Japanese Knotweed Solutions Ltd

METHOD STATEMENT

SITE: **Old Plant Nurseries, Lumb Lane, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD4 6SZ**

CLIENT: **Marsden Contracting Limited**

ACTIVITY: **Cotoneaster sp remediation method statement**

Introduction

This document has been created to assist our site teams on site undertaking the works and to outline to our client or any third parties what is planned to take place.

In addition to this it is being used to assist our client in discharging the planning condition below:

'16. No works shall commence on-site prior to the completion of an invasive species survey and appropriate removal and / or management plan and agreed in writing with the council. Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 lists non-native species that are considered harmful to native biodiversity and habitats in the UK. It is illegal to release, plant, or allow these species to grow in the wild. Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with Policy LP30 of the Kirklees Local Plan and Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2024.'

JKSL has attended site on 24.03.2026 to assess the extents of Cotoneaster sp (CT) highlighted on site using the clients previous survey as a base along with Google Earth and Street View images. A single, small CT plant has been identified within the footprint of the new development. JKSL have therefore recommended that a mechanical remediation strategy is implemented.

The recommended strategy at this point, given the small volume of materials impacted, is to bury the CT and the materials in which it's growing on site. The burial location is to be confirmed but is expected to be within the green space in plot 1. The chosen location will be within an area which isn't going to be disturbed by the development's construction works.

This document should be read in conjunction with the following drawings:

- JK26-0877-01 which highlights the CT surface growth noted on site, estimated area to be excavated and buried.

Planning

JKSL resource is scheduled to meet the need of the various activities detailed below.

Welfare

To be provided by the client where necessary (works are estimated to only be a single day therefore we don't envisage this being required for these works).

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Access

Access to the site will be via the existing gate on Lumb Lane.

Parking

Our staff vehicles will be parked on the site hardstanding on site or in an area selected by the clients site manager.

Site hours

We have assumed that the site working hours are 08:00 – 17:00 Monday to Friday. We do not anticipate that any works on Saturday or Sunday will be required.

Staffing levels

JKSL anticipate having a single employee on site during the mechanical works.

JKSL key staff members

- Surveyor: Alexander Dayes – 07795 386 418 – alex.dayes@sltd.co.uk
- Construction director: Philip Whelan – 07876 558 164 – phil.whelan@sltd.co.uk
- Site foreman: TBC
- Health and safety: Chris Oliver – 0161 723 2000 – chris.oliver@sltd.co.uk
- Emergency out of hours contact: Alexander Dayes – 07795 386 418

Security

The site is securely fenced along the side of the road.

Preparation

Before attending site all staff will have read and signed the method statement and risk assessment.

If necessary all JKSL site staff will be inducted by the client before works commence.

JKSL's Construction Director, Phil Whelan, (or the senior foreman) will conduct a tool box talk on the works after this induction. Phil will also conduct short morning briefings on the day's tasks so that all staff are aware of the tasks ahead.

PPE

Full personal protective equipment will be worn by our operatives at all times. This includes the following:

- High visibility vest or jacket
- Hard Hat (this can be taken off when operating an excavator)
- Steel toe capped boots

- Gloves
- Safety Glasses (only if the work activity requires them)
- High visibility trousers may also be worn at times, although this is not compulsory

Qualifications

Our operatives will be appropriately qualified to undertake the task at hand and will have their qualifications on their person at all times.

Our SSSTS qualified person on site will be Richard Heyliger, Alan Brown, Paul Cox or Nathan Jones.

Our employees are Asbestos Aware trained.

Environmental issues

All works will be undertaken in a controlled manner, as set out in this document, to ensure that they do not disperse invasive plant propagules throughout the rest of the site.

As our operatives will be working within areas of infestation, an inspection point will be created within close proximity. This will be clearly marked out and lined with geotextile for the inspection and cleaning of all hand tools and equipment.

A foot wash facility will also be installed and used by each operative every time they leave the contaminated area to ensure that no plant propagules are dispersed via muddy boots.

This will ensure that cross-contamination doesn't occur and the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) isn't compromised.

Full details of JKSL's Clean Site Policy can be made available on request, prior to the commencement of works; however measures taken on site will depend on site conditions, and will be implemented by JKSL Site Foreman.

Phase 1 – Initial application of herbicide

Not required given the time of year.

