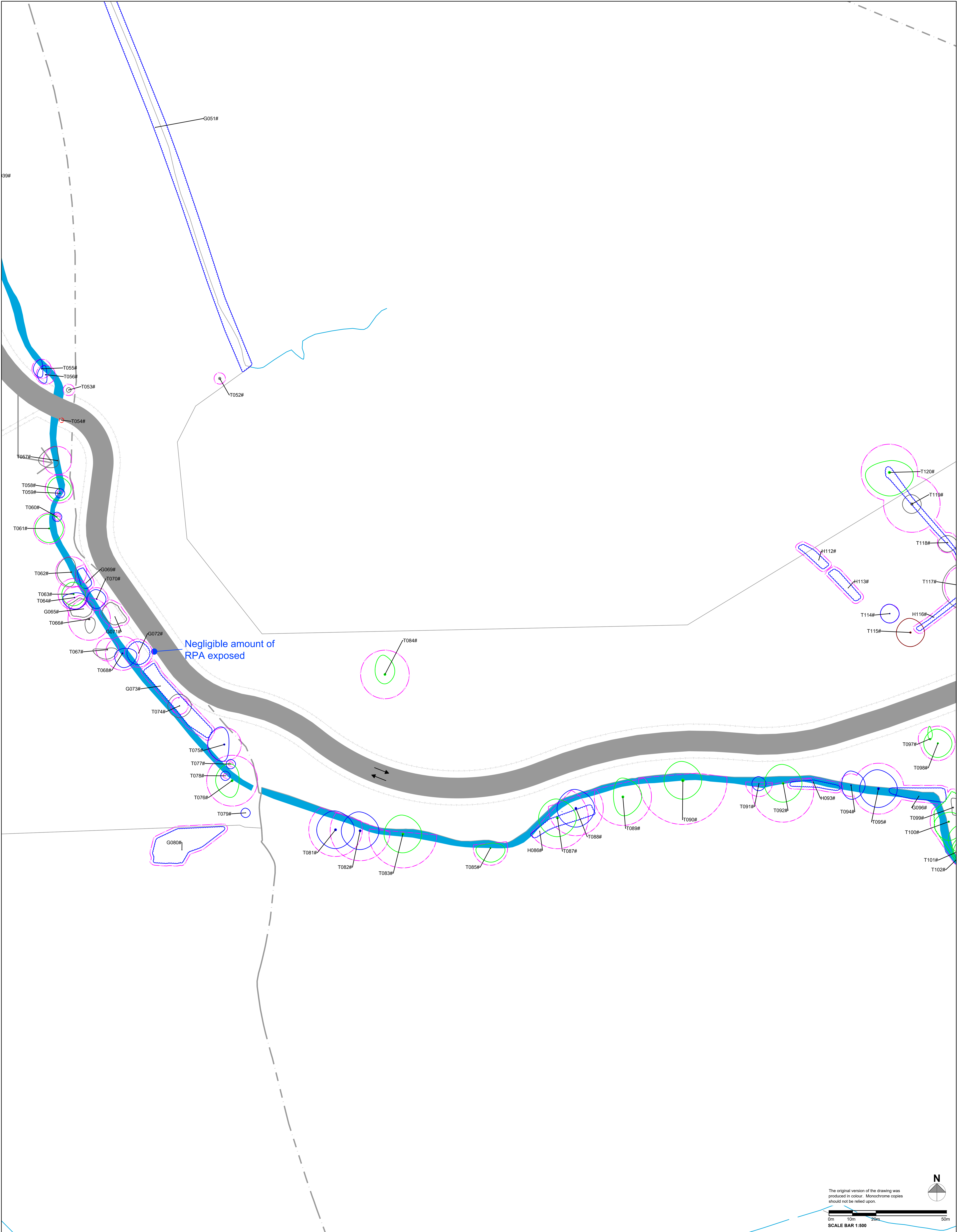




GENERAL NOTES

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- Based on topographic survey provided by the client.
- Building layout and masterplan provided by the client.
- Refer to Engineer's details for level and drainage information.
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KEY

o

Stem Location

#

Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

Category A Trees

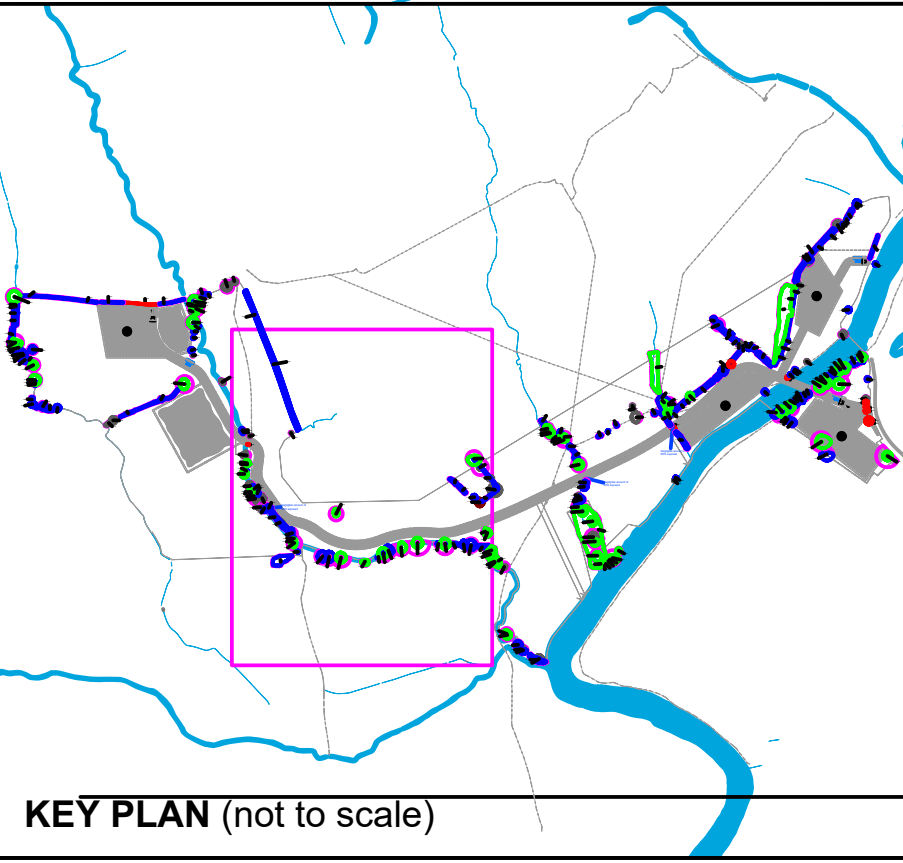
Category B Trees

Category C Trees

Category U Trees

Tree to be Removed

Root Protection Area (RPA)



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SCALE BAR 1:500

Curaterrae

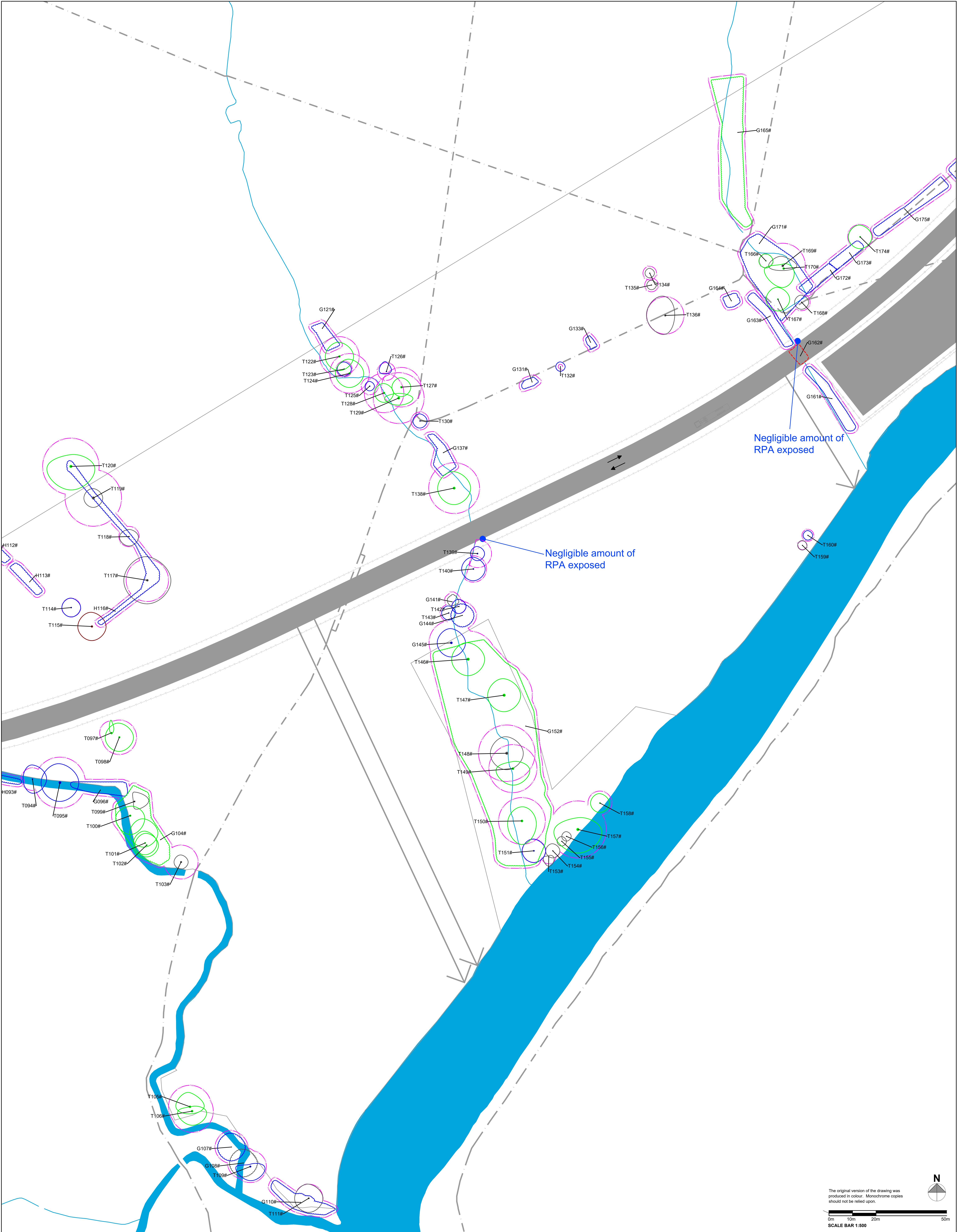
Job
25992-4 - Ribble Crossing

Title
Figure 4 - Tree Impacts Plan

By	Date	Scale @ A0	Drg. no.
LE	Dec 2025	1:500	25991-4-ARB-06

A	15.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated design layout
REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	REVISION COMMENT
		BY	BY	

