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Schedule of Tree Works

at:

**Arborfield Green (multiple parcels),
Sheerlands Road, Arborfield**

August 2023

Ref. SJA stw 23342-01

Schedule of Tree Works

Priority	Description
1	Make safe within 4 weeks.
2	Make safe within six months.
3	Works to be carried within 24 months.
4	Works to be carried out during the next available programme or further investigation.

R16 Application – TPO, tree works application required, exempt or not applicable

Biggs Lane East

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
1504	Sycamore	Remove deadwood up to 100mm in diameter and greater than 1m length within failing distance of road and footpath.	-	2
1510	Sycamore	Remove deadwood up to 100mm in diameter and greater than 1m length within failing distance of road and footpath.	-	2
1512	Sycamore	Remove deadwood up to 100mm in diameter and greater than 1m length within failing distance of road and footpath.	-	2
1514	Sycamore	Remove deadwood up to 100mm in diameter and greater than 1m length within failing distance of road and footpath.	-	2
1556	Sycamore	Clear understorey for future inspections and remove deadwood >80mm dia. In S canopy extents within failing distance of road.	-	2
2585	English oak	Remove central deadwood stem; crown reduce S codominant stem in height by 3m leaving no taller than 15m tall, to form a more uniform crown.	Yes	2
5736	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5737	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
1552	Sycamore	Clear understorey for future trunk inspections.	-	4
1553	Sycamore	Clear understorey for future trunk inspections.	-	4
1557	Horse chestnut	Clear understorey for future trunk inspections.	-	4
1559	Horse chestnut	Clear access to trunk on N side before next inspection.	-	4
1560	Sycamore	Clear understorey for future trunk inspections.	-	4
1562	Ash	Sever ivy before next inspection.	-	4

Biggs Lane West

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
9	English oak	Remove deadwood $\geq 100\text{mm}$ over Biggs Lane.	Exempt	2
12	English oak	Remove deadwood $\geq 100\text{mm}$ over Biggs Lane.	Exempt	2
1228	English oak	Remove deadwood $> 150\text{mm}$ in diameter over footpath.	Exempt	2
1229	Red oak	Remove deadwood $> 100\text{mm}$ in diameter over footpath.	Exempt	2
1231	Red oak	Remove deadwood up to 100mm in diameter and $1\text{m}+$ length over bus stop and footpath.	Exempt	2
1232	Red oak	Remove deadwood up to 50mm in diameter and $1\text{m}+$ length in E canopy quadrant over footpath.	Exempt	2
1699	Various	Fell to near ground level.	Yes	2
1776	Sweet chestnut	Fell to near ground level.	Yes	2
1804	Red oak	Crown-lift over path to provide 2m clearance.	Yes	3
1811	Red oak	Remove deadwood $> 100\text{mm}$ over footpath.	Exempt	2
1937-1938	Red oak	Remove deadwood $> 100\text{mm}$ over footpath.	Exempt	2

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
11	Ash	Reinspect within 24 months to assess progressive effect of ash dieback	-	3
1233	Norway maple	Decompact and mulch.	-	4
1793	Red oak	Decompact & mulch; reinspect in 12 months (late summer '24) to monitor effect of decay fungi identified at base of trunk	-	2

Open Space 11 & 12

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
504	Goat willow	Fell to near ground level.	Yes	3
507	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm in diameter over footpath to W.	Exempt	2
522	Horse chestnut	Fell to near ground level.	Yes	3
548-549	Ash	Remove deadwood >80mm in diameter over road to N.	Exempt	2
551	Ash	Remove deadwood >80mm in diameter over road to N.	Exempt	2
584	Horse chestnut	Fell to near ground level; in significant and overall decline individual adjacent to open green space.	Yes	3
612	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm in diameter over driveway to S.	Exempt	2
614	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm in diameter over driveway and footpath to S.	Exempt	2
634	Silver maple	Reduce E lower crown by up to 1.5m back to kerb line, up to a height of 2m above ground.	Yes	3
637	Sycamore	Remove deadwood >100mm in diameter over footpath to W.	Exempt	2
656	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm in diameter over footpath to E.	Exempt	2
677-678	Ash	Fell to near ground level, inessential components of group with extensive ash-dieback in canopies.	Yes	3
680	Ash	Fell to near ground level, inessential component of group with extensive die-back in canopy.	Yes	3
682	Ash	Crown reduce all over by up to 2m removing deadwood over footpath and leaving no closer than 4m from trunk.	Yes	2
684	Ash	Remove deadwood >100mm dia. in N and NW canopy quadrant adjacent to road.	Exempt	2
685-686	Horse chestnut	Remove deadwood 50m – 80mm directly over bust stop.	Exempt	2
687	Ash	Remove deadwood >100mm dia. in N canopy quadrant over road.	Exempt	2
690	Ash	Fell to near ground level.	Yes	2

