Ecology 4 U

Tree Survey, Arboriculture Impact Assessment and Method Statement

Site Address: 102 Green Lane, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 1AJ

Local Planning Authority: Hillingdon Council

Date of Survey: 22.04.26

Date of Report: 27.04.26

Ref: TSR/GL/REV-

Version	Update
Rev -	Issue

Clarification

This report has been prepared for our client as stated within our appointment, only and expressly, for the purposes set out in this appointment and we owe no duty of care to any third parties in respect of its content. Therefore, unless expressly agreed by us in writing and signed, we hereby exclude all liability to third parties, including liability for negligence, save only for liabilities that cannot be so excluded by operation of applicable law. This report has been based solely on the specific design assumptions and criteria stated herein.

Office 5716, 182-184 High Street North, East Ham, London, E6 2JA
Email: info@Ecology4U.co.uk
Tel: 0333 335 6418

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1. Introduction

1.1 Commission Brief

Ecology 4 U were commissioned to undertake a Tree Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement in connection with a planning application for erection of 1no. dwellinghouse following the demolition of existing dwellinghouse at 102 Green Lane, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 1AJ (hereafter referred to as the "Site"). Hillingdon Council, in their invalidation letter to the applicant dated 7th April 2026 note that the property is located in a TPO area and so have requested a tree survey.

1.2 Scope of the Survey

The purpose of this survey was to:

- Survey all trees with a stem diameter greater than 75mm at a height of 1.5m in accordance with BS5837.
- Assess the impacts of the proposed development upon the existing trees on and adjacent to, the Site.
- Propose outline mitigation measures.

2. Methodology

2.1 Survey details

Equipment used for this survey included:

- Binoculars
- Notepad
- Camera
- GPS recorder
- Inclinometer

Surveyor: A. Laws BSc (Hons) Level 5 Dip Arb & 7 years experience.

Weather conditions: Dry, calm, sunny.

2.2 Survey Key

Crown spread was measured in metres, from the base of the stem to the outer canopy. Crown height was measured in metres.

Only trees of stem diameter 75mm and over at 1.5m are recorded, although groups of shrubs may be noted on the constraints plan if the surveyor feels that this is necessary.

Root Protection Area (RPA) shows the radius around the centre of a tree which is required for the protection of the tree.

Age refers to the physiological age and not age in years.

General Observations will note any structural defects, pests and diseases which may be present, together with any other information that the surveyor feels relevant.

BS Category relates to the category given to the tree based on the BS5837 specifications.

2.3 Limitations

The survey was undertaken from ground level and any branches or areas of the canopy which were not visually accessible from the ground may not have been included.

Detailed inspection of any decay, root or soil analysis was not undertaken.

Trees were observed from within the confines of the site and any available public access.

Trees and shrubs are living organisms and are subject to rapid change due to weather, human intervention etc.

3. Tree Constraints Plan & Schedule

Based on the information obtained by the tree survey a Tree Constraints Plan & Schedule has been created (Appendix A & B).

Category A trees are classed as trees of the highest quality and should be retained within the development as they have a life expectancy of greater than 40 years. They are coloured green on the plan.

Category B trees are classed as trees of moderate quality which should initially be regarded as a constraint to development. Removal of these trees can be justified to promote good design however mitigation should be provided elsewhere on the site in the form of new planting. Category B trees should have a life expectancy of at least 20 years. They are coloured blue on the plan.

Category C trees are classed as trees of low quality and should not impose a constraint on the development in order to facilitate good design. If removal is required mitigation should be provided elsewhere on the site in the form of new planting. Category C trees should have a life expectancy of at least 10 years. They are coloured grey on the plan.

Category U trees are classed as poor quality due to sound arboriculture reasons and as such should be removed. Category U trees have a life expectancy of less than 5 years. They are coloured red on the plan.

The Root Protection Area (RPA) represents the area around each tree where the ground should remain largely undisturbed to protect the roots. The RPA is calculated using the formula set out in BS5837 and is based on a circle 12x the stem diameter at 1.5m.

It should be noted that other environmental constraints may be applicable to the trees which are not a part of this report. Category U trees that often accumulate damage could have the potential to support roosting bats, which are legally protected. A separate ecological survey would be required to determine this.

4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Using the Tree Constraints Plan & Schedule, we have produced a table below to record the impact that the proposed development could have on the health of each tree. Where there is an impact, any mitigation measures that could be implemented to reduce this have been recommended further in this report.

