BS 5837:2012
Method Statement



4th March 2025

Report No. LTM1009.MS.02
Project: 68a Kenworthy Lane
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Lally
TREE MANAGEMENT

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METHOD STATEMENT

PROJECT

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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 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 & ground protection (See 3.5 & 3.6)
5) Implementation of development (See 3.7 & 3.8)
6) Completion of development works
7) Removal of protective fencing and ground protection
8) Completion signed off

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 or over the phone 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 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#	*Sycamore*	*No Action*	-
T2#	*Sycamore*	*No action*	-
G3#	**Cypress x 2**	**Reduce crown on eastern side by up to 0.7m**	**To provide access.**
T4#	**Sycamore**	**Crown lift to 4m over development**	**To facilitate development**
T5#	*Sycamore*	*No action*	-
T6#	*Sycamore*	*No action*	-
T7#	*Oak*	*No action*	-

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 fee, I have included an image of the compliant fencing available in figure 1.

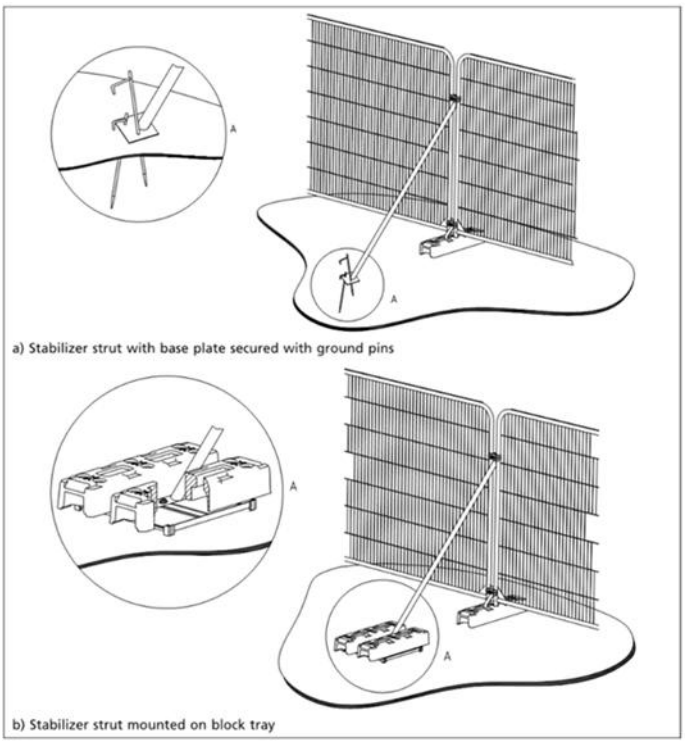


Figure 1. Tree protection fencing (Heras)

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.

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.



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

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 G3# & T4# will need to be protected by ground protection measures. The dimensions of the ground protection are outlined in appendix I.

