

Arboricultural Method Statement

SITE LOCATION

31 Frithwood Avenue
Northwood
HA6 3LY

PREPARED FOR

Care Assist Limited

PREPARED BY

Lee Davies MICFor, MArborA

ISSUE DATE

11 February 2026

REFERENCE

26011-DA-AMS-01



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1. INTRODUCTION

Instruction

- 1.1 Davies Arboriculture Ltd has been instructed by Care Assist Limited (the 'Client') to undertake a tree survey in accordance with *British Standard BS5837:2012* at 31 Frithwood Avenue (the 'Site') and to prepare an Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan.



Figure 1: Google Earth image showing the approximate Site area within the yellow line.

The Development

- 1.2 An appeal was allowed and planning permission granted for the conversion of the house into a Care Home (the 'Development') in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref 8032/APP/2025/229.

Scope

- 1.3 This report has been prepared to address *Condition 4* of the planning permission, which states:

No development, including site clearance or preparatory work, shall take place until a scheme for the protection of the retained evergreen tree on the site frontage (the tree protection plan) and the appropriate working methods (the arboricultural method statement) in accordance with paragraphs 5.5 and 6.1 of



British Standard BS 5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations (or in an equivalent British Standard if replaced) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

The arboricultural method statement shall outline the sequence of development including construction works and tree protection measures, and details of the foundation design of the hardsurfacing hereby permitted to take account of the retained tree. The tree protection plan shall include details of the position, height and type of fencing to protect the retained tree.

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved arboricultural method statement and tree protection plan. The tree protection fencing shall be erected in accordance with the approved details before any equipment, machinery or materials are brought onto the site for the purposes of the development, and shall be retained in position until the hardsurfaced car park hereby permitted has been constructed and all equipment, machinery and surplus materials have been removed from the site. Nothing shall be stored or placed within any fenced area.

External references

1.4 This report has been prepared with reference to the following documents:

- Existing & Proposed Site Plan (PL02_A)

Author

1.5 This report was written by Lee Davies, a Chartered Arboriculturist with over 20 years of experience in the arboricultural industry. He is a professional member of the *Institute of Chartered Foresters* and the *Arboricultural Association* and holds the *Level 6 Diploma in Arboriculture (ABC)*.

2. LIMITATIONS

2.1 The tree survey was conducted to assess the trees in accordance with *BS5837*, in the context of the Development. Where recommendations have been made in the tree schedule, these are preliminary recommendations only and are not based on a detailed risk assessment of the trees.

2.2 The survey and report do not include a risk assessment of tree-related subsidence to existing or proposed structures. The foundations of new structures should be designed with reference to the *National House Building Council's (NHBC) Standards - Chapter 4.2 Building near trees* if site-specific investigations confirm the presence of shrinkable soil.

3. TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

Tree protection fencing

- 3.1 Tree protection fencing shall be installed to safeguard retained trees throughout the development.
- 3.2 The fencing shall comprise 2.0 m high weldmesh panels mounted on rubber or concrete block trays, forming a rigid, freestanding barrier without any ground penetration within Root Protection Areas (RPAs). Each panel shall be secured with a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers and fitted with stabiliser struts to ensure stability and resistance to accidental displacement. Panels shall be positioned to form a continuous barrier with no gaps at ground level.
- 3.3 The protective fencing shall be erected prior to the arrival of any equipment, machinery, or materials on site and shall remain in place until the construction of the hard surfaced car park is complete and all plant, equipment, and surplus materials have been removed. Nothing shall be stored, deposited, or placed within any fenced area at any time.
- 3.4 All fencing shall be maintained in good condition throughout the construction phase. Any damage shall be repaired immediately. All barriers shall display weatherproof notices at regular intervals, as indicated in the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP).

