JAMES BLAKE
ASSOCIATES

Arboricultural Method Statement

Phase 4A, 4B & 5B

Haverhill, Phases 2-6

On behalf of

Persimmon Homes Suffolk

4th February 2025

JBA 24/483 AR08

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Weed Eradication

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ASSOCIATES

Project	Haverhill, Phases 4A, 4B & 5B
Report	Arboricultural Method Statement Phase 4A, 4B & 5B
Date	4th February 2025
Author	Ian Clarke *TechArborA* – Senior Arboricultural Consultant
Checked by	James Blake *BA (Hons) Dip LA (Hons) CMLI*

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1 SUMMARY

1.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) has been commissioned by Persimmon Homes to ensure retained trees and vegetation are adequately protected during the enabling, demolition and construction activities of Haverhill Phase 4A, 4B & 5B.

1.2 This report has been prepared in accordance with British Standard 5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations (2012) and The National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees Volume 4 Issue 2 (2007). These documents provide best practice advice, assessment and guidance to ensure the protection of trees and significant vegetation on development sites.

1.3 In order to successfully work in close proximity to trees, the methods described within this document should only be carried out in conjunction with the direct appointment of a qualified arboricultural consultant. Failure to implement the approved tree protection measures and procedures could lead to enforcement action, the destabilisation and / or the death of the tree/s.

Definitions

1.4 Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) – a fenced off area based upon the root protection area that is prohibited for the duration of a project (unless subject to supervised works)

1.5 Root Protection Area (RPA) – a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree containing sufficient roots to maintain a trees viability.

1.6 Supervised works – demolition or construction works that require specific arboricultural advice and supervision to prevent damage from occurring.

1.7 Restricted Activity Zone - a designated area within the work site where specific activities associated with development are restricted or prohibited to prevent damage to the root systems of existing trees.

Scope

1.8 This method statement addresses the following:

- Tree removals and surgery works;
- Tree protection specifications and requirements;

- Supervision requirements;

2 LIMITATIONS

2.1 Trees are dynamic, living organisms whose health and condition can change quickly. Any changes to a tree, or to trees and the land surrounding it, may affect the tree's condition and/or stability. If any such changes occur further examination would be required and may affect the validity of this report.

2.2 The survey is not intended to be a detailed tree hazard assessment. Where significant faults that pose an immediate risk to persons or property are observed recommendations will be made; however, the lack of any management recommendations within the survey schedule does not infer that a detailed health and safety assessment has been made and it is recommended that a formal management and inspection plan is considered.

2.3 The site manager must be provided with a copy of this document, and a copy should be available onsite at all times. It is the responsibility of the site manager to pass on the information in this document to all construction staff and site contractors.

2.4

2.5 The validity of the report and tree data therein extends for a period of 2 years from the date of issue, unless there are notable alterations to the vegetation present at the site, in which case, the report will no longer be considered current or reliable.

3 GENERAL TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

3.1 Site offices and staff welfare facilities must be located outside the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) unless agreed with the local authority's arboricultural officer.

3.2 No materials or fuel are to be stored close to or within the RPAs of retained trees or where new trees are to be established.

3.3 Potential contaminants such as fuel, oils and chemicals must be stored on an impervious base within a bund able to contain at least 110% of the volume stored. Provision must also be made for any spillage or run off to be contained away from the protected area.

3.4 Fires should be avoided on site. However, if permitted by the site manager, fires must not be lit in a position where heat or ash could affect foliage branches or root systems. Normally, 20m from the base of any retained tree would be sufficient.

3.5 No cement shall be mixed or stored within the of retained trees or where new trees are to be established, over a suitable hard surface to prevent soil contamination from spillage or washing out.

3.6 No alterations in soil levels other than those already agreed, will occur within the (CEZ) without prior agreement from the appointed arboricultural consultant.

3.7 No materials, vehicles, plant or personnel will be permitted into the CEZ at any time without prior consent from the arboricultural consultant.

3.8 Surface water run off must not be redirected into or out of the RPA retained tree.

3.9 Any liquid materials spilled on site will be immediately cleared up and removed from the site. If liquid fuel or cement products are spilled within 2m of the tree protection zone, the contractor will report the incident to the arboricultural consultant immediately.

3.10 The contractor shall report any damage to trees or shrubs, whether caused by construction activities or from any other cause to the arboricultural consultant immediately.

3.11 If there are any doubts about general tree protection measures please consult the arboricultural consultant at the earliest possible opportunity.