MOC, Spital Road
Wythenshawe
Manchester, M22 5AN
Tel: 0161 3050380
www.curaterrae.co.uk



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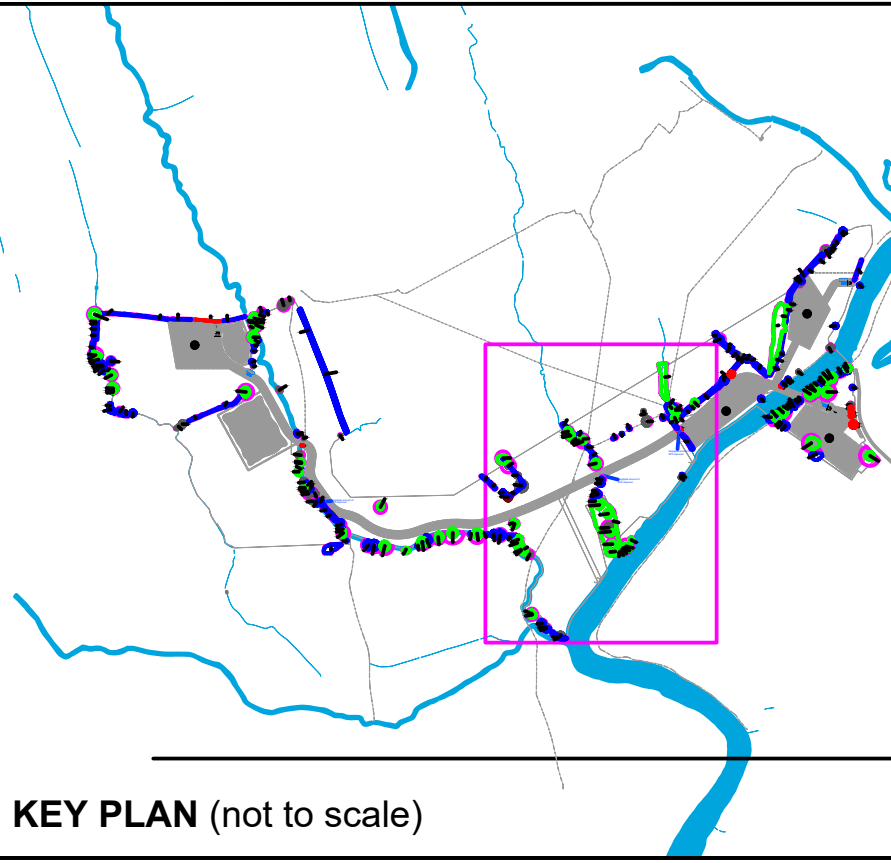
3RD-PARTY INFORMATION
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KEY

○ Stem Location
Location Estimated

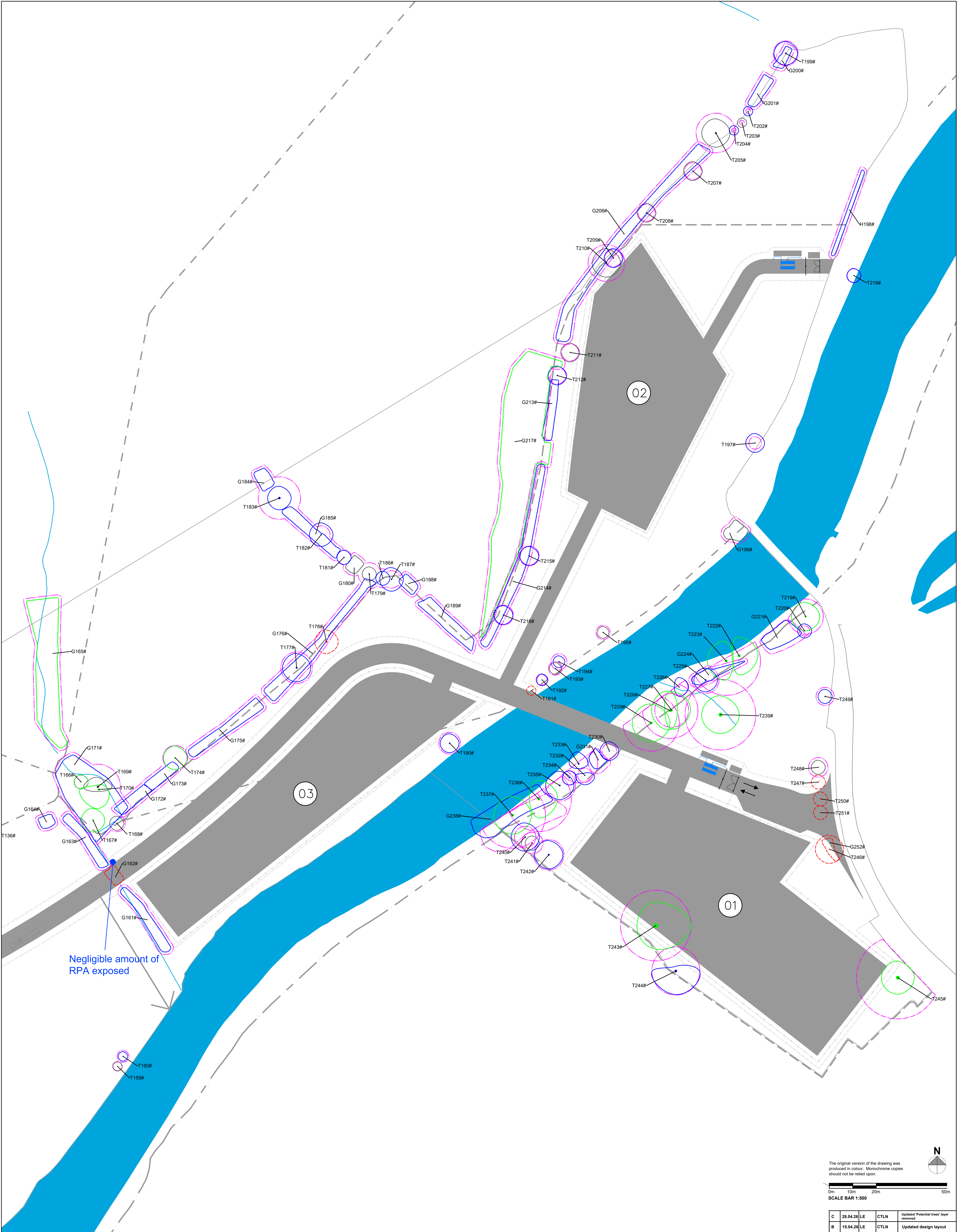
Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

○ Category A Trees
○ Category B Trees
○ Category C Trees
○ Category U Trees
○ Tree to be Removed
- Root Protection Area (RPA)



KEY PLAN (not to scale)

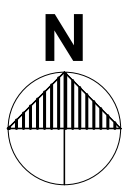
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REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	REVISION COMMENT
	BY	BY	BY	
 MOC, Rydal Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M22 5AB, Tel: 0161 3022080, www.curaterrae.co.uk				
Job 25992-4 - Ribble Crossing				
Title Figure 4 - Tree Impacts Plan				
By LE	Date Dec 2025	Scale @ A0 1:500	Drg. no. 25991-4-ARB-07	



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SCALE BAR 1:500



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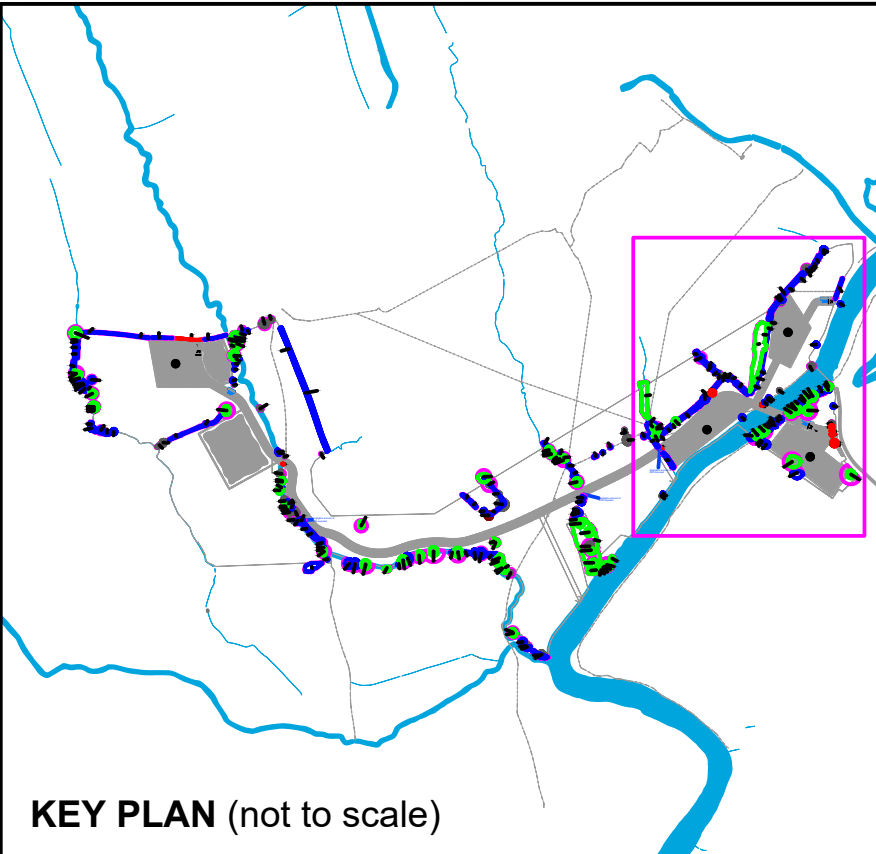
KEY

○ Stem Location # Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

○ Category A Trees ○ Category B Trees ○ Category C Trees ○ Tree to be Removed

--- Root Protection Area (RPA)



KEY PLAN (not to scale)

C	28.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated 'Potential trees' layer removed
B	15.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated design layout
A	22/01/26	LE	NA	Updated tree removals
REV	DATE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	REVISION COMMENT

CuraTerrae

MOC, Rydal Road
Wythenshawe,
Manchester, M22 5WB
Tel: (0161) 3020380
www.curaterrae.co.uk

Job
25992-4 - Ribble Crossing

Title
Figure 4 - Tree Impacts Plan

By	Date	Scale @ A0	Drg. no.
LE	Dec 2025	1:500	25991-4-ARB-08

General

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) details the specific measures to be adopted to ensure that the retained trees are suitably protected for the duration of the proposed development.

