Decision Process for Tree Retention, Removal & Protection

Treework Environmental Practice

Tree Constraints Plan

Design & Required Construction Area is Outside Root Protection Area

Retain Tree

- Erect appropriately specified tree protection fencing

Design or Required Construction Area Breaches Root Protection Area

- Can design be revised outside of the RPA?

Retain Tree

- BS5837:2012 warns against inappropriate retention of trees in current or future conflict with proposed buildings.
- Further methodology to assess likely root damage and to mitigate for this will be assessed and provided by an Arboricultural Consultant.

Fell Tree

- This is a strategic decision depending on the value of the tree (Category A-C) .
- If approved, felled trees are likely to require replacements.

Roots Expected To Be Present

Assess Actual Extent & Location of Roots

- Excavate by hand / use Airknife to remove soil in selected locations (e.g.: in the location of a proposed retaining wall).
- Map location of roots with a Radar.
- Remove apparent obstructions to roots (e.g.: curb stones) to assess whether roots pass under them.

Roots Not Found To Be Present

Roots Not Expected To Be Present

Demonstrate No Roots Present

- Method Statement to investigate whether roots are present provided by an Arboricultural Consultant.
- This methodology will normally be subject to approval by the LPA Tree Officer.

Roots Found To Be Present

- Can design be revised outside of the RPA?

Manage Extent of Root Damage

RPA Breach Assessed to be Insignificant

- Where a breach of a RPA is minor (e.g. 1-2m) and within a large RPA, no special measures are required.

Hand Dig and Move or Sever Roots

- A methodology may be considered whereby roots are exposed by hand (air-spade or similar), moved into the proposed Construction Exclusion Zone or severed by an Arboricultural Consultant, in accordance with an appropriate and approved Method Statement.

Minimise or Prevent Root Damage

Special engineering

- Pile and beam or radial strip foundations.
- Bridge across area of RPA.
- Low compaction / permeable surfacing.
- Measures to ensure that raised ground level doesn't reduce roots' access to water and gaseous exchange.
- Provision within design should be made to allow access for water to root zone.