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arboricultural consultants



Location:
North Road,
West Boldon

Report Type:
Arboricultural Method Statement

Ref:
ARB/CP/1993

Date:
August 2019

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1 Introduction

1.1 This arboricultural method statement has been prepared by Charles Prowse of Elliott Consultancy Ltd at the request of the client, Gus Robinson Developments Ltd. It will provide details regarding the retention and protection of trees during re-development of the West Boldon School site.

1.2 **Scope of the report:**

- This method statement provides arboricultural information and advice in relation to the development of land at North Road, West Boldon, as detailed within Appendix 3.
- It will outline any trees to be removed prior to development and those to be retained along with any pruning required. Also provided are details of all measures recommended for adequate tree protection including any special construction measures to be utilised.
- It should be used to guide the construction process in order to minimise potential damage to retained trees.
- It will detail, within the Arboricultural Tasks Sequence Table (Appendix 1), a timescale for implementation of these tree works and protective measures in reference to the development period.

1.4 **Prior to site works commencing, and in particular ground preparation, this Arboricultural Method Statement needs to passed to the site manager and used as reference during the development period, with particular attention paid Sections 3-5, and Appendices 1-8.**

2 Site Information

2.1 The area originally surveyed by E3 Ecology and the extent covered within this report is the site of an old school that has been cleared of buildings located to the west of North Road and north of Don Gardens in West Boldon. Figure 1 shows the extent of the site. Please refer to E3 Ecology Report (5303 West Boldon School TCA R01) for site description.

Figure 1: Site detailed within report



3 Pre-Development and Site Preparation Works

3.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.

3.2 Prior to any site works commencing, the following arboricultural specific actions need to be implemented:

a) An arboricultural contractor should be sought and the tree works recommended within Appendix 2 undertaken.

b) A supplier needs to be sought to provide the tree protection fencing as specified within Appendix 4.

3.3 Once the aforementioned tasks have been completed and prior to any site work the tree protection barriers need to be erected as per the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 3). The barrier must encompass the root protection areas and crown extents of the retained trees to ensure that these areas remain free from disturbance.

3.3.1 The barriers needs to be installed according to the locations found on the Tree Protection Plan, Appendix 3 and conform to the specification within Appendix 4, unless a similarly immoveable alternative is agreed with the Local Planning Authority. All weather notices should be attached to the fencing marked with the following: '*Construction Exclusion Zone - Keep Out'* (a notice is provided within Appendix 7).

3.3.2 The project arboriculturalist should check the correct installation of the protective features prior to any site works commencing.

3.4 Material storage and site offices must be confined to areas outside root protection areas.

3.5 A copy of the Tree Protection Plan must be displayed outside the site office.

4 Tree protection measures during development

4.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.

4.2 All ground levels where trees are located should be maintained. Changes to soil levels adjacent to trees can severely affect the trees structural integrity and its ability to gain moisture and nutrients from the surrounding soil. Unavoidable level changes that may affect retained trees, and not already accounted for within this method statement, should be assessed by the project arboriculturalist.

4.3 Building material storage and operations that can contaminate soil, such as cement mixing, must be confined to areas outside the tree protection zones.

4.4 Fires should not be lit within 5m of the foliage or drip line of the tree. Care should be taken and the fire should not be allowed to become large, and the wind direction noted.

4.5 The trees should not be used to attach notices, cables or other services.

4.6 The installation of any underground services near or adjacent to trees on the site shall conform to the requirements of National Joint Utilities Group publication Volume 4 (November 2007).

4.7 At the beginning of the construction phase, the site manager will appoint a delegated site representative who shall be responsible for continued checking of the protective barriers to ensure it is compliant with the exclusion zone. Appendix 8 contains a record sheet that can be copied for such use.

4.8 As recommended within BS 5837:2012, and specified within the Arboricultural Tasks Sequence Table, the development site should be visited by the project arboriculturalist on occasions to provide any arboricultural advice necessary and to ensure the efficacy of the Tree Protection features. Contact between the project manager and project arboriculturalist should be maintained throughout the works period so that supervision can be provided when operations with the potential to damage retained trees are being undertaken. Key stages that will require the attendance of a qualified arboriculturalist with evidence of visit provided to LPA are:

- Inspection of tree protection features prior to site works commencing.
- Unarranged spot check(s) carried out during the course of the build.
- Site visit to ensure all development operations have been completed prior to tree protection features being removed and to inspect the condition of the trees.

