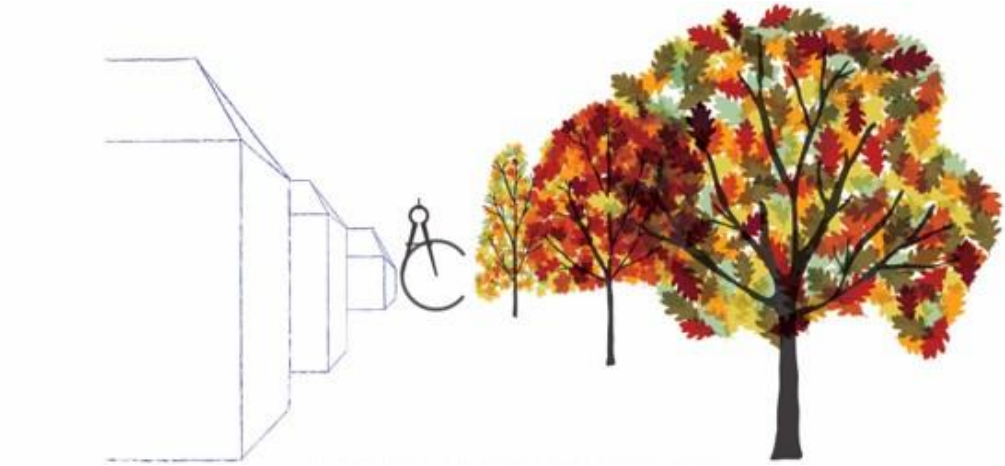

Arbor Cultural Ltd. ***Providing Expertise on Your Trees ®***

BS5837 Arboricultural

Method Statement

OUR REFERENCE	**AC.2025.743**
CLIENT	**Mr Faluck Patel**
SITE	**7 Thornhill Road, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB10 8SF**
REPORT BY	**I S Thompson (known as Tom) M. Arbor. A., BSc. (Hons) Arb, MSc. eFor**
DATE	**24th September 2025**
DATE OF SITE VISIT	**12th September 2025**

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7 Thornhill Road, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB10 8SF

Application Ref No Unknown **Front and rear extension to the existing detached residential dwelling.**

Report produced by

I S Thompson MArborA., BSc. (Hons) Arb MSc. eFor

Principal Arboricultural Consultant

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Signed

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Date……24th September 2025……

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Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

This AMS is in conjunction with AC.2025.743 Tree Report and AC.2025.743 TPP-01 Rev A

Tree Protection throughout the Duration of Demolition and Construction Works

All the details specified in this method statement will need to be supervised by an Arboricultural Consultant with suitable qualifications and experience.

Arboricultural Method Statement includes a Tree Protection Plan to identify:

- Trees to be retained – identified with a dashed line with RPA written within it and green, blue, or grey location marker circles and the corresponding A, B or C category label.
- Protective fence positions identifying the Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZ).
- Measurements to identify fence positioning in relation to centre of tree or other known features.
- Contractor huts and storage areas

1 Construction Exclusion Zone

1.1 No works will be undertaken within any Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). The CEZs are to be afforded protection at all times and will be protected by fencing. A protective fence shall be erected prior to the commencement of any site works e.g., before any materials or machinery are brought on site, development or the stripping of soil commences.

1.2 The fence shall have signs attached to it stating that this is a Construction Exclusion Zone and that **NO WORKS are Permitted within the fence**, see Figure 4 in Appendix I. The tree protection fencing may only be removed following completion of all construction works.

1.3 The fence is required to be sited in accordance with the Tree Protection Plan AC.2025.743 TPP-01 Rev A enclosed with this method statement. All tree protection fencing shall be regarded as sacrosanct and will not be removed or altered without prior written consent of the Local Authority Tree Officer.

1.4 They must be constructed as per Figures 1 and 2 in BS 5837 2012 and be fit for excluding any construction activity, (See Appendix I). Any other fence or barrier used must be fit for the purpose.

