elliottconsultancyltd.
arboricultural consultants



Location:
East of Mill Lane & Heaton Grange, Batley

Report Type:
Arboricultural Method Statement

Ref:
ARB/CP/3586

Date:
May 2025

Arboricultural ASSOCIATION
Professional Member

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1 Introduction

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 development of land to the east of Mill Lane & Heaton Grange, Batley.

1.2 **Scope of the report:**

- This method statement provides arboricultural information and advice in relation to the development of East of Mill Lane & Heaton Grange, as detailed within Appendix 3.
- 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 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.

1.3 **Prior to site works commencing, and in particular ground preparation, this Arboricultural Method Statement needs to be passed to the site manager and used as reference during the development period, with particular attention paid Sections 3-5, and Appendices 1-8.**

1.4 The locations of the trees upon the Tree Protection Plan are as per the positions indicated upon the topographical plan provided.

1.5 According to checks made using Kirklees Council's website, the site is not within a Conservation Area, not are any of the trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders.

2 Site Information

2.1 The area surveyed on the 22nd of January 2025, and the extent of which is covered by this method statement is located to the east of Mill Lane in Batley. Figure 1 shows the extent of the area.

Figure 1: Area Covered (highlighted)



Map data ©Google Imagery

2.2 The site, which measures approximately 0.8ha, is a disused area which had previously been cleared but which is now partially covered in dense bramble and self-seeded scrub. The western boundary is marked by a retaining will with the adjacent highway at a lower level.

2.3 Most of the individual trees surveyed are located adjacent to boundaries in the southwest corner, and within the northeast area. A small number of trees are located upon adjacent land, but which have an influence within the site. Details of the trees are annotated upon the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 3.

3 Pre-Development and Site Preparation Works

3.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.

3.2 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 fencing as specified within Appendix 4.

3.3 Once the aforementioned tasks have been completed and prior to any site work the tree protection features need to be erected as per the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 3).

3.3.1 The barriers need to be installed according to the locations found on the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 3 and conform to the specification within Appendix 4. All weather notices should be attached to the fencing marked with the following: '*Construction Exclusion Zone - Keep Out'* (a notice is provided within Appendix 7).

3.3.2 The project arboriculturalist or Local Authority Tree Officer should check the correct installation of the protective features prior to any site works commencing

3.4 Material storage and site offices must be confined to areas outside root protection areas.

3.5 A copy of the Tree Protection Plan must be displayed outside the site office.

4 Tree protection measures during development

4.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.

4.2 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.

4.3 Building material storage and operations that can contaminate soil, such as cement mixing, must be confined to areas outside the tree protection zones.

4.4 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.

4.5 The trees should not be used to attach notices, cables or other services.

4.6 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). The intended service routes are noted upon the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 3. Additional information regarding excavations within root protection areas are provided within Appendix 6.

4.7 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 8 contains a record sheet that can be copied for such use.

4.8 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 construction period.

- 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.

Written evidence of site visits and details of the findings will be provided via email to the project manager and case officer.

5 Post-Construction Considerations

5.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.

5.2 Only once all major construction works have been completed can the protective barriers be removed.

5.3 Post development landscaping should be kept to a minimum within the root protection areas of retained trees.

5.4 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
Trees 1-4, 8, 9, N8. Groups 1-8, 10. Section of Group 11 indicated red on Appendix 3.	Remove		
Trees 5-7, 10-12, N1-N7, N9. Groups 9, 11-14.	Adhere to specification within Section 3. Set out and erect protective fencing as per Appendices 3 and 4 Attach notice in Appendix 7. Install ground protection as per Appendices 3 and 5. Project arboriculturalist should check the correct installation of protective features prior to site works commencing, unless LPA undertake inspection.	Adhere to specification within Section 4. Monitor integrity of tree protection features daily; completing inspection record in Appendix 8. Site to be visited by the project arboriculturalist – visit to be documented in Appendix 8 and evidence of visit provided to LPA.	Adhere to specification within Section 5. Remove tree protection measures. Complete landscape works adjacent to trees.

