



Gatwick Airport Northern Runway Project

Environmental Statement

Appendix 5.3.2: Code of Construction Practice Annex 6 – Outline Arboricultural Method Statement

Part 1

Book 5

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Outline Arboricultural Method Statement forms Annex 6 of Appendix 5.3.2: Code of Construction Practice of the Environmental Statement (ES). It provides details of arboricultural protection and mitigation measures for the Project in accordance with the BS5837:2012 standard.

The main purpose of this statement is to provide the necessary measures to protect any retained trees during the construction works. The statement also specifies best working practices and methodologies to ensure responsible construction procedures for the protection and preservation of trees.

Preliminary plans for removing and protecting retained trees can be found in Appendices A and B. These plans identify which trees are likely to be retained or removed based on current designs, their approximate locations, and protection fence lines. The drawings also identify the Root Protection Areas (RPA) for the retained trees, which inform protective measures during development.

The arboricultural measures within this statement and its appendices will be revisited during the detailed design phase, ensuring that any tree loss is necessary and that arboricultural considerations are seamlessly integrated into the overall project plans and reflect the latest on-site conditions.

Detailed Arboricultural Method Statements (including detailed Tree Removal and Protection Plans) will be prepared in general accordance with this Outline Arboricultural Method Statement, for approval by the relevant planning authority prior to the relevant construction works commencing. The Detailed AMSs will be prepared for all parts of the Project that coincide with existing trees or elements of the Project that lie immediately adjacent to trees.

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document forms Annex 6 of the Appendix 5.3.2: Code of Construction Practice of the Environmental Statement (ES) prepared on behalf of Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL) for the proposal to make best use of Gatwick Airport's existing runways and infrastructure (referred to within this report as 'the Project').
- 1.1.2 This statement has been informed by a Tree Survey of the application area which was carried out by RPS in October 2023 through to January 2024 in accordance with the requirements of BS5837:2012. The Tree Survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment is contained in ES Appendix 8.10.1 (Doc Ref 5.2) containing the tree schedules and accompanying plans.
- 1.1.3 This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.'¹

1.2 Scope of Report

- 1.2.1 This report follows on from the Tree Survey and Arboricultural Impact Report that forms Appendix 8.10.1 of the Environmental Statement (ES).
- 1.2.2 This report provides the following information:
- Arboricultural information and measures to ensure the protection of retained trees throughout the construction of the Project.
 - Preliminary Tree Removal and Protection Plans to illustrate the proposed protection measures to be taken in respect of the trees during construction of the Project.
- 1.2.3 The Tree Removal and Protection Plans in Appendices A and B identify the following, based on current designs:
- Trees to be retained
 - Trees to be removed
 - Indicative alignment and design of protection fencing
 - Root Protection Area (RPA) of trees

1.3 Report Implementation

- 1.3.1 Detailed Arboricultural Method Statements (including detailed Tree Removal and Protection Plans) will be prepared in general accordance with this Outline Arboricultural Method Statement, for approval by the relevant planning authority prior to the relevant construction works commencing. These AMSs will be prepared for all parts of the Project that coincide with existing trees or elements of the Project that lie immediately adjacent to trees.
- 1.3.2 The arboricultural measures within this statement and the Preliminary Tree Removal and Protection Plans will be revisited during the detailed design phase ensuring that arboricultural considerations are seamlessly integrated into the overall Project plans and reflect the latest on-site conditions.
- 1.3.3 The Detailed Tree Removal and Protection Plans shall be made available to all relevant site operatives prior to and throughout the construction process, so they understand the scope and importance of the tree protection measures.
- 1.3.4 To minimise the potential for harm to occur to retained trees all works shall be carried out in general accordance with the Tree Protection Measures and construction techniques detailed within this Outline AMS and which Detailed AMSs must be in general accordance with.
- 1.3.5 In particular, the establishment of a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) by erection of Tree Protection Fencing will be required to minimise the potential for harm to occur to retained trees.

2 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The Project is located at London Gatwick Airport (LGW), Horley, Gatwick RH6 0NP. The tree survey comprised of several areas in and around the airport grounds that correspond to the expected extent of the project.

- 2.1.2 The Local Planning Authorities (LPA) governing this site are Crawley Borough Council, Horsham District Council, Mole Valley District Council, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Tandridge District Council.
- 2.1.3 The soilscape of the area in which the survey site is situated typically consists of 'Slowly Permeable Seasonally Wet Slightly Acid but Base-Rich Loamy and Clayey Soils' with areas of 'Loamy And Clayey Floodplain Soils With Naturally High Groundwater' and 'Loamy Soils With Naturally High Groundwater'².
- 2.1.4 The land is roughly centred on OS grid reference TQ27144084.

2.2 Survey findings

- 2.2.1 The site was surveyed in two sections;
- M23 and A23 airport approach roads and adjoining areas.
 - Airport and surrounding area.
- 2.2.2 Across the two sections, a total of 748 individual trees were surveyed, along with 359 groups, woodlands, hedges and scrub areas.
- 2.2.3 Please refer to the Tree Survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment contained in ES Appendix 8.10.1 (Doc Ref 5.2) for full survey findings.

3 Arboricultural Working Practices

- 3.1.1 The measures set out in the section are general arboricultural working procedures and measures that will be reviewed and confirmed through the Detailed AMSs.

3.2 General Methodology for Working Near Trees

- 3.2.1 All new (and existing re-routed) services shall be routed outside the existing or potential RPA of retained trees. Where it is unavoidable, then hand excavation shall be employed to avoid damage to the larger roots and the services slid through or below the root system. Ducting shall be used to carry cables. Reference shall be made to the recommendations included within Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and

¹ British Standards Institute. British Standard (BS5837) Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations. 2012.

² <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>

Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees (NJUG 4)³.

- 3.2.2 Where possible, the RPA should become an exclusion zone during construction works and for any development. It should be fenced-off and protected in accordance with BS5837:2012. Details of Tree Protection Fencing and ground protection are given in Section 4.2 of this document.
- 3.2.3 No activities that result in excavations, changes in level or soil compaction within the RPA of any retained trees, especially older mature trees. This includes the storage of materials, any construction work, trafficking by vehicles or even excessive trafficking by pedestrians.
- 3.2.4 The location and siting of proposed new construction elements near trees should consider the potential impact on and conflict with both tree roots and canopy. This should take into account the ultimate size of existing young and middle-aged trees at maturity. Conversely the impact of the tree/s on end user activities should also be considered with regard to obstruction, shading, leaf fall and root action. These are problems that can be managed provided sufficient space is allowed for.

3.3 Tree Removal and Pruning Works

Standard of Work

- 3.3.1 The tree work required in order to facilitate the Project will adhere to the following standards.
- All tree works shall be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 and latest arboricultural best practice.
 - All tree work shall be carried out by suitably qualified, competent and insured arboricultural contractors in accordance with Arboricultural Association Standard Conditions of Contract and Specifications for Tree Works (2008) Edition and BS 3998:2010 Tree Work.
 - All green and woody waste generated by the tree works shall be removed from site and disposed of in a suitable environmentally sustainable manner e.g. biomass creation, compost facility, wood fuel and/or habitat creation.
- 3.3.2 When a branch is removed at its point of attachment, injury of the wood and bark of the parent stem or branch above the cut

shall be avoided. If a branch collar is visible, the final cut shall be just outside it and care shall be taken to avoid tearing retained wood and bark when the cut is made. Preliminary cuts shall be made, if necessary, so as to remove weight, before a final cut is made. Care shall be taken to prevent falling branches from harming other parts of the tree (including its roots), its surroundings, people or property. Heavy branches shall be removed in sections and, where necessary, shall be lowered with ropes.

- 3.3.3 Prior to the start of any tree works, an appropriate risk assessment shall be produced by the appointed contractor to describe the measures required to fulfil the statutory safety obligations. It shall aim to identify and prioritise the necessary control measures and precautions.

Timing of Works

- 3.3.4 Any tree works required shall be completed in accordance with the Detailed AMSs to be approved by the relevant planning authority.
- 3.3.5 All works shall be timed to have regard to the phenological cycles of protected species that are associated with trees; notably birds and bats.
- 3.3.6 Please refer to ES Appendix 5.3.2: Code of Construction Practice (Doc Ref. 5.3) for further details regarding the protection of birds during tree removal.

3.4 Below Ground Impact Mitigation

- 3.4.1 As part of the detailed design phase, any essential works that are identified within the RPA of a retained tree will require extra protection or mitigation methods.
- 3.4.2 Areas where such additional mitigation methods are required will be added to the Detailed Tree Removal and Protection Plans, based on the preliminary plans in Appendix A and B, and contained in the Detailed AMSs for the relevant planning authority's approval.
- 3.4.3 These mitigation methods may include the following:

Excavation within an RPA

- 3.4.4 Where excavation works within the RPA are unavoidable, works must be undertaken by hand and the soil levels should be carefully reduced to avoid damage to the bark of larger roots directly beneath and adjacent to the excavation. Where these become exposed, they should be further protected from drying out.
- 3.4.5 Where root pruning is unavoidable it should be made at a suitable place within the root system, avoiding damage to surrounding tissue in accordance with BS 3998:2010⁴. Final pruning cuts shall be made at right angles to the axis of the root and the final cut wound should be smooth and as small as possible, free from ragged torn ends.

Breaking Out Existing Hard Surface

- 3.4.6 Removal of any hard surface, within the RPA of a retained trees, shall be carried out by low impact handheld pneumatic tools. Working from the undisturbed surface, the removal of this surface shall occur in strips, working in a retreating manner away from the retained trees. Subsequent removal of arisings / debris shall also be carried out by hand.
- 3.4.7 Where possible, the use of machines with a long reach should be favoured, if they can work from outside of the RPA's or from within the RPA's when supported by suitable ground protection.
- 3.4.8 Where this is not possible, hardstanding shall be manually broken up and removed from the RPA using appropriate hand tools e.g. pneumatic breaker, crowbar, sledgehammer, pick, mattock, shovel, spade, trowel and wheelbarrow. This work should also be carried out under an Arboricultural Watching Brief, to ensure any encountered roots are dealt with appropriately.

Resurfacing of Existing Hard Surface

- 3.4.9 Where this is proposed within an RPA, the new hard surface will be constructed using "No-dig" design principles, in accordance with AA Guidance Note 12 Cellular Confinement Systems Near Trees, with construction utilising existing levels, reusing sub-base and wearing courses within new construction.

³ <http://streetworks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/V4-Trees-Issue-2-16-11-2007.pdf>

⁴ British Standards Institute. British Standard (BS3998) Trees Work - Recommendations. 2010.

