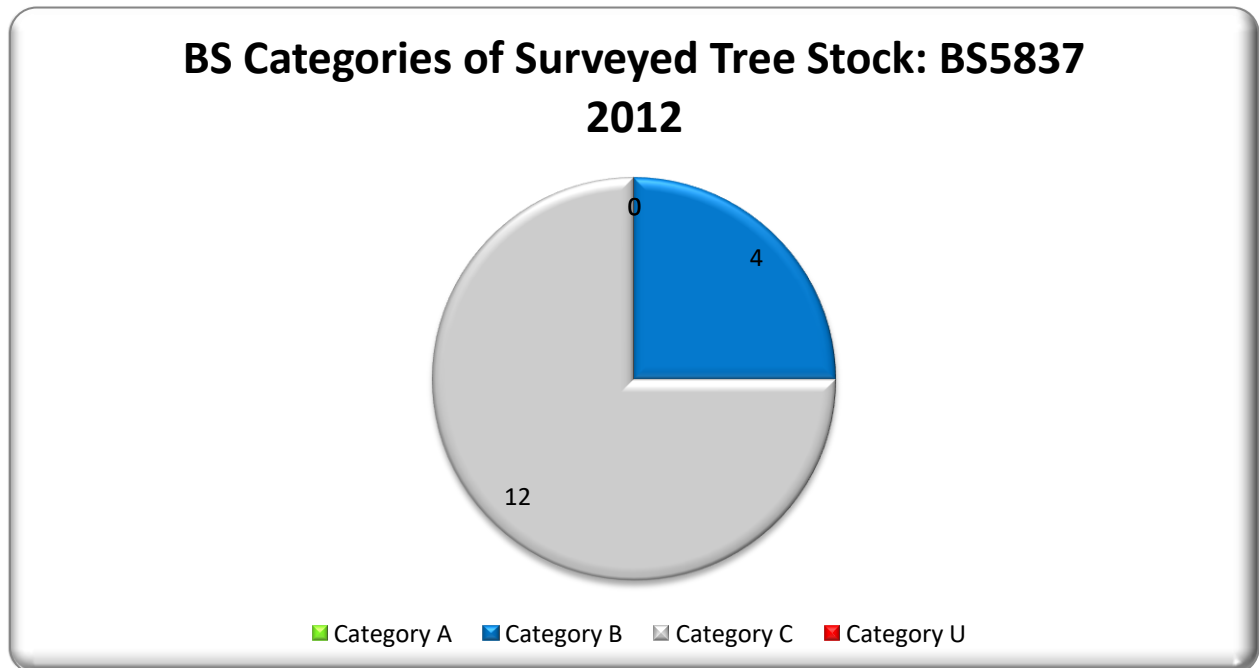
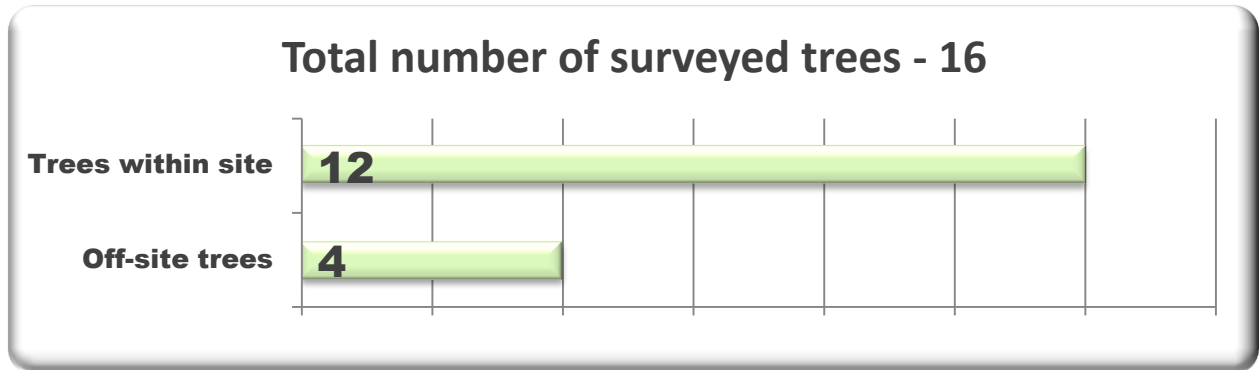
2.2 Tree Details

Full details of the surveyed trees and proposed works are given in the Tree Survey Schedule (Appendix 1). The locations of the trees are shown on the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 2). The trees have been surveyed in accordance with the BS categorisation system, which can be summarised as follows:

- **Category A** – trees of high quality and value with a life expectancy of more than 40 years
- **Category B** – trees of moderate quality and value, with a life expectancy of more than 20 years
- **Category C** – trees of low quality and value, with a life expectancy of more than 10 years
- **Category U** – trees for removal, with a life expectancy of less than 10 years

- See Appendix 3 for more details on the BS5837 Categorisation System

An overview of the surveyed tree stock is as follows:



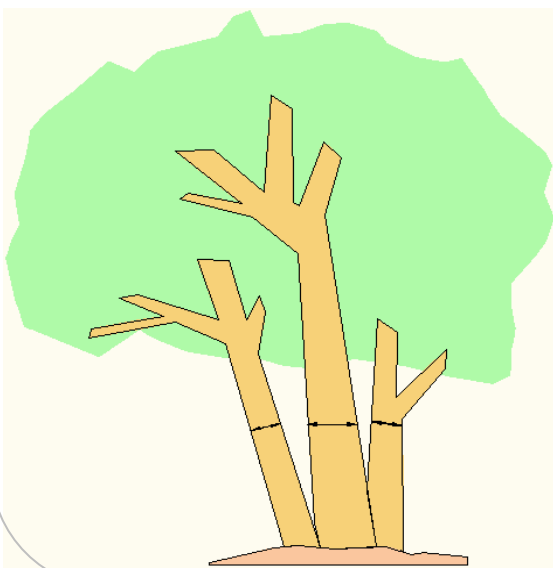
The RPAs of the trees have been calculated in accordance with Annexe D of the BS and are given in the Tree Survey Schedule.

For single stemmed trees, the RPA radius is derived by multiplying the diameter of the tree at 1.5m above ground level by 12. For multi-stemmed trees, the RPA radius is derived by multiplying an equivalent stem diameter by 12. The formulae for calculating the equivalent stem diameters are as follows:

Equivalent stem diameter calculations for trees with multiple stems:

Trees with 2-5 stems: $\sqrt{(\text{stem diameter } 1)^2 + (\text{stem diameter } 2)^2 \dots + (\text{stem diameter } 5)^2}$

Trees with 5+ stems: $\sqrt{(\text{mean stem diameter})^2 \times \text{number of stems}}$



All stems measured at 1.5m above ground level.

RPA radius derived by multiplying equivalent stem diameter by 12

As for single stemmed trees, shape may under some circumstances be modified (with sound arboricultural justification) as long as total area remains the same

The RPA is the area (given in m²) that contains sufficient rooting volume for a tree to survive and remain healthy. Disturbance within this area has the potential to impact significantly upon tree health and vitality.

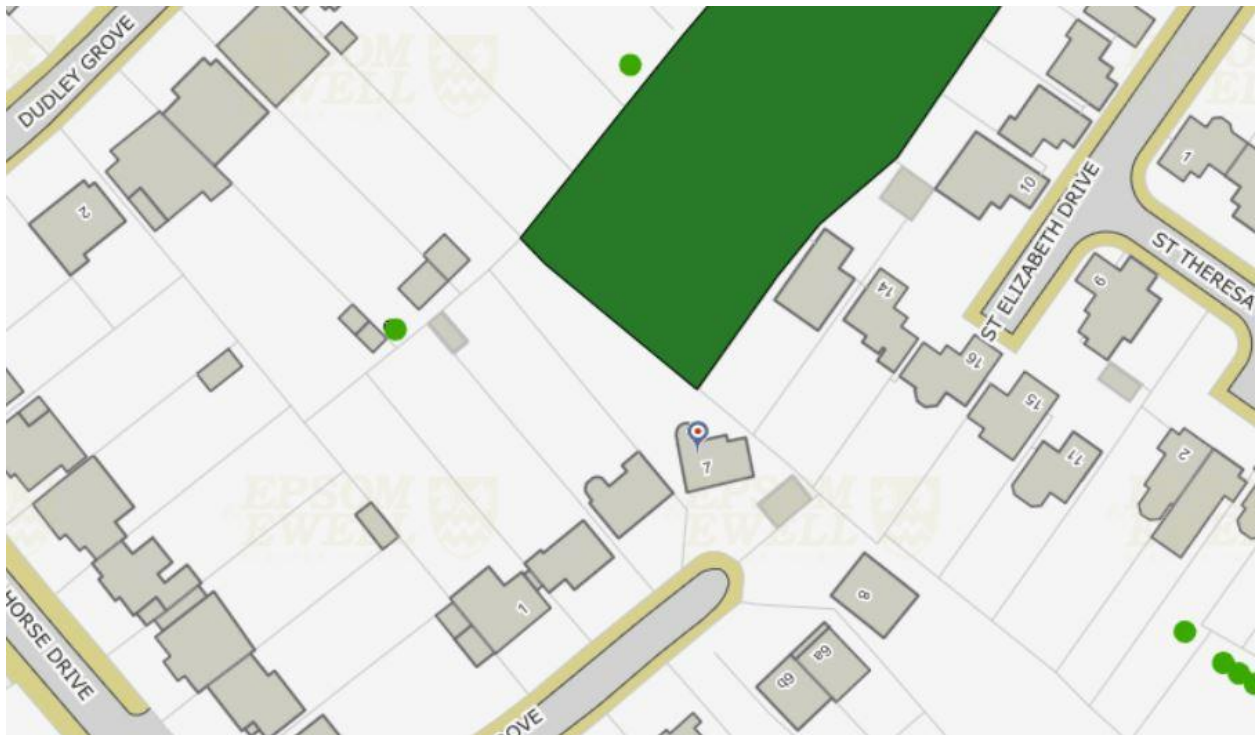
Sections 4.6.2 and 4.6.3 of the BS provide for the shape of the RPA to be modified from the starting point of a circle where rooting patterns are likely to be eccentric, subject to the total area remaining the same.

