

# Arboricultural Method Statement

*relating to development at  
Phase 1  
East Hill  
Chatham*

Client

F D Attwood & Partners & Taylor Wimpey South East

January 2023

## **2021-KC-Ph1-YTREE-MethodStatement-RevA**

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#### Document history

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Rev0	Final	Initial report	JK / 23 January 2023
RevA	Final	Updated Arboricultural Method Statement	JK / 24 January 2023

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## WARNING

A woodland area outside the southern part of the site (refer to Tree Protection Plan for location) is protected by Tree Preservation Order. Works are remote and should not conflict with the trees.

That Order protects all parts of the tree, whether above or below ground, and failure to comply with this method statement that results in damage to trees can result in prosecution resulting in a criminal record and substantial fine.

Within a Woodland classification of Tree Preservation Order the protection extends to all trees from the smallest sapling to the largest specimen.

## **ABSTRACT**

Protective barriers are required throughout the construction process to protect the retained trees on the site.

Tree removal and pruning is required.

Alterations to soil levels adjoining root protection areas are proposed and the methodology of excavation is considered.

No utility installation is required within root protection areas.

## **1.0 Statement of purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this method statement is to demonstrate how works will be undertaken at Phase 1, East Hill, Chatham, to avoid unacceptable arboricultural impact and provide an adequate level of protection for those trees that are to be retained.
- 1.2 This method statement has been produced for F D Attwood & Partners & Taylor Wimpey South East in order to inform the construction team and satisfy the requirements of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Medway Council. The works are the subject of a reserved matters application and this arboricultural method statement has been prepared to support the discharge of condition 26. The development is described as:

*Reserved matters application for Phase 1 for the erection of 91 homes, including affordable housing together with associated access, parking, landscaping, open space, equipped play, infrastructure and earthworks*

- 1.3 This method statement merely considers the systems of work in relation to the health and safety of retained trees. It does not address requirements of the Health and Safety Executive that should be considered in detail by those parties involved.

## **2.0 Related documents and drawings**

- 2.1 This method statement should be read in conjunction with the documents in Table 1 and drawings in Table 2 below.

## **3.0 Arboricultural issues & implications**

- 3.1 Detail of the trees and their protection are discussed and detailed in the documents, and shown on the drawings, listed above and should be read in conjunction with this method statement.
- 3.2 The buildings are located outside the root protection areas of all retained trees hence no specific measures are needed for their construction.
- 3.3 Proposed hard surfaces are remote from the root protection areas of retained trees hence no specific construction techniques are required for their construction.
- 3.4 Tree removal and pruning work are required.

- 3.5 Utility provision is accommodated outside of root protection areas hence do not require specific installation techniques.
- 3.6 Monitoring of works is required.

Table 1: Documents referred to

Originator	Title/Reference
British Standards Institute	<i>BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations</i>

Table 2: Drawings referred to

Originator	Drg No	Title
Pegasus Group	P22-0701_DE_04_H_01	Proposed Site Layout
Bellamy Wallace Partnership	K2275-CIV-0101 to 0104 Rev P04	Surface Water and Foul Drainage Layout
Bellamy Wallace Partnership	K2275-CIV-0201 to 0204 Rev P04	Engineering Layout
Keen Consultants	2021-KC-XX-YTREE-TCP01Rev0	Tree Constraints Plan
Keen Consultants	2021-KC-Ph1-YTREE-TPP01RevA	Tree Protection Plan

## 4.0 Facilitation tree works

- 4.1 Tree pruning and removal are required to accommodate the proposed development.
- 4.2 Details of the tree work are given in the schedule on the Tree Protection Plan referred to in Table 2 above.
- 4.3 All tree work shall be undertaken in accordance with *BS3998:2010:Tree Work – Recommendations*.

## 5.0 General site care

5.1 To ensure that the trees to be retained are afforded an adequate degree of protection during the works, the following general precautions will be observed:

- 5.1.1 No fires will be lit on site
- 5.1.2 No access will be permitted within the temporarily barriered areas, unless and only where otherwise approved herein. Ground levels will not be changed within them and existing vegetation and topsoil will be left undisturbed but may be treated with approved herbicides if eradication is required.
- 5.1.3 No materials, equipment or debris will be stored within any of the barriered areas and no chemicals, petrol or diesel will be allowed to spill where they may contaminate the root protection areas of retained trees.
- 5.1.4 All heavy plant, machinery, cranes and delivery vehicles shall be excluded from the areas demarcated for protection on the Tree Protection Plan.

## 6.0 Sequencing of works

6.1 A logical sequence of events is to be observed as follows:

- Stage 1 Pre-commencement site meeting (See Section 12).
- Stage 2 Undertake tree works.
- Stage 3 Erect protective barriers as shown on the drawing in Table 2 (specifications given in Section 7).
- Stage 4 Implement development construction.
- Stage 5 Take down protective barriers and complete soft landscape works.



## **7.0 Protective barriers and ground protection**

- 7.1 Temporary barriers will be erected as indicated on the Tree Protection Plan listed in Table 2. The specification for this barriers will be in accordance with the recommendations given in *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations* Section 6.2 and will comprise 2.0m mesh barriers (Heras type panels are a simple, readily available solution) attached to a scaffold framework. Support scaffolds will be attached to the scaffold framework as necessary at an angle of 45 degrees on the side of the trees and anchored by further scaffold poles carefully firmed into the ground. Alternatively, the alternative specification of Heras type panels, fitted with stabiliser struts as per Figure 3 of BS5837, may be used. Clear signs will be attached at 6 metre intervals along the line of barriers stating 'Tree Protection Area – No Access'.
- 7.2 The barriers shall remain in place until soft landscape operations require its full or partial removal (see section 11). No other construction activity will take place within those areas formerly protected by the fence (see Section 5).
- 7.3 Temporary site offices, welfare units, contractor parking and material storage can be located in any area outside those zones protected by the temporary tree protection barriers.

