Arboricultural Method Statement

Havant Footbridge replacement

HCC Arb Reference - P-HBC-HvntStnFtbrdg-SS24762-AMS-1.5

IMPORTANT

This document is required for the protection and safe retention of trees.

All contractors and site staff must read and understand the entirety of this document before commencing construction activity.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE METHOD STATEMENT MAY CONSTITUTE A BREACH OF PLANNING CONDITION AND COULD RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Document Control Table:

Document version	Document state	Notable changes to doc	By	Date
1.5	Revised for planning	Updated clip and reference for TPP	SK	26.11.25
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Glossary

Term	**Meaning**
RPA	Root Protection Area
CEZ	Construction Exclusion Zone
BS5837:2012	British Standard for trees in relation to design, demolition and construction
BS3998:2010	British Standard: tree work recommendations
AIA	Arboricultural Impact Assessment
AMS	Arboricultural Method Statement
TPP	Tree Protection Plan
LPA	Local Planning Authority

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Caveats and Limitations

This Arboricultural Method Statement has been written in line with the BS5387:2012.

It describes working methods to be adopted for construction operations (temporary &/or permanent) once on site, with the specific aim of retaining trees safely and without damage.

Read this report with the Tree Protection Plan and as a supporting document to the Arboricultural Impact Assessment. Reference P-HBC-HvntStnFtbrdg-SS24762-TPP-1.5

Only trees with diameters greater than 75mm and woodland groups with stems of 150mm or greater were surveyed and therefor considered within this report.

Any changes to the design of the scheme, which may have an impact on trees or their protection, must be brought to the attention of the project arboriculturalist for assessment as amendments may be required.

Design options for protection methods, landscape structures and surfaces have been recommended with tree retention in mind. If alternative methods, surfacing or installations are needed, these must be agreed with the project arboriculturalist BEFORE installation.

In particular, any operations that require excavation within the RPA MUST be agreed with the project arb first. Refer to Tree Protection Plan for RPA extent.

The project arboriculturalist must approve final detailed designs and must approve all protection measures before construction activity. Failure to do so may result in adverse impact to retained trees and delays in construction completion, and, where trees are legally protected, may result in prosecution.

Timings of works

Trees are more likely to resist damage if works in or near the RPA are done in winter when the tree is dormant (for deciduous trees) or when trees have maximum energy reserves at the end of summer, prior to leaf-fall.

Clay soil will be much more prone to compaction when wet than when dry: additional ground protection measures may be necessary after heavy or prolonged periods of rainfall on sites where the soil is less free-draining. Havant is largely clay.

Tree surgery works for access, facilitation or safety reasons to be done in advance of site occupancy by main contractor wherever possible. This reduces the risk of harm to all concerned. Tree surgery operations to be done prior to the erection of the tree protection fencing as the arborists will need access to the trees.

1 Requirements prior to start of works.

1.1 Prior to any start of works, locations for contractor working areas and compound/s, must be identified and positioned outside of the RPAs and crown spreads of retained trees (including any not shown on the TPP).

1.2 A compound location has been identified in the public car park in Elmleigh Road car park, Elmleigh Road, PO9 2AB

Tree works required

1.3 All tree works required are stated within Appendix E - Schedule of tree works.

1.4 All tree surgery works are to be carried out before the site is occupied by contractors and before any construction activity starts. This is to prevent both damage to retained trees and injury to site contractors.

1.5 All tree works must be carried out in accordance with ecological reports and legal constraints: they may specify timing of year for tree works specific to the site and relevant legal considerations.

1.6 It is recommended that advanced warning of the tree works is given to the LPA who control Tree Preservation Orders before carrying out works referencing the planning application (Gosport Borough Council). This is to prevent concerns raised by the public and local councillors.

1.7 A suitably qualified, accredited and insured tree surgery contractor must be employed for all tree works. They must also comply with any licences or permissions that may exist for the work to take place – e.g. highway/local authority licences or planning consent.

1.8 All works must comply with BS3998:2010.

2 Tree protection specification

2.1 Refer to Tree Protection Plan reference: P-HBD-HvntStnFtbrdg-SS24762-TPP-1.5

2.2 Physical tree protection is required to avoid damage to above and below ground tree features and must be in place prior to any construction activity. All protection methods must be approved fit for purpose and in the correct position in relation to the TPP by the project arboriculturalist; any required changes to the protections must be approved by the project arboriculturalist and mitigate if required (a non-material amendment to planning may be required if the protection alters to that supplied in support of planning consent).