No equipment, machinery or materials shall be brought onto the site in connection with the development until this AMS has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Sequence of Events

For the purpose of protecting the retained trees, the development works on site should be completed in line with the following sequence of events:

- Pre-commencement site meeting
- Tree works
- Installation of tree protection measures
- Construction operations including the upgrading of existing hard surfaces, excavations, construction of specialist footings, installation of hard surfaces within the RPA of retained trees
- Removal of tree protection measures

Pre-Commencement Site Meeting

A pre-commencement site meeting should take place prior to any works being started, to finalise plans for the layout of the tree protection measures and to ensure that all potential issues are adequately considered.

The site developer and the project arboriculturist should be in attendance for the meeting. It may also be a requirement for the LPA tree officer to attend and so prior notification of the meeting should be provided to the LPA.

Tree Works

Prior to the commencement of any development operations and the storage of plant, machinery and materials on site, any required tree works should be carried out. The trees to be removed and any pruning works that are required to facilitate the development are detailed in the Tree Survey Schedule at Appendix 1 of the associated arboricultural report.

All tree works should be carried out by a suitably qualified and insured arboricultural contractor and in accordance with the recommendations of BS 3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations.

It is recommended that trees should be checked in advance of any works by a suitably qualified ecologist to ensure there is no disturbance to nesting birds or roosting bats.

Tree Protection Fencing

Prior to the commencement of any development operations and the storage of plant, machinery and materials on site the tree protective fencing should be located as shown. Where possible this fencing should exclude all site activities from the RPA of retained trees, creating a sacrosanct Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ).

It should be confirmed by the project arboriculturist that the fencing has been correctly set out on site, prior to the commencement of any other operations.

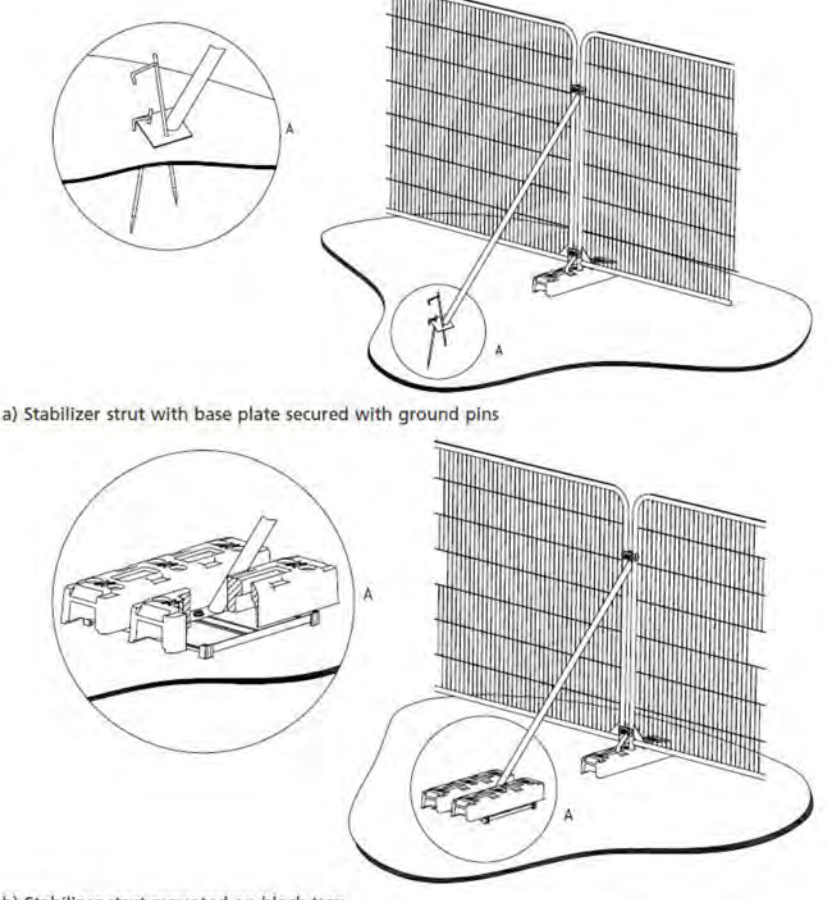
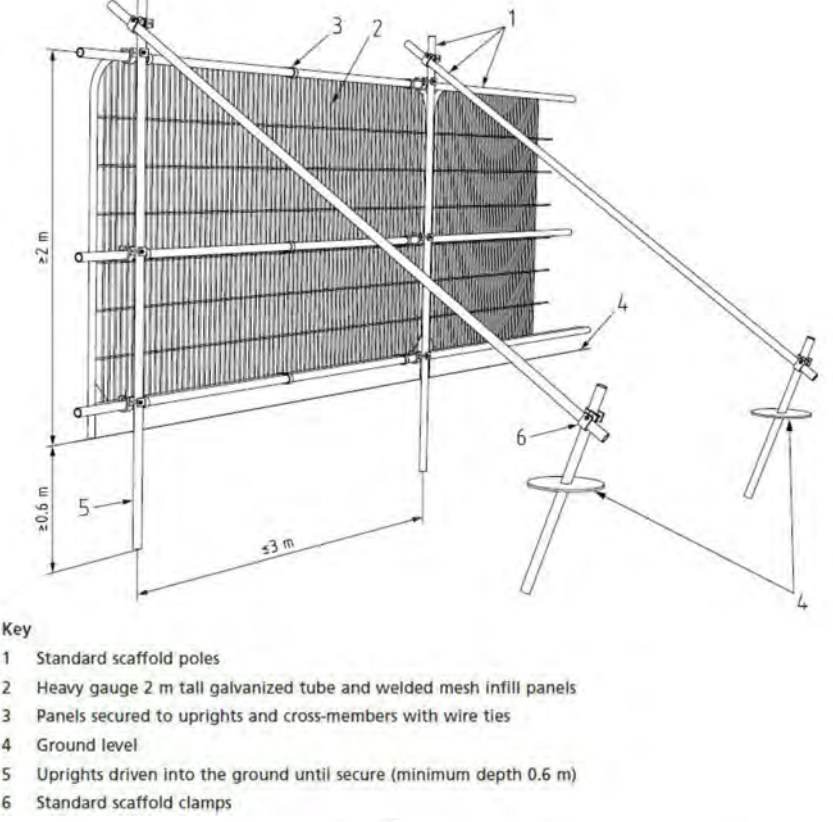
The default specification for tree protection fencing is shown here. However, where the site circumstances and associated risk of damaging incursion into the RPA do not necessitate the default level of protection, an alternative specification should be prepared by the project arboriculturist and, where relevant, agreed with the local planning authority.

An example of an alternative specification is 2 m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet. In such cases, the fence panels should be joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers, installed so that they can only be removed from inside the fence. The distance between the fence couplers should be at least 1 m and should be uniform throughout the fence. The panels should be supported on the inner side by stabilizer struts, which should be attached to a base plate secured with ground pins or mounted on a block tray. In areas where there will be low impact to the retained trees, or difficult to install standard specification due to the topography, orange mesh fencing secured with metal stakes can be used as a physical barrier to protect the RPA of the retained trees.

All-weather notices should be attached to the fencing to indicate that operations are not permitted within the CEZ, with words such as 'CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE – NO ACCESS'.

Once the tree protection fencing has been installed it should not be altered or removed without prior consultation with the project arboriculturist. If the tree protection fencing needs to be re-positioned to allow for development operations to continue, this must be carried out under the supervision of the project arboriculturist and with prior consent from the LPA.

The tree protective fencing must remain in place until all construction operations on site have been completed and all plant and machinery has been removed.



Temporary Ground Protection

It is not possible to fully enclose the open ground within the RPA of the retained trees T229, T230 and T245 without excessively constraining development operations. Therefore temporary ground protection will be required in the locations shown. Ground protection should be installed prior to the commencement of any development operations and the storage of plant, machinery and materials on site.

The temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil. BS 5837:2012 suggests this can comprise of one of the following:

- 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.
- For pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, proprietary interlinked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane.
- 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.

The temporary ground protection must remain in place until all construction operations on site have been completed and all plant and machinery has been removed or until the exposed ground within the RPA is otherwise protected through new hard surfaces or temporary fencing.



Construction of Specialist Footings

The footings for proposed structures are within the RPA of the retained trees T245. The excavations required for standard footings here are likely to lead to significant damage to the rooting structure of the retained trees. These footings must therefore be constructed utilising a specialist construction technique such as pile and beam or a cantilevered foundation.

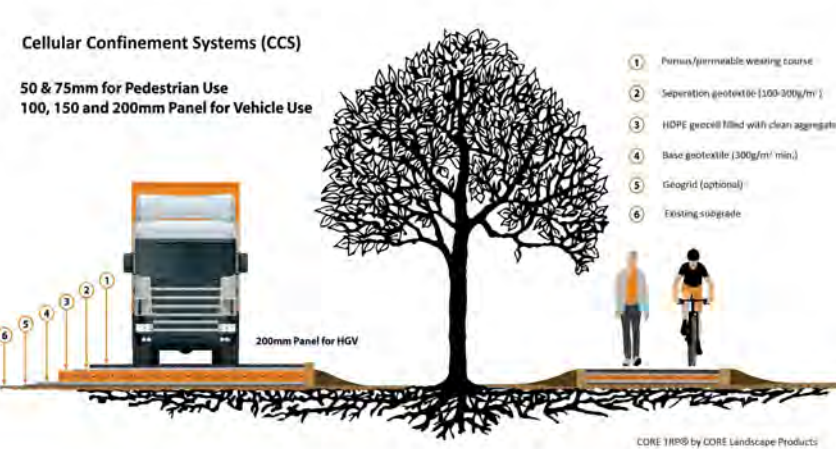
The design of the footings will need to be specified by a structural engineer but must be suitable to adequately support the structure and require only minimal excavations, which can be located so as to avoid damage to any significant roots.