No RPAs have been modified in this instance. The RPAs of the retained trees are shown as nominal circles on the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix 2.

2.3 Legal Protection Status of Trees

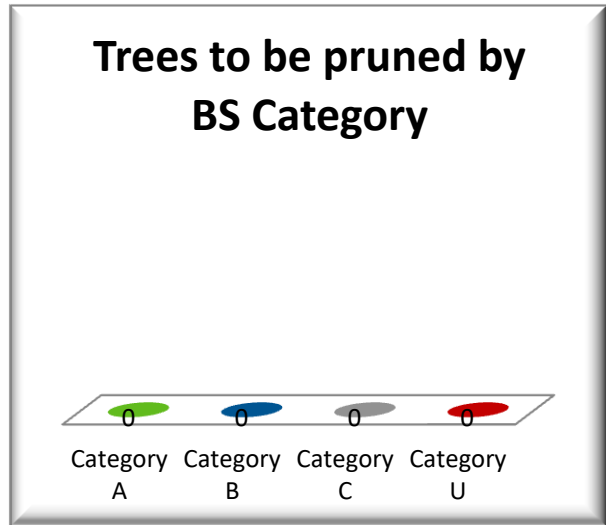
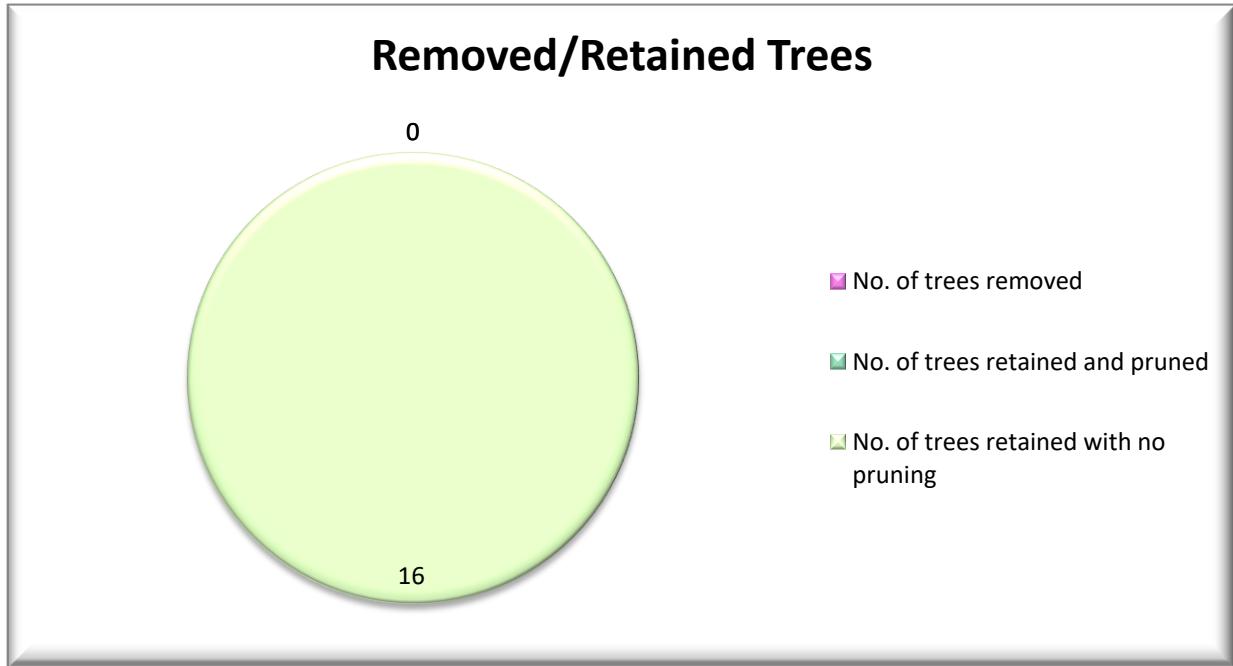
Type of Protection	Details/Ref.
Conservation Area	No
Tree Preservation Order	TPO adjacent (346 W1 1997)

Screenshot from Epsom & Ewell Borough Council website showing locations of protected trees (none within property but TPO adjacent):



3 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1 Overview of Arboricultural Impact



Number of trees with incursions within RPAs - 0

3.2 Tree Works

It will not be necessary to remove or prune any trees in connection with the project.

3.3 Incursions within RPAs

Incursions may be fully invasive (where a degree of root disturbance is considered acceptable) or low invasive (where specialist methods are used to limit the degree of disturbance).