2.3 A suitably qualified (level 4 or higher) or experienced arboriculturalist must be employed to sign off the installation and removal of all temporary and permanent tree protection. Appendix D contains an example site monitoring report to be recorded for evidence of measures carried out (the consenting LPA may request evidence of protection measures should damage concerns be raised).

Tree protection barrier/ fencing specification:

2.4 All protection requirements are shown on the TPP. This includes physical protection in the form of barriers and ground protection to avoid soil compaction or root crushing.

2.5 Tree protection fencing is specified during construction to prevent activity from damaging physical features of trees such as their stem and branches, or, to prevent access within RPAs to prevent damage to soils which may adversely impact roots.

2.6 Tree protection fencing is to be erected in line with figure 2 and 3 of BS5837:2012 as shown in Appendix B. It must be fit for purpose, tamper-proof, resist knocks and exclude activity within the RPA/beneath the crown spread. Any deviation from this will require approval from a suitable arboriculturalist before implementation.

2.7 The TPP identifies where protection fencing is required to protect retained trees. It must be at least to the edge of the tree's RPAs or the outer extent of their canopies, whichever is greater. Where construction activity, if stated within this method statement, is anticipated inside RPAs, the fencing is offset from these areas to allow the works and ground protection must be laid as indicated. Ground protection to be lifted and fencing to be reinstated at the earliest opportunity.

2.8 Clear weatherproof signage shall be affixed to the tree protection fence at spaced intervals no greater than 20m. The signage must be as per figure 1 or similar.

Figure 1: Example of signage to be affixed to tree protection fencing at intervals of no greater than 10m intervals.

The project arboriculturalist must approve protective barriers/fencing prior to start of works.

Temporary ground protection

2.9 This scheme requires physical protection in the form of ground protection as exposed soil areas within RPAs have the potential to be damaged through the construction activity to be carried out. In particular, the piling rigs will have to work within or close to the RPAs of protected trees. The areas needing ground protection or exclusion from activity are shown on the tree protection plan.

2.10 Where there is potential for damage during construction activity (e.g. tracking over exposed soils by machinery, storage of materials or tools or repeated pedestrian movements) the project arboriculturalist must specify where temporary ground protection must be installed and agree what form the ground protection must take.

2.11 Temporary ground protection must be installed where construction activity is within the RPAs of retained trees. It must be removed as soon as the construction activity is completed

2.12 The specification of the ground protection required is dependent on expected loads: it must be capable of supporting the anticipated traffic/activity without distortion and must protect the underlying soil from compaction.

Tree ref	Construction activity/requirement	Control measure, specification or, working methodology
T1, 2	New footway within RPA	Special engineering will be needed where existing soft landscaping is being replaced with hard. No-dig method - a cellular confinement system is recommended.
T6, G7	Ramp installation within RPA - above ground works only, no piling.	Prune canopy back to fence line so no overhang is impacted by ramp movements. Existing fencing to remain in place and no works to be carried out beyond this line.
T10, 19	Canopy conflicts with ramp and footbridge position or movements.	Prune canopy back to give access for installation of ramps and footbridge. Minimum amount of live material to be removed. Cut size limited to 50mm in diameter without arboricultural supervision. Cuts above 51mm in diameter must be approved by the project arb.
T10, 11, **13, 16, 17,** 19	Piles being installed within potential RPA of retained trees. Workforce movements within RPA while piles are being installed.	Piling rig must be positioned outside RPA if at all possible. Where this is not possible, the RPA to be protected by ground protection boards or decks (see para 2.13 below) while works are taking place within the RPA.

2.13 The type of ground protection required shall be agreed between the contractor for the works and the project arboriculturalist. Preferred options in bold type. Options may include:

- ☐ For pedestrian operated plant up to a gross weight of 2t, interlinked ground protection boards **(e.g. Tuff TrakTM, DuraDeckTM)** placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (**such as 150mm woodchip**), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- ☐ For wheeled or tracked construction traffic including the piling rig, exceeding 2t gross weight, an alternative system is required and must be specified by an engineer with the express purpose of not compacting the soil underneath. It must be capable of accommodating the loading to which it will likely be subjected to. Examples of suitable systems include: cellular confinement system or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs, **road boards (e.g. Tuff Trak, DuraDeck** – recommended for works within RPA) to the correct specification.