The location of the piles can be determined based on the digging of trial holes to locate suitable areas away from tree roots, however a less labour intensive method is through the use of ground penetrating radar to locate structures beneath the ground.

All excavations within the RPA must be carried out using hand tools only and under the supervision of the project arboriculturist. The removal of surface vegetation is allowed to a maximum depth of 50 mm. No plant or machinery must be allowed on the open ground within the RPA at any time.

Any concrete should be pre-cast prior to being brought to the site, however where the pouring of wet concrete is unavoidable the excavations must be lined with an impermeable membrane to prevent soil contamination close to tree roots.

If the new footings and related structure are not to be built as the first construction operation on site, any exposed ground within the RPA must be protected until the structure is built. This will generally be through the use of ground protection boards or protective fencing.



Management of Exposed / Damaged Roots

Provided that works in close proximity to retained trees are carried out in line with the specifications detailed within this report the potential for damage to significant roots is low. However, on occasion approved works that are close to or within the RPA of retained trees can result in accidental root damage or roots becoming exposed.

If any exposed roots are smaller than 25 mm diameter they can be pruned back if required, however roots occurring in clumps or of 25 mm diameter and over should be retained where possible and worked around.

Where the severance of larger roots is unavoidable, the advice of the project arboriculturist must be sought, as such roots might be essential to the tree's health and stability. It may be determined that the design layout must be slightly altered to allow for the retention and adequate protection of significant roots.

Roots that are heavily damaged or severed during approved works may need to be pruned back using a suitable sharp tool, such as secateurs or a handsaw. The cut must be made cleanly, leaving the smallest surface area possible, and beyond any obvious damage, towards the tree that the root is likely to have come from. If it is not clear which direction the root has grown from, the root should be pruned back to both sides of the damage/severance.

A health and safety assessment should be carried out or a regular monitoring regime put in place for trees that have incurred damage to roots in close proximity to their stems or where the damaged roots are 100 mm in diameter or greater. Such damage could lead to instability or a decline in health and condition.

Exposed roots or roots that have been pruned should be immediately recovered with earth to prevent desiccation. If this is not possible they should be wrapped in hessian sheets which are dry in winter, wet in summer. These should be removed prior to backfilling.

Landscaping Works

Where soft landscaping is proposed within the RPA of retained trees, excavations should be kept to the minimum required to provide adequate conditions for the establishment of new shrubs and trees. Excavations should be carried out carefully and by hand, avoiding the severance of any roots larger than 25mm diameter.

Ground levels within the RPA should generally not be altered to avoid the potential for damage to tree roots. Roots are considered to be primarily within the top 0.6 m of the soil. Any excavations have the potential to damage or remove part of the root system and could affect the vigour or stability of the tree. Conversely, increasing the ground level can compact the soil, potentially suffocating the roots and causing them to die off. If minor level changes are unavoidable as part of an approved landscaping scheme, the advice of the project arboriculturist should be sought.

Where fencing is to be installed within the RPA of retained trees this must consist of posts and panels or rails only, trenched footings are not acceptable within the RPA. The holes for posts should be kept to the minimum depth required and excavated using hand tools only.

Fence posts should be erected a minimum of 1.0 m from tree stems. The post locations may need adjusting if significant roots are uncovered, so that the roots remain intact. If wet concrete is to be used, post holes should be lined with an impermeable membrane to prevent soil contamination close to tree roots.

The fencing alignment should allow for a minimum distance of 0.5 m between any tree stem and the fence, providing sufficient room for future growth and minimising the risk of potential conflicts between the fence structure and tree stems.

Any landscaping works that are within the RPA of retained trees or will require the tree protection fencing to be temporarily breached should be carried out in consultation with the project arboriculturist.

Installation of Utilities and Services

Where possible all above and below ground utilities and services are to be directed away from the retained trees. Above ground services should be routed away from tree canopies, allowing sufficient space to allow for likely future crown growth. Below ground services should be grouped together and routed away from the RPA of retained trees.

Any below ground utilities or services that must be routed through the RPA should be installed in accordance with BS 5837:2012 clause 7.7.2 and NJUG 10: Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees.

Excavations

New hard surfaces are proposed that encroach into the edge of the RPA of the retained trees G163 and T139. Due to the negligible encroachment into the RPA, there are unlikely to be significant roots in these areas. However, to ensure that any significant roots that may be present are suitably managed, excavations within the RPA must be carried in line with the following methodology:

All works within the RPA of retained trees must be carried out using hand tools only or through the use of an excavator operating from outside the RPA or on suitable ground protection, and under the supervision of the project arboriculturist. Heavy plant and machinery must not operate on any exposed ground within the RPA at any time.

If any individual roots become exposed that are smaller than 25 mm diameter they may be pruned back, making a clean cut with a suitable sharp tool. Roots occurring in clumps or of 25 mm diameter and over should be retained where possible and worked around. Where severance of these roots is unavoidable, this should only be carried out following consultation with the project arboriculturist, as such roots might be essential to the tree's health and stability.

It may be determined that the location of the proposed hard surfaces must be altered to allow for the retention and adequate protection of significant roots.

Installation of Hard Surfaces

New hard surfaces are proposed within the RPA of the retained trees T229, T230 and T245. To ensure any roots that may be present are suitably protected throughout construction, the hard surface must be installed in line with the following no-dig methodology:

Significant excavations shall not occur within the RPA, however the removal of surface vegetation is allowed, to a maximum depth of 50 mm.

If any individual roots become exposed that are smaller than 25 mm diameter they may be pruned back, making a clean cut with a suitable sharp tool. Roots occurring in clumps or of 25 mm diameter and over should be retained where possible and worked around. Where severance of these roots is unavoidable, this should only be carried out following consultation with the project arboriculturist, as such roots might be essential to the tree's health and stability.

The exposed soil must then be covered with a permeable geotextile membrane, laid out in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and temporarily held in place with pins, stakes or weights.

A three-dimensional Cellular Confinement System (CCS) will then be laid across the entire area and held in place. The CCS must be specified by the manufacturer or site engineer, and be suitable for the site and the loads that are expected to be applied. Soft soils may require an additional sub-base beneath the CCS for it to be effective.

The CCS will be filled with a 'no fines' aggregate to the manufacturer's specification, and lightly rolled or whacked to ensure cohesion. Any heavy plant or machinery used must be located outside of the RPA and beyond the canopy of any retained trees.

Kerbs and edgings that require excavations should be avoided. Where kerbing is required for light structures, above-ground peg and board edging is likely to be adequate. Where the use of standard kerbs is unavoidable, kerbs must be bridged over all significant roots to avoid the requirement to sever any roots over 25 mm in diameter, leaving space for future root growth.

If the new hard surfacing is not to be installed as the first construction operation on site, any exposed ground within the RPA must be protected until the hard surface is installed. This will generally be through the use of ground protection boards or protective fencing.

Additional Precautions

Consideration should be given to site operations outside of the CEZ that could indirectly impact the retained trees, including the provision of adequate space for site cabins, welfare facilities and other temporary structures.

Site operations should take sufficient account of wide or tall loads in order that they can operate without coming into contact with retained trees. The movement of plant in proximity to trees should be supervised by a banksman, to ensure adequate clearance from trees is maintained at all times.

Fires on sites should generally be avoided. Where fires are unavoidable, they should not be in a position where heat could affect the foliage or branches of retained trees. The potential size of a fire and the wind direction should be taken into account when determining its location, and it should be attended at all times.

Any materials that could contaminate the ground around tree roots, such as fuels, oils or cement, should be stored and handled well away from the outer edge of the RPA.

Arboricultural Site Supervision

Site monitoring and supervision by the project arboriculturist is likely to be required on a regular basis throughout the development. The specific site operations in close proximity of retained trees that will require supervision include:

- Tree removal and tree pruning works
- Installation of tree protection measures
- Installation of any service runs in proximity to retained trees

A minimum of one week's notice should be given to the supervising arboriculturist where possible before the start of any works within the RPA of retained trees, to allow the site visit to be scheduled.

All site visits will be recorded with the date and time along with any findings or comments relating to the tree protection measures and the specific operations supervised. These can be made available to the LPA tree officer on request.

