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**Arboricultural Method Statement**

**Taylor's Lane**

**Rathfarnham**

**Dublin**

**Client:**

**Luxcare Ltd**

**Document Number AM11.21.003**

**Also see:**

**Tree Survey Plan 11.21.003**

**Tree Constraints and Protection Plan 11.21.004**

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## 1.0 Statement of Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this method statement is to demonstrate how works will be undertaken at Lands being developed at **Taylors Lane, Rathfarnham, Dublin** in order 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 **Luxcare Ltd** in order to inform the construction team and satisfy the requirements of the Local Planning Authority (LPA). 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

### Most Relevant and Quoted British Standards:

- BS3998:2010** British Standard for Tree Work – Recommendations
- BS5837:2012** British Standard for Trees in Relation to design, demolition and construction - recommendations

### Plans and Documents for the proposed Development

Tree Survey	Plan No.	<b>11.21.003</b>
	Document No.	<b>TS11.21.003</b>

Tree Constraints & Protection Plan	Plan No.	<b>11.21.004</b>
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Arboricultural Impact Assessment	November 2021
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### 3.0 Arboricultural Implications & Issues

- 3.1 Detail of the trees and their protection are detailed in the documents and shown on drawings listed above and should be read in conjunction with this method statement.
- 3.2 Category C or U trees (BS5837:2012) will be removed as detailed in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- 3.3 The trees that could not be accessed due to site conditions and overgrown scrub should be assessed when the area is cleared and retained if suitable – particularly the *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* at the top of the bank T1 – T7. *Fraxinus excelsior* species recommended for retention (0596 & 0598) should be re-assessed for *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* or ash dieback if they are to be retained in the context of the proposed development with a full inspection of the trees in summer months and again for signs of fungus and associated fungus *Armillaria mellea* in autumn months.
- 3.4 Supervision will occur with monthly or regular visits by the site appointed Arborist
- 3.6 Any construction works within the RPA of the trees on the eastern Boundary is to be carried out under supervision of the site Arborist.

### 4.0 Tree Works to Facilitate Development Works

- 4.1 The removal of 3 no. trees (tag 0599 / T9 / T10) is recommended or necessary to facilitate the proposed development. These are moderate or low value trees and can be compensated for in the new landscape scheme.
- 4.2 Any tree work deemed necessary by the site appointed arborist shall be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010:Tree Work Recommendations.

### 5.0 General Site Care

- 5.1 No access is permitted behind the Tree Protection fence line as indicated and detailed in section 7.0 of this document, including:
- plant machinery
  - items being stored
  - any personnel without the supervision of the site arborist

### 6.0 Sequencing of Works

- 6.1 A logical sequence of events could be observed as follows:

Stage 1 Clear excess vegetation and debris around the base of trees to be retained or further assessed for retention.

Stage 2 Assess the trees as necessary for disease, condition and possible retention in the case of the *lawsoniana*.

Stage 3 Erect Tree Protection Fencing

**Stage 4** Maintain Tree Protection fence for duration of remainder of works in this area with regular visits by the site arborist to ensure the trees and hedgerow are in good health and fencing is intact.

