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**Arboricultural Impact Assessment
Arboricultural Method Statement
Tree Constraints Plan,
&
Tree Protection Plan**

Spencers Wood Primary School

Report Title: Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Arboricultural Method Statement,
Tree Constraints Plan, & Tree Protection Plan for
SPENCERS WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Report Status: Final V1

Job No: P5937J3010/NS

Date: 15/07/2024

Quality Control: Revisions

Version	Date	Issued By

Should you have any queries relating to this report, please contact

JOMAS ASSOCIATES LTD

www.jomasassociates.com

0333 305 9054

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. BS5839:2012

The current British Standard for trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction is BS5837:2012. This became current in May 2012, and supersedes the old 2005 standard.

1.2. Terms and Definitions

1.2.1. Access Facilitation Pruning

One-off tree pruning operation, the nature and effects of which are without significant adverse impact on tree physiology or amenity value, which is directly necessary to provide access for operations on site.

1.2.2. Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

Methodology for the implementation of any aspect of development that is within the root protection area, or has the potential to result in the loss of, or damage to a tree to be retained.

1.2.3. Arboriculturist

Person who has through relevant education training and experience, gained expertise in the field of trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction.

1.2.4. Competent Person

Person who has training and experience relevant to the matter being addressed and an understanding of the requirements of the particular task which is being approached.

1.2.5. Construction

Site-based operations with the potential to affect existing trees.

1.2.6. Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ)

Area based on the root protection area (2.7) from which access is prohibited for the duration of the project.

1.2.7. Root Protection Area (RPA)

Layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain a tree's viability, and where the protection of roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.

1.2.8. Services

Any above or below-ground structure or apparatus required for utility provision.

1.2.9. Stem

Principal above-ground structural component(s) of a tree that supports its branches.

1.2.10. Structure

Manufactured object, such as a building, carriageway, path, wall, service run, and built or excavated earthwork.

1.2.11. Tree Protection Plan

Scale drawing, informed by descriptive text where necessary, based on the finalised proposals, showing trees for retention, and illustrating the tree and landscape protection measures.

1.2.12. Veteran Tree

Tree that, by recognised criteria, shows features of biological, cultural or aesthetic value that are characteristic of, but not exclusive to, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species concerned.

1.3. The Proposal/Relevant History

The proposal, in this instance, is to construct a new teaching facility with parking and recreation areas as shown in purple on the tree constraints plan (Figure 1). It should be noted that there are four trees on our survey that have veteran tree status, which has been noted on the tree constraints plan.

1.4. Brief and Purpose

This report has been commissioned by Rivington Street Studio to;

- Survey the trees on site in accordance with BS5837:2012.
- Detail the arboricultural implications of the proposed project.
- Present an effective tree protection strategy for the duration of the development.
- Provide the necessary arboricultural information to accompany a planning application to the Wokingham Borough Council.

1.5. Scope

The trees have been surveyed in accordance with the BS. Trees on and immediately adjacent to the site with a stem diameter over 75mm have been included.

A full hazard assessment of the trees (including the assessment of decay or defects and their implications), has not been undertaken as this is considered beyond the scope of this report. Any obvious hazards and defects have, however, been identified in the Tree Survey Schedule and appropriate works recommended for action.

1.6. Documents Supplied/Used

Document	Supplied by	Format/Reference
240703 PROP Site Plan	Rivington Street Studio.	DWG

1.7.

Site Details

2.

The application site is currently a large plot of land off of Hyde End Lane and Fullbrook Avenue that is currently undeveloped. There are no trees within the site, but there are some mature and veteran trees along Hyde End Lane that should be considered for any potential impact due to construction activities.

2. TREE SURVEY

2.1. Survey Summary

Total number of trees	7 +G2
Category A	4
Category B	2 + G2
Category C	1
Category U	0

2.2. Survey Method

The trees were surveyed on 11/06/2024.

Locations of the trees were plotted using the site plan provided.

All trees were inspected from ground level only using widely accepted Visual Tree Assessment techniques, and no trees were climbed during the survey.

No trees were internally investigated. Should a more detailed inspection be required then this will be pointed out in the recommendations on the survey schedule.

2.3. Tree Details

With regard to their desirability for retention, the trees surveyed have been graded with their trunks colour coded on the tree constraints plan, and tree protection plan using the criteria contained in BS5837:2012. A summary of this grading is as follows.