In this instance, there are no incursions within the RPAs of retained trees.

3.4 Light and Proximity Issues

Section 5.3 of the BS is concerned with the proximity of structures to trees and recommends that buildings are sited at distances from trees that allow for future growth without significant problems being experienced. Issues referred to include shading of buildings and open spaces, seasonal nuisances (dropping of leaves and fruits etc.) and concerns over safety.

These issues can lead to pressure to heavily prune or remove trees in the future and LPAs will be mindful of this potential pressure when considering whether proposals for development in proximity to trees are acceptable.

The proposed extension and other works are situated at an appropriate distance from the retained trees and no particular problems relating to proximity to trees are likely to be experienced.

3.5 Mitigation

No trees are to be removed or pruned in connection with the project and there are no specific proposals for soft landscaping/new tree planting.

3.6 Conclusion

Subject to full compliance with the AMS, the proposed works are considered supportable from an arboricultural perspective. No trees are to be removed or pruned, there are no incursions within the RPAs of retained trees and the retained trees are to be afforded an adequate degree of physical protection during the development works in accordance with the BS.

4 Arboricultural Method Statement

4.1 Introduction

To safeguard the retained trees on and immediately adjacent to the site during the development process, the tree protection measures set out below will be adhered to. These will protect the rooting systems and aerial parts of the trees.

The essential principle is that the area inside the tree protective fencing and where ground protection has been used is to be protected for the duration of the works.

Any specialist methods referred to in this AMS are to be implemented in full and arboricultural inspection/supervision is to be carried out as detailed in the Sequencing and Supervision Section (Section 4.3).

A copy of this AMS will be maintained on site at all times and made available to all site personnel.

All site personnel will be made aware of the key implications of this AMS. The Arboricultural Consultant can give a 'tool-box talk' to site personnel if required to ensure that the tree protection details are fully understood.

As of 2005, Local Planning Authorities have powers to serve Temporary Stop Notices if agreed tree protection measures are not carried out. Adhering to this AMS will ensure that such costly and time consuming action is avoided.

4.2 Pre-Commencement Meeting

A pre-commencement site meeting, involving the Site Manager, the Arboricultural Consultant and the LPA Tree Officer will be held to ensure that all aspects of the tree protection process are understood and agreed.

Any potential problems can be discussed at this stage, along with the exact sequencing of events and the level of arboricultural inspection/supervision required. The Arboricultural Consultant will communicate a record of the meeting to all parties by e-mail.

Matters to be discussed at Pre-Commencement Meeting

- Timing and sequencing of works
- Exact locations and specification for tree protective fencing and ground protection
- Any other arboricultural issues

It will also be useful for all parties to exchange current contact details at the meeting

4.3 Sequencing and Inspection/Supervision

Sequencing of events and effective arboricultural inspection/supervision are important elements of the tree protection process.

In this instance, as there are no incursions within the RPAs of the retained trees, it is not proposed that any of the works be directly supervised on site. The appointed arboricultural consultant will, however, maintain telephone contact with the site manager/building company to ensure that compliance with the AMS is being achieved.

The appointed Arboricultural Consultant will make a record of any visits to the site and will communicate details of each visit to the Client and the LPA. This will provide evidence of compliance and ultimately enable the LPA to discharge the tree related planning condition.

Key Stages with suggested sequencing of works:

- AMS issued to Site Manager/Building Company
- AMS read by all site personnel to ensure full understanding of implications. Any queries addressed by appointed Arboricultural Consultant
- Convening of pre-commencement meeting
- Tree protective fencing erected and ground protection installed as per Tree Protection Plan
- Demolition & construction works carried out

- Tree protective fencing and ground protection removed
- Landscaping works carried out (if any)

Summary of Required Arboricultural Inspection/Supervision:

Activity	Level of monitoring/supervision required
Erection of tree protective fencing and installation of ground protection	Inspection of tree protective fencing and ground protection by appointed arboricultural consultant

4.4 General Site Precautions

The following points will be observed at all times:

- No fires will be lit within 10m of the canopies of retained trees.
- Notice boards, telephone cables or other services will not be attached to any parts of retained trees.
- Site operations will be planned to avoid damage to the aerial parts of trees. Particular care will be taken when using piling rigs and plant with booms, jibs and counterweights.
- Materials that contaminate the soil (e.g. concrete mixings, diesel oil, builders' sand and vehicle washings) will not be permitted to enter the RPAs of retained trees.

4.5 Carrying out of Tree Works

It is not proposed to carry out any tree removal or pruning works in connection with the project.

4.6 Tree Protective Fencing and Ground Protection

Tree protective fencing and ground protection are used to ensure that the RPAs of retained trees are safeguarded.

