# **Arboricultural Method Statement**

### Protected Status of trees

Trees may be legally protected, this may either be in the form of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or that the trees are located within a Conservation area. In addition some tree felling may require a felling licence from the Forestry Commission.

Potentially large penalties may be enforced for illegally carrying out works on protected trees. It is recommended that checks are made before any works are undertaken and no work should commence until permission has been granted. Please note that there are a number of exemptions from the requirement to obtain a felling licence including land on which full planning permission has been granted by the local authority, however this exemption does not cover land where only outline planning permission has been granted, or on land which has been allocated for residential development within local authority urban and local development plans.

AllAboutTrees has been able to ascertain with South Tyneside Council (the Local Planning Authority) on Monday 6th October 2014 that there are restrictions protecting the trees on the site. The site is within the 'Cleadon Pumping Station Conservation Area' and the trees are also protected by virtue of a TPO, TPO 62.

The first arboricultural works on site will be the removal of the conflicting tree (tree 11) which is identified on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) by the broken black ring surrounding the tree centre and referred to in appendix 1 of this report. It would also be appropriate to remove trees 1-3 and group 1 at this time although this is not essential to facilitate the development and is for arboricultural management purposes.

The stumps should be ground out using a stump grinding machine to prevent regrowth or alternatively chemically treated.

Details of any prescribed pruning works are included within Appendix 1 of this report. The tree works should wherever possible be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 Recommendations for tree work.

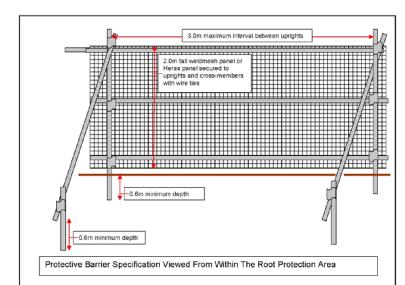
See section 5 for Arboricultural supervision schedule.

The protective barriers are to be erected prior to the commencement of site works including soil stripping or movement, bringing onto site of materials, supplies or machinery. Tree works can be undertaken prior to the erection of the barriers.

The barriers must be erected in the position indicated on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) by the dark blue line and be constructed as per the following specification

The barriers should be considered essential and should not be removed or altered without prior recommendation by an Arboriculturalist and approval of the local planning authority.

The barrier should consist of a vertical and horizontal framework of scaffold tubing which is adequately braced to resist impacts. The vertical scaffold tubes need to be placed at a distance not exceeding 3m apart and driven securely into the ground for a minimum depth of 0.6m. Care should be taken when locating the vertical poles to avoid underground services and, in the case of the bracing poles, also to avoid any structural roots. The weldmesh or Heras panels need to be a minimum 2.0m tall and are securely attached to the scaffold framework with wire or scaffold clamps. The wire or scaffold clamps should be secured on the inside of the barrier to avoid easy dismantling. Panels on rubber or concrete feet are not resistant to impact and should





No fixing shall be made to any tree and all possible care must be taken to prevent damage to tree roots when locating the posts.

All types of barriers must be firmly attached to prevent movement by site personnel or vehicles and all weather signs with the wording "Construction exclusion zone- keep out" should be

There are several level changes and retaining structures adjacent to some of the surveyed trees. These will effectively protect the trees during the construction phase and any arboricultural impact will be minimal. High sided construction machines should not operated beneath the canopies of any retained trees.

# Location of Site Compound & Storage Areas

The contractor's site compound, storage & parking areas must be located outside of the root protection areas (RPAs) of the retained trees

All site storage areas, especially cement mixing and washing points for plant and vehicles must also be situated outside of the root protection areas (RPA). Where there is a possible risk of polluted water runoff heavy duty plastic sheeting and sand bags must be used to contain spillages and contamination.

## Ground Levels

There should be no alteration of the ground level within the RPA of any retained tree. This includes the lowering of the ground level via the excavation of existing material or the raising of the ground level via the importation of additional material.

Lowering of the ground level results in the inevitable severance of roots. As the majority of feeding roots are located towards the surface of the soil, lowering the ground level by even a few centimetres can have a drastic effect on the trees physiological health, greatly limiting the trees ability to uptake nutrients. A more significant reduction in ground level is likely to sever larger supporting roots resulting in immediate loss of structural integrity, predisposing the tree to

Raising the ground level encourages anaerobic conditions, resulting in reduced gaseous exchange, a necessary part of the respiration process. Water penetration to the underlying root system is also limited. The roots are slowly suffocated leading to decline. Symptoms are likely to include wilting foliage, poor shoot elongation, late bud break, early leaf abscission, crown thinness, followed by dieback and eventually death.

### Drainage Runs/ Underground Services

It is assumed that the existing service runs will be exploited where possible, but if new works are required it is important that they comply with the National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) 'Guidelines for the planning, installation, and maintenance of utility services in proximity to trees' and BS 5837:2012. The excavation of open trenches by machine will be unacceptable within the protective zone of any of the retained trees.

Wherever possible, services should be routed outside of any retained trees RPA. When this is not possible apparatus should be routed together in a common duct and any inspection chambers sited outside the RPA.

