



NORTHAW ROAD, CUFFLEY

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Prepared for Bellway Homes Ltd

by

Hankinson Duckett Associates

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APPENDICES

A – Tree Protection Plan

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 for land located to the immediate south of the existing settlement of Cuffley and the north east of King George V playing fields hereinafter referred to as 'the site'. The centre of the site is located by National Grid reference TL 30453 02106, and the extent of this area is shown on the Tree Protection Plans in *Appendix A*. The tree survey and subsequent assessment were undertaken by Don Newling (ND Arb) TechArborA of Hankinson Duckett Associates (HDA) and commissioned by Bellway Homes Ltd.

1.1.2 Pre-commencement condition (8) of the outline planning permission (S6/2015/1342/PP) for residential development granted by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council on 31st March 2022 relates to existing retained trees and states:

'No development shall commence until an Arboricultural Method Statement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the development must not be carried out other than in accordance with the approved statement. The Arboricultural Method Statement must include:

- a) *A specification for the pruning of trees to be retained in order to prevent accidental damage by construction activities;*
- b) *The specification of the location, materials and means of construction of temporary protective fencing and/or ground protection in the vicinity of trees to be retained, in accordance with the recommendations of the current edition of BS5837 "Trees in relation to construction", and details of the timing and duration of its erection;*
- c) *The specification of the routing and means of installation of drainage or any underground services within the Root Protection Area (RPA) and/or canopy spread of retained trees;*
- d) *The details and method of construction of any other structures such as boundary walls within the Root Protection Area (RPA) and/or canopy spread of retained trees;*
- e) *The details of any proposed alterations to existing ground levels within the Root Protection Area (RPA) and/or canopy spread of retained trees; and*
- f) *Provision for the supervision, by an appropriately qualified arboricultural consultant, of any works within the root protection areas of trees to be retained.'*

1.1.3 Condition 1 (d) of the Reserved Matters application relates to existing retained trees and states:

'No development shall commence until full details on a suitably scaled plan of both hard and soft landscape works have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local

Planning Authority. Thereafter, the development shall not be carried out other than in accordance with the approved details. The landscaping details to be submitted shall include:-

d) existing trees, hedges or other soft features to be retained and a method statement showing tree protection measures to be implemented for the duration of the construction;’.

1.2 Scope and Purpose of Report

1.2.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement sets out the details of the scheme for the protection of retained trees, hedges or other soft features referred to in the two conditions. It is intended that the AMS will provide the detail required to enable both the conditions to be discharged.

1.2.2 The approved measures are to be implemented prior to any works that are within the RPA of retained trees and associated with the development. These measures will be retained *in situ* until completion of the works unless otherwise specified within the AMS or agreed with the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

1.2.3 This AMS is based on the Arboricultural Assessments prepared by HDA in support of the approved scheme.

2 INDUCTIONS AND GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

2.1 Inductions

2.1.1 All site personnel working within or immediately adjacent to root protection zones or crown spreads of retained trees will be made aware of those sections of this report that relate to their work. This includes the Site Manager, machinery operatives, craftsmen and labourers.

2.1.2 A copy of this document will be available for inspection on site by any personnel who have control over any aspect of works that could adversely affect retained trees.

2.2 General Precautions

2.2.1 No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health will be stored or discharged within 10 metres of the trunk of a tree that is to be retained or any parcel of land that is to be landscaped. Consideration will be given to the implications of storing materials upslope of this exclusion zone in order to avoid the risk of potential spillages leaching down-slope and contaminating the RPA of a tree. Such materials include:

- Oil
- Bitumen

- Cement

2.2.2 No fires, if otherwise permitted, will be lit within 20 metres of the trunk of any tree that is to be retained.

2.2.3 Concrete mixing will not take place within 10 metres of the trunk of any retained tree.

3 ACCESS FOR WORKS – PLANT AND MACHINERY

3.1 This will be restricted to the designated access route and site compound and will not encroach into any currently unprotected RPAs of retained trees.

4 ACCESS FOR WORKS–SITE HUT AND CONTRACTORS’ COMPOUND

4.1 This will be restricted to the designated location and will not encroach into any currently unprotected RPAs of retained trees.

5 SITE CLEARANCE

5.1 Clearance of existing trees and shrubs required to implement the proposed scheme will be carried out prior to the erection of the temporary tree fencing and ground protection (see *Tree Protection Plan* in *Appendix A*).

6 PROTECTIVE FENCING

6.1 Prior to the commencement of any works on site, other than the clearance works, protective fencing will be erected in the positions shown on the *Tree Protection Plan*.

6.2 The route of the temporary access will be fenced on either side of the access using a minimum 18mm thick plyboard hoarding (see inset on Sheet 1 of the *Tree Protection Plan*).

6.3 The fencing within the site will be fit for the purpose of construction activity and will be in accordance with Figure 3 of BS 5837:2012. Figure 3, 3a and 3b of BS5837:2012 are provided in *Appendix B* of this report. The fencing will comprise of 2m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet joined together with a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers, the distance between the couplers will be at least a metre. The panels will be supported on the inner side by stabilizer struts, which will normally be mounted on a block tray (Figure 3b).

