## Arboricultural Method Statement

This report is a working document to aid in finalising an effective specification for tree-sensitive operations. It must be retained on site and be available to the site manager/foreman as a reference during construction.

The details in this method statement may include work to protected trees, consent for which is deemed to be granted if it is approved as part of a planning decision.

Failure to comply with the details in this arboricultural method statement could result in enforcement action being taken by the local planning authority.

### Tree Surgery

The following work to trees is necessary:

- T1 - Prune overhanging branches to give 2m clearance from proposed building and 4m clearance above the proposed garden areas.

The legal Duty of Care requires that all works specified in this report should be carried out by qualified, arboricultural contractors working according to Health & Safety Executive guidelines. All work must be carried out to arboricultural industry best practice and in accordance with BS 3998:2010 'Tree work - Recommendations'. All tree management work must take account of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. This legislation makes it a criminal offence to disturb the nests and to injure or kill nesting birds or bats.

### Demolition of Existing Building

The existing building must be demolished using 'top down, pull-back' techniques, ensuring that no debris is collapsed onto open ground within the root protection area of T1.

The foundations within the root protection area must be left in situ. Where this is not practicable, the foundations must be broken up using a pneumatic drill and the pieces removed using a digger fitted with a toothless bucket. The digger must not be positioned on open ground within the root protection area. This operation must be supervised by the project arboriculturist.

### Removal of Existing Hard Surfacing / Ground Slabs

The existing hard surfacing and ground slabs within the root protection area of T1 must be broken up using a pneumatic drill or hand tools and removed from the site carefully. No vehicles are permitted onto any exposed ground. Debris from this operation must not be placed within any exposed tree root protection area. This operation must be supervised by the project arboriculturist.

At this time, if any roots are encountered they must be cut back beyond the area of disturbance in accordance with BS 3998:2010 'Tree work - Recommendations'. Where roots of diameter greater than 25mm are encountered the project arboriculturist must advise on the appropriateness of pruning before any severance is carried out.

### Tree Protection Fencing

Tree protection fencing, complying with figure 2 of British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations', must be erected in the position shown on the plan prior to commencement of construction site and remain as an effective barrier and in position until the end of the construction phase or until the project arboriculturist, or local planning authority provides written authority for its removal.

See illustration below for specification of the tree protection fencing to be erected on the site.

### Temporary Ground Protection

In the area shown hatched in blue on the plan, the existing hard surface / ground slabs should ideally be retained to act as protection for underlying roots. If not, temporary ground protection must be laid in this area prior to the commencement of construction.

Where there is no scaffolding in place, this can be formed in one of two ways:

i) Lay geotextile fabric onto the existing ground and add a 100mm layer of compressible materials, such as bark mulch or sharp sand, then scaffold boards on top to create a level working surface. Edging boards can be used to retain the loose material, if necessary.

ii) Lay load-spreading mats over the area and pin them in place or connect them together with proprietary clips, to form a continuous working surface.

Where scaffolding is in place, an alternative option is to add an extra lift of scaffolding at ground level to create a suspended footway, with geotextile fabric on the ground beneath to prevent contamination from cement/concrete materials.

Whichever method is used, the ground protection must remain in position for the entire duration of the construction phase or until the project arboriculturist, or local planning authority provides written authority for its removal.

See illustrations below for specifications of temporary ground protection.

### Pre-Commencement Site Meeting

Following installation of the above protection measures, a pre-commencement site meeting must be held at which the site manager, the project arboriculturist and, if required by condition, a representative from the local planning authority are present to discuss the tree protection measures.

### Excavations for Foundations

Within the upper 600mm of the soil profile, all excavation along the solid magenta line shown on the plan, opposite, must be carried out carefully by hand. Below this depth, if no significant roots are encountered, a mini excavator with toothless bucket may be used.

At this time, if any roots are encountered they must be cut back to 50mm beyond the area of disturbance in accordance with BS 3998:2010 'Tree work - Recommendations'. Roots must be cut cleanly, to minimise the exposed root surface. Where roots of diameter greater than 25mm are encountered the project arboriculturist must be consulted before any pruning takes place.

Foundation trenches must be lined with heavy-duty polythene sheeting prior to backfilling to prevent any direct contact between roots and chemicals that could affect tree health.

### General Construction Management

There must be no changes to soil levels within tree root protection areas.

**There must be no construction machinery and no storage of materials or concrete / cement mixing to the rear of the proposed building.**

Fires must not be set within the site.

