

Received by Ashfield District Council

22.01.2026



Location:  
**Coxmoor Road,  
Sutton-in-Ashfield**

Report Type:  
**Arboricultural Method Statement  
inc. Impact Assessment**

Ref:  
**ARB/CP/3517**

Date:  
**January 2025**



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# 1 Introduction

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1.1 This arboricultural method statement has been prepared by Charles Prowse of Elliott Consultancy Ltd at the request of the client. It will provide details regarding the retention and protection of trees during the proposed construction works at Coxmoor Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

1.2 **Scope of the report:**

- This method statement provides arboricultural information and advice in relation to the proposed construction works at Coxmoor Road, as detailed within Appendix 4.
- It will outline any trees to be removed prior to development and those to be retained along with any pruning required. Also provided are details of all measures recommended for adequate tree protection including any special construction measures to be utilised.
- It should be used to guide the construction process in order to minimise potential damage to retained trees.
- It will detail, within the Arboricultural Tasks Sequence Table (Appendix 1), a timescale for implementation of these tree works and protective measures in reference to the development period.
- A survey of the trees, conforming to British Standard 5837 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' 2012 was undertaken on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2024.
- The locations of the trees upon the Tree Constraints Plan (Appendix 3) and Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 4) are as per the positions indicated upon the topographical plan provided by the client.
- As the proposed layout plans are currently indicative, this method statement and supporting tree protection plan will need to be updated once the detailed layout has been drafted.

1.3 **Prior to site works commencing, especially ground preparation, this Arboricultural Method Statement needs to be given to the site manager and used as reference during the development period, with particular attention paid Sections 5-7, and Appendices 1, 2, 4-8.**

## 2 Site Information

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- 2.1 The area surveyed and the extent of which is covered by this method statement is land to the north of Bellever, Coxmoor Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield. Figure 1 shows the extent of the area.

**Figure 1: Area Covered (highlighted)**



Map data ©Google Imagery

- 2.2 The survey area, which measures approximately 0.57ha, is a paddock enclosed by fences and hedgerows. The paddock is open to the garden of Bellever at the southeast corner.
- 2.3 The trees and hedgerows are mostly located towards the perimeter of the site. A small number of trees are located within adjacent properties but have an influence within the site. Details of these trees are annotated upon the Tree Constraints Plan (Appendix 3) and Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 4.
- 2.4 According to checks made using Ashfield District Council's website the site is not located within a conservation area, nor are any of the trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders.

### 3 Tree Category Evaluation

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- 3.1 The criteria used for evaluating how suitable each tree is for retention within a development is that suggested within BS5837:2012.
- 3.2 BS5837:2012 notes that all trees apart from those with stem diameters <150mm or classified as Category U should be considered for retention and viewed as a potential site constraint. When inspected, each tree and or group feature is assigned one of four categories that signify how suitable that tree/group would be for retention within any development proposals, and therefore the degree to which it should constrain the site. The four categories are as follows:
- 3.2.1 **Category A** (coloured green) trees are those of high quality and value, and of a condition whereby they could make a substantial contribution to the site. The retention of Category A trees should be considered during the design phase and afforded adequate physical protection during the construction phase in accordance with BS 5837:2012 where retained. This means keeping proposed features and alterations to ground levels outside of root protection areas and crown spreads so as to ensure that the tree remains in an adequate condition post-development. Root protection areas and crown spreads are displayed upon the Tree Constraints Plan, Appendix 3. One individually surveyed tree was classified as Category A.
- 3.2.2 **Category B** (coloured blue) trees are those of moderate quality and value, and of a condition that they make a substantial contribution to the site. The retention of Category B trees should be considered during the design phase and afforded adequate physical protection during the construction phase in accordance with BS 5837:2012 where retained. Four individual trees, two groups of trees and three hedgerows were classified as Category B.
- 3.2.3 **Category C** (coloured grey) trees are considered to be of low quality and value, but of an adequate condition to remain in the short-term. Trees with a stem diameter of less than 150mm (measured at 1.5m above ground level) are classified as Category C; these trees should also be retained where possible but where they form a significant constraint to development their removal should be permitted. Where they are to be retained, they should be afforded adequate consideration during the design phase and physical protection during the construction phase in accordance with BS 5837:2012. Three trees, and four groups were classified as Category C.

3.2.4 **Category U** (coloured red) trees are of such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years. As a result, it is recommended that Category U trees are not considered a constraint for development and are removed prior to construction commencing. None of the trees were classified as Category U.