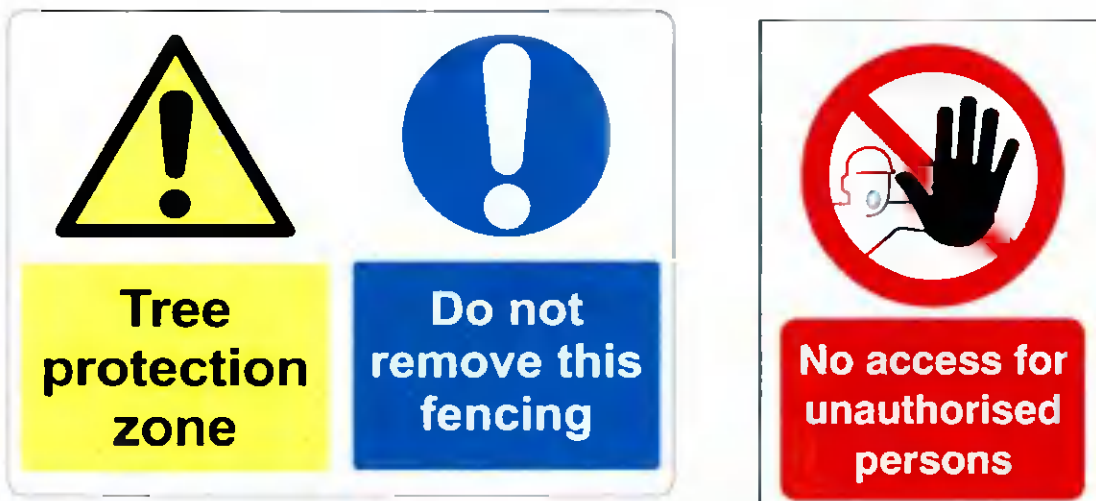
#### **7.0 Protective Barriers and Ground Protection**

**7.1** As set out in BS5837:2012 the RPA has been calculated by creating a circumference around the main stem of the tree 12 x the DBH (Diameter at Breast Height).

**7.2** In order to protect this area the line of the proposed Tree Protection Fence will be kept outside the calculated RPA.

**7.3** Where the tree is standing as an individual the Tree Protection Fence will be erected continuously around the tree. Where the trees are in a line, group or hedgerow the fence will be continuous where possible and return at the ends so as to prevent access to the RPA or Trees by any construction work or storage.

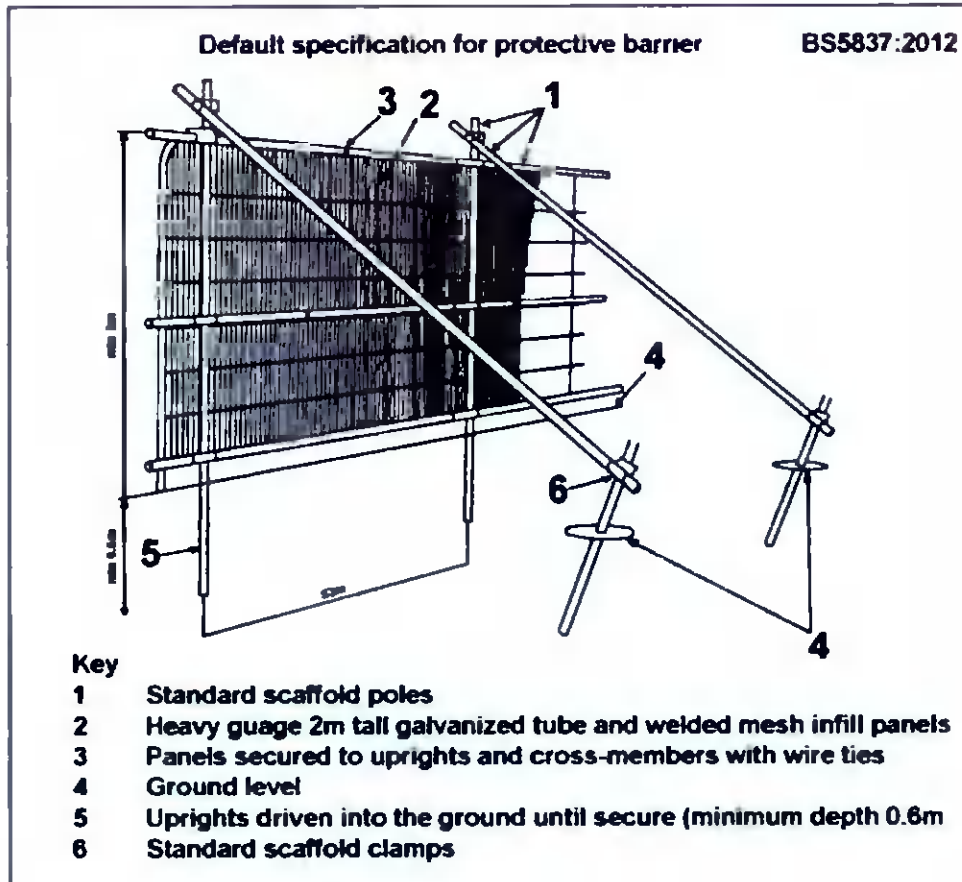
**7.4** Suitable Signage is to be erected at regular intervals on the Tree Protection Fencing to clearly annotate its purpose. Examples below



