

# BS 5837:2012

# Arboricultural Method Statement

**15th September 2025**

**Report No.** 2570_AMS.01
**Project:** 2 Holland Street
**Authored by:** Matthew Lally

Lally TREE MANAGEMENT

www.lallytreemanagement.co.uk

# ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

## PROJECT

2 Holland Street

Manchester

M40 7HL

## 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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# CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION ..... 1
1.1. Author Information & Report Purpose ..... 1
2. GENERAL INFORMATION ..... 1
2.1. Understanding Tree Roots and Damaging Factors ..... 1
3. METHOD STATEMENT ..... 2
3.1. Sequence of Events ..... 2
3.2. Pre-commencement Site Meeting ..... 2
3.3. Tree Works ..... 3
3.4. Site Briefing ..... 3
3.5. Protective Fencing ..... 3
3.6. Ground Protection (Special Measures) ..... 5
3.7. Additional Precautions Outside Fenced Areas ..... 6
*Appendix I Tree Removal Plan & Tree Protection Plan*

# 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 removal (See 3.3)
3) Site briefing for personnel (See 3.4)
4) Installation of protective fencing & ground protection (See 3.5 & 3.6)
5) Implementation of development (See 3.7)
6) Completion of development works
7) Removal of protective fencing and ground protection

## 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| T1# | Pear | No Works Required | - |
| **T2#** | **Cherry** | **Remove** | **To facilitate the construction of extension** |
| **T3#** | **Lawson cypress** | **Remove** | **To facilitate the construction of extension** |
| T4# | Lawson cypress | No Works Required | - |
| T5# | Lime | No Works Required | - |

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. Now that the site briefing has been completed, the protective fencing should be erected in the positions laid out in the Tree Protection Plan which I have made available in appendix I.

3.5.2. The tree protection fencing will be appropriate to the degree and proximity of likely construction works. It is my opinion that in this instance, the default BS 5837:2012 tree protection fencing is disproportionate. I recommend that (if acceptable by the LPA an adequate level of protection for the trees could be provided by 'Heras' type fencing, of welded mesh panels on

rubber or concrete feet.), I have included an image of the compliant fencing available in figure 1.

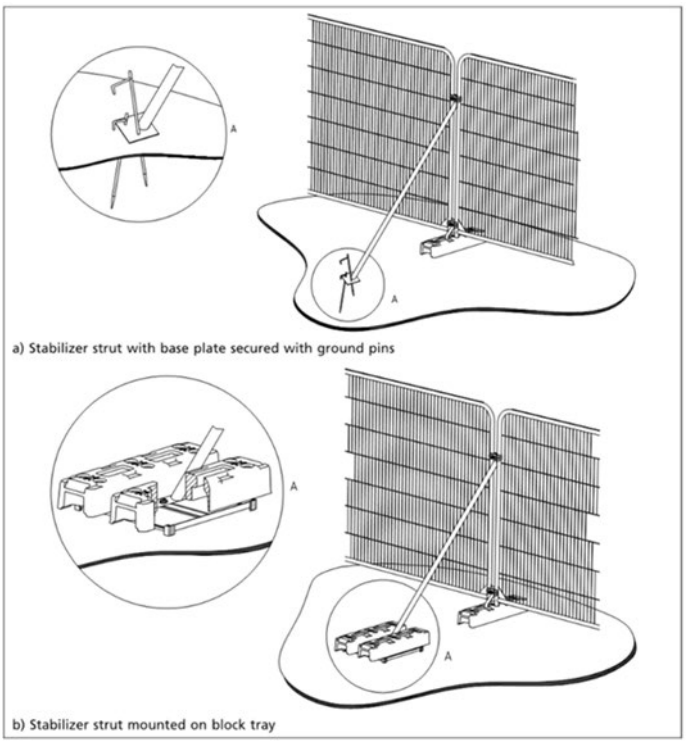



*Figure 1. Tree protection fencing (Heras)*

3.5.3. The fencing should be strong and suitable for local conditions. It should also take into account the degree of construction activity on the site.




*Figure 2. Tree protection notice to be fixed to protective fencing*

3.5.4. Notices must also be erected on the fencing stating, 'Protected Area - No operations within fenced area'. I have made an example of a notice sign available in figure 2.