- Alternatively, a heavier system such as aluminium DHT track boards may be needed, depending on the loads.

AT NO POINT MUST ANY GROUND PROTECTION BEAR DIRECLTY ONTO ROOTS OR BUTTRESSES.

3 Specific working methodology near retained trees

Arboricultural Supervision

3.1 Arboricultural supervision is required as stated in the Arboricultural Method Statement and as shown on the TPP.

3.2 A suitably qualified (level 4 or higher) or experienced arboriculturalist must be employed to supervise the works in line with this AMS or industry best practice. The arboriculturalist is to approve root pruning required. They may specify any other protection control measures or tree works required due to unforeseen changes or accidental tree damage. They are to advise on any legal consideration which may be required as a result.

3.3 The arboriculturalist must agree and approve all supervised works and must sign off the works as per Appendix D - Arboricultural Site Monitoring Report.

Installation of new permanent footway surfacing over RPAs of retained trees:

3.4 Areas of new permanent footway surfacing are identified on the TPP.

3.5 A special engineering solution must be confirmed and specified by a suitable engineer which:

- Prevents excavation/damage to soils below the herbaceous layer (usually scraping of the top herbaceous layer is tolerable if it is present)
- Retains soil bulk density at its existing level (site test required to confirm bulk density of soil)
- Prevents soil bulk density from increasing above 1.4g cm-3 (a greater density of 1.6 -1.74g cm-3 may be possible if the localised soil content is established)
- And, ideally laid on a flexible base to allow movement and to facilitate relaying if future excessive distortion is observed.

4 Special precautions required to protect trees

4.1 Consideration needs to be given to the storage and mixing or refuelling of any chemicals that can be injurious to trees/plants. Special consideration is required where tree RPAs are downhill from an

area proposed to store or mix chemicals. Spillages could leach downhill through soil, impacting tree's rooting environment; Alternate mixing areas must be sourced or mixing bunds shall be used with capacity to store 10% over that being mixed.

4.2 The lighting of any fires in proximity to trees is forbidden where smoke or heat damage may result. Method statements must be produced and remove risk of any chemical usage or fires planned on site which may impact trees.

4.3 Construction activities must not be carried out within the RPA unless protection methods have been stated in this report and approved onsite. Should additional space for working areas be required, RPA's must not be entered without prior approval from the project arboriculturalist accompanied with a technical update stating how trees are to be protected.

Contingency plans

4.4 Only in exceptional circumstances should ingress occur into the tree protection areas. In the following circumstances, the recommended actions are:

4.5 Chemical Spillage. A COSHH data sheet should be available for all chemicals bought onto site. For any spillage that occurs where chemicals may run into root protection area (above or below ground) a spill kit should be available to deal with immediate spills or for oil-based chemicals. For water-soluble chemicals thorough irrigation of the area using water must take place as soon as possible after the spill has occurred and continue for an appropriate time thereafter. The project arboriculturalist must then be informed to assess any further action that may be required.

4.6 Collision. A suitably qualified arborist must be called to assess the damage and their recommendations carried out following a collision. If the tree has been uprooted or thrown by the collision, the area must be made safe and the project arboriculturalist must then be informed to assess any further action that may be required.

4.7 Emergency access within RPAs. This is only allowed in exceptional circumstances and should be kept to a minimum in terms of footfall, vehicle, or plant movements. Remediation work may be required to de-compact the soil within the RPAs after the emergency has passed.

5 Landscaping (design, structures, surfacing and planting specification)

Planting and landscaping specifications and management

5.1 At the time of writing, no site-specific landscaping plan is available.

5.2 To mitigate for the loss of tree, new tree planting is proposed. This will be agreed with the HBC tree officer at the earliest opportunity.

5.3 New planting locations will be shown on the planting proposals plan – to be drawn up when the information is available. It will include:

- Planting schedule/species specifications (including form, size, girth, height, protection and density where appropriate);
- Above and below ground structures required for new planting (i.e. structures for trenches and tree support/fixings);
- Surfacing surrounding new planting;

- Soil specifications (i.e. soil volume requirements, decompaction requirements for existing soils);
- General site planting notes.

