



# Invasive Species Management Plan

Co -op Academy, Smithies Moor, Heckmondwike  
SRP-1128-ANT-XX-XX-L-O-0006

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**PREPARED FOR**  
B & K

**ISSUED:**  
20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**PROJECT NUMBER**  
2025-04-569099

## Key Details

|                               |                                                                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Client Name</b>            | Bowmer & Kirkland                                                    |
| <b>Site Address</b>           | Co-op Academy, Smithies Moor, Leeds Old Road, Heckmondwike, WF16 9BB |
| <b>Antea Group UK Contact</b> | C. Sanderson-Lewis                                                   |
| <b>Project Reference</b>      | 2025-04-569099                                                       |

## Document Control

| Issue No. | Status | Issue Date                 | Comments                                 |
|-----------|--------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1         | Final  | 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 |                                          |
| 2         | Final  | 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2025 | Minor text change to timescale of works. |

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# Invasive Species Management Plan

*Co-op Academy Smithies Moor*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Antea Group UK has been requested by B & K (the 'Client') to prepare an Invasive Species Management Plan (ISMP) in order to inform a planning application for the construction of a new school with associated soft and hard landscaping and the demolition of the existing school Co-op Academy, Smithies Moor, Leeds Old Road, Heckmondwike.

The Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) prepared by Antea in June 2025 (Client report reference SRP-1128-ANT-XX-XX-L-O-0001) has been used to inform the ISMP since it details the locations of the cotoneaster plants at the Site, and the extent of the plant as far as possible.

- Wall cotoneaster *Cotoneaster horizontalis* was present by the main entrance into the school building (Area 1, Target Note (TN) 1 on Figure 1, see Photograph below);
- An unidentified species of cotoneaster was present within the introduced shrub bed towards the western extent of the southern boundary (Area 2, TN2, see Photograph below), which will be in part retained;
- Waterer's cotoneaster *Cotoneaster x watererri* was present within the introduced shrub bed along the front of the school (western aspect, Area 3, TN3, see Photograph below), however this species is not listed as a non-native invasive species under Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA, 1981, as amended) but see Section 2.0;
- An unidentified species of cotoneaster was present within a dense introduced shrub bed to the north of the central access into school grounds (Area 4, TN4, no photograph, extent unknown as mixed in and all planting dense); and
- An unidentified species of cotoneaster was present within dense tree/ shrub bed to south of northern access into school grounds (Area 5, TN5, see Photograph below), which will be retained.

|                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Area 1</b><br/>Total: Approx. 0.75 m x 1.25 m (photograph from RSK PEA, January 2023)</p>  | <p><b>Area 2</b><br/>Total: Extent unknown as mixed in, will be in part retained.</p>  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Area 3</b><br/><b>Waterer's cotoneaster</b></p>  | <p><b>Area 5 LHS on photograph</b><br/><b>Total: Extent unknown as mixed in, will be retained.</b></p>  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## 2.0 LEGISLATION

Wall cotoneaster is listed as a non-native invasive species under Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA, 1981, as amended) such that it is an offence to allow it to spread beyond the Site boundary. This is in accordance with section 14(2) of the WCA which states that *'if any person plants or otherwise causes to grow in the wild any plant which is included in Part II of Schedule 9, he shall be guilty of an offence.'*

Given that all species of cotoneaster are considered invasive, irrespective of their status under the WCA, all known and unknown cotoneaster species occurring on-Site must be treated and eradicated if the area within which they occur is not being retained.

## 3.0 WORKING METHODOLOGY

### AVOIDANCE

Where any works are required on Site prior to the comprehensive removal of cotoneaster, a working boundary will be established around the ornamental planting bed containing these species. The Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) for the Site will define this contamination zone utilising both temporary barriers and signage.

The use of plant machinery and vehicles on the Site will be restricted to areas away from the contamination zone once identified.

All site workers and visitors should be informed of the presence of invasive cotoneaster, the risk of illegal spreading and the location of the contamination zone occurring on the Site.

