

Method Statement for relocation of existing tree on site

15 Highgate Road

Lifting and moving

- The tree will be watered well on the day before moving. Approximately 20L of water will be applied slowly to the base of the tree using a watering can with a rose attachment or a sprinkler.
- Careful exploratory digging will be carried out to determine the extent of the root spread. Hand-held tools will be used to remove adjacent hard surfacing, taking care not to disturb tree roots that may be present underneath. Digging will continue until the full extent of the root system is determined.
- The tree branches will be loosely tied in with tree twine before lifting.
- The tree will be lifted with the full rootball intact. Where it is necessary to cut roots, they will be severed cleanly with a sharp sterile knife or secateurs. If the root mass is root-bound, make 4no vertical cuts to disrupt any roots growing in a spiral.
- The tree will be placed on a piece of damp sacking for transporting, and the roots will be covered to avoid drying out by wind or sun. Lifting and replanting will be carried out in one operation.

Replanting

- The new planting area will be prepared as per the supplied detailed drawing (2015-010-L03), using subsoil root cells filled with topsoil to maximise the rootzone underneath the hard paved area.
- The tree will be planted in the centre of a new 1m x 1m hole, using layers of subsoil in the base of the hole to ensure that the old soil-mark on the trunk of the tree is located at the ground level.
- Underground tree guying will be provided as per detail 2015-010-L03 to re-establish the tree and prevent wind rock.
- The planting hole will be filled in with topsoil – sandy loam to BS3882, carefully firming around the tree to eliminate air pockets.
- An irrigation pipe will be installed as per detail 2015-010-L03 to allow for watering and to aid aeration of the soil
- A root director will be installed as per detail 2015-010-L03 to prevent interaction between new paving and tree roots.

Aftercare

- The tree will be watered in thoroughly after planting, Approximately 50L of water will be applied slowly to the base of the tree using a watering can with a rose attachment or a sprinkler.
- The tree will receive irrigation during the growing season to supplement natural rainfall. This will be supplied either by hand watering via the irrigation pipe or via an automated irrigation system. The tree should receive approximately 60-100L of water per week during the growing season from irrigation or natural rainfall. Soil moisture at the base of the tree will be checked at maintenance visits to ensure the tree is not being overwatered.

- A gravel mulch will be applied around the tree to conserve moisture and suppress weeds, while keeping the base of the tree free from mulch.
- In the Spring following relocation a general fertiliser such as Growmore will be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to boost growth.

Protection

- The tree will be located between a low wall and a cycle store which will provide protection from damage. A tree guard is deemed unnecessary in this location.