Open Space 15 & 16

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
80	English oak	Fell to ground level.	Yes	1
87	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm over Biggs Lane and footpath.	Exempt	2
88	European larch	Fell to ground level.	Yes	2
92	Ash	Fell to ground level.	Yes	2
94	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm over Biggs Lane and footpath.	Exempt	2
95	English oak	Remove deadwood >100mm over Biggs Lane and footpath.	Exempt	2
108-109	Ash	Remove deadwood up to 90mm in diameter and 1m+ length in NW canopy quadrants adjacent to road.	Exempt	2
129-130	European larch	Reduce in height to no taller than 13m tall.	Yes	2
138 & 139	Ash	Fell to ground level.	Yes	2
142	European larch	Fell to ground level.	Yes	2
2618	Ash	Crown reduce apical and E canopy extents by 2m, leaving it no taller than 15m tall and 5m radial canopy extent removing ash-dieback deadwood tops away from recent development to E	Yes	2
5563	Silver birch	Fell to ground level.	-	4
5566-5568	Silver birch	Fell to ground level.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
91	English oak	Sever ivy before next inspection.	Exempt	4

Parcel 1a, 1b & 1c - Nightingale Fields

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
258	Ash	Remove deadwood up to 150mm in diameter within E canopy quadrant and overhanging Princess Marina Drive.	Exempt	2
259	English oak	Remove E lateral limb at 13m overhanging road back to trunk; crown reduce remaining NE lateral extend by up to 3m so no closer than 7m from trunk; remove deadwood limb at extent of E lateral emanating from trunk at approximately 9m and overhanging road.	-	2
352	English oak	Monolith to 10m for standing deadwood habitat; clear vegetation around base for future hazard assessment.	Yes	2
370	English oak	Remove deadwood and reduce S lateral limb by up to 5m leaving it no closer than 5m from trunk.	Yes	2
380	English oak	Removed deadwood >100mm dia. in S canopy half overhanging site boundary.	Exempt	3
418-419	Ash	Crown reduce in height by 4m leaving it no taller than 13m; removing significant deadwood from ash-dieback.	Yes	3
420-421	Ash	Remove deadwood up to 100mm in diameter and 1m in length from NE canopy quadrant overhanging play area.	Exempt	2
5007	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5026	Hornbeam	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5063	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5068	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5069	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5119	Silver birch	Remove smaller rubbing stem.	-	4
5121-5122	Rowan	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5125-5127	Flowering cherry	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5157-5158	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace	-	4
5168-5172	Hornbeam	Remove support stakes and carry out formative pruning to remove crossing branches.	-	4
5174	Field maple	Fell and replace.	-	4
5178-5181	English oak and silver birch	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5184	White willow	Fell and replace.	-	4
5322	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5324	Silver birch	Remove x3 subdominant competing stems.	-	4
5327	Flowering cherry	Fell and replace.	-	4
5331-5332	Flowering cherry	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5333-5334	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5352-5354	Crab apple	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5362-5363	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4

5365	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
G15	Ash	Remove deadwood >80mm dia. and 1m+ length over footpath and road	-	2
G16	Various	Crown lift W canopies to 2.5m above ground.	Yes	3