Construction of New Hard Surface

3.4.10 Where possible, proposed new hard surface within any RPA will be constructed using above ground construction, requiring "No-dig" design principles in accordance with AA Guidance Note 12 Cellular Confinement Systems Near Trees, in order to minimise the potential impact this will have on any retained trees.

Installation of posts for fencing

3.4.11 At various points across the project there may be site hoarding/ boundary fences proposed within the RPAs of retained trees. The impact of this work is minimal and should not have a significant impact on tree health as long as best practise is followed.

3.4.12 Posts wherever possible shall be driven into the ground avoiding any obvious large surface roots. If it is not possible to drive post into the ground, small holes can be excavated using hand tools only, avoiding roots, back filled with removed earth and compacted down to ensure stability.

3.4.13 If cement is required to provide reinforcement, the hole shall be dug using hand tools only, lined with a non-permeable layer and cement poured into the hole to ensure the leaching of chemicals into the RPA does not occur.

Ground Protection

3.4.1 If access to a retained trees RPA is required in order to facilitate construction, then suitable temporary ground protection must be used in order to protect the trees roots from soil compaction.

3.4.2 Temporary ground protection must be sufficient in design, to support the proposed construction movement within the RPA. Different levels of ground protection may be comprised of one of the following designs as referenced from BS5837:2012:

- 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. 100mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- For pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2t: proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- For wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2t gross weight: an alternative system (e.g. proprietary system 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.

3.4.3 See Appendix E for an Example Ground Protection Detail.

Installing New Services or Upgrading Existing Services

3.4.4 Where practicable, all new surfaces will be outside of RPAs, but where existing services within RPAs require upgrading or new provision is required, trenchless installation will be the preferred option.

3.4.5 If this option is not feasible, any excavation will be carried out by hand in accordance with the guidelines set out in NJUG Volume 4 – Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees.

3.4.6 The table in Appendix F taken from BS5837:2012 outlines available trenchless solutions.

4 Tree Protection Measures

4.1 Construction Exclusion Zone

4.1.1 The protection fence line defines the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ), and the fencing shall not be moved or taken down at any time. Within the CEZ, there must be no mechanical digging or scraping; no alteration to existing ground levels including soil stripping; no earthworks; and no handling or discharge of any chemical substance, concrete washings or of any fuels. Furthermore, vehicular, or pedestrian access and the storage of any materials is prohibited within the CEZ.

4.1.2 Additionally, no materials that may contaminate the soil such as concrete mixings, diesel oil and vehicle washings shall be discharged within 10m of the stem of any tree and no fires shall be lit within 10m of the maximum extent of a trees crown.

4.2 Tree Protection Fencing

4.2.1 Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Arboricultural Consultant, the fencing system to be utilised shall be in accordance with Appendix C and compliant with BS5837:2012.

4.2.2 The tree protection fence shall be erected as shown on the Detailed Tree Protection and Removal Plans to form part of the Detailed AMSs and comprising an update to the Preliminary Plans (contained in Appendices A and B) to take account of detailed design work.

4.2.3 The fence line to be shown on the Detailed Tree Protection and Removal Plans will be shown as the minimum required and the length of the fence shall be extended or adjusted on site as agreed with the Arboricultural Consultant to ensure satisfactory protection of all retained trees and RPAs.

4.2.4 Where proposed construction site-hoarding provides the same level of protection to the retained trees and RPAs as the proposed tree protection fence, subject to agreement with the Arboricultural Consultant, the hoarding may serve as the tree protection fence. Notwithstanding, depending on the form and alignment of the construction site- hoarding it may be necessary to provide additional tree protection fence to ensure adequate protection of retained trees and RPAs as shown on the Detailed Tree Protection and Removal Plans.

4.2.5 Where necessary, tree protection fencing may be temporarily re-aligned in order to facilitate tree removal. Fencing is to be re-instated immediately following removal in a manner that encompasses the remaining trees and their respective RPAs.

4.2.6 During tree removal, no wheeled or tracked machinery is to enter the area previously encompassed by tree protective fencing as shown in the Detailed Tree Protection and Removal Plans.

4.2.7 Signs detailing the purpose of the protective fencing shall be attached to the fencings. Such signs should be weatherproof and shall be substantially in the form of the specimen provided in Appendix D. Signs must be replaced as necessary should they be removed or become illegible.

4.3 Site Compounds and Materials Stores

4.3.1 Activities related to the establishment of a temporary site compound have the potential to impact upon retained trees by various means. In particular the storage and mixing of chemicals and materials such as concrete can have a damaging effect on tree health if precautions are not taken.

4.3.2 To prevent harm occurring to trees, provision for materials storage, deliveries and other related activities shall be made available in areas away from retained trees.

- 4.3.3 Under no circumstances shall materials or plant be stored beneath the canopy or within or abutting the RPA of any retained trees/hedges, whether fenced or not.

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 Following erection of the protection fencing and prior to commencement of the construction works of the relevant area, an inspection of the site by the Arboricultural Consultant will be arranged to confirm fencing has been installed in accordance with the Detailed Tree Protection and Removal Plans (to be prepared as part of the Detailed AMSs).
- 4.4.2 Further monitoring visits will be carried out following commencement of the works on site, ideally on at least a monthly basis to ensure ongoing functionality of the CEZ and to check on tree condition.

4.5 Reporting

- 4.5.1 Should any arboricultural issues become apparent during the works the Principal Contractor should immediately contact the Arboricultural Consultant for advice on how to proceed.

5 References

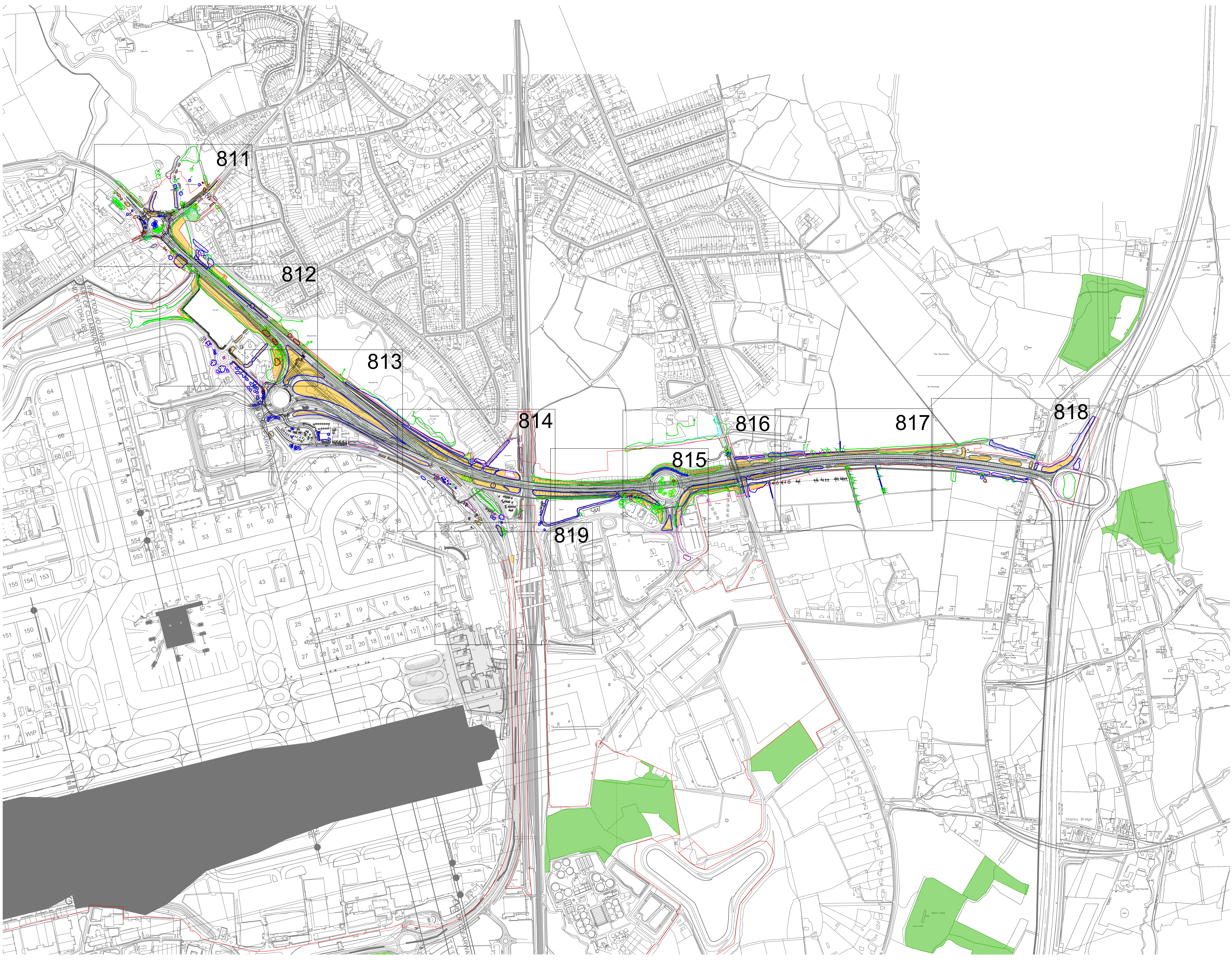
British Standards Institute, BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.

British Standards Institute, BS3998:2010 Trees Work - Recommendations.

