

Arboricultural Method Statement (part 1 of 2)

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 works to trees are necessary:

- Fell the following trees to ground level;
T3, oak. Fell to facilitate layout.
T5, birch. Dead. Unsafe.
T8, sycamore. Unsafe.
T12g, trees k, l. Unsafe. (2 trees).
T12g, tree m. Fell to facilitate layout. (1 tree).
T13g, Lawson cypresses. Fell to benefit adjacent trees. (3 trees).
T17, willow. Unsafe.
T20g, Lawson cypresses. Fell to facilitate layout. (2 trees).
T25g, sycamores. Fell to facilitate layout. (7 trees).
- Prune the following trees; T2, oak. Prune eastern crown back to strong growing points by approx 2m.

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.

Tree Protection Fencing

Tree protection fencing, complying with British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations', must be erected in the positions shown on the plan, opposite, prior to commencement of demolition and remain as an effective barrier and in position until the end of the demolition 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.

Pre-Commencement Site Meeting

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.

General Construction Management

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

A suggested area for material storage, site office and worker facilities is shown on the plan. Final siting of cabins must be discussed and agreed at the time of the pre-commencement site meeting.

No fires are permitted to be set within the site.

Cement mixing must be carried out only where there is no significant risk of contamination of tree root systems. No cement mixing is allowed within 10m of trees to be retained. If cement mixing is unavoidable within 10m of any retained tree it must be contained in a bunded area, as illustrated below.

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

Installation of New Boundary Fencing

Excavations for fencing posts along the yellow line 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.

Excavations for Ground Screws

Prior to the installation of the ground screws, openings must be made in the existing hard standing for each pile. A Fakopp Tree Detector system can then be set up in each hole, connecting to each of the nearby trees, and a test carried out to determine if there are any significant roots present near the hole. Where the result of these tests indicates roots are present the position of that hole must be adjusted to avoid damage to the tree root.

If no Fakopp Tree Detector is available, then, prior to the installation of any ground screw foundation within any tree root protection area, an exploratory hole must be hand dug to a depth of 600mm to establish the presence of roots. The exploratory hole must be repositioned if significant roots (diameter >25mm) are encountered. The underside of the supporting beams for the garage structure and the internal floor (RC slab) must be suspended above existing ground levels and spanned across the installed piles to avoid damage to tree roots. A void / air gap must be maintained beneath the internal floor (see cross section, opposite).

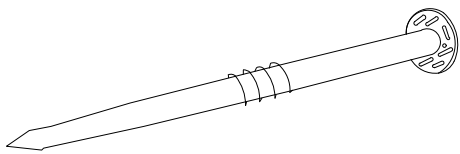
Aeration/Irrigation within the garden room footprint

Lengths of 60mm diameter perforated HDPE pipe must be laid beneath the garage footprint. Each end of the pipe must be connected to a downpipe, at opposite ends of the garage roof. This will redirect rainwater off the roof of the garage and allow it to reach existing tree roots beneath the garden room footprint. The soil beneath the garage must not be disturbed during this operation.

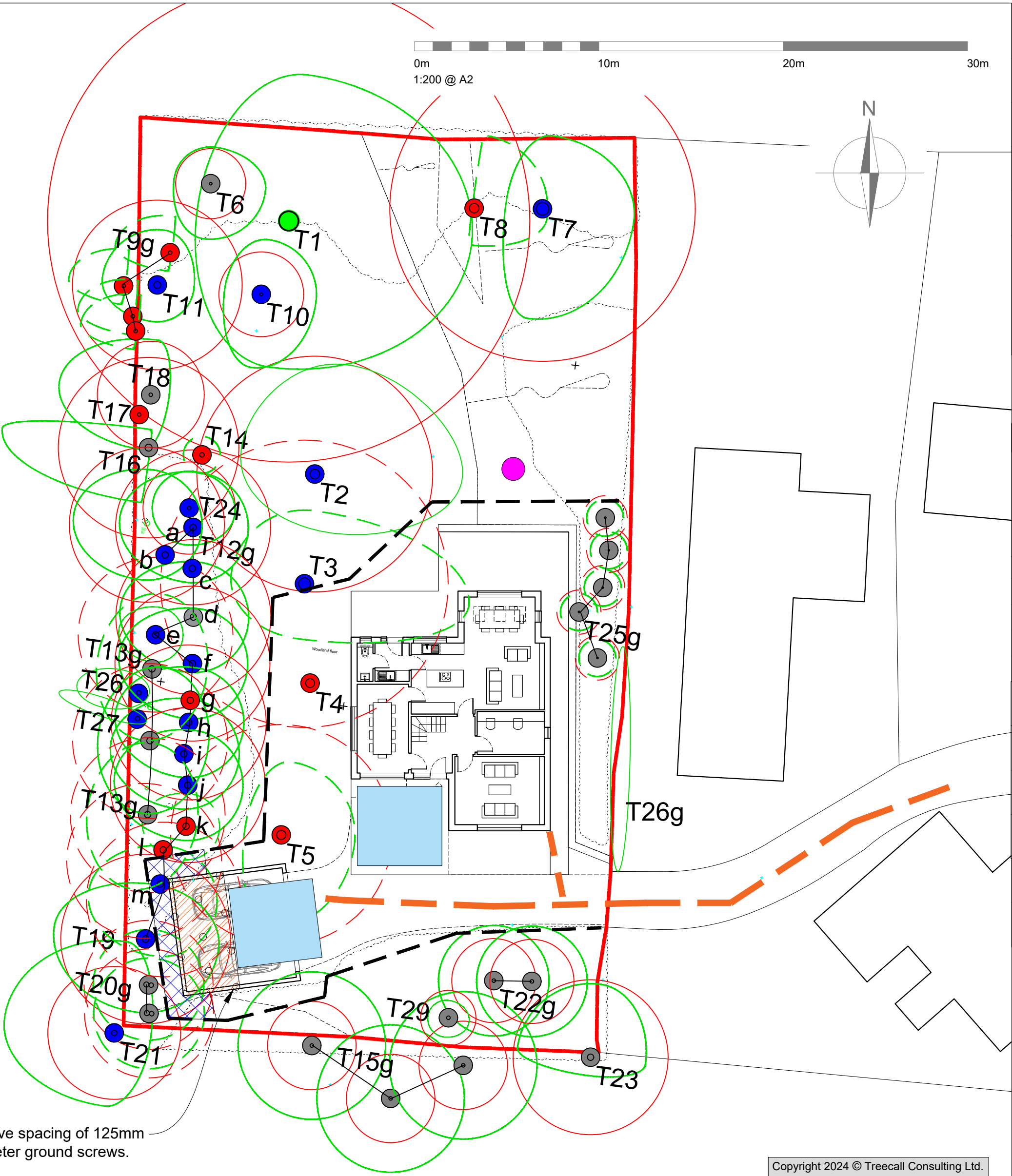
Single size gravel or shingle (no fines) must be backfilled around the pipe within the footprint of the garage.