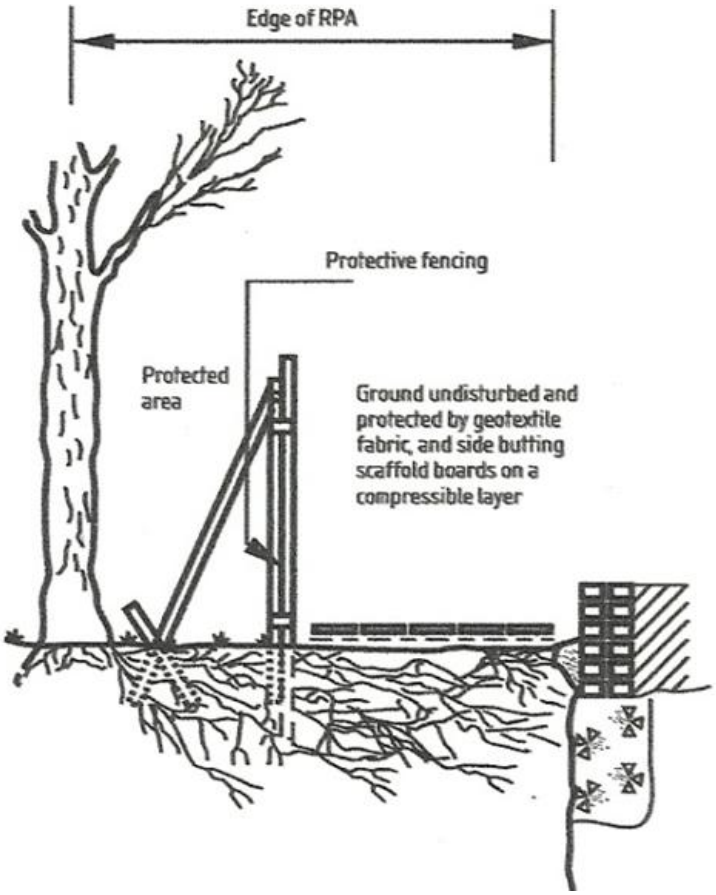


Figure 3. Ground protection with scaffolding boards within the RPA (taken from BS5837:2005)

3.6.2. For 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 arboriculturalist advice.

3.6.3. In this circumstance I would recommend interlinked plastic boards 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 at least 150mm deep.

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.

3.8. Supervised Root Pruning and Excavation

3.8.1. As part of the development will encroach into the RPA of T2#, supervised root pruning and excavation will be required to ensure the long-term retention of wellbeing of this tree is not adversely affected. The following points MUST be adhered to:

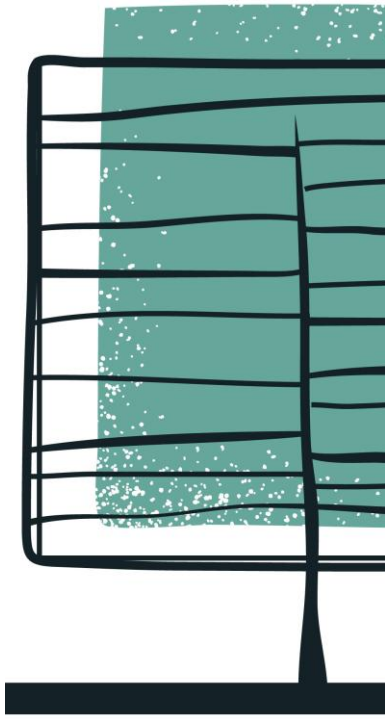
- Excavation must be carried out using hand tools to avoid direct damage to the bark of the roots. It may be possible in some instances to use specialised equipment such as high air pressure machinery to excavate the soil with minimal disturbance to roots.

- Exposed roots will be wrapped in dry, clean Hessian to prevent the roots from drying out. In hot or dry weather, the hessian should be kept moist. The hessian must be removed before backfilling.

- Roots less than 25mm diameter may be pruned back, preferably to a growing point. A sharp cutting tool such as bypass secateurs or a handsaw should be used to leave the smallest wound possible. Roots greater than 25mm in diameter should be retained wherever possible but can be pruned in this circumstance where required.

- Root pruning should be carried out under the supervision of the Arboricultural Consultant.

- Backfilling of any excavation must be carried out by hand to avoid direct root damage or compaction, where possible. Builder sand must not be used in the backfill material.



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

Section of Crown Removed

Root Protection Areas

\# Position estimated on site

Bushes

T6#

T7#

T5#

T4#

Bushes

G3#

68b

Flat Roof

Flat Roof

T2#

T1#

St Hilda's

Lally TREE MANAGEMENT

Scale: 1:200 @ A3	Date: 04/03/2025
Job: LTM1009.AIA.01	
Address: 68a Kenworthy Lane, Northenden, M22 4EF	
Client: Hirala Patel	
Drawing Number: LTM1009.TRP.02	
Drawn by: Matthew Lally	

TREE REMOVAL PLAN

Bushes

T6#

T7#

T5#

T4#

Bushes

G3#

Existing hard standing to act as ground protection

T2#

T1#

St Hilda's

68b

Flat Roof

Flat Roof

RPA

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

Supervised Root Pruning

Position estimated on site

Lally TREE MANAGEMENT

Scale: 1:200 @ A3	Date: 04/03/2025
Job: LTM1009.AIA.01	
Address: 68a Kenworthy Lane, Northenden, M22 4EF	
Client: Hirala Patel	
Drawing Number: LTM1009.TPP.02	
Drawn by: Matthew Lally	

TREE PROTECTION PLAN