**7.5** Any access to the RPA or inside the Tree Protection Fence is to be gained under the supervision of the site-specific Arborist and a minimum of 5 days' notice must be given to allow time to arrange site presence.

**7.6** Under no circumstances should the fencing be removed, opened or dismantled during construction works. Damaged fencing to be repaired within 2 hours. Fencing will be inspected upon monthly inspections by the Site Appointed Arborist.

## 7.7 Tree Protection Fencing Detail from BS5837:2012



## 8.0 Creation of Hard Surfaces within Root Protection Areas

8.1 A suitable solution to the construction of hard surfaces within the RPA / CEZ will be worked out and agreed between the project engineer and the appointed Arborist if necessary

## 9.0 Excavations Close to Root Protection Areas

9.1 In general excavations will not occur in the RPA, however if excavation works do need to take place they will be planned with direct consultation of the Site Arborist and any works will be supervised if necessary.

9.2 Excavation works may have to be carried out by hand or small machinery in order to maintain adequate protection of the tree the RPA relates to.

## 10.0 Reinstatement or New Landscape Works

10.1 Any landscaping works, either reinstatement or new, to be carried out in the RPA of the trees will be done by hand where realistically possible.

10.2 Care will be taken that the soil levels are not greatly raised in the RPA

**11.0 Planning, Communication and Supervision**

- 11.1 A pre-commencement meeting will take place on site attended by the appointed Site Arborist, the tree contractor, the site manager and if available the local authority arboricultural officer. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that everyone fully understands the implications of the arboricultural method statement and to agree on finer points of detail prior to any works commencing.
- 11.2 The appointed arboricultural consultant shall monitor the works at the following key stages:
- Confirm tree pruning
  - Confirmation that protective measures are in place
  - Confirm route of services
  - Monthly / regular site visits
- 11.3 It shall be the duty of the client to notify the Site Arborist when the works are ready for inspection.
- 11.4 At the completion of each monitoring visit the appointed arboricultural consultant will circulate a short monitoring report to the client, site and the local authority arboricultural officer to confirm that works are progressing satisfactorily.
- 11.5 Monitoring visits will be undertaken by the arboricultural consultant at intervals commensurate with site progress, and as notified by the client, to make sure that all tree protection measures are in place. A record of these visits will be kept and maintained for inspection on site. These site visits may be carried out at intervals requested by the Local Planning Authority.
- 11.6 Should any problems arise on site; the site manager will immediately inform the appointed Site Arborist who will assess the situation and make recommendations accordingly. If any modifications to the method statement are proposed, the arboricultural consultant will immediately advise the local authority arboricultural officer.
- 11.7 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.
- 11.8 The progress reports detailed in Section 11.3 will be kept with the method statement so that both are readily available for inspection.



**12.0 Transgression**

- 12.1 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.
- 12.2 Failure to adhere to the requirements of this method statement that results in damage to a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order may result in prosecution of the individual, the contractor and the client.
- 12.3 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 shall be appointed by the contractor to undertake the work.
- 12.4 All items of transgression shall be reported to the Local Authority tree officer to consider if action should be taken.

**13.0 Conclusion**

- 13.1 If measures recommended in this Method Statement along with the recommended works and procedures outlined in the supporting documents and plans are followed, the proposed development works should be able to be carried out without any detrimental effects to the trees retained.