### REMOVAL

Since the plant is in a mature state throughout the areas it occurs, depending on its extent within the bed, it will require either mechanical or hand excavation and removal to a licensed landfill/waste facility.

Where partial removal of an introduced shrub bed is proposed (TN 3), care must be taken to remove all root mass associated with any cotoneaster plants in the section being cleared. This will be supervised by the ECoW to ensure correct identification of all plant material.

The contractor team involved in the works will be briefed on the method statement and the importance of following this to prevent the spread of the cotoneaster across the Site/ off-Site. All personnel must sign the method statement briefing sheet before commencement of works.

Prior to the excavation, the contractor team must ensure that the area of excavation is safe to dig (i.e. free of utilities or other infrastructure) through a permit to dig or similar.

All plant material will be removed from the introduced shrub beds on the Site as indicated as TN1-4 on Figure 1, noting that partial removal of the bed associated with TN2 will be undertaken, and the bed associated with TN5 will be retained. The contaminated zone will be excavated under the guidance of an ECoW to ensure all the cotoneaster is fully removed. When the work is complete, the area must be left in a safe and tidy manner.

Given the size of the introduced shrub beds, if an excavator is required, it should be possible for it to be kept out of the contaminated zone by tracking down the edge of the excavation. This will ensure that the excavator does not become contaminated.

During the excavation, if an excavator is necessary, the works must be carried out in such a way as to minimise spillage. This means not overloading the bucket over three-quarters full and ensuring that it has been emptied in full before returning for another load.

All excavated materials will be stockpiled on terram on an allocated hardstanding area that can be accessed by a lorry, if necessary.

Following completion of the works, the digger bucket will be cleaned out and then washed out / the spade will be cleaned and washed.

It should be noted that the responsibility for the safe operation of the plant (if required) falls with the main contractor as does the responsibility for the relevant paperwork (e.g. permit to clear / permit to dig).

## DISPOSAL

The ECoW will supervise the works to ensure that the excavation removes all contaminated material from the contaminated zone and subsequently from the Site. This is to be coordinated with the site manager.

It will be the responsibility of the Site manager to ensure that the waste carrier / contractor is suitably licensed and provides a completed waste transfer note(s) demonstrating that waste has been accepted at a permitted waste facility. The permit reference for the receiving waste facility and the waste carriers' licence must be included within the documentation. Records should be kept for two years.

If there is adequate contaminated waste to require a lorry, it should be loaded carefully to minimise any risk of spillage. When taking the contaminated material away, the terram must be loaded as well. The load must be sheeted before it leaves the Site. A check will be completed to ensure that there is no loose material that could fall out onto the road.

## 4.0 TREATMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE WORKS

Commencement of works within the wider Site is expected to commence February 2026, however, this will not impact the contaminated zones, with the school continuing to be occupied. Work within the areas identified are expected to commence August/September 2028, and as such removal of cotoneaster will be programmed during a school holiday period prior to August 2028.

## 5.0 DISCLAIMER

The recommendations contained in this report represent Antea's professional opinions based upon the currently available information and are arrived at in accordance with currently accepted professional standards. This report is based upon a specific scope of work requested by the Client. The contract between Antea, and its Client outlines the scope of work, and only those tasks specifically authorised by that contract or outlined in this report were performed. This report is intended only for the use of Antea's Client and anyone else specifically identified in writing by Antea as a user of this report. Antea will not and cannot be liable for unauthorised reliance by any other third party. Other than as contained in this paragraph, Antea makes no express or implied warranty as to the contents of this report.

