# Arboricultural assessment & method statement

59 Redington Road, London

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TREE CONSULTANCY

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**17th April 2019 19055-AA-PB**

## Report purpose

This arboricultural assessment report provides sufficient information for the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to consider the effect of the proposed development on local character from a tree perspective. It is fully compliant with the BS 5837 advice relating to the planning application stage of the process and it meets national standard planning application validation requirements.

More specifically, the development proposal is to construct a new pool house within the rear garden of 59 Redington Road, London.

This report includes:

- A **Tree protection plan** illustrating tree locations, categories, the location of the proposed development, and the proposed tree protection measures.
- An **Arboricultural assessment** (section 1 of the report) providing an analysis of the tree issues to assist the LPA in assessing the impact on local character.
- An **Arboricultural method statement** (section 2 of the report) describing how retained trees will be protected and managed during the development activity.
- **Appendices** (**Appendix 1** – Background administrative information, and data collection; **Appendix 2** – Tree schedule and explanatory notes; and, **Appendix 3** – QR Codes for SGNs).
- A companion document to supplement the main report titled ***Manual for managing trees on development sites*** **(Version 2.1)**, which provides explanations of how retained trees will be managed on site in the form of Site Guidance Notes (SGNs) covering the relevant issues.

# 1: Arboricultural assessment

## 1.1 Table 1: Summary of trees affected and protected by the proposal

From my review of the constraints and the proposed layout, my assessment of the impact on trees, both during and after development, and those that need protection using special precautions, is summarised in Table 1:

| | British Standard 5837 Category | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **A (High quality)** | **B (Moderate quality)** | **C (Low quality)** |
| **Remove** | None | None | **T1, T2, T3, T6, T7** |
| **Prune** | None | None | None |
| **Protect using special precautions** See Notes below | None | **T8** | None |
| **Post development considerations** | None | None | None |

T = Tree

**Note on types of protection:** All retained trees will be protected during development by using barriers and ground protection, and only those requiring special precautions to limit the impact of encroachment are listed in Table 1.

## 1.2 Discussion of specific tree issues

**RPA adjustment for T5:** BS 5837 (4.6.2 & 4.6.3) makes provision for adjusting the initial circular RPA if justified by pre-existing site conditions or other factors. On this site, I have assessed that this can be reasonably applied to T5 (an offsite tree) as it is my opinion that this tree is likely to be preferentially rooting away from the application site due to the compacted nature of ground within this location and the presence of significant rooting from the existing laurel trees (T1, T2, and T3). As a result, I have shown an adjustment to the RPA of this tree on the tree protection plan and confirm that I do not consider that the construction or presence of the swimming pool building will present a risk of adverse impact to its vitality or potential for long-term retention.

## 1.3 The impact of tree removals on local character

**T1, T2, T3, and T7** are very poor quality trees that are unsustainable beyond the short-term. Their removal will not result in any adverse impact on the local amenity or landscape character. The removals will enable the boundary fencing to be reinstated and secured and importantly, present an opportunity to establish new structural tree planting along this perimeter (as shown on the tree protection plan).

**T6** is an ornamental tree located well within the site. It has a squat canopy form that has been suppressed by the presence of the adjacent low-quality laurel trees. The nature of its location and canopy form means that it is screened from any public vantages and as such its removal will have no adverse impact on visual amenity or landscape character.

## 1.4 The impact of tree pruning on local character

Other than pruning for normal maintenance, no trees will be pruned because of this development.

## 1.5 The potential impact of works in precautionary areas

My assessment of the impact of encroachment into RPAs that will be managed by special precautions, is as follows:

**T8:** For this tree there is minor encroachment into its initial circular RPA. However, BS 5837 (5.3.1) does allow for encroachment, if such new structures and surfacing are either of low impact, and/or it can be demonstrated that any lost area can be compensated for elsewhere. In this situation, the encroachment is on the outer extent of the RPA (within an area of existing compacted ground) and is relatively small compared to the area that will be left undisturbed. In my experience, healthy trees can tolerate such incursions into their RPAs without any significant adverse impacts on health, and my opinion is that this will be the case is this situation.