GENERAL NOTES

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KEY

Location
Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

Category A Trees
Category B Trees
Category C Trees
Category U Trees

Root Protection Area (RPA)

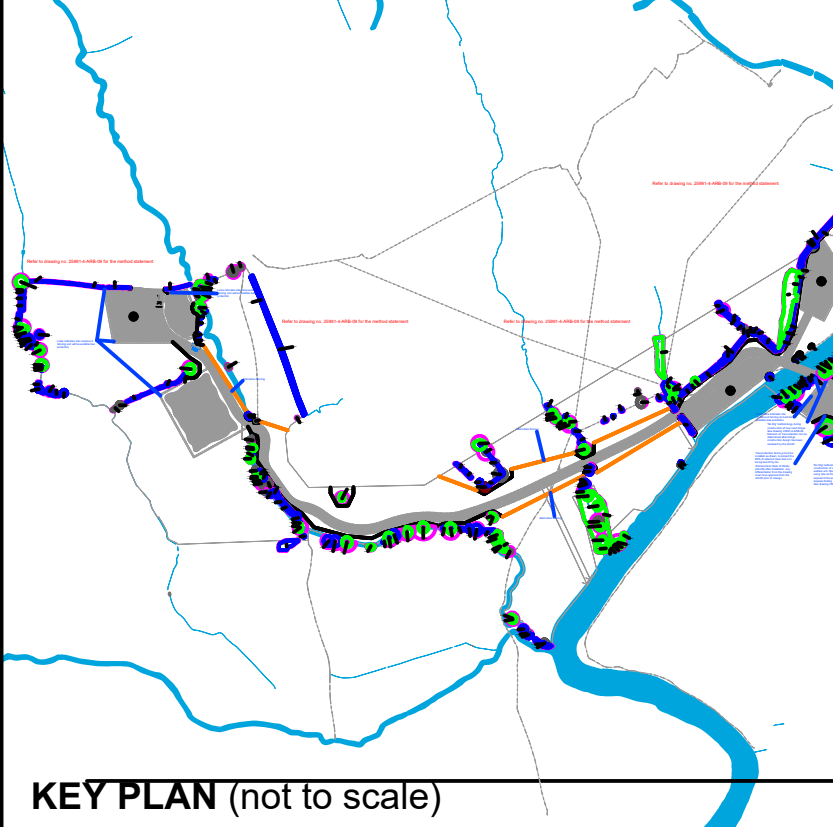
Tree Protection Fencing*

Temporary Ground Protection*

No-Dig Construction*

Alternative Tree Protection Fencing*

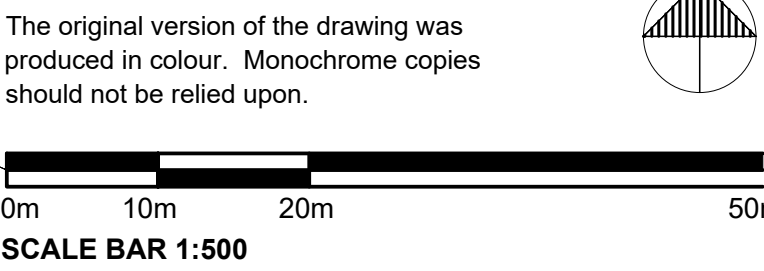
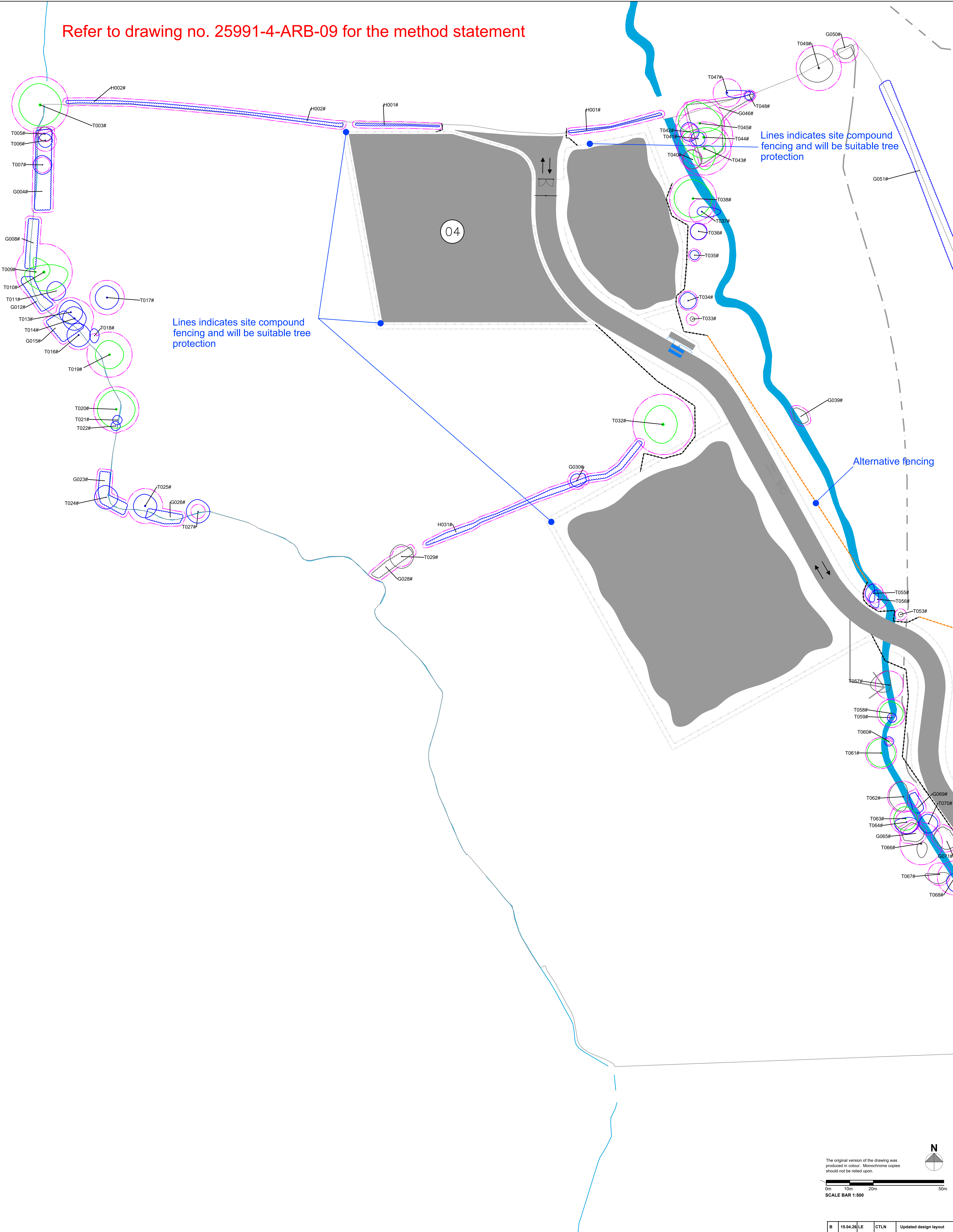
*See note on drawing



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REV	DATE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	Updated tree protection fencing	REVISION COMMENT
A	Dec 25	LE	CTLN		
Job					25991-4 - Ribble Crossing
Title					Figure 5 - Arboricultural Method Statement
By	Date	Scale @ A0	Drg. no.		
LE	Dec 2025	1:500	25991-4-ARB-09		

Refer to drawing no. 25991-4-ARB-09 for the method statement



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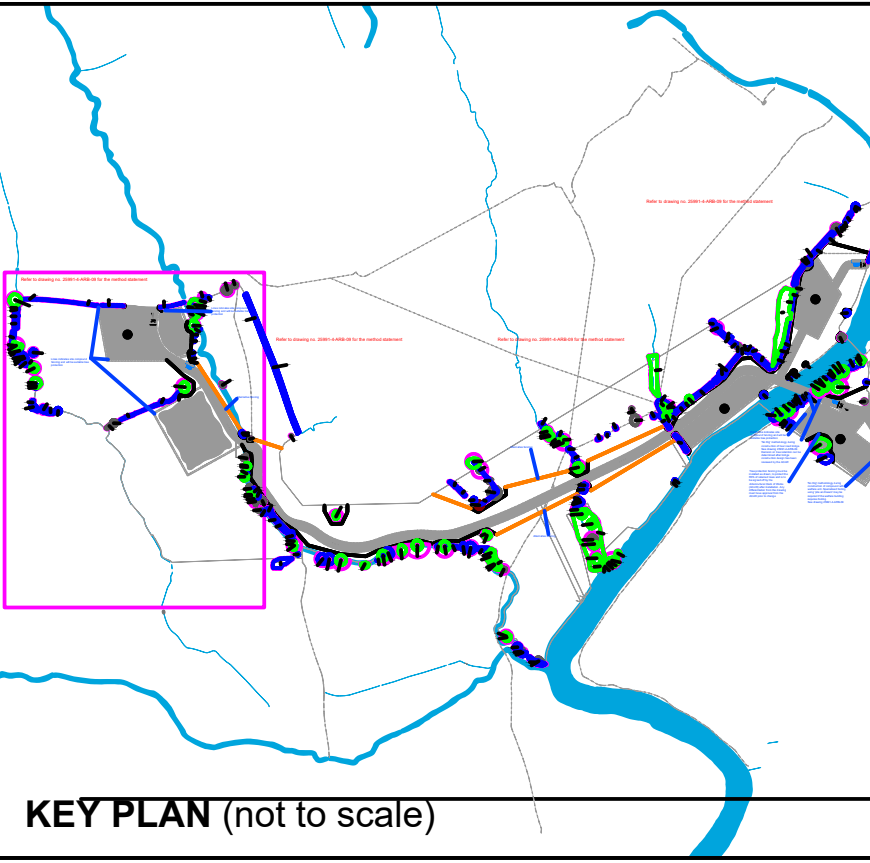
Stem Location Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

