



BS5837 – Arboricultural Report

332 Kidmore Road

Prepared for

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References

- British Standards Institution (2012). *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*.
- British Standards Institution (2010). *BS 3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations*.

1.0 Instruction

This BS5837 report has been instructed by Russel King, 332 Kidmore Road, Caversham Reading, RG4 7NG. I have been asked to produce “a tree survey and tree protection plan for every tree falling within 15m of the proposed outbuilding.”

The site visit was carried out Tuesday 3rd Feb 2026.

There are no trees located on the client’s property, all trees surveyed are located on third party land.

All third-party trees with a stem diameter over 75mm (measured at 1.5m above ground level) located on the proposed development site, or within influencing distance have been mapped, and measurements of height (estimated) and DBH (Diameter at Breast Height – 1.5m above ground) have been taken along with crown spread. OTTIS Pear Technology has been used to calculate Root Protection Areas (RPA).

The trees were surveyed visually, externally and from ground level only. No samples or internal decay detection readings were taken for further analysis. Non-invasive inspection equipment was used (probe and mallet) to assess the trees structural integrity of the base and stem. Lazer tape measure has been used to take other relevant measurements.

This survey was undertaken during the winter season when trees were not in leaf. Assessment of physiological condition was therefore based on observable structural characteristics, bud development, bark condition and overall form.

Topographical surveys were not available for the purposes of this report. Therefore, exact tree positions may vary slightly; the report is intended for planning and tree management guidance, not for detailed engineering design. All Trees have been mapped using geo referenced site plans in conjunction with OTTIS Pear Technology.

2.0 Limitations

- The contents are intended for the sole use of the client and the property owner. No liability is accepted for their use by any other parties to advance an argument or claim (including legal or financial) without prior consent.
- No liability is accepted for defects hidden from view by soil, vegetation or other obstacles to access.
- Formal assessment of topography, drainage, service conduits, & soil conditions will not be made and are beyond the scope of this report.
- Specific laboratory investigations of soil properties (plasticity index, moisture content, soil suction pressure) will not be made and are beyond the scope of this report.
- This report has been prepared for the purposes of BS5837:2012 (Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction) and is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of tree safety. Any references to defects, structural conditions, or potential safety concerns are preliminary observations only and should not be considered exhaustive.

- The management of tree health and safety remains the responsibility of the landowner or those in control of the land. It is recommended that a separate and detailed Tree Condition Survey be commissioned and undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced arboricultural consultant to assess structural integrity and risk, and to enable the discharge of the landowner's 'Duty of Care' under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1984.
- Reports consider risk mitigation measures, as opposed to risk elimination. Thus, if the tree is retained, a level of risk will remain.
- Plants are biological organisms & change with time. Assessment remains valid for 12 months from the date of inspection, or until a major storm (Wind Force 6 +) and or significant snow fall is experienced.
- It is understood that any risks associated with these limitations are accepted by the clients.

3.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1 Tree Constraints

Tree constraints searches have been conducted as part of this report –

Tree Preservation Order 64/02 (2002) - For *Ilex spp*, *Acer campestre*, *Quercus spp*, *Fraxinus excelsior*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Corylus spp*.

A screen shot of the map is provided in the appendices.

This order applies to third party trees located on the property of 336 Kidmore Road, which border the rear of the property and Northern edge of the proposed construction site at 332 Kidmore Road.

A Woodland Tree Preservation Order (Woodland TPO) is a legal protection placed by a Local Planning Authority on an area of woodland, rather than on individual trees. It protects the woodland, including all trees within it, regardless of their size, species, or age.

Under a Woodland TPO, you must obtain written consent from the Local Planning Authority before carrying out works such as felling, lopping, topping, or damaging trees. The purpose is to safeguard the character, biodiversity, and long-term continuity of the woodland. Unlike individual TPOs, a Woodland TPO focuses on maintaining overall woodland cover, so replanting is often required if trees are removed. Carrying out unauthorised work on a TPO tree is a criminal offence and may result in prosecution and financial penalties.

3.2 The Site

The site comprises a residential garden that slopes predominantly in a north-westerly direction and has been formed into four terraced levels to accommodate the gradient. There is also a significant fall in a northerly direction, with neighbouring gardens similarly terraced to manage changes in level.

Much of the garden is hard landscaped, incorporating retaining walls, gravelled pathways, and areas of hardstanding, with smaller pockets of soft landscaping throughout.

The proposed construction area is located on the lower terrace. This section is predominantly gravelled and surrounds a small allotment-style planting area. Hardstanding is present along the Southwestern boundary, where garden sheds have historically been positioned. The proposed construction area sits approximately 0.5m below the land level of the property to the South and approximately 1m above the adjacent woodland to the North.

The woodland influencing the construction site extends roughly 6.5 m in width to the North. Beyond the Northern edge of the woodland, the ground falls steeply by approximately 3 m to a public footpath (Gravel Hill). Further North of the footpath the land opens into countryside, providing an uninterrupted natural backdrop.