## **8.0 Treatment of existing hard surfaces**

- 8.1 Where existing hard surfaces are present within the root protection area they shall be broken up and removed by hand.
- 8.2 Roots often exist in the substrate below hard surfaces and extreme care must be taken to avoid damage to them.
- 8.3 Immediately after, the void left as a consequence of their removal shall be filled with good quality topsoil as a prelude to soft landscape unless a replacement hard surface is proposed whereupon it shall be completed in accordance with the instruction contained herein.

## **9.0 Creation of new hard surfacing within root protection areas**

- 9.1 No new areas of hard surface are proposed within the root protection area of retained trees hence no specialist forms of their construction are required.

## **10.0 Excavations proximate to root protection areas**

- 10.1 Excavations are proposed proximate to the root protection area of retained trees.
- 10.2 Retaining walls are located proximate to root protection areas.
- 10.3 The excavations to form the retaining walls shall be minimised to ensure adequate separation from the retained trees. Excavations shall be reviewed by an arboriculturist to provide advice in respect of any significant roots (those over 25mm diameter) that are encountered (if any).

## **11.0 Reinstatement and landscaping**

- 11.1 Final grading to marry in new levels with existing ground will be achieved by importing topsoil and spreading by hand equipment only. The newly graded areas will be grass seeded or turfed by hand.
- 11.2 All tree and shrub planting pits will be dug by hand within the root protection areas of existing trees.

## **12.0 Planning, communication and supervision**

- 12.1 A list of useful contacts is attached at Appendix 1.
- 12.2 A pre-commencement meeting will take place on site attended by the appointed arboricultural consultant, the tree contractor, the site manager and the local authority arboricultural officer (if they are able to attend). The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that everyone fully understands the implications of the arboricultural method statement and to agree on finer points of detail prior to any works commencing.

12.3 The appointed arboricultural consultant shall monitor the works at the following key stages:

12.3.1 Confirmation that protective measures are in place.

12.3.2 Advice during excavation for retaining walls.

12.4 It shall be the duty of the client to notify the arboricultural consultant when the works are ready for inspection.

12.5 At the completion of each monitoring visit the appointed arboricultural consultant will circulate a short monitoring report to the client, site and the local authority arboricultural officer to confirm that works are progressing satisfactorily.

12.6 Monitoring visits will be undertaken by the arboricultural consultant at monthly intervals commensurate with site progress, and as notified by the client, to make sure that all tree protection measures are in place. A record of these visits will be kept and maintained for inspection on site.

12.7 Should any problems arise on site, the site manager will immediately inform the appointed arboricultural consultant who will assess the situation and make recommendations accordingly. If any modifications to the method statement are proposed, the arboricultural consultant will immediately advise the local authority arboricultural officer.

12.8 The site manager will brief all site personnel on the implications of the arboricultural method statement. A copy of this method statement will be available on site at all times. The progress reports detailed in Section 12.5 will be kept with the method statement so that both are readily available for inspection.

## **13.0 Transgression**

13.1 Failure to adhere to the requirements in this method statement may result in a Stop Notice being issued by the local authority. This will bring all operations at the site to a halt until the local authority permits resumption.

13.2 Failure to adhere to the requirements of this method statement that results in damage to a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order may result in prosecution of the individual, the contractor and the client.

- 13.3 The following measures will be required, but do not absolve the perpetrator from action, if the identified transgression occurs:
- a) Breakage of branches – the damaged shall be assessed by an arboriculturist, they shall advise on requirements and any pruning shall be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 to remove the damaged section.
  - b) Damage to bark – the damage shall be assessed by an arboriculturist and they shall advise on the measures that can be taken to optimise the reparation of the damage. Some paring back of damage may be required.
  - c) Damage to roots – the damage shall be assessed by an arboriculturist and they shall advise on the pruning or reparation required.
  - d) Compaction of soil – where machinery operates outside of ground protection and hard surfaces, leading to the compaction of soil, the compaction shall be alleviated by using compressed air injected to circa 1m deep to create fissures in the ground and lift the compacted areas. The compaction shall be assessed by an arboriculturist. A specialist company (for example Terrain Aeration Ltd) shall be appointed by the contractor to undertake the work.
- 13.4 All items of transgression shall be reported to the Local Authority tree officer to consider if action should be taken.

## **14.0 Conclusion**

- 14.1 If the provisions of this arboricultural method statement are complied with in full, the proposed works will be able to proceed without detrimental impact to retained trees.

# Appendix 1

List of contacts

### List of contacts

<b>Site Address:</b>	East Hill, Chatham, Kent	
<b>Site Manager:</b>	To be decided (TBD)	Tele No:
<b>Builder:</b>	TBD	
<b>Address:</b>		
<b>Contact Name:</b>	TBD	
<b>Arboricultural Consultant:</b>	Jago Keen	
<b>Address:</b>	Keen Consultants The Studio Timbers Gables Road Church Crookham Fleet Hampshire GU52 6QY	
<b>Tele No:</b>	01252 850096 (office)	(mobile) 07836 279935
<b>Local Authority Tree Officer</b>	Mike Sankus	
<b>Address:</b>	Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR	
<b>Telephone No.:</b>	01634 332218	