Appendix 2: Tree Data & Works Required

Key for Tree & Group Data tables:

No.	Tree Number
Species	Tree Name (common)
Age	Y = Young; SM = Semi-mature; EM = Early-mature M = Mature; OM = Over-mature; V = Veteran; D = Dead
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height (measured at 1.5m above ground level to the nearest cm)
Stems	The number of stems the tree has
Height	Overall tree height measured in metres
Crown Spread	Measured along the four cardinal points in metres
CH	Canopy Height (height of crown above ground)
1st Branch	The height and aspect of the 1st significant limb e.g. 2 NE = 1st limb at 2m growing in a north-easterly direction.
EstD	Indication of whether any of the trees dimensions were estimated: Y=Yes, N=No.
General Observations	Appraisal of trees general condition
EstCont	Estimated remaining contribution (years)
BS Cat	British Standard 5837:2012 retention category
Recommendation	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	Poplar spp	EM	32	1	19	3	5	4	2	3	N	Good health, reasonable form.	40+	B1	Remove tree
2	Sycamore	SM	24	5+	8.5	2	2	2	2	0.5	N	Multi-stemmed. Growing through fence and on edge of high retaining wall	<10	U	Remove tree
3	Goat Willow	SM	30	5+	6.5	4	4	5	3	0.5	N	Multi-stemmed. Growing through fence and on edge of high retaining wall	<10	U	Remove tree
4	Birch spp	SM	16	2-5	7	3	2	4	1	0.5	N	Central leader lost at 1.3m, laterals have become vetical.	20+	C1	Remove tree
5	Birch spp	SM	28	1	10	4	5	4	4	0.5	N	Good health & form.	40+	B1	No work required
6	Goat Willow	SM	25	1	6	3	5	6	0.5	0	N	Stem leaning 45 degrees.	10+	C2	No work required
7	Hawthorn	SM	9	1	4	1	2	1	2	0.5	N	Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position estimated. Slightly suppressed form.	40+	C2	No work required
8	Sycamore	SM	23	2-5	8.5	4	4	3	4	0.5	N	Multi-stemmed at base.	40+	C1	Remove tree
9	Goat Willow	Y	19	5+	5	2	4	4	4	0.5	N	Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position estimated. Multi-stemmed at base.	40+	C2	Remove tree
10	Cherry spp	EM	39	1	9.5	6	7	7	7	1	Y	Dense vegetation obscurred stem and hindered access.	40+	B1	No work required

No.	Species	Age	DBH	Stems	Height	Crown Spread				CH	EstD	General Observations	EstCont	BS Cat	Recommendation
						N	S	E	W						
11	Willow spp	SM	31	2-5	8	4	3	5	2	0	N	Multi-stemmed with included bark unions. Reasonable health, poor form.	40+	C1	No work required
12	Ash	SM	19	2-5	7	4	4	4	4	1.5	N	Codominant stems at base.	10+	C1	No work required
13	Ash	Y	15	1	5.5	2	3	3	3	1.5	N		10+	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	Cherry spp		20	7	Y-SM	3.5	Small group of trees which form a continuous canopy. All have slightly suppressed form due to larger poplar.	Remove entire group	40+	C2
2	Goat Willow Birch spp		9	4	Y	1	Scrub group of young self-seeded trees. Most are <75mm stem diameter. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position of group estimated.	Remove entire group	40+	C2
3	Poplar spp		35	17	SM	4	Group of trees which form a continuous canopy. Trees adjacent to western boundary are <1m of high retaining wall which could result in damage to the wall as the trees mature. Trees adjacent to the southern boundary will dominate closely located bungalows as they mature.	Remove entire group	10+	C2
4	Poplar spp		13	6.5	Y	1.5	Linear group of trees adjacent to retaining wall which could result in damage to the wall as the trees mature. Not all trres located on topo - position estimated	Remove entire group	10+	C2

