Arboricultural Method Statement

Maria Fidelis Catholic School

Kier Construction

JFA Ref: Lon 1988

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BRINGING NATURE TO THE HEART OF DESIGN

Contents

Appendices

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Client	Kier Construction
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 As the majority of tree roots are found in the upper metre of soil, development works, including for example even shallow excavation, soil compaction and soil contamination, can be harmful to trees in close proximity. Trees differ in their tolerance of root loss or disturbance, according to their age, species and/or condition.

1.2 With reference to BS 5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations', an assessment of the site's tree stock has been undertaken and those trees suitable for retention within the proposed development identified on the Detailed Tree Protection Plan (DTPP) at Appendix 2. A calculation has been made of the volume of soil required to ensure the survival of these and this is represented by the Root Protection Area (RPA).

1.3 With consideration of the RPA and existing site features, including natural and man made topography and structures that can restrict tree root growth in any direction causing deeper rooting or a concentration of growth in other directions, adopting construction and tree protection techniques that minimise root disturbance, it is possible to achieve the successful integration of structures into a landscape avoiding lasting damage to retained trees and preserving general amenity to the local landscape for future generations.

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2.0 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this report is to aid the preservation of trees shown to be retained at and adjacent to Maria Fidelis Catholic School, Drummond Crescent during the recently approved redevelopment of the site by setting out the tree protection methods, construction techniques and working practices that are to be adopted in their vicinity. The success of the document is dependant upon development adhering to the principles set out within. The AMS must therefore from part of any

appropriate tender documents and should to be approved and enforced by the local planning authority.

3.0 Methodology

3.1 With reference to relevant published guidance, the methodology of this statement follows a logical sequence essential to the efficacy of the protection measures.

3.2 It is essential to the successful implementation of the principles set out in this document that effective supervision and enforcement are actuated from the outset.

Sequenced Methods of Construction and Tree Protection

4.0 Phase 1 Pre Construction Meeting

4.1 An onsite meeting will be held with all relevant parties including the project manager and developer. The purpose of this meeting is to agree the location of permanent and temporary access, access routes for demolition, location of site storage and tree protection barriers as indicated on the appended DTPP and the phasing of development to ensure suitable access routes are maintained throughout the build.

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5.0 Phase 2 Agreed Tree Works

5.1 T6, tip-end reduce over site to allow a 1.5m clearance to east elevation. T13 fell and grind stump. Trees T1 to T5 have been pruned back over site since the original tree survey, therefore, no further work is required.

5.2 All tree work will conform to BS 3998:2010 'Tree Work' and to current arboricultural best practice. Tree works are to be undertaken by a professional and specialist arboricultural contractor, who carries the appropriate experience and insurance cover and following formal approval from the LPA.

6.0 Phase 3 Tree Protection Barriers

6.1 There are no trees located within the construction site associated with the new school building. Trees will therefore be excluded from the construction site by timber hoarding to the front, Drummond Crescent, and metal hoarding to the rear.

6.2 Care should be exercised when locating hoarding posts to avoid underground services and structural roots.

6.3 Once the barriers/hoarding have been properly erected in position, they are to be considered as sacrosanct and are not to be removed or altered in any way without prior approval from the LPA.

6.4 Clear notices are to be fixed to the hoarding where it is adjacent to trees with words such as 'PROTECTED TREES – NO ACCESS AND NO STORAGE OR WORKING WITHIN THIS AREA'.

6.5 All operatives and other relevant personnel are to be informed of the role of hoarding as tree protection and its importance. A copy of the DTPP will be displayed on site at all times during construction.

DRAFT

6.6 The barriers/hoarding will be erected prior to any works on site in the vicinity of retained trees, including demolition or the delivery of machinery, materials, plant or equipment to the site or any adjacent land. The barriers/hoarding will remain in situ until final completion or a time agreed between the LPA and Contractor.

7.0 Phase 4 Demolition

7.1 All demolition will be carried out from within the site. Buildings will be pull back away from trees into the building footprints. Hard standing will be removed under supervision and no excavation into soft ground within RPAs will be permitted. Again, hard standing will be removed starting with areas closest to trees and pulling back away from trees, always working from protected ground. Existing foundations

within the RPA along Drummond Crescent will be retained to avoid damage to tree roots.

8.0 Phase 5 Ground Protection

8.1 The existing Drummond Crescent footpath will be retained to provide protection of the rooting medium during construction of the building.

9.0 Phase 6 Ground works, Foundations, Drainage and Services

9.1 Spoil, including soil and rubble will be removed from site and not stored against any barriers/hoarding or over any RPA. Only predetermined access routes with appropriate ground protection will be used during this process.

9.2 The existing building foundation at the back edge of the footpath in Drummond Crescent will be retained and only excavated to a level necessary to allow installation of new surface treatment. This foundation is 2+m deep and is acting as a root barrier preventing significant rooting activity within the site.

DRAFT

9.3 Foundations comprise a series of reinforced concrete pads. There are nine located behind the existing foundation in the vicinity of the Drummond Crescent trees. A 360-degree excavator will be used to excavate pits but at no time is the excavating arm to encroach over the position of the barrier/hoarding. Vehicles receiving spoil will located away from barriers/hoarding and the trees in Drummond Crescent. Concrete will pured on site and piped from a conctrete mixing facility/lorry located away from trees.

9.4 Tower Cranes are required to facilitate construction and these will be erected on site and located centrally. Delivery areas are located towards the east and west extents of the construction site away from the retained trees. Cranes will receive from and drop to these areas only and will not swing out over Drummond Crescent and trees T1 to T5.

9.5 There are no works to existing services or new services located within the RPA and outside the retained existing building foundation.

10.0 Phase 7 Erection of Scaffolding

10.1 Scaffolding will be erected along the entire length of the Drummond Crescent elevation. There are no additional trees works required to allow erection of scaffolding to enable reasonable construction of the building.

11.0 Phase 8 Dismantling Works

11.1 A Mobile Crane will be located in Drummond Crescent to facilitate the dismantling of the Tower Cranes. The Mobile Crane will be located to allow access to and from the Tower Cranes while maintaining a clearance to the trees. If necessary to ensure trees are not damaged, the Mobile Crane will be moved during the dismantling period.

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12.0 Hard Landscaping

12.1 All landscaping will avoid soil re-grading and disturbance within the RPA. Before installing, consideration must be given to finished surface levels and how they relate to surrounding levels as lowering levels within the RPA and outside the existing building foundation will not be acceptable. It may be necessary to incorporate a gentle slope into the surface to match levels.

12.2 Both sub base and finished surfaces will be of a porous nature. Hard surface will not be laid up to tree trunks and trunks/buttress roots will be given room to grow without conflicting with pavements, curbs and tree pit details.

13.0 Communication Details and Supervision

13.1 In order to ensure that the principals of tree protection set out in the statement are adhered to, it is important to set out communication details for key individuals and tasks that require supervision. These details should be retained by all relevant parties and available on site at all times. Relevant parties will be advised of any changes in personnel or contractor during the development process. Listed below are the key activities for project manager supervision.

Tree works

Erection of Barriers/Hoarding

Ground works adjacent to Drummond Crescent

Crane use along Drummond Crescent frontage

Erection of scaffolding within RPA

Dismantling of Tower Cranes

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14.0 Compliance

14.1 Before construction begins written confirmation that the developer/contractor or its agents agree to comply in full with the principles set out within this Method Statement will be lodged with the LPA.

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