BS 5837:2012

Arboricultural Method Statement

18th September 2025

Report No. 2568_AMS.01
Project: 11 Pipewell Avenue
Authored by: Matthew Lally

Lally TREE MANAGEMENT

www.lallytreemanagement.co.uk

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

PROJECT

11 Pipewell Avenue
Gorton
Manchester
M18 8ZA

LALLY TREE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

32 Thirlmere Road
Urmston
Manchester
M41 8PP
[T] 07305 740120
[E] matt@lallytreemanagement.co.uk
[W] www.lallytreemanagement.co.uk
Company No. 15847606

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Author Information & Report Purpose

1.1.1. My name is Matthew Lally (FdSc) and I have created this Arboricultural Method Statement to outline the required steps which must be implemented to successfully retain the trees we wish to retain without adversely affecting their safe useful life expectancy. The steps in this Method Statement must be followed and if there is any misunderstanding or difficulty with these steps then I must be contacted immediately to clarify any issues.

1.1.2. Failure to adhere to the recommendations outlined in this document could result in tree decline or tree death which will mean a breach of planning consent. The trees outlined for retention in this document are protected by planning law and any tree loss and damage could result in prosecution.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1. Understanding Tree Roots and Damaging Factors

2.1.1. It is important to understand that the majority of the root system is within the top 600mm of the soil extending radially for distances in excess of the Root Protection Area (the Root protection Area is simply the minimal amount of untouched root system deemed to be required for this tree to be successfully retained). Beyond the main structural roots (close to the base of the trunk), the root system rapidly sub-divides into smaller diameter roots: off this main system, a mass of fine roots develops which are incredibly important for the tree to be able to take up water and essential nutrients.

2.1.2. These very fine roots are easily damaged by a number of factors such as: -

a) Compaction of the ground, which reduces the space between soil particles. This is particularly important on clay soils. A single passage by heavy equipment on clay soils or storage of heavy materials can cause significant damage.
b) Changing soil levels, even for a few weeks.
c) Covering the root area with impervious surfaces.
d) A rise in the level of the water table. Roots can tolerate submersion for short periods. But a permanent rise will deplete the soil of oxygen.

e) Stripping the topsoil, such works must be avoided until protective fencing has been erected.
f) Pollution, such as cement washings & oils.
g) Excavations in the root protection area. Even shallow excavations can cause damage and therefore must be avoided unless otherwise stated in this document.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

3.1. Sequence of Events

3.1.1. I have compiled the sequence of events below that must be undertaken in the order stated. Each step listed below is then expanded upon in section 3.2 onwards to ensure the requirements for each step are understood. This sequence should be read in conjunction with the Tree Removal Plan & the Tree Protection Plan in appendix I.

1) Pre-commencement site meeting (See 3.2)
2) Tree pruning (See 3.3)
3) Site briefing for personnel (See 3.4)
4) Installation of protective fencing (See 3.5)
5) Implementation of development (See 3.6 & 3.7)
6) Completion of development works

3.2. Pre-commencement Site Meeting

3.2.1. Prior to commencement of any site works or tree works, a meeting must take place including the site manager and an arboricultural consultant. This meeting can be onsite, over the phone or virtual and will allow further discussion of the programme of works, tree protective measures, locations of areas for storage/site organisation and the agreement of any changes to the Arboricultural Method Statement that may be required which will be formally updated and approved as required.

3.3. Tree Works

3.3.1. Once the pre-commencement site meeting has taken place then the following tree works must be undertaken by a qualified and insured tree surgery company.

Table 1. Table of tree works

Tree No.	Species	Proposed Works to Facilitate Development	Reason for Works
H1#	*Hawthorn*	*No Works Required*	-
T2#	*Cherry*	*No Works Required*	-
T3#	**Hawthorn**	**Reduce crown on southern side by 0.5m**	**To aid installation of fence**
Bushes	**Bushes**	**Reduce crown on northern side by 1m**	**To aid installation of fence**

All tree works must be undertaken in line with BS3998:2010. Tree Work. Recommendations.

3.4. Site Briefing

3.4.1. Once the tree works have been completed to the recommended specifications and standards outlined in section 3.3, the site manager must ensure that all personnel who are to be working on this site are made fully aware of the constraints posed by the retained trees and that there are measures in place to protect these trees. I recommend making sure that all personnel have full access to the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan (TPP), keeping a hard copy of this in the site office would also be advisable for reference.

3.5. Protective Fencing

3.5.1. Due to the limited scope of the work, it is my opinion that protective fencing and ground protection is not required in this case as the proposed works do not threaten the health and wellbeing of the trees if undertaken using hand tools.

3.6. Additional Precautions Outside Fenced Areas

3.6.1. Oil, bitumen, cement or other material likely to cause damage to the tree will not be stacked or discharged within 10m of the trees stem or within the protective area. Also, materials in general will not be stacked or discharged within the exclusion zone.

3.6.2. Concrete mixing and washing will not be carried out within 10m of any retained trees.

3.6.3. Fires will not be lit beneath the foliage or in a position where the flames could extend to within 5m of the foliage, branches or trunk. If the fire is large, then this may necessitate a distance of at least 20m.