A= Light Green. Trees of high quality and value, in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested in the British Standard). Usually worthy of consideration as a material constraint to any proposed development.

B= Mid Blue. Trees of moderate quality and value in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum period of 20 years is suggested in the British Standard). Usually worthy of consideration as a material constraint to any proposed development.

C= Grey. Trees of low quality and value, in adequate condition condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is recommended in the British Standard), or trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. Not usually worthy of consideration as a material constraint to any proposed development.

U= Red. Trees in such a condition that they cannot be realistically be retained as living specimens in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.

In our survey schedule, the RPA for each tree is indicated as the radius of a circle as well as in M². This is also plotted on the tree constraints plan and tree protection plan denoted by a heavy black line which merges the individual RPAs together where there is more than one tree.

Section 4.6 of BS5837:2012 provides for the shape of the RPA to be modified from the starting point of a circle to account for site features such as hard surface treatments where root growth may be restricted, as long as the total remains the same. In this case, no RPAs were modified.

Please Note: The facility for offsetting an RPA by 20% for open grown trees was withdrawn on May 01st 2012.

2.4. Legal Protection Status of Trees.

Type of Protection	Details/Reference
Conservation Area	No
Tree Preservation Order	Yes T1 & T5
Planning conditions requiring tree retention	T3, T4, T5 & T7 all have veteran tree status.

3. ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1. Summary of Impact Assessment

Total number of trees surveyed	7 + G2
Number of trees to be removed	0
Number of trees to be pruned	0
Number of trees with RPA incursions	1

3.2. Removal of trees

None of the trees on our survey need to be removed in order for the current proposal to be completed.

3.3. Tree Works

No tree work is required for the current proposal to be completed.

3.4. Incursions into RPAs

In many instances, a low degree of root disturbance can be deemed to be acceptable. Where incursions can be fully invasive, or low level invasion can sometimes be achieved by the use of specialist methods to limit the degree of disturbance. The table details the incursions and how they are to be dealt with. In our plan for tree removal I have modified the RPA of T2 so that the retaining wall along the western side of the application site has been taken into account. This is permitted by BS5837:2012.

Please Note that I have enlarged the root protection areas of all of the trees with veteran status on our survey to enhance the extra protection requirements that these trees have. There cannot be any change in ground level within the RPAs of veteran trees.

Incursions into RPAs of retained trees		
Type of incursion	Tree number	Precautions to be taken
Pay area in north east- ern corner of the site	T5	There will only be soft landscaping within the RPA of T5 due to its veteran status.

3.5. Light and Proximity Issues

There are no unmitigated light or proximity issues attached to the current proposal.

3.6. Mitigation

Although there is no statutory requirement for any mitigation planting in this instance, there is a replanting scheme to plant a significant number of small specimen trees once construction is completed.

3.7. Conclusion

Assuming full compliance with the AMS in this report, the net arboricultural impact is acceptable.

4. ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

4.1. Introduction

During the development process, the tree protection measures set out in this method statement must be adhered to in order to safeguard the retained trees. The principles below are specifically designed to offer a significant degree of protection to both the root systems and aerial parts of the trees for the duration of the works.

A copy of this method statement must be made available on site at all times until the cessation of any demolition, construction, and landscaping work, and the site personnel will be made familiar with the key implications of this AMS.

It should be remembered that powers were granted to Local Planning Authorities in 2005, which allow them to serve Temporary Stop Notices if agreed protection measures are strayed away from before work is completed. This can be extremely costly and very time consuming.

4.2. Pre-commencement Meeting

I do not believe that a pre-commencement meeting will be required in this instance.

4.3. Sequencing and Supervision

Activity	Level of monitoring/supervision required
Installation of tree protective fencing.	Signing off of tree protection measures by the project arboricultural consultant.