A block and beam slab and associated utility connections are already in situ within the proposed construction area, this also includes a 3.5m long block work wall extending from the northeastern corner of the slab. This is intended to support the decking. These were constructed in 2021 under permitted development. The client's circumstances have since changed and full planning permission is now being sought for the erection of a "single-storey, timber-clad ancillary residential annexe within the rear garden". To the south is an adjoining decking area with plunge pool and planters. *Plans and elevations can be found in the appendices.*



Proposed site showing foundations in situ, covered with green tarpaulin. Woodland to North (left of picture) approximately 1m below level of proposed site.

3.3 Trees

A tree category table is available in the appendices.

21 trees were surveyed in total.

The woodland trees located to the north of the site, at a level approximately 1m below the proposed construction area, do not appear to have been adversely affected by the installation of the existing foundations. The trees are exhibiting good bud development and, at the time of inspection, appear to be in good physiological condition.

All trees within this woodland were categorised as low amenity value, exhibiting no significant visual impact and being largely screened from public view.

T001, 002, 003,006,007,013

The Oak trees on site have been categorised as A1 in accordance with BS5837:2012. They are of high quality and value, with a life expectancy of at least 40 years. These trees are in good physiological and structural condition.

T004,005,011,012,014

The understory trees on site have been categorised as Category B in accordance with BS5837:2012. with an estimated remaining contribution of at least 20 years. These trees are structurally and physiologically sound.

In this case, the understory trees contribute to the woodland structure and provide some screening and biodiversity value, but they are less prominent and of lower long-term impact than the mature oak trees.

T008,009,015,016,017,018

The Ash trees within the woodland have been categorised as Category C in accordance with BS5837:2012. With an estimated remaining contribution of at least 10 years. These trees are generally physiologically or structurally sound (at the time of writing are showing no signs of *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*, Ash die back), of small size, or have restricted landscape or visual significance. In this case, the ash trees are minor components of the woodland, largely screened from public view, and contribute little to the overall amenity or long-term character of the site.

T019

This Ash tree (approximately 15m west of proposed structure) has been categorised as Category C in accordance with BS5837:2012. There is bark damage on the south-west aspect at the base, extending to approximately 0.75 m, exposing the heartwood. An included bark union is present between approximately 1.0 m and 1.5m and the tree may require arboricultural intervention in the future to mitigate this.

T020, 021

Two apple trees located to the south of the site, on third-party land, have been categorised as Category B in accordance with BS5837:2012. These trees are structurally sound and physiologically healthy, with an estimated remaining contribution of at least

20 years. While they are smaller, ornamental fruit trees, they provide moderate visual and landscape value within the local context.

3.4 Data tables

U Trees unsuitable for retention
A Trees of high quality
B Trees of moderate quality
C Trees of low quality

A tree category table is available in the appendices.

Data Tables

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Survey Notes	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T001	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 9 Stem Diam(mm): 530 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 0W Crown Clearance (m): 4 Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	A1	Radius: 6.4m. Area: 129 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Vines Bat Habitat: Medium	None
T002	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 14 Stem Diam(mm): 480 Spread (m): 2N, 7E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 5 Lowest Branch (m): 3.5(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	A1	Radius: 5.8m. Area: 106 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: Medium	None

T003	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 14 Stem Diam(mm): 380 Spread (m): 5N, 3E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 12 Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	A1	Radius: 4.6m. Area: 66 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Vines Bat Habitat: Medium	None
T004	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 5 3 stems (mm): 100, 100, 100 Spread (m): 0N, 1E, 2S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 1(W) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Ivy covered ash tree.	B1	Radius: 2.1m. Area: 14 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Vines Bat Habitat: Low	None

T005	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 6 Stem Diam(mm): 10 Spread (m): 3N, 1E, 3S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Ivy covered, DBH estimated	B1	No RPA.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Vines Bat Habitat: Low	None
T006	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam(mm): 390 Spread (m): 6N, 3E, 0S, 5W Crown Clearance (m): 6 Lowest Branch (m): 2(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	A1	Radius: 4.7m. Area: 69 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Vines Bat Habitat: Medium	None

T007	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 16 Stem Diam(mm): 550 Spread (m): 4N, 7E, 7S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 4 Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Southern limb at approximately 4m, with a circumference of approximately 75cm, trifurcates at approximately 1.5 m along the branch. Three branches overhang the existing foundation slab on the northern edge by approximately 4 m at a height of approximately 4m	A1	Radius: 6.6m. Area: 137 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: Medium	- Crown lift secondary branches to the height of approximately 1.5-2m above the finished height/roof of the annexe, leaving suitable growth points ensuring no structural branches are removed/reduced.
T008	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 6 2 stems (mm): 110, 130 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 3S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Overhangs foundation slab at approximately 2.5m by 0.5m	C1	Radius: 2.0m. Area: 13 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	- Crown lift secondary branches to the height of approximately 1.5-2m above the finished height/roof of the annexe, leaving suitable growth points ensuring no structural branches are removed/reduced.