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
253	English oak	Sever ivy before next inspection.	Exempt	4
261	English oak	Decompact mown soft landscaping.	-	4
364	English oak	Sever ivy before next inspection.	Exempt	4
5173	Field maple	Remove all support stakes.	-	4
5175-5177	Field maple	Remove all support stakes.	-	4
5307	English oak	Decompact & water.	-	4
5313-5315	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5325-5326	Flowering cherry	Decompact & water.	-	4
5328	English oak	Decompact & water.	-	4
5330	Flowering cherry	Decompact & water.	-	4
5367	Apple	Install stake to support apical canopy balance.	-	4
5368	Pillar apple	Loosen stake tie.	-	4

Parcel AA - Millgate

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
5002	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5101	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5102	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5103	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5104	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5106-5109	Rowan	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5110	Holly	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5111	Small-leaved lime	Remove support stakes; carry out formative pruning to remove crossing branches.	-	4
5112	Siberian Crab	Remove support stakes.	-	4

Parcel H, I & J - Kingsley Park

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
339	English oak	Remove deadwood >80mm dia. and 1m+ length in NE canopy quadrant.	Exempt	2
345	English oak	Remove hung up branch in lower E crown; crown reduce NE lateral limb overhanging access by 2m to reduce end weight leaving it no closer than 7.5-8m from trunk.	Yes	2
346	English oak	Crown reduce all over by 2m leaving no closer than 7.5m from trunk, to remove early onset of stag-heading and to promote lower canopy growth.	Yes	3
5199	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5209-5213	Pillar apple	Undertake formative pruning.	-	4
5217-5221	Pillar apple	Undertake formative pruning.	-	4
5223	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5225	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5399-5400	Various	Fell all and replace.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
5204	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5377-5378	Rowan	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5379	Rowan	Loosen stake tie.	-	4

Parcel M - Millgate

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
1291	English oak	Remove deadwood up to 50mm in diameter and greater than 1m length throughout canopy; decompact ground and apply mulch.	Exempt	2
5401	Judas tree	Crown lift to 2m over footpaths.	-	4
5402-5406	Field maple	Crown lift and remove minor epicormic growth up to 1.25m on trunks.	-	4

Parcel O1 - Watermans View

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
2416	English oak	Crown reduce E lateral extent by up to 1m to kerb edge by pole saw, leaving no closer than 8m from trunk; to clear access drive.	Yes	3
4004	Goat willow	Remove E stem leaning over footpath.	-	2
4014	Alder	Fell to near ground level.	-	2
4027-4028	Alder	Fell to near ground level.	-	2
4033	Alder	Coppice tree.	-	2
5662	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5665-5666	Norway maple	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5686	Rowan	Fell and replace.	-	4
5732-5733	Alder	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5734-5735	Snowy mespilus	Fell all and replace.	-	4
G192	Alder	Remove deadwood from N extent of group; coppice x1 individual S extent of group and 11m W of dwelling No. 9 'Hornbeam Place'.	Yes	2

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
2437	Silver birch	Sever ivy before next inspection.	-	3
2438	Silver birch	Clear understorey for future inspections.	-	3
4001	Alder	Clear understorey for future inspections.	-	3
5677-5684	Hornbeam	Remove support stakes.	-	3
5685	Siberian Crab	Remove support stakes.	-	3
5687-5689	Whitebeam	Remove support stakes.	-	3
5691-5692	Norway maple	Remove support stakes.	-	3
5729	Hornbeam	Remove support stakes.	-	3
5730-5731	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	3

Parcel T

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
1693	English oak	Clear understorey for future inspections; monolith to 8m for standing deadwood habitat.	Yes	2
2273	English oak	Crown lift N canopy to 2.5m above footpath.	Yes	3
2729-2730	Red oak	Remove deadwood limbs >100mm dia. overhanging footpath; #2730 crown reduce S canopy extent by 2m, leaving it no closer than 6m from trunk providing 3m clearance from dwelling to S.	Yes	2
2739	Ash	Remove deadwood >100mm dia. over footpath.	Exempt	3
2741	Ash	Remove deadwood >100mm dia. on N side at 5m over footpath.	Exempt	2
4114	English oak	Fell to ground level.	Yes	2
5628	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5631-5635	Hornbeam	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5643	Holly	Remove dead upper-half of apical stem.	-	4
5644	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5660	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5705	Unidentifiable	Monolith to 4m and leave as deadwood habitat.	-	4
5706-5709	Unidentifiable	Fell to between 2m – 3m within hedgerow, leave as deadwood habitat.	-	4
5711	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5712	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5716	Ash	Crown reduce in height to no taller than 15m and remove deadwood.	-	2
5722-5727	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5803	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5810	Hornbeam	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5821	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5824-5825	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5832	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5834	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5835-5837	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5838-5841	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5842-5843	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
G177	English oak	Crown lift W canopy to 2.5m above footpath W, south of individual #1750.	Yes	3