1.5 The fencing unless otherwise agreed with the tree officer shall consist of Heras fencing panels, around 3.5m long and 2 m tall. They shall be fixed into the ground on scaffold poles driven at least 0.6 m into the ground. They shall be supported by rear struts also secured to posts driven into the ground, see Figure 1 in Appendix I.

1.6 All bolts shall be secured from inside the fencing to prevent easy removal from the outside during the construction phase.

1.7 Where there are **existing hard surfaces**, then rubber feet can be used to support the fencing, but these rubber feet shall be secured into the ground with road pins or other robust metal pins, to prevent the fencing being moved. This stall also be secured by rear struts which are also pinned into the ground, see Figure 2 in Appendix I.

1.8 All tree protection fencing shall be regarded as sacrosanct and will not be removed or altered without prior written consent of the Local Authority Tree Officer.

2 Ground Protection Measures

2.1 The tree protection fencing will extend to the full extent of the RPA of all retained trees, so there is not requirement for any ground protection measures as part of this development.

3 Access Details

3.1 All access for construction vehicles will be from the western end of the site, which is the existing site entrance and driveway, as shown on the plan AC.2025.743 TPP-01 Rev A.

4 Contractors car parking

4.1 This will be off-site.

5 Site Huts and Toilets

5.1 This will be in the front garden as shown on the tree protection plan AC.2025.743 TPP-01 Rev A.

6 Storage Space

6.1 This will be in the front garden as shown on the tree protection plan AC.2025.743 TPP-01 Rev A.

7 Additional Precautions

7.1 No storage of materials or lighting of fires will take place within any construction Exclusion Zone. No mixing or storage of materials will take place up a slope where they may leak into a Construction Exclusion Zone.

7.2 There shall generally be a presumption against burning on site. Where it does occur, no fires will be lit within 20 metres of any tree stem and will consider fire size and wind direction so that, no flames come within 5m of any foliage. Situations where fires are not permitted at all are:

- Where the ground is waterlogged as the heat will transfer through the water and damage tree roots significant distances away.
- During periods of drought, where there are peaty or highly organic soils, as there is a risk of underground fires occurring.

7.3 No notice boards, cables or other services will be attached to any tree.

7.4 Materials which may contaminate the soil will not be discharged within 10m of any tree stem. When undertaking the mixing of any material it is essential that, any slope of the ground does not allow contaminates to run towards a tree root area.

7.5 No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil, bitumen or cement will be stored or discharged within ten meters of the trunk of any retained trees. In the event of any accident of spillage in or adjacent to the protected trees the contractor/staff is to immediately stop work in the vicinity and inform the project arboriculturist.

7.6 In the event of spillage, the area is to be secured with sandbags on the line of the tree protection area and measures taken to drain/soak any spillage away from the protected area.

8 Demolition

8.1 There will be no demolition within any of the RPAs of retained trees, so there will not need to be any special measures or precautions undertaken other than the tree protection measures as detailed in the report and in AC.2025.743 TPP-01 Rev A, which shall be installed prior to any site works commencing.

9 Hard Surfaces within the RPA

9.1 There is no construction of any new hard surfaces within the RPA of any retained trees, so there is no requirement for any no-dig surface construction method statements.

10 Construction within the RPA (No-dig)

10.1 There is no construction within the RPA of any retained trees, so there is no requirement for any construction method statements to address this issue.

11 Foundation Designs

11.1 As there is no construction of foundations within the RPA of any retained trees there will be no requirement for any alternative foundation designs.

12 Remedial Tree Works

12.1 Tree works (see schedule at Appendix IV in the BS5837 Tree Report) will be undertaken in one phase, and this will be undertaken prior to any construction or demolition works and prior to the installation of any tree protection measures. All tree works are to be conducted in accordance with BS 3998 (British Standard Recommendations for Tree Work 2010) unless otherwise specified with clear justification for any deviation from the British Standard.