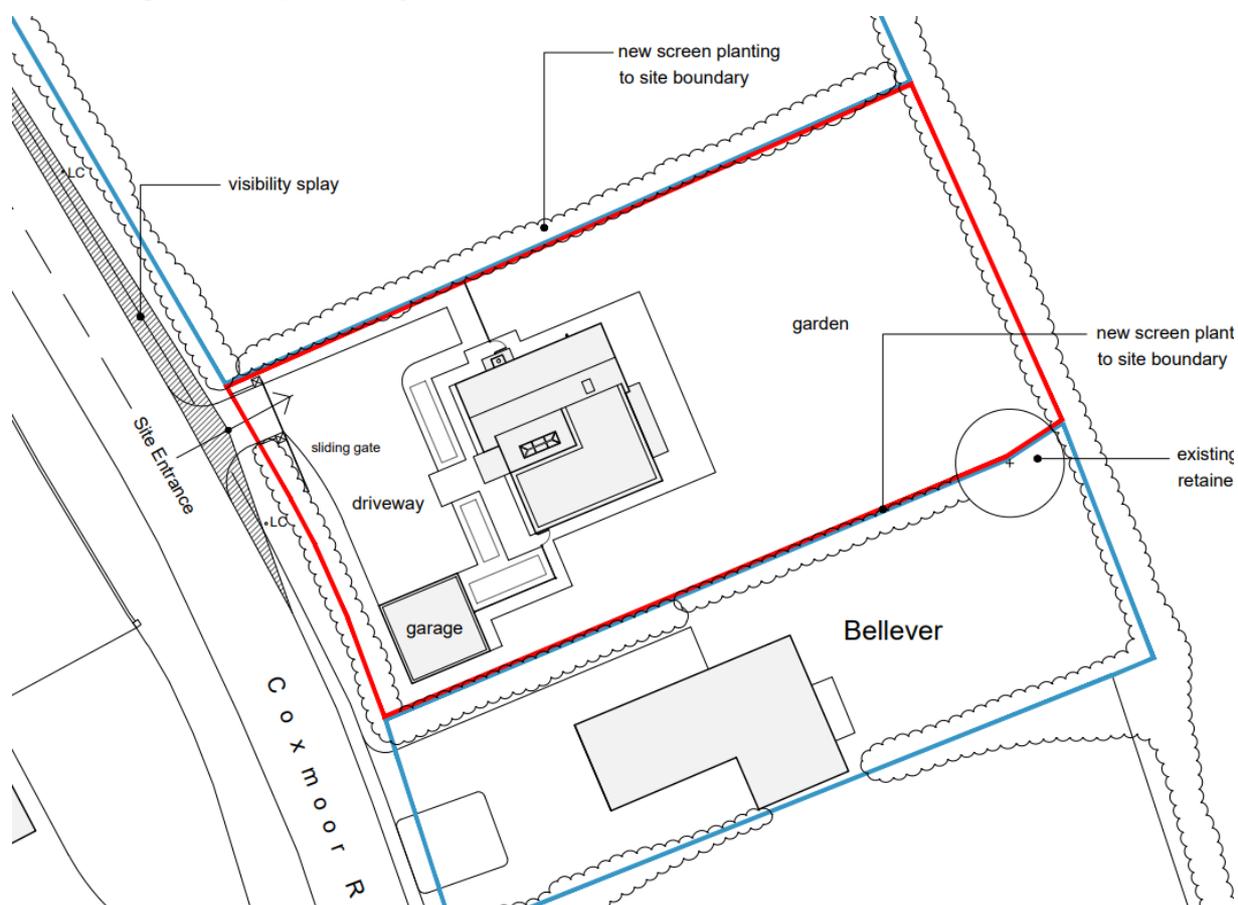
3.2.5 In addition to the four main categories explained above, each tree/group is assigned a sub-category which signifies its overriding value as determined by the surveyor, which is noted by adding a suffix of 1, 2 or 3 alongside the category letter. 1 signifies that the trees/groups main value is arboricultural e.g. it may be a particularly good example or may be rare. 2 signifies that the overriding factor was due to the landscape value that the tree/group provides e.g. it may be part of a group feature such as a screen. 3 indicates that a cultural factor was the overriding value e.g. it may have historical or commemorative importance.

<b>Summary of Categories Awarded</b>			
<b>Note: Prefix 'N' denotes tree located within adjacent property</b>			
Category	Tree Numbers	Group Numbers	Hedgerow Numbers
<b>A</b>	N3		
<b>B</b>	1-3, N1	1, 6	1-3
<b>C</b>	4, 5, N2	2-5	
<b>U</b>			

## 4 Design Proposals Arboricultural Impact

- 4.1 This section concentrates on the proposed development and how it relates to the current tree population within the site. Any conflict issues between the proposed layout and existing trees are discussed and remedial options, where possible, suggested.
- 4.2 As displayed within Figure 2, and in greater detail upon Appendix 4, it is proposed that a single residential property with supporting infrastructure will be constructed within the site.

**Figure 2: Proposed Layout**



### 4.3 Conflict 1: Loss of trees due to the proposed layout

Construction of the proposed layout will necessitate the removal of a small section of one hedgerow. We would also recommend the removal of one group of trees.

**Mitigation / Countermeasure:** Hedgerow 1, classified as Category B, comprised of hawthorn and well managed, runs adjacent to the western boundary. It was classified as Category B. A small section of it, perhaps 1.5m in length, would need to be removed to create the access into the property. Removal of Group 4, classified as

Category C, would enable a cohesive hedgerow to be established between the two properties. From an arboricultural perspective the magnitude of impact from the losses required is deemed to be very low and one that can be mitigated by the proposed hedgerow planting between the two properties

#### 4.4 **Conflict 2: Construction within close proximity to trees.**

There are some proposed structures within or close to root protection areas and crown spreads of trees within the site.