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
2756	English oak	Decompact & mulch.	-	4
5597-5600	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5629-5630	Hornbeam	Remove all support stakes.	-	4
5658	Flowering cherry	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5659	Hornbeam	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5701 - 5702	Field maple	Loosen stake ties.	-	4
5703	Hornbeam	Loosen stake tie.	-	4
5718-5719	Norway maple	Decompact & water.	-	4
5801	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4

Parcel U1 - Watermans Gate

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
1890	Sycamore	Fell to ground level and replace.	Yes	2
5235-5236	Pillar apple	Undertake formative pruning.	-	4
5237	Field maple	Fell and replace.	-	4
5247	Sycamore	Fell to near ground level.	-	4
5450-5451	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5501	Norway maple	Fell to near ground level.	-	4
5507	Unidentifiable	Fell to near ground level.	-	4
5509	Unidentifiable	Fell to near ground level.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
1886	Sycamore	Decompact & mulch.	-	4
1887	Sycamore	Decompact & mulch.	Exempt	4
2470	Red oak	Decompact & mulch.	Exempt	4
5227-5228	Pillar apple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5229	Flowering cherry	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5230-5232	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5441-5442	Pillar apple	Decompact & water.	-	4

5444	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5445	Silver maple	Decompact & water.	-	4

Parcel U2 - Watermans Reach

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
5265-5266	Whitebeam	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5276-5277	Siberian Crab	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5279	Various	Remove dead stems, retain live stem.	-	4
5280-5287	Various	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5553	Crab apple	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5554	Common lime	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5555-5557	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
5271-5275	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5474	Pillar apple	Decompact & water.	-	4
5476	Rowan	Decompact & water.	-	4

Parcel V2E

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
5485	Silver birch	Fell and replace.	-	4
5488	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5490-5491	Silver birch	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5499	Flowering cherry	Fell and replace.	-	4
5569-5571	Silver birch	Fell and replace.	-	4
5575-5578	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5580-5581	Hornbeam	Fell and replace.	-	4
5584	Silver birch	Fell and replace.	-	4

5604-5605	English oak	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5613-5618	Silver birch	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5623	Flowering cherry	Fell and replace.	-	4
5626	Field maple	Fell and replace.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
2205	Turkey oak	Decompact & water.	-	4
5478	Silver birch	Decompact & water.	-	4
5479	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5480	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5481	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5484	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5486-5487	Silver birch	Decompact & water.	-	4
5489	Hornbeam	Decompact & water.	-	4
5492-5494	Silver maple	Decompact & water.	-	4
5495	Crab apple	Install stake and ties.	-	4
5496	Whitebeam	Install stake and tie; water.	-	4
5497	Norway maple	Decompact & water.	-	4
5607-5612	Field maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4
5627	Silver maple	Remove support stakes.	-	4

Parcel X - Equestrian

No.	Species	Recommended works	R16 application	Priority
5256	Flowering cherry	Fell and replace.	-	4
5258-5264	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5458	Silver birch	Fell and replace.	-	4
5463	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5464-5466	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5468	Silver birch	Fell and replace.	-	4
5469	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4

5525	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5530	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5531-5534	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4
5537	Unidentifiable	Fell and replace.	-	4
5542-5543	Unidentifiable	Fell all and replace.	-	4

No.	Species	Recommended management	R16 application	Priority
5452	Pillar apple	Decompact & water.	-	4
5454-5455	Flowering cherry	Decompact & water.	-	4
5456	Pillar apple	Reinstate stake tie to promote vertical growth.	-	4
5459	Flowering cherry	Decompact & water.	-	4

All tree works are to be done in accordance with the British Standard BS 3998: 2010, *Tree work - Recommendations*.

