

Tree Statement - 54 Havant Road, Emsworth

Background

A planning application has recently been submitted to build a small side extension to the existing dwelling at 54 Havant Road, Emsworth. The following document identifies the existing trees on the site and details the precautionary measures to be implemented in order to protect these trees during construction works.

Assessment and Impact of the Proposal on Trees

Construction may affect trees if appropriate measures are not taken. However, if adequate precautions to protect the retained trees are taken as identified in this statement, the development will have no significant impact on the trees.

Please note that although precautions are to be implemented to protect all the trees on site, T1, T2, T5, T6, T7 and T10 are low category trees and are not considered worthy of being a material constraint. Any risk to these trees should not influence the determination of any planning application.

T3 is a Category B tree and is deemed worthy of retention and is considered visually important to the local area. It may be affected through disturbance to its RPA (Root Protection Area), as such impacts should be undertaken with care and follow the precautions detailed in the report. A previous planning approval to build the garage was also within the RPA of T3. As precautions were adhered to during construction, this tree has continued to thrive.

Ground Protection of RPAs outside Barriers

Where it is not practical to protect RPAs by use of fencing/barriers, ground protection methods will be implemented to ensure underlying soil remains undisturbed and retains the capacity to support existing and new roots.

Ground protection is to be installed down the eastern side of the house as a precautionary measure to protect the RPAs of trees in this area, as this will be the primary access route for the proposed works.

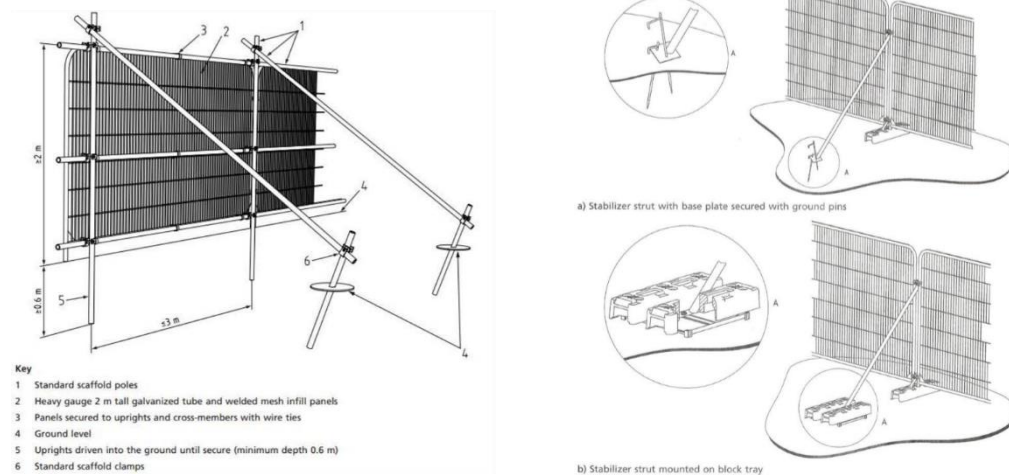
The proposed extension is within the RPAs of retained trees (T3, T5, T6, T7), but is outside the protective barriers. In order to protect the trees, the precautions required are:

- 'Housedeck' foundations or similar will be used. Disturbance can be significantly reduced by supporting the above ground structure on small diameter piles. Before the installation of any new structure begins, any affected RPAs should be covered with temporary ground protection. The ground protection must remain in place until the construction is completed and there is no further risk of damage to the RPAs. Pile positions should be hand dug to 750mm deep to check for roots over 25mm in diameter. If roots over 25mm in diameter are found, the pile location must be moved slightly, and a new exploratory hole dug.
- Excavation: all excavation must be carried out carefully using spades and forks taking care not to damage any tree roots. All soil removal must be undertaken with care to minimise the disturbance of roots beyond the immediate area of excavation. Once roots have been located, soil should be cleared away using a trowel to avoid damaging the bark. Roots greater than 25mm in diameter should be retained where possible, roots 25-100mm in diameter should only be cut in exceptional circumstances and those greater than 100mm in diameter should only be cut after consultation.
- Any work within RPAs requires a high level of care. Qualified arboricultural supervision is essential to minimise risk of misunderstanding, ongoing work must be inspected regularly

and on completion. The arboricultural consultant details will be confirmed prior to starting works.

Protection Fencing/Barriers

Protection fences/barriers are to be erected to ensure development exclusion zones around trees where practical. The location of the barriers is shown on the attached plan as a heavy dashed line. Fenced off areas will remain throughout construction, the barriers are intended to restrict access into these protected areas, there will also be no storage or moving of materials or machinery within these protection areas.



The drawing figures above show the default and secondary specification for protective barriers as described in BS 5837:2012. The design must restrict access and activity within the RPA it protects. There must be no vehicular access, fires storage, mixing of cement, no service installation or excavation within fenced off areas.

Ground Protection

Ground protection must be installed over all the unprotected soil surfaces within RPA's beyond the line of the barriers. The ground protection must ensure that the underlying soil and rooting environment remains undisturbed and retains the capacity to support existing and new roots. A range of methods can be used. Where existing hard landscaping or structures currently protect the soil, these will be retained. In other areas, materials will be installed to provide ground protection. One example of this would be to use woodchips to level the ground and provide a compressible layer beneath a ground protection surface such as plywood or boards which will be used to spread loading.