4 TREE WORKS

4.1 A list of all approved and required tree removals and surgery works can be found below and in the Tree Work schedule in **Appendix 1**; and removals are shown on the tree removal plan reference JBA 24 483 TPP TRP 01 in **Appendix 2**.

4.2 All tree surgery works necessary for the development will be carried out prior to the commencement of site operations unless otherwise agreed.

4.3 Only tree works specified within this document or that have consent from the Local Planning Authority will be carried out. Any uncertainty regarding tree surgery or removal works will require confirmation from the appointed arboricultural consultant and local authority tree officer.

4.4 All tree works will be carried out in accordance with the recommendations made within the current BS3998 (2010).

4.5 It is recommended that tree work contractors are accredited with the Arboricultural Association Approved Contractor Scheme. Arboricultural Association - ARB Approved Contractor Directory (trees.org.uk) and provide evidence that they are competent to carry out the required works and are adequately insured. The contractor should also provide a site-specific risk assessment prior to the commencement of any tree works.

4.6 It will be necessary to undertake the tree work specified in **Table 1** below:

Table 1

Tree Number	Species	Work Requirements	Reason(s) for works
G19	Goat Willow	Fell to ground level (Section of the group)	To facilitate access to Site from Hales Barn Road as detailed in the plans
G25	Common Hawthorn Blackthorn	Fell to ground level (section of group)	To allow for development of the proposed access road. (Already completed)

Disposal, Utilisation and Retention of Arisings

4.7 Retaining arisings on or near the site can have conservation benefits and allows the gradual recycling of the mineral nutrients and carbon that they contain. Before any work on a tree commences, it should be agreed what is to happen to the arisings (e.g. retained or removed from site). Any arisings remaining on the site should be stored safely in locations agreed with the client.

- The following should be taken into account when deciding what is eventually to be done with the arisings:
- site usage: access, space and safety;
- scope for utilization (e.g. use of woodchip for fuel);
- wildlife and habitat (e.g. woodpiles) particularly where veteran trees are present;

4.8 Wherever wood stacks are created, they are attractive to deadwood-inhabiting insects. Where these are likely to include endangered species and where the material is to be used as firewood, it needs to be located away from sources of potential colonization.

Arisings may be retained intact, utilized (e.g. by chipping) or stored for composting and/or mulching, or converted into a useable product, preferably on site. If practicable, arisings, particularly large-diameter timber, should be retained intact in order to avoid destroying potential wildlife habitats.

4.9 Arisings should not be disposed of by burning on unless:

- other options are impracticable; or
- the material is affected or likely to become affected by a disease or pest for which sanitation is a necessary form of control.

Wildlife and Habitat Legislation

4.10 All tree work will be carried out in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Habitat Regulations 2010.

4.11 These regulations make it an offence to;

- intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture protected species;
- deliberately disturb protected species;
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to a structure used for shelter or protection by a protected species;
- take, damage, disturb or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- take or destroy the egg of any wild bird; or
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts whether or not bats are using roosts at the time.

4.12 Prior to the commencement of works the tree surgery contractor has a legal duty to ensure no protected species or habitats are present. If any species or habitats are discovered then works will cease and a suitably qualified ecologist will be employed to carry out more detailed surveys and to provide advice.

4.13 All tree work will be carried out in accordance with:

- Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, ('The Habitats Regulations'). The Habitats Regulations implement The Habitats Directive 1992 (92/43/EEC) into English Law. (Amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012 S.I. 2012/1927);
- Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) (WCA). (Amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000);
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006 (NERC);
- The Hedgerows Regulations, 2007; and
- National Planning Policy Framework, 2024 (NPPF).

4.14 These regulations make it an offence to:

- intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture protected species;
- deliberately disturb protected species;

- damage, destroy or obstruct access to a structure used for shelter or protection by a protected species;
- take, damage, disturb or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- take or destroy the egg of any wild bird; or
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts whether or not bats are using roosts at the time.

4.15 Regarding wild birds, while actively nesting are afforded legal protection under the WCA, under combined legislation all birds, their nest and eggs and is an offence, with certain exceptions, to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;
- Intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird;
- Have in one's possession or control any wild bird (dead or alive), part of a wild bird or egg of a wild bird;
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building or is in, on or near a nest with eggs or young; or disturb the dependent young of such a bird; and
- Have in one's possession or control any birds of a species listed on Schedule 4 of the Act unless registered in accordance with the Secretary of State's regulations.
- Special protection is also afforded to birds listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA which makes it an offence to disturb these species at nest or the dependent young.