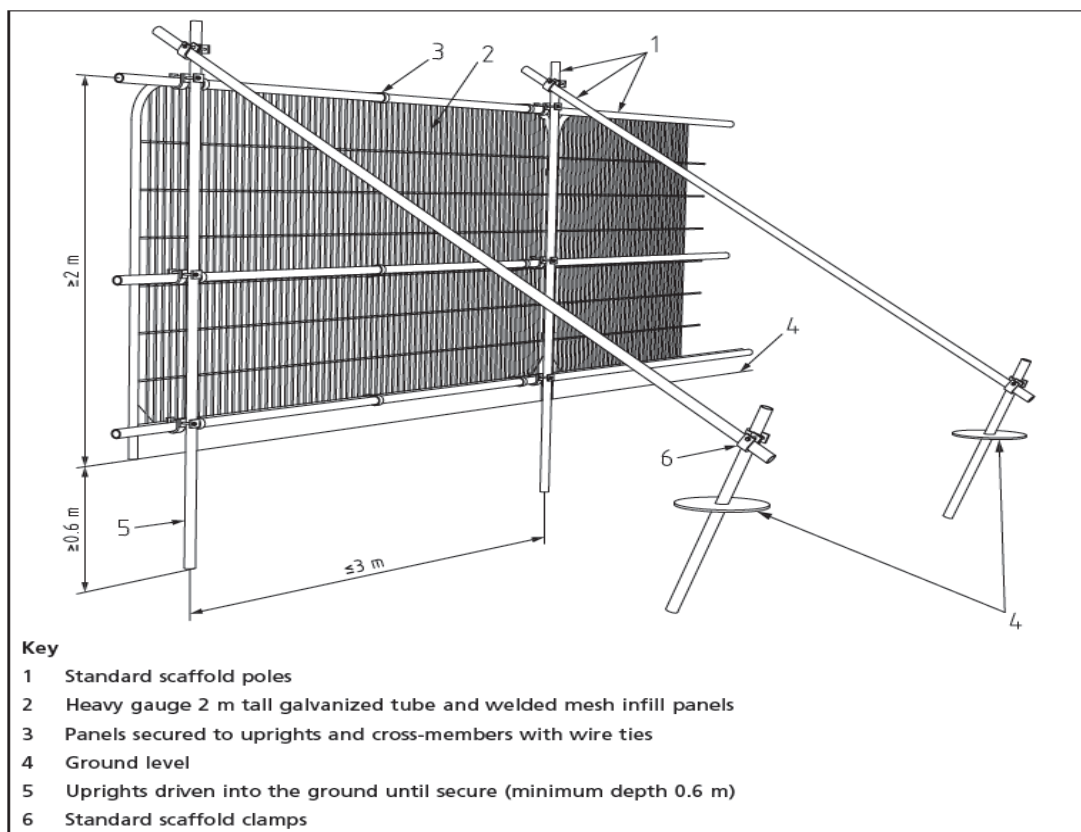
The required tree protective fencing is shown on the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 2). The fencing will remain in position for the duration of the development and will only be moved/altered as agreed in writing by the LPA following arboricultural advice.

The tree protective fencing will be 2.0m Heras fencing as specified in the BS.

The fencing will be supported by a scaffold framework with supporting struts firmed into the ground on the side of the trees.

The purpose of the supports is to prevent the fencing being moved during the development. Clear signs will be attached to the fencing (e.g. Tree Protection Area – Keep Out!).

Tree Protective Fencing Default Specification - BS5837: 2012



Braced Heras Tree Protective Fencing in situ – BS5837: 2012

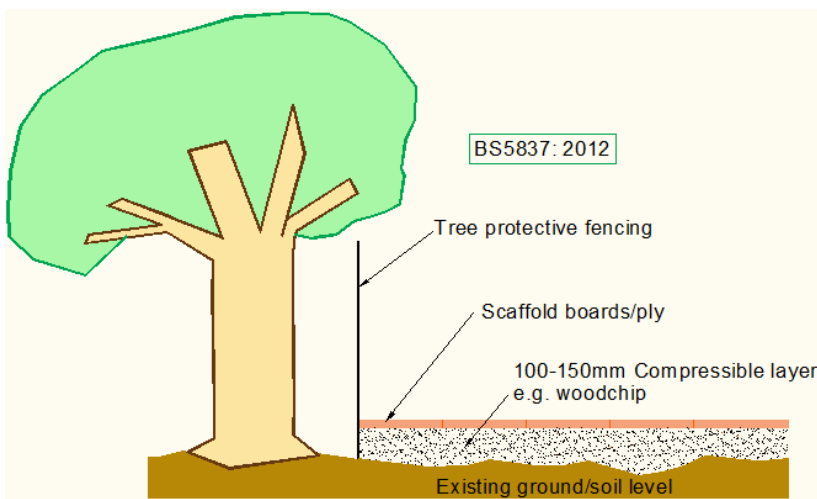


It may *in some cases* be acceptable (e.g. on smaller sites) for rubber or concrete ‘feet’ at the base of heras fencing to be pinned to the ground or for short outriggers to be attached to the fencing and pinned to the ground in lieu of a full scaffold framework. The exact specification of fencing that will be acceptable in this instance can be discussed at the pre-commencement meeting.