Group Number	Dominant Species	Lesser Species	DBH	Average Height	Age	Average Spread	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	EstCont	BS Cat
5	Birch spp Goat Willow		8	4	Y	1	Scrub group of young self-seeded trees. Most are <75mm stem diameter. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position of group estimated.	Remove entire group	40+	C2
6	Birch spp Goat Willow Poplar spp Sycamore	Alder spp	20	9	Y-SM	4	Linear group of trees which form a continuous canopy. Not all trees located on topo - position estimated.	Remove entire group	40+	C2
7	Goat Willow		14	4.5	Y	2	Small number of young self-seeded trees. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position of group estimated.	Remove entire group	20+	C2
8	Goat Willow		16	7	SM	3.5	Small number of young self-seeded trees. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position of group estimated.	Remove entire group	20+	C2

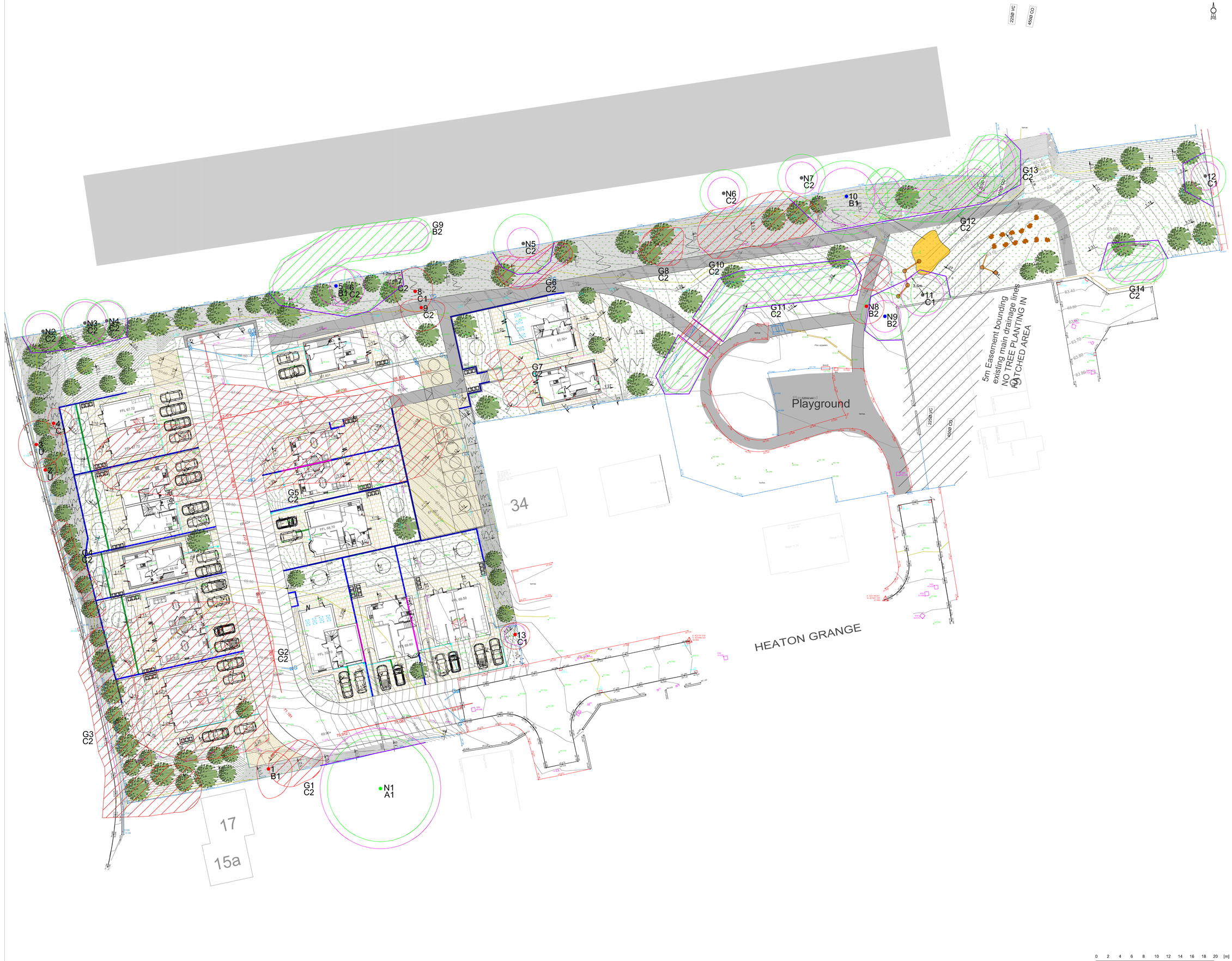
Group Number	Dominant Species	Lesser Species	DBH	Average Height	Age	Average Spread	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	EstCont	BS Cat
9	Birch spp	Alder spp	20	8	SM	3	Linear group of trees which form a continuous canopy located within adjacent property. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position estimated.	No work required	20+	B2
10	Goat Willow		18	8	SM	3.5	Linear group of trees which form a continuous canopy.	Remove entire group	20+	C2
11	Laurel	Apple	20	6	M	3	Linear group which form a continuous canopy. Located within adjacent property.	Remove section indicated red on Appendix 3	20+	C2
12	Hawthorn	Elder Goat Willow	18	6	SM-M	3.5	Linear group of trees which form a continuous canopy. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position estimated.	No work required	20+	C2