3.5.5. Once the fence has been erected it should never be crossed and particular care should be taken not to store any materials or soil within the protected area.

## 3.6. Ground Protection (Special Measures)

3.6.1. The areas around T4# will need to be protected by ground protection measures. The dimensions of the ground protection are outlined in appendix I.

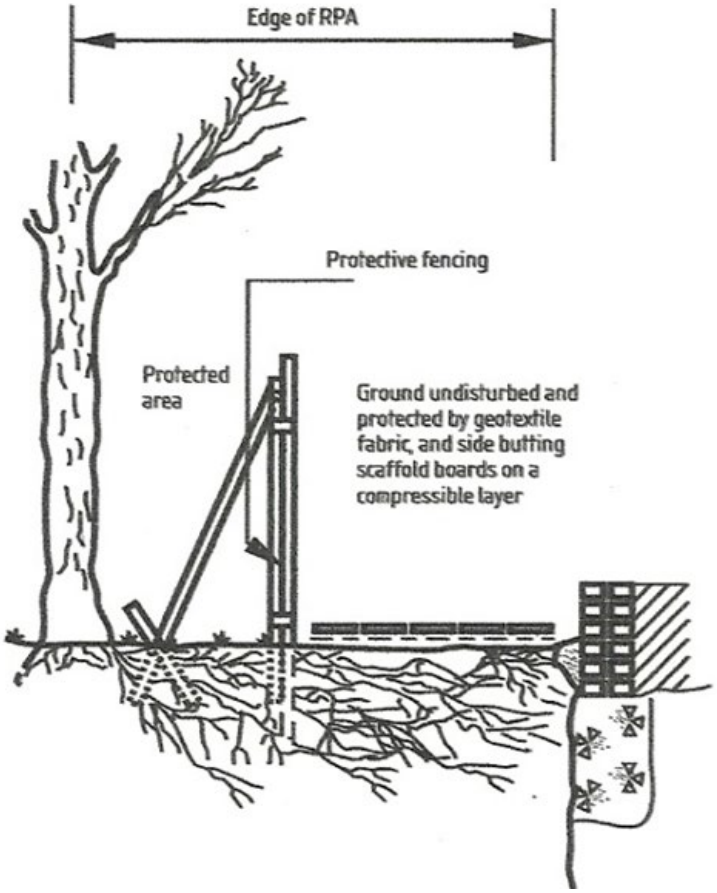



*Figure 3. Ground protection with scaffolding boards within the RPA (taken from BS5837:2005)*

3.6.2. For pedestrian access and for the use of pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, interlinked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane can be used as ground protection, I have made

available an image from BS5837:2005 showing the above description. Heavier plant will require an engineered design solution based on arboriculturist advice.

3.6.3. In this circumstance I would recommend interlinked plastic boards/hard boards or similar with a layer of wood chippings of at least 150mm deep. An example of this type of ground protection can be seen in figure 4, courtesy of Ground Guards (http://www.ground-guards.co.uk/solutions/tree-root-protection/).



*Figure 4. Ground protection interlinked plastic boards with a layer of wood chippings.*

## 3.7. Additional Precautions Outside Fenced Areas

3.7.1. 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.

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

3.7.3. 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.

