



ARBORICULTURAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS

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6th March 2026

Our ref: SJA ten 25385-01a

Rascals Farm, Shipley Road, Southwater

Preliminary Arboricultural Impact Assessment at site entrance

1. On behalf of BDW Southern Counties (the Applicant), SJAtrees has been instructed to prepare this note by way of preliminary arboricultural assessment to address a minor incursion into the root protection area (RPA) of tree no. 26 at the entrance to the site.
2. The context for this note is that previous correspondence from the tree officer stipulated that no incursion into the RPA of this tree is likely to be found acceptable.
3. In the lead up to providing this note we have returned to site and accurately measured the tree's trunk diameter and re-calculated the RPA. The trunk diameter recorded for this tree by the consultancy firm working on the outline application was 1250mm. However, as the thick ivy coverage on the trunk of the tree is now dead we were able to accurately measure the trunk, under the ivy, and found that it is in fact 1140mm. This has reduced the RPA from 706.9m² to 588.0m². We have also offset the RPA further into the site to accommodate the rooting barrier that is the adjacent highway.
4. Having accurately measured and represented the RPA for tree no. 26, the location and layout of the adjacent hard surfacing could be amended to avoid incurring into the RPA, as shown in **Figure 1** below.



Figure 1 – extract from tree protection plan illustrating protection of tree no. 26

5. To ensure that the construction of the adjacent plots and hard surfacing do not encroach into the RPA, protective fencing to the specification set out in section 6.2.2 and Figure 3 of BS5837 will be erected around the RPA, as shown above. This fencing will be installed prior the commencement of any works on site and will remain in place throughout development. Should any alteration to the fencing or temporary access to the fenced area be required during construction, the adjustment will be made and works conducted under direct on-site arboricultural supervising. Following this, fencing will be replaced in the prescribed location and a record of the works conducted will be submitted to the LPA in writing.

6. Therefore, in our assessment, there is no reason to suggest that the RPA of the tree will be impacted by the proposals and thus will remain viable. The above assessment is compliant with BS5837.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Spooner

**Senior Consultant and Operations Director for
SJAtrees**