4.4. Site Precautions

The following points will be observed at all times:

1. No fires will be lit within 15m of any retained tree on or around the site
2. No access will be permitted inside the tree protection fences
3. No materials, equipment, or waste will be stored inside the tree protection fencing at all
4. Notice boards, telephone cables, or other services will not, under any circumstances, be attached to retained trees
5. Material which contaminate soil, such as concrete, diesel oil, vehicle washings and even builders sand, will not be allowed to enter the RPA of any retained tree

4.5. Carrying out tree works

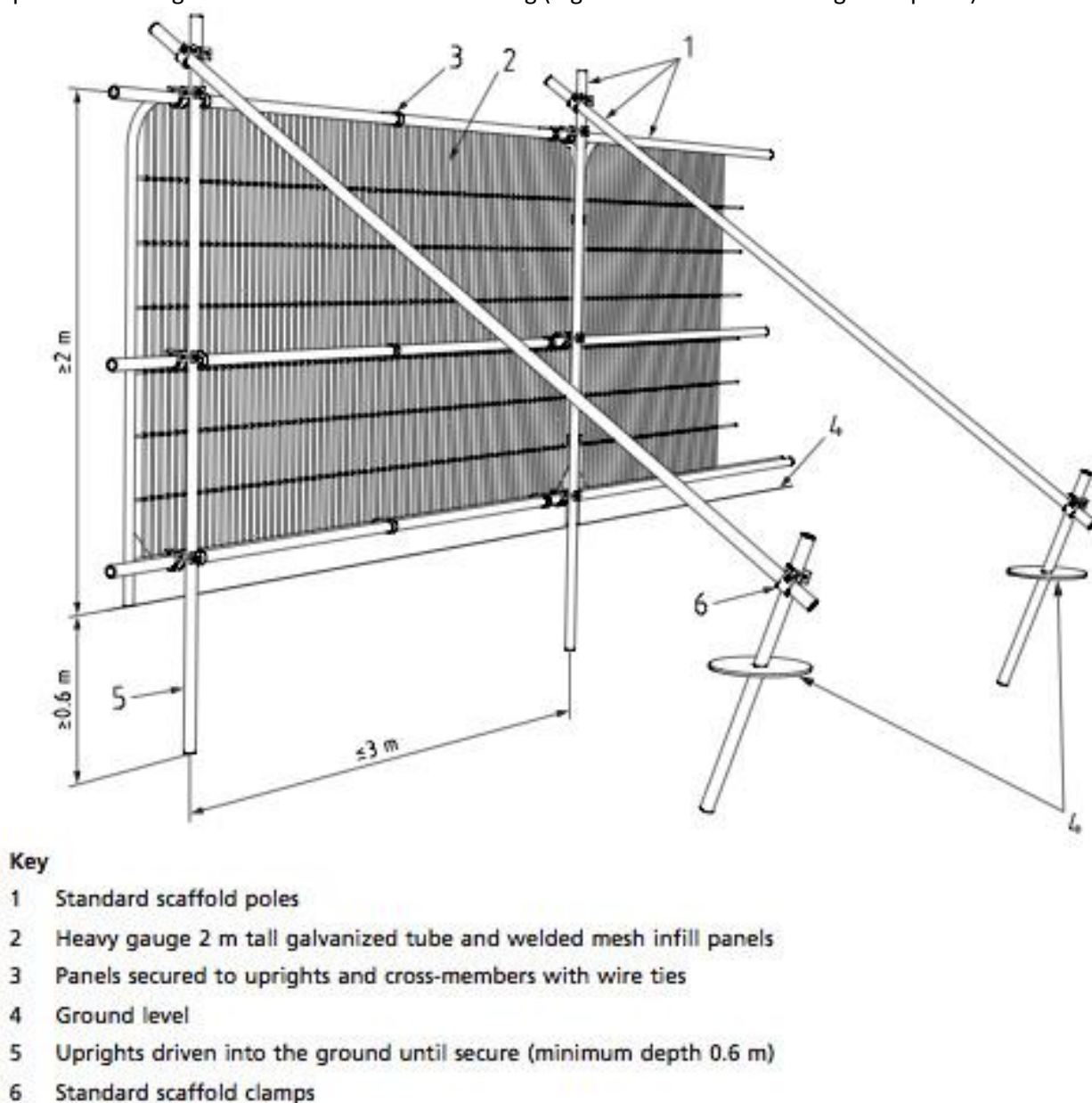
All tree works, where required, will be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 (Recommendations for Tree Works), and to the current arboricultural best practice. Tree works will be carried out by a suitably qualified and insured contractor. The contractor will be solely responsible for carrying out their own site risk assessment prior to the commencement of work.

If at any time during the development a need for additional tree works is highlighted to facilitate the proposed works or access for machinery/plant, the Arboricultural Consultant will be contacted to advise on appropriate works and liaise with the LPA as necessary.