NJUG Volume 4- Guidance for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility services in proximity of trees, 2007

Arboricultural Association, Standard Conditions of Contract and Specifications for Tree Works (2008) Edition

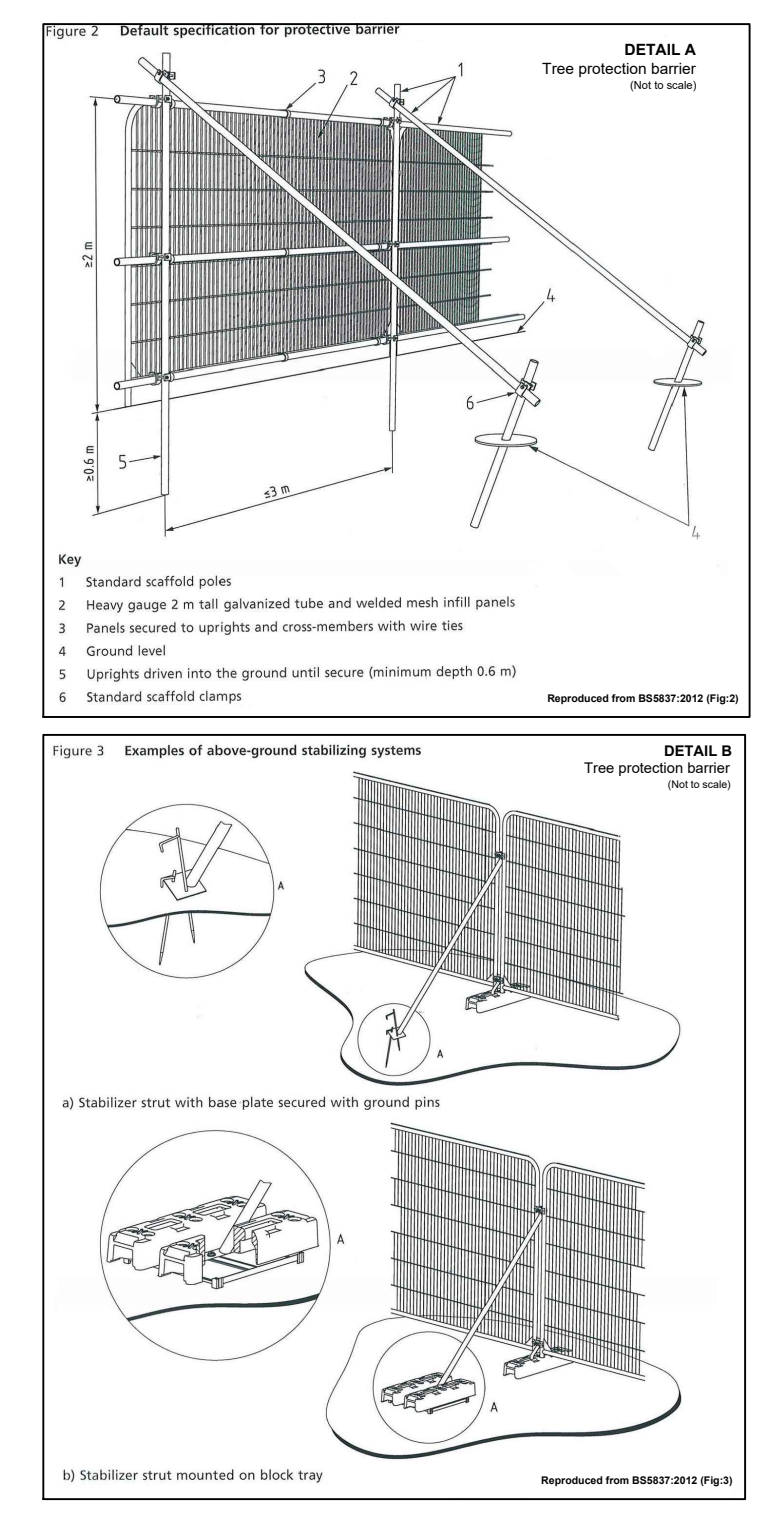
Arboricultural Association, Guidance Note 12 Cellular Confinement Systems Near Trees.



Legend

- Site Boundary
- Indicative temporary protective fence in accordance with Section 6.2. BS5837:2012. See below for example barriers.
- Tree loss required for construction
- Tree with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- T11
- Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category.
- Vegetation group with numbered reference. Canopy extends and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- Hedge with numbered reference. Width and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- BS 5837:2012 Tree Quality Categories - Table 1**
- Category A - High quality
- Category B - Moderate quality
- Category C - Low quality
- Category U - Unsuitable for retention
- Tree protected by Tree Preservation Order. Bracketted number reference relates to the TPO Schedule.

NOTE:
 • Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



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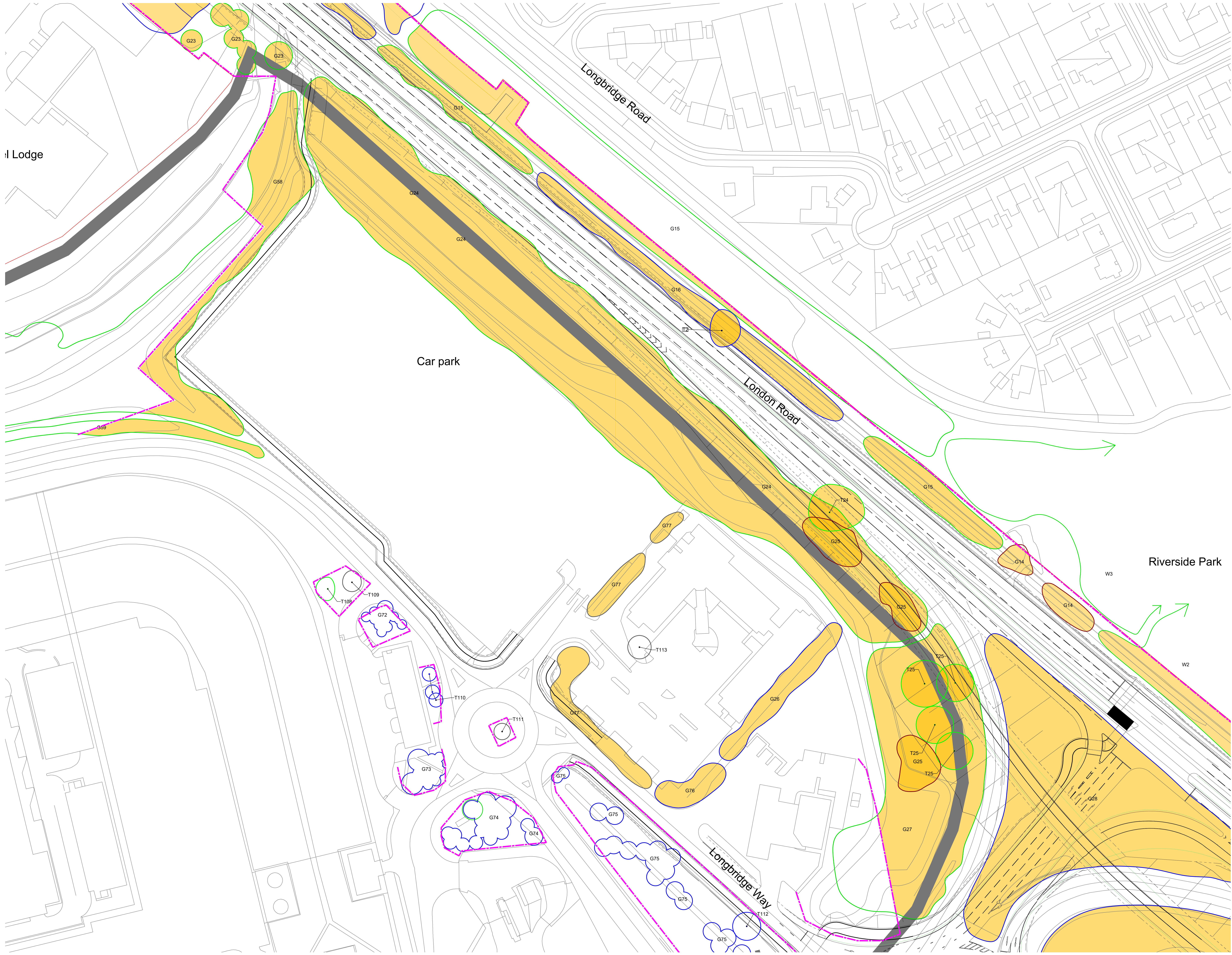
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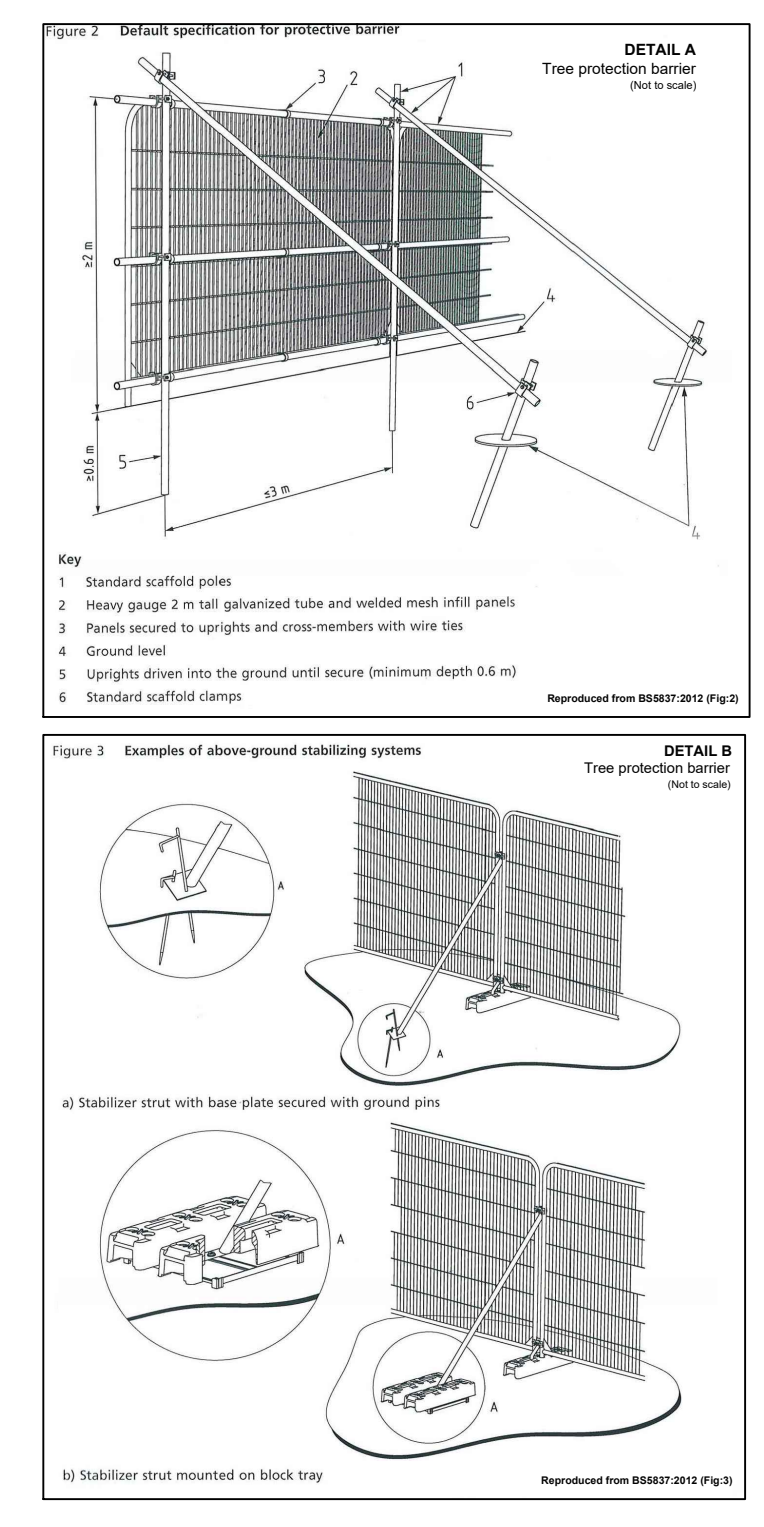
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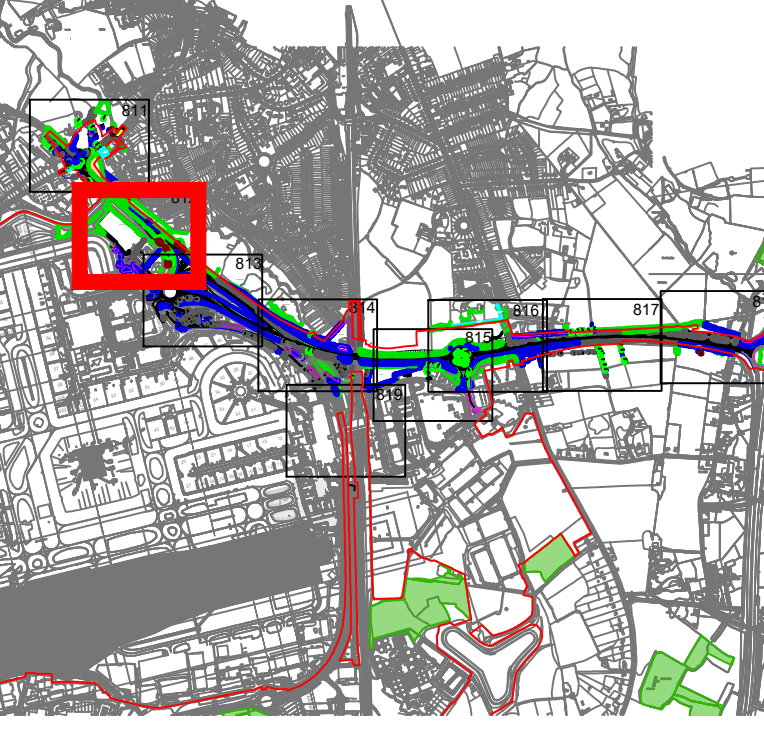
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- T11
- Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- Vegetation group with numbered reference. Canopy extents and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- Hedge with numbered reference. Width and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
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- Category B - Moderate quality
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- Category U - Unsuitable for retention
- Tree protected by Tree Preservation Order. Bracketted number reference relates to the TPO Schedule.