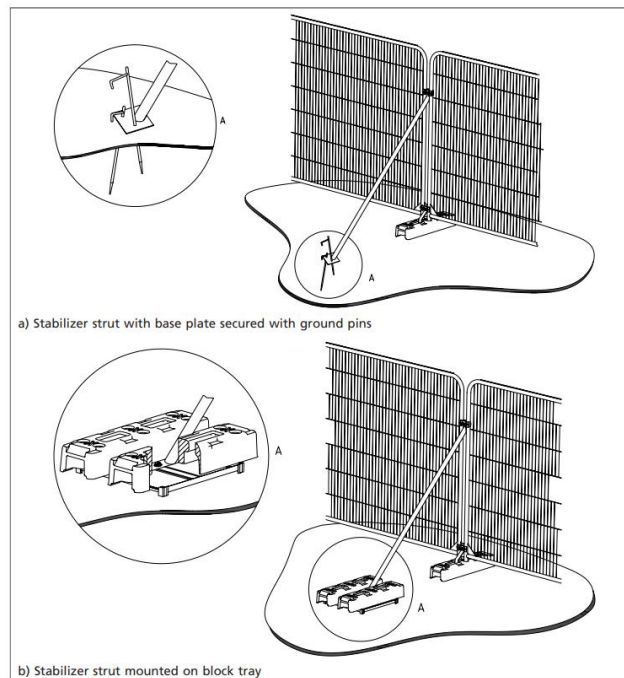


Figure 2: Above-ground tree protection fencing (BS5837 Figure 3).

General tree protection measures

- 3.5 General tree protection measures must be adhered to throughout the development's implementation to ensure that the activity associated with it does not impact the retained trees. *Table 1* below identifies the general precautions that are required to provide adequate protection. The arboriculturist and/or Local Planning Authority (LPA) must be consulted if a significant deviation from these details is proposed.

Table 1: AMS general precautions table

Considerations	Tree protection measures/methodology
Material storage	All materials shall be stored outside areas protected by tree protection barriers and outside all Root Protection Areas (RPAs).
Cement mixing	Cement mixing must be undertaken outside of all RPAs, and cement washings must be discharged well away from trees.
Site compound and welfare facilities	The site compound and welfare facilities shall be located outside of all Root Protection Areas (RPAs) and positioned so as not to conflict with the crowns of any retained trees.
Services	<p>Where services are required within the RPA of retained trees, trenchless techniques (e.g. directional drilling or moling) shall be used wherever practicable.</p> <p>If open excavation is unavoidable, it shall be undertaken carefully using hand tools to minimise root disturbance. Roots greater than 25mm diameter shall be retained wherever possible.</p> <p>The route and installation method shall be agreed in advance and implemented in accordance with BS5837:2012 and NJUG Volume 4 guidelines.</p>

4. CONSTRUCTION

Hard surface replacement

- 4.1 Existing hard surfacing within the RPA shall be retained wherever practicable. Where a new surface finish is required, it shall be installed directly above the retained surface to avoid ground disturbance.
- 4.2 Where removal of existing hard surfacing is demonstrated to be unavoidable, the following methodology shall be adhered to:
- The wearing course shall be carefully broken out using hand-held tools only.
 - No mechanical excavators or plant shall operate within the RPA.
 - The removal of surfacing shall not extend beyond the depth of the existing sub-base.
 - The existing sub-base shall be retained in situ to avoid disturbance to underlying roots.
 - Any exposed roots encountered during removal works shall be left intact and immediately covered with damp hessian or similar breathable material to prevent desiccation.
 - If significant roots above 25mm diameter are encountered, work shall cease, and the project arboriculturist shall be contacted for further instruction.

New hard surface

- 4.3 All new hard surfacing within the RPA of T1 shall be constructed using a no-dig methodology to prevent soil compaction and minimise root disturbance.
- 4.4 The construction specification shall comprise:
- Installation of a suitable three-dimensional cellular confinement system (e.g. Cellweb TRP or equivalent approved product) laid directly onto the existing soil surface.
 - Prior to installation, the vegetation layer (turf only) may be carefully removed by hand, ensuring that no soil excavation or level reduction occurs.
 - A geotextile separation membrane shall be installed where required in accordance with the manufacturer's specification.
 - The cellular system shall be filled with clean, angular, no-fines stone as specified by the manufacturer.
 - The finished surface (e.g. permeable block paving, porous asphalt, or gravel) shall be constructed above the cellular system in accordance with the approved drawings.
 - Levels shall be designed to ensure that no reduction in existing soil levels occurs within the RPA. Finished levels may be slightly increased where required to accommodate the no-dig build-up.

Soft landscaping

4.5 Following the completion of the proposed development, any soft landscaping work must adhere to the following principles:

- No excavation, cultivation, or level changes shall take place within the RPA unless otherwise specified and approved.
- Existing soil levels shall be retained; no soil stripping or importation of topsoil shall occur within the RPA.
- Planting within the RPA shall be limited to hand-dug pits for small shrubs or herbaceous species only, avoiding severance of roots >25mm diameter.
- No rotavating or mechanical cultivation shall be undertaken within RPAs.
- No irrigation trenches, service runs, or drainage works shall be installed within the RPA.
- All works shall be undertaken using hand tools only.