5.4 Any tree or plant which dies, is removed or becomes seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species unless an alternative species is felt to be more suited to the condition or due to sourcing of the same species.

New trees

5.5 A young tree management programme is provided in Appendix C and shall be enforced, and contracted if appropriate, for a period of five years. Sufficient finances to carry out the maintenance programme must be sourced. Any parties adopting or contracted to maintain the newly planted trees shall adhere to and sign the programme. Should this form a condition of planning, the LPA may request to see a copy of the signed programme to discharge the condition.

5.6 Trees planted into existing soils of soft landscaped areas shall be de-compacted where bulk density of the subsoil is >1.6 g cm3 (or alternatively, >2MPa if assessed with a steel cone penetrometer). This can usually be achieved by excavating the soils of a trench/pit carefully onto a ground board, keeping them within their soil horizons (i.e. topsoil in one pile, sub soil in another), and breaking up the soil before backfilling.

5.7 Trees planted into soft landscaped areas shall have 1m radial mulch circle surrounding the tree, to a 75-100mm depth, with a mulch free zone of 10cm radially from the stem.

5.8 Tree planted in soft landscaped areas are planted with a stake and tie system and temporary mesh guard where appropriate as indicated on the landscaping plan.

5.9 All tree planting is to conform to BS 8545: Trees (from nursery to independence in the landscape).

5.10 All landscaping operations are to conform to BS 4428: General Landscape Operations.

Quitting the site.

5.11 Once completed, the site mut be left 'in reverse' so all material and plant are removed prior to the ground protection and tree protection fencing being removed. This is then done on a 'furthest away first' basis, using the remaining ground protection as the access route out. Any areas that show compaction or overrun into the RPA must be ameliorated with either an air spade or an application of seasoned mulch, depending on soil bulk density values.

Appendix A Chronology of tree protection and new landscaping processes

Ref	Action	Tick & date when completed
1	Tree surgery works and tree removals to take place as specified in the Tree Works Schedule	
2	Temporary protective fencing to be erected as shown on the TPP.	
3	* Site meeting prior to start of works to approve temporary tree protection measures and agree future arb supervision dates.	
4	Start of main works	
5	* Site supervision as specified on TPP and AMS including positioning of fence post holes and works to install bridge supports in or near RPA's.	
6	Construction of main build is carried out and completed along with hard landscaping.	
7	* Site meeting to approve temporary protection measures can be safely removed.	
8	Soft landscaping including mitigation tree planting to take place in the next available planting season.	
9	*** Site visit/evidence provided to arb of quality and placement of tree planting and associated apparatus (tree pits etc.).**	

***** = site monitoring report required: to be completed by a suitable arboriculturist and forwarded to the following parties:*

Local authority tree officer: Jamie Gargett, Havant Borough Council

Project arb contact details: Sarah Kiss Email: Hampshire Arb Consultancy: arbconsult@hants.gov.uk

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Should further impact to tree roots, stems or crowns be identified that are not documented within this report, a revised tree protection plan and arb method statement shall be created and implemented to ensure the continued protection of trees throughout development.

Alternatively, on-site arboricultural advice may be appropriate/adequate. This shall be decided and completed by a competent arboriculturalist and any changes communicated to the