I have carefully reviewed the levels in these areas, and it would be feasible to install custom designed no-dig specification surfacing without causing any significant disturbance to the RPA. From our previous experience at installing such surfacing (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/case-studies/SurfacingNearTrees.pdf), I am confident that this can be implemented without any long term detrimental impact on tree health, with the detail to be agreed as part of a planning condition. This surfacing solution is within the advice set out in BS 5837 (8.6) and would be appropriate in this situation. In summary, if the guidance set out in SGN 7 *Excavating in RPAs* and SGN 9 *Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs* is observed, I believe that the proposed works can be implemented without any long-term detrimental impact on tree health, and therefore local character. All new surfacing must be installed before any construction access to prevent damage to the RPA from the construction activity.

A small section of the eastern element of the proposed swimming pool building will be formed within the radially expressed RPA of this tree. This area has been subject to past disturbance and I am confident that the new structure can be formed without risk of adverse impact to this tree, provided the guidance set out in SGN 7 *Excavating in RPAs* and SGN 10 *Installing structures in RPAs* is observed.

**Installation of new services or upgrading of existing services**

This tree may be affected by the installation of new services or upgrading of existing services. However, it is often difficult to clearly establish the detail of services until the construction is in progress, and so this advice is precautionary. Where possible, it is proposed to use the existing services into the site and keep all new services outside RPAs. Where existing services within RPAs require upgrading, or new services must be installed in RPAs, great care must be taken to minimise any disturbance. Trenchless installation will be the preferred option, but if that is not feasible, any excavation must be carried out by hand according to the guidelines in SGN 11 *Installing services in RPAs*.

## 1.6 Post development considerations

My assessment is that there will be no adverse impact on retained trees once the development is completed and occupied.

## 1.7 New tree planting to enhance local character

To supplement retained trees and enhance local character, the project landscape architect has specified a comprehensive new tree planting scheme along the western boundary of the site. I understand that the final selection of species, size and location are flexible and open to amendment, as appropriate. All new trees will be specified and planted in accordance with the recommendations in BS 8545 (2014) *Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations*. These new trees would have the potential to reach a significant height without excessive inconvenience and be sustainable into the long-term, significantly improving the potential of the site to contribute to local character.

## 1.8 Summary of impact on local character

This proposal will result in the loss of a small number of trees that are all low category because of their poor condition, small size and limited levels of sustainability. The matter of adverse impacts on retained trees due to post-development pressures to fell or prune has been considered and I concluded that no further trees will be affected. There is plenty of space for tree planting and a comprehensive new tree planting scheme using significant stock is included as part of the proposal. The size of these new trees and their future growth will provide an aesthetic screen to the western site boundary and more than compensate for the loss of existing trees. The construction activity may affect one moderate quality tree if appropriate protective measures are not taken. However, if adequate precautions to protect this retained tree are specified and implemented through the arboricultural method statement included in this report, then the development proposal will have no detrimental impact on tree health or the contribution of this tree to the character in the wider setting.

For these reasons, I conclude that the proposed development would not cause an unacceptable or adverse impact on the long-term vitality of the retained trees, and therefore the character and appearance of the area. Furthermore, it fully aligns with the broad guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

# 2: Arboricultural method statement

## 2.1 Site Guidance Notes (SGNs)

This section of the report identifies which trees on this site will be protected and managed, and by what means. This site-specific summary is supplemented by more detailed explanations and descriptions of specific operations set out in the accompanying *Manual for managing trees on development sites*. That document is a compilation of 12 individual SGNs addressing the following tree protection and management issues that regularly arise in the construction phase of development:

- SGN1 *Monitoring tree protection* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn01)
- SGN2 *Fencing protected trees* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn02)
- SGN3 *Ground protection* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn03)
- SGN4 *Pollution control* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn04)
- SGN5 *Site cranes & piling rigs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn05)
- SGN6 *Height restrictions* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn06)
- SGN7 *Excavating in RPAs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn07)
- SGN8 *Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn08)
- SGN9 *Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn09)
- SGN10 *Installing structures in RPAs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn10)
- SGN11 *Installing services in RPAs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn11)
- SGN12 *Landscaping in RPAs* (www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/technical-guidance/sgn12)

**NOTE:** Each individual SGN can be downloaded by using the links above and the QR Code links in Appendix 3.

## 2.2 Identification of areas to be protected

The tree protection plan shows the areas where protective measures are necessary. The barrier locations are shown by the heavy black dashed lines, with the construction exclusion zone behind as the lighter black diagonal hatch. The precautionary area is are shown by a yellow fill and also incorporates the areas requiring ground protection measures across the construction phases of the swimming pool.