Group Number	Dominant Species	Lesser Species	DBH	Average Height	Age	Average Spread	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	EstCont	BS Cat
13	Goat Willow		18	6	SM-M	3.5	Group of trees which form a continuous canopy. Position of tree(s) not located on topo - position estimated. No direct access	No work required	20+	C2
14	Goat Willow		25	7.5	SM	3.5	Linear group of trees which form a continuous canopy. Some stems growing in contact with timber fence. Crown encroaching building.	No work required	10+	C2

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 Catgeory provided based on limited view

No.	Species	Age	DBH (cm)	Height (m)	Crown Spread Affecting Site (m)	CH (m)	General Observations	BS Cat
N1	Beech	M	85	18	9	5		A1
N2	Goat Willow	SM	24	6.5	4	0.5	Growing through fence	C2
N3	Goat Willow	SM	29	6.5	4	0.5	Growing through fence	C2
N4	Goat Willow	SM	27	7.5	4	0.5	Growing through fence	C2
N5	Goat Willow	SM	22	7	5	0.5	Growing through fence	C2
N6	Goat Willow	SM	22	6.5	4	0.5		C2
N7	Goat Willow	SM	22	8	5	0.5		C2
N8	Maple spp	SM	24	9	3	2	Remove tree	B2
N9	Maple spp	SM	22	9.5	4	2		B2



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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 4, Type B - if approved by LPA)

1/G1/H1 Tree/Group/Hedgerow Number

A1/B1/ C1/U BS5837 Retention Category

Tree and Root Protection Area within Adjacent Property (positon and size possibly estimated)

- Position of Tree within Adjacent Property
- Average Crown Spread within Site
- Root Protection Area