12.2 There are only two trees that are proposed for removal as part of this application. These are T05 and T07. T05 is an aging over-mature apple tree in the back garden. T07 is a leaning magnolia tree in the front garden. It has multiple stems and poor form, and it is in conflict with the existing dwelling roof.

12.3 If at any time additional pruning works are required permission must be sought from the Local Planning Authority first and then conducted in accordance with BS 3998 Recommendations for Tree Works 2010, unless otherwise specified with clear justification for any deviation from the British Standard.

12.4 Ideally tree surgery work and shrub and hedge removal should take place outside of the bird nesting season which is officially from February to August. As this is small-scale works with a relatively low cost this should be undertaken as soon as any planning permission is obtained so that it is completed before February and does not hold up any site works.

12.5 Tree work can be done in the bird nesting season but would require a watching brief of 20 minutes to check for bird activity and cannot proceed if bird nests are found to be present.

13 Use of Herbicides

13.1 It is not planned to use any herbicide in the proposed development unless they are used in the preparation of any no-dig construction. However, if any is required it shall be systemic, spot applied and mixed according to manufacturer's recommendations.

14 Contingency Plan

14.1 Water is readily available on site and will be used to flush spilt materials through the soil and avoid contamination to tree roots. At the time of any spillage the main contractor will contact an arboriculturist for advice.

15 Responsibilities

15.1 It will be the responsibility of the main contractor to ensure that the planning conditions attached to planning consent are adhered to always and that a monitoring regime regarding tree protection is adopted on site.

15.2 The main contractor will be responsible for contacting the Local Planning Authority at any time issues are raised related to the trees on site.

15.3 The main contractor will ensure the build sequence is appropriate to ensure that no damage occurs to the trees during the construction processes. Protective fences will remain in position until completion of **ALL** construction works on the site.

15.4 The fencing, signage and ground protection measures must be maintained in position at all times and shall be checked on a regular basis by an on-site person designated that responsibility.

15.5 The main contractor will be responsible for ensuring sub-contractors do not conduct any process or operation that is likely to adversely impact upon any tree on site or those immediately adjacent to it.

16 Arboricultural Supervision

16.1 Since BS5837 was amended in 2012 site supervision has been identified as a key element of the process of protecting trees during construction. It requires that there be "an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring.

16.1.1 This should extend to arboricultural supervision whenever construction and development activity is to take place within or adjacent to any RPA."

16.2 Site Supervision

16.2.1 A site agent must be nominated to be responsible for all arboricultural matters on site. They must be nominated for each phase of work if demolition and construction contracts are to be awarded separately. The agent(s) must:

- **Be present on site for most of the time.**
- **Be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities. This will require a site briefing/meeting between the agent and arboricultural consultant prior to the commencement of each phase of works.**
- **Have the authority to stop any work that is causing or has the potential to cause harm to any trees.**
- **Be responsible for ensuring that all site operatives are aware of their responsibilities towards trees on the site and the consequences of failure to observe these responsibilities.**
- **Make immediate contact with the local authority and/or a retained arboriculturist in the event of any tree related problems occurring, whether actual or potential**
- **Contact details for Arbor Cultural Ltd are provided within this report.**
- **Contact details for local authority tree officer are.**

Tree officer

Address The Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY.

Main Switchboard 01303 853 000

Email

16.3 Arboricultural Consultant

16.3.1 A suitably qualified arboricultural consultant shall be appointed to oversee development works and liaise with the council and the developer and contractors during the construction phase to ensure compliance with these guidelines.

16.3.2 Note: Failure to fulfil planning conditions or breaches of statutory legislation can lead to delays due to “stop notices” and can lead to the prosecution of contractors and company directors.

16.3.3 Adequate site supervision can protect the developer from delays, wasted expense and criminal prosecution.

16.3.4 The arboriculturalist will arrive at the site, check in at the site office and be safely escorted around the site by the site agent, checking the maintenance of tree protection measures.

16.3.5 Monitoring shall involve a schedule of routine visits. The frequency of these visits will vary depending on the size of the proposed development and the site-specific constraints.