5 Post-Construction Considerations

5.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for stage specific tasks.

5.2 Only once all major construction works have been completed can the protective barriers be removed.

5.3 Post development landscaping should be kept to a minimum within the root protection areas of retained trees.

5.4 Since trees are capable of influencing soil hydrology newly planted trees need to be situated where they will not interfere with built structures. Refer to NHBC Chapter 4.2 'Building near Trees' and Arboriculture Research and Information Note 'Tree Roots and Foundations' for further information.

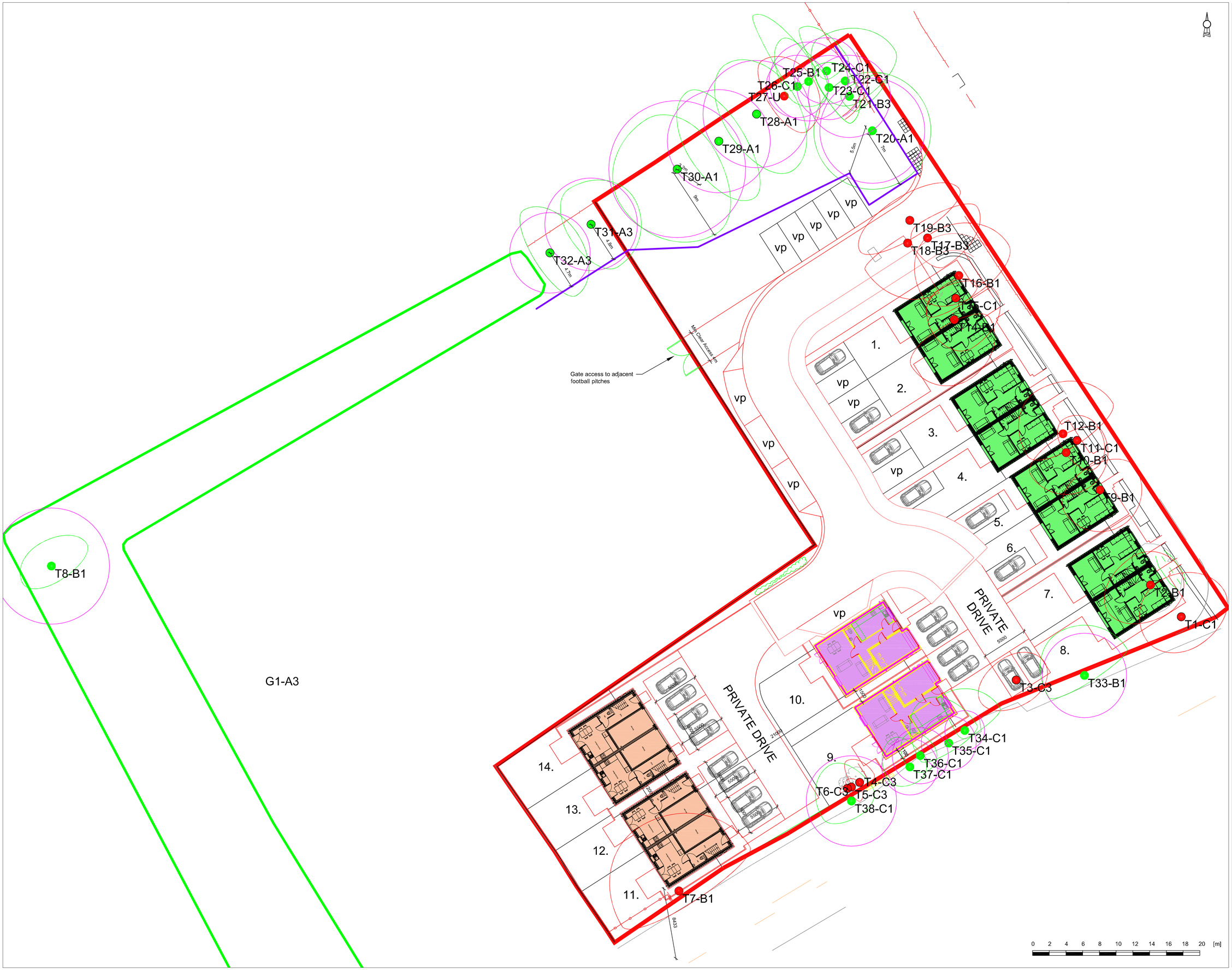
Appendix 1: Arboricultural Tasks Sequence Table