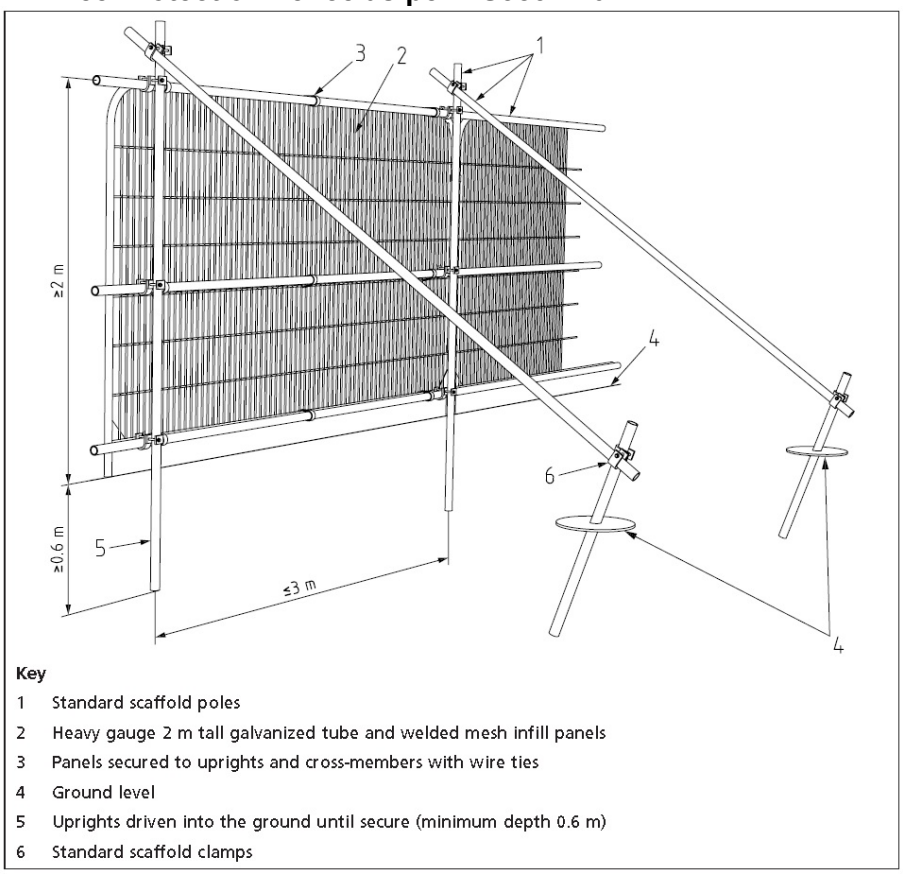
N1 ID of Tree Located within Adjacent Property

APPENDIX 3

Drawing Title:	Tree Protection Plan
Project:	East of Mill Lane & Heaton Grange, Batley
Drawing Number:	ARB/CP/3586/TPP
Date:	May 2025
Scale:	1:200 @ A0

Appendix 4: Protective Fencing Specification

A:- Tree Protection Fence as per BS5837:2012



Key

1 Standard scaffold poles
2 Heavy gauge 2 m 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 0.6 m)
6 Standard scaffold clamps

