

Tree Protection Method Statement

This method statement sets out the principles that must be followed when working near trees. This method statement is based on BS5837 (2005) – trees in relation to possible construction work.

Root Protection Area and where it is required

Damage to the roots or degradation of the soil due to compaction and or excavation is likely to cause serious damage to trees. Root Protection Areas are the areas surrounding the trees which are to be retained on site where disturbance must be minimised.

Root protection areas are required around all trees that are to be retained; however for many trees located far from the construction works the presence of Root Protection Areas will have no relevance to the day to day operation of the site. For trees located near to the working site root protection areas must be calculated and measure taken to protect the ground from disturbance or compaction.

How to calculate a Trees Protection Area

The methodology for calculating Root Protection Areas as set out in BS5837. There are various methods of calculation and adjusting the Root Protection Areas, however, in its simplest form the Root Protection Area of a tree is a circle centred on the tree trunk where it meets the ground.

Example: The radius of the Root Protection Area for a multi stem tree is most simply calculated by measuring its diameter (in metres) immediately above the root flare and multiplying it by 10.

Protective fencing around the site is to consist of the working site boundary fencing, tree protection fencing and other general site fencing. Heras fencing is to be used around the working site boundary to secure the site. Where immediately adjacent to tree root protection areas, heras fencing shall be used and shall be locally braced and wired to a scaffolding framework.

The condition of protective fencing is to be continually monitored to ensure it is effective. It

shall not be moved or temporarily dismantled and shall remain in place for the duration of the construction works.

Where site working areas and tree protection requirements meet, the tree protection fencing shall double as site fencing.

Working within Root Protection Areas

Within the Root Protection Area, to the tree side of the protective barrier the following must be strictly observed.

- No vehicular access, unless on protected ground
- No storage of any materials
- No service installations
- No excessive cultivation for landscape installations
- No fires

This and other methods of work are to be controlled by the appointed site builder. The site will be inspected when work commences by Ribble Valley Borough council.

Please see site map attached with areas fenced off highlighted in red.