4.6. Protective Fencing and Ground Protection

The required tree protective fencing should be installed to fence off the construction exclusion zone(s), or CEZ, shown on the tree protection plan (Figure 2). This must only be altered or moved as agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority following advice from a competent Arboricultural Consultant.

The Tree Protective fencing will be 2.4m Heras fencing as specified in the BS. The fencing will be supported by a scaffold framework with supporting struts firmed into the ground on the side of the trees. The purpose of the supports is to prevent the fencing being moved during the development. Clear signs will be attached to the fencing (e.g. Tree Protective Fencing – Keep Out).



4.7. Site Access

Site access will only be available via the existing site entrance on Fullbrook Avenue for construction purposes.

4.8. Demolition Work

Once the approved tree protection measures are in place, demolition will be carried out in the normal way. All waste from demolition will be stored away from the RPAs of all retained trees until it can be removed for disposal.

4.9. Underground Services

New underground services will be routed into the footprint of the new buildings in the usual way, but outside of the RPAs of all retained trees.

Run off water will be routed into soak aways, the position of which will be agreed with the LPA before work commences.

4.10. Foundations and Construction

As the development work is outside of the RPAs of all retained trees, no specially engineered solutions will be necessary in this instance.

4.12. Amendments

Issues may arise on development sites that require amendments to the previously agreed tree protection details. Any amendments to this AMS will be approved in writing by the LPA prior to being implemented. Copies of paperwork relating to any amendments will be communicated by the Arboricultural Consultant to the Client and LPA.

This concludes the advice given in this report
Compiled and presented by
Jon Harper cert.Arb (RFS)

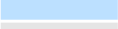
TREE SCHEDULE

Tree Survey Schedule

Date: June 11th 2024

Site: Land off of Hyde End Lane

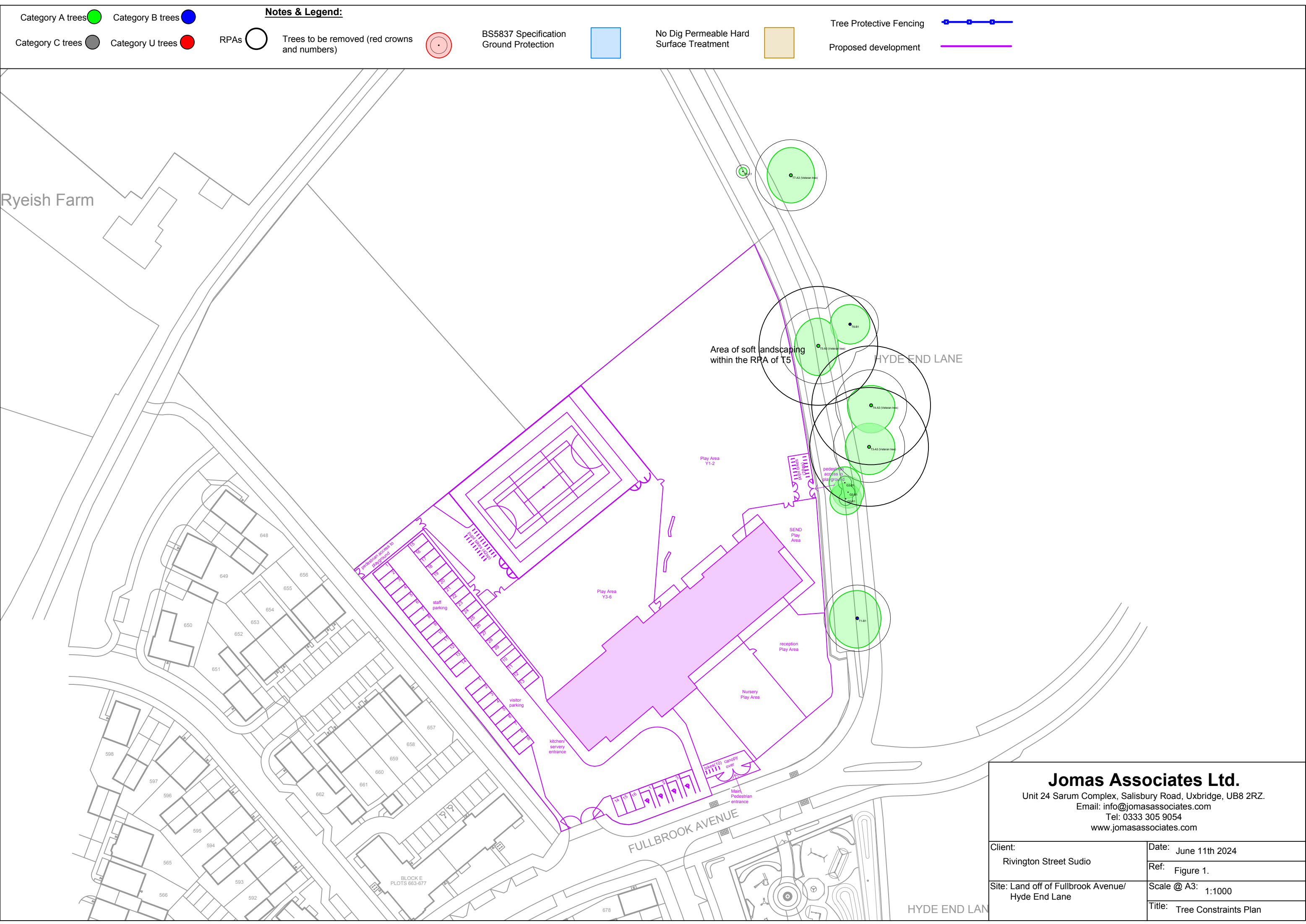
Surveyor: Jon Harper cert.Arb (RFS)