Drawing Source: BS 5837:2012

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

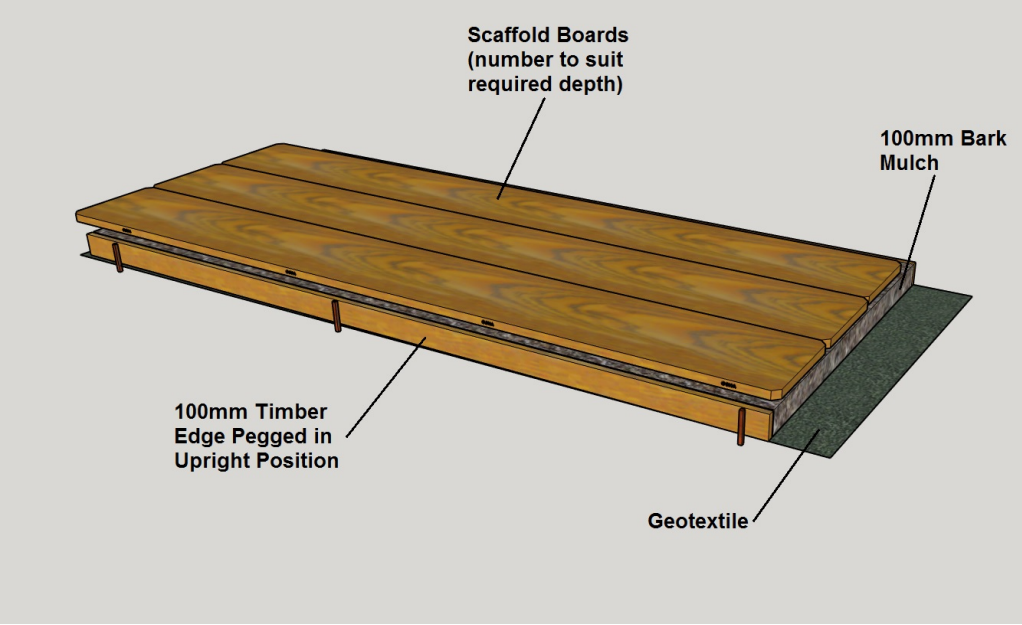


Weldmesh fence panels attached together using fence couplers bolted to 100mmx100mmx2400mm treated timber fence posts driven 500mm into the ground. Use of plant to assist with erection only from outside of root protection area.

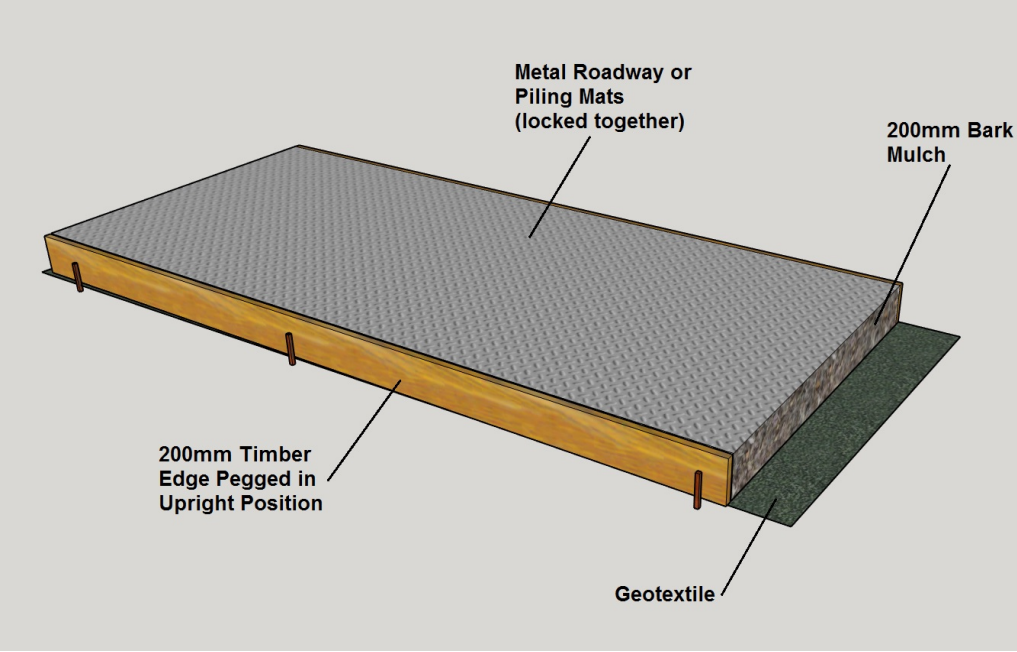
Appendix 5: Access within Root Protection Areas

Ground Protection to Enable Access within Root Protection Areas (if specified)

For Pedestrians Only – scaffold boards can be substituted for robust sheet material