16.3.6 These visits shall include a pre-commencement meeting to ensure that all tree protection measures have been implemented and a sign-off sheet at the end of the development. Each visit will be accompanied by a small report detailing the findings identifying any actions and addressing any issues that have arisen.

16.3.7 Emergency situations will be notified by phone calls. Appropriate records will be kept and made available to the LPA if required to show evidence of the site monitoring. An example of this is shown in Appendix II.

16.4 The critical stages for site supervision are as follows:

I Prior to the start of construction, all tree protection measures as described must be checked as appropriate and signed off by an arboriculturalist. There will be a pre-commencement meeting with all party attendance, including LPA tree officer, to ensure that there are no unresolved issues.

II At predetermined activity related times as specified in Table 1. The tree protection measures as described must be checked as being retained and signed off by an arboriculturalist. All defects to be reported to the client and LPA.

III The potentially damaging activity to the trees must be observed by a suitably qualified arboriculturalist to ensure that the method statements are adhered to, and the damage is kept to an absolute minimum. All defects to be reported to the client and LPA.

IV At periodic intervals during the construction process, the tree protection measures must be checked as being retained and signed off. All defects to be reported to the client and LPA.

V At the end of the construction phase, an arboricultural consultant must check that no damage has occurred to the trees and any remedial measures, e.g., de-compaction of soil must be recommended as required and remedial measures undertaken as soon as practicable. The outcome shall be reported to the client and local authority.

16.4.1 The site supervision visits will be documented and circulated to the site agent, developer, architect, and Local Planning Authority as appropriate. The reports will detail the date of the visit; the operations being supervised and any issues that require action to meet the aims and objectives of this method statement.

Table 1 Site Supervision Programme

	Activity	**Comments**
1	Inspection of all tree protection measures to ensure that it is secure and fit for purpose prior to work commencing. This will need to be signed off by the arboriculturalist.	Report any defects or damage to the client and the LPA and ensure that they are made good.
2	Pre-commencement meeting with all party attendance, including LPA tree officer, to ensure that there are no unresolved issues. This will need to be signed off by the arboriculturalist.	Report any defects or damage to the client and the LPA and ensure that they are made good.
Final	Completion of work, removal of all tree protection measures and inspection of trees and root zone for any damage. Any compaction of the soil must be rectified with remedial measures and damaged branches taken back to suitable growth points with a clean cut. This will need to be signed off by the arboriculturalist.	Report any defects or damage to the client and the LPA and ensure that they are made good.

17 Landscaping and Replacement Planting

17.1 As most of the trees are being retained and are unaffected it is not proposed to plant any replacement trees as part of this planning application. There remains a good canopy cover both in the property and the wider area.

17.2 The landscaping is being addressed in a separate plan and methodology, with further details on ground treatment of the RPA of T8 in Section 18 below.