T009	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 7 Stem Diam(mm): 130 Spread (m): 0N, 0E, 3S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 4 Lowest Branch (m): 5(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Overhangs foundation slab at approximately 2.5m by 0.5m	C1	Radius: 1.6m. Area: 8 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	- Crown lift secondary branches to the height of approximately 1.5-2m above the finished height/roof of the annexe, leaving suitable growth points ensuring no structural branches are removed/reduced.
T011	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam(mm): 100 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 0S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 2(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species.	B1	Radius: 1.2m. Area: 5 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	None

T012	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 4 Stem Diam(mm): 100 Spread (m): 2N, 0E, 0S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 2(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species.	B1	Radius: 1.2m. Area: 5 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	None
T013	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 17 Stem Diam(mm): 700 Spread (m): 6N, 4E, 7S, 6W Crown Clearance (m): 4 Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	A1	Radius: 8.4m. Area: 222 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Good Inspection Limitations: Vines Bat Habitat: Medium	None

T014	Common holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)	Tree 3 stems	Height (m): 4 3 stems (mm): 80, 80, 90 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0(S) Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species.	B1	Radius: 1.7m. Area: 9 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Access Bat Habitat: None	None
T015	Laurel cherry (<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 2 Stem Diam(mm): 150 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species.	C1	Radius: 1.8m. Area: 10 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	None

T016	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 6 2 stems (mm): 120, 120 Spread (m): 2N, 3E, 3S, 0W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Lowest Branch (m): 3(E) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Typical for age and species.	C1	Radius: 2.0m. Area: 13 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Bat Habitat: None	None
T017	Holly (<i>Ilex sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 4 Stem Diam(mm): 110 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 1(W) Life Stage: Semi Mature	Typical for age and species.	C1	Radius: 1.3m. Area: 5 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Bat Habitat: None	None

T018	Prunus (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam(mm): 330 Spread (m): 3N, 5E, 4S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 5(E) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Typical for age and species.	C1	Radius: 4.0m. Area: 50 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	None
T019	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam(mm): 680 Spread (m): 5N, 5E, 4S, 5W Crown Clearance (m): 5 Lowest Branch (m): 5(E) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Bark damage on Southwest aspect at base to approximately 0.75 m heart wood exposed. Included bark Union from approximately 1 to 1.5 m. Good reaction wood growth.	C1	Radius: 8.2m. Area: 211 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: Low	None currently – Tree may need future arboriculture works.

T020	Apple (<i>Malus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 4 Stem Diam(mm): 150 Spread (m): 2N, 3E, 3S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(N) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	DBH estimated unable to access third part tree. Typical for age and species. Overhanging Foundation slab at approximately 3m by approximately 50cm.	B1	Radius: 1.8m. Area: 10 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	reduce branches growing towards to side elevation of the annexe to create approximately 1-1.5m clearance, leaving a natural canopy shape and suitable growth points.
T021	Apple (<i>Malus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 3 Stem Diam(mm): 150 Spread (m): 2N, 3E, 3S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Lowest Branch (m): 1(N) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	DBH estimated unable to access third part tree. Typical for age and species.	B1	Radius: 1.8m. Area: 10 sq m.	Other Reference: Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: Bat Habitat: None	None

3.5 Definitions of terms

Tree Identification Individual trees are identified with the prefix ‘T’. Groups of trees forming cohesive features, whether aerodynamic (shelter), visual (screening) or cultural (parkland), are identified with the prefix ‘G’. Hedgerows and woodlands are referenced as ‘H’ and ‘W’ respectively.	Age Classification Trees are categorised by age class as follows: • Young (Y): First quarter of life expectancy • Semi-mature (SM): Second quarter • Early Mature (EM): Third quarter • Mature (M): Fourth quarter • Over Mature (OM): Exceeding typical life expectancy • Veteran (V): Exhibiting recognised veteran characteristics
Species Species are recorded by both their common and Latin names within the schedule contained in Appendix C. Within the main body of the report, species are referred to by their common names.	Physiological and Structural Condition The physiological and structural condition of each tree, group, hedgerow and woodland is assessed from ground level. Structural condition is described as Good, Fair or Poor, and physiological condition as Good, Fair, Poor, Moribund or Dead. Where relevant, observations are made regarding form, taper, forking habit, storm damage, decay, fungal fruiting bodies, pests and other defects. Where access is restricted, condition assessments are based on visible external indicators.
Height Tree heights are estimated on site and recorded in metres. All measurements are approximate.	Estimated Remaining Contribution (ERC) The Estimated Remaining Contribution (ERC) is expressed in years and reflects species characteristics alongside the observed physiological and structural condition. Trees with longer anticipated contributions are generally of greater significance in informing development layout and retention decisions.
Stem Diameter Stem diameter for single-stemmed trees is measured at 1.5 metres above ground level and recorded in millimetres. For multi-stemmed trees, each principal stem is measured separately. Where stems fork or exhibit swelling, measurements are taken at the narrowest point below the irregularity. Where access to the trunk is restricted, stem diameter is estimated they are identified within the survey schedule.	Category Grading Each tree has been assigned a category grading in accordance with BS5837:2012, reflecting its overall arboricultural value. Further details of the categorisation methodology are provided in the appendices of this report.
Crown Spread Radial crown spread is measured in metres to the nearest 0.5 metre (rounded up) and recorded for the four cardinal points where access permits. Where access is restricted, measurements are estimated and identified in the survey schedule. The canopy spreads shown on the accompanying plans reflect site measurements.	Preliminary Management Recommendations Any management recommendations provided are advisory and do not constitute a detailed specification for works. Where tree works are recommended, they should be undertaken by a suitably qualified arboricultural contractor in accordance with recognised best practice, including BS3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations. In some cases, further investigation may be recommended to determine the extent or significance of observed defects, or to confirm the assigned category grading. Where management works are advised, an indicative timeframe for implementation is provided.
First Significant Branch and Canopy Height The height and direction of the first significant branch are recorded, together with the average canopy height above ground level.	

3.6 Recommended Tree Works and Tree Protection Plan

The block and beam foundations, together with the associated utilities, are already in situ, as shown on the Tree Constraints and Protection Plan.

Further excavation works will be limited to:

- Localised ground penetration associated with the installation of 15 screw piles to support the proposed decking. Of these, only the northernmost pile is proposed within the edge of the Root Protection Area (RPA) of **T007**; all remaining post locations lie outside identified RPAs.
- Installation of wastewater trenches and pumping equipment has been specifically designed to avoid all RPAs, ensuring no excavation or direct disturbance to tree roots. All works will be undertaken in strict accordance with the approved Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and TPP.

While sections of the RPAs extend into the site, the affected areas are predominantly hard landscaped, and the trees to the north are situated approximately 1m lower than the application site, reducing the potential for direct root impact.

Notwithstanding this, as the retained trees are protected by TPOs, additional precautionary measures will be implemented. Protective ground matting will be installed around the existing slab where construction access is required, and protective fencing will be erected around the RPA to the south-west of the site in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP). The fencing allows adequate clearance and access to the site for the purposes of the proposed build.

The RPAs of **T007** and **T013** extend under the Northeastern edge of the proposed decking and plunge pool by approximately 1.5m.

Protective ground matting has been recommended to protect the RPAs surrounding the slab during construction of the main structure. This matting will be temporarily lifted only in localised areas to facilitate the installation of the northernmost decking screw piles, supporting structure and plunge pool.

All works within the RPAs shall be undertaken using low-impact techniques, with no storage of materials, plant movement, or concrete mixing permitted within protected areas. Ground disturbance shall be kept to the absolute minimum necessary for installation.

Where ground protection is removed, access shall be strictly controlled and limited to essential personnel and hand tools only.

The Northeastern edge of the decking will be supported by a **block wall that is already in situ** (*see floor plans in appendices*)

Where the northernmost screw pile for the decking is located on the outer edge of the RPA for **T007**, its installation shall be undertaken using a no-dig methodology in accordance with

BS5837:2012. The pile shall be installed using hand-held or low-ground-pressure equipment, with no excavation other than limited hand-dug or air-spade investigations to check for the presence of significant roots.

The exact position of this pile shall be adjusted on site as required to avoid significant roots. Should roots greater than 25 mm in diameter be encountered during installation, works shall cease and the pile location shall be repositioned. Only roots less than 25 mm in diameter may be pruned, and this shall be undertaken cleanly in accordance with arboricultural best practice.

No concrete or cementitious materials shall be used within the RPA. The installation process shall minimise disturbance to the soil profile and avoid compaction, and no materials, spoil, or plant shall be stored within the RPA.

The decking shall be of permeable construction to allow rainwater to percolate freely into the ground beneath. Thereby maintaining existing soil moisture conditions within the rooting environment.

The northern edge of the proposed plunge pool is located at the boundary of the RPA of **T013**, with a maximum incursion of up to 0.5m. To ensure compliance with BS5837:2012, the plunge pool shall be installed using a no-dig, above-ground construction methodology to avoid adverse impacts on the tree rooting environment.

The base for the plunge pool shall comprise a cellular confinement (geocell) system, designed to provide a stable, load-distributing surface while maintaining permeability for air and water movement. No excavation shall be undertaken within the RPA.

Minor surface level adjustments of up to a maximum of 50mm shall be carried out only where necessary to achieve a level base, and these shall be undertaken without disturbance to the underlying soil profile. The outer edge of the installation shall be retained using a rot-resistant edging (e.g. Millboard or similar), fixed above existing ground level. The system shall then be infilled with clean, angular gravel to a maximum depth of 50mm above the existing hard surface, ensuring that the construction remains level and entirely above ground.

Two planters are proposed to be located on the decking area and are situated outside of any identified RPAs. As such, they are not anticipated to have a direct impact on tree rooting environments. However, in accordance with the precautionary principles of British Standards Institution BS5837:2012, the design and construction of the planters shall ensure that no deleterious substances are able to leach into the surrounding environment, including adjacent soil profiles.

The planters shall be constructed using inert, durable, and non-toxic materials that do not contain preservative treatments, heavy metals, or other leachable contaminants (e.g. powder-coated steel, recycled composite, or untreated hardwood certified suitable for external use). Internally, the planters shall be fully lined with an impermeable root-safe membrane (e.g. HDPE or similar inert liner) to prevent any migration of nutrients, tannins, or treatment residues into the underlying decking structure or surrounding ground.

The main proposed structure will be constructed within the existing footprint, and no significant tree removals or reductions are required. However, to facilitate safe construction and installation, trees **T007,008 009** will require a crown lift:

T007,008, 009 - Crown lift secondary branches to the height of approximately 1.5-2m above the finished height/roof of the annexe, leaving suitable growth points ensuring no structural branches are removed/reduced. All pruning should be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 – Tree Work Recommendations.



T007 Oak, 008,009 Ash overhanging proposed site – Crown lift secondary branches to the height of approximately 1.5-2m above the finished height/roof of the annexe

T020 - Overhangs the foundation slab at approximately 3m by 50cm – to allow adequate clearance for construction and ongoing maintenance it is recommended that reduce branches growing towards to side elevation of the annexe to create approximately 1-1.5m clearance, leaving a natural canopy shape and suitable growth points.



T020 Apple – reduce branches growing towards to side elevation of the annexe to create approximately 1-1.5m clearance

4.0 Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS).

This method statement has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. It sets out the measures required to protect retained trees and their Root Protection Areas (RPAs) during the proposed development.

Tree Protection

All retained trees and RPAs will be protected in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP). Protective matting and fencing will be installed as shown on the TPP and maintained for the duration of construction. No materials, plant, spoil, or chemicals shall be stored within RPAs.

Ground Protection

Where temporary access is required within or adjacent to RPAs, protective ground matting will be installed to prevent soil compaction and root damage in line with Tree Protection Plan. The matting will be laid directly on the existing ground surface without excavation and will remain in place for the duration of works in those areas.

This matting will be temporarily lifted only in localised areas to facilitate the installation of the northernmost decking screw piles, supporting structure and plunge pool.

All works within the RPAs shall be undertaken using low-impact techniques, with no storage of materials, plant movement, or concrete mixing permitted within protected areas. Ground disturbance shall be kept to the absolute minimum necessary for installation.

Where ground protection is removed, access shall be strictly controlled and limited to essential personnel and hand tools only.

Tree Works

T007,008, 009 - Crown lift secondary branches to the height of approximately 1.5-2m above the finished height/roof of the annexe, leaving suitable growth points ensuring no structural branches are removed/reduced. All pruning should be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 – Tree Work Recommendations.

T020 - To allow adequate clearance for construction and ongoing maintenance it is recommended that reduce branches growing towards to side elevation of the annexe to create approximately 1-1.5m clearance, leaving a natural canopy shape and suitable growth points.

Construction Works

The proposed structure is of timber construction and will be erected within the existing footprint. No additional excavation will take place within RPAs (except for the installation of northernmost screw pile).

A single trench for wastewater pipes and pumping equipment will be excavated outside all identified RPAs, avoiding any impact on tree roots.

No spoil from trench works will be stored inside identified RPAs.

Decking installation

The screw piles shall be installed using hand-held or low ground pressure equipment. No excavation shall be undertaken within the RPA, apart from limited hand-dug or air-spade investigations where necessary to identify the presence and extent of tree roots prior to installation of northernmost screw pile on boundary of **T007** RPA.

The precise location of the piles shall be adjusted on site to avoid significant roots. If roots greater than 25 mm in diameter are encountered during installation, works shall cease immediately and the pile location shall be repositioned to avoid root damage.

Only roots less than 25 mm in diameter may be pruned, and any such pruning shall be carried out using sharp, clean tools in accordance with recognised arboricultural best practice, British Standards Institution BS5837:2012.

No concrete or cementitious materials shall be used within the RPA. The installation process shall ensure minimal disturbance to the soil profile and shall avoid compaction. No materials, plant, or spoil shall be stored within the RPAs.

The decking structure shall be of permeable construction, allowing rainwater to percolate freely to the underlying soil, thereby maintaining existing soil moisture levels and supporting continued root function within the RPA.

Plunge pool construction

The plunge pool base shall be formed using a cellular confinement (geocell) system, providing a stable, load-distributing platform while maintaining permeability for air and water movement. No excavation shall take place within the RPA.

Minor surface level adjustments of up to 50 mm may be undertaken where necessary to achieve a level base. Such adjustments shall be carried out without disturbing the underlying soil structure using angular gravel on the ground surface.

The perimeter of the installation shall be retained using a durable, rot-resistant edging (e.g. Millboard or similar approved product), installed above existing ground level. The system shall be infilled with clean, angular gravel to a maximum depth of 50 mm above the existing surface, ensuring that the construction remains entirely above ground and free draining.

Storage of Materials and Equipment

All materials, plant, equipment, spoil, fuel, and chemicals will be stored outside RPAs. Designated storage areas will be clearly communicated to all contractors.

Mixing of Materials

No cement, concrete, mortar, or other materials will be mixed within RPAs. Mixing will take place on a suitable, impermeable surface located outside RPAs to prevent contamination of soil.

Fires

No fires will be lit on site, and burning of waste materials is strictly prohibited to avoid heat damage to trees or roots.

Protection of Tree Stems and Canopies

No plant, machinery, tools, equipment, or materials shall be leaned against or attached to retained trees. Tree stems and branches must not be used to support cables, signage, or temporary fixings. Care will be taken to avoid mechanical damage to stems and low branches during all construction activities.

Unexpected Root Encounters

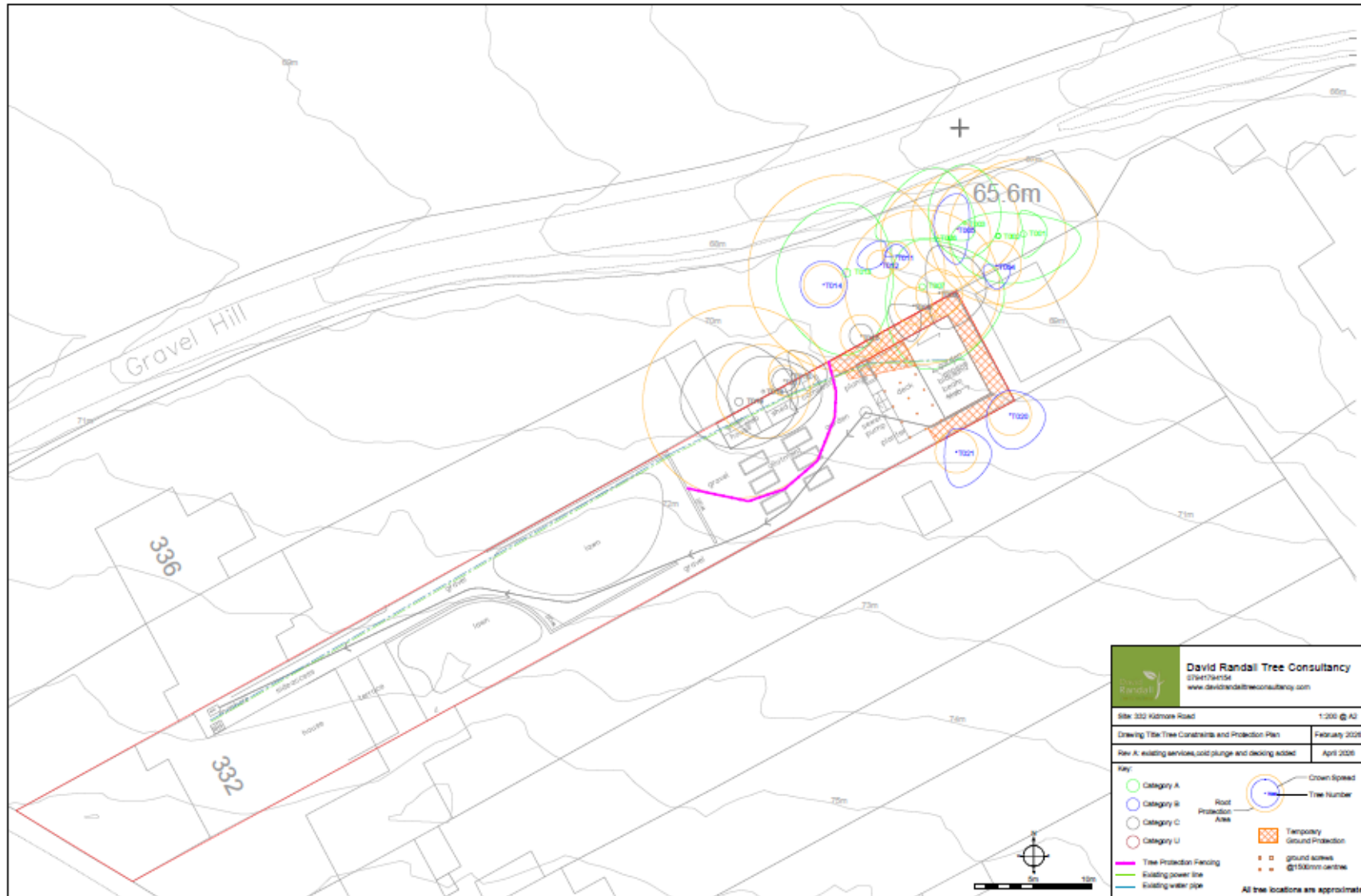
If any roots are unexpectedly exposed during works near RPAs, all works will cease immediately, and the project arboricultural consultant will be notified. Exposed roots will be kept moist and covered until appropriate action is agreed.

Site Supervision and Compliance

All contractors will be briefed on tree protection measures prior to commencing works. There shall be no deviation from the methodology outlined in this report without the written approval from the LPA.

5.0 Appendices

5.1 Tree Constraints and Protection Plan (A separate PDF copy will be made available with the Arboricultural report)



5.2 Cascade Chart for Tree Quality (Table 1 BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction)

Category and definition	Criteria (Including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	- Trees that have a serious, Irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, Immediate, and Irreversible overall decline - Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>			See Table 2
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	See Table 2
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2

5.3 Tree Protection Methods

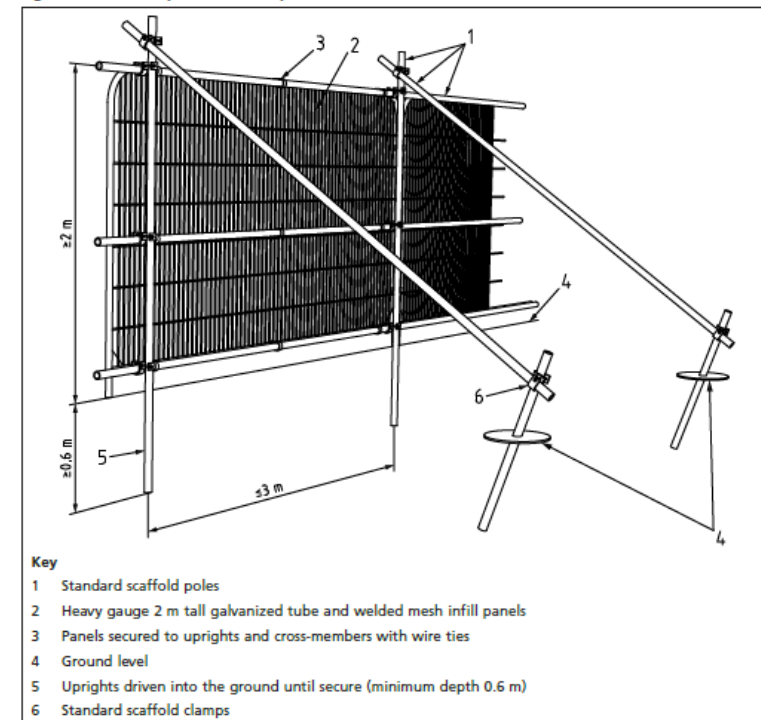
Extracts from *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*,
showing best practice for protecting RPA with matting and fencing.

6.2.3.3 New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

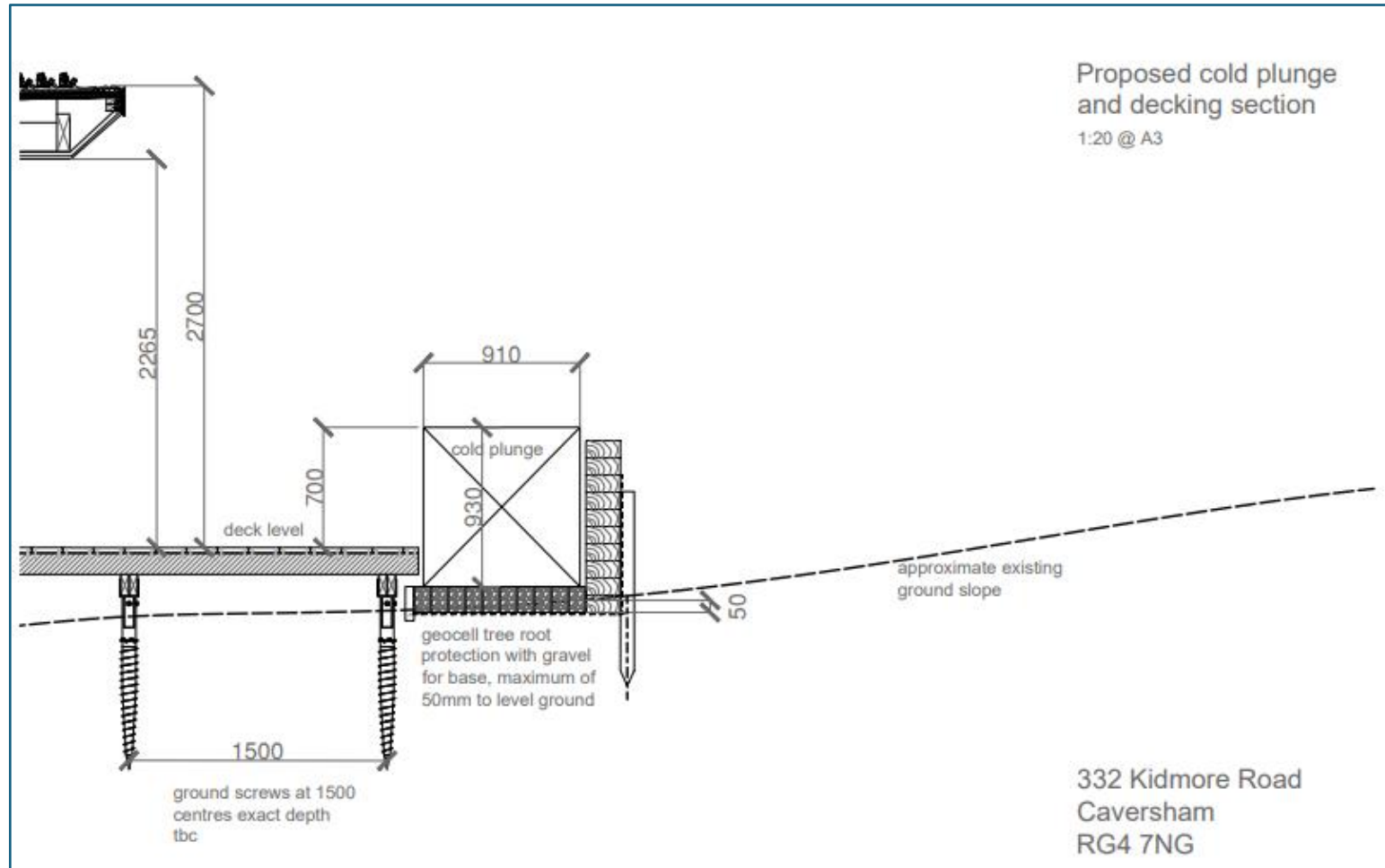
NOTE The ground protection might comprise one of the following:

- a) for pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- b) for pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- c) for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2 t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

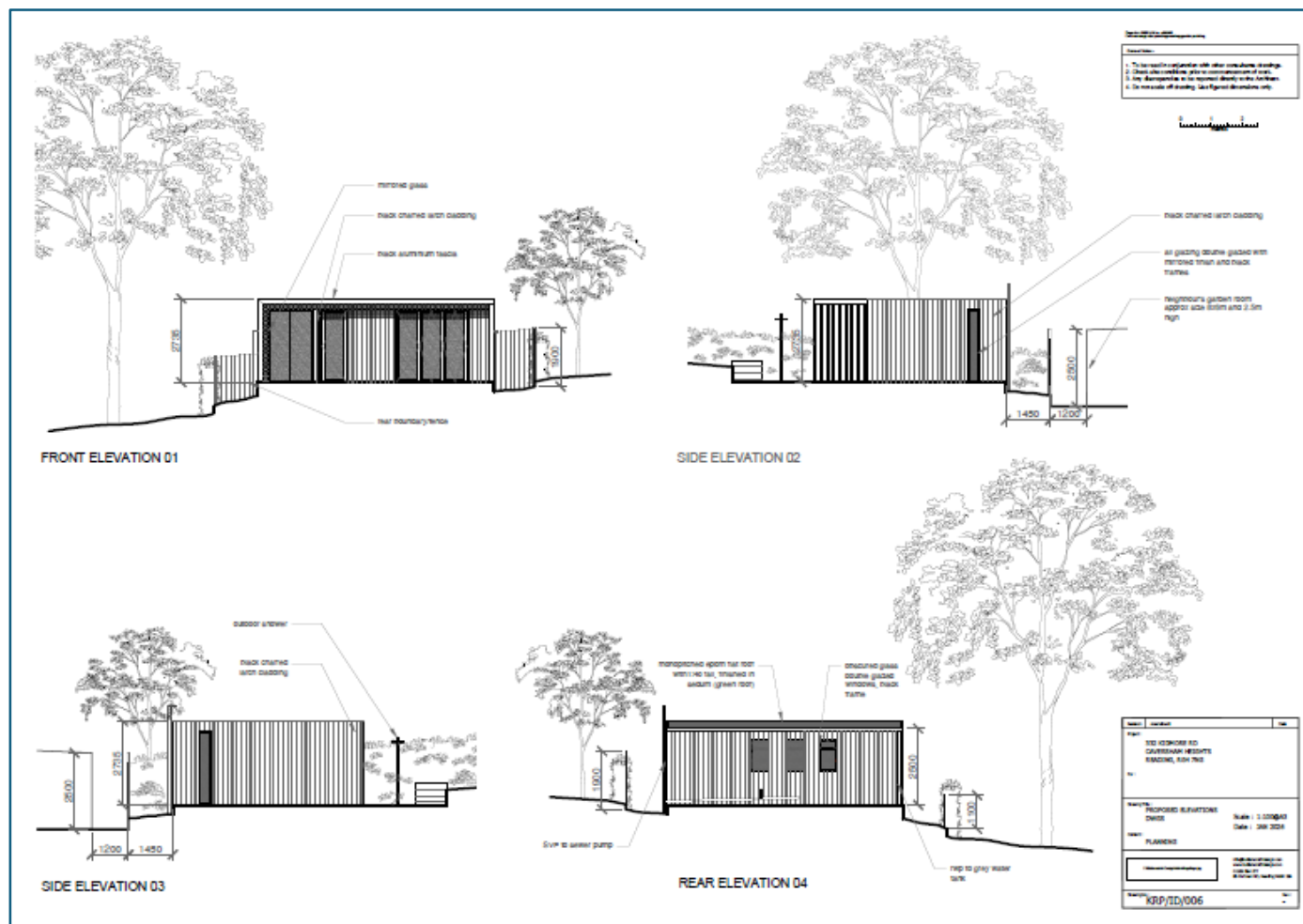
Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



5.4 Decking and Plunge Section.



5.6 Elevations



5.7 Tree Constraints - Tree Preservation Order 64/02 (2002)