UNIQUE IDENTIFIER	CATEGORY	IMPACTED Y/N	NOTES
Trees			
T1	C3	Y	Potential for impact - material storage/vehicle movement

As can be seen in the above table, there is one tree in the proximity of the proposed works that has the potential to be impacted by construction activities. There is no planned excavation works within the RPA of this tree so the potential for impact is mainly concerning vehicle movement and material storage.

This data is summarised as follows:

	TREES TO BE RETAINED		TREES TO BE REMOVED	
	WITH NO IMPACT	WITH DETAILED MITIGATION STRATEGY	DUE TO CONDITION	DUE TO DEVELOPMENT
CAT A	-	-	-	-
CAT B	-	-	-	-
CAT C		T1	-	-
CAT U	-	-	-	-

One Category C tree in the neighbouring garden. No trees are identified for removal.

5. Arboricultural Method Statement

5.1 Protection of Existing Trees

All site operations and construction procedures for the duration of the construction period shall seek to protect the trees on Site, particularly the RPAs in accordance with *BS 5837; 2012 – Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations'*.

5.1.1 Overview

Contractors must take care to avoid damaging the roots, trunks, or branches of all trees identified in this survey during construction.

5.1.2 Materials and Access

Within the designated RPAs:

- No storage of spoil or rubbish
- No excavation or disturbance of topsoil
- No parking of construction vehicles or machinery
- No storing of materials
- No changes to the level of the ground.

5.1.3 Site Compound

The site compound should preferably be located on existing hard surfaces. The compound area shall be located to not incur damage or injury to the root systems or canopy of any existing trees or vegetation within or adjacent to the site.

All operations associated with the usage of the compound area shall be undertaken with due care and attention so as to prevent the risk of damage to the surrounding environment.

Access to the compound for construction deliveries, traffic and pedestrians should not traverse the Root Protection Areas.

5.1.4 Erection, Maintenance and Removal of Protective Fencing

All trees to be retained on, and adjacent to site, shall be protected with fencing erected around the RPA in accordance with *BS 5837; 2012; 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations'* and to the layout in the Tree Protection Plan in Appendix C. The fencing shall be installed under the supervision of a qualified arboriculturalist. The fencing shall be retained and maintained during the main works by the Contractor. Following completion of all works, the arboriculturalist shall supervise the contractor removing the fencing, to ensure retention of the RPAs.

5.1.5 Fencing Detail

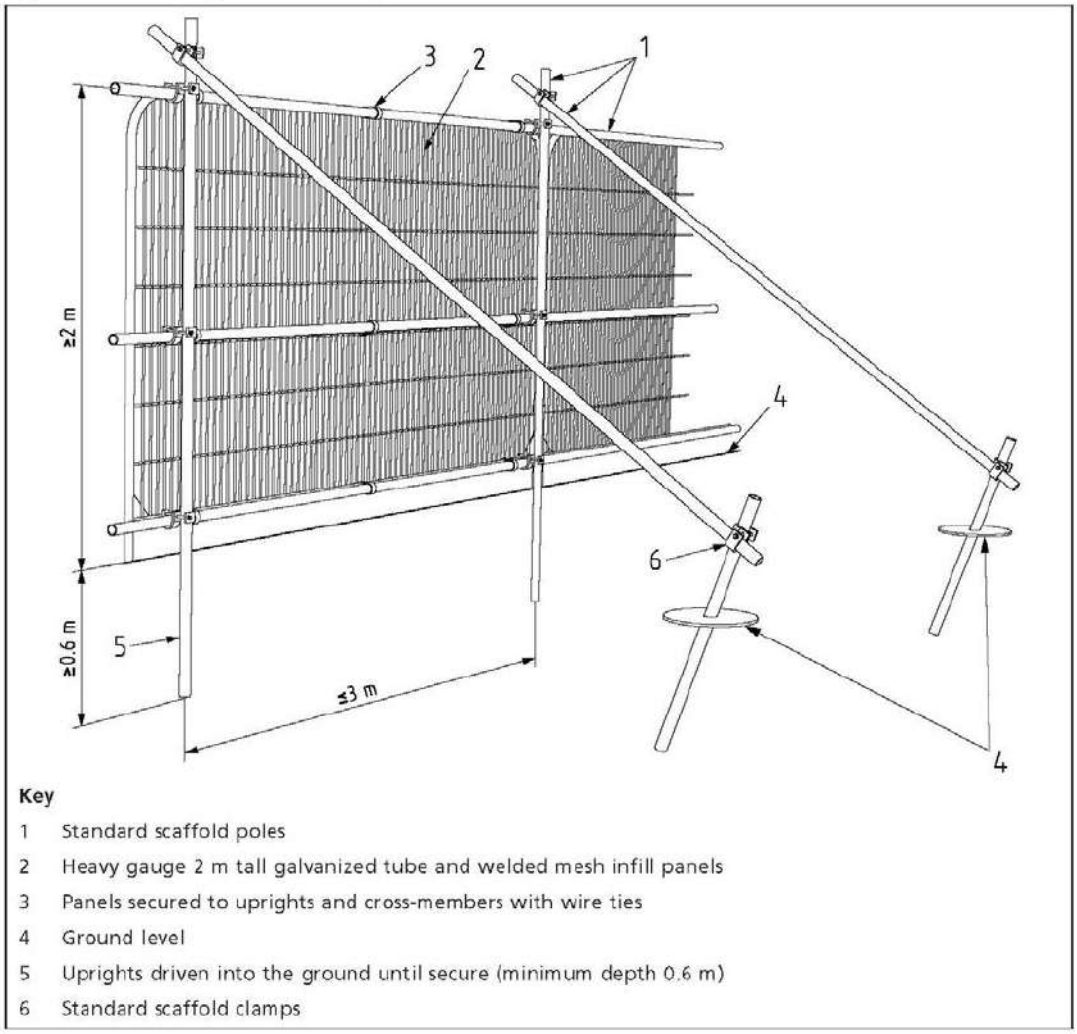
The installed protective fencing shall be 2.0 metres in height 'Heras' Welded Wire Mesh Fencing secured to a scaffolding framework, set into the existing ground, and positioned to the outside edge of the existing Tree Root Protection Area. The fencing should be strained, and fixed to fences, walls, knee rails where possible to provide a complete protected area (refer to Figure 1 below).