Tree or Group Number	Pre-Construction Stage	Construction Stage	Post Construction Stage
Trees 1-7, 9-19, & 27	Remove		
Trees 23-26, 28-30	Adhere to specification within Section 3. Set out and erect protective fencing as per Appendices 3 and 4. Attach notice in Appendix 7. Project arboriculturalist should check the correct installation of protective features prior to site works commencing.	Adhere to specification within Section 4. Monitor integrity of tree protection features daily; completing inspection record in Appendix 8. Site to be visited by the project arboriculturalist – visit to be documented in Appendix 8.	Adhere to specification within Section 5. Remove tree protection measures. Complete landscape works adjacent to trees.
Trees 8, 31-38	Adhere to specification within Section 3. Set out and erect protective fencing as per Appendices 3 and 4. Attach notice in Appendix 7. Project arboriculturalist should check the correct installation of protective features prior to site works commencing.	Adhere to specification within Section 4. Monitor integrity of tree protection features daily; completing inspection record in Appendix 8. Site to be visited by the project arboriculturalist – visit to be documented in Appendix 8.	Adhere to specification within Section 5. Remove tree protection measures. Complete landscape works adjacent to trees.

Appendix 2: Tree Works Required

Trees to be removed: 1-7, 9-19, 27

Trees to be pruned to enable construction of buildings (refer to Appendix 3): 33-37



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Tree to be Retained

Tree to be Removed

Root Protection Area - to remain free from disturbance

Tree Protection Barrier (specification as per Appendix 4)

