

# Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Replanting Plan

**Project:** Part two storey and part single storey side and rear extensions, and new front porch

**Location:** 37 Grosvenor Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 5EN

**Applicant:** Readings

**Application No:** 230834

**Date:** 24th November 2025

## 1. Introduction

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) combines an AMS with a Tree Replanting Plan to satisfy two planning conditions; a simple Tree Protection Plan (TPP) to establish a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) in the rear garden for tree safeguarding, and it outlines the plan for the mandatory planting of one replacement tree. All methods adhere to the UK's best practice standards: BS 5837:2012 and BS 8545:2014.

## 2. Existing Tree Details

**Species:** Fig Tree

**Location:** Immediately to the right of the rear of the property (looking from road). Please see map below.

**Reason for Removal:** The fruit tree's location conflicts with the footprint of the approved extension, and the roots have caused structural damage to the rear of the building.



## 3. Arboricultural Method Statement

The following methodology will be used to safely remove the existing fig-tree and prepare the site for development and replanting:

**Access & Site Setup:** Access to the tree will be down the side of the house via the garage. No machinery or materials will be stored within the root protection area (RPA) of any retained trees.

**Tree Removal:** The fig-tree will be carefully dismantled to prevent damage to the house, paving, or nearby vegetation.

**Stump Removal:** The stump and major roots will be removed using a digger to below ground level to accommodate the proposed extension.

**Ground Protection:** Should machinery or materials be required within unpaved areas, temporary ground protection boards (e.g. plywood or geotextile membrane with scaffold boards) will be used to prevent compaction.

**Waste Disposal:** All arisings will be removed from site and disposed of in accordance with environmental regulations.

**Timing of Works:** Tree removal will be carried out prior to the commencement of construction. The replacement planting will take place in the first suitable planting season following site clearance.

### 3.1 Tree Protection Plan

Trees Covered:

T1: Weeping Birch (on-site)

T2: Maple (on-site)

T3: Cherry (neighbouring property) - **CHERRY HAS NOW BEEN FELLED BY NEIGHBOUR - NOVEMBER 2025.**

Weldmesh/Herastyle fencing will be erected across the width of the garden 2m high, accommodating for the root protection area of remaining trees. Fencing to be erected before any works start and remain in place until completion. A Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) will be established behind Weldmesh/Herastyle fencing to safeguard trees and their underground root systems from damage during all phases of demolition and construction. Precautions will be taken to avoid accidental damage to retained trees or vegetation on

site. This includes avoiding the storage of machinery, equipment, or materials within Root

Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees or against vegetation preventing excavation or compaction.

Although no ground access is necessary within the CEZ and RPAs for the approved works, all soft ground near to construction will have protective boarding applied in accordance with BS 5837:2012.





## 4 Tree Replanting Plan

Replacement Species: *Cercis Canadensis* "Forest Pansy"

Planting Size: Minimum 2.75m in height with a girth of 8–10cm at the time of planting

Location: The replacement tree will be planted in the border, partway down the garden on the right-hand side

### Planting Specifications

The Pit: The planting pit will be 1.5x the width and no deeper than the height of the rootball

Backfill: Soil will be backfilled with native topsoil and organic matter to encourage healthy root establishment

Mulched Zone: A mulched zone of 1m diameter will be established around the tree

Stem Protection: Mulch will be applied so that it is not touching the tree stem

### Aftercare and Maintenance

Staking: A single timber stake with adjustable ties will secure the tree

Stake Removal: The stake and tie will be removed after three growing seasons, provided the tree is established

Watering: The tree will be watered weekly from April to October for the first two growing seasons, with 20 litres as the base amount

Mulch Maintenance: The 1m diameter mulch zone will be topped up annually

Monitoring: The tree will be checked periodically for signs of stress, pests, or disease

## **5 Conclusion**

This method statement demonstrates a clear and appropriate approach to removing the existing tree while ensuring suitable replanting and aftercare. All actions are in line with national standards and local planning guidance. If any additional requirements are requested by the Local Planning Authority, they will be incorporated promptly.