4.16 Regarding bats, all species of bat are afforded full legal protection under Schedule 5 of the WCA. They are also listed under Schedule 2 of the Habitats Regulations. Some species of bat are also listed in Section 41 of NERC Act as an SPI.

4.17 Combined legislation makes it an offence: to deliberately kill, injure, capture/take a wild bat; intentionally or recklessly disturb bats, including whilst occupying a place of shelter or protection; to damage or destroy a place used by a bat for breeding or resting (does not need to be deliberate, reckless or intentional); and to intentionally or

recklessly obstruct access to any place used by a bat for shelter or protection. Bats are classed as 'European Protected Species' (EPS) and mitigation will typically be undertaken under the auspices of an EPS licence from Natural England.

4.18 If a NERC Priority Habitat is to be impacted, further assessments may be required.

4.19 Prior to the commencement of works the tree surgery contractor has a legal duty to ensure no protected species or habitats are present. If any species or habitats are discovered, then works will cease and a suitably qualified ecologist will be employed to carry out more detailed surveys and to provide advice. Examples of protected species include badgers and their setts, reptiles, amphibians, hazel dormouse, birds and bats.

5 TREE PROTECTION

Protective Fencing Specification

5.1 Protective fencing will be installed prior to any enabling works, demolition or construction activity commencing.

5.2 The position of protective fencing is shown on drawings JBA 24 483 TPP TRP 01 in **Appendix 2.**

5.3 Protective fencing will be constructed of weld mesh panels securely fixed to a static framework to exclude construction traffic, as shown in **Appendix 3**.

5.4 Alternative specifications to those shown must be agreed prior to installation by the local authority and arboricultural consultant.

5.5 All weather signage will be securely fixed to panels at regular intervals stating the purpose of the fencing and contact details of the arboricultural consultant. A suggested sign can be found in **Appendix 4** and may be copied for use on site.

5.6 Upon completion of tree protection, the site manager will invite the arboricultural consultant to inspect and sign off the specification and position of all tree protection.

5.7 Once installed, protective fencing will remain in position for the duration of the project or until it requires removal to a specified alternative position to allow for works.

6 SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS

6.1 The arboricultural consultant will be available for ongoing advice and design input to ensure works close to trees is avoided or correctly specified.

6.2 Any works that could impact upon retained trees will be supervised and monitored by the arboricultural consultant. It is suggested that, as a minimum, supervision visits will occur as follows:

- Pre-commencement site meeting with the site manager, the supervising arboriculturist, and an LPA representative to discuss tree protection and demolition and construction programme phasing and site compound location;
- If an LPA representative cannot attend, the supervising arboriculturist will inform the LPA in writing of the details of the meeting.
- Meeting with tree contractor to specify and agree on works and disposal and / or utilisation of arisings; and
- Inspection of protective fencing prior to the demolition and construction phases

7 LANDSCAPE WORKS

7.1 Prior to works commencing the appointed arboriculturist will meet with the landscape contractor to discuss and agree the appropriate methodology to be used.

7.2 The Landscape contractor will provide a detailed method statement for the arboriculturist's approval before works start. This method statement will detail the following:

- Tree Protection;
- Cultivation within RPAs;
- Planting methodology;
- Soil levels;
- Machinery and tools;
- Delivery of materials;
- Ground protection requirements; and
- Hard landscape implementation

Principles of Landscape Works Beneath Trees

7.3 Landscape works beneath retained trees will be carried out by hand wherever possible and will not involve the use of heavy machinery.

7.4 Soil levels will not be altered without prior approval from the appointed arboriculturist or planning authority.

7.5 Cultivation of areas beneath trees will be carried out manually only preparing the top 100mm of soil.

7.6 Where larger planting pits and greater depths are required these will be individually excavated retaining all roots greater than 25mm in diameter. Any retained roots will be wrapped in damp hessian until the pit is back filled.

8 REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- NHBC Standards (2007). Chapter 4.2 Building near trees. National House-Building Council

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- Patch, D. & Holding, B. (2007). APN12: Through the trees to development. Arboricultural Advisory and Information Service, Farnham, UK

APPENDIX 1: TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

Tree Survey Schedule - Key

Life Stage	Description
NP	Newly planted
Y (Young)	An establishing tree that could be easily transplanted.
SM (Semi Mature)	An established tree still to reach its ultimate height and spread and with considerable growth potential.
EM (Early Mature)	A tree reaching its ultimate height and whose growth is slowing however it will still increase considerably in stem diameter and crown spread.
M (Mature)	A tree with limited potential for further significant increase in size although likely to have a considerable safe useful life expectancy.
OM (Over Mature)	A senescent or moribund tree with a limited useful life expectancy.
V (Veteran)	A tree older than typical for the species and of great ecological, cultural or aesthetic value.