**Mitigation / Countermeasure:** The access path around the southern elevation of the proposed building enters into the root protection area of Hedgerow 3. At present the plans are indicative so it should be possible to design out any such encroachment issues when the detailed plans are drafted. Either way, the encroachment as currently indicated is very minor and would not negatively impact the condition of the hedgerow.

#### 4.5 **Potential Conflict 3: Location of utilities runs with Root Protection Areas.**

Damage can be caused to root tissue during the installation of utilities runs.

**Mitigation / Countermeasure:** New utility runs must not be located within any of the retained tree's root protection areas. Any works to existing utilities will be undertaken with regard for the retained tree cover and will be in accordance with NJUG (National Joint Utility Groups) guidelines. The method statement will need to be updated when detailed plans with underground utilities are available.

#### 4.6 **Potential Conflict 4: Damage to trees within site during demolition and construction.**

Trees may be damaged due to a variety of reasons during a demolition and development process.

**Mitigation / Countermeasure:** A physical demarcation will be created between the retained trees and demolition/development areas to ensure that the trees and the medium within which they are rooting are protected from damage. The actual method of creating the demarcation might vary, where appropriate, but will typically be a physical barrier. The location for the barrier is detailed upon the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 4, with a specification within Appendix 5. The Tree Protection Plan will need to be updated once the detailed plans have been drafted.

#### 4.7 **Potential Conflict 5: Damage to structures from trees.**

Trees are capable causing damage to structures either directly, such as physical

contact damage or indirectly given the right conditions, such as subsidence.

**Mitigation / Countermeasure:** Chapter 4.2 'Building near Trees' of the NHBC Standards should be consulted by those responsible regarding building foundation depths required according to the species of adjacent trees, and for suitable species to be planted given their intended positions to new and existing structures.

## 5 Pre-Development and Site Preparation Works

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- 5.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.
- 5.2 Prior to any site works commencing, the following arboricultural specific actions need to be implemented:
  - a) An arboricultural contractor should be sought, and the tree works recommended within Appendix 2 undertaken.
  - b) A supplier needs to be sought to provide the tree protection features as agreed with the Local Planning Authority.
- 5.3 Once the aforementioned tasks have been completed and prior to any site work the tree protection barriers need to be erected as per the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 4). The barrier must encompass the root protection areas and crown extents of the retained trees to ensure that these areas remain free from disturbance.
  - 5.3.1 The barriers need to be installed according to the locations found on the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 4 and conform to the specification within Appendix 5, unless a suitable alternative is agreed with the Local Planning Authority. All weather notices should be attached to the fencing marked with the following: '*Construction Exclusion Zone - Keep Out*' (a notice is provided within Appendix 8).
  - 5.3.2 The project arboriculturalist or Local Authority Tree Officer should check the correct installation of the protective features prior to any site works commencing.
- 5.4 Material storage must be confined to areas outside root protection areas.
- 5.5 A copy of the Tree Protection Plan must be available on site.
- 5.6 Activities that could be harmful to root tissue (e.g. excavation, mixing of and washing out toxic substances such as cement) should be avoided in close proximity to trees.

## 6 Tree protection measures during development

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- 6.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.
- 6.2 All ground levels where trees are located should be maintained. Changes to soil levels adjacent to trees can severely affect the trees structural integrity and its ability to gain moisture and nutrients from the surrounding soil. Unavoidable level changes that may affect retained trees, and not already accounted for within this method statement, should be assessed by the project arboriculturalist.
- 6.3 Building material storage and operations that can contaminate soil, such as cement mixing, must be confined to areas outside the root protection areas, which includes the new parking area once created.
- 6.4 Fires should not be lit within 5m of the foliage or drip line of the tree. Care should be taken, and the fire should not be allowed to become large, and the wind direction noted.
- 6.5 The trees should not be used to attach notices, cables or other services.
- 6.6 The installation of any underground services near or adjacent to trees on the site shall conform to the requirements of National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) publication Volume 4 (November 2007). If relevant, the intended service routes will be noted upon the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 4. Additional information regarding excavations within root protection areas are provided within Appendix 6.
- 6.7 At the beginning of the construction phase, the site manager will appoint a delegated site representative who shall be responsible for continued checking of the protective barriers to ensure it is compliant with the exclusion zone. Appendix 9 contains a record sheet that can be copied for such use.
- 6.8 As recommended within BS 5837:2012, and specified within the Arboricultural Tasks Sequence Table, the development site should be visited by the project arboriculturalist on occasions to provide any arboricultural advice necessary and to ensure the efficacy of the Tree Protection features. Contact between the project manager and project arboriculturalist should be maintained throughout the works period so that supervision can be provided when operations with the potential to damage retained trees are being undertaken. Key stages that will require the attendance of a qualified arboriculturalist with evidence of the visit provided to LPA are:
- Inspection of tree protection features prior to site works commencing.

