AMENITYTREE

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

All Saints Library Development

Prepared for: Planit IE

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1. Tree Protection Plan

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The scope of this report is to provide an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS), specifically in relation to the demolition of existing buildings, but also includes construction of new hard standing within a Root Protection Areas (RPA) of retained trees at the All-Saints Library Development for Demolition and construction phases.

The AIA that supports the project dated 07.08.2025 (V3), has identified in section 2.3 that public realm works including soft landscaping and new no-dig hard surfacing in RPA (natural stone paving) are to be installed. These areas are termed Special Measure Area (SMA) and are shown on the accompanying Tree Protection Plan contained in the Appendix. The yellow SMA on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) in the appendix applies to new hard surfacing.

In addition to the new hard surfacing some of the existing hard paviours are to be removed and converted to soft planted landscape and the scheme is proposing amelioration of the soils in the green SMA.

1.2 The purpose of the AMS is to demonstrate the methods for working in or adjacent to RPA and SMA to avoid unacceptable impacts between the proposed design and retained trees and to offer a level of protection for those trees that are to be retained on site throughout the demolition and construction phases.

1.3 It is important that the guidance in the method statement is followed and understood by all persons involved in the design and construction of the proposed scheme.

2.0 Communication Details, Monitoring and Compliance

2.1 It will be the responsibility of the site manager and appointed arboricultural consultant Arboricultural Clerk of Works (AcOW) to brief all contractors on site as to the adherence to the AMS. A copy of this method statement will be made available to site contractors at all times during the period of development.

2.2 A list of site contacts is available to the rear of this document.

2.3 All Special Measure Area works shall be fully supervised on site by the AcOW.

2.4 In order to outline working methods in relation to trees prior to any construction activity on site, a site meeting shall take place between the main contractor and arboricultural clerk of works. The organisations and individuals performing these roles shall be appointed prior to a pre start meeting. A record of the meeting will be taken and distributed to relevant parties and the meeting will confirm the duration of the works and any phasing implications or specific contractor related issues and how they are to be resolved.

The following will be explained at the pre start meeting:

- The central aspect of tree protection on this site is that the area of new hard surfacing located in protected areas (yellow SMA) shall be complete and physically protected before any other construction works commence thereby avoiding the typical construction related issues such as compaction or direct damage from excavation that occur during general site works
- The new surfacing arrangement shall be no-dig, meaning it shall be constructed using a maximum excavation of 50-100mm of the existing ground level.
- The Construction Exclusion Zone is purposefully located within the permanent works for new hard surfacing. This is to ensure the SMA remains undisturbed and to prompt supervision by the AcOW. When the SMA works are supervised by the arborist he/she will direct CEZ relocation
- It is noted that arboricultural input is prior to construction (pre start) and whilst supervision is required throughout the build period all operations in the SMA must be overseen by the AcOW and must be carried out prior to any other works on site unless otherwise agreed with the LPA.
- Seasonally these works shall be carried out when the ground is dry and preferably in summer after which main construction can begin, the purpose of this is to avoid detrimental damage such as compaction of soils caused by traffic in wet conditions.

3.0 Tree pruning

3.1 Only tree works permitted and agreed with the subsequent planning permission shall be permitted. Where tree pruning is required in addition to that already

specified in the preliminary tree survey schedule, it will be agreed in writing with the LPA Tree Officer prior to commencement.

3.2 All arboricultural works shall conform to the recommendations of BS3998:2010 British Standard Recommendations for Tree Work unless otherwise specified.

4.0 Protective barrier

4.1 Before commencing any site works Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZ) will be constructed in line with the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and specification for the CEZ contained within the plan. Note all SMA works will be completed before any other works commences on site and they shall be supervised on the site by Arboricultural Clerk of Works.

4.2 The protective barriers will be constructed to the specification as detailed in BS 5837:2012 and consist of a 2m high steel mesh panels (Heras panels) secured to the ground via rubber feet and metal stakes. The fencing will be secured by uprights driven
into the ground to a minimum depth of 0.4m. Please refer to Appendix 2 showing a detailed specification for the construction of the barrier fencing within the Tree Protection Plan.

4.3 All weather notices will be secured to the barriers showing the following wording: “CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE – NO ACCESS”.

4.4 Once installed all fencing will be inspected by the consulting arboriculturist and signed off as secure prior to any works.

5.0 Additional precautionary measures

5.1 Plant and materials will be stored in designated areas outside the CEZ.

5.2 Movement of cranes on site will be conducted under the supervision of a banks man to ensure that a suitable distance is maintained from trees on site.