Ground protection has also been specified to protect the RPAs of retained trees as shown on the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix 2. To accord with the BS, the specification for the ground protection will be as follows:

- A geotextile membrane on the ground
- 100-150mm depth of a compressible layer (e.g. woodchips)
- Side butting scaffold boards or plywood on top

Schematic of ground protection & example on site



Nb. The above ground protection specification is suitable for loadings up to 2 metric tonnes (2000kg). For wheeled or tracked construction traffic of over 2 tonnes in weight (gross), more substantial ground protection will be required (e.g. Eve Trakway or a similar proprietary system). In this instance, the above specification is likely to be sufficient.

4.7 Site Access and Hard Surfacing.

No hard surfacing is to be removed or installed within the RPAs of retained trees.

4.8 Demolition

No demolition works are to take place within the RPAs of retained trees.

4.9 Underground Services

It will not be necessary to install any new underground services within the RPAs of retained trees.

4.10 Foundations and Construction

No new foundations are to be installed within the RPAs of retained trees.

4.11 Fencing and Landscaping

During the landscaping phase of the project (if any landscaping works take place), the following precautions will be observed:

- Soil within the RPAs of retained trees (and where new tree planting is proposed) will not be compacted. This will preclude the use of heavy plant within RPAs unless suitable ground protection is used
- There will be no changes in ground levels within the RPAs of retained trees
- Unwanted vegetation within the RPAs of retained trees will be removed manually or using contact herbicides that will not damage tree roots
- No underground irrigation or drainage pipes will be installed within the RPAs of retained trees

- Care will be taken when carrying out planting works not to damage the roots of retained trees. All planting pits within RPAs will be dug by hand and hedging will not be trench-planted

If any fence posts are installed within the RPAs of retained trees, excavation will be carried out using hand tools. Posts will be re-positioned if roots in excess of 25mm in diameter are encountered. Post holes will be lined with heavy gauge polythene where concrete is used to safeguard the rooting systems of the trees from the potentially toxic effects of leaching concrete.

4.12 Amendments

Issues may arise on projects of this nature that require amendments to the previously agreed tree protection details. Any amendments to this AMS will be approved in writing by the LPA prior to being implemented. Copies of paperwork relating to any amendments will be communicated by the Arboricultural Consultant to the Client and LPA.

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule





Tree Ref	Common Name	Height	Crown Spread	Crown Height	Age Class	No. of Stems	Stem Diameter	RPA Radius	Vigour	Structural Condition	Landscape Value	BS Cat	Useful Life	Notes & Observations
T1	Lawson Cypress	4	2 2 2	0	SM	1	190	2.3	Normal	Fair	Low	C1	10+	Small Lawson Cypress of modest landscape significance
No. of trees: 1														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												
T2	Cherry	6	4 3 3	2	M	2	380	4.6	Moderate	Poor	Low	C1	10+	Heavily pruned Cherry of modest quality and landscape significance
No. of trees: 1														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												
T3	Leyland Cypress	4	1 1 1	0	SM	1	320	3.8	Normal	Fair	Low	C1	10+	Golden variety clipped in manner of hedging/topiary; of modest landscape significance
No. of trees: 1														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												
G4	Holly & Elder	6	2 2 2	1.5	SM	1	120 m	1.4	Normal	Fair	Low	C1, C2	10+	A small Elder & a small Holly growing close together behind garage; of very modest quality and landscape significance
No. of trees: 2														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												
T5	Silver Birch	10	6 4 5 4	3	SM	1	340 e	4.1	Normal	Fair	Medium	B1	20+	Off-site tree; crown reduced
No. of trees: 1														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												

Tree Survey Schedule Page 2

Tree Ref	Common Name	Height	Crown Spread	Crown Height	Age Class	No. of Stems	Stem Diameter	RPA Radius	Vigour	Structural Condition	Landscape Value	BS Cat	Useful Life	Notes & Observations	
T6	Purple Plum	9	4 ³ / ₃ 6	3	EM	2	380	4.6	Normal	Fair	Low	C1	10+	Heavily pruned with some Phellinus sporophores in crown; of modest quality and landscape significance	
No. of trees: 1															
Recommended Works: No works proposed Reasons for Works: N/A															
T7	Lawson Cypress	5	2 ¹ / ₁ 2	2	SM	1	160	1.9	Normal	Poor	Low	C1	20+	Topped in past and heavily crown lifted; of very modest quality and landscape significance	
No. of trees: 1															
Recommended Works: No works proposed Reasons for Works: N/A															
T8	Cherry	3	1 ² / ₂ 2	1.5	EM	5	150	1.8	Normal	Fair	Low	C1	10+	Small top grafted Cherry of very modest landscape significance	
No. of trees: 1															
Recommended Works: No works proposed Reasons for Works: N/A															
T9	Leyland Cypress	9	3 ⁴ / ₃ 4	2	SM	1	260	3.1	Normal	Poor	Low	C1	20+	Heavily pruned Leyland Cypress of modest quality and landscape significance	
No. of trees: 1															
Recommended Works: No works proposed Reasons for Works: N/A															
T10	Poplar	8	3 ³ / ₂ 2	2.5	SM	2	330	4.0	Normal	Poor	Low	C1	20+	Twin-stemmed, heavily pruned Poplar of modest quality and landscape significance	
No. of trees: 1															
Recommended Works: No works proposed Reasons for Works: N/A															
T11	Hawthorn	6	2 ³ / ₂ 1	2	SM	2	160	1.9	Normal	Poor	Low	C1	20+	Small heavily pruned Hawthorn of modest quality and landscape significance	
No. of trees: 1															
Recommended Works: No works proposed Reasons for Works: N/A															