NOTE: Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



Key Plan



Environmental Statement

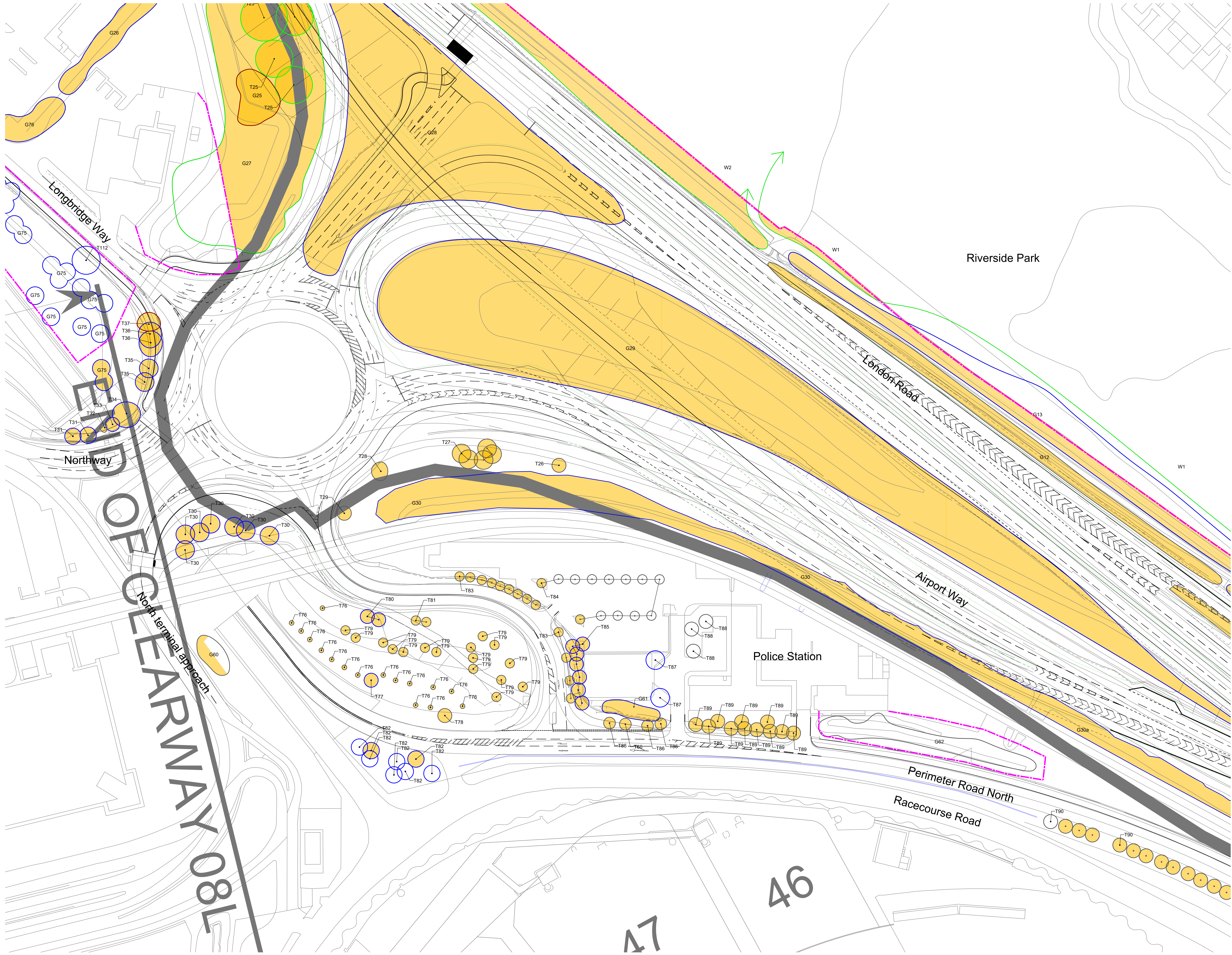
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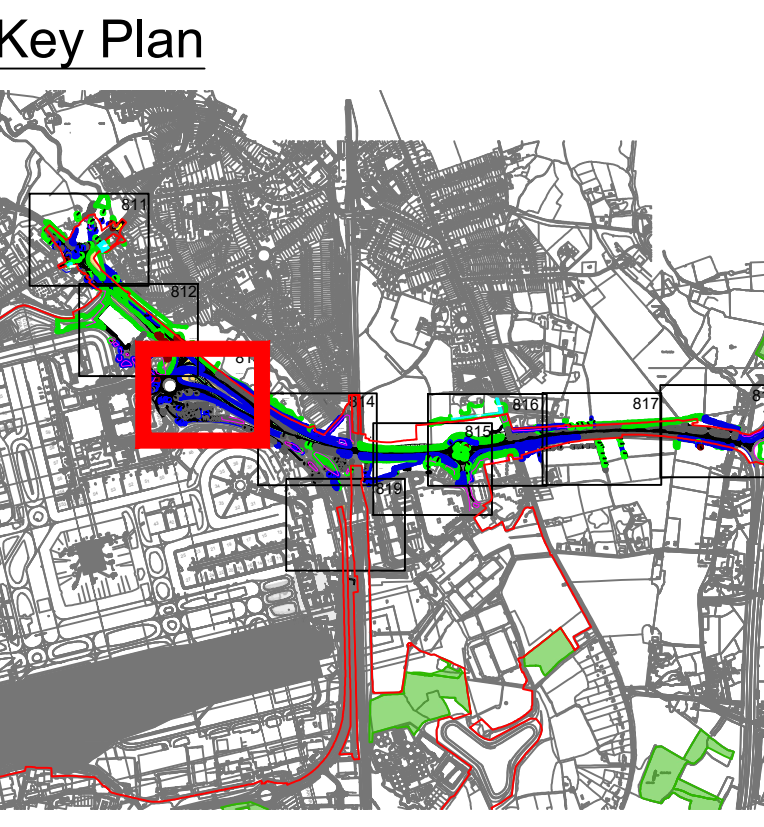
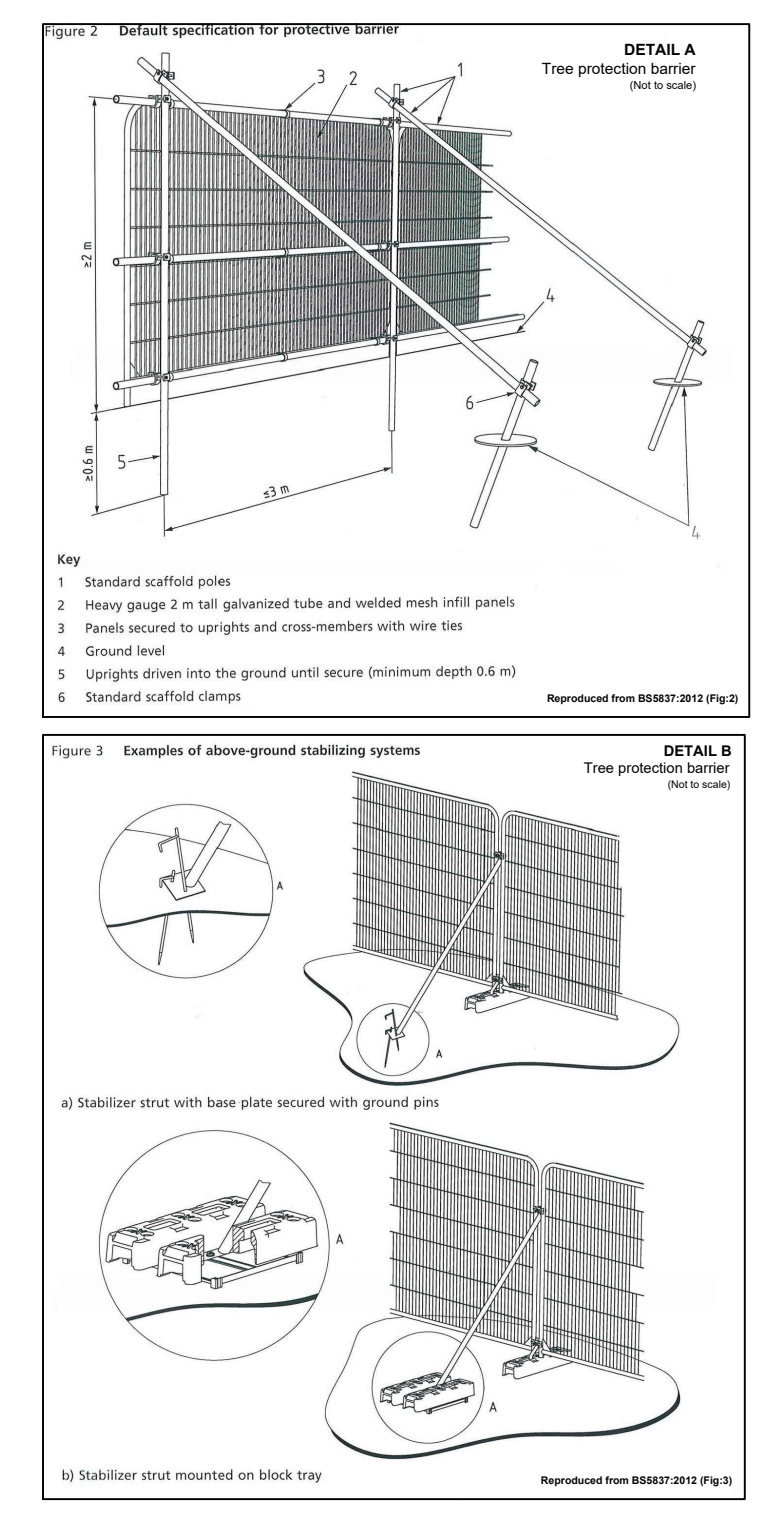
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NOTE: Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