Abbreviations	Description
Stem Ø (mm) at 1.5m	Diameter of stem in millimetres at 1.5m above ground level for single-stemmed trees or in accordance with Annex C of BS 5837 for multi-stemmed trees or trees with low forks or irregular stems.
Stems	Numbers of stems or M/S = Multi-Stemmed.
Height of (FSB)	Height of First Significant Branch above ground level.
Crown Spread **NSEW**	Crown spread at the four points, North, South, East and West.
Condition	Condition of the tree observed at the time of surveying G = Good; F = Fair; P = Poor; D = dead

Abbreviations	Description
Est Remaining Contribution (Years)	Estimated Remaining Contribution in Years (<10, 10+, 20+, 40+)

BS Category	Description
A	High quality and value (non-fiscal) with at least 40 years remaining life expectancy.
B	Moderate quality and value with at least 20 years remaining life expectancy.
C	Low quality and value with at least 10 years remaining life expectancy, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm.
U	Unsuitable for retention. The existing condition is such that the tree/ trees cannot be realistically retained as in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years. Note, category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.
Radii Single Stem (m)	Root Protection Radius in metres based on stem diameter.
RPA	Root Protection Area. A layout design tool indicating the minimum area surrounding the tree that contains sufficient rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority. Assessed according to the recommendations set out in clause 4.6 of BS 5837. It is calculated by multiplying the radius squared by 3.142. Clause 4.6.2 of BS 5837 states that the RPA may be changed in shape, taking into account local site factors, species tolerance, condition and root morphology.

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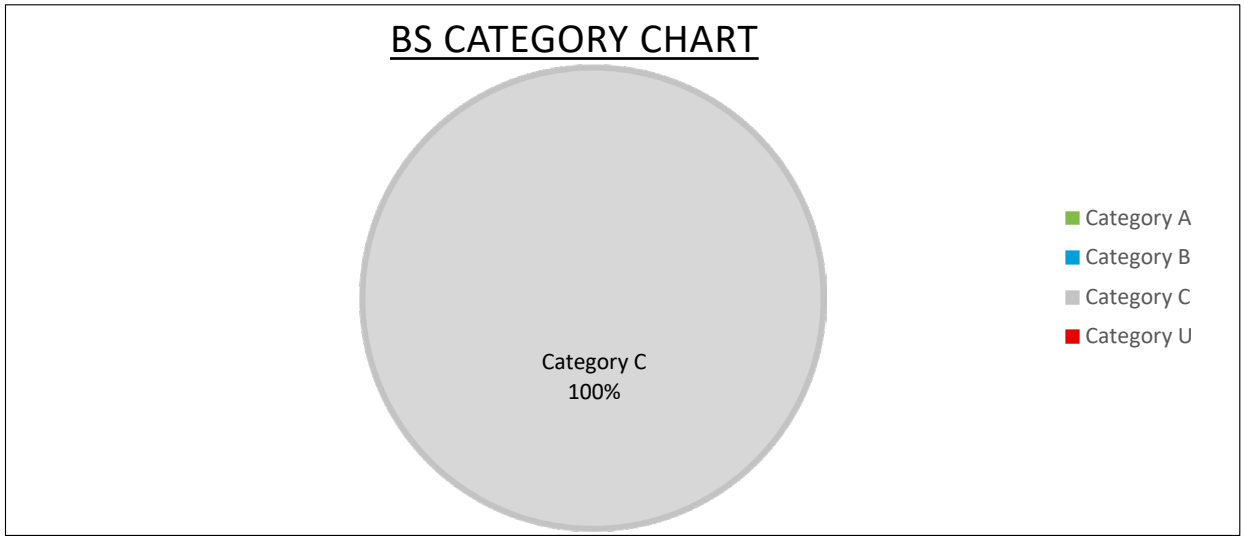
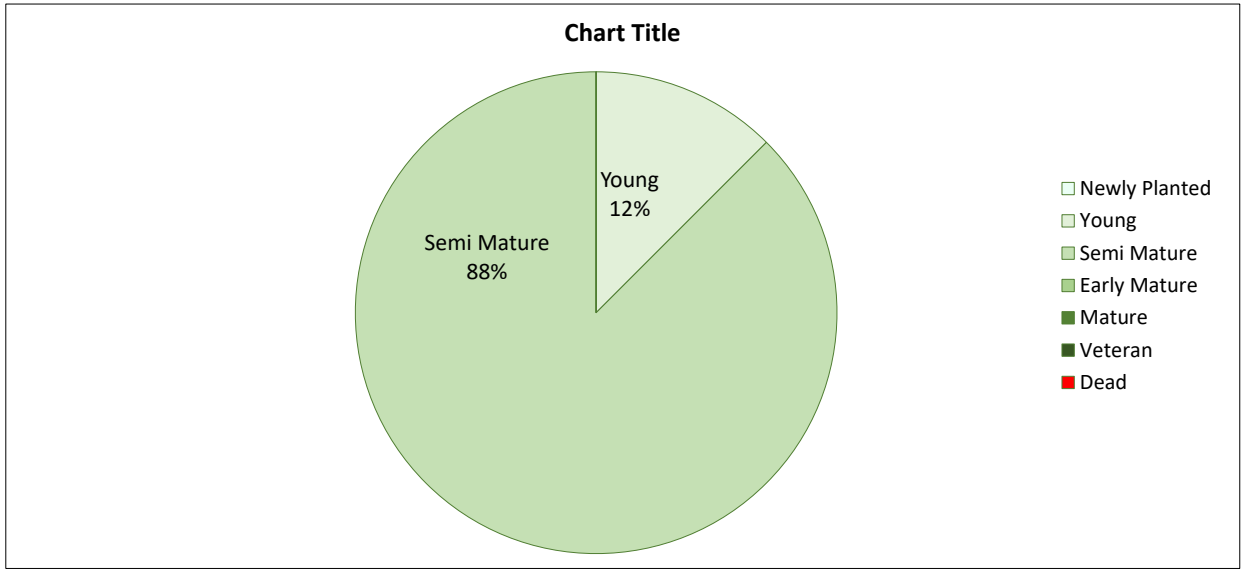
BS Category	Total
Category A	0
Category B	0
Category C	8
Category U	0