Tree Survey Schedule Page 3

Tree Ref	Common Name	Height	Crown Spread	Crown Height	Age Class	No. of Stems	Stem Diameter	RPA Radius	Vigour	Structural Condition	Landscape Value	BS Cat	Useful Life	Notes & Observations
T12	Field Maple	7	4 4 5	2.5	SM	1	260	3.1	Normal	Poor	Low	C1	20+	Heavily pruned Field Maple of modest quality and landscape significance
No. of trees: 1														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												
G13	Poplar	18	6 7 9	5	EM	1	360 m	4.3	Normal	Fair	Medium	B1, B2	20+	Group of 3 off-site Poplars growing within belt of protected woodland adjacent to property
No. of trees: 3														
Recommended Works:		No works proposed												
Reasons for Works:		N/A												

Total no. of surveyed trees: 16

Key to Tree Survey Schedule (BS5837: 2012)

Tree Ref. – Consecutive numbering. T = Individual Tree: G = Tree Group: H = Hedge

Species – Common or Latin name for tree

Height – Height of tree in metres

Crown Spread – Radial crown spread in metres at the four cardinal points (N E S W)

Crown Height – Height of lowest parts of crown above ground level in metres

Age Class – Young, Semi-Mature, Early-Mature, Mature, Over-Mature

No. of Stems – Number of stems over 75mm in diameter at 1.5m above ground level

Stem Diameter – Diameter of stem in mm at 1.5m above ground for single stemmed trees. For multi-stemmed trees, equivalent diameter figure calculated as per the BS (e= estimated value; m = mean value)

RPA Radius – The radius of the Root Protection Area of the tree (from the tree centre) in metres

Vigour – An indication of the physiological condition/health of the tree: Normal, Moderate, Poor, Dead

Structural Condition – An assessment of the overall structural condition of the tree: Good, Fair, Poor

Landscape Value – High, Medium, Low

BS Cat – BS5837: 2012 Category. A- High, B- Moderate, C- Low, U- Remove. *For full description of categories see Table 1 of BS5837:2012*

Useful Life – Estimated remaining contribution to the landscape in years

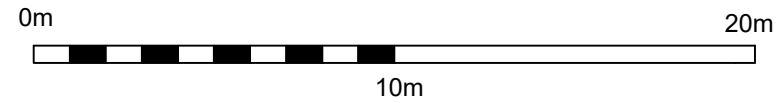
Notes and Observations – miscellaneous notes where it is considered that these may be useful

(Recommended works and reasons for works also given in Tree Survey Schedule).

Appendix 2

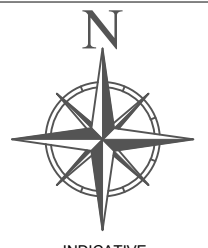
Tree Protection Plan





LPA - Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
 Conservation Area - No
 Tree Preservation Order - Adjacent
 TPO 346/W1 1997

Exg footprint



INDICATIVE

- Root Protection Area (RPA) (ref. BS5837:2012)
- Category A
- Category B
- Category C
- Category U
- Tree to be removed
- Ground protection
- TPF Tree protective fencing