- Unarranged spot check(s) carried out during the course of the build.
- Supervision of construction activities that could lead to damage of retained trees.
- Site visit to ensure all development operations have been completed prior to tree protection features being removed and to inspect the condition of the trees.

## 7 Post-Construction Considerations

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- 7.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.
- 7.2 Only once all major construction works have been completed can the protective barriers be removed.
- 7.3 Post development landscaping should be kept to a minimum within the root protection areas of retained trees.
- 7.4 Since trees are capable of influencing soil hydrology newly planted trees need to be situated where they will not interfere with built structures. Refer to NHBC Chapter 4.2 'Building near Trees' and Arboriculture Research and Information Note 'Tree Roots and Foundations' for further information.

## Appendix 1: Arboricultural Tasks Sequence Table

Tree or Group Number	Pre-Construction Stage	Construction Stage	Post Construction Stage
Group 4. Section of Hedgerow 1 indicated red on Appendix 4	Remove		
Trees 1-5. Groups 1-3, 5, 6. Hedgerows 1-3.	<p>Adhere to specification within Section 5.</p> <p>Set out and erect protective fencing as per Appendices 4 and 5. Attach notice in Appendix 8.</p> <p>Project arboriculturalist should check the correct installation of protective features prior to site works commencing.</p>	<p>Adhere to specification within Section 6.</p> <p>Monitor integrity of tree protection features daily; completing inspection record in Appendix 9.</p>	<p>Adhere to specification within Section 7.</p> <p>Remove tree protection measures.</p> <p>Complete landscape works adjacent to trees.</p>

## Appendix 2: Tree Data & Works Required

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Key for Tree & Group Data tables:

<b>No.</b>	Tree Number
<b>Species</b>	Tree Name (common)
<b>Age</b>	Y = Young; SM = Semi-mature; EM = Early-mature M = Mature; OM = Over-mature; V = Veteran; D = Dead
<b>DBH</b>	Diameter at Breast Height (measured at 1.5m above ground level to the nearest cm)
<b>Stems</b>	The number of stems the tree has
<b>Height</b>	Overall tree height measured in metres
<b>Crown Spread</b>	Measured along the four cardinal points in metres
<b>CH</b>	Canopy Height (height of crown above ground)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Branch</b>	The height and aspect of the 1 <sup>st</sup> significant limb e.g. 2 NE = 1 <sup>st</sup> limb at 2m growing in a north-easterly direction.
<b>EstD</b>	Indication of whether any of the trees dimensions were estimated: Y=Yes, N=No.
<b>General Observations</b>	Appraisal of trees general condition
<b>EstCont</b>	Estimated remaining contribution (years)
<b>BS Cat</b>	British Standard 5837:2012 retention category
<b>Recommendation</b>	Remedial works that may be required should the tree be retained

# Tree Survey Data

No.	Species	Age	DBH	Stems	Height	Crown Spread				CH	EstD	General Observations	EstCont	BS Cat	Recommendation
						N	S	E	W						
1	Birch spp	M	57	2-5	13	5	7	6	6	1	N	Multi-stemmed.	40+	B1	No work required
2	Pine spp	SM	44	1	8	4	4	3	4	1.5	N	Damage to surface roots. Pruning stubs within crown..	40+	B1	No work required
3	Birch spp	SM	17	2-5	8	3	3	3	1	3.5	N	Basal wound. Stem leaning 10 degrees. Codominant stems at 1m. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position estimated.	40+	B2	No work required
4	Apple	SM	12	1	4.5	2	3	3	2	1	N		40+	C1	No work required
5	Apple	SM	8	1	2	0.5	2	0.5	2	1	N	Stem leaning 35 degrees. Suppressed form.	40+	C1	No work required

# Group Data

Group Number	Dominant Species	Lesser Species	DBH	Average Height	Age	Average Spread	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	EstCont	BS Cat
1	Hawthorn		18	5	M	2.5	Unmanaged hedgerow located beyond site fence.	No work required	20+	B2
2	Cypress spp		10	3	Y	1	Small group of trees which form a continuous canopy	No work required	40+	C2
3	Lilac spp Holly Laurel Berberis	Forsythia	15	4	SM-M	1.5	Linear group of trees and shrubs adjacent to boundary.	No work required	20+	C2
4	Mock Orange			2	EM	1	Small group screening oil tank.	Remove group	10+	C2

Group Number	Dominant Species	Lesser Species	DBH	Average Height	Age	Average Spread	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	EstCont	BS Cat
5	Holly Cherry spp Cypress spp		20	5	SM-EM	3	Small group of trees which form a continuous canopy.	No work required	20+	C2
6	Laurel Rhodadendron Privet		15	1.75	EM	1	Linear shrub group adjacent to boundary.	No work required	20+	B2

