

Arboricultural Method Statement for the installation of piled foundations within the tree protection area

As the building footprint will be positioned in the Root Protection Area (RPA) of tree T1, a specialist foundation will be used to minimise damage to the roots of the tree indicated on the relevant site plan. The proposal is to install a mini pile foundation, which will in turn support a floor structure set above the ground within the RPA that will allow ventilation and movement of air and moisture of the ground around the affected tree(s).

This Method Statement is to be read in conjunction with the **Tree Protection Plan (TPP)** already provided by Lizard Landscapes as a part of the planning application process and its recommendations will be adhered to at all times during the construction process.

Excavations within RPA of ANY retained trees

To avoid damage to tree roots, existing ground levels are to be retained within the RPA. Intrusion into soil (other than for piling) within the RPA is not acceptable, and topsoil within it is to be retained in situ.

Approved excavations within the Root Protection Zone of those trees to be retained are to be excavated by hand-held tools and preferably by compressed air soil displacement in accordance with clause 7.2 of BS5837:2012.

- Exposed roots are to be immediately wrapped or covered to prevent desiccation and to protect them from rapid temperature changes. Any wrapping are to be removed prior to backfilling, which is to take place as soon as possible.
- Roots smaller than 25 mm diameter may be pruned back, making a clean cut with a suitable sharp tool (e.g. bypass secateurs or handsaw), except where they occur in clumps.
- Roots occurring in clumps or of 25 mm diameter and over are to be severed only following consultation with an arboriculturist.
- Prior to backfilling, retained roots are to be surrounded with topsoil or sharp sand (builders' sand is not to be used), or other loose inert granular fill.
- Soils or other suitable material are then to be replaced. This material should be free of contaminants and other foreign objects potentially injurious to tree roots.

Foundation Construction within CEZs

The use of specialist foundations is required with the current design layout. Extreme care is required to avoid damage to tree roots during foundation construction.

Piles; These are to be installed with site investigation used to determine their optimal location whilst avoiding damage to roots important for the stability of the tree, by means of hand tools or compressed air soil displacement, to a minimum depth of 600 mm; If significant roots are encountered, the pile is to be relocated to avoid the root structures.

Beams, laid at or above ground level, and cantilevered as necessary to avoid tree roots identified by site investigation.

Drainage

Storm-water drainage

Any soak-away system must be designed so that it does not add to, or decrease, ground water in trees' rooting zones. Existing systems should be used where possible to minimize change in trees root zones.