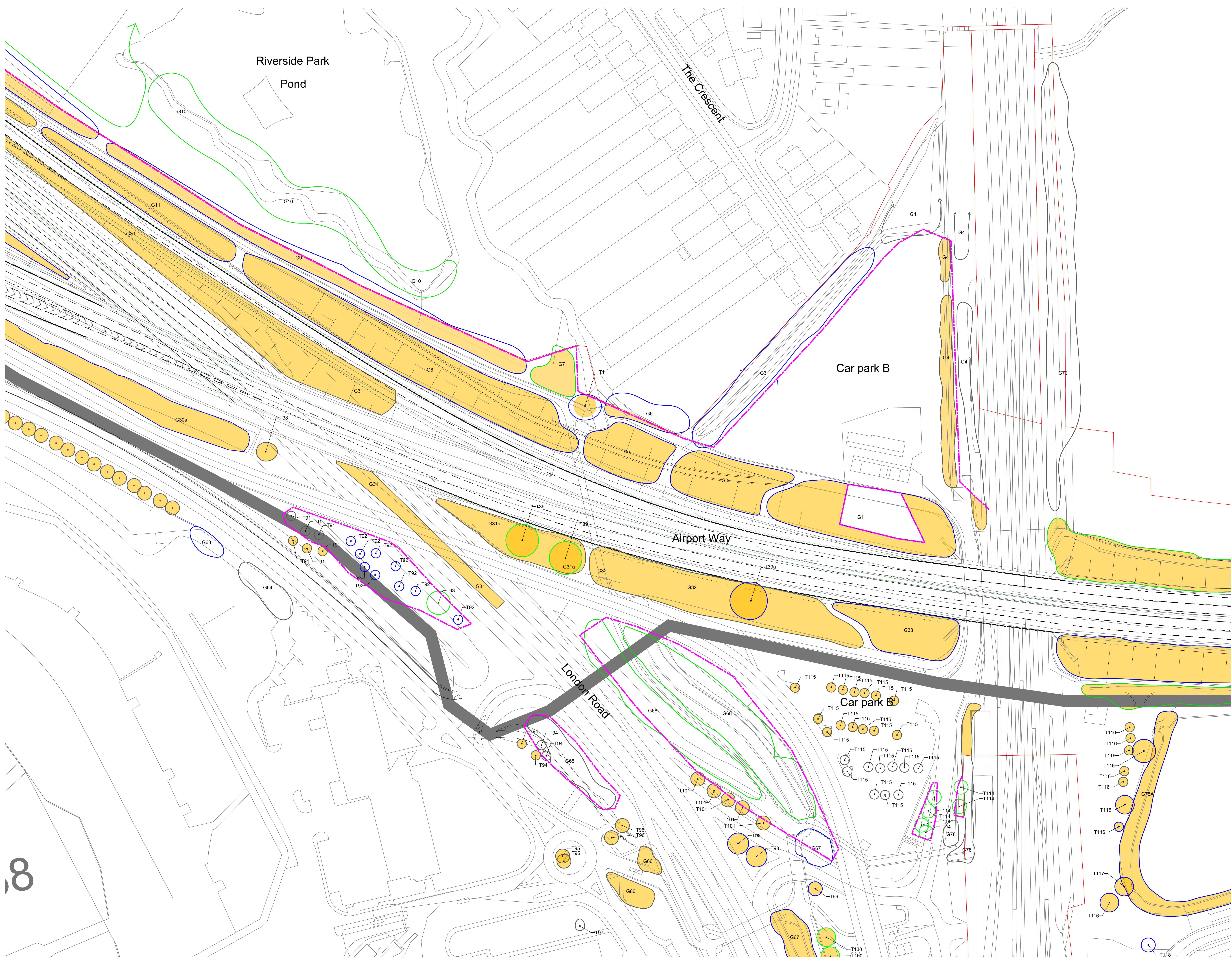
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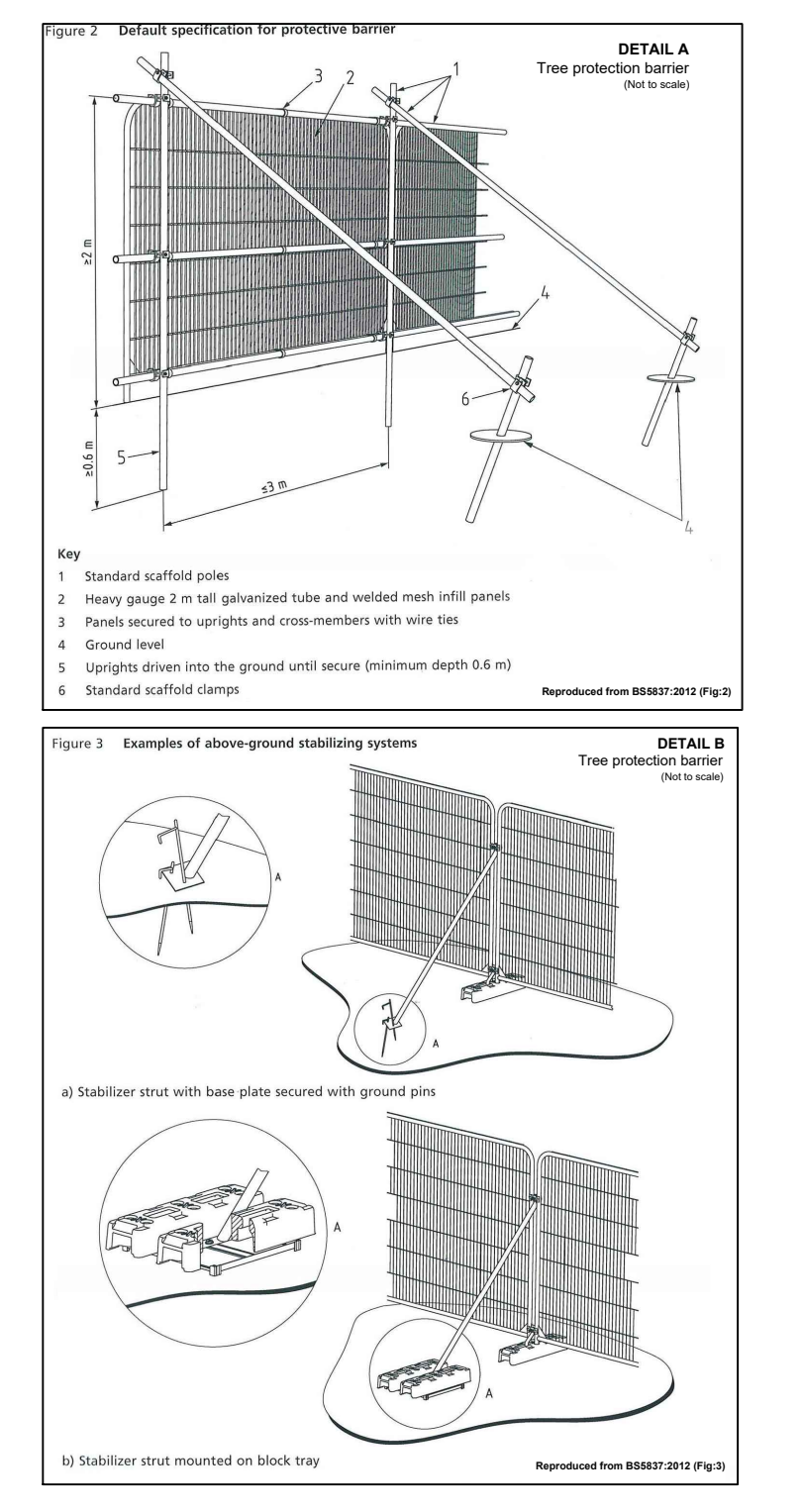
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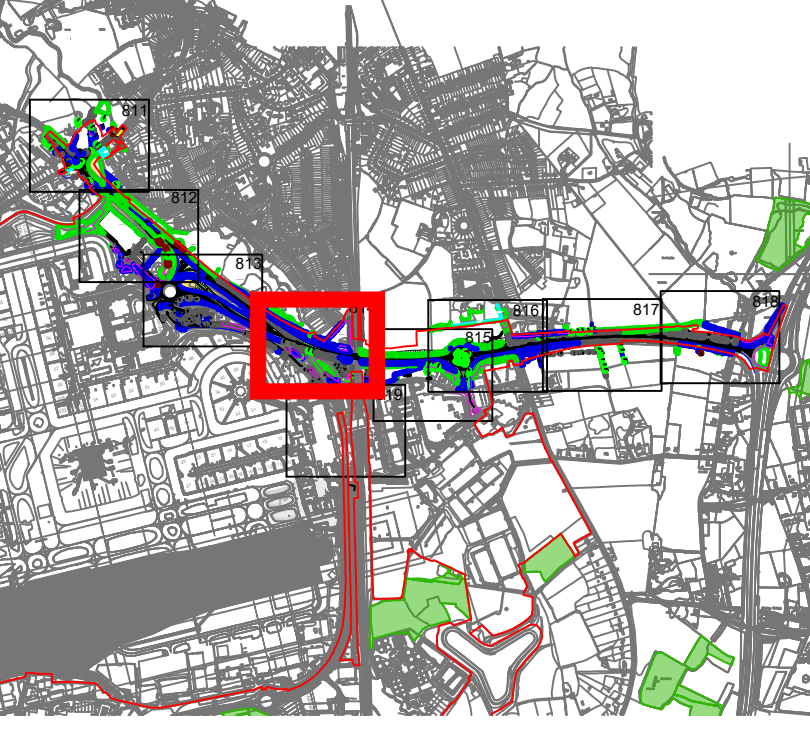
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NOTE: Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