The tree protection fencing shall display all-weather notices stating:

'Construction Exclusion Zone – NO ACCESS'.

The protective fencing must remain in place throughout the entire duration of the project.

Figure 2 **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

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5.1.6 Temporary Ground Protection for Contractor Access

Footfall within the RPA should be kept to a minimum. For pedestrian movements, A heavy-duty geo-textile membrane should be laid over the existing ground, followed by a ground-stabilising mesh (such as TDP SN20 GeoGrid or an equivalent). This should be covered with a 100mm layer of woodchip to create a stable surface.

No construction vehicles or machinery are to be parked on the RPAs, and no materials are to be stored on RPAs. It is preferable that construction vehicles do not traverse over RPAs of trees designated for retention, however where this is unavoidable, temporary ground protection must be installed. For vehicles up to 2t the protection should comprise a heavy-duty geo-textile membrane, followed by inter-linked ground protection boards and a 150mm depth of woodchip to create a stable surface.

For traversing traffic over 2t an engineer-designed protection system should be devised in consultation with the arboriculturist. Due to the small scale and nature of the proposed extensions, the preferred option is to avoid driving over RPAs in vehicles over 2t.

The ground protection system must be robust enough to support anticipated traffic without causing deformation to the underlying ground.

This protection should not disturb or alter the existing ground levels within the RPAs and must be in place before the construction phase begins.

5.1.7 Manual Excavation & Foundation Design

Whilst there is no expected excavation within the RPA, should this be found to be necessary, hand digging will be required as it will minimise disruption to tree roots and the surrounding soil. During excavation, roots larger than 25mm in diameter or those found in clusters must not be cut without consulting an arboriculturalist. Smaller roots may be trimmed carefully using specialist hand tools, where necessary. Exposed roots should be wrapped in damp hessian to prevent drying out. Once excavation is complete, the hessian should be removed, and the roots should be surrounded with loose granular fill, such as clean, sharp sand or uncontaminated topsoil, before backfilling to the required level.

During the hand-dig phase, it is also important that the risk of harm through soil compaction due to footfall is managed using ground protection as detailed above in section 4.2.

5.1.8 Service Routing

Existing service routes should be utilised wherever possible, and new services should be designed to avoid RPAs. If new service routes must pass through RPAs, they should be hand-dug and routed directly to minimise impact on tree roots. Services should be grouped to reduce disruption. Trench excavation across RPAs should be avoided to prevent severing tree roots. If services must cross the edge of an RPA, they should be routed through existing roots using a hand-dug ducting sleeve to avoid damage.