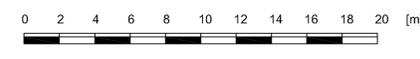
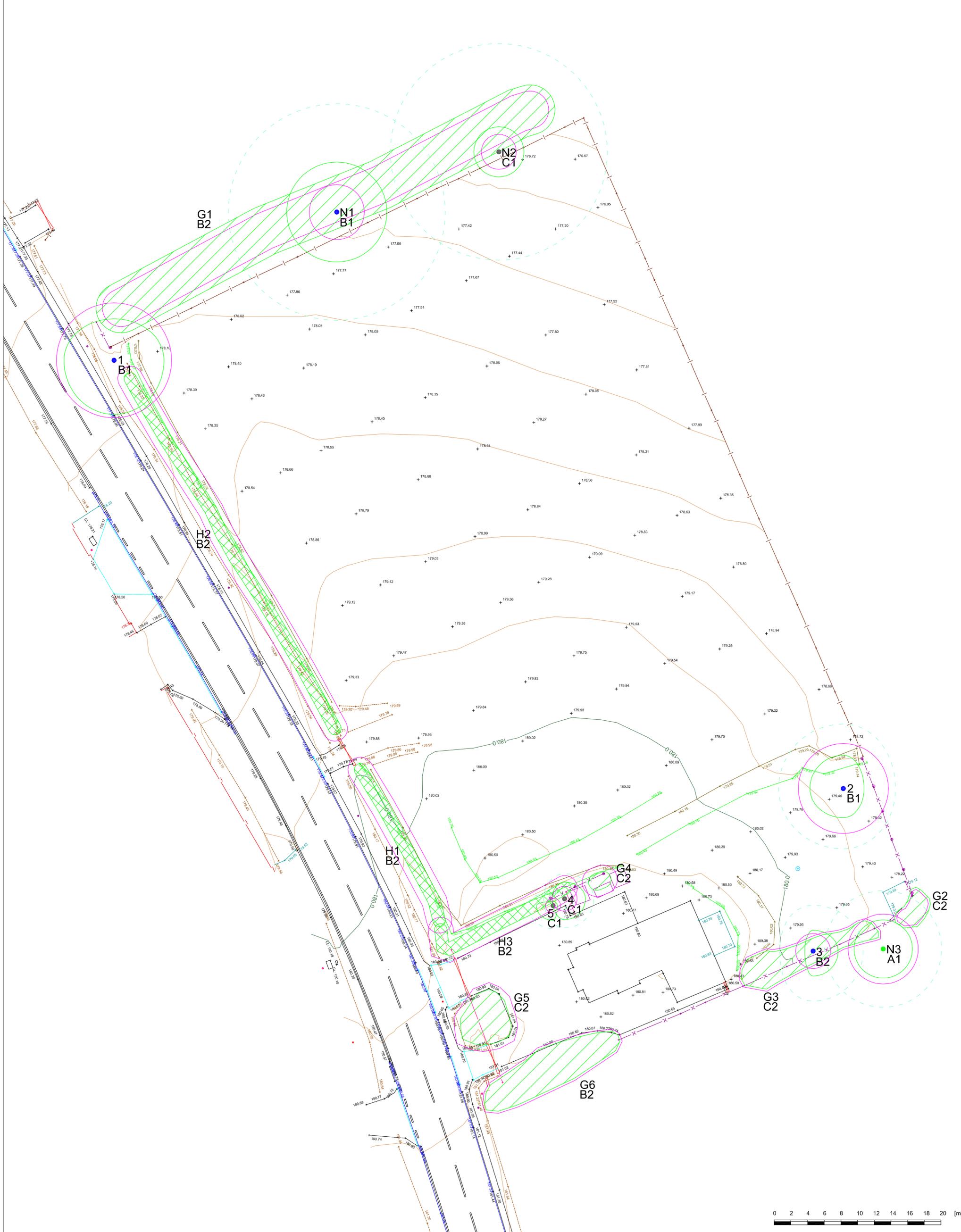
# Hedgerow Data

Hedge Number	Dominant Species	Lesser Species	Age	Average Height	Average Depth	Historically Managed Height	Historically Managed Depth	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	EstCont	BS Cat
1	Hawthorn		M	1.5	0.6	As current height	As current depth	Managed hedgerow. Gaps at base.	Remove small section indicated red on Appendix 4.	40+	B2
2	Hawthorn		M	1.8	0.6	As current height	As current depth	Managed hedgerow. Gaps at base.	No work required	40+	B2
3	Privet		EM	1.25	0.6	As current height	As current depth	Managed hedge.	No work required	20+	B2

# Trees Within Adjacent Properties

Note: Reduced details recorded to ensure constraints within site are represented but typical lack of direct access does not allow for full assessment. Estimate of BS Category provided based on limited view

No.	Species	Age	DBH (cm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread Affecting Site (m)	CH (m)	General Observations	BS Cat
N1	Oak spp	SM	27	7	6	1.5		B1
N2	Oak spp	Y	18	5	3	1.5		C1
N3	Coast Redwood	SM	35	11	4	2		A1



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- Tree Position Showing Crown Extents and BS5837 Category A
- Tree Position Showing Crown Extents and BS5837 Category B
- Tree Position Showing Crown Extents and BS5837 Category C
- Tree Position Showing Crown Extents and BS5837 Category U

- Root Protection Area - to remain free from disturbance
- Group of Trees
- Hedgerow
- Potential Mature Canopy Size