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Phase 2 – Cotoneaster sp mechanical remediation works

Start Date: estimated to be 02.04.2026.
Duration: 1 day.

General

It is proposed that the CT recorded on drawing JK26-0877-01 is excavated and buried on site within the green space near plot 1.

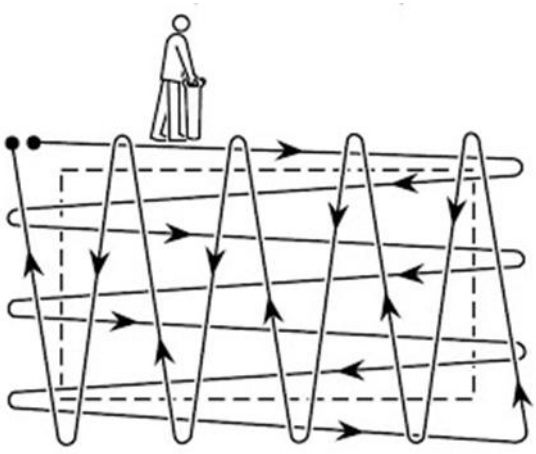
The burial pit (BP) is estimated to be 2.5m deep, 0.5m of materials containing CT, a geotextile layer installed above this and then 2m of clean fill up to the finished site levels (assumed to be the same as the existing levels at this point).

Preparation

Full PPE will be worn at all times.

At the time of writing the initial document JKSL had not been provided with service drawings – these will need to be provided and consulted before works commence.

A CAT scan sweep will be carried out by a suitably-competent operative. Service drawings should be provided by the client and will be consulted where these are available. The practical inspection will then start with a visual inspection of the site to identify any indications of services (e.g. lamp-posts, manhole covers, drains or similar). The excavation area will then be marked out, and the operative will sweep backwards and forwards across the area in a regular pattern, (e.g north-south and vice versa) and then once this sweep is complete, in the same pattern, at 90° to the first sweep (e.g. east-west and vice versa).



An appropriate CAT scan sweep pattern.

Suspected services should then be marked, ideally using small flags or line marker spray, or (where appropriate), pegs or road pins, taking due care to avoid any possible contact between pegs or road pins and the services they are marking. Care should still be taken as some kinds of services cannot be detected using this equipment.

As JKSL are not undertaking the physical excavation the above is to be done by the clients excavation team.

Excavation of Cotoneaster sp on drawing JK26-0877-01 and burial on site

JKSL will be providing a clerk of works to assist the client in excavating the CT area highlighted on drawing JK26-0877-01.

Prior to commencing excavation works the client will use a cat-scan to detect any services that may be present onsite. No excavations will commence until a permit to dig has been issued by the client (depending on the sites working practises).

Before the CT can be excavated the BP will need to be excavated first. As previously stated this is estimated to be 2.5m deep, 0.5m of materials containing CT, a geotextile layer installed above this and then 2m of clean fill up to the finished site levels (assumed to be the same as the existing levels at this point).

The location of the BP is to be determined by the client to ensure that its in a location which will not be disturbed by the construction process. The BP location will be photographed and then recorded on the project drawing afterwards.

A detailed inspection of the ground will be undertaken to determine the location of the CT plant. If necessary the excavator will take a shallow scrape over the area, in order to expose the root system more clearly. Once identified these will be highlighted using spray paint or a similar method if deemed necessary.

JKSL will then assist the client in carryout removal of all CT propagules from the contaminated area highlighted on the drawing, within the designated site boundary, chasing the root structure until fully removed.

We follow stringent methods to avoid any spreading of contaminated material across the site during excavation and burial on site. Specifically the excavator used to remove the plant, remains in the marked area until completion, upon which the vehicle is fully decontaminated, as is any machinery used to move material or any vehicle that may enter a contaminated zone.

We anticipate that a dumper truck will not be required on this project.

General excavation restrictions

It is assumed that the excavations will not be hampered by underground services, buried structures (including basements), buried contaminates, tree roots from trees which are to be retained or any ecological restrictions (EG: Badgers).

Asbestos

Any Site Operative suspecting that they may have encountered asbestos must immediately inform the client’s site manager. The site manager shall then investigate any potential discovery of asbestos using their Asbestos Aware training (or using an Asbestos Aware Operative to do so).

Works will be stopped immediately if the discovery of material which contains or is suspected to contain asbestos is confirmed. JKSL's Operations Department shall be informed without delay on 0161 723 2000.