Climbing irons or spikes are not to be used whilst pruning trees; they may only be used for the sectional removal of trees.

Care must be taken that the ground next to existing trees to be retained does not become compacted as a result of tree surgery operations. No vehicles or equipment such as tractors, timber lorries, cranes or excavators shall be driven or parked beneath the crowns of any trees to be retained, as this could cause soil compaction and consequent root death.

Environmental Considerations

Birds. Please note that it is an offence under Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) of 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000, to:

- Kill, injure or take any wild birds
- Damage or destroy nests that are in use or are being built
- Take or destroy eggs
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird while it is nest building, or at (or near) a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of any bird.

Care must therefore be taken that none of these offences are committed whilst undertaking the above works. If trees or hedges are to be felled or pruned between March and August, they should first be inspected carefully for nests; if found, and the proposed works are not necessary to preserve public health or safety, felling or pruning should be delayed until young birds have flown.

Bats. All bats are legally protected by the WCA and CRoW Act. Further protection is conferred by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, following the European Habitats Directive (1992). These Acts and Regulations include provisions making it illegal to:

- Recklessly or deliberately kill, injure or capture (take) bats
- Recklessly or deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not)
- Damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts (whether in use or not)

Prior to undertaking any tree works, a scoping survey comprising a detailed visual inspection from ground level for any evidence of bat occupancy should be made by an appropriately qualified person, or if necessary by a suitably qualified ecologist. Where features that have the potential to be a bat roost have been observed, a secondary bat assessment comprising a close-up aerial examination should be undertaken immediately prior to the commencement of tree works. If following the secondary assessment, it is reasonably suspected that a roost exists, a licensed bat worker should be contacted to undertake a more detailed assessment with specialist equipment. Should a tree be found to be supporting a bat roost, a licence will be required from the relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation (SNCO) before any works can be carried out.

If emergency work is required to a tree on the grounds of public safety, that specimen must still be assessed for bats prior to work commencing; and if it is suspected that the tree supports a roost the relevant SNCO, local police liaison officer and a licensed bat worker must be

informed. If the condition of the tree poses an imminent danger to the public then public safety will take precedence. However, the contractor must ensure that no reasonable alternatives are available, and that he undertakes only the minimum action that can be safely taken to reduce the risk to the public to an acceptable level. Furthermore, he should record the tree's condition and justification for the work in writing.

Where tree surgery is carried out, cuts will be made as far above any likely hole or crack in the bark which has potential to support a roosting bat, and crown thinning or reduction will be minimised. If, following secondary assessment no roosts are identified or reasonably suspected, but the potential for them still exists, work should proceed with caution. For example, stems and/or branches should be lowered carefully by rope and where possible large sections will be left on-site for a minimum of 48 hours to allow bats to vacate. Note that if a bat roost is damaged during tree works it may be necessary to demonstrate to the SNCO that good practice was implemented.

