

Arboricultural Method Statement

*relating to development at
land west of
Ravenscroft,
Storrington*

Client
A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd

August 2026

1452-KC-XX-YTREE-MethodStatement-Rev0

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Document history

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Contents

1.0	Statement of purpose.....	5
2.0	Related documents and drawings	5
3.0	Arboricultural issues & implications	6
4.0	Facilitation tree works	6
5.0	General site care	7
6.0	Sequencing of works	7
7.0	Protective barriers and ground protection	8
8.0	Treatment of existing hard surfaces	8
9.0	Creation of new hard surfacing within root protection areas	9
10.0	Excavations proximate to root protection areas	9
11.0	Reinstatement and landscaping	9
12.0	Planning, communication and supervision	9
13.0	Transgression.....	10
14.0	Conclusion.....	10

Appendices

Appendix 1
List of contacts

Tables

Table 1: Documents referred to	5
Table 2: Drawings referred to	5

ABSTRACT

Protective barriers and ground protection are required throughout the construction process to protect the retained trees on the site.

Tree removal and pruning are required.

No utility installation is required within root protection areas.

1.0 Statement of purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this method statement is to demonstrate how works will be undertaken at land west of Ravenscroft, Storrington, to avoid unacceptable arboricultural impact and provide an adequate level of protection for those trees that are to be retained.
- 1.2 This method statement has been produced for A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd in order to inform the construction team and satisfy the requirements of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Horsham District Council. The works are the subject of a planning application and this arboricultural method statement has been prepared to support the application.
- 1.3 This method statement merely considers the systems of work in relation to the health and safety of retained trees. It does not address requirements of the Health and Safety Executive that should be considered in detail by those parties involved.

2.0 Related documents and drawings

- 2.1 This method statement should be read in conjunction with the documents in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Documents referred to

Originator	Title/Reference
British Standards Institute	BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations

and the following drawings in Table 2

Table 2: Drawings referred to

Originator	Drg No	Title
HNW Architects	26025-HNW-ZZ-ZZ-DR-A-2100 Rev P05	Proposed Site Plan
Keen Consultants	1452-KC-XX-YTREE-TCP01Rev0	Tree Constraints Plan
Keen Consultants	1452-KC-XX-YTREE-TPP01Rev0	Tree Protection Plan

3.0 Arboricultural issues & implications

- 3.1 Detail of the trees and their protection are discussed and detailed in the documents, and shown on the drawings, listed above and should be read in conjunction with this method statement.
- 3.2 The buildings are located outside the root protection areas of all retained trees and can therefore be constructed using conventional construction techniques.
- 3.3 Proposed hard surfaces are also located outside the root protection area of retained trees and can therefore be constructed using conventional construction techniques.
- 3.4 Tree removal and pruning work is required.
- 3.5 Utility provision can be accommodated outside root protection areas and therefore be installed conventionally.
- 3.6 Monitoring of works is not required.

4.0 Facilitation tree works

- 4.1 Tree pruning and removal are required to accommodate the proposed development.
- 4.2 Details of the tree work are given in the schedule on the Tree Protection Plan referred to in Table 2 above.
- 4.3 All tree work shall be undertaken in accordance with *BS3998:2010:Tree Work – Recommendations*.

5.0 General site care

5.1 To ensure that the trees to be retained are afforded an adequate degree of protection during the works, the following general precautions will be observed:

- 5.1.1 No fires will be lit on site
- 5.1.2 No access will be permitted within the temporarily barriered areas, unless and only where otherwise approved herein. Ground levels will not be changed within them and existing vegetation and topsoil will be left undisturbed.
- 5.1.3 No materials, equipment or debris will be stored within any of the barriered areas and no chemicals, petrol or diesel will be allowed to spill where they may contaminate the root protection areas of retained trees.
- 5.1.4 All heavy plant, machinery, cranes and delivery vehicles shall be excluded from the areas demarcated for protection on the Tree Protection Plan.

6.0 Sequencing of works

6.1 A logical sequence of events is to be observed as follows:

- Stage 1 Undertake tree works.
- Stage 2 Erect protective barriers and lay ground protection as shown on the drawing in Table 2 (specifications given in Section 7).
- Stage 3 Implement development construction.
- Stage 4 Take down protective barriers, uplift ground protection and complete soft landscape works.

