

Date: 10th February 2026
Ref: 5579_9103_AMSA_Hampshire Constabulary Netley
To: -
From: David Cox
Pages: 2 inc. this page
Regarding: Netley Police Training Facility – Post hole methods

Lakesbury House, Hiltingbury Road
Hampshire SO53 5SS
T +44 2380 810 440

Hampshire Constabulary – Arboricultural Method Statement (Addendum)

This document seeks to vary a small element of the approved Arboricultural Method Statement (refer to section 9.4 from document *SS23671-P-EBC-Netley Police Training Centre-AMS-1.1*) associated with the development at Netley Police Training Facility.

The purpose of this addendum is to clarify the approach to post-hole excavation within proximity of retained trees and to ensure all works remain compliant with the principles of BS5837:2012 and the approved planning documents.

Within the aforementioned report, within section 9.4 it states: - *Hand dig or hand-auger any new fence post holes*. Practically speaking, this statement does not accommodate the various post hole instances found within such a large-scale project. Of note, many post holes are far from treed situations.

This addendum seeks to provide a practical, but arboriculturally focussed approach to the installation of post holes. These methods will be employed where within proximity of trees >150mm stem diameter, and any tree or shrub which exists below this stem size will be worked around using normal, reasonable construction methods.

Post-Hole Excavation Recommendations

- **Post holes within 1 metre of tree trunks**
Ideally, avoid all post holes within 1m of a retained tree. If unviable to do so, all excavations within 1m of any retained tree trunk are to be hand dug only, using non-mechanical tools to avoid root damage. Any visible roots (<25mm diameter) which are encountered will be retained and worked around. Any retained root will be protected with an organic cover (e.g. hessian) from concrete damage.
- **Post holes within 3 metres of tree trunks**
Excavations within 3m of tree trunks will be assessed on site by the appointed contractor/site supervisor. Depending on root presence and ground conditions, excavation may be carried out by hand digging or by mechanical augering, subject to arboricultural approval.
- **Post holes beyond 6 metres from tree trunks**
All post-hole excavations located more than 6m from any tree trunk may be completed using mechanical augering, as the risk of significant root presence is minimal.

Planning Reference

- Planning was permitted on 03/04/2025, as per document *F_25_98808 PL_Final Decision*.
- All works shall be undertaken in accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement (*SS23671-P-EBC-Netley Police Training Centre-AMS-1.1*) and the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (*SS23671-P-EBC-Netley Police Training Centre-AIA-1.1*) as per *Planning Condition 8*, except where varied by this addendum and subsequently approved.

General Notes

All contractors must review this addendum prior to the commencement of related works, and any unexpected root encounters or constraints must be reported to the supervising arboriculturist for further instruction. Refer to illustrative diagram below.