Key Plan



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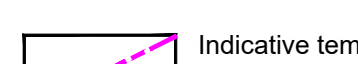

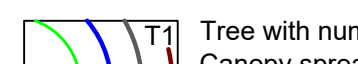
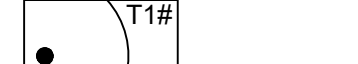
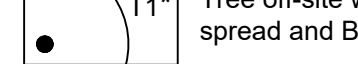
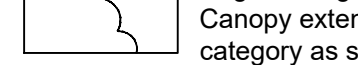
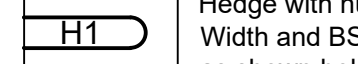
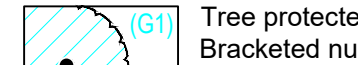
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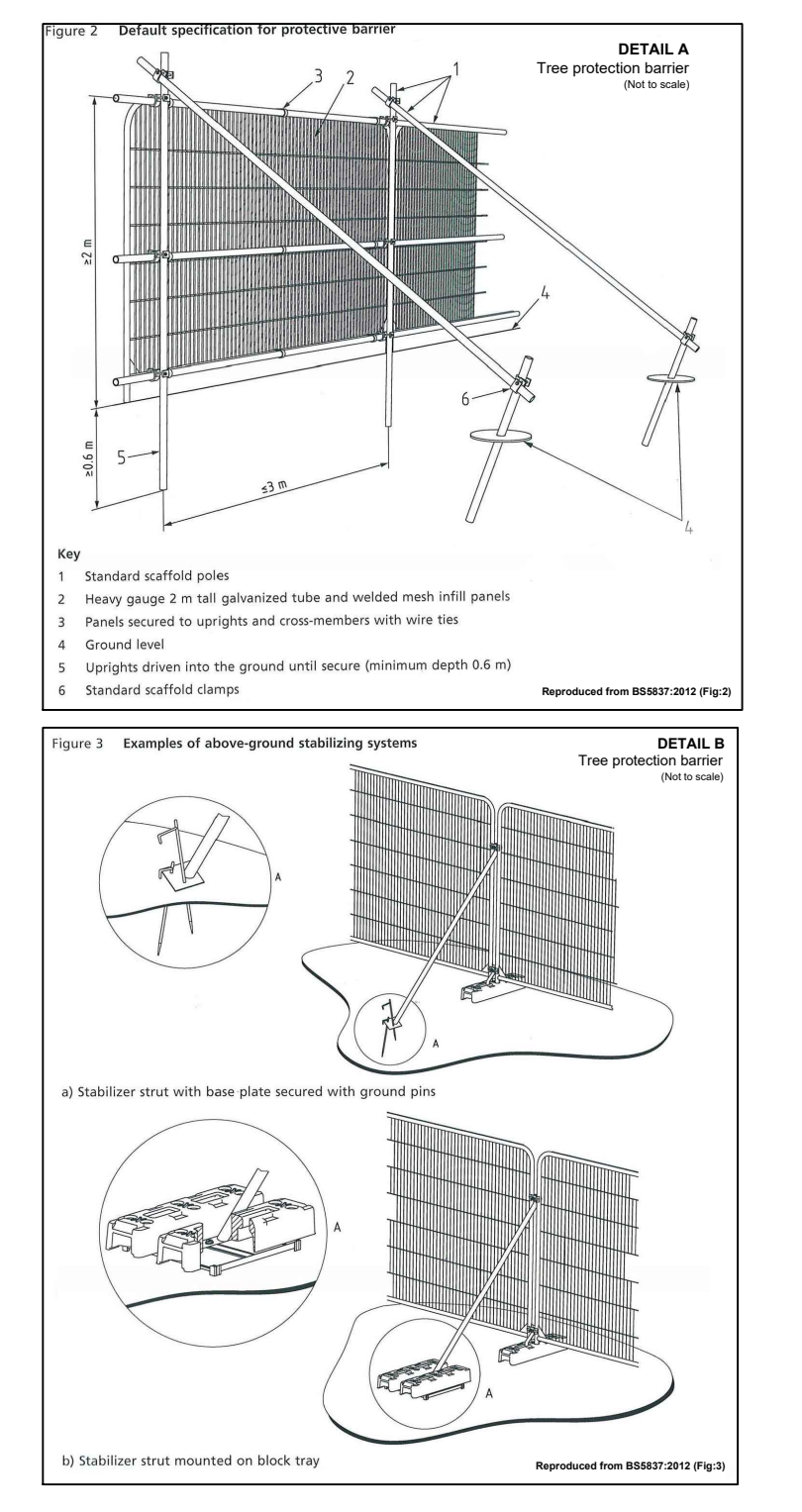
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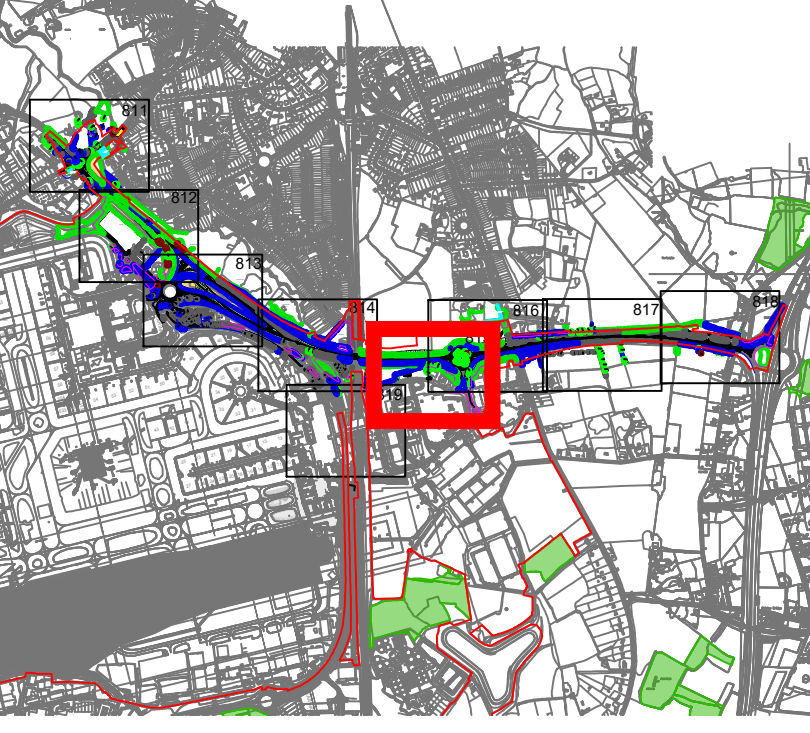
Legend

-  Site Boundary
 -  Indicative temporary protective fence line in accordance with Section 6.2.1 of BS5837:2012. See below for example barriers.
 -  Tree loss required for construction
 -  Tree with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 -  T1F
 -  Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category.
 -  Vegetation group with numbered reference. Canopy extents and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 -  Hedge with numbered reference. Width and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- BS 5837:2012 Tree Quality Categories - Table 1
- Category A - High quality
 - Category B - Moderate quality
 - Category C - Low quality
 - Category U - Unsuitable for retention
-  Tree protected by Tree Preservation Order. Bracketted number reference relates to the TPO Schedule.

NOTE: Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



Key Plan



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Environmental Statement

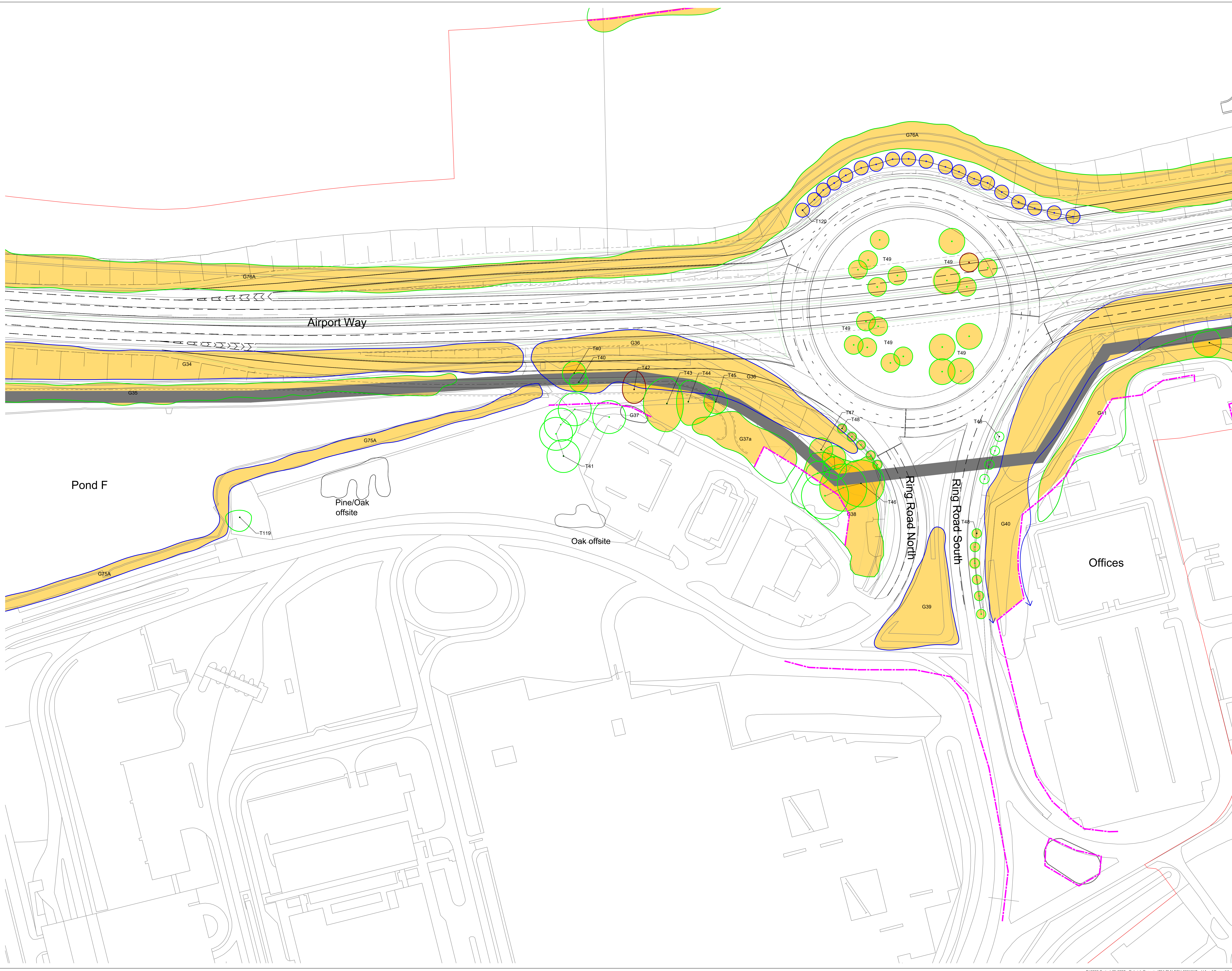
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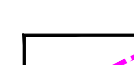

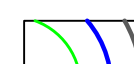
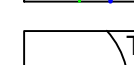
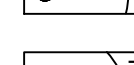

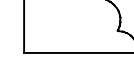
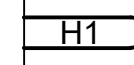
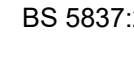




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SCALE @ A0
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Legend

-  Site Boundary
-  Indicative temporary protective fence line in accordance with Section 6.2.1 of BS5837:2012. See below for example barriers.
-  Tree loss required for construction
-  Tree with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
-  Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category.
-  Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category.
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NOTE:
Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.