- Tree and Root Protection Area within Adjacent Property (position and size possibly estimated)
- Position of Tree within Adjacent Property
- Average Crown Spread within Site
- Root Protection Area
- N1 ID of Tree Located within Adjacent Property

1/G1/H1 Tree/Group/Hedgerow Number  
A1/B1/C1/U BS5837 Retention Category



**APPENDIX 3**

Drawing Title: Tree Constraints Plan  
Project: Coxmoor Road, Sutton Ashfield  
Drawing Number: ARB/CP/3517/TCP  
Date: January 2025  
Scale: 1:200 @ A1



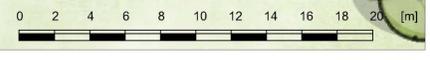
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Do not scale from this drawing. Dimensions unless otherwise stated.

Key:

- Site of Proposed Development
- Site Area Approx: 0.16
- Land Under Client Ownership

**Schedule of Proposed Accommodation:**  
1 x 4 Bed Detached 1.5 Storey Dwelling  
Gross Internal Floor Area Approx: 213m<sup>2</sup> ( )



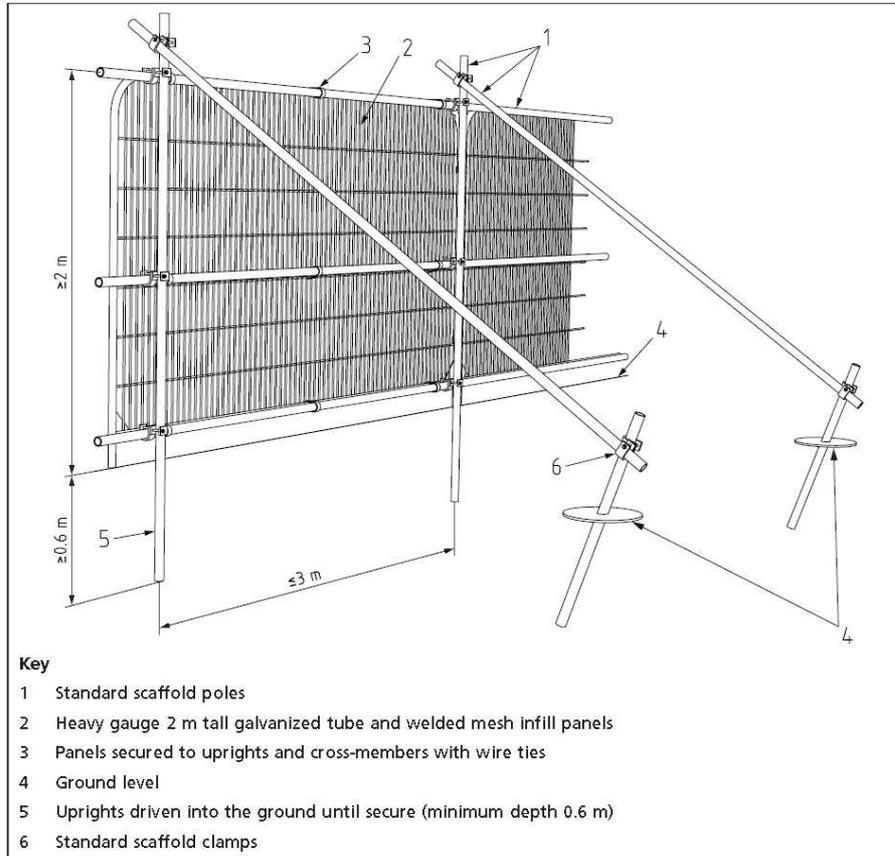
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- Tree to be Retained
- Tree to be Removed
- Root Protection Area - to remain free from disturbance
- Group of Trees to be Retained
- Hedgerow to be Retained
- Group of Trees to be Removed
- Hedgerow to be Removed
- Tree Protection Barrier (specification as per Appendix 5, Type B - if approved by LPA)
- 1/G1/H1 Tree/Group/Hedgerow Number
- A1/B1/C1/U BS5837 Retention Category

**APPENDIX 4**  
Drawing Title: Tree Protection Plan  
Project: Coxmoor Road, Sutton Ashfield  
Drawing Number: ARB/CP/3517/TTP  
Date: January 2025  
Scale: 1:200 @ A1