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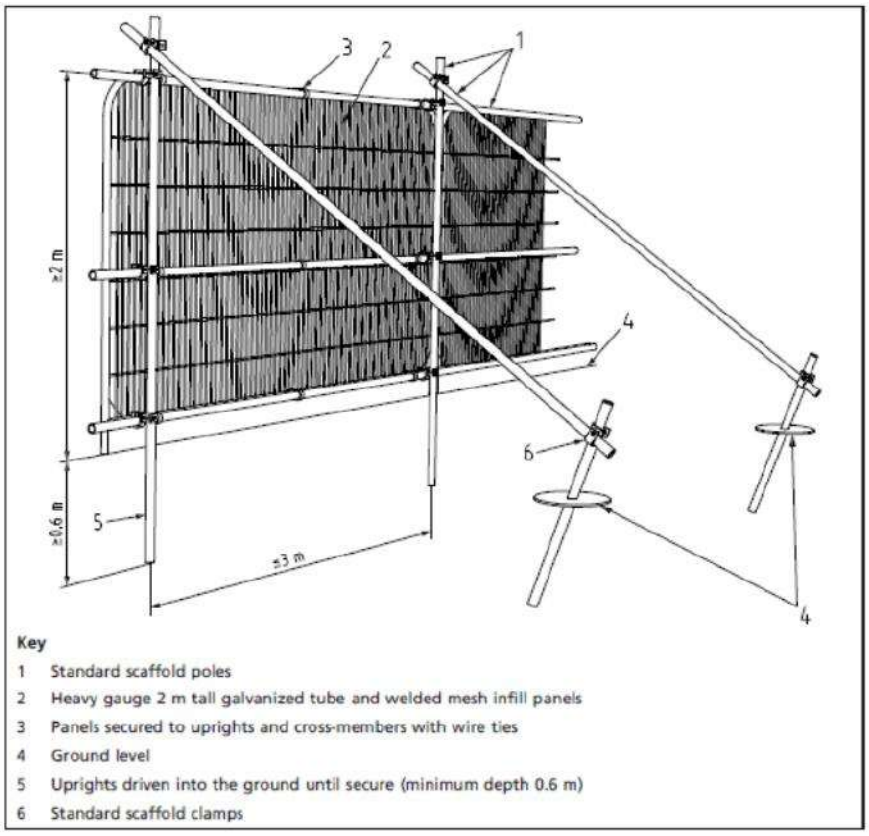
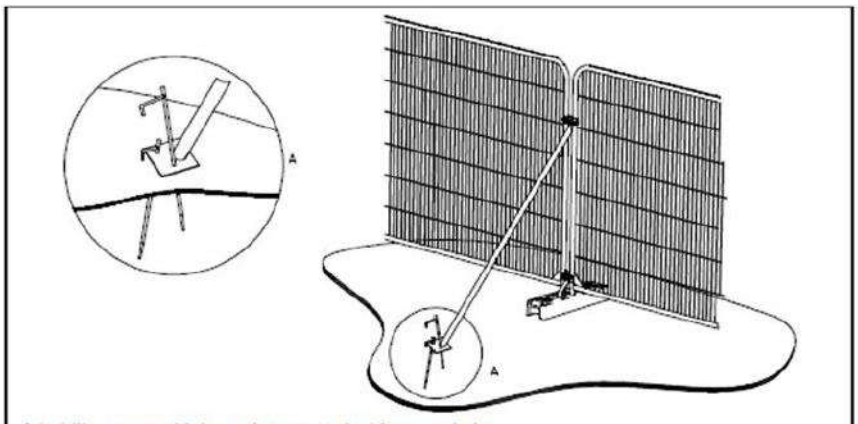
Appendix B Specification examples for protective measures

Figure a) diagram showing specification for protective fencing

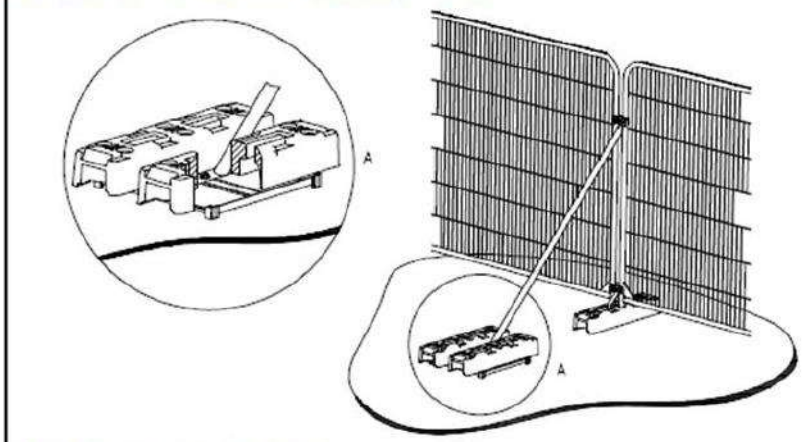


Key

1 Standard scaffold poles
2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
4 Ground level
5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
6 Standard scaffold clamps



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

Appendix C Five Year Young Tree Management Programme

Site:

Under Control and management of:

To be initiated on the first year after planting in accordance with:
BS8545:2014 Paras 11.1 to 11.5 Post-Planting management and maintenance inclusive.