Works shall not be re-commenced until an asbestos risk assessment has been undertaken, a method statement produced by a suitably-competent asbestos professional, and suitable PPE and control measures are in place.

Decontamination of machinery

After each time a machine has been working with materials containing CT propagules it will be fully decontaminated.

All cleaning of machinery is undertaken by hand using shovels, spades and stiff brushes – a mobile jet wash is then used to clean off the remaining material. All debris are then collected by hand and disposed of in the receptor area. Care is taken to ensure that the angle of the water is facing downward so as not to disperse small fragments of material any distance.

The cleaning of machinery will also not take place near road gullies – only undertaken at location of excavation site.

Installation of membrane over the BP

As previously mentioned the BP will be covered with a geotextile membrane.

Assuming that the geotextile doesn't come in one complete section then it will be welded together following the below methodology.

Transferral of Geotextile

The material will be supplied to site and will be transported to the installation site by use of the excavator via rolling, it will not be lifted. These operations will be carried out by/under the supervision of JKSL.

Preparation of Geotextile

The material will be unwrapped of its protective cover immediately prior to works commencing and the roll will be manoeuvred into position by means of site machinery or site operatives. Geotextile will be cut to specific size in-place using a retractable Stanley blade knife.

Welding of Geotextile

Using a 240V petrol generator as a power source with a step-down transformer to provide 110V, the light-weight portable heat wedge welding machine will be manoeuvred to position to heat weld all seams across the specified area to provide a 'one-piece' geotextile cover.

Temperature and speed will be specific to site conditions and test welding will be performed to give optimum seam welds. These test welds are inspected for integrity to inform temperature and speed settings

When re-fuelling the generator a 'nappy' will be used to contain any potential fuel spills.

Manual Handling

See separate Manual Handling Risk Assessment.

Manual handling should always be carried out in a planned way, approved by the Site Foreman. If you do not feel confident or safe carrying out a manual handling task, you should stop work in a safe way and report it to your supervisor, who should re-evaluate the task, contacting senior management if required.

All manual handling activities should take account of "TILE":

The Task – which should avoid twisting, bending or lifting wherever possible and should minimise repetitive actions.
The Individual – you should take account of your normal ability to lift, as well as what you have been doing that day, whether you have warmed up and whether you may be suffering from fatigue.
The Load – you should account for the weight, but also the shape, the grip (or handles) and the weight distribution of the load, as well as the likelihood of the load falling over, rolling away or any other unpredictable or undesirable behaviour. It is generally considered that any load over 25kg (for an individual) or 50kg for a team of two is too heavy and should not be handled manually.
The Environment – you should consider the weather conditions, lighting, the conditions on the ground (is it slippy?), the loading and unloading areas and anything else that may affect the task.

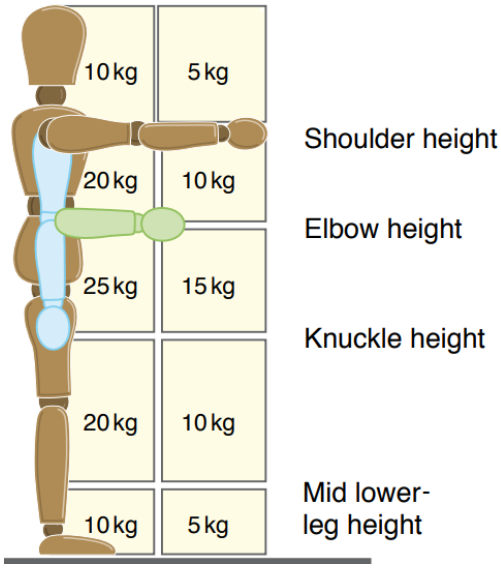


Diagram showing examples of recommended load limits for healthy adult males

Backfilling

The excavation areas are to be graded off to a safe batter by the client.

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Phase 3 – Ongoing monitoring

Start Date: July-October 2026 & 2027.
Duration: 2 years/growing seasons

Monitor Re-growth

In order to comply with current good practise guidelines we have recommended that the excavation area and BP is monitored in July-October 2026 & 2027 (two consecutive growing seasons).

Author: Alexander Dayes

Position: Managing Director – Japanese Knotweed Solutions Ltd

Signed:

Dated: 25.03.2026

Declaration

I have read and understood the above Method Statement:

Print Name	Date	Signature