Plan to be printed in colour and to scale

DRAWING TITLE
Tree Protection Plan

7 Elm Grove
 Epsom
 KT18 7LZ

SCALE 1:200 (A3)	DATE 22.02.24	DRAWN BY AP
DRAWING NUMBER TPP/APA/AP/2024/015	REV A	

APArboriculture

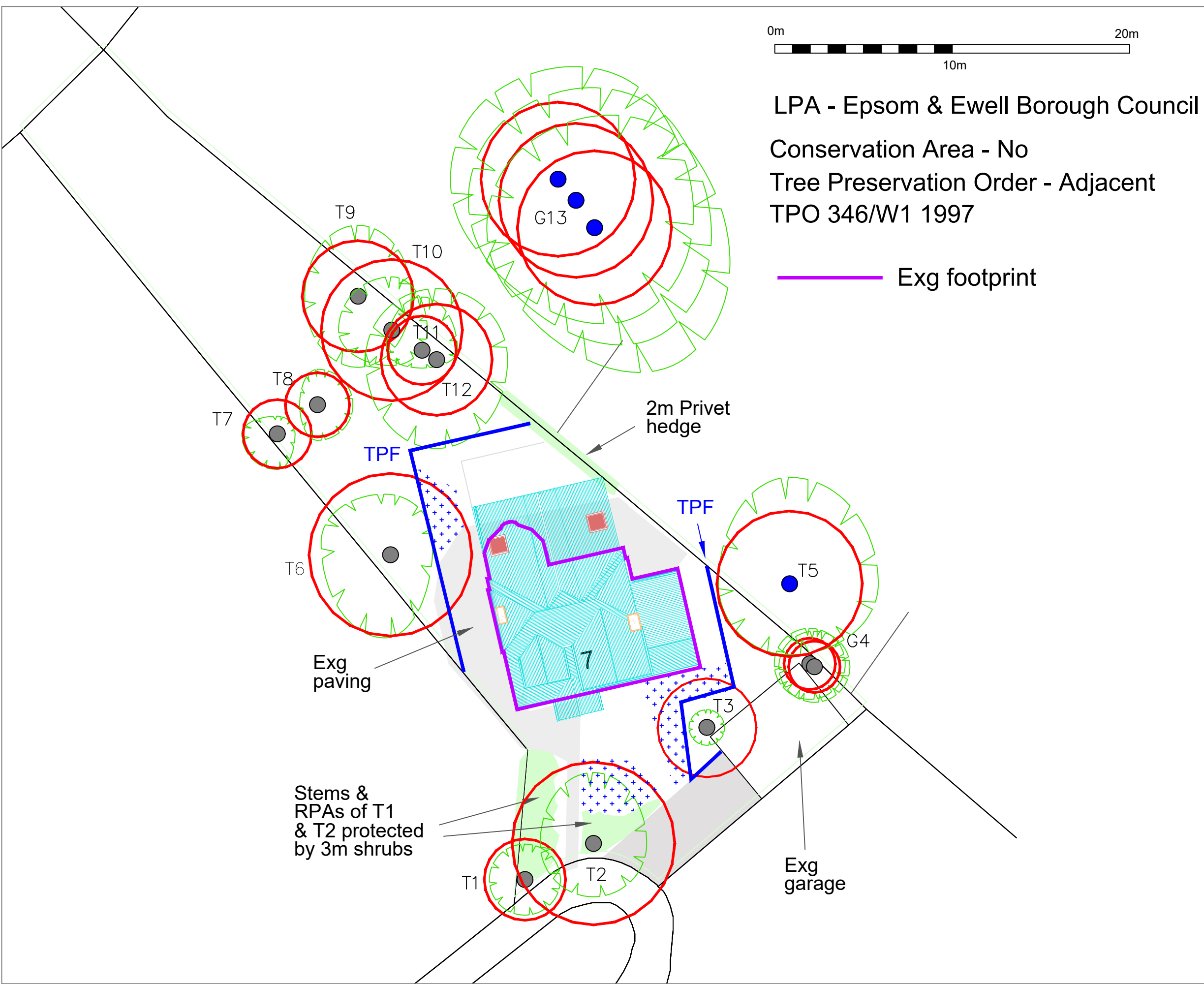
15 Church Street
 Weybridge
 Surrey
 KT13 8NA



Tel: 01932 450104

aparboriculture@gmail.com

www.aparboriculture.co.uk



Stems & RPAs of T1 & T2 protected by 3m shrubs

Exg garage

Exg paving


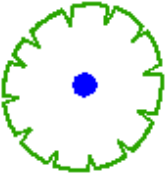


2m Privet hedge

Appendix 3

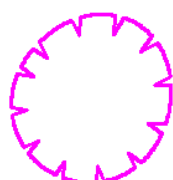
BS5837 Categorisation System



BS5837:2012 Categorisation System (Abbreviated)

<p>Category A</p>		<p><i>Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. Particularly good specimens (A1); Trees, groups or woodlands of particular landscape significance (A2); Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical or commemorative value (A3)</i></p>
<p>Category B</p>		<p><i>Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years. Trees of slightly lower individual quality (B1); Trees of collective value but of lesser overall landscape significance than Category A trees (B2); Trees with material conservation or cultural value (B3)</i></p>
<p>Category C</p>		<p><i>Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. Unremarkable trees of limited merit (C1); Trees, groups or woodlands of low landscape value (C2); Trees with no material conservation or cultural value (C3)</i></p>
<p>Category U</p>		<p>Trees in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years (dead, declining and diseased trees etc.) It will normally be recommended that these trees be removed (unless they have particular conservation/ecological value)</p>

- Category A, B and C trees should be considered for retention
- Although Category C trees are generally of lower overall quality and landscape significance, they may still constitute a material planning constraint
- Category U trees are usually unsuitable for retention



Tree to be removed (Category U trees and other trees where justification can be presented within context of development works being proposed)

The legal protection status of the trees will also be an important consideration regarding retention or otherwise of trees (see Section 2.3 of report)