1/G1 Tree/Group

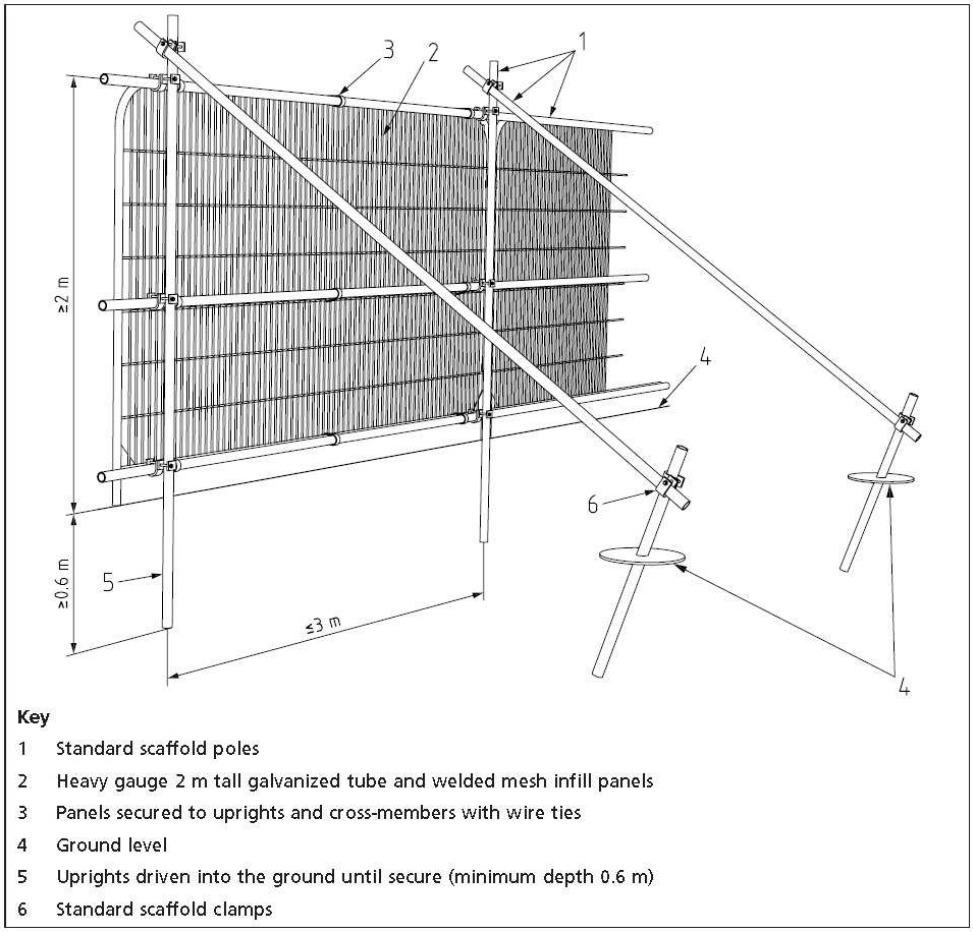
A1/B1/ C1/U BS5837 Retention Category

APPENDIX 3

Drawing Title:	Tree Protection Plan
Project:	North Road, West Boldon
Drawing Number:	ARB/CP/1993/TPP
Date:	August 2019
Scale:	1:200 @ A1

Appendix 4: Protective Fencing Specification

A:- Tree Protection Fence as per BS5837:2012



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

Drawing Source: BS 5837:2012

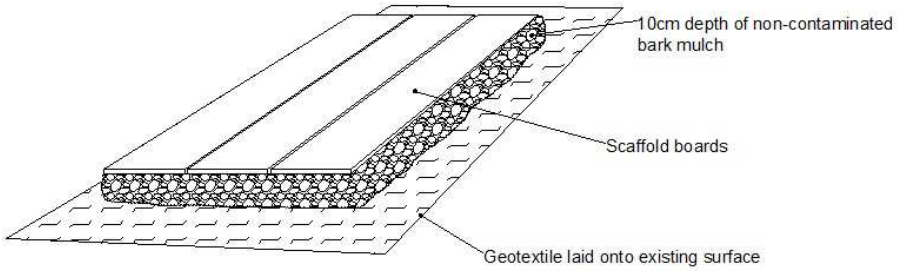
B:- Alternative Fencing Detail: Adequate protection - provided LPA approve its use



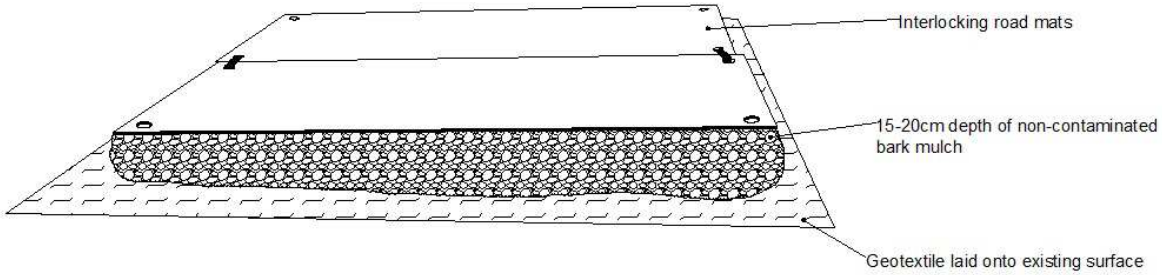
Appendix 5: Access within Root Protection Areas