For Plant



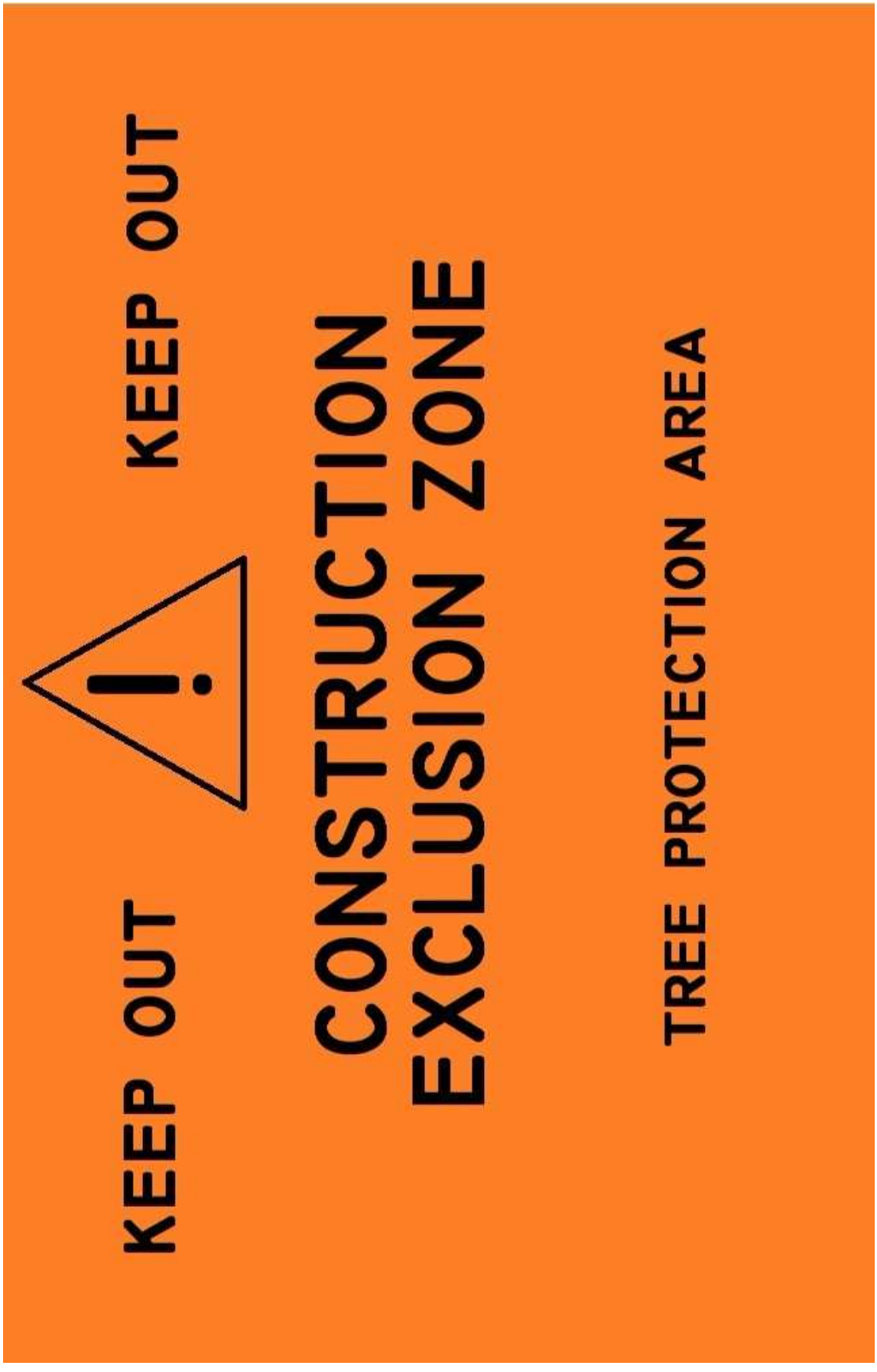
Where erecting scaffolding within areas of protected ground. The geotextile should be laid and then the scaffold footings placed on boards to spread the load. Ground protection as above should then be installed if access beneath the scaffolding is required.

Once operations that require access within root protection areas (via ground protection) have been completed then the ground protection can be removed, and the tree protection barrier realigned to incorporate the full root protection area. The realigned tree protection barrier should then be inspected by the project arboriculturalist, with evidence provided to the local planning authority.

Appendix 6: Removing Hard Surfaces & Other Excavations within Root Protection Areas

- All excavations within root protections 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 7: Construction Exclusion Zone Notice



Appendix 8: Tree Protection Zones Inspection Record

Tree Protection Zones Inspection Record – assessment of tree protection barriers and ground protection			
Date	**Checked By**	**Comments**	**Action Required?**

Appendix 9: Contact Details of Relevant Parties

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