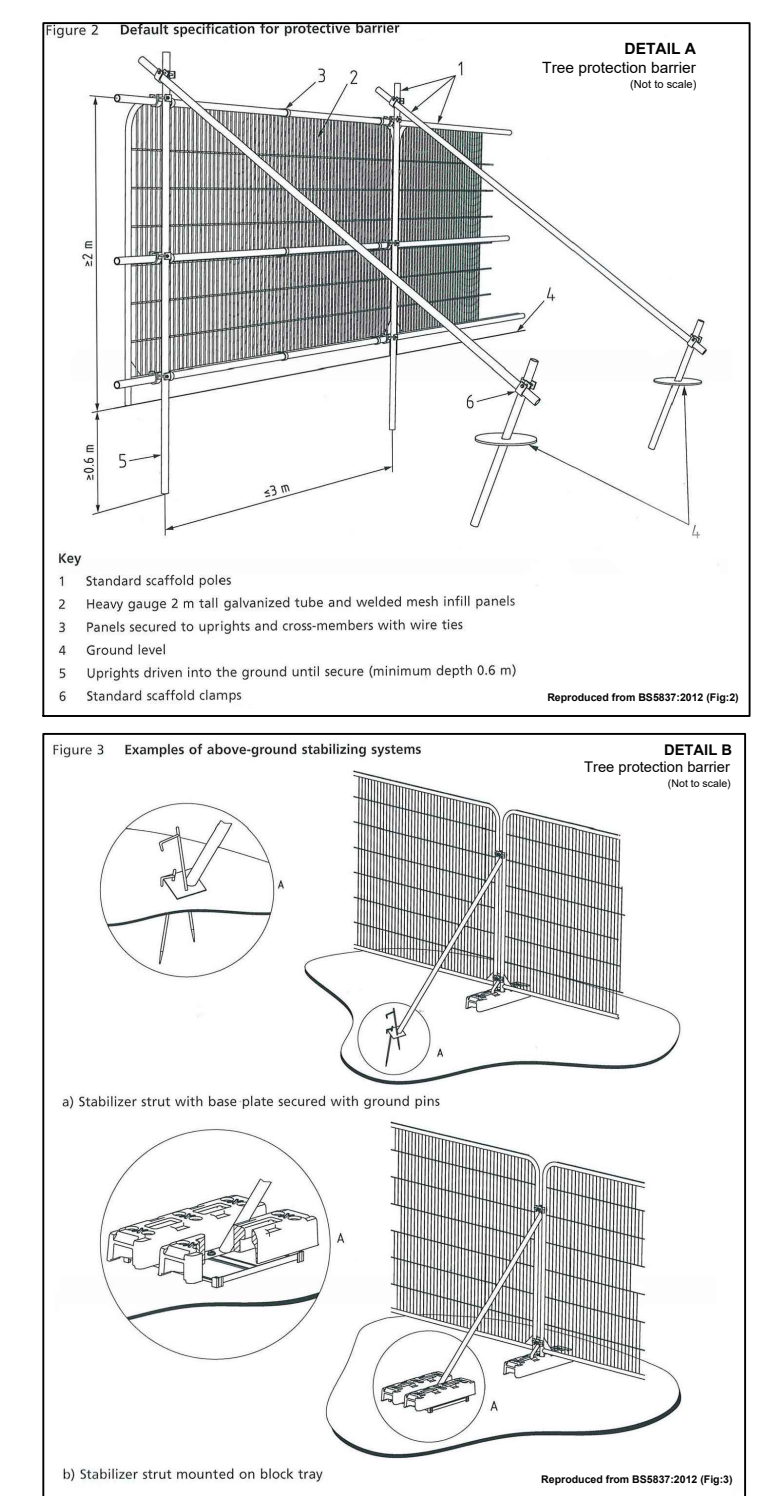
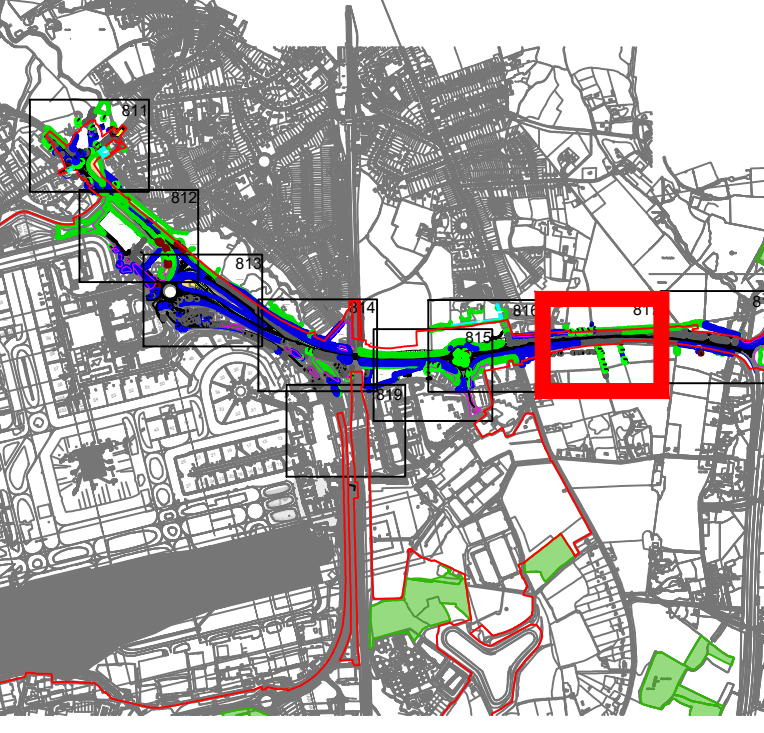


Figure 3: Examples of above-ground walking systems

Figure 4: Examples of below-ground walking systems

Key Plan



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	RC	DC

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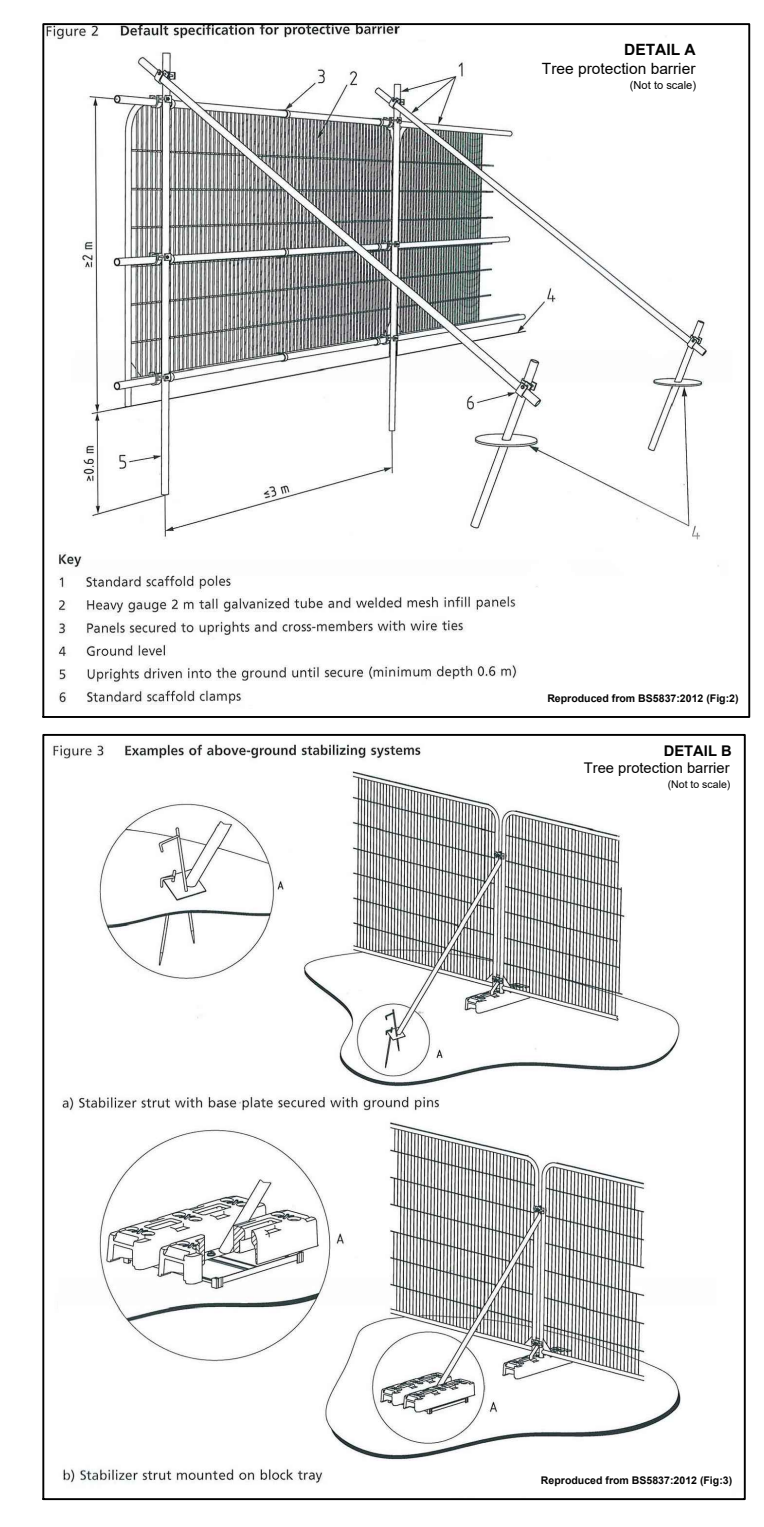
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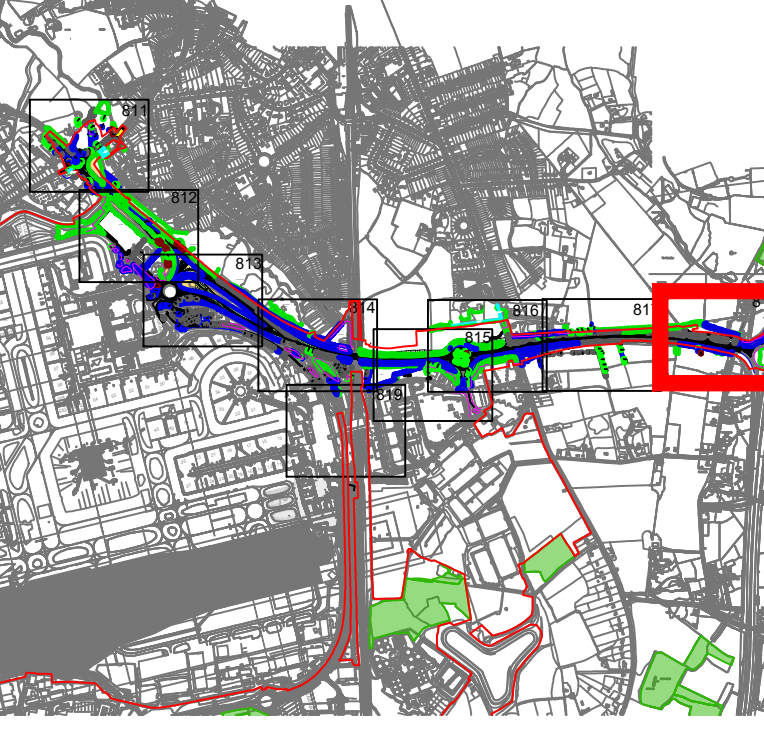
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- Site Boundary
 - Indicative temporary protective fence in accordance with Section 6.2.1 of BS5837:2012. See below for example barriers.
 - Tree loss required for construction
 - Tree with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 - T1*
 - Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category.
 - Vegetation group with numbered reference. Canopy extents and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 - Hedge with numbered reference. Width and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
- BS 5837:2012 Tree Quality Categories - Table 1
- Category A - High quality
 - Category B - Moderate quality
 - Category C - Low quality
 - Category U - Unsuitable for retention
- Tree protected by Tree Preservation Order. Bracketted number reference relates to the TPO Schedule.