As water passes along these pipes it will percolate into the ground below. Air will be sucked in to replace the water as it sinks through the soil spaces and this aids the respiration of roots. It is important that the pipe at each end are connected to the downpipes as this maintains a draught through the system.

Illustration of 125mm Helical pile (Great British Ground Screw)



Illustrative spacing of 125mm diameter ground screws.



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Title:	Tree Constraints Plan with Pre-Application Comments	
Site:	Land adjacent Boundary Acres	
TC Ref:	DS/19924/SC	
Date:	27 September 2024	
Scale:	1:200 @ A2	

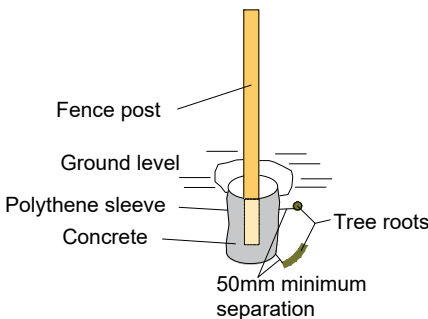
Trees to be removed
(shown with dashed crown spreads and root protection areas):
U Category trees (unsafe): T4, T5, T8, T12g (trees k & l), T17.
C Category trees to be removed for Layout:
T20g (2 trees), T25g (~7 trees).
C Category trees to be removed for good management:
T13g (3 trees)
B Category trees to be removed for Layout:
T3, T12g (tree m).

Key:	
Category	
Trunk diameter (black ring)	
Theoretical Root Protection Area	

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.

Suggested area for materials & worker facilities.	
Tree protection fencing to be erected prior to the commencement of any works on the site.	
Suggested route for new underground services.	
Suggested location for new soakaways.	
Temporary ground protection to be installed prior to the commencement of any works on the site.	
Area of garage footprint requiring ground screw piles and irrigation/aeration pipes.	

Illustration of fence post installation



Underground Services

Excavations for underground services must be carried out in a way that avoids significant damage to tree root systems. At the time of planning this installation work the project arboriculturist must be consulted.

Deep service runs (depth greater than 600mm) must be installed using trenchless insertion methods, such as moling, with entry and retrieval pits being located outside of tree root protection areas. This will reduce the likelihood of the mole encountering significant tree roots. Shallow service runs (depth less than 600mm) required within any tree root protection area must be dug using the guidance provided by National Joint Utilities Group Volume 4 'Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees'.

Surface water drains and soakaways must be located outside tree root protection areas to avoid damage to roots during excavation. Suitable locations for new soakaways and a suggested route for new services are shown on the plan.

PROHIBITED ZONE - 1m from trunk.

Excavations of any kind must not be undertaken within this zone unless full consultation with Local Authority Tree Officer is undertaken. Materials, plant and spoil must not be stored within this zone.

PRECAUTIONARY ZONE - 4 x tree circumference.

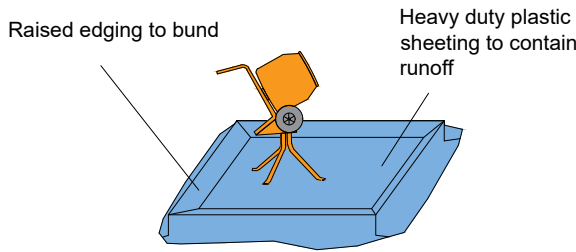
Where excavations must be undertaken within this zone the use of mechanical excavation plant should be prohibited. Precautions should be undertaken to protect any exposed roots. Materials, plant and spoil should not be stored within this zone. Consult with local authority tree officer if in any doubt.

PERMITTED ZONE - outside of precautionary zone.

Excavation works may be undertaken within this zone however caution must be applied and the use of mechanical plant limited. Any exposed roots should be protected.

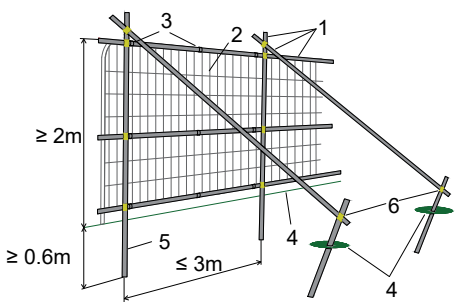
(Source: NJUG Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees - Issue 2)

Illustration of bunded cement mixing area



Cement, builder's sand and other chemicals used in cement mixing must all be stored on non-permeable surfaces to ensure soil beneath is not contaminated.

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.

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