Age Class	Total
Newly Planted	0
Young	1
Semi Mature	7
Early Mature	0
Mature	0
Veteran	0
Dead	0



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Tree Survey Schedule

Site name: Haverhill Phases 4a, 4b, 5b
Client: Persimmon Homes Suffolk
Job Number: 24/483

Survey Date: 23/01/2025
Surveyor: Ian Clarke

Tree No.	Tree Species	Life Stage	Stem Ø (mm) at 1.5m	Height (m)	Height of (FSB)	Crown Spread				Condition	Comments	Tree Management Reccommendations	Est Remaining Contribution (Years)	BS Cat	Radii Single Stem (m)	RPA (m)
						N	E	S	W							
G18	Field Maple (Acer campestre). Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna).	Y	75	4	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Good	Stem diameter estimated. Linear group. Appears to have been planted to screen adjacent development.	Protect with Heras fencing	10+	C2	0.9	3

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Tree No.	Tree Species	Life Stage	Stem Ø (mm) at 1.5m	Height (m)	Height of (FSB)	Crown Spread				Condition	Comments	Tree Management Reccommendations	Est Remaining Contribution (Years)	BS Cat	Radii Single Stem (m)	RPA (m)
						N	E	S	W							
G19	Goat Willow (Salix caprea).	SM	260	8	0.5	2	3	2	2	Good	Stem diameter estimated. Self-set.	Remove to ground level section of the group as shown on the plans	10+	C2	3.1	31
G20	Goat Willow (Salix caprea).	SM	200	6	0.5	2	2.5	2	2.5	Good	Stem diameter estimated. Self-set.	Protect with Heras fencing	10+	C2	2.4	18
G21	Silver Birch (Betula pendula). Common Hazel (Corylus avellana). Scots Pine (Pinus sylvestris).	SM	150	8	2	2	2	2	2	Good	Stem diameter estimated. Buffer between site and surrounding area.	Protect with Heras fencing	10+	C2	1.8	10
G22	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa).	SM	50	3.5	0	2	2	2	2	Good	Unable to fully inspect - vegetation. Stem diameter estimated. Suckers extending group.	Protect with Heras fencing	10+	C2	0.6	1
G23	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa).	SM	50	3.5	0	1	1	1	1	Good	Unable to fully inspect - vegetation. Stem diameter estimated. Suckers extending group.	Protect with Heras fencing	10+	C2	0.6	1
G24	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa).	SM	50	4	0	2	2	2	2	Good	Unable to fully inspect - vegetation. Stem diameter estimated. Suckers extending group.	Protect with Heras fencing	10+	C2	0.6	1
G25	Common Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna). Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa).	SM	50	4	0	2	2	2	2	Good	Unable to fully inspect - vegetation. Stem diameter estimated. Suckers extending group.	Remove to ground level section of the group as shown on the plans	10+	C2	0.6	1