Category A Trees Category B Trees Category C Trees

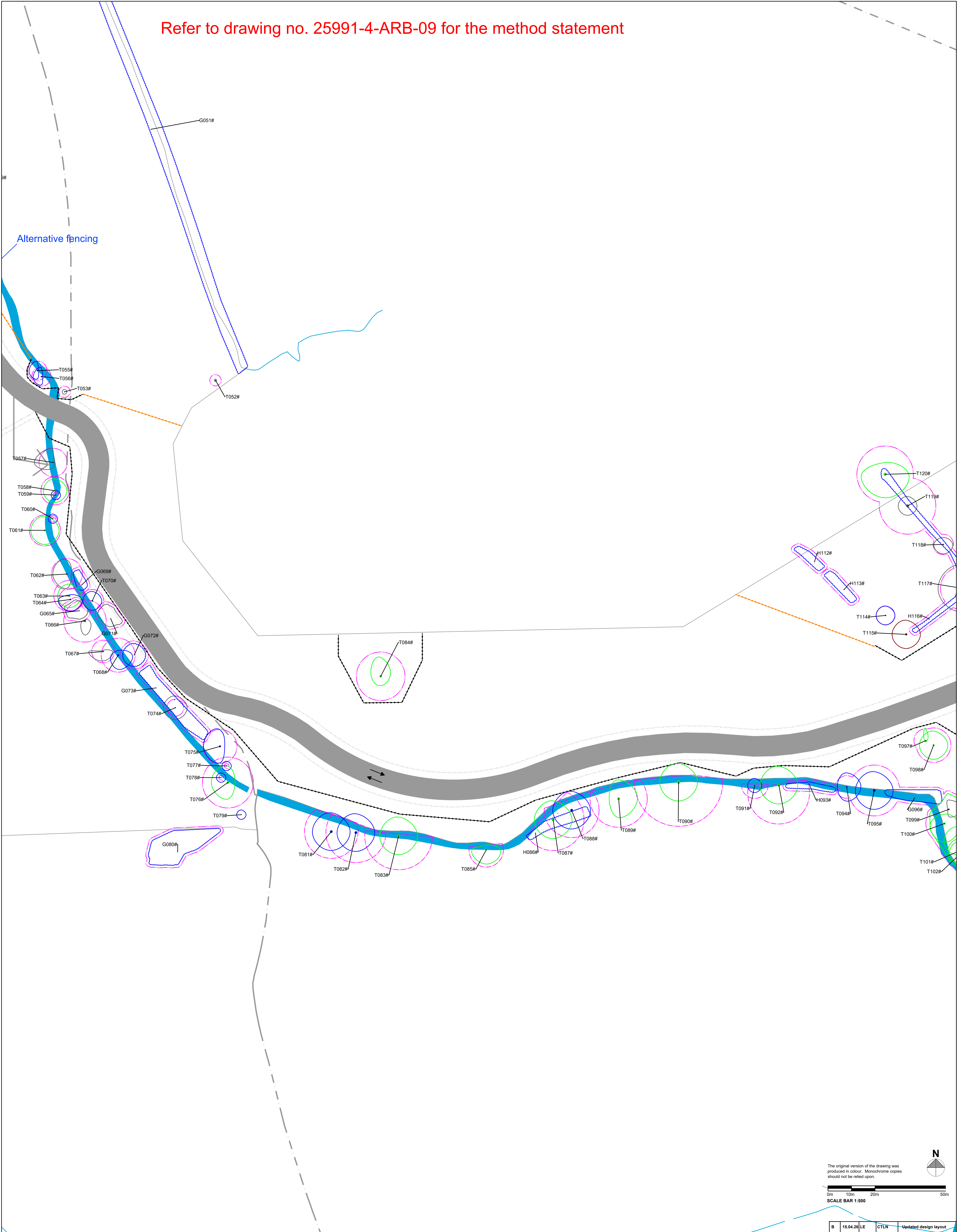
Root Protection Area (RPA)
Tree Protection Fencing*
Temporary Ground Protection*
No-Dig Construction*
Alternative Tree Protection Fencing*

*See note on drawing



B	15.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated design layout
A	Dec 25	LE	CTLN	Updated tree protection fencing
REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	REVISION COMMENT
		BY	BY	
 MOC: Royal Road, Wythenshawe, M22 5NR, Tel: (0161) 3000280, www.curaterrae.co.uk				
Job 25991-4 - Ribble Crossing				
Title Figure 5 - Arboricultural Method Statement				
By	Date	Scale @ A0	Drg. no.	
LE	Dec 2025	1:500	25991-4-ARB-10	

Refer to drawing no. 25991-4-ARB-09 for the method statement



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KEY

Stem Location
Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

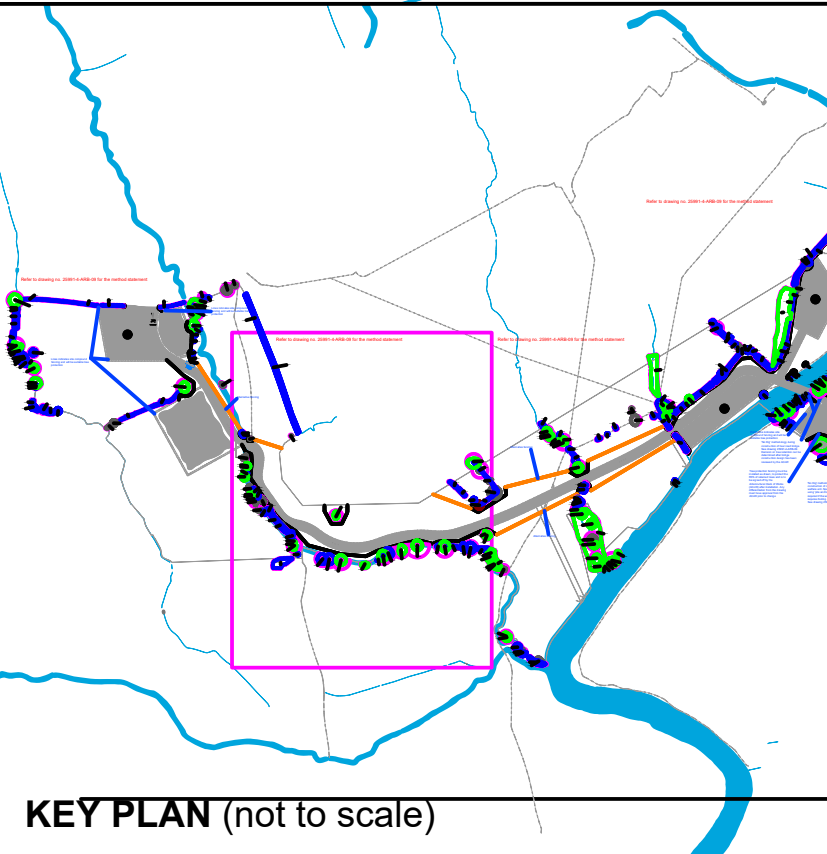
Category A Trees
Category B Trees
Category C Trees
Category U Trees

Root Protection Area (RPA)
Tree Protection Fencing*
Temporary Ground Protection*
No-Dig Construction*
Alternative Tree Protection Fencing*

*See note on drawing

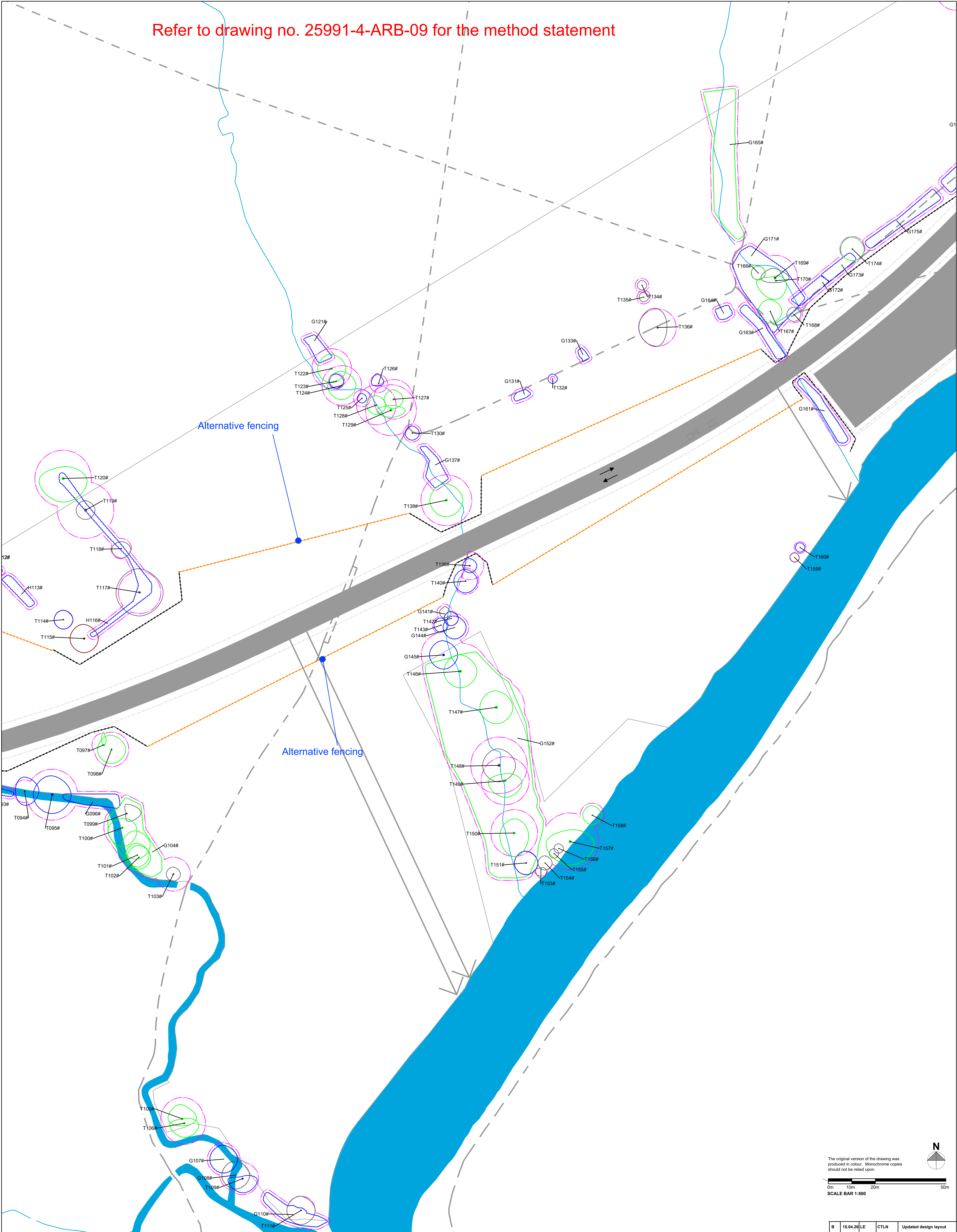
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0m 10m 20m 50m
SCALE BAR 1:500



B	15.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated design layout
A	Dec 25	LE	CTLN	Updated tree protection fencing
REV	DATE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	REVISION COMMENT
CuraTerrae				
Job 25991-4 - Ribble Crossing				
Title Figure 5 - Arboricultural Method Statement				
By LE	Date Dec 2025	Scale @ A0 1:500	Drg. no. 25991-4-ARB-11	

Refer to drawing no. 25991-4-ARB-09 for the method statement



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0m 10m 20m 50m
SCALE BAR 1:500