5. SEQUENCE OF OPERATIONS

- 5.1 A logical sequence of operations is recommended to ensure that trees are protected for the full duration of development works.

Table 2: Sequence of operations for tree protection

Phases	Recommendation
Phase 1	Install tree protection measures in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan (Appendix A) and BS5837:2012. Protection shall be inspected and confirmed in place prior to commencement of any other works.
Phase 2	Transport and store all materials, plant, and equipment in designated areas located outside of Root Protection Areas (RPAs). No storage shall occur within protected areas.
Phase 3	Temporarily remove sections of tree protection fencing only where necessary to facilitate construction of the approved no-dig hard surfacing within the RPA. Fencing removal shall occur immediately prior to commencement of these works and only for the minimum area required, as illustrated in Appendix A.
Phase 4	Complete all approved hard surfacing works in accordance with the no-dig methodology detailed within this report.
Phase 5	Remove all materials, plant, equipment, and temporary ground protection from the site upon completion of construction works.
Phase 6	Remove tree protection measures once all construction activities have been completed and the site is ready for final soft landscaping.
Phase 7	Undertake soft landscaping works in accordance with the principles set out within this report.

6. SITE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 The responsibility for ensuring compliance with the arboricultural protection measures outlined in this Method Statement rests with the Site Manager for the duration of the project. The Site Manager acts as the primary point of contact regarding tree protection and must oversee all on-site activities to ensure that no retained trees are compromised by construction operations.

Induction and briefing

- 6.2 Before commencing work, all personnel and subcontractors must receive an induction that includes a briefing on this *Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)* and the Tree Protection Plan (Ref: 26011-TPP-01). This induction must specifically highlight:

- The location and extent of Root Protection Areas (RPAs) and tree canopies.
- Restrictions on machinery use, excavation, and material handling within or near RPAs.
- Prohibited activities such as the mixing or disposal of concrete or other harmful substances within RPAs.

This information must also be provided to all temporary workers and site visitors engaged in any relevant activities.

- 6.3 A hard copy of this AMS must be kept on-site in a designated, easily accessible location. Written elements must be printed, and all plans must be provided in full colour at their specified sizes.

Operational oversight

- 6.4 The Site Manager is responsible for coordinating daily operations to avoid tree damage, including:
- Supervising any work occurring near RPAs.
 - Ensuring protective fencing, ground protection, and other measures remain intact and are respected.
 - Preventing activities that could affect tree health (e.g., storage of chemicals or heavy materials within RPAs).

Should site operations pose a potential threat to retained trees, the Site Manager must seek guidance from the appointed project arboriculturist before any such work proceeds.

Incident response and reporting

6.5 All damage or breaches involving tree protection must be:

- Recorded by the Site Manager with supporting photographs and notes.
- Reported to the arboriculturist without delay.
- Followed by an immediate halt to work in the affected area until an assessment can be carried out.

Any remediation or mitigation measures must be agreed upon with the arboriculturist and, where applicable, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Tree Officer before resuming work.

Compliance and supervision

6.6 The Site Manager is accountable for ensuring that all relevant planning conditions concerning tree protection are fully observed. This includes implementing a monitoring programme for any works undertaken close to or within RPAs.

6.7 Any tree pruning or related works not pre-approved as part of this AMS must receive formal consent from the LPA Tree Officer. If permission is granted, such works must be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations by a suitably qualified arborist.

7. ARBORICULTURAL MONITORING AND SUPERVISION

General

- 7.1 This section sets out the proportionate monitoring measures required to ensure compliance with BS5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations*.
- 7.2 Given the limited and low-impact nature of the proposed works, continuous arboricultural supervision is not considered necessary. Instead, monitoring will be undertaken on a staged and as-required basis.

Appointment of Project Arboriculturist

- 7.3 A suitably qualified arboriculturist shall be appointed on an advisory basis to provide initial guidance and to be available should arboricultural input be required during the course of the works. Day-to-day responsibility for compliance with the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) shall rest with the Site Manager.

Pre-commencement site meeting

- 7.4 Prior to the commencement of works, an on-site or virtual pre-commencement meeting shall be held between the Site Manager/contractor and the project arboriculturist. The purpose of this meeting will be to:
- Confirm the location and specification of tree protection measures.
 - Review the approved AMS and no-dig construction methodology.
 - Clarify responsibilities and lines of communication.
- 7.5 Subject to agreement at this stage, no further supervision will be required unless site conditions change or unforeseen issues arise.

