

By email only

Mr A Kendall
Harefield Property Improvements
13 Lower Golf Links Road
Broadstone
POOLE
BH18 8DG

10th February 2025

Our ref: **23116-Let1-CA**

Dear Mr Kendall

Re: Arboricultural advice for development at 412a Finchampstead Road, Wokingham RG40 3RA

Further to our recent discussion relating to soil conditions within the RPA of T4 at the above site, and the approval to construct an extension to southern elevation of the existing dwelling, I have reviewed the information you have provided, and believe it would be satisfactory to provide these details by way of this letter. You provided me with photographs of trial holes which I have considered in my analysis.

From the provided information, it is evident that the compacted sand within that localised part of the site is not conducive to extensive root growth, as demonstrated by the absence of any root activity within any the trial holes. Compacted sand has a high bulk density and can restrict and, in some cases prevent root incursion. In this case it appears that the tree is preferentially rooting elsewhere, and it is not able to exploit the area close to the existing dwelling. That would indicate that the excavation for trench foundations should not cause a detrimental impact to tree T4, and providing any more detailed information is unnecessary.

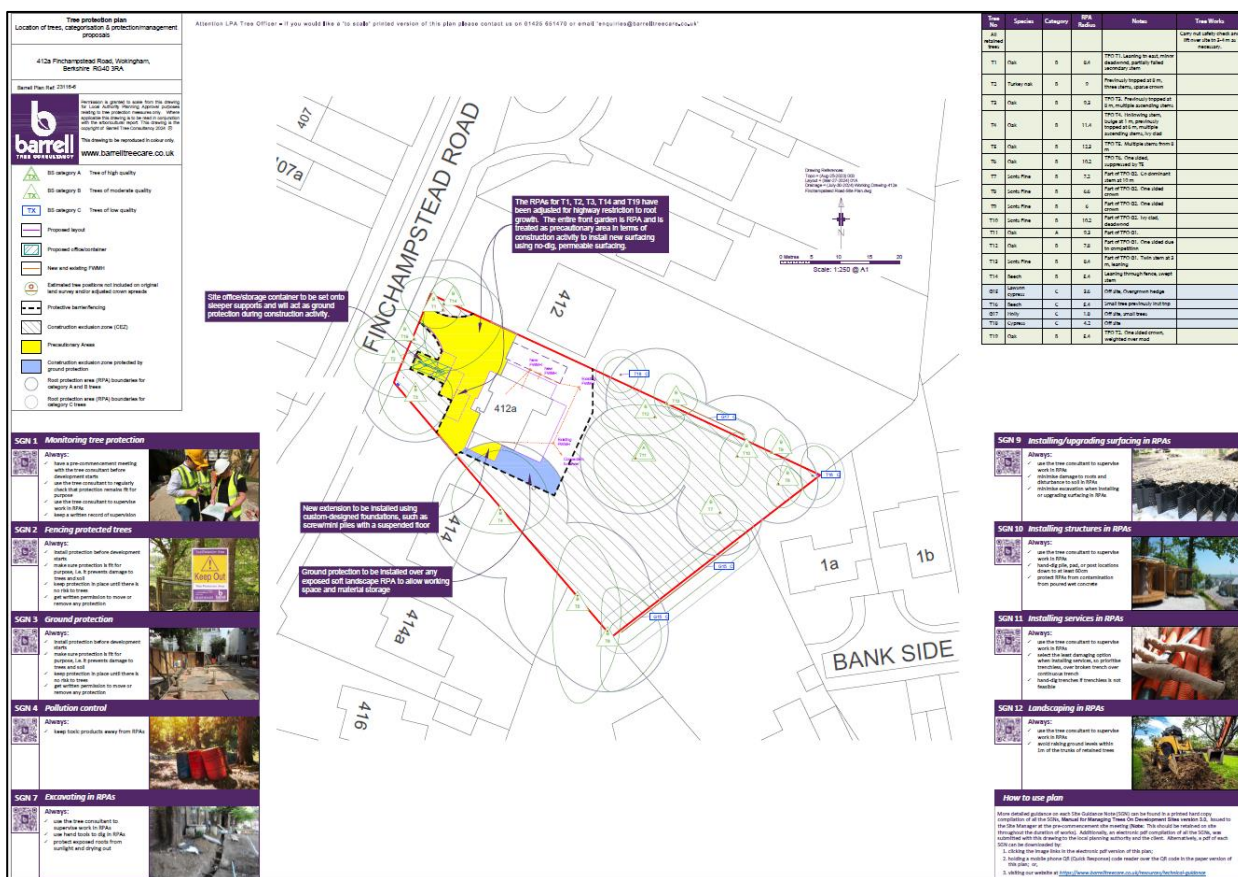


Image 1: Location of trial holes adjacent to existing dwelling.



Image 2: Absence of any root activity within trial hole.

However, it is appropriate to prevent access close to the trees during the development process and so the precautionary fencing and ground protection as shown on plan 23116-6 (see image 1 below) will still be necessary. The protective measures must be retained in place until completion. Illustrative guidance on protective fencing and ground protection options can be reviewed in the attached Site Guidance Note 2 *Fencing protected trees* and Site Guidance Note 3 *Ground protection*.



Sketch plan BT1: Extract from approved tree protection plan 23116-6 illustrating the location of the proposed development, the relevant trees, and the proposed protective measures.

In summary, I believe the information and protection proposals within this letter are sufficient to safeguard the important trees on and near this site, and this is a proportionate way of dealing with the tree issues.

Please contact me if you need further clarification on any of these points.

Yours sincerely

Chris Alder MSc HNDArb FArborA MICFor RCarborA