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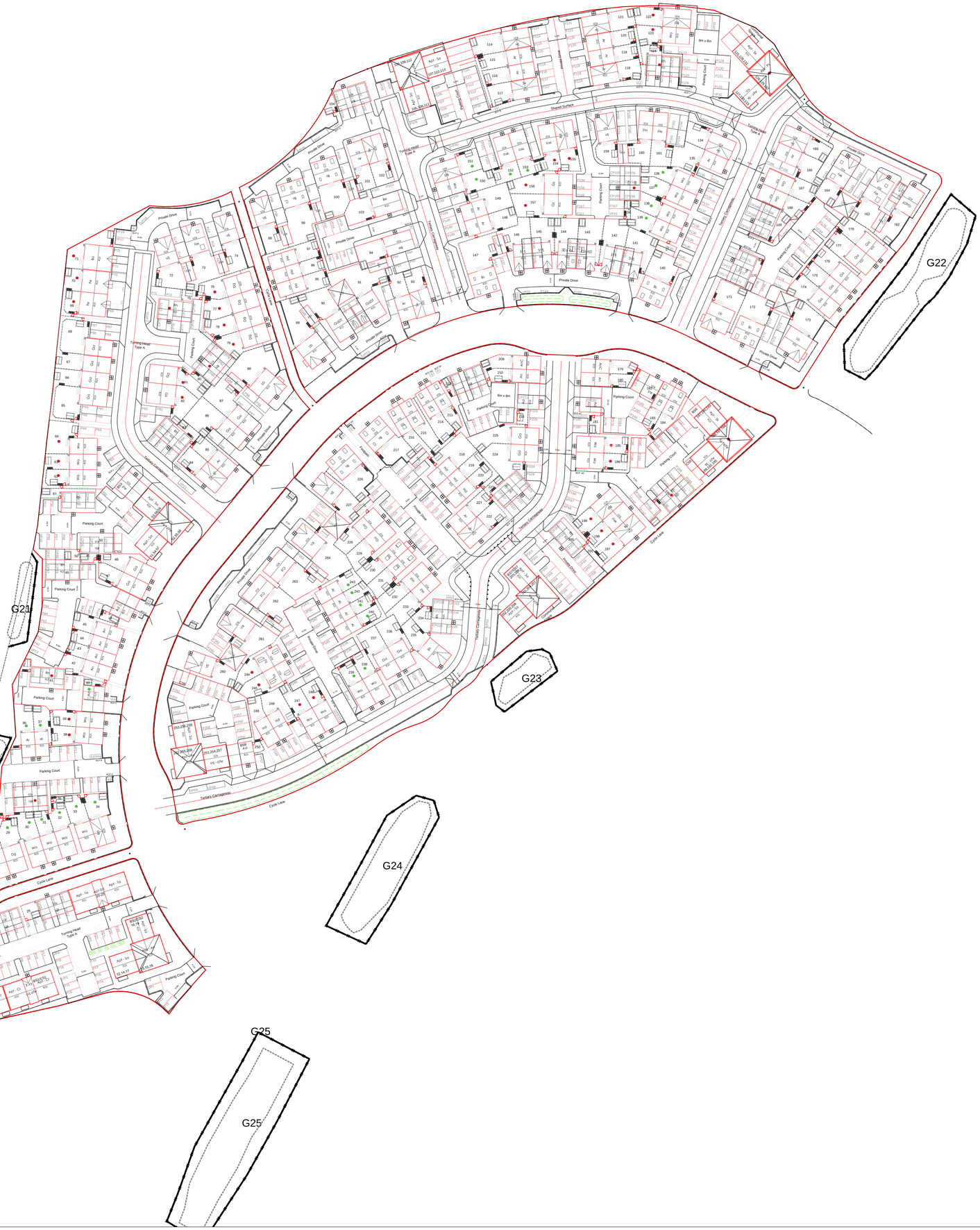
APPENDIX 2: JBA DRAWINGS



KEY

T1 G1 — Existing Tree or Group colour referenced in accordance with BS 5837:2012 as shown below

H1 G1 — Existing hedge or group. colour coded as above in accordence with BS 5837:2012.

H1 G1 — Grey - Cat C Groups/hedges of low quality and value.

