Design Process in relation to Arboricultural Constraints

Treework Environmental Practice

Tree Constraints Plan

Design Outside Root Protection Area

Retain Tree

- Erect appropriately specified tree protection fencing

Design 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 must 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) and the position of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- Proposing to remove certain trees may result in a Planning Application being rejected. If approved, felled trees are likely to require replacements.

Roots Expected To Be Present

Assess Actual Extent & Location of

- 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 Expected To Be Present

Demonstrate No Roots Present

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

Roots Found To Be Present

- Can design be revised outside of the RPA?

Roots Not Found To Be Present

Manage Extent of Root Damage

Offset RPA?

- The RPA may <u>only</u> be offset under specific conditions where the damage to roots is assessed by an Arboricultural Consultant to be sustainable.

RPA Breach Assessed to be Insignificant

- The LPA may be persuaded that where a breach of a RPA is minor (1-2m) and within a large RPA, no special measures are required.

Hand Dig and Move or Sever Roots

- A methodology <u>may</u> be approved by the LPA Tree Officer 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.
- All special engineering measures must be assessed by an Arboricultural Consultant as appropriate for the long term health of the tree, and approved by the LPA Tree Officer.