 = Category A trees
 = Category B trees
 = Category C trees
 = Category U trees

Type (Tag)	Name	Age	Category	Diameter (Stems)	Height (L/Hgt)	North	East	South	West	Condition	Life Exp	Comments	Recommendations	RPR	RPA
T1	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	B1	700(1)	8(3)	7	6	7.5	7	Good	20	Stunted.	None at present.	8.4	221.7
G2	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)	EM	B1	141(2)	6(3)	4	4	4	4	Good	20	None at present.	None at present.	1.69	8.97
T3	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	A3	750(1)	17(4)	6	6.5	7	6	Good	40	Veteran tree	None at present.	9	254.5
T4	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	A3	750(1)	14(5)	5	6	7	6	Poor	20	Veteran tree	None at present.	9	254.5
T5	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	A3	800(1)	7(3)	7	5	7.5	6	Good	40	Veteran tree	None at present.	9.6	289.57
T6	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	B1	600(1)	13(4)	5	5	5	5	Good	40	None at present.	None at present.	7.2	162.88
T7	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	A3	750(1)	14(5)	7	6	7	6	Poor	20	Veteran tree	None at present.	9	254.5
T8	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	SM	C1	141(2)	3(1.5)	1	1	1	1	Fair	10	Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth.	None at present.	1.69	8.97

TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN

(Figure 1)



Jomas Associates Ltd.
Unit 24 Sarum Complex, Salisbury Road, Uxbridge, UB8 2RZ.
Email: info@jomasassociates.com
Tel: 0333 305 9054
www.jomasassociates.com

Client:
Rivington Street Sudio

Site: Land off of Fullbrook Avenue/
Hyde End Lane

Date: June 11th 2024

Ref: Figure 1.

Scale @ A3: 1:1000

Title: Tree Constraints Plan

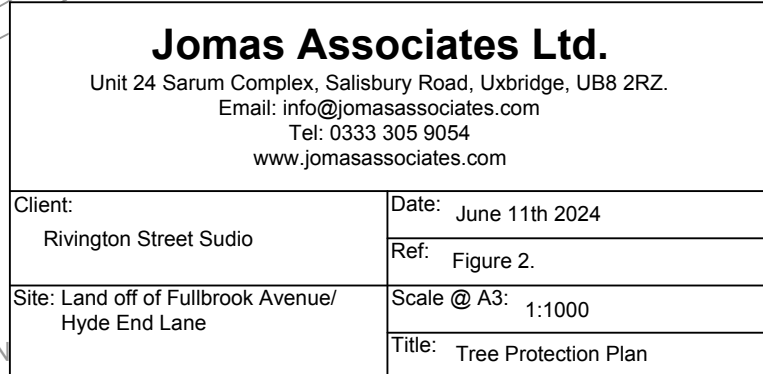
TREE PROTECTION PLAN

(Figure 2)

Category C trees Category U trees

Trees to be removed (red crowns and numbers)





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Unit 24 Sarum Complex
Salisbury Road
Uxbridge
UB8 2RZ

CONTACT US

Website: www.jomasassociates.com
Tel: 0333 305 9054
Email: info@jomasassociates.com