## 2.3 Arboricultural supervision

An arboricultural consultant will be appointed to advise on the tree management for the site and to attend:

- a pre-commencement meeting before any work starts;
- regular supervision visits to oversee the agreed tree protection, as agreed at the pre-commencement meeting; and
- further supervision visits, as necessary, to oversee any unexpected works that could affect trees.

The detail of how the arboricultural supervision will be carried out is explained in SGN 1 *Monitoring tree protection* in the accompanying Manual.

## 2: Arboricultural method statement

### 2.4 Table 2: Summary of the site operations requiring arboricultural input

For this site, arboricultural input will be needed for the following operations:

| Brief operation summary | Trees affected | Location of detailed explanations |
|---|---|---|
| **Pre-commencement meeting:** Meeting on site with all parties to agree protective measures, as described in SGN 1. Will be carried out before any significant site works begin. | All trees | SGN 1 *Monitoring tree protection* |
| **Tree felling and pruning:** Contractor will carry out agreed works as described in Appendix 2. Will be completed before any significant site works begin. | Fell **T1, T2, T3, T6, T7** | Appendix 2 |
| **Installing barriers and ground protection:** Agreed tree protection measures will be installed and checked, as described in SGN 2 and SGN 3. Will be completed before any significant site works begin. | **T8** | Tree protection plan, SGN 2 *Fencing protected trees*, and SGN 3 *Ground protection* |
| **Pollution control near retained trees:** Any pollution control measures identified during risk assessment will be installed as described in SGN 4. Will be completed before any potential pollutants arrive on site. | All trees | SGN 4 *Pollution control* |
| **Regular arboricultural supervision:** Provision will be made to carry out and record agreed arboricultural supervision, as described in SGN 1. | All trees | SGN 1 *Monitoring tree protection* |
| **Excavating in RPAs:** These operations will be carried out as described in SGN 7. | **T8** | SGN 7 *Excavating in RPAs* |
| **Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs:** These operations will be carried out as described in the SGN 9. | **T8** | SGN 9 *Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs* |
| **Installing structures in RPAs:** These operations will be carried out with care, as described in SGN 10. | **T8** | SGN 10 *Installing structures in RPAs* |
| **Installing services in RPAs:** These operations will be carried out with care, as described in SGN 11. | **T8** | SGN 11 *Installing services in RPAs* |
| **Landscaping in RPAs:** These operations will be carried out with care, as described in SGN 12. | **T8** | SGN 12 *Landscaping in RPAs* |
| **Removing tree protection:** Protection can only be removed when there is no risk of damage to retained trees, as described in SGN 1. | All trees | SGN 1 *Monitoring tree protection* |

The operations summarised in this table and supplemented by the more detailed explanations set out in the SGNs and the rest of this document, form the arboricultural method statement for this site. The Site Manager will ensure that its details and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all site personnel. Copies of the agreed documents will be available on site. All personnel who could have an impact on trees will be briefed on the specific tree protection requirements as part of the site induction procedures. This requirement will be written into the site management documentation.

If unanticipated issues arise on site not referenced in the above explanations, further guidance on how to manage them can be found in the accompanying Manual.

## 2.5 Construction method statement (heads of terms summary)

A construction method statement is a description of how operations that may affect trees will be carried out to minimise any adverse impact on them. The details of how the site will be managed are construction and contractual matters that can only be finalised once the post-consent detailed planning begins. For that reason, at this stage in the planning process, as explained in clause 5.5.6 of BS 5837, it is normally sufficient to list a heads of terms summary of the issues requiring more detailed consideration once consent is issued. On this site, those issues are likely to include:

1. Preparation of a written site management protocol for dealing with tree issues, to be incorporated into formal site management procedures, and to specifically include induction training for all operatives related to tree protection.
2. The order of work on site, including site preparation, the installation of protective measures, the phasing of successive work locations, the installation of new pool building and associated surfacing, the removal of tree protection, and any necessary reinstatement.
3. Erection and maintenance of tree protection measures.
4. Who will be responsible for protecting the trees on site.
5. Detailed proposals for inspecting and supervising the tree protection.
6. How accidents and emergencies involving trees will be managed, including accidental damage to roots and their treatment.
7. Details of facilitation pruning and access into site. What size vehicles will be used under canopies and will large machinery be lifted over trees.
8. The parking arrangements for workers and visitors.
9. A schedule of emergency contact numbers relating to trees.
10. Areas for loading and unloading of materials and storage of materials and plant.
11. Where site facilities will be located and when will they be installed.
12. How machinery and equipment (such as excavators, concrete pumps and piling rigs) will enter, move on, work on, and leave the site.
13. Pollution control to specifically consider chemical storage and wheel washing facilities in relation to trees.
14. Recycling and storage of waste in relation to trees.
15. Details of earthworks, grading and mounding and removal of spoil, including any planned lowering or raising of ground levels.
16. Precise services locations, including the method of excavation when near trees.
17. Details of upgrading existing surfacing and areas where this will happen, including detailed and precise cross-sections where no-dig surfacing is to be installed.
18. Cross section detail of the shallow garden pool.

# Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

## A1.1 Table 3: Background administrative information

| | Background administrative information |
|---|---|
| **Report date & reference** | **17th April 2019; 19055-AA-PB** |
| **Tree protection plan reference** | **BT1** |
| **Instructing client** | MY Construction & Carpentry Ltd |
| **Instructions** | Visit the site, assess the relevant trees, prepare a schedule of their details, describe the impact of the proposal on those trees and identify the tree protection issues in an arboricultural method statement with a tree protection plan, if appropriate. |
| **Provided documents** | • Drawing number **'PDF-PLPH-05-226-2018'**, received by email 28th March 2019<br>• Drawing reference '**PLPH 01-226-2018**', received by email on 3rd April 2019<br>• Drawing reference '**PLPH 03-226-2018**', received by email on 3rd April 2019 |
| **Report author and credentials** | Phil Brophy has taken and passed the LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection course (https://www.lantra.co.uk/awards/product/professional-tree-inspection), is a Chartered Forester (www.charteredforesters.org), and a professional member of the Arboricultural Association (www.trees.org.uk), and is fully qualified to undertake the assessments in this report (https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/who-we-are/). |
| **Report limitations** | • We have not checked if there is any statutory protection on the trees because this can delay the production of the report. If any tree works are proposed before a planning consent is given, then the possible existence of any statutory protection must be checked with the LPA.<br>• This report does not consider ecological or archaeological issues, or any other matter beyond the assessment of the trees. |
| **Technical references** | In preparing the analysis in this report, we considered the guidance and advice in the following technical references:<br>• Climate Change Act (2008) www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents<br>• Town and Country Planning Act 1990 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents<br>• National Planning Policy Framework, published by the DCLG www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2<br>• BS 5837 (2012) *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, BSI www.shop.bsigroup.com/<br>• BS 8545 (2014) *Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations*, www.shop.bsigroup.com/<br>• BS 3998 (2010) *Tree work – Recommendations*, BSI www.shop.bsigroup.com/<br>• *Trees in the Townscape: A Guide for Decision Makers*, published by the Trees & Design Action Group http://www.tdag.org.uk/<br>• *Trees in Hard Landscapes: A Guide for Delivery*, published by the Trees & Design Action Group www.tdag.org.uk/<br>• National Joint Utilities Group (2007) Volume 4, Issue 2: *Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees* www.njug.org.uk/publications/ |

# Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

## A1.2 Table 4: Data collection

| | Data collection |
|---|---|
| **Date of site visit** | **3rd April 2019** |
| **People present during site visit** | Phillip Brophy |
| **Weather & visibility** | Clear and dry with average visibility |
| **Limitations to observations** | • The inspection of the trees for the purposes of assessing their condition and work requirements was made on the basis that they will be annually inspected in the future to identify any changes in condition and review the original recommendations. For these reasons, the tree assessment advice only remains valid for one year from the date that the trees were last inspected.<br>• All observations were of a preliminary nature and did not involve any climbing or detailed investigation beyond what was visible from accessible points at ground level.<br>• Observations of trees outside the site boundaries are confined to what was visible from within the site.<br>• All dimensions were estimated unless otherwise indicated. |
| **Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), Conservation Areas, and tree categorisation** | TPOs cannot always be reliably interpreted from the documentation to identify which trees are protected, especially as time passes and site conditions change from when they were originally made. It is common for TPO plans to be inaccurate and schedules often become out of date as trees die or are removed. Frequently, trees deteriorate and, although they may be technically protected by the TPO, are in such poor condition or causing such unreasonable inconvenience that their suitability for retention becomes questionable. In a planning context, if poor trees are assessed as unsuitable for retention, then it would be inappropriate to show them as a material constraint in development planning. For these reasons, although TPOs do need to be considered, they do not form the primary basis for tree categorisation. Poor quality trees assessed as not worthy of retention will be shown as such, irrespective of whether they are protected or not. Similarly, good quality trees that are not protected will still be shown as material constraints. The same rationale will be applied to Conservation Areas. |
| **Tree location and numbering** | Each tree was inspected, and the numbering scheme is indicated on the tree protection plan. Where important trees were found on site that were not included on the provided plan, their approximate positions and canopy extents are indicated on the plan. |
| **Recording of tree data** | For each identified tree the information collected was recorded on the tree schedule in Appendix 2 and the tree protection plan. |
| **Compliance of data collection with BS 5837** | The data collection is fully compliant with the advice in subsection 4.4.2 of BS 5837. When collecting this information, specific consideration was given to any low branches that may influence future use, age class, physiological condition, structural condition, and remaining contribution. Where appropriate, crown spreads were also noted where they differed from those shown on the provided land survey. |
| **Calculation of RPAs** | Following the recommendations in Table D1 of BS 5837, the diameter of each tree was rounded up to the next 2.5cm increment, with the radius of a nominal circle and the resultant RPA taken directly from that table. This information is listed for each tree in the tree schedule in Appendix 2. |

## Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

**NOTE:** Colour annotation is A & B trees with green background; C & U trees with blue background; trees to be removed in red text.

| Tree No | Species | Height (m) | Diameter (cm) @ 1.5m | Maturity | Low Branches | Category | Notes | Tree Works | RPA radius (m) | RPA area (m2) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All retained trees | | | | | | | | Carry out safety check | | |
| T1 | Laurel | 10 | 65 | Mature | - | C | Appears to be undermining boundary wall, very poor structural form, multi stemmed at ground level | Fell | 7.8 | 191 |
| T2 | Laurel | 10 | 0 | Mature | - | C | Three stems from ground level (one past structural fracture), past pruning of canopy to clear boundary | Fell | 0.0 | 0 |
| T3 | Laurel | 9 | 47.5 | Mature | - | C | Multi stemmed at ground level, past pruning to clear boundary | Fell | 5.7 | 102 |
| T4 | Cherry | 13 | 20 | Young | - | C | Located on adjacent land, young but established tree | - | 2.4 | 18 |
| T5 | Tulip tree | 17 | 45 | Maturing | - | B | Located on adjacent land, slight asymmetry within upper canopy | - | 5.4 | 92 |
| T6 | Cherry | 6 | 35 | Mature | - | C | Ornamental garden feature, squat canopy form that has been suppressed by laurel growth | Fell | 4.2 | 55 |
| T7 | Laurel | 9 | 45 | Mature | - | C | Poor structural form, asymmetric from ground level | Fell | 5.4 | 92 |
| T8 | Oak | 17 | 105 | Over mature | - | B | Small fruiting body (Beefsteak fungus) noted at base, deadwood throughout canopy, signs of past canopy reduction | - | 12.6 | 499 |

## Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

**Explanatory Notes**

- **Abbreviations:**
  T: Tree

- **Botanical tree names:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Cherry | : *Prunus* sp |
| Laurel | : *Prunus laurocerasus* |
| Oak | : *Quercus robur* |
| Tulip | : *Liriodendron tulipifera* |