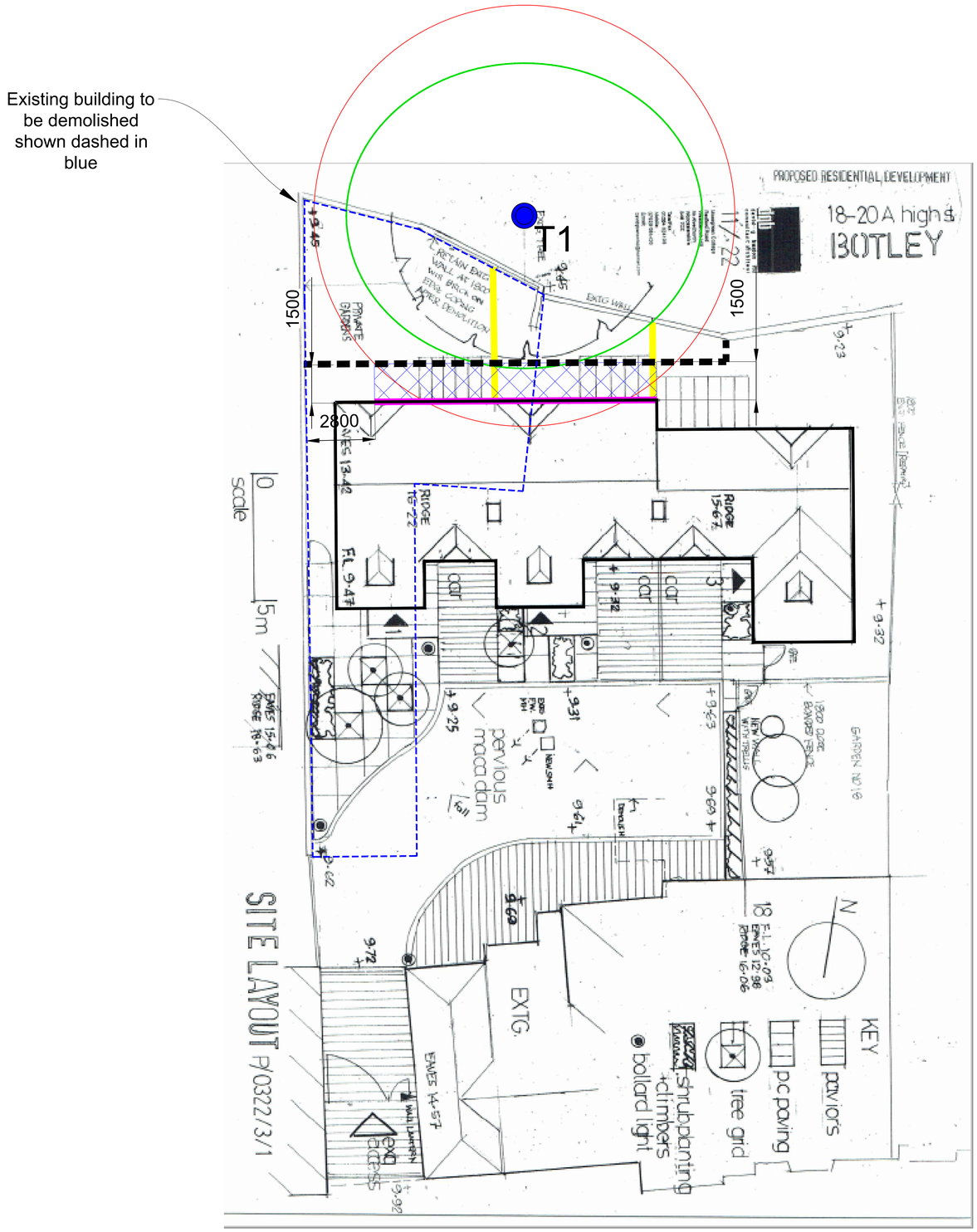
Cranes must only be used where there is no possibility of them damaging overhanging branches.

### Installation of New Boundary Fencing

Excavations for fence posts along the yellow lines shown on the plan, opposite, must be carried out using hand tools only. Any roots of diameter greater than 25mm must be retained and post positions adjusted to avoid damage to these roots. The project arboriculturist must advise on the appropriateness of root pruning before any significant roots are pruned.

Any root severance that is necessary as part of this operation must be carried out by hand using hand tools only and in accordance with BS 3998:2010 'Tree Work - Recommendations'. Roots must be cut cleanly back to 50mm beyond the area of disturbance, to minimise the exposed root surface, and covered with a soil prior to backfilling.

All post holes within root protection areas must be lined with heavy-duty polythene sheeting to prevent any direct contact between roots and chemicals that could affect tree health.

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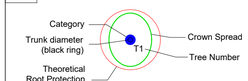
| | |
|---|---|
| Title: | Tree Protection Plan & Arboricultural Method Statement |
| Site: | Land rear of 18-20a High Street |
| TC Ref: | DS/62623/AC |
| Date: | 21 February 2023 |
| Scale: | 1:100 @ A1 (approx) |

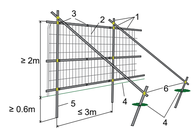
Plan TC1

**Key:**



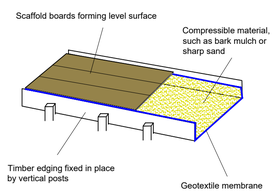

| British Standard 5837:2012 Categories | |
|---|---|
| 'A' category trees are those of high quality. | |
| 'B' category trees are those of moderate quality. | |
| 'C' category trees are those of low quality or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. | |
| 'U' category trees are those that are unsuitable for retention. | |
| Tree protection fencing to be erected prior to the commencement of any works on the site. | |
| Temporary ground protection to be installed prior to the commencement of any works on the site. | |
| Area where foundations must be excavated in accordance with method statement. | |
| Area where boundary treatment must be installed in accordance with method statement. | |

**Tree Protection Fencing Specification**




Key:
1. Standard scaffold poles.
2. Heavy gauge 2m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels.
3. Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties.
4. Ground level.
5. Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6m).
6. Standard scaffold clamps.

**Temporary Ground Protection Specification**




**Picture of typical ground mat to be used**

**Illustration of temporary ground protection installed in combination with scaffolding**

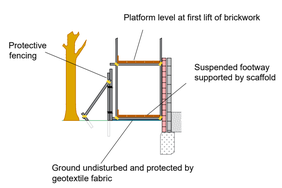
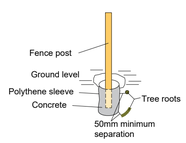



**Illustration of fence post installation**




**Limitations of Use**

This plan is based on the topographical and site layout plans provided. All measurements must be checked with these plans and appropriate documents.

This plan has been prepared in colour. If printed in black and white some details may be obscured.

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