6.4 All the fencing will remain in place either until completion of the development or one of the following events makes the fencing redundant:

- The temporary access is no longer in use because the permanent site access has replaced it;

- The temporary protective fencing is obstructing the erection of new boundary fencing. Note: the fencing is only to be removed immediately prior to the erection of the permanent fencing and none of the retained trees are to be left unprotected during any times that the erection of the new boundary fencing is suspended;
- New boundary fencing has been erected in locations that make the presence of the temporary protective fencing redundant.

6.5 The temporary protective fencing shall not be altered in any way without the prior agreement of the LPA.

6.6 Other than works detailed in this method statement or approved in writing by the LPA, no works including storage or dumping of materials shall take place within the exclusion zones defined by the protective fencing.

6.7 All-weather notices will be attached to the exterior of the protective fencing where they can be easily read by site personnel. These site notices will make it clear that no access is permitted beyond the fence to unauthorised personnel and that the removal of the fence will only be carried out when instructed by the Site Manager.

7 GROUND PROTECTION

7.1 Where RPAs of retained trees are not protected by the temporary protective fencing described above (*Section 6*) and are not within the footprint of hard surfaces or built structures, ground protection will be installed immediately after or whilst the fencing is being erected and must be in place prior to any other activities associated with the construction works take place.

7.2 The ground protection to be used along the temporary access should comprise of heavy duty ground protection mats capable of supporting the heaviest loads that will be required on site. The location of the ground protection will be as shown on the *Tree Protection Plan* and must cover the RPA of any retained trees that the temporary access covers.

7.3 The remaining ground protection will comprise of a minimum depth of 100mm of wood chips laid on top of a geotextile membrane and covered by scaffold boards (or similar boards or metal plates). The location of the ground protection will be as shown on the *Tree Protection Plan* and must cover any parts of the RPA of any retained trees that are not protected by the fencing and are not to be covered by a permanent hard surface as part of the development.

- 7.4 All the ground protection will remain in place either until completion of the development or one of the following events makes the ground protection redundant:
- The temporary access is no longer in use because the permanent site access has replaced it;
 - The ground protection is obstructing the erection of new boundary fencing. Note: the ground protection is only to be removed immediately prior to the erection of the permanent fencing and none of the retained trees are to be left unprotected during any times that the erection of the new boundary fencing is suspended;
 - New boundary fencing has been erected in locations that make the presence of the ground protection redundant.

8 CONSTRUCTION WORK WITHIN RPAs OR CROWN SPREADS

- 8.1 Prior to any construction works being carried out within the RPA or crown spread of retained trees, the appointed arboriculturalist will check that the protective fencing and ground protection is in place and fit for purpose.
- 8.2 The appointed arboriculturalist will be briefed on the methodology of the required construction works and confirm whether arboricultural supervision/monitoring is required.
- 8.3 Wherever possible any construction works within the RPA or crown spread of retained trees will be carried out working away from the trees.
- 8.4 Where paths, parking bays or roads are within the RPA of retained trees, the construction works are to be carried out working from either on top of the area to be surfaced or the areas that have been surfaced. Storage of materials and/or equipment required to install the feature are to be kept outside the RPAs or placed on top of the area to be surfaced.
- 8.5 No equipment that is capable of exceeding the existing ground clearance beneath the crown spread of retained trees is to be used within the crown spread of the retained trees unless the appointed arboriculturalist is present to supervise/monitor the works.

9 SUPERVISION AND MONITORING

- 9.1 As existing trees are to be retained and protected, an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring is required. The applicant, or their representative will be responsible for ensuring all arboricultural supervision and monitoring relating to the AMS are carried out.
- 9.2 *Table 1* provides a timetable of the key tasks requiring arboricultural supervision or inspection. In addition to the arboricultural supervision/inspection set out in *Table 1*, the

appointed Arboriculturalist will undertake unscheduled monthly site inspections to check that the temporary tree protection is still fit for purpose.

9.3 A record of site visits will be maintained for inspection on site and copies forwarded to the agent and planning authority when requested.

Table 1: Timetable of arboricultural supervision/inspection

Works stage	Arboriculturalist role
After site clearance of vegetation and immediately prior to erection of temporary fencing (Section 5)	Inspect tree works to check sufficient works have been carried out
After site clearance of vegetation and prior to construction (Sections 6 & 7)	Inspect temporary tree protection to ensure it is in accordance with the AMS
During construction (Section 8)	Inspect temporary tree protection to ensure it is still fit for purpose
During construction (Section 8)	Supervise works within RPAs and crown spread of retained trees
On completion and prior to development being signed off as completed	Inspect retained trees to check for any additional tree works required

10 CONTINGENCY PLAN

10.1 In the event of unforeseen incidents occurring that may adversely affect or threaten the welfare or security of any trees that are to be