3.6.4. Trees that are to be retained will not be used as anchorage for equipment.

3.6.5. Notice boards, telephone cables, or other services will not be attached to any part of the retained tree.

3.6.6. Care should be taken when using cranes or other equipment near the canopy of the retained trees. Also, any trees to be felled in proximity to the retained trees should be done so with particular care.

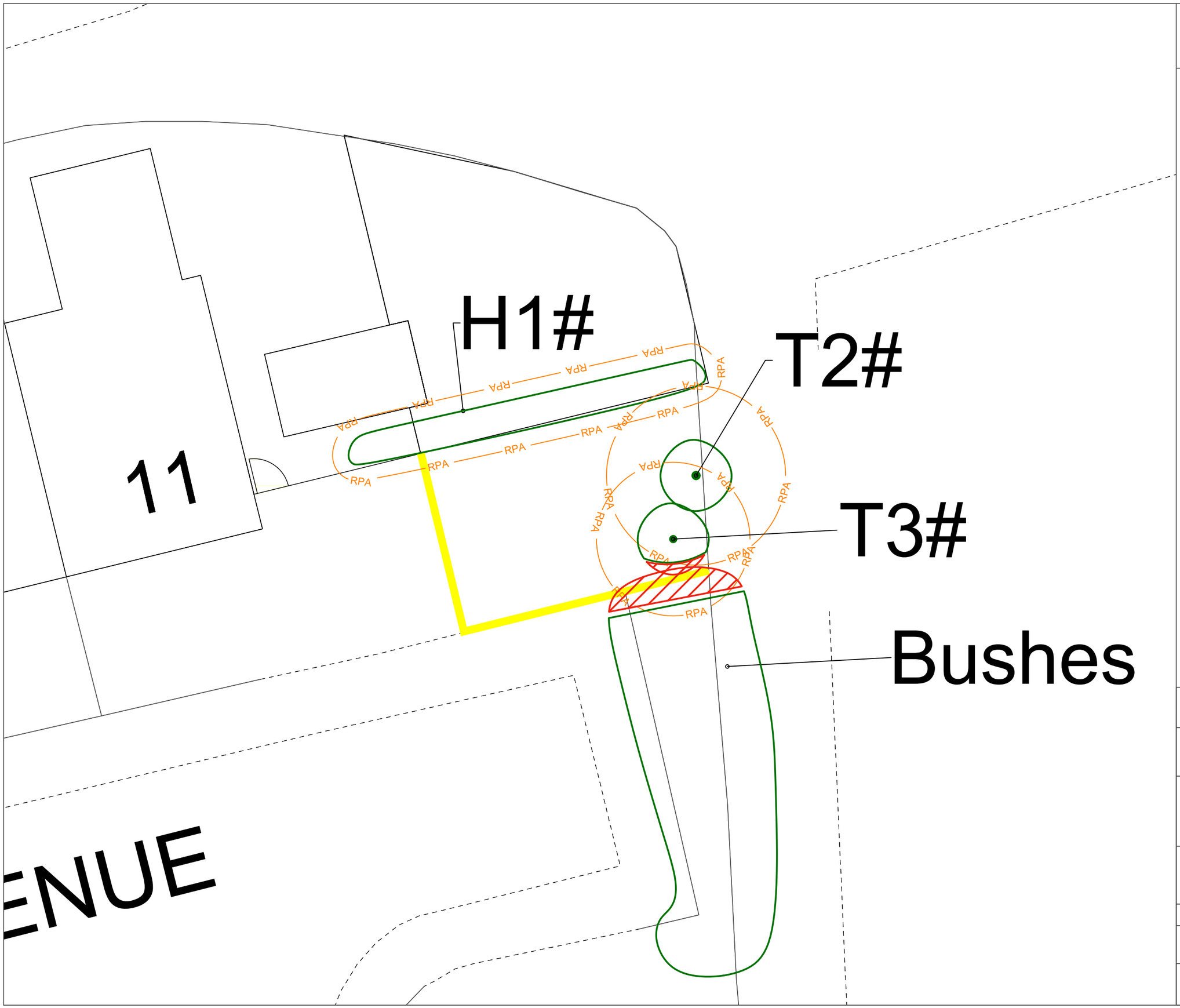
3.7. Installation of New Fencing

3.7.1. To mitigate any adverse effects of the installation of this fence the following precautions and guidelines will be adhered to:

- All works will be undertaken using hand tools. No plant machinery will be permitted within the RPA of any retained trees.
- The removal of the existing fence will be undertaken with great care and by hand.
- A fence design that allows for varying distances between fence posts will be selected.
- Each fence post will have trial holes dug by hand to ensure that no major roots are severed.
- If major roots are found during the digging of the trial holes, then the fence post will not be placed in this hole and the trial hole will be backfilled.
- Posts will be placed at least 0.5 metres from any stems and the hole will be lined with a waterproof membrane when in the RPA.
- Panels will be no closer than 300mm to a stem to allow for yearly incremental growth.