Approximate line of protective fencing to be erected in accordance with BS 5837 and insert, to be maintained throughout demolition and construction works.

H1 G1 — Existing hedge or group. Colour coded as above in accordence with BS 5837 to be removed.

GENERAL NOTES

- ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES
- DO NOT SCALE OFF THIS DRAWING
- ALL DIMENSIONS TO BE CHECKED ON SITE

REV	DATE	DETAILS	DETAILS

CLIENT: Persimmon Homes

DWG. TITLE: Tree Protection Plan

SITE: Haverhill Phases 4a, 4b & 5b

PURPOSE OF ISSUE: Planning

ORG BY	CHECKED	AUTHD	SCALE	DATE	DWG NO.	REV.
JC	JBA	JBA	1:500@A3	Feb 2025	JA481 TPP TBP 01	-

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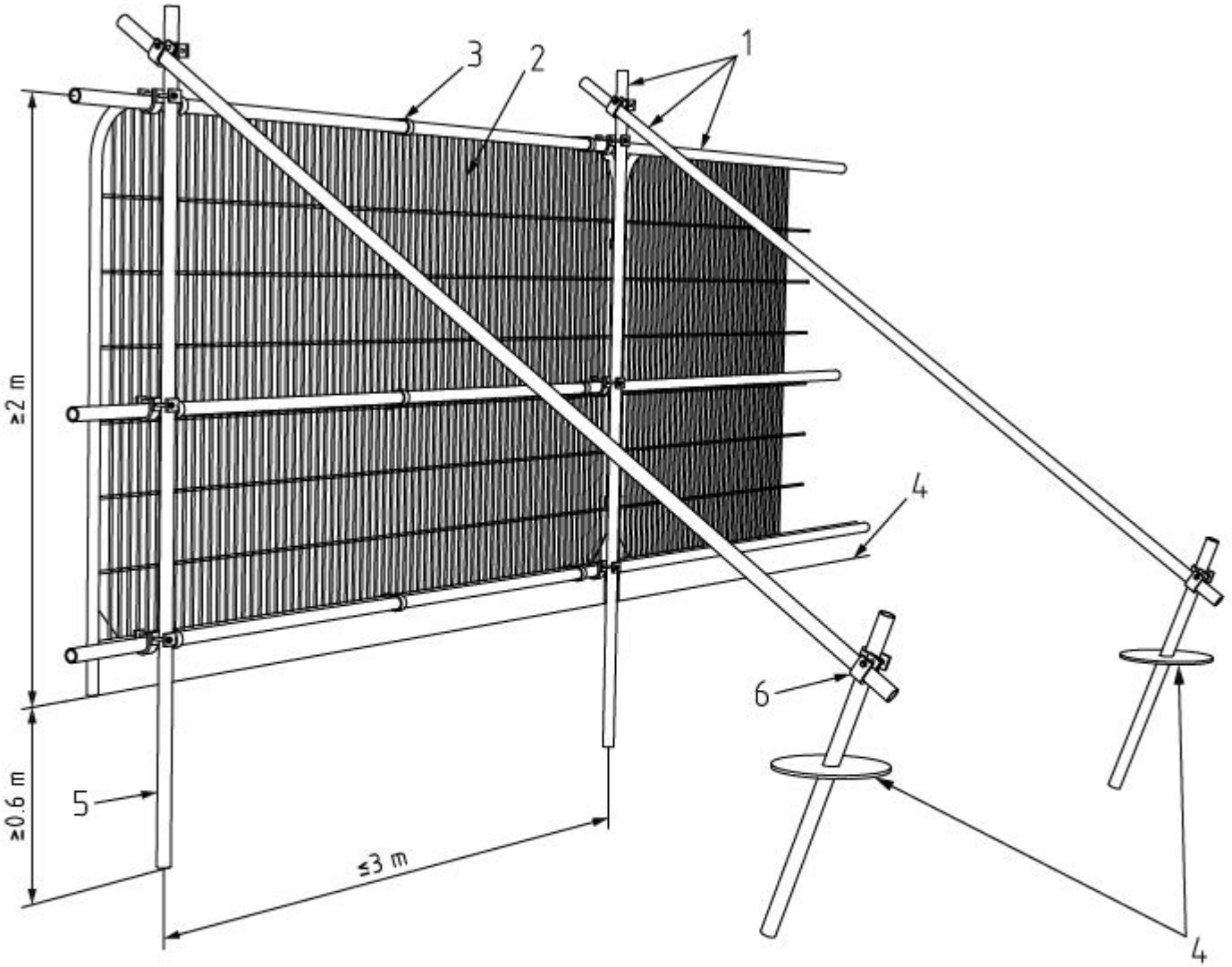
APPENDIX 3: PROTECTIVE FENCING SPECIFICATION