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KEY

Stem Location
Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

Category A Trees
Category B Trees
Category C Trees
Category U Trees

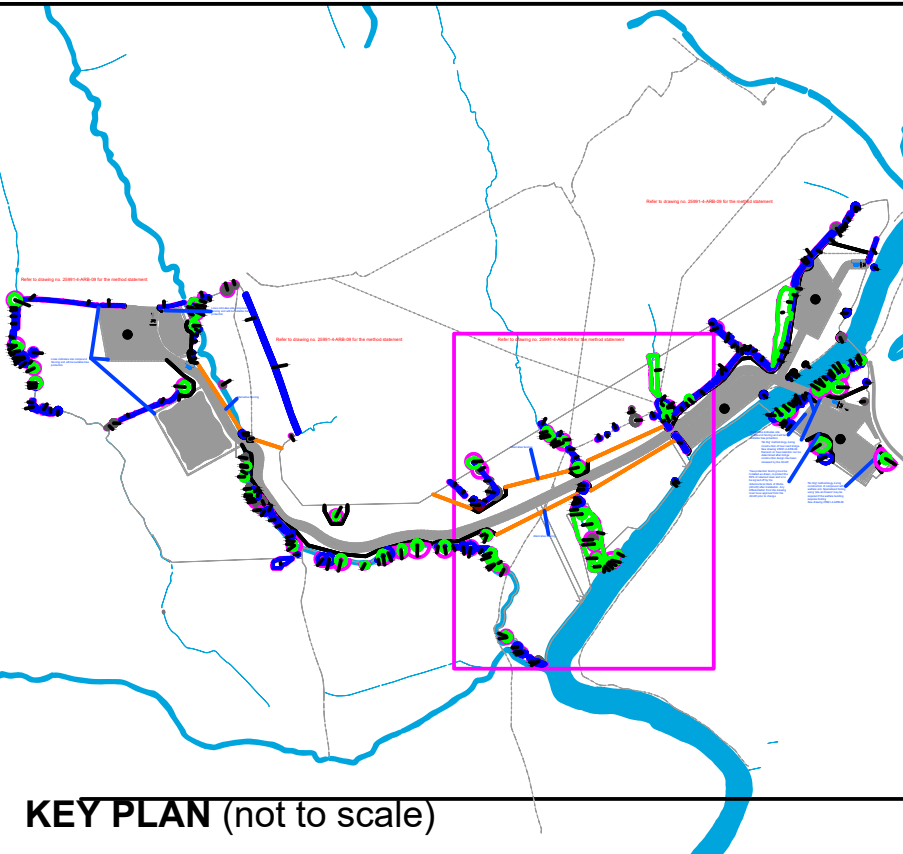
Root Protection Area (RPA)
Tree Protection Fencing*

Temporary Ground Protection*

No-Dig Construction*

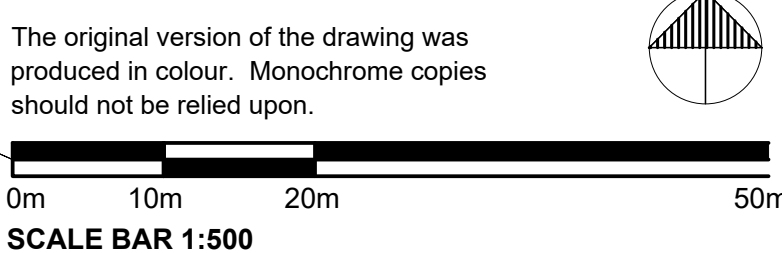
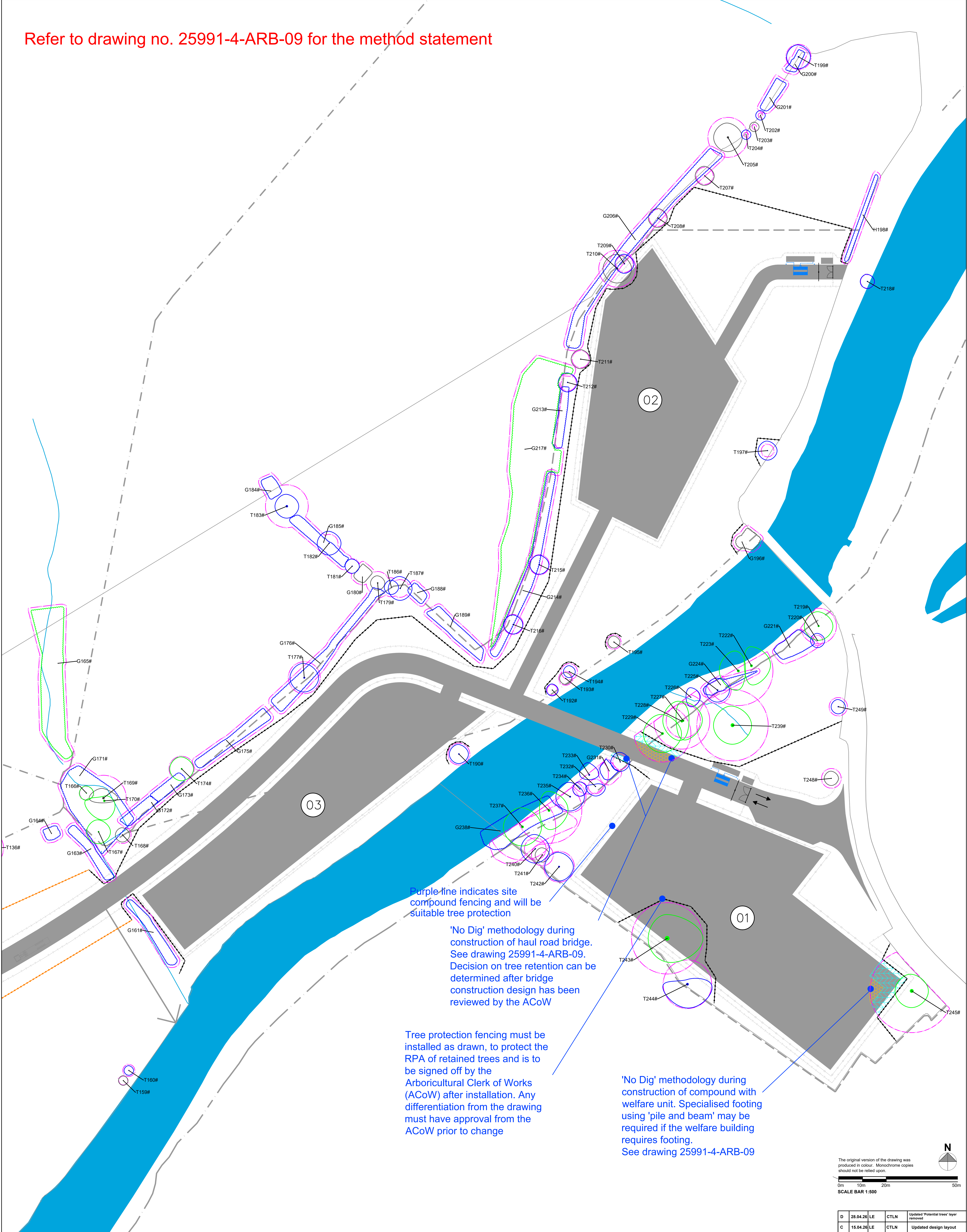
Alternative Tree Protection Fencing*

*See note on drawing



B	15.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated design layout
A	Dec 25	LE	CTLN	Updated tree protection fencing
REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	REVISION COMMENT
BY	BY	BY	BY	
MOC: Royal Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M22 5NR, Tel: (0161) 3000280, www.curaterrae.co.uk				
Job 25991-4 - Ribble Crossing				
Title Figure 5 - Arboricultural Method Statement				
By	Date	Scale @ A0	Drg. no.	
LE	Dec 2025	1:500	25991-4-ARB-12	

Refer to drawing no. 25991-4-ARB-09 for the method statement



GENERAL NOTES

- Refer to arboricultural report produced by Cura Terrae Ltd titled 'Waddington (Ribble Crossing) - BS 5837:2012 Arboricultural Report, Impact Assessment and Method Statement'.
- Based on topographic survey provided by the client.
- Building layout and masterplan provided by the client.
- Refer to Engineer's details for level and drainage information.
- Check all dimensions on site.
- Do not scale from this drawing.
- Report any discrepancies and omissions to Cura Terrae Ltd
- This drawing is Copyright.

3RD-PARTY INFORMATION

NB This drawing includes information provided by independent surveyors and / or consultants, to whom all queries shall be made. Cura Terrae Ltd can accept no liability for its context or accuracy.

KEY

Stem Location

Location Estimated

Tree Categories (BS 5837:2012)

Category A Trees

Category B Trees

Category C Trees

Root Protection Area (RPA)