References and Bibliography and Glossary of Terms

References and Bibliography

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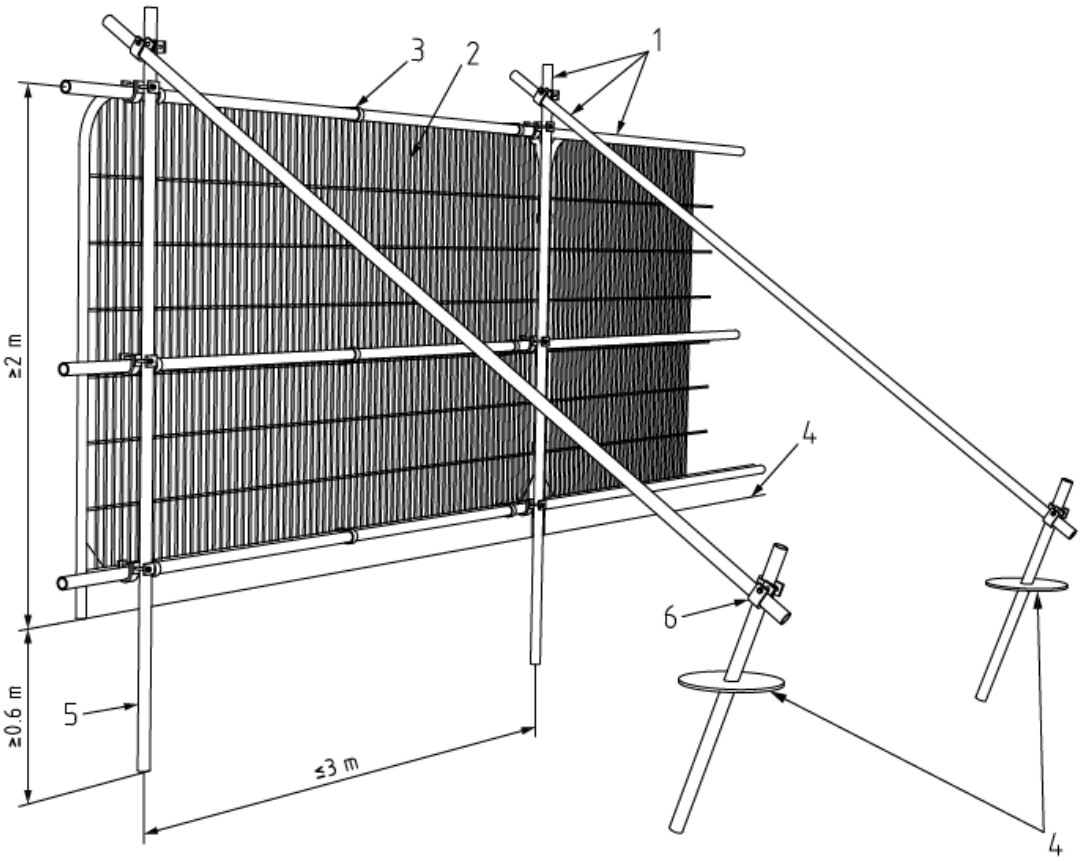
Glossary of Terms

Bacterial canker	Has lesions on the stems that can exude a gum like exudate that carries the bacteria.
Brash	Thin wood removed from trees.
Chlorosis/Chlorotic.	An abnormal yellowing or blanching of the leaves due to lack of chlorophyll.
Canopy/Crown	Foliage bearing part of the tree.
Crown lifting.	The removal of the lower branches of the tree.
Crown thinning.	The complete removal of selected limbs/lateral branches to thin the density of the crown.
Dysfunctional wood	Woody tissues no longer function.
Epicormic growth	Young, vigorous shoots arising from the external tissues of a stem. Epicormic growth is usually induced if a limb is removed or is broken off and the light factor changes (sprouts) or if a woody plant is coppiced or pollarded.
Flush cut	A pruning cut close to the parent stem which removes part of the branch bark ridge.
Heartwood	The heartwood is the dark area in the centre of the tree.
Lateral branch	A side branch which arises from a main stem.
Mulch	A layer of bulky organic material placed around the stem.
Occlusion (Occluded)	The process of wound wood closing a wound.
Parasitic	Organisms that live off other organisms, or hosts, to survive
Pathogen	A micro-organism which causes disease in another organism.
Reaction Wood	Additional wood that is put on by a tree to address increased loads.
Reaction Zone	An area where reaction wood is formed.

Glossary of Terms Continued

Saprotrophic	Organisms that at obtain their nutrition from non-living organic materials.
Soft rot	A kind of wood decay in which a fungus degrades cellulose within the cell walls, without causing overall degradation of the wall.
Stem	Principal above ground structural component(s) of a tree that supports its branches.
White rot	Various kinds of wood decay in which lignin, usually together with cellulose and other wood constituents is degraded.
Wound	Injury in a tree caused by a physical force.
Wound Wood	Additional wood that it put on by a tree is reaction to damage or wounding, with the aim of healing over the wound.