5.1.9 Work Stages and Supervision

Key site operations affecting trees include:

- Contractor movements, site access, and storage
- Set up and removal of protective measures
- Groundwork and general construction activities

An Arboricultural Consultant should attend and supervise:

- Pre-commencement meeting & installation of tree protection measures
- Briefing site staff on the Method Statement for the no dig excavation (if required)
- Removal of tree protection measures

5.1.10 General Notes

All tree protection measures must adhere to the principles outlined in *BS 5837: 2012* to prevent damage and stress to trees, soil, and roots during construction. Soil compaction, excavation, and contamination within RPAs must be avoided. Physical damage to retained trees, including roots, stems, and branches, should be prevented. The Contractor shall train all members of the construction workforce operating within the proximity of trees with reference to this report and BS 5837: 2012 guidelines.

The outlined tree protection measures aim to mitigate any impact on existing trees. Construction activities may be phased to ensure the protection of retained trees. Protective measures must remain in place for the duration of the construction period and can only be adjusted or removed with the supervision of the Arboriculturalist, once construction is complete.

These measures are proposed in accordance with the approved planning drawings. Any changes to the design may necessitate revised mitigation and preservation methods and an update to this report.

6. Mitigation Proposals

The applicant intends to plant 7 new native or wildlife-beneficial trees within the site boundary. The location and species will be detailed in a soft landscaping plan in support of the application.

7. Summary

Through following the construction methods and respecting the Tree Root Protection Areas, using avoidance and the use of hand dig, as recommended in this report, the proposed works should not have a significant negative impact on the neighbouring tree.

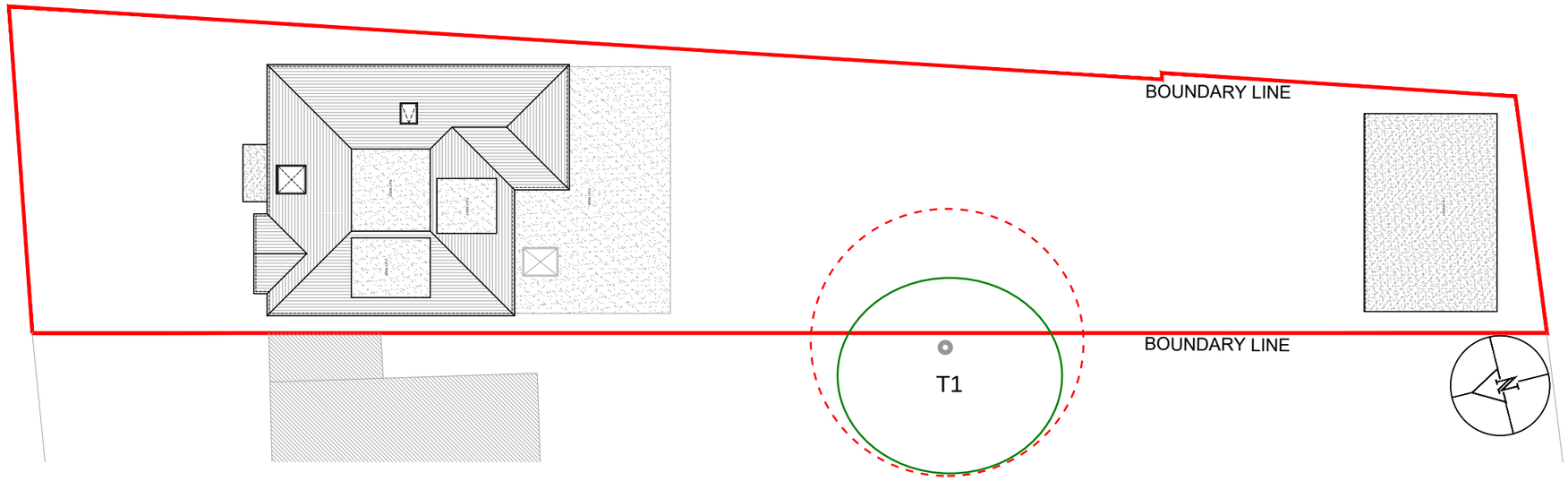
Aboriculturalist supervision of the installation of protective fencing and its subsequent removal, as well as oversight of any hand-dig excavations within the RPA for any service trenches will further safeguard the trees on and adjacent to the proposed development.

The proposals include planting of 7nr new native and wildlife-beneficial trees within the site boundary.