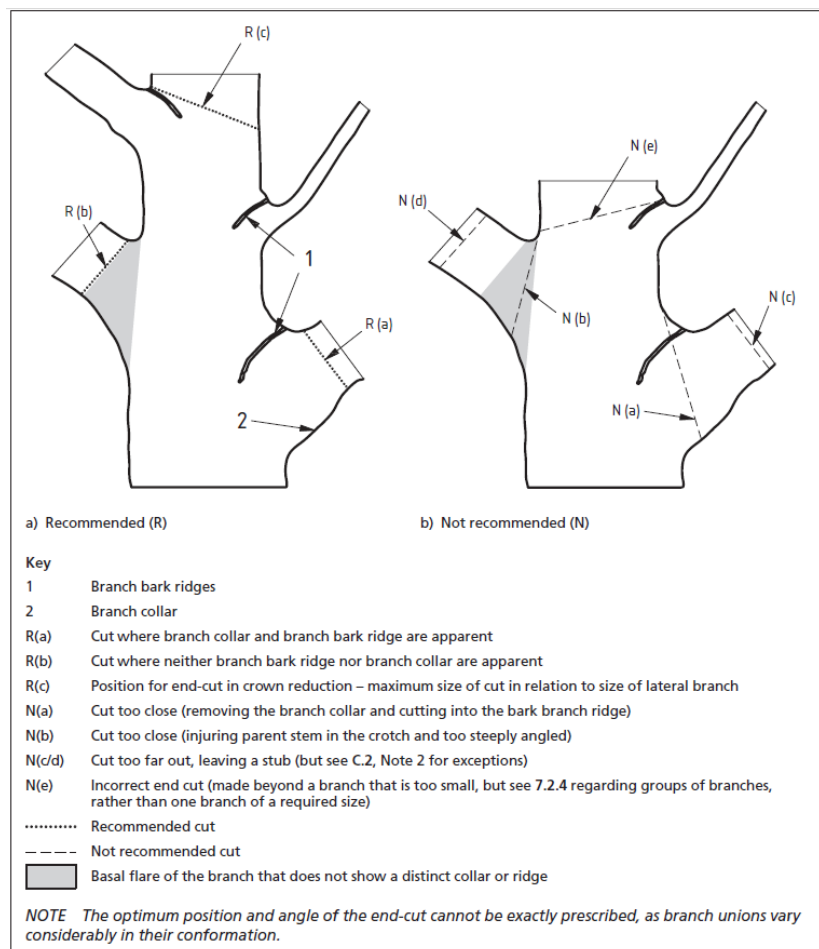
If bats are discovered when limbs are removed or trees are felled, work must stop immediately and the relevant SNCO, the local police liaison officer and if possible, a licensed bat worker must be informed.

Definition of Terms

1. Pruning (in general)

1.1. Pruning shall be undertaken following the principles of good arboricultural practice as stated in British Standard BS 3998: 2010. The positions of final pruning cuts will comply with Figure 2 'Positions of final cuts' at p23 of this document, as shown below.

1.2. Where aerial growth is to be removed, great care shall be taken not to leave a stub which may provide a food base for both fresh wound parasites and decay fungi and not to cut back into or beyond the branch collar. Injury of the wood and bark of the parent stem or branch above the cut will also be avoided.



2. Dead wooding

2.1. Dead wooding is the removal of all dead, dying or diseased branch wood, broken branches and stubs left from previous tree surgery operations that are 25mm in diameter or above at their point of origin.

2.2. When removing dead or diseased branches care will be taken to avoid injury to living bark or sapwood, which could lead to the development of further dysfunction and colonization by decay fungi or pathogens.

3. Selective pruning

3.1. Selective pruning is defined as the removal or shortening of individual branches for a specific reason.

3.2. This can be to remove or reduce specific branches which whilst they are not dead are at risk of failure (torn or split branches, branches that protrude from the crown, have excessive end weight, or are “hazard beams”); or to clear branches that are interfering with buildings, landscape features or other structures, or with the efficient and safe use of infrastructure (e.g. utilities, street furniture and transport routes).

3.3. Where such work is specified the amount of material to be removed and the diameter(s) of the pruning cut(s) should be the minimum required for the purpose.

4. Crown lifting

4.1. Crown lifting is defined as the removal of all soft growth and branches or parts thereof within the limits prescribed by the Schedule of Works, which are below or which extend below the height specified therein.

4.2. Ascending branches that originate below the specified height, and have no foliage below this point, shall be retained unless otherwise specified. Descending branches that originate above the specified height, and have foliage below this point, shall be reduced back to the closest appropriate junction point to the desired height.

4.3. Crown lifting may result in the canopy base being not at one single level but stepped to allow for different clearances, for example where a tree overhangs both a footway and a carriageway (which have different clearance requirements).

5. Crown reduction

5.1. Crown reduction is defined as the reduction of the outline dimension of the canopy, from the tips of limbs and branches toward the main trunk, by pruning growth to an appropriately sized lateral branch, twig or bud to leave a flowing silhouette.

5.2. The crown should normally be reduced in proportion to its original shape, to avoid altering the form of the tree, and to maintain as natural an appearance (for the species) as constraints allow. A strong framework of healthy small-diameter branches and twigs (leaf-bearing structure), capable of producing dense leaf cover during the following growing season, should be retained.

