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Belgrove House Re-development (installation of welfare cabins) - Detailed Arboricultural Pruning Specification.

The re-development of Belgrove House was permitted in November 2021 under Camden Council planning application reference 2020/3881/P. To facilitate construction works, the installation of temporary welfare facilities is required along Argyle Square. The welfare facilities shall consist of double stacked prefabricated welfare cabins, accessed via stairs on the northern and southern elevations. The cabins shall be lifted into position by loader crane. The position of the welfare cabins has been provided on DGP Logistics Location Plan reference 43589_REV0.

To facilitate installation of the welfare cabins, the overhanging crowns of trees to the east of Argyle Square and within Argyle Square Gardens, will need lifting. This is to provide unhindered clearance between the crowns and the cabins whilst they are being lifted into position and to minimise conflict with the crown throughout the duration of installation.

The trees are situated within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area therefore no works to trees should be carried out unless either the works are approved under a six week notice to the Council has been provided. Failure to adhere to the Conservation Area legislation could lead to prosecution and if convicted a fine and criminal record. The crown of a tree and its roots are protected. The person carrying out the works, the person instructing the works and the Directors of that company are potentially liable.

The trees are also within Camden Council's ownership, therefore permission for the tree works must be sought and fully permitted prior to commencement.

The tree works contractors should carry out all tree works to BS3998: 2010 Tree works – recommendations as modified by research that is more recent. They should also carry relevant, adequate and up to date insurance. It is suggested that an Arboricultural Association approved contractor carry out all tree works. Approved contractors are expected to work to industry best standards. The Arboricultural Association website (www.trees.org.uk) contains contact details and information on engaging a suitable contractor.



Image 1: Tree location plan. Approx. cabin location highlighted in blue and the location of trees to be pruned highlighted in red.

Trees adjacent to the welfare cabin location have development high primary crown scaffolds with pendulous tertiary growth(crown tips) that overhang the road. The lowest significant branches over the road are located at 10m height with the lowest crown tips at 5m height. To install the cabins, especially lifting the upper level into place, 11m clearance will be required over the middle of Argyle Square. This height lessens to 8m along the eastern edge of Argyle Road. To achieve sufficient clearance, the crowns of all trees highlighted red in Image 1 will require lifting by a maximum of 6m, to achieve a total 11m ground clearance over the road above the position of the cabins. Pruning shall occur to tertiary growth only with no branch/limb over 35mm being pruned. The pruning works shall not impact upon the trees primary crown scaffold. Where possible and only when branch deviation is minor, the tertiary growth of crowns shall be carefully tied back or manipulated around the temporary structure and/or its access steps. This method will minimise the need to prune.

The above facilitation pruning works only require the removal of small diameter branches (less than 35mm diameter) and crown tips, and works can be completed without impacting upon the trees physiological condition and/or amenity value. The pruning works fall well within acceptable parameters stipulated within British Standards BS3998: 2010 Tree works – recommendations.

If you have any queries regarding the above, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Luke White
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Photograph Appendices



Photograph 1. Cabin location on Argyle Square viewed from south looking north.



Photograph 2. Cabin location on Argyle Square viewed from north looking south.