

Company: Weston Homes PLC	Site: 5 – 9 Berkeley Avenue, Reading, RG1 6EL
Consultant: Barton Hyett Associates LTD	Date: 02/04/2019
Address: Barn 2, Oxpens Farm, Yanworth, Cheltenham, Gloucester shire, GL54 3QE	Site Address: 5 – 9 Berkeley Avenue, Reading, RG1 6EL
Representative: Richard Hyett	Site representative:
Phone: 07741 247210	

Purpose of Visit: Arboricultural Supervision
Meetings held while on site: N/A
Observations: Trench excavation works have been undertaken within the anticipated rooting area of a protected London Plane. The potential impact of the works was investigated by excavating the backfilled trench. Only a small area of in situ soil was revealed at the bottom of the northern end of the trench. The remainder of the trench was observed to be within made ground. I believe the reason the made ground is present to such a depth is that the London Plane in question stands on top of an historic slope that leads down from Berkeley Avenue into the site. This slope formed part of the embankment for the bridge over the River Kennet. This can be observed further to the west where another London Plane is situated at the top of the of the embankment. However, at some point in the past a vehicle access was created between the subject tree and the bridge over the River Kennet. I believe the levels within the site were built up using made ground in order to achieve this. This can be seen in Image 3. Given the age of the London Plane, I also believe its primary and structural root system would have established in the soil horizons beneath the made ground (within the former embankment) and this is the reason why no significant roots have been encountered within the trench. I only observed the presence of some fine roots at the northern end of the trench. These roots had been severed by the trench excavation works. In my professional opinion the loss of these roots will not have any impact on the long-term health of the protected tree. I am therefore also of the opinion that the trench works will not be of any detriment to the public visual amenity this tree provides.
Recommendations: N/A
Date of Next Visit: 09.04.2019