Appendix I Specifications for Tree Protection Measures



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

Figure 1 Default Tree Protection Fencing Design BS5837 (2012)

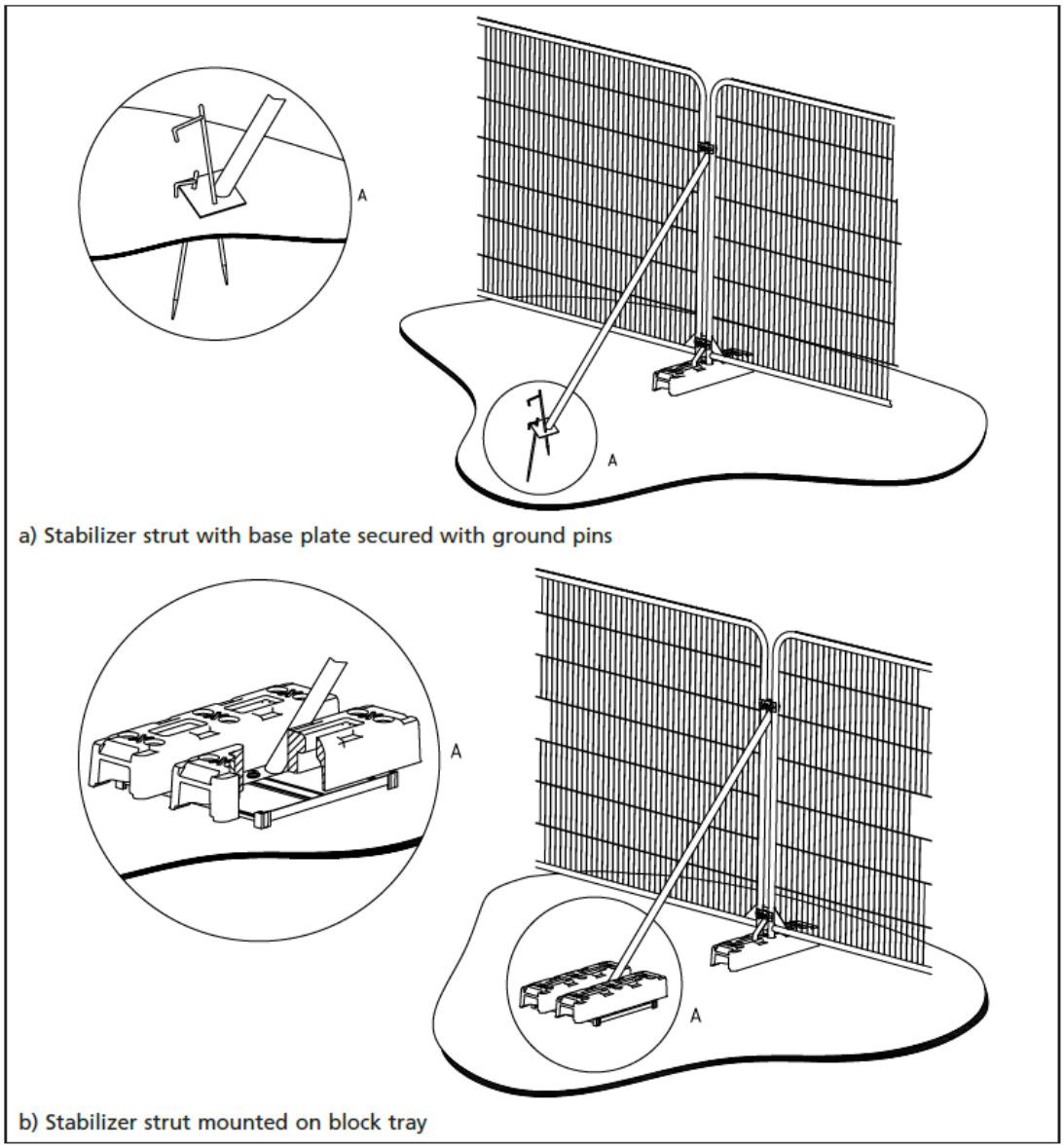


Figure 2 Tree Protection Fencing Design for Hard Surfaced Areas Only (BS5837 2012)