## 6.0 REPORT AUTHORISATION

Prepared by:

20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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Reviewed by:

20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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Client Director (Ecology)

## 7.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

### UK Headquarters

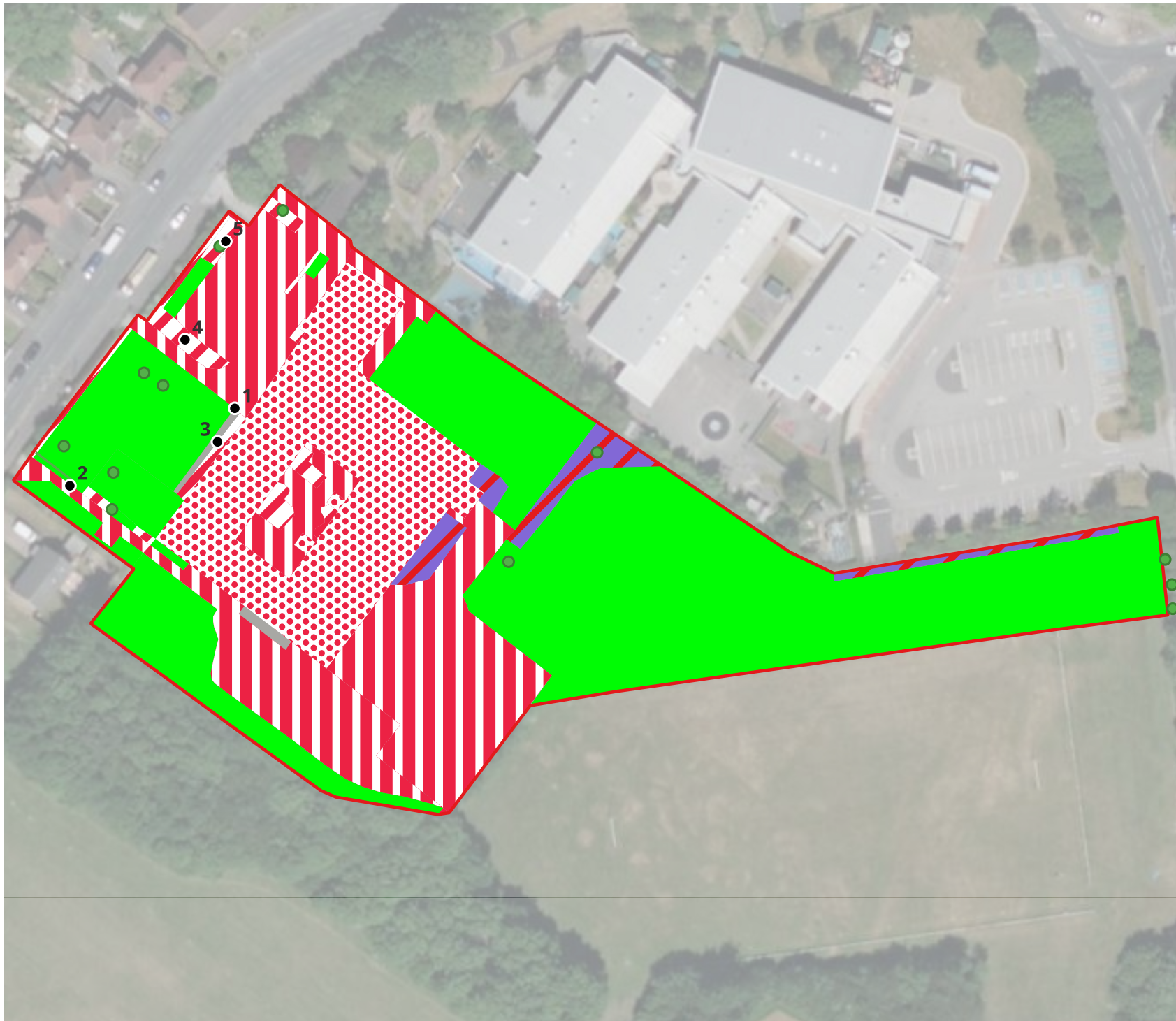
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## Legend

- Site Boundary
- Individual Tree
- Hedgerow
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3 - dense scrub
- u1 - built-up areas and gardens
- u1b - developed land, sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- s - sparsely vegetated land
- Target Note

0 10 20 30 40 m



Figure Location of Cotoneaster  
on-Site

Project Co-op Academy, Smithies Moor,  
Heckmondwike

| Figure No | Revision | Date           |
|-----------|----------|----------------|
| 1         | A        | 19/06/2025     |
| Drawn     | Checked  | Project Number |
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