Task	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1. Watering and irrigation at 40L per tree fortnightly from April to October +	,./	,./	,./	,./	,./
2. Formative pruning in accordance with BS3998	,./		,./		,./
3. Support checks for stakes; ties; wires etc and adjust remove or replace as necessary	,./	,./	,./	,./	,./
4. Tree health/development assessment (growing season only)*	,./	,./			,./
5. Removal of supports (must be retained until tree is self- supportive)			,./	or ,./	
6. Removal of invasive vegetation around the base and top up mulch where it is pre-existing from planting (50-100mmm depth, not against the stem)	,./	,./	,./	,./	,./
7. Check soil conditions around tree base (top up /de-compact where required)	,./	,./	,./	,./	,./

+ Watering/irrigation should take place fortnightly during April-October or more frequently during abnormal dry spells (7 consecutive days with no or minimal rain or 10 consecutive days >25°c)

* Tree health/development assessment

Any trees which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species unless an alternative species is felt to be more suited to the condition or due to problems with sourcing of the same tree species.

Confirmation of budget identified and committed to resource this maintenance programme in full for 5 years:

Signed: Print name:

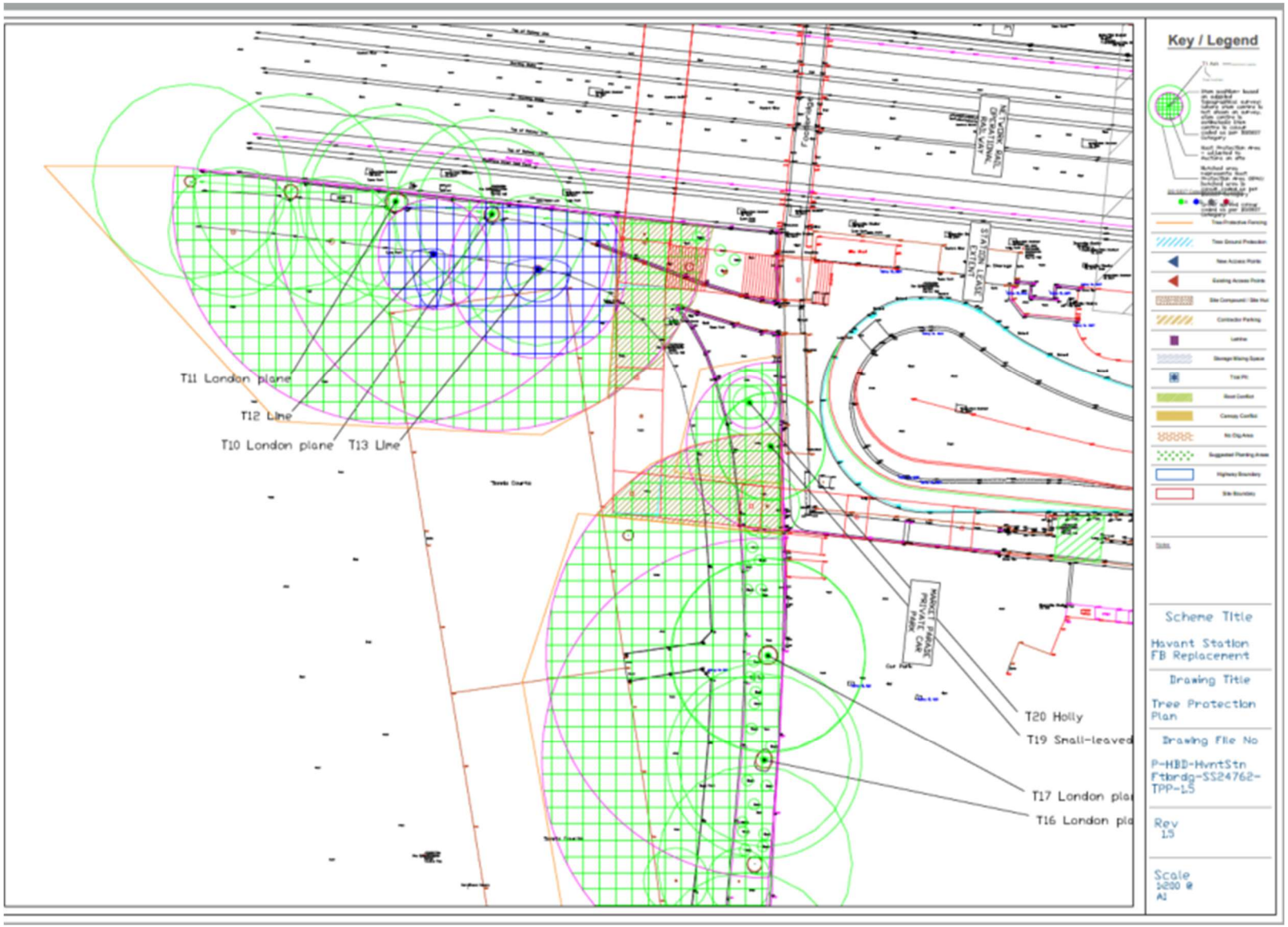
On behalf of: Team or section:

Name of contractor and reference if contracted out:

Appendix D Arboricultural Site Monitoring Report

Arboricultural Site Monitoring Report			
Planning reference			
Related documents	Tree Protection Plan: P-HBD-HvntStnFtbrdg-SS24762-TPP-1.5		
Site details	Compound location:		
Contact Details	Graham Group Andrew Henry, Contracts Director Civil Engineering		
Key reporting points: (circle below)			
Protective fencing	Ground protection	Ongoing protection	Contingency plans (trial digs/excavation etc.)
Tree inspection - accidental damage	Removal of tree protection	Mitigation	Completion sign off
Date:	People present:		
Concerns or issues raised during visit.	Detail as necessary:		
Actions arising: (these will inform the basis for the next site visit report. If none are recorded then the site is meeting required standards)	Detail as necessary:		
Date of next visit and purpose: (Required if actions are stated)			

Appendix E Tree Works Schedule

					RPA, m	of proposal	Notes
Offsite	T1	Holly	230	4	7.8	:otway in RPA	Will need special engineering solution to work over roots
Offsite	T2	Beech	400	7	2.4	ootway in RPA	Will need special engineering
NW corner	T3	Oak	730oi	12	8.0	Fell for ramp installation	Mitigation needed
NW corner	T4	Sycamore	290	7	3.5	Fell for ramp installation	Mitigation needed
Junction of fence	T5	Birch	249	6	3.0	RETAIN IF POSSIBLE BUT MAY NEED TO BE FELLED	Mitigate if removed. 3rd party ownership
Northeast of bridge	T6	Sycamore	230,260	13	2.9	une to remove old ramp	.MptiCI IO .:,',: 6,,,.,L(_; d5 Indy IL>,.., in ' e wounds
Northeast of bridge	G7	Group of self set sycamore	Various	5	Area	, to remove old ran·ir	li to be assecced as may result ii ing
Southwest	T8	Sycamore	650	7	7.8	Fell for ramp & stairs installation	Mitigation needed
Southwest	T9	Holly multi-stemmed	no, 230, 120, 150	4.5	2.4	Fell for ramp & stairs installation	Mitigation needed
Southwest	T10	London plane	1239	14	14.9	Works within RPA and pruning to edge of canopy - max cut 0 of 50mm	Supervision/special engineering needed to ensure minimal damage.
Southwest	T11	London plane	1550	14	15.0	Works to periphery of RPA	Supervision/special engineering needed to ensure minimal damage.
Southwest	T13	Lime	660	6	7.9	Works to periphery of RPA	Supervision/special engineering needed to ensure minimal damage.
First in row over path	T14	Holly	270	4	15.0	Fell for ramp & stairs installation	Mitigation needed
2nd in row	T15	Dawn redwood	850	20	10.2	Fell for ramp installation	Mitigation needed
By wall in park	T17	London plane	15.0	1660	18	Works to periphery of RPA	Supervision/special engineering needed to ensure minimal damage.
By wall in park	T18	Lawsons cypress	320	7	3.8	Fell for ramp installation	Mitigation needed
By wall in park	T19	Small-leaved lime	490	14	5.9	Prune southern extei. ui ,.,iiopy to accommodate ramp and installation. Careful positioning of the support is needed pile	Prune back canopy by c 2.5m on southern extent: max cut size 50mm diameter. Arb supervision required for pile installation.

Appendix F Tree Protection Plan – attached separately and clipped below for reference – P-HBD-HvntStnFtbrdge-SS24762 -TPP-1.5