Monitoring

- 7.6 Routine arboricultural supervision during the works is not anticipated to be necessary. The project arboriculturist will remain available on a call-off basis should:
- Unexpected roots be encountered;
 - Deviations from the approved methodology be proposed; or
 - Tree protection measures require clarification.
- 7.7 Additional site visits will only be undertaken if requested by the Site Manager or required by the Local Planning Authority.

Incident Management

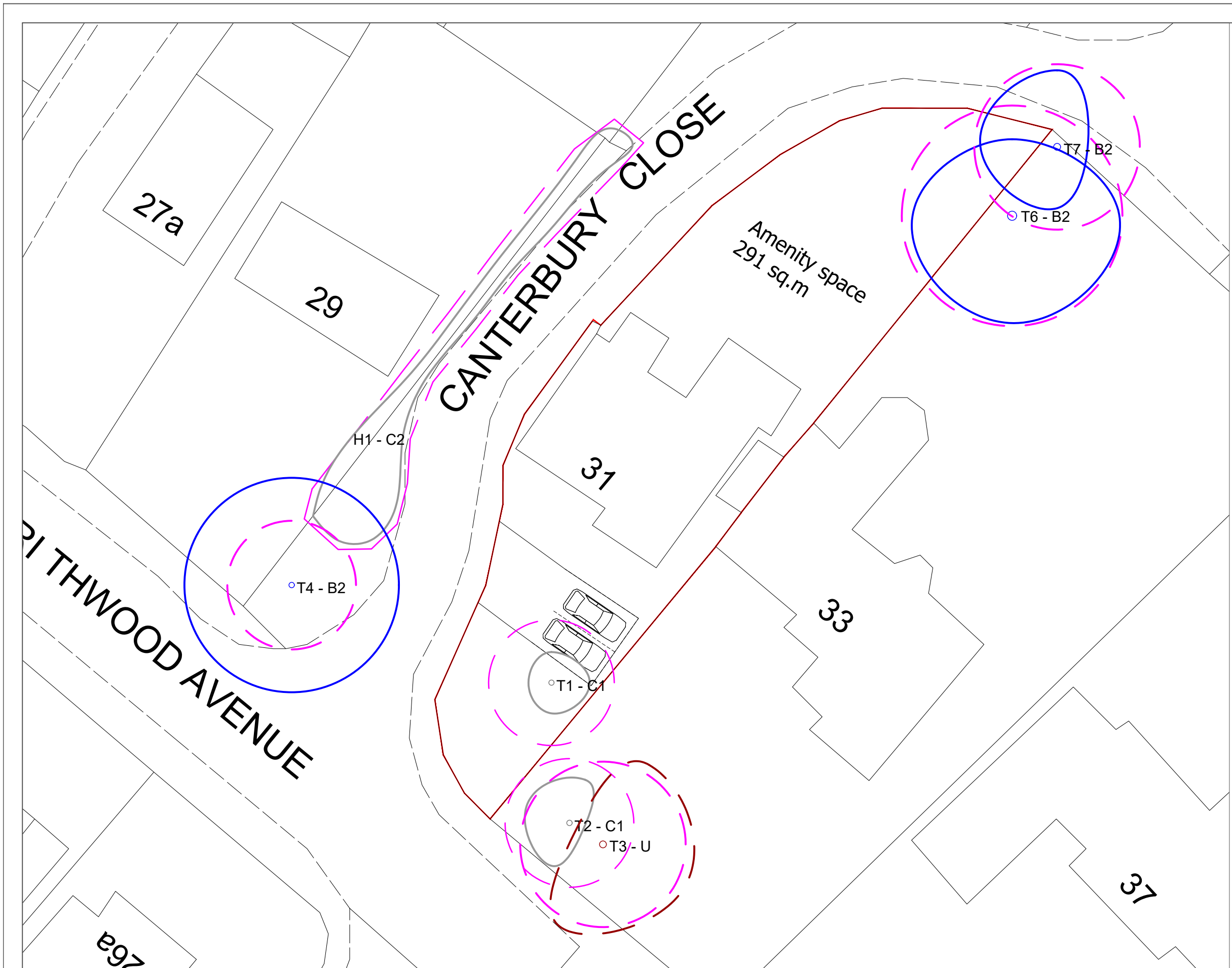
7.8 If tree protection measures are breached or accidental damage occurs:






- Works in the affected area shall cease immediately.
- The project arboriculturist shall be notified for advice.
- Any agreed remedial measures shall be implemented prior to works recommencing.

