



**Arboricultural Statement
1079-1001-2023
Sandgate Nursery
West End Lane
Henfield**

**Author: Adam Thurkettle,
Senior Arboricultural
Consultant**

VTs Ltd

22/08/2023

Arboricultural Statement

This statement has been written in response to a comment made on the application titled Sandgate Nursery, West End Lane, reference DC/23/0189. The comment has been written by Andy Clout the arboricultural officer.

Comment

"The direct tree loss/hedgerow removal shown for access to the site remains as previously considered in respect of plot development. Sight line requirements may require additional tree loss on the bank which could be mitigated by new tree planting as part of a robust landscape scheme.

Further to the most recent previous application for development of the land (DC/21/0908), the indicative plans and drainage strategy show the requirement for engineering operations within the minimum recommended root protection areas (RPA's) of the few mature trees worthy of retention which are situated around the site boundaries to the south and west.

This aspect of the development has not been assessed in the AIA. From my own observations it would appear such excavations would be contrary to the relevant design standard (BS5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations) and foreseeably harmful to the trees longer term health.

If the number of units proposed is reliant on this indicative form of drainage/water attenuation within these areas of design constraint, it may not be feasible to design a layout that will work without impacting on these key boundary features.

If you are otherwise minded to approve the application, I recommend that this key assessment of landscape impact is requested at this stage of the planning process.

If latterly minded to approve, I recommend a standard condition for pre-commencement tree protection measures to be implemented prior to any potentially damaging operations related to the development take place on site."

Response

As the comment correctly states the location of the retention basins and drainage scheme were not considered in the AIA submitted. This is due to the indicative nature of the drawings with the final location and size of the basins to be decided at a later date.

Subsequent to the submission more detailed conversations have been had about the size, location and construction method of these basins. The basins will now fall outside of the RPAs of all of the mature trees on site with their only significant impact being on the canopies of the hazel coppice along the site boundary. These will have to be re-coppiced although given their large size this is long overdue anyway.

Tree protection fencing will be erected along the RPA boundary as per *BS:5837 2012 Trees in relation to design, construction and demolition* and an arboricultural consultant will be

required to carry out a watch and brief whilst undertaking the excavation works. Additionally a method of construction will be planned and agreed between the contractor and arboricultural clerk of works before works begin.

These mitigation measures will be detailed in the arboricultural method statement to be submitted with the main application.