Ground Protection to Enable Access within Root Protection Areas

Ground Protection for Foot Traffic Only



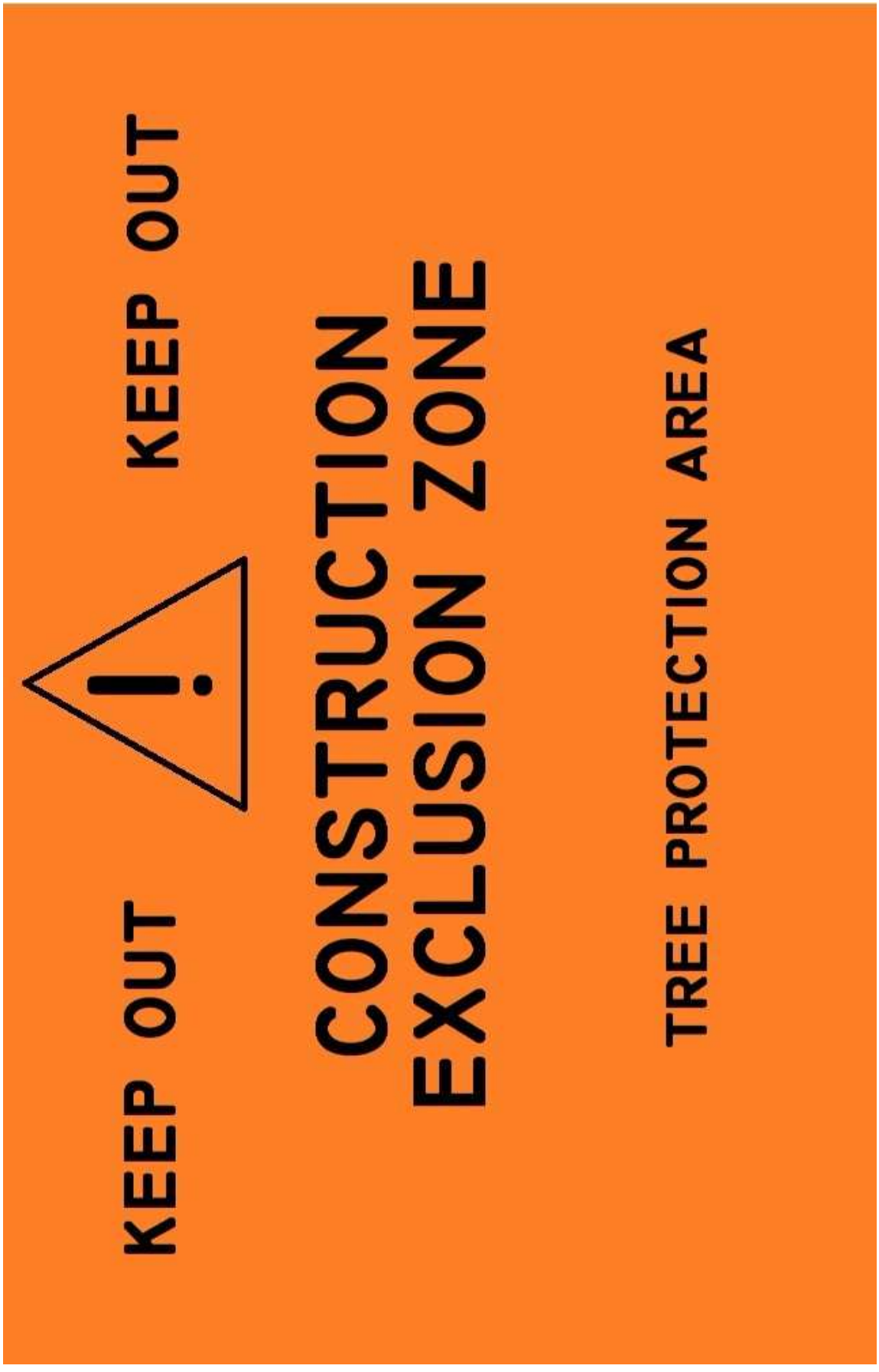
Ground Protection Suitable for Vehicals



Appendix 6: Removing Hard Surfaces & Other Excavations within Root Protection Areas

- All excavations within root protections areas must only be undertaken using hand tools or pedestrian operated machinery.
- The required excavations must be kept to a minimum to avoid unnecessary root damage and ideally undertaken during the presence of an arboriculturalist.
- Great care must be taken not to damage the bark of roots that can be retained in order to avoid wounds which could be exploited by pathogens.
- Exposed roots that can be retained must be wrapped with dry sacking if to be left exposed for extended periods e.g. overnight. Sacking must be removed prior to backfilling.
- All roots >25mm should be preserved and worked around. Where this is not possible, severance should only take place after consultation with the tree officer / appointed arboriculturalist. Roots must be cut using a sharp knife leaving as small a wound and as clean a cut as possible.
- Great care must be taken not to allow contaminants, such as oils, into the excavation.

Appendix 7: Construction Exclusion Zone Notice



Appendix 8: Tree Protection Zones Inspection Record

Tree Protection Zones Inspection Record – assessment of tree protection barriers and ground protection			
Date	**Checked By**	**Comments**	**Action Required?**

Appendix 9: Contact Details of Relevant Parties

Arboricultural Consultant	Charles Prowse Elliott Consultancy Ltd Wren's Nest Underhill Glaisdale YO212PF 01947 897001 07810200968 charles@elliottconsultancy.com
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Local Planning Authority	Regeneration and Local Services County Hall Durham DH1 5UQ 03000 262830 planning@durham.gov.uk