Appendix I

Tree Removal Plan & Tree Protection Plan



Do not scale this drawing (printed or electronic version).

Contractors must check all dimensions from site

This drawing is for use on this site only and should be used in conjunction with all relevant consultants drawings..

LEGEND

N

Retained Trees

Section of Crown Removed

Root Protection Areas

Proposed New Fence

\# Position estimated on site

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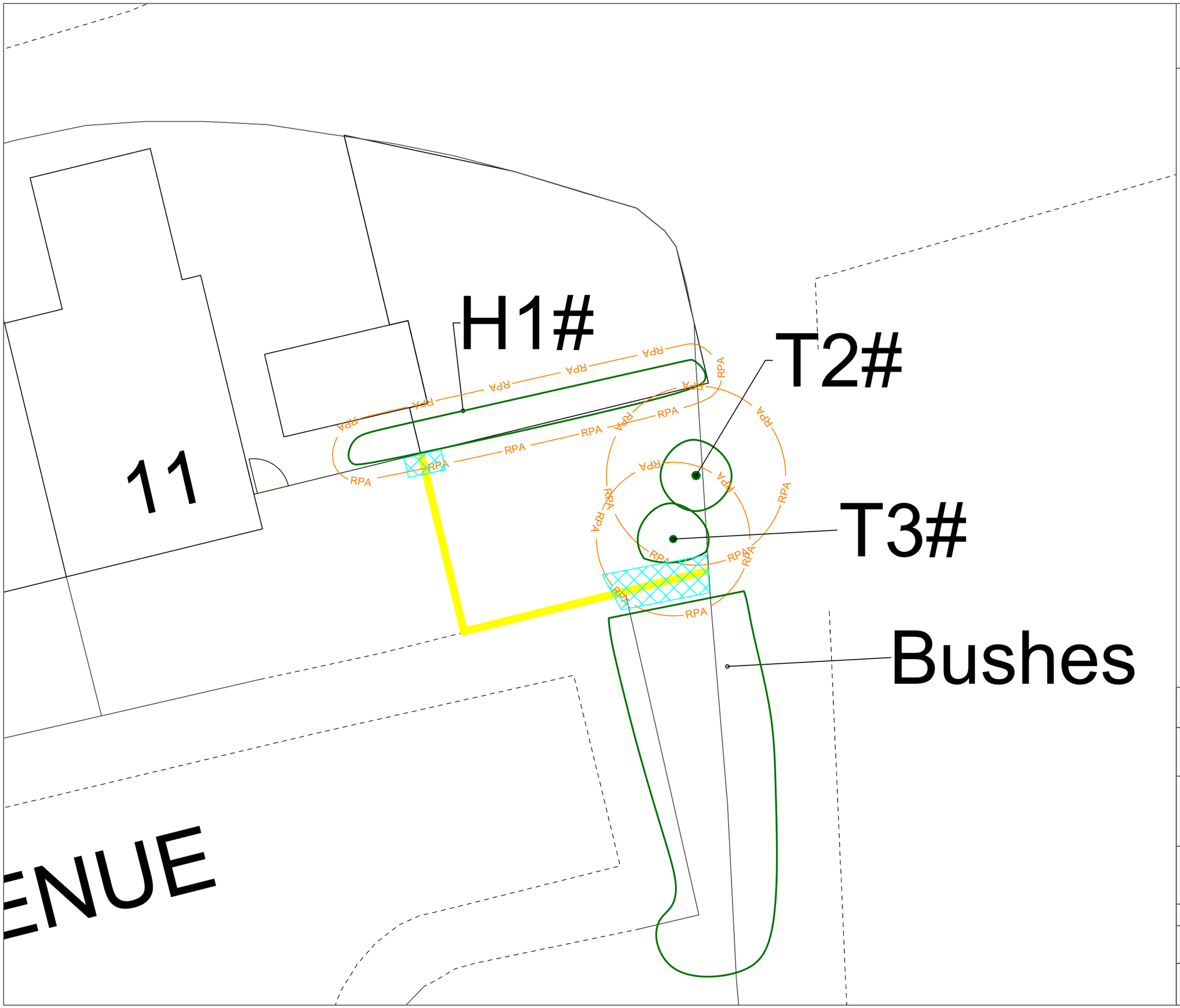
Scale: 1:100 @ A3	Date: 17/09/2025
Job: 2568_AIA.01	
Address: 11 Pipewell Avenue, M18 8ZA	
Client: Manchester City Council	
Drawing Number: 2568_TRP.01	
Drawn by: Matthew Lally	

TREE REMOVAL PLAN



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Contractors must check all dimensions from site

This drawing is for use on this site only and should be used in conjunction with all relevant consultants drawings..

LEGEND

N

Retained Trees

Root Protection Areas

Proposed New Fence

Controlled fence installation

\# Position estimated on site

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Scale: 1:100 @ A3	Date: 17/09/2025
Job: 2568_AIA.01	
Address: 11 Pipewell Avenue, M18 8ZA	
Client: Manchester City Council	
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TREE PROTECTION PLAN