

Tree Protection Fencing Installation Statement

project: 127a Loverock Road, Reading, RG30 1DZ
project no.: 2304/3.1/FMS01
date: 25 November 2024
revision:

Introduction:

This statement has been prepared in support of the information submitted to discharge of Condition 6 of planning permission no.: 231076 at 127a Loverock Road, Reading, RG30 1DZ.

Condition 6 of the decision notice for application 231076 states:

6. Details of the erection of fencing for the protection of any retained tree or trees shall be submitted to the local Planning Authority for approval before any equipment, machinery or materials are brought on to the site. Such protection as required by the above condition shall be retained throughout the entire period of the permission and until all equipment, machinery and surplus materials have been removed from the site. No materials, soil, rubbish or vehicles shall be deposited or stored in any area fenced in accordance with this condition and no fires shall be lit, and no raising or lowering of ground levels shall take place within this area. No rains, pits, ditches or trenches shall be dug in or run across the area protected by the fencing, at any time before, during and after the development of the site, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In order to ensure that retained trees are adequately protected, in the interests of the visual amenities of the locality in accordance with Policy EN14 of the Reading Borough Local Plan 2019.

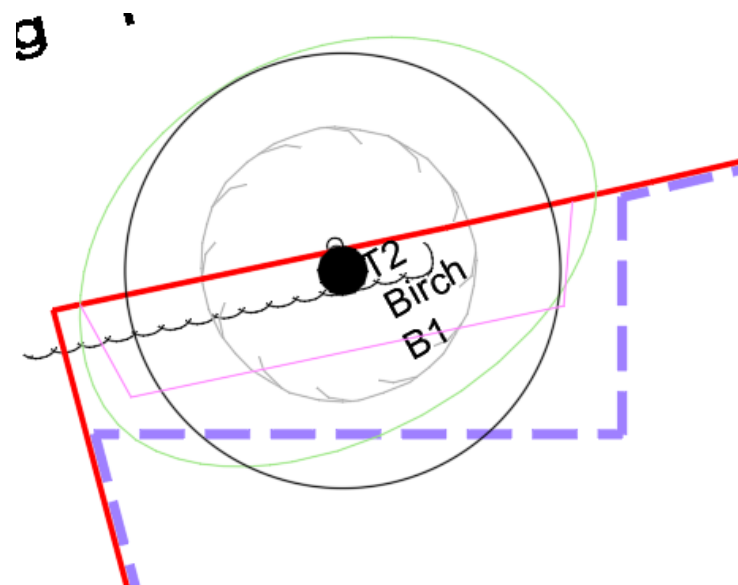
Proposal

This statement is to be read in conjunction with WRA drawing: Proposed Fencing Plan & Details ref. 2304-P-PL05 rev A, which shows the extent of the site fencing. The fence is a 2.4m high paladin (metal mesh) fence with panel widths of around 2.9m wide, supported on metal SHS posts set in concrete foundations which are normally around 300mm in diameter.

The retained tree to the front of the site (T1 on the Tree Report) sits outside the fence line and as such is protected from the activities on the site.

The site fencing to the retained tree to the rear of the site ((T2 in the Tree Report) has been adjusted so that it also sits outside the main site so that it too is protected from the activities on the site. As such it is the site fencing that will provide permanent protection to these trees.

As can be seen in the image below, the fence line to tree T2 has now been positioned further away from the tree than the previously agreed tree protection fence (solid pink line in the image below) as shown in the AMS submitted to discharge condition 17 of application 190591. This application was for the same site, and so these proposals will afford additional protection to what has previously been approved.



Extract of site plan near tree T2

The proposed 2.4m high fencing around the protected trees will be carefully designed but a reputable fencing contractor to avoid any harm to these trees and their RPA's.

This protection shall be retained throughout the entire period of the permission and until all equipment, machinery and surplus materials have been removed from the site. No materials, soil, rubbish or vehicles shall be deposited or stored in this area and no fires shall be lit, and no raising or lowering of ground levels shall take place within these areas. No drains, pits, ditches or trenches shall be dug in or run across the areas protected by the fencing, at any time before, during and after the development of the site, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

BS 5837 Compliance

The fencing contractor will ensure that the tree protection fencing solutions for are fully compliant with BS 5837 standards.

BS 5837 compliance is a British Standard that provides guidelines for protecting trees during construction and development projects. It involves identifying and safeguarding tree root protection areas (RPAs) by installing robust fencing before any construction begins, preventing damage from machinery or site activities. This fencing must meet specific height, material, and installation standards and be maintained throughout the project.

BS 5837 also requires careful excavation methods within RPAs, such as hand digging, to minimise root damage.

In the vicinity of the existing trees, hand digging techniques to avoid any root damage and the position of the posts will be adjusted if necessary to avoid main roots.