# Appendix 5: Protective Fencing Specification

## A:- Tree Protection Fence as per BS5837:2012



Drawing Source: BS 5837:2012

## B:- Alternative Fencing Detail: Adequate protection - provided LPA approve its use



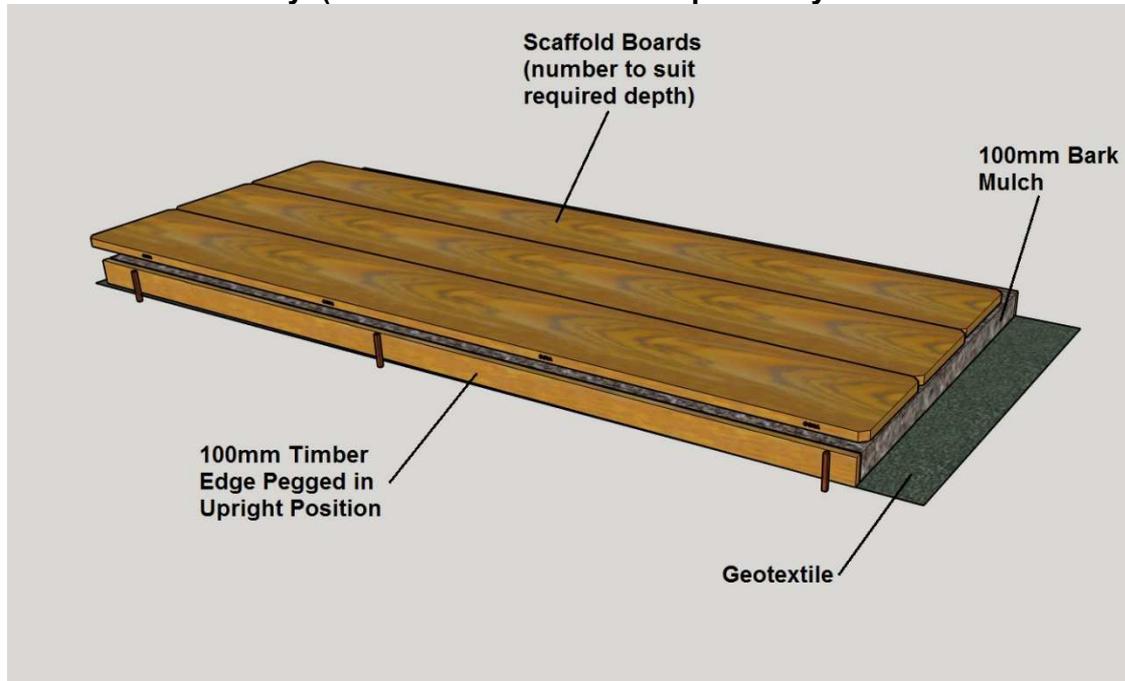
Weldmesh fence panels attached together using fence couplers bolted to 100mmx100mmx2400mm treated timber fence posts driven 500mm into the ground. Use of plant to assist with erection only from outside of root protection area.

## Appendix 6: Access within Root Protection Areas

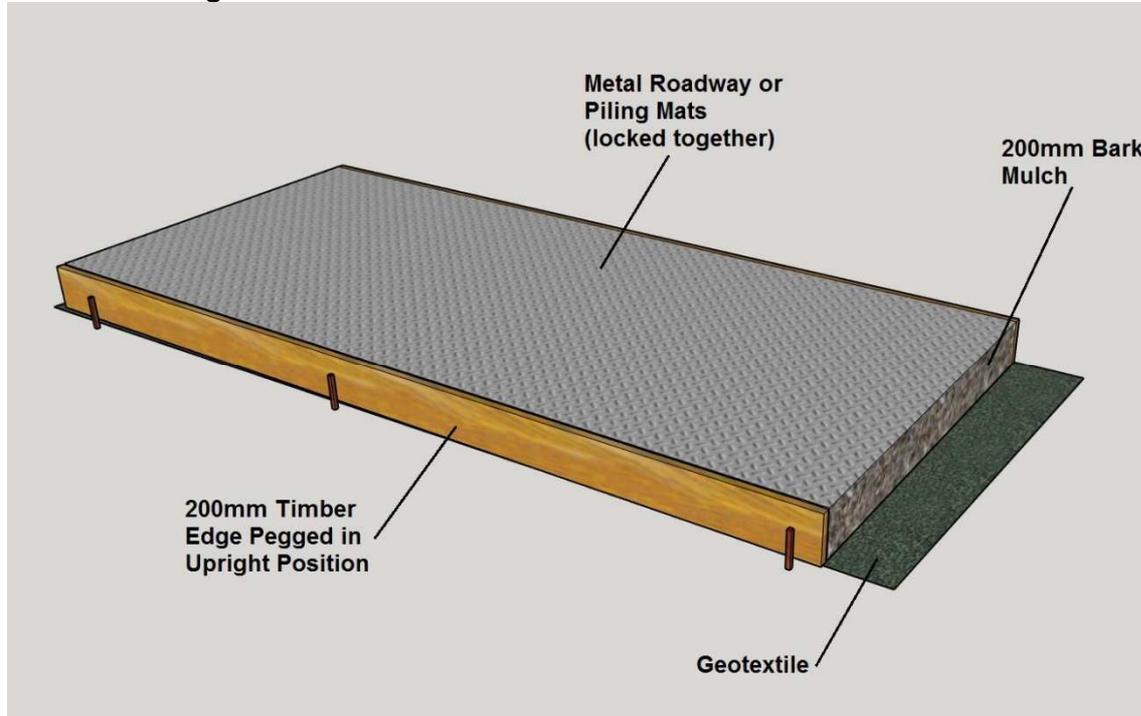
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### Ground Protection to Enable Access within Root Protection Areas

For Pedestrians Only. (Scaffold boards can be replaced by robust sheet material)