Appendix A

- 26011-TP-01 Tree Survey Plan
- 26011-TPP-01 Tree Protection Plan



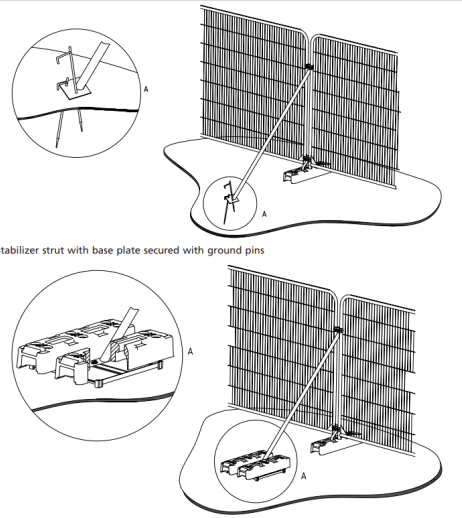


	Category A tree crown
	Category B tree crown
	Category C tree crown
	Category U tree crown
	Root Protection Area (RPA)

Plan title:	Tree Survey Plan	
Site:	31 Frithwood Ave	
Client:	Care Assist Limited	
Date:	10/02/2026	Drawn by: LD
Scale:	1:250@A3	Drawing no: 26011-TP-01

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FRI THWOOD AVENUE

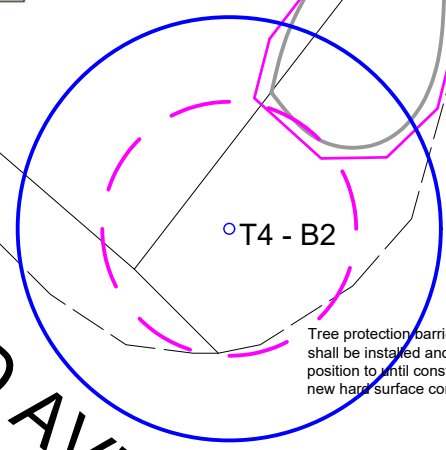
CANTERBURY CLOSE

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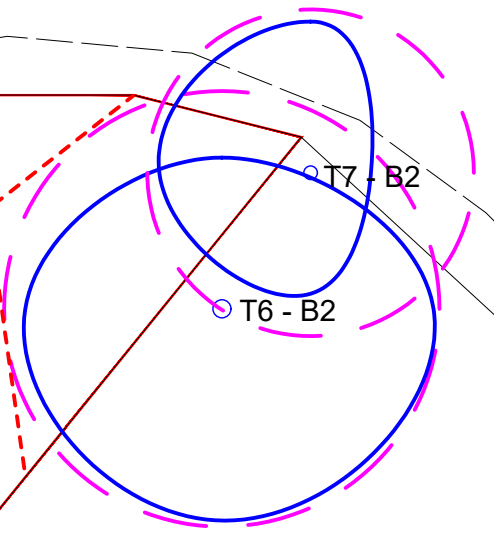
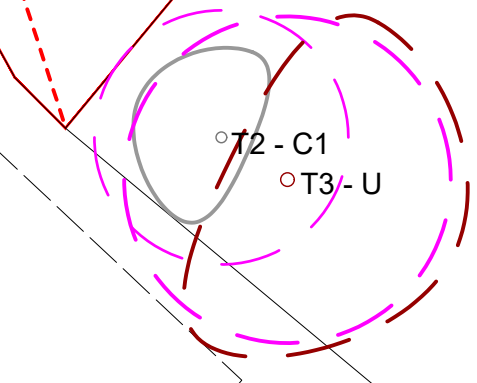
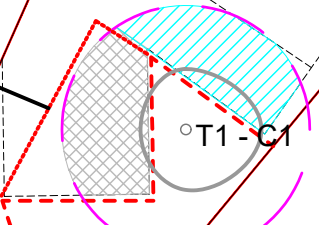
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Tree protection barriers west of T1 shall be installed and retained in position until construction of the new hard surface commences.



Tree protection barriers shall be installed in this location if any construction activity, access, ground works, or material storage is to take place within the rear garden.

- Category A tree crown
- Category B tree crown
- Category C tree crown
- Category U tree crown
- Root Protection Area (RPA)
- Temporary barrier protection.