- **BS 5837 (2012) compliance:** All data has been collected based on the recommendations set out in subsection 4.4 of BS 5837.
- **Tree inspections and site limitations:** Each tree was subjected to a quick visual check level of inspection. Where there is restricted access to the base of a tree, its attributes are assessed from the nearest point of access. Climbing inspections are not carried out during this level of inspection and, if heavy ivy is present, tree condition is assessed from what can be seen from the ground. A separate note is recorded if further investigation may be required to clarify its status.
- **Crown spreads:** Crown spread dimensions are not listed in the tree schedule because they are illustrated on the land survey base to all the plans in this document. Where crown spreads of significant trees on site are found to deviate from those shown on the provided land survey, we have noted it in the text of the report and annotated it on our plans.
- **Dimensions:** All dimensions are estimated unless otherwise indicated with an asterix (*) after the figure.
- **Species:** Species identification is based on visual observations. Where there is some doubt over tree identity, sp is noted after the genus name to indicate that the species cannot be reliably identified at the time of the survey. Where there is more than one species in a group, only the most frequent are noted and not all the species present may be listed.
- **Height:** Height is estimated to provide a broad indication of the size of the tree.
- **Trunk diameter:** Trunk diameter is estimated or measured (with a diameter tape), at the discretion of the consultant, and recorded in 2.5cm increments as advised in BS 5837 Table D1. Estimates may be made where access is restricted, direct measurement is prevented because of ivy on the trunk, or the tree is assessed as low quality. The point of measurement and the adjustments for stem variations are as advised in Figure C1 of BS 5837.
- **Maturity:** In planning context, maturity provides a simplistic indication of a tree's ability to cope with change and its potential for further growth. For the purposes of this report, young indicates a potential to significantly increase in size and a high ability to cope with change, maturing indicates some potential to increase in size and a medium ability to cope with change, and mature indicates little potential to increase in size and limited ability to cope with change.
- **Low branches:** Any low branches that would not be feasible for removal during normal management and should be considered as a design constraint are noted here and explained in the notes.
- **Category:** Our assessment automatically considered tree physiological/structural condition (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5h), and so these are not listed separately in the schedule. Additionally, the category accounts for the remaining contribution (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5i) as greater than 40 years for A trees, greater than 20 years for B trees, at least 10 years for C trees and less than 10 years for U trees, so this is also not listed separately in the schedule. Category A, B and C trees are automatically listed as sub-category 1 unless otherwise stated.
- **Notes:** Only relevant features relating to physiological or structural condition and low branches that may help clarify the categorisation are recorded. If there are no notes, then the presumption should be that no relevant features were observed.
- **Tree works:** The recommended tree works are based on the quick visual check level of inspection and only intended to address significant hazards identified during that inspection. The following points should also be considered before carrying out any works:
  1. **Reporting during work operations:** In the context of the preliminary nature of the tree inspection, any defects that may affect tree safety discovered by the contractor when carrying out the work recommendations should be reported to the supervising officer. Modification to the schedule of works may be required because of these reports. The contractor should be specifically instructed on this point.

2. **Implementation of works:** All tree works should be carried out to BS 3998 *Recommendations for Tree Work* as modified by more recent research. It is advisable to select a contractor from the local authority list and preferably one approved by the Arboricultural Association. Their Register of Contractors is available free from The Malthouse, Stroud Green, Standish, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 3DL; phone 01242 522152; website www.trees.org.uk.
3. **Statutory wildlife obligations:** The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 provides statutory protection to birds, bats and other species that inhabit trees. All tree work operations are covered by these provisions and advice from an ecologist must be obtained before undertaking any works that might constitute an offence.
4. **Stumps:** Stumps to be removed within the RPAs of retained trees should be ground out with a stump grinder to minimise any disturbance unless otherwise authorised by the supervising officer.

- **Future tree safety inspections:** Due to the time that may elapse between the original survey and the start of development, all trees should be re-inspected as part of the standard risk management process before any works start on site. Our assessment of the trees was carried out on the basis that a re-inspection would be carried out within a year of the assessment visit and our advice on tree condition must be reviewed annually from the date of that visit.

## **Appendix 3:** QR Codes for SGNs (Scan with reader to download)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SGN 1 *Monitoring tree protection* | SGN 2 *Fencing protected trees* | SGN 3 *Ground protection* |
| SGN 4 *Pollution control* | SGN 5 *Site cranes & piling rigs* | SGN 6 *Height restrictions* |
| SGN 7 *Excavating in RPAs* | SGN 8 *Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs* | SGN 9 *Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs* |
| SGN 10 *Installing structures in RPAs* | SGN 11 *Installing services in RPAs* | SGN 12 *Landscaping in RPAs* |

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