

Tree Protection Advice (TPA1)

Examples of Standard Barriers

Protective barriers are not to be moved without written consent from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and any adjustments should be under direct supervision of the project Arboriculturist to maintain the Root Protection Area (RPA) of each tree. No materials, chemicals, machinery or vehicles must be stored within the protected area as defined on the Tree Protection Plan.

KEY

- Standard scaffold poles
- Heavy gauge 2m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- Panel's secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
- Ground level
- Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 1.0m)
- Standard scaffold clamps

Extract from BS5837:2012 Figure 2—Default specifications for tree protective fencing.

Image 1: Scaffold and Heras panels can provide standard protection that is fit for purpose.

Tree protection and site monitoring

Planning, communication and preliminary timing of events

Site managers, clearance and construction teams are normally expected to deliver the tree protection requirements shown on this plan, so it will be important for these relevant parties to be involved at the earliest stages of site works. In this context, a pre-commencement site meeting is critical to understand the necessary tree protection requirements for this site to avoid unnecessary tree harm.

The table below summarises the important elements of site supervision/monitoring:-	
Pre-commencement site meeting	A pre-commencement meeting must be held on site before any of the site clearance/demolition or construction works start. This should be attended by the contractor's site manager or agent, the project arboriculturist and (if available) the tree officer. The methods of tree protection outlined in this report must be fully discussed at this meeting so that all aspects of their implementation and sequencing are made clear to all parties. Any clarifications or modifications must be recorded and circulated to all parties in writing.
Arboriculturist's role	- Liaise with developer and LPA to ensure that appropriate protective measures are in place before any works start on site - Inspect the site to check that the arboricultural conditions have been complied with and advise where day to day tree problems arise - Advise on the issue of work instructions relating to arboricultural matters
Frequency of visits	As agreed at the pre-commencement meeting
Reporting	The site manager will be advised in writing at the time of the visit of any relevant points to be followed up with a formal letter of confirmation
Communication	LPA and developer to be copied relevant correspondence

Site monitoring checklist: The following site monitoring checklist is an aide-memoire for all pre-commencement and site supervision visits. After each visit, it, or something similar, should be circulated to all relevant parties and kept as a record to demonstrate that all site operations have been compliant with the approved tree protection requirements, and to satisfy the discharge of planning conditions.

Pre-commencement	Compliant Y/N	Action
Acceptable demolition/site clearance works		
Tree works undertaken/additional requirements		
Method statement/tree protection plan available on site		
Suitable locations for welfare and material storage etc		
Suitable space available for vehicle access etc		
Services/soakaway locations agreed		
Tree protection/precautions	Compliant Y/N	Action
Protective fencing		
Ground protection		
Temporary surfacing		
New surfacing/reinstatement of existing		
Structures in RPAs		
Hand digging to install services		
Soft/hard landscaping		
Soil amelioration requirements		
Any other precautionary measures required within RPAs		
Outcome of meeting	Y/N	Action
Can the development lawfully start/continue?		
Are changes required on site to comply with approved tree protection plan?		

Low Impact Structures

Installation principles: New structures in RPAs are potentially damaging to trees because they may disturb the soil and disrupt the existing exchange of water and gases in and out of it. Mature and over-mature trees are much more prone to suffer because of these changes than young and maturing trees. Adverse impact on trees can be reduced by minimising the extent of these changes in RPAs. This can be done by constructing the main structures above ground level on piled supports and redirecting water to where it is needed. The detailed design and specification of such structures is an engineering issue that should be informed and guided by tree expertise. Where work is required around existing and new structures, the RPAs exposed by the work must be protected as set out in BS 5837 until there is no risk of damage from the development activity.

Root bridge system: Factory modular load supporting systems are available from specialist manufacturers that can integrate into many customised situations with trees. These usually consist of adaptable steel lattice constructions, supported on a foundation of screw piles, and can be carefully positioned between the main roots in the RPA. With a low structure height, the system can be implemented with minimal impact and loads of up to 57kN are then absorbed by the structure rather than the roots. Further guidance and information is available from GreenGrid Systems at www.greengridsystems.com and a useful case study showing a beam base for a carport and patio can be found at <https://greengridsystems.com/case-studies/beam-base-for-garage>. They can also be contacted by email info@greengridsystems.com or by telephone 01962 433460 for further help and guidance.

The actual specification of the structure is an engineering issue that needs to be considered in the context of the bearing capacity of the soil, the intended loading and the frequency of loading.

Proposed Foundation Layout

Title:	Job No: 240913	Job: NEW DWELLING AT BIRCHWOOD GARDENS, HEDGE END,SOUTHAMPTON.	AD Civil & Structural Engineers		
PROPOSED FOUNDATION LAYOUT STRUCTURAL G.A. SUMMARY	Date: DEC '25	Drawn: AD	Checked: -	Scale: N.T.S	
Drp No: 240913/100P	Status: PRELIMINARY	Rev - P			

Tree Protection Guidance

Ground Protection

In all cases, the objective should be to avoid compaction of the soil from the constant foot traffic and heavy vehicles, especially in wet conditions, so that tree root functions remain unimpaired. New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil. Where construction working space or temporary construction access is justified within the RPA, this should be facilitated by a set-back in the alignment of the tree protection barrier. In such areas, suitable existing hard surfacing that is not proposed for re-use as part of the finished design should be retained to act as temporary ground protection during construction, rather than being removed during demolition. The suitability of such surfacing for this purpose should be evaluated by the project arboriculturist and an engineer, as appropriate.

Ground protection examples:

Image 1: Mulch underneath plyboards can be adequate protection for foot traffic purposes.

Image 2: Bespoke boards designed to fit around the build area are sturdy and useful where small extensions are being installed, or access is required.

Key:	
T001	Trees - colour coded by BS 5837 Category
●	BS category A Trees of high quality
●	BS category B Trees of moderate quality
●	BS category C Trees of low quality
●	BS category U Trees unsuitable for retention
○	Notional BS 5837 RPA boundaries
○	Offset BS 5837 RPAs taking account of pre-existing barriers to root growth
○	Tree canopies
○	Existing layout
○	Proposed layout
○	Construction exclusion zone (CEZ) to be protected by fencing
○	Ground protection
○	Precautionary area
○	Areas available for storage of materials outside RPAs

For further information, refer to the WT tree schedule. Do not scale from this drawing (unless for planning purposes), please check all dimensions on site, and notify us of any discrepancies. Wadey Trees Ltd cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies in the topographical plan on which this drawing is based. © Wadey Trees Ltd 2020. This drawing is designed to reflect only the principles of layout and/or design inside as these relate to the protection of trees to be retained, and should NOT be read as a definitive engineering or construction method statement. Reference should be made to the architect or structural engineer, as appropriate, over any matters of construction detail or specification, or any engineering standards or regulatory requirements relating to proposed structures, hard surfaces or underground services.

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