APPENDIX A

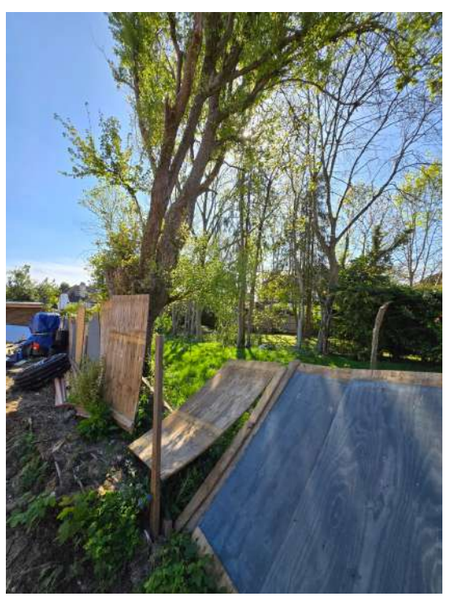
KEY

- Tree Category - U
- Tree Category - A
- Tree Category - B
- Tree Category - C
- RPA
- Canopy
- Large shrubs



Site photo 1 facing south

Site photo 2 facing north (T1 centre)



Site photo 3 of T1 (facing south)

TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN 1:250 @ A3	102 GREEN LANE, NORTHWOOD, MIDDLESEX, HA6 1AJ	Ecology 4 U

APPENDIX B

Unildentifier	Species	Scientific name	Height (m)	Stem Diameter @1.5m (DBH) (mm)	Root Protection Area (m)	Crown Spread (4 cardinal points N, S, E, W)				Height of Lowest Branch	Age Class	Condition	Category	Details
Trees						**N**	**S**	**E**	**W**					
T1	FieLd Maple	*Acer campestre*	17	500	6	3.8	3.8	2.5	5.5	3	M	Fair	C3	Tree is located on neighbours side of boundary. It has been heavily pruned on the eastern side where one of three co-dominant stems would have extended over the boundary. The removal of this stem has resulted in an uneven appearance. Further, more sympathetic, pruning may restore the appearance.

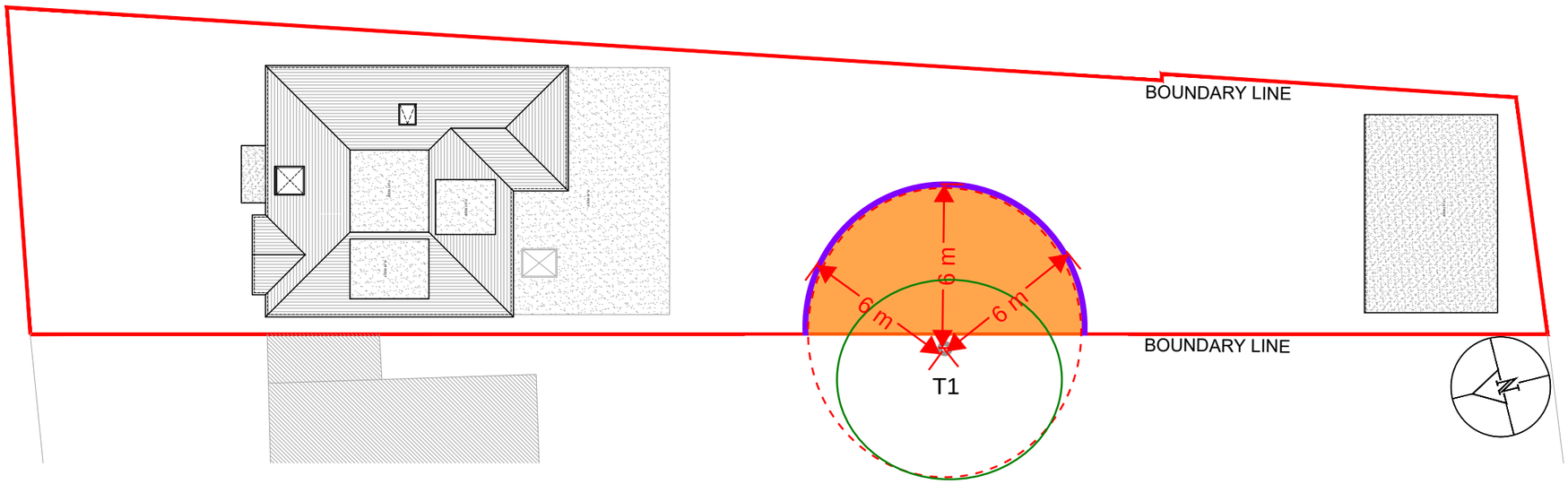
Tree Constraints Schedule

Note: The site is within TPO ref 57. There were no trees within the site boundary and no tree stumps were evident on site at date of survey.

APPENDIX C

KEY

- Tree Category - U
- Tree Category - A
- Tree Category - B
- Tree Category - C
- RPA
- Canopy
- Large shrubs
- Tree Fencing
- RPA Area



TREE PROTECTION PLAN 1:250 @ A3	102 GREEN LANE, NORTHWOOD, MIDDLESEX, HA6 1AJ	Ecology 4 U