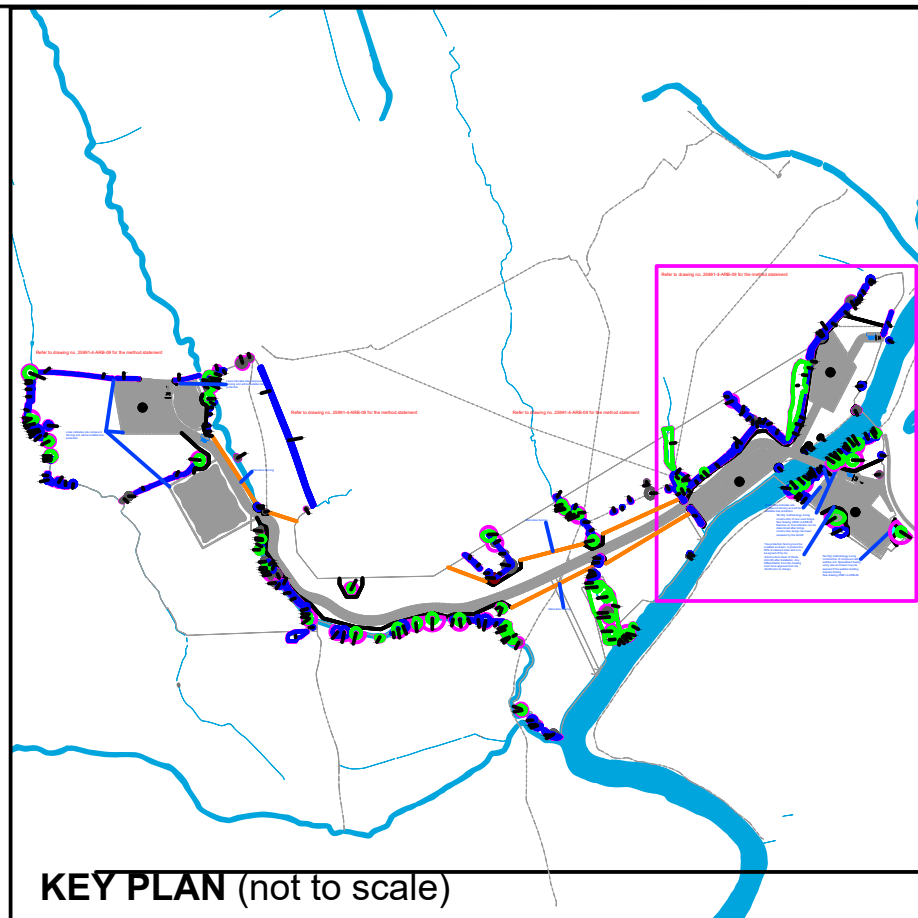
Tree Protection Fencing*

Temporary Ground Protection*

No-Dig Construction*

Alternative Tree Protection Fencing*

*See note on drawing



D	28.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated 'Potential trees' layer removed
C	15.04.26	LE	CTLN	Updated design layout
B	22/01/26	LE	NA	Updated tree removals
A	Dec 25	LE	CTLN	Updated tree protection fencing
REV	DATE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	REVISION COMMENT
Job				
25991-4 - Ribble Crossing				
Title				
Figure 5 - Arboricultural Method Statement				
By	Date	Scale @ A0	Drg. no.	
LE	Dec 2025	1:500	25991-4-ARB-13	

Appendix 4: Tree Protection Signage

Tree Protection Area



Keep Out!

Trees enclosed by this fence are protected by planning conditions and may be subjects of a tree preservation order (Town & Country Planning Act 1990).

Contravention of tree preservation orders may lead to criminal prosecution.

Any incursion into the protected area must be with the written permission of the local planning authority or under the supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

For any issues relating to this tree protection area please call us on:
0114 266 9292

Appendix 5: Suffolk County Council Ash Die Back Canopy Description



The Issue

Identifying the symptoms of Ash Dieback in large trees can be difficult, so a system was needed to enable easy description of the current state of an Ash Tree. Tree Canopy assessment has been widely used since the late 1980's across Europe based on work produced in Switzerland in 1986. In 1990 the Forestry Commission produced a book – '[Assessment of Tree Condition](#)' to enable a standard system for describing the condition of a tree based on the percentage of existing canopy remaining.

Using this methodology Suffolk County Council undertook to describe the health of an Ash in Suffolk.

The steps undertaken

During the summer of 2013/14 Suffolk County Council assessed and photographed Ash across the county. They determined that there were 4 useful categories to describe Ash canopies. The categories chosen were

- 100% full canopy,
- 75% canopy,
- 50% canopy
- and 25% canopy.

These are represented photographically in the pictures at the end of this Case Study.

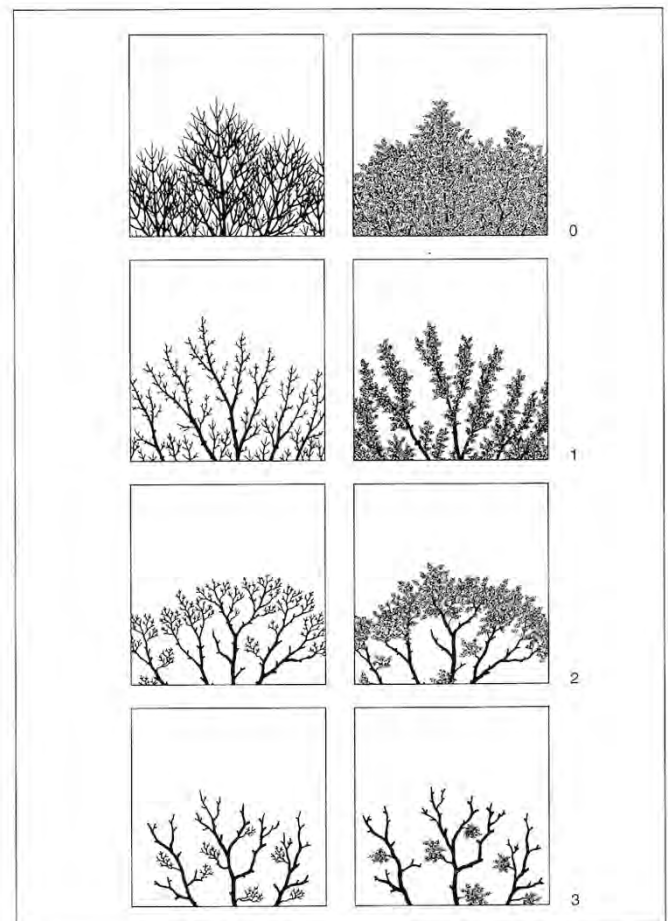
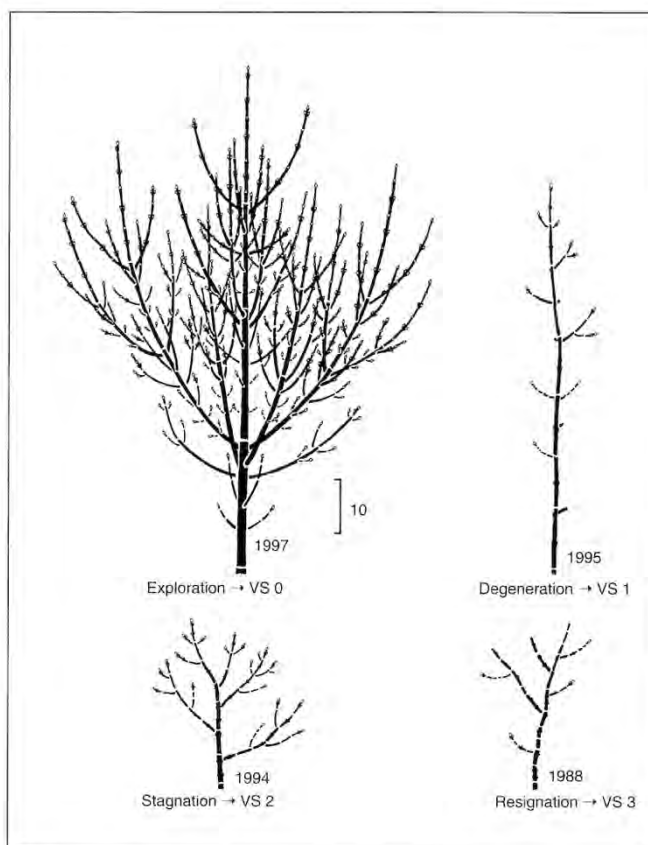
These 4 classes fit with work undertaken in Germany by Professor Andreas Roloff who has been describing the state of vitality of European Trees. He also uses 4 categories – described as

- Vitality Class 0: Healthy vigorous trees showing treetop shoots in the exploration phase: both the main axes and part of the lateral twigs consist of long-shoots. For this reason, a regular net-like branching pattern is developed, which reaches deep into the interior of the crown. The crowns are equally closed and domed, and do not show any greater gap unless a stronger intervention has occurred, such as pruning measures, because such a gap is closed quickly by the intensive ramification. In summer, a dense foliage arises without any greater gap.
- Vitality Class 1: Weakened trees show treetop shoots in the degeneration phase. Thus, spears/"fox tails" are formed, rising above the canopy. The leaves on these spears are dense and grow all around them (at the top of the lateral short-shoots or shortshoot chains). The crowns make a frazzled impression on the outside, and have a fastigiated appearance, because the airspace between the spears is not completely filled by leaves and twigs, and the crown has a spiky outline. Inside the crown, the branching pattern, and hence the foliage, is quite dense. In this vitality class, straight percurrent main axes of the treetop branches are still dominant, but the crowns no longer look as intact as in class 0 because of the spears shooting out of the canopy.
- Vitality Class 2: In obviously less vigorous trees, the treetop shoots begin to build short-shoots in the stagnation phase. The leafless state could be designated as the claw stage, because the short-shoot chains in the outside of the crowns grow longer, are predominant, and stretch claw-like to the light. These short-shoot chains, growing too long, break off in summer in thunderstorms and heavy rains, and strew the forest floor in

declining stands. Under normal circumstances, trees get rid of parts of their unimportant twigs in the inner and lower crown parts in this way. However, if the treetop shoots themselves are declining, the self-pruning of twigs progresses into the outskirts of the crown, and the crowns become thin from the inside outwards. The cause for this occurrence is not premature leaf fall, but broken short-shoot chains, a lack of shoots, and dead buds and twigs. The branching pattern shows a bushy and lumpy accumulation in the periphery of the crown. This accumulation causes summer and winter bushy crown structures and greater gaps. The crown periphery still has hardly any straight percurrent branches.

- Vitality class 3: In considerably damaged or declining trees of the crowns finally fall apart by the breaking off of larger branches and the dieback of whole crown parts. The tree seems to consist only of more or less surplus sub-crowns, dispersed randomly in the airspace and forming whip-like structures. The treetop is often dying back or is already dead, because the treetop shoots grew in the retraction phase.

These 4 vitality classes are shown below for Ash.



The work in Germany and Suffolk complements each other and establishes the ability to be able to assign an ash tree to 1 of 4 categories, which describe the trees current health or vitality. This is a simple and useful method for describing the current state of an Ash's health.

The Outcome

Using this 4 category framework, allows a tree to be assigned to a category, showing its current state of health, enabling data on the tree to be collected. The suggestion going forward is that these 4 classes are used as described as:

Ash Health Class 1 – 100 – 75% Canopy (Vitality Class 0)

Ash Health Class 2 – 75% -50% Canopy (Vitality Class 1)

Ash Health Class 3 – 50% - 25% Canopy (Vitality Class 2)

Ash Health Class 4 – 25% - 0% Canopy (Vitality Class 3)

Figure 1: Photos of Dieback of ash trees



0% Dieback - Healthy Crown



25% Dieback



50% Dieback



75% Dieback