5.3. Reduction may be of the entire crown, or of one part of the crown. The extent of reduction is given in metres.

5.4. Where a limb, branch or leader is to be shortened it shall be cut back cleanly to a vigorous side branch leaving the branch bark ridge and branch collar intact. **The diameter at**

point of origin of retained side branches intended to form the new dominant shoot shall be at least 30% of the diameter of the parent branch at the pruning point. Wounds should not exceed 100 mm in diameter except on very large trees.

5.5. The number and size of pruning cuts should be limited so that their total cross-sectional area does not exceed one-third of that of the trunk, when measured at 1.5 m above ground level.

6. Tree felling

6.1. Felling is defined as the cutting down of a tree to a point as close to ground level as is reasonably practicable, but no higher than 100mm above surrounding ground level (unless a tree has pronounced buttress roots which makes this impractical, in which case it should be cut to as close to 100mm as possible).

6.2. Felling shall be carried out in a controlled manner, using guide ropes where appropriate to ensure that trees or branches fall away from buildings, equipment, and other trees and understorey shrubs.

6.3. Where necessary, trees should be dismantled and removed in sections rather than felled from the ground to prevent them falling onto buildings, equipment, vehicles or the crowns of other trees.

6.4. No part of any tree shall fall outside the boundaries of the premises unless prior agreement has been reached with the adjacent landowner, and the client has been informed in advance.

6.5. To allow time for bats to re-locate, trees that are covered with dense ivy will be left for a period of 48 hours prior to cutting up or removal.

7. Formative pruning

7.1. The aim of formative pruning is to produce a tree which in maturity will be free from any major structural weaknesses.

7.2. Potentially weak unions in young trees will be managed so that only one dominant stem or branch continues to grow from such a union. Where the total removal of an unwanted co-dominant stem or branch would create a large wound greater than 30% of the diameter of the parent branch or stem at the pruning point, or a wound more than 100mm in diameter, it should instead be shortened, thus causing it to lose dominance.

7.3. If two branches are crossing each other and rubbing against each other, or likely to do so in the future, one of them should be removed or cut back so that further contact between the branches is avoided. If by this action the remaining branch would be left weakened and/or exposed and therefore likely to break, it might also need to be reduced or removed.

8. Coppicing

8.1. Coppicing is the removal of all growth of a tree to a point close to ground level, with the objective of producing a quantity of vigorous basal shoots from the retained stool.

8.2. If the tree is being coppiced for the first time a stump of not more than 200mm in height shall be left.

8.3. The creation of new coppice stools and cutting of existing coppice shoots should be undertaken during the dormant season (between late autumn and early spring).

8.4. When regenerated stems are to be re-coppiced, they will be cut just above the height of the last cuts, leaving short stumps.

9. Soil de-compaction

9.1. Soil de-compaction and aeration will be undertaken by localized cultivation, e.g. use of hand tools or a compressed air lance to loosen the soil, and where necessary, backfilling with a loose mix of sharp sand and topsoil.

9.2. Following de-compaction the ground will be covered with a 100mm deep mulch of well-rotted hard woodchips to protect surface roots, and to increase the amount of organic matter available for incorporation into the soil. It should not be compacted but allowed to settle naturally and, as necessary, topped up to the desired level.

10. Mulching

10.1. The area specified will be covered with a layer of wood chip, pulverized bark, or leaf mould. Materials that have been contaminated by herbicides or other chemicals should not be used. Care will be taken that vehicles do not drive onto the area to deposit the mulch; it should be tipped at the edge of the area, moved into position using wheel barrows, and spread with hand tools so that the ground beneath does not become compacted.

10.2. The depth of the mulch will be no more than 100 mm, to allow continued aeration of the root system and to prevent overheating of un-composted material.

10.3. Mulches should be kept away from direct contact with the bark of the trunk, or of exposed buttress and surface roots, as this might encourage infection by pathogens by maintaining wet conditions.

11. Cutting of ivy

11.1. Where specified, a 300mm high section of all ivy stems growing up the trunk or trunks of the indicated tree shall be removed at approximately 1m above ground level. This shall be done using hand tools such as handsaws or secateurs, to avoid scoring or damaging the bark. Chainsaws will not be used.