NOTE:
 * Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



Key Plan



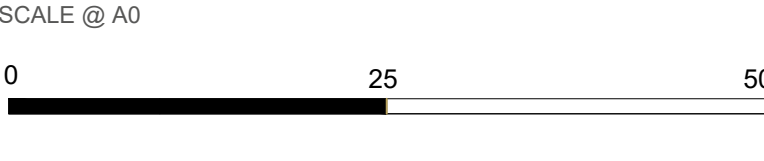
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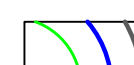


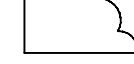
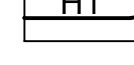


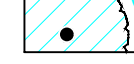





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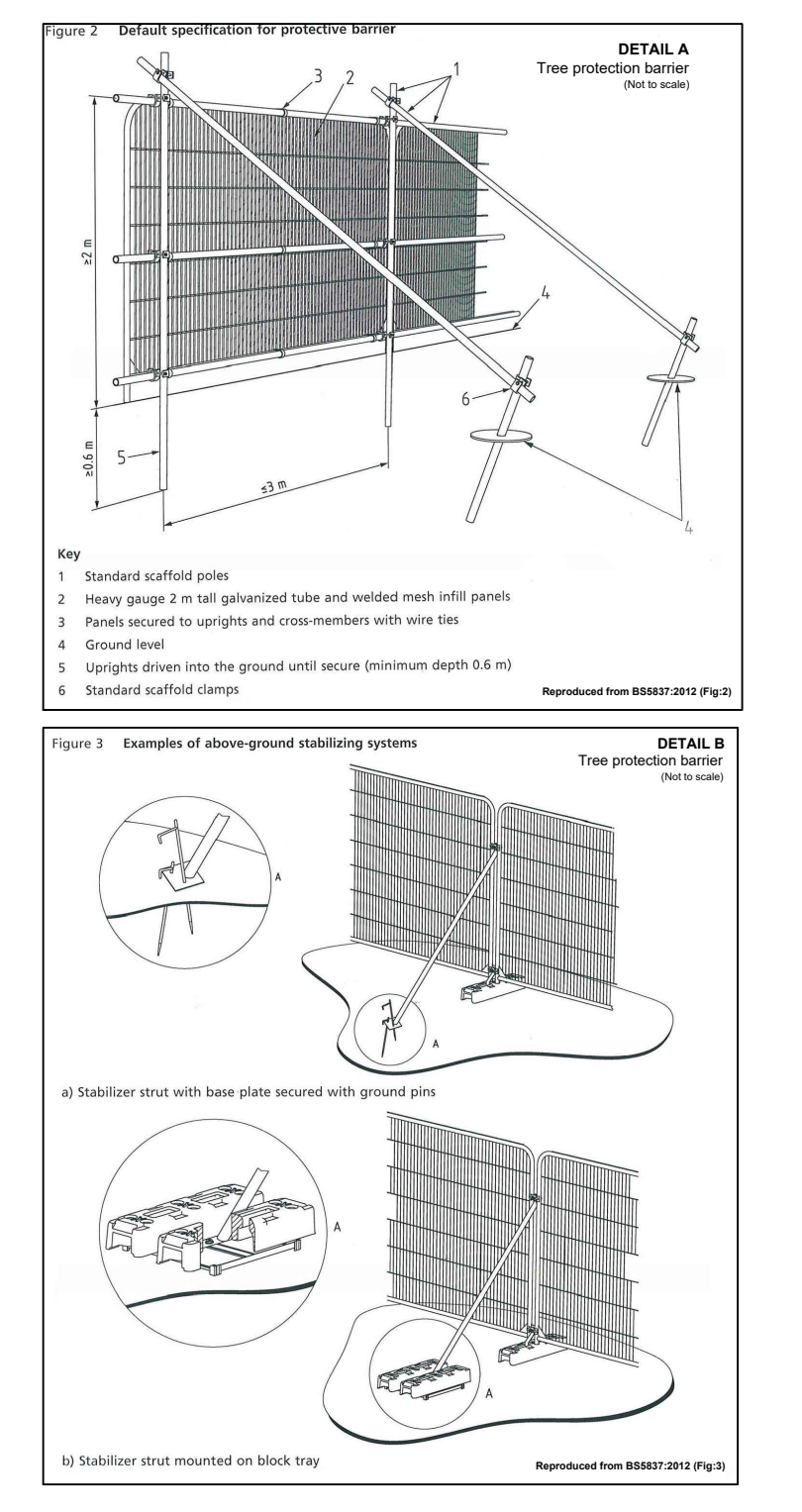


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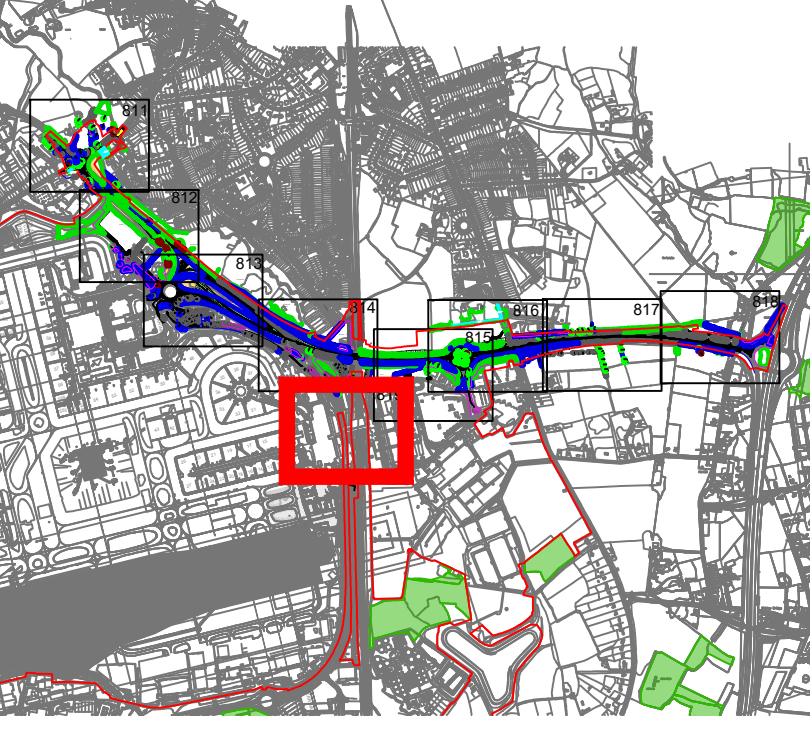


Legend

-  Site Boundary
 -  Indicative temporary protective fence in accordance with Section 6.2. BS5837:2012. See below for example barriers.
 -  Tree loss required for construction
 -  Tree with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 -  T100
 -  Tree off-site with numbered reference. Canopy spread and BS5837:2012 tree quality category.
 -  T116
 -  Vegetation group with numbered reference. Canopy extents and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 -  G66
 -  Hedge with numbered reference. Width and BS5837:2012 tree quality category as shown below.
 -  H1
- BS 5837:2012 Tree Quality Categories - Table 1
-  Category A - High quality
 -  Category B - Moderate quality
 -  Category C - Low quality
 -  Category U - Unsuitable for retention
-  Tree protected by Tree Preservation Order. Bracketted number reference relates to the TPO Schedule.
- NOTE:**
 • Refer to RPS Tree Survey Report & Schedule for further details.



Key Plan



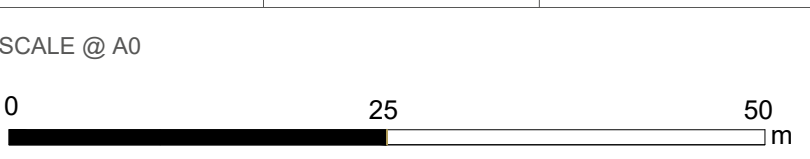
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Appendix B
Airport Tree Removal & Protection Plans