Figure 2 **Default specification for protective barrier**



Key

1 Standard scaffold poles

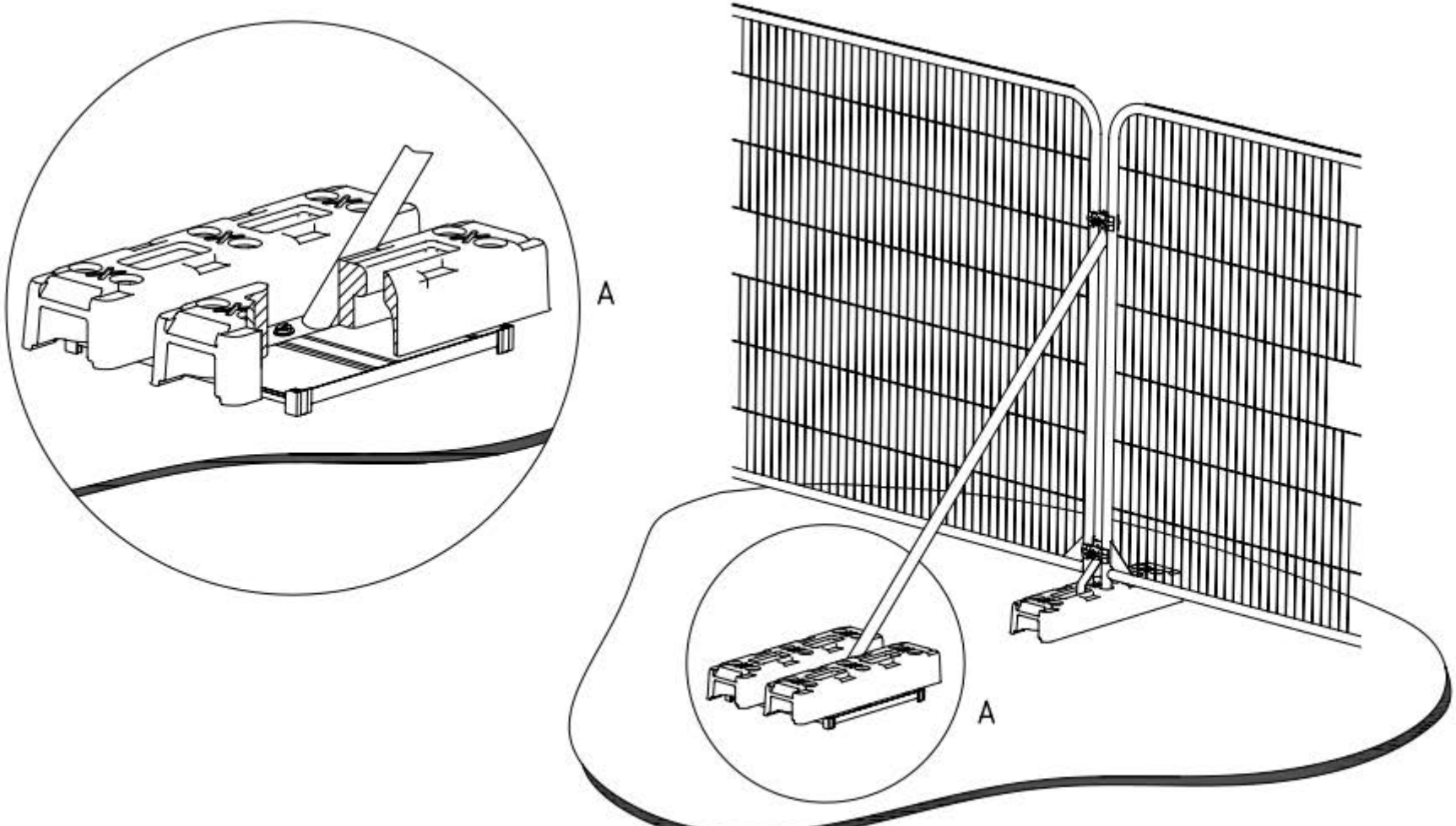
2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels

3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties

4 Ground level

5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)

6 Standard scaffold clamps



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

APPENDIX 4: PROTECTIVE FENCING SIGNAGE

TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT!

NO WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THIS AREA WITHOUT PRIOR AGREEMENT OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR APPOINTED ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANT

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