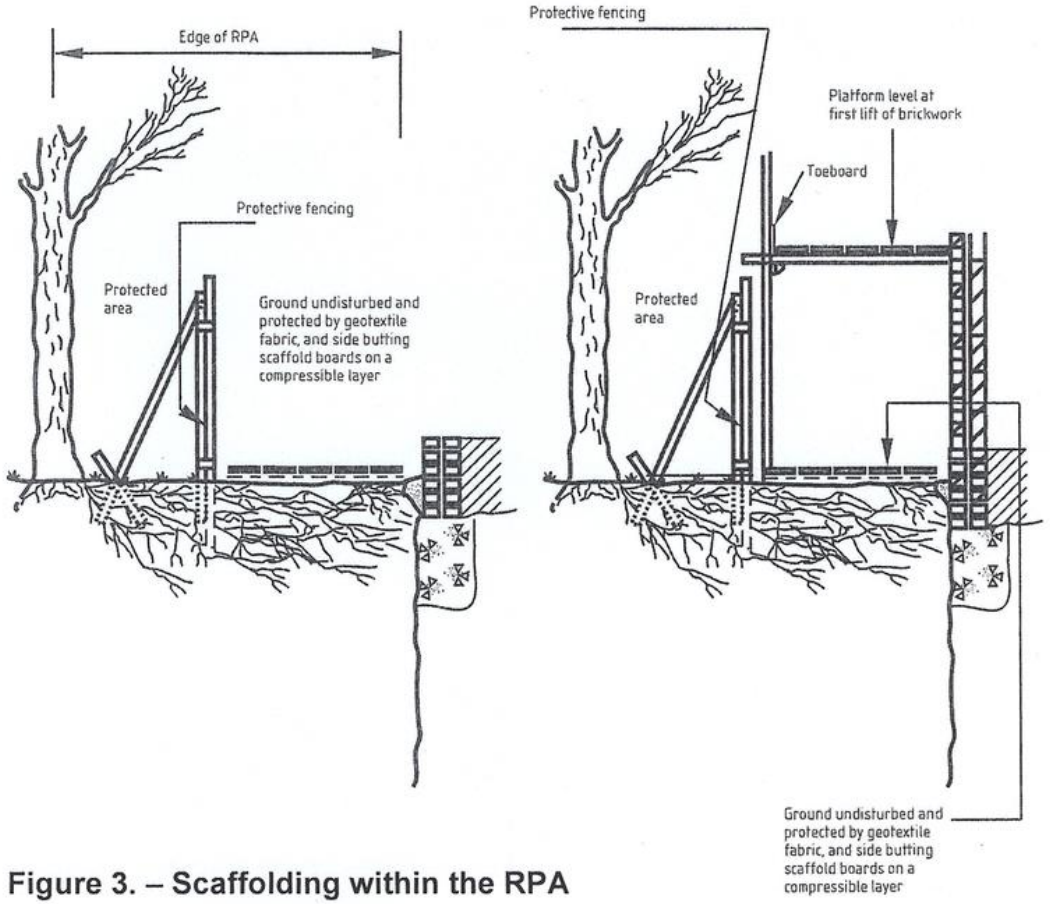


Figure 3. – Scaffolding within the RPA

Figure 3 Scaffolding as Ground Protection.

Figure 4 Construction Exclusion Zone Signage Example

Appendix II Arboricultural Supervision Recording Template

Client:		**Planning Ref:**	
Local Authority:		**Date:**	
Site Address			
Proposal:			

Visit Checklist	**Y/N**		**Y/N**
Tree Protection Fencing in place		Tree protection as approved	
Ground Protection in place		Ground Protection as approved	
Tree or Ground protection breached		Trees damaged	
Site Agent briefed by AC			
AC briefed by Site Agent			
LPA informed			
Remedial action required			

Comments

Recommendations

Outcome		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		