### Suitable for Light Traffic & Plant

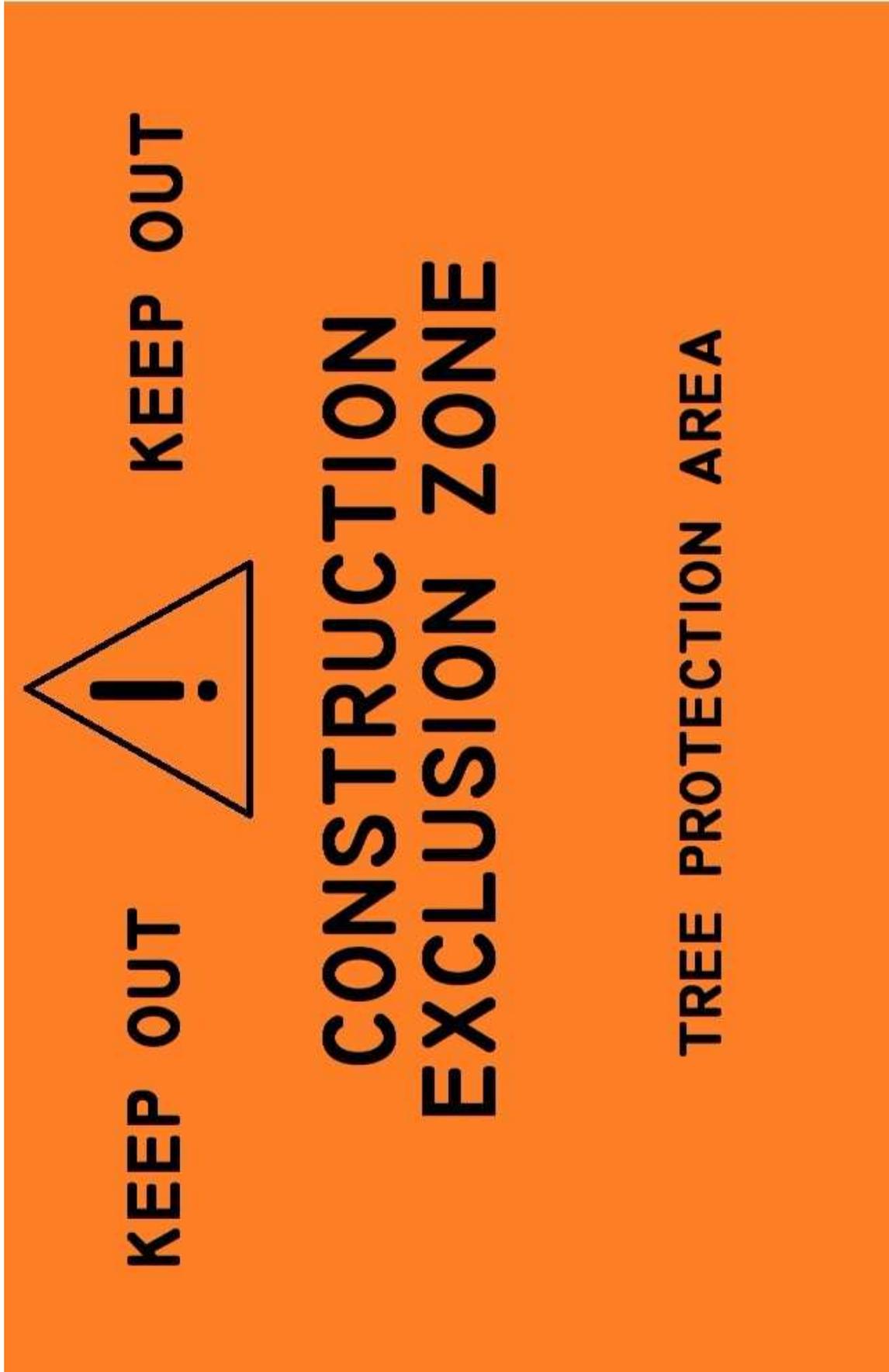


Where erecting scaffolding within areas of protected ground. The geotextile should be laid and then the scaffold footings placed on boards to spread the load. Ground protection as above should then be installed if access beneath the scaffolding is required.

## Appendix 7: Removing Hard Surfaces & Other Excavations within Root Protection Areas

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- All excavations within root protection areas must only be undertaken using hand tools or pedestrian operated machinery.
- The required excavations must be kept to a minimum to avoid unnecessary root damage and ideally undertaken during the presence of an arboriculturalist.
- Great care must be taken not to damage the bark of roots that can be retained in order to avoid wounds which could be exploited by pathogens.
- Exposed roots that can be retained must be wrapped with dry sacking if to be left exposed for extended periods e.g. overnight. Sacking must be removed prior to backfilling.
- All roots >25mm should be preserved and worked around. Where this is not possible, severance should only take place after consultation with the tree officer / appointed arboriculturalist. Roots must be cut using a sharp knife leaving as small a wound and as clean a cut as possible.
- Great care must be taken not to allow contaminants, such as oils, into the excavation.





## Appendix 10: Contact Details of Relevant Parties

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### **Arboricultural Consultant**

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