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

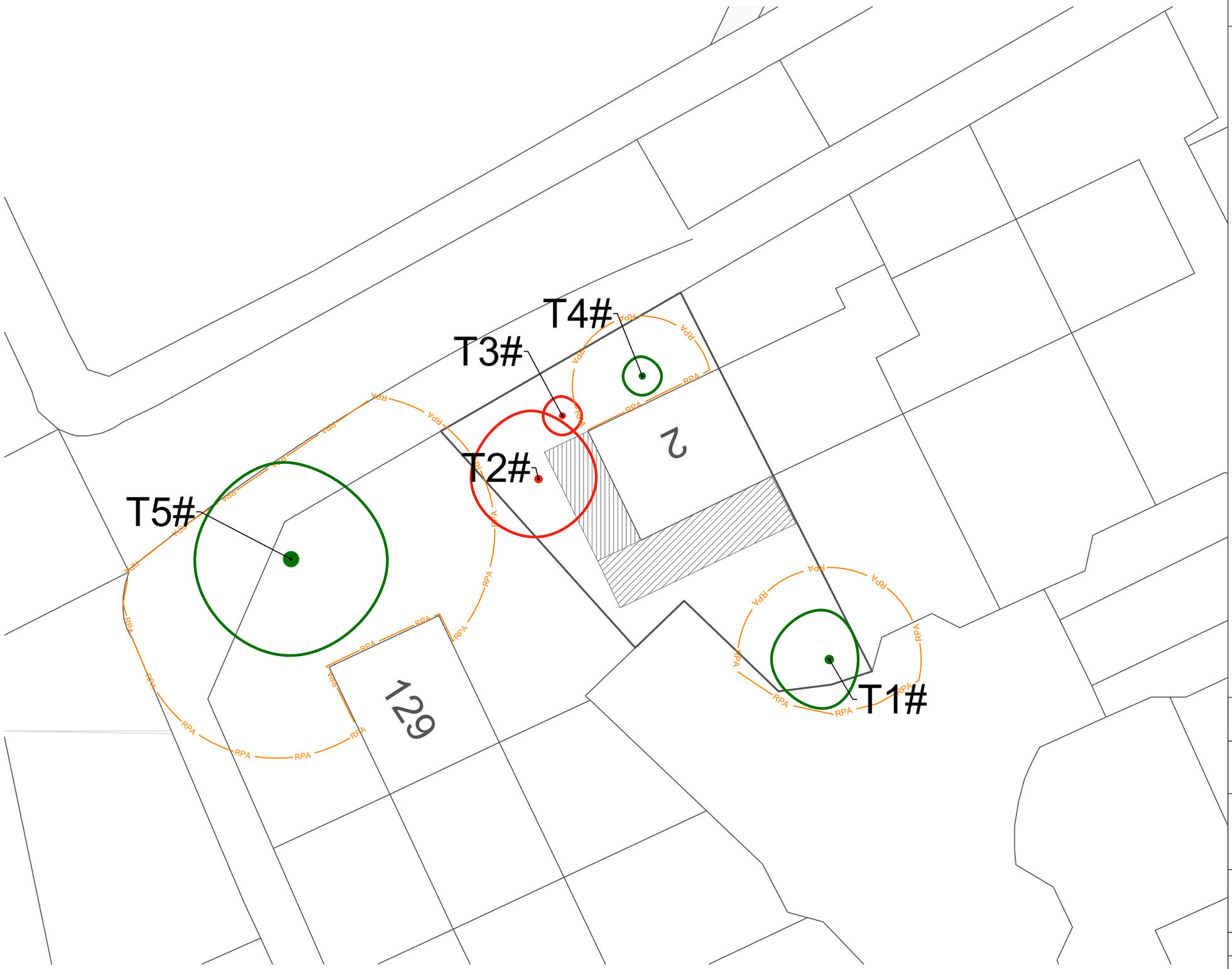
3.7.5. Notice boards, telephone cables, or other services will not be attached to any part of the retained tree.

3.7.6. 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.



# 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

Removed Trees

RPA

Root Protection Areas

\# Position estimated on site

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| Scale: | Date: |
|---|---|
| 1:200 @ A3 | 12/09/2025 |

Job: 2570_AIA.01

Address: 2 Holland Street, Manchester, M40 7HL.

Client: Hassan Naqvi

Drawing Number: 2570_TRP.01

Drawn by: Matthew Lally

# TREE REMOVAL 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

Root Protection Areas

Protective Fencing (Metal)

Ground Protection

\# Position estimated on site

T4#

T5#

T1#

RPA

2

129

Existing fence to act as protective fence in this area.

Existing hard standing to act as ground protection in this area.

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| | |
|---|---|
| Scale: 1:200 @ A3 | Date: 12/09/2025 |

Job: 2570_AIA.01

Address: 2 Holland Street, Manchester, M40 7HL.

Client: Hassan Naqvi

Drawing Number: 2570_TPP.01

Drawn by: Matthew Lally

# TREE PROTECTION PLAN