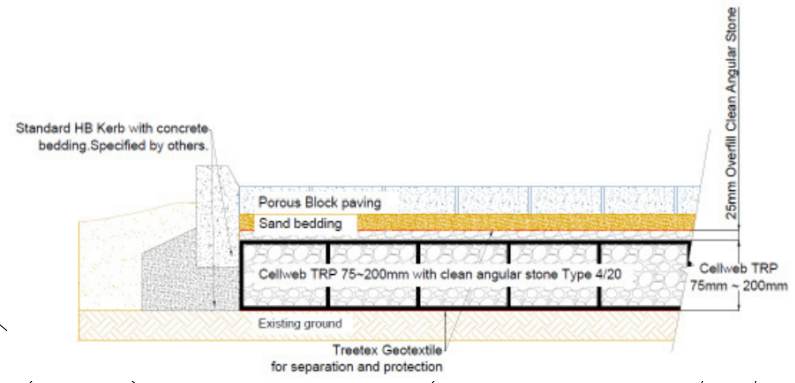
The existing hard surfacing shall be retained where practicable, with any new surface finish installed above. Where removal is unavoidable, works shall be undertaken using hand tools only and shall not extend beyond the depth of the existing sub-base.

Any new hard surfacing within the Root Protection Area (RPA) shall be constructed using a 'no-dig' methodology incorporating a suitable cellular confinement system (e.g. Cellweb TRP), installed in accordance with the manufacturer's specification and the Arboricultural Method Statement.

Plan title:	Tree Protection Plan	
Site:	31 Frithwood Ave	
Client:	Care Assist Limited	
Date:	10/02/2026	Drawn by: LD
Scale:	1:250@A3	Drawing no: 26011-TPP-01

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Appendix B

- 26011-TS-01 Tree Schedule


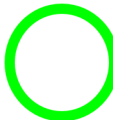

BS5837 Tree Schedule

26011 - 31 Frithwood Avenue HA6 3LY



Trees/ Groups	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter(s) (mm)	Crown Spread (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Lowest Branch	RPA	Life Stage	Expected Remaining Contribution	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Survey Notes	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Retention Category	Inspected
H1	Mixed species (Mixed species) Common holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>) Leyland cypress (<i>X Cuprocypris leylandii</i>) Cherry plum (<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>) English yew (<i>Taxus baccata</i>) Ivy (<i>Hedera sp.</i>)	5	200#	N:2 E:2 S:2 W:2	0		Area: 100 sq m.	Semi Mature	20+ Years	Good	Good	Part maintained hedge and trees. Located off-site.		C2	07-Feb-2026
T1	Lawson cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>)	9	260, 220	N:2 E:2.5 S:2 W:1.5	1		Radius: 4.1m. Area: 53 sq m.	Mature	10+ Years	Fair	Fair	Co-dominant stems. Dieback mid and lower crown.		C1	07-Feb-2026
T2	Western red cedar (<i>Thuja plicata</i>)	15	350#	N:3 E:1 S:3 W:3			Radius: 4.2m. Area: 55 sq m.	Mature	10+ Years	Fair	Fair	Located off-site. Unable to inspect base. Sparse foliage density.		C1	07-Feb-2026
T3	Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	15	450#	N:6 E:6 S:6 W:2			Radius: 5.4m. Area: 92 sq m.	Mature	Dead	Dead	Poor	Located off-site. Unable to inspect base.		U	07-Feb-2026
T4	Common ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	10	250#	N:7 E:7 S:7 W:7	3		Radius: 4.2m. Area: 55 sq m.	Early Mature	20+ Years	Good	Fair	Located off-site. Unable to inspect base.		B2	07-Feb-2026
T6	Blue gum (<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>)	24	600#	N:5 E:7 S:7 W:6.5			Radius: 7.2m. Area: 163 sq m.	Mature	20+ Years	Good	Fair	Located off-site. Unable to inspect base.		B2	07-Feb-2026
T7	Leyland cypress (<i>X Cuprocypris leylandii</i>)	19	450#	N:5 E:2 S:4 W:5	2		Radius: 5.4m. Area: 92 sq m.	Mature	20+ Years	Good	Good	Located off-site. Unable to inspect base.		B2	07-Feb-2026

Table 1 of BS5837:2012 **Cascade chart for tree quality assessment**

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality 			
<i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>				
1 Mainly arboricultural qualities		2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	



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