### Acceptable techniques for the laying of services in order of preference are:

• Trenchless- by use of thrust boring or similar techniques. The pit excavations for starting and receiving the machinery should be located outside of the root protection area. To avoid root damage, the mole should run at a depth of at least 600mm. Use of external lubricants on the mole other than water (e.g. oil or bentinite) should be

Trenchless Solutions For Installation Of Underground Services						
Method	Accuracy (MM)	Bore <sup>(A)</sup> diameter (MM)	Maximum subterranean length (M)	Applications	Not suitable for	
Microtunnelling	<20	100 to 300	40	Gravity-fall pipes, deep apparatus, watercourse/ roadway under crossings	Low-cost project due to relative	
Surface-launched directional drilling	≈100	25 to 1200	150	Pressure popes, cables including fibre optic	Gravity fall pipe e.g. drains ar sewers <sup>(B)</sup>	
Pipe ramming	≈150	150 to 2000	70	Any large-bore pipes and ducts	Rocky and other heavily obstructed soils	
Impact moling (C)	≈50 <sup>(D)</sup>	30 to 180	40	Gas, water and cable connections, e.g. from street to	Any application th requires accuracy over distances	

### (A) Dependent upon strata encountered

- (B) Pit-launched directional drilling can be used for gravity fall pipes up to 20m in subterranean
- (C) Impact moling (also known as thrust-bore) generally requires soft, cohesive soils.
- (D) Substantial inverse relationship between accuracy and distance (E) Figures given relate to single pass: up to 300mm bore achievable with multiple passes
- If trenchless insertion is not feasible the alternatives are detailed below in order of preference.
- Broken trench- by using hand dug trench sections together with trenchless techniques. It should be limited to practical access and installation around or below the roots. The trench must be dug by hand (see following comments re continuous trenching) and only be long enough to allow access for linking to the next section. The open sections should be kept as
- Continuous trench- the trench is excavated by hand and retains as many roots as possible. The surface layer is removed carefully and hand digging of the trench takes place. No roots over 2.5cm diameter or clumps of smaller roots (including fibrous) should be severed. The bark surrounding the roots must be maintained. Cutting of roots over 2.5cm diameter should not be attempted without the advice of a qualified Arboriculturalist.
- If roots have to be cut, a sharp tool (defined as spade, narrow spade, fork, breaker bar, secateurs, handsaw, post hole shoveller, hand trowel) should be used.

Reinstatement of street works must comply with the code of practice New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991 (Specification for the reinstatement of openings in highways), but where tree roots are involved backfilling should be carefully carried out to avoid direct damage to retained roots and excessive compaction of the soil around them.

The backfill should incorporate an inert granular material mixed with top soil or sharp sand (not builders sand) around the retained roots. This will allow a measure of compaction for resurfacing whilst creating an aerated zone around the roots.

Roots and in particular fine roots, are vulnerable to desiccation on exposure to air. The roots are at greatest risk when there are rapid fluctuations in the air temperature around them (especially winter diurnal temperatures). It is vitally important that the roots are covered with sacking whilst the trench is open. The sacking should be removed once the trench is backfilled.

The following programme of supervision is proposed to assist is the preservation and protection of the retained trees during all aspects of the proposed development.

The supervision arrangements must be sufficiently flexible to allow for the supervision of all sensitive works as they occur. The Arboricultural Consultant's initial role is to liaise with the developer and the council to ensure that the appropriate protective measures are in place before any works commence on site and once the site is active monitor compliance with the Arboricultural conditions and advise on any tree problems that may arise.

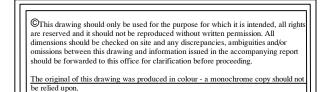
Action	Programming	Extent of supervision	Nature of supervision
Pre-commencement meeting with site manager & Council tree officer	Before any site activity commences	Meeting on site  Review any updates to the proposal	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
		Confirm extent of tree works and protective barrier position.	
Tree works meeting with tree works contractor	Prior to commencement of tree works	Meeting on site to confirm tree works specification and method of working	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
Tree works undertaken Finalising tree protection barrier installation and other tree protection measures	Before any plant enters site or demolition/construction work commences.	Confirm position of the protective barriers and any other tree protection measures have been installed and comply with the Tree Protection Plan (TPP)  Provide photographs	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
		indicating completed tree protection	
Installation of services within root protection areas	Prior to installation of services & during installation of surfaces and services	Meeting with contractor prior to installation and during installation of services to ensure compliance with AIA	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.
Removal of protective barriers and other tree protection measures	Once construction activities have finished	Meeting with contractor for briefing before removal commences	Site meeting & letter or email confirming results of meeting distributed to relevant parties.

# Site Management

It is the developer's responsibility to ensure that the details of the Arboricultural method statement and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all relevant site personnel. Copies of the agreed documents must be kept on site at all times and the site manager or other appropriate person must brief all personnel who could impact the trees on the specific tree protection requirements.

This should form part of the site induction procedure and be written into the appropriate site











Tree Crown True Shape (Shaded Light Green) Predicted Future Growth Of Canopy Predicted Future Growth Of Canopy
(Shaded Dark Green & Surrounding
Current Crown Shape) Current Crown Shape)

Tree Quality Assessment Centre Colours As Below

Trees To Be Removed

Broken Black Ring Surrounding

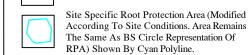


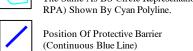
Blue Centre = Moderate Quality (Denoted By Letter B)

Yellow Centre = Low Quality (Denoted By Letter C) Red Centre = Unsuitable To Retain

(Denoted By Letter U)

BS Root Protection Area As Shown By The Red Circle Around The Tree







Arboricultural Method Statement Tree Protection Plan (TPP)

Retained Trees Shown On Proposed Layout With Protection Measures Indicated

> Sunniside Farm, Sunniside Lane, Cleadon Hills, South Shields, NE34 8DY





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-Urban Forestry -Ecological Consultants

AMS