

4737C

14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

## **ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT**

### **Terms of Reference**

- 1.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement was requested by Adrian Doyle, Avery Support Group Centre, 3 Cygnet Drive, Swan Valley, Northampton, NN4 9BS.
- 1.2 It has been compiled to aid the protection of trees to be retained at Hampstead Court Care Home, 48 Boundary Road, St Johns Wood, London, NW8 0HJ. Implementation of the protection methods and specialist construction detailed here are integral to achieving this goal.
- 1.3 The information contained within this Arboricultural Method Statement is in line with BS5837 : 2012 'Trees in relation to construction – recommendations'.
- 1.4 This method statement is to be made available to all operatives on site during the construction process, so that they understand the scope and importance of the measures set out for tree protection.

### **Phasing & Monitoring of Development**

- 2.1 Phasing is governed by operational constraints and therefore subject to change. The project's arboriculturalist must be notified of any changes to this schedule.
- 2.2 Phase 1 – Development stage
  - 2.2.1 Site accessible to construction traffic
  - 2.2.2 Groundworks
  - 2.2.3 Removal of existing concrete
  - 2.2.6 Development
  - 2.2.7 Completion of development
  - 2.2.8 Site inspection by arboriculturalist
- 2.3 Phase 11 – Post development stage
  - 2.3.1 Hard and soft landscaping

### **Root Protection Areas**

- 3.1 The Root Protection Areas (RPA) have been determined for each retained tree and are designed to protect the absolute minimum of tree root mass to ensure that the trees survive the construction process.
- 3.2 For details of the locations of trees to be retained and Root Protection Areas, reference should be made to the Tree Protection Plan.
- 3.3 It is the responsibility of everyone involved in the project to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them.

### **Restrictions with Tree Protection Areas**

- 4.1 Inside the exclusion area:
  - 4.1.1 No mechanical excavation whatsoever
  - 4.1.2 No excavation by any other means without arboricultural site supervision
  - 4.1.3 No hand digging without a written method statement having first being approved by the arboriculturalist
  - 4.1.4 No lowering of levels for any purpose (except removal of grass sward using hand tools)
  - 4.1.5 No storage of plant or materials
  - 4.1.6 No storage or handling of any chemical including cement washings (other than resin, stone & hardener)
  - 4.1.7 No vehicular access
  - 4.1.8 No fire lighting
- 4.2 A 10m separation distance shall be observed between any tree and substances injurious to tree health, including fuels, oil, bitumen, cement (including cement washings), builders sand, concrete mixing and other chemicals.
- 4.3 No fire shall be lit such that flames come within 5m of tree foliage

#### **Hard Surface Removal within Root Protection Areas (RPA)**

- 5.1 Tree protection measures will remain in place until work commences and when removed all personnel working within the RPA are to be made aware of the extent and nature of the area.
- 5.2 The initial break up of the hard surface may be carried out by a mechanical excavator and the material then removed by hand.
- 5.3 Removal of the hard surface will occur in small areas working from undisturbed surface. This will enable any roots exposed to be covered with a good quality top soil to avoid desiccation and the ground to be made good as the operation progresses.
- 5.4 There will be no reduction in the level of the underlying soil surface. The soil may be levelled by the addition of up to 120mm of good quality top soil to BS3882:1984 using hand tools only to avoid disturbance.
- 5.5 Should any roots over 25mm diameter be left above the final soil level and be a hindrance to the final surface installation, their removal will only be carried out under arboricultural supervision and with the approval of the LPA.
- 5.6 If the area around retained trees is to be left following the removal of the existing hard surface before a new hard surface is laid, or soft landscaping implemented, the protective barriers must be correctly re-established immediately the hard surface removal has been completed.

#### **Soft Landscaping within Root Protection Areas (RPA)**

- 6.1 Ground preparation will be carried out sensitively to ensure root damage is mitigated as much as is practicable. At no time is any heavy plant to be used within any RPA. Removal of existing vegetation will be carried out by hand, or with light machinery.
- 6.2 At no time shall a rotavator be used within any RPA to prepare the soil. Any levelling will be done by hand and with the use of hand tools.