7.0 Protective barriers and ground protection

- 7.1 Temporary barriers will be erected as indicated on the Tree Protection Plan listed in Table 2. The specification for this barriers will be in accordance with the recommendations given in *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations* Section 6.2 and will comprise 2.0m mesh barriers (Heras type panels are a simple, readily available solution) attached to a scaffold framework. Support scaffolds will be attached to the scaffold framework as necessary at an angle of 45 degrees on the side of the trees and anchored by further scaffold poles carefully firmed into the ground. Alternatively, the alternative specification of Heras type panels, fitted with stabiliser struts as per Figure 3 of BS5837, may be used. Clear signs will be attached at 6 metre intervals along the line of barriers stating 'Tree Protection Area – No Access'.
- 7.2 The barriers shall remain in place until soft landscape operations require their full or partial removal (see section 11). No other construction activity will take place within those areas formerly protected by the barriers (see Section 5).
- 7.3 Ground protection in the form of robust timber sheeting (or steel road plates) under which a geotextile membrane (e.g. Terram 1000) is laid shall be placed prior to the construction phase to ensure that the rooting environment of the associated trees is protected from contamination or compaction.
- 7.4 Ground protection shall remain in place throughout the construction process only to be removed to facilitate soft landscape works (Stage 7)
- 7.5 Areas outside the zones protected by barriers may be used to locate temporary site offices, welfare units , material storage, contractor parking, etc.

8.0 Treatment of existing hard surfaces

- 8.1 Where existing hard surfaces are present within the root protection area they shall be broken up and removed using hand-held tools.
- 8.2 Roots often exist in the substrate below hard surfaces and extreme care must be taken to avoid damage to them.
- 8.3 Immediately after, the void left as a consequence of their removal shall be filled with good quality topsoil as a prelude to soft landscape unless a replacement hard surface is proposed whereupon it shall be completed in accordance with the instruction contained herein.

9.0 Creation of new hard surfacing within root protection areas

9.1 No new areas of hard surface are proposed within root protection areas of retained trees.

10.0 Excavations proximate to root protection areas

10.1 No excavations are proposed proximate to the root protection area of retained trees.

10.2 Should it be necessary to install services/utilities within root protection areas they shall utilise specialist technique including:

- excavation using hand-held tools, air spade or vacuum.
- trenchless installation techniques such as moling, thrust boring, directional drilling etc.

11.0 Reinstatement and landscaping

11.1 Final grading to marry in new levels with existing ground will be achieved by importing topsoil and spreading by hand equipment only. The newly graded areas will be grass seeded or turfed by hand.

11.2 All tree and shrub planting pits will be dug by hand within the root protection areas of existing trees.

12.0 Planning, communication and supervision

12.1 A list of useful contacts is attached at Appendix 1.

12.2 The site manager shall be responsible for ensuring the requirements of this method statement are observed. The site manager will brief all site personnel on the implications of the arboricultural method statement. A copy of this method statement will be available on site at all times.

13.0 Transgression

- 13.1 Failure to adhere to the requirements in this method statement may result in a Stop Notice being issued by the local authority. This will bring all operations at the site to a halt until the local authority permits resumption.
- 13.2 The following measures will be required, but do not absolve the perpetrator from action, if the identified transgression occurs:
- a) Breakage of branches – the damaged shall be assessed by an arboriculturist, they shall advise on requirements and any pruning shall be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 to remove the damaged section.
 - b) Damage to bark – the damage shall be assessed by an arboriculturist and they shall advise on the measures that can be taken to optimise the reparation of the damage. Some paring back of damage may be required.
 - c) Damage to roots – the damage shall be assessed by an arboriculturist and they shall advise on the pruning or reparation required.
 - d) Compaction of soil – where machinery operates outside of ground protection and hard surfaces, leading to the compaction of soil, the compaction shall be alleviated by using compressed air injected to circa 1m deep to create fissures in the ground and lift the compacted areas. The compaction shall be assessed by an arboriculturist. A specialist company (for example Terrain Aeration Ltd) shall be appointed by the contractor to undertake the work.

14.0 Conclusion

- 14.1 If the provisions of this arboricultural method statement are complied with in full, the proposed works will be able to proceed without detrimental impact to retained trees.

Appendix 1

List of contacts

List of contacts

Site Address:	Land west of Ravenscroft, Storrington	
Site Manager:	To be decided (TBD)	Tele No:
Builder:	A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd	
Address:		
Contact Name:	TBD	
Arboricultural Consultant:	Jago Keen	
Address:	Keen Consultants The Studio Timbers Gables Road Church Crookham Fleet Hampshire GU52 6QY	
Tele No:	01252 850096 (office)	(mobile) 07836 279935
Local Authority	Horsham District Council	
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