5.3 Materials will be stored in such a way that if spillage did occur no chemicals would leach into the CEZ.

5.4 Wash points for tools and equipment will be placed outside of the CEZ. When determining the proposed location for wash point's consideration will be given to the design of the station to ensure that run off does leach into the RPA.

5.5 Fires on site will not be permitted

6.0 Method for construction of new surfacing

6.1 The new hard surfacing proposal crosses the RPA of retained trees and therefore they are to be constructed by the use of a no dig method as detailed in BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction recommendations subsection 7.4.2. As a result of this measure the TPP has a designated Special Measure Area (Yellow SMA) where the new surface shall be laid.

The existing paviours shall be lifted and on AcOW supervision applies to any substrate removal. The AcOW supervision may require the use of air spade excavation should roots be found where excavation is needed.

6.2 The design for the driveway will consist of a three dimensional cellular confinement system and will be employed as a sub-base to a depth suitable for pedestrian use. The cellular system will be laid onto a geotextile membrane in order to prevent pollution contaminating the rooting area. The cellular structure is then expanded and pinned in place using steel rods and back filled using an angular aggregate that contains no fines.

Note: The infill aggregate must not contain any fines as these become compacted overtime and reduce water infiltration. The recommended size of aggregate is 20-40mm in diameter.



6.3 In order for the system to allow for gaseous exchange and water infiltration the finished surface joint treatment will be permeable to allow for water infiltration.

6.4 The finished permeable surface will be protected during construction works in order to prevent the interstices from becoming blocked by excessive construction debris.

6.5 Where the topography of the ground is such that required levels are not met for installing the cellular system, the levelling of the area can be achieved by using sharp sand in order to create an even surface.

Note: Builders sand is not to be used to create a level surface due to the high salt content.

6.6 Consideration will be given to ground conditions at the time of installation as during the winter months the ground is more likely to be saturated leading to an increased risk of compaction.

6.6 The operator will take care not to place an exaggerated angular force on the cellular system when filling with the aggregate to prevent compaction and smearing of the soil subgrade layer.

6.7 The granular infill will be spread using hand tools and be loaded from outside the area of works. Machinery will only access the cellular system once a suitable area has been prepared by hand in order to prevent compaction and damage to the cellular system.

Note: a single passage of machinery over a root protection area can cause irreparable damage to tree roots, 90% of which are located within the top 400mm of the soil.

NOTE: The chronological order of events shall be as follows.

Following installation of the CEZ the new hard surface shall be installed under supervision to no dig specification and all new surfacing's are protected by on ground boarding such as scaffold boards prior to any other construction activity commencing. It is however critical that ground boarding is proportionate to the load anticipated to be exerted on the surface, heavier construction related deliveries may be required and ground boarding shall be upgraded to bog mat or similar which must bear the anticipated load. On ground boarding are required for the construction duration.

6.8 Amelioration of the soils in the green SMA.

The entire soft planting area shall be de compacted by air injection and install biochar application (Carbon gold tree soil improver) which will be mixed into the imported topsoils.

7.0 Supervision of the SMA works

It is a specific requirement of this scheme that a schedule of Arboricultural Clerk of Works (AcOW) is deployed at the following periods within the construction.

Timing of construction	AcOW supervision
Pre start meeting	Yes, needed to outline SMA working techniques from both AcOW to construction team

Existing surface removal	AcOW to compliance report on site, air spade use as and when necessary, compliance reporting to this AMS
Install new hard surfacing	AcOW to attend site and provide compliance reporting to this AMS
Conversion of existing hard surface to soft landscape	AcOW to compliance report on site, air spade use as and when necessary, compliance reporting to this AMS

To ensure that there is an auditable system of site monitoring, reports will be compiled by an appointed arborist and following site visits they issued to the site manager and design team, copies of which will be available on site at all times for inspection by a Council planning/Tree officer.

8.0 Services within the RPA

8.1 At present there are no plans for services in the RPA of retained trees.

8.2 The favoured method of insertion for services is a trenchless insertion method which differs on the requirement of the utility apparatus and includes micro-tunnelling, surface launched directional drilling, pipe ramming and impact moling. Where any of these methods is utilised then the entry and retrieval pits will be located outside of the RPA.

Ref: Volume 4: NJUG Guidelines For The Planning, Installation And Maintenance Of Utility Apparatus In Proximity To Trees (Issue 2) – Operatives Handbook

8.3 Any roots un-earthed during the excavation are to be pruned in accordance with British Standard BS5837:2012. Pruning of roots in excess of 25mm is to be agreed with the LPA's Tree Officer and pruning is to be carried out under supervision of the consultant arboriculturist. Exposed roots not to be pruned are to be covered immediately in order to prevent desiccation and to protect from rapid changes in temperature. All protective materials shall be removed prior to infilling with topsoil; care will be taken to ensure that no contaminated material is introduced into the excavation.

9.0 Contact details

9.1 The following list details key project consultants and officers who can provide appropriate advice on arboricultural matters relating to the above project.

Site manager:
Site supervisor:
Arboricultural consultant:
Amenity Tree Care Ltd
Burwardsley
Chester
Tel: 01829 770075
Tree officer (Council):
Planning officer (Council):

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further assistance.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Simon Brain *Ba. Tech Cert Arb. PG Cert (Bio Rec)*
Chartered arboriculturist.
Managing Director

Appendix 1 Tree Protection Plan



TREE PROTECTION PLAN

Retention value key

(RETENTION VALUE A)

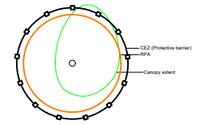
(RETENTION VALUE B)

(RETENTION VALUE C)

(RETENTION VALUE U)

Root Protection Areas (RPA) & Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZ)

Root Protection Areas (RPA's) have been identified and are based on BS5837:2012. RPA's and Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZ) have been shown as detailed below. The CEZ shall act as the protective barrier for retained trees.



CEZ

The CEZ's will require installation as shown on the TPP. The section of CEZshall be repositioned t only under arboricultural supervision and only when all construction associated with SMA is complete .

SMA. New permanent hard surfacing proposed. All surfacing to be no dig and installed under arboricultural supervision.

SMA. Soft landscape creation. Arboricultural supervision required.

Refer to Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA) for details of recommended construction in SMA's.

AMENITY TREE Ltd

Client:
Planit-IE

Project:
MMU Library-Oxford Street

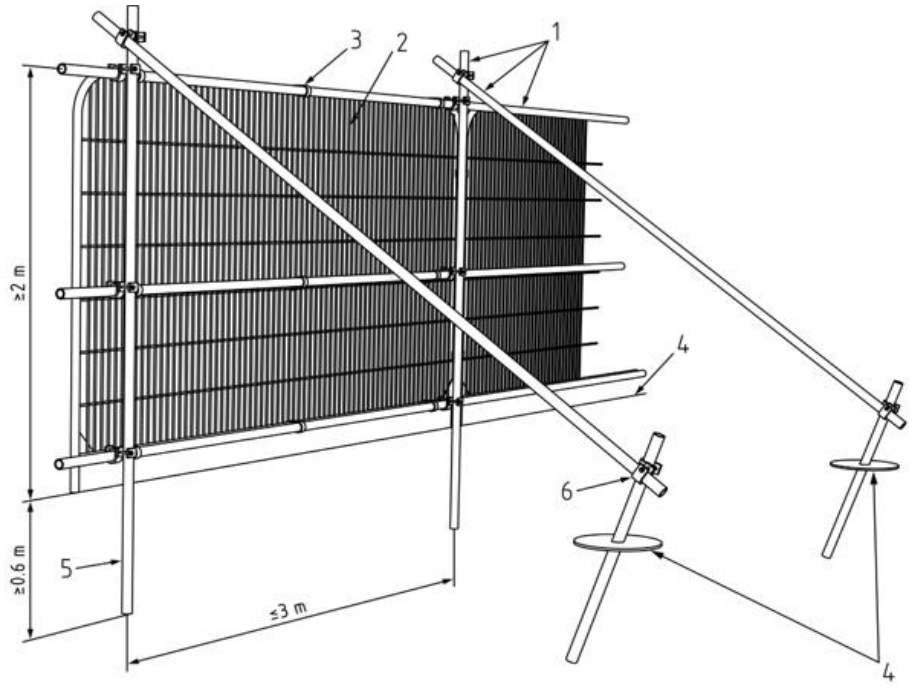
Detail:
Tree Protection Plan

Drawn By:	Date:	Scale:
SB	02.12.2025	1/250@A3

Drg No:	Revision:
01	V3

Appendix 2 Tree Protective Fencing Specification

Default specification for protective barrier



Key

1 Standard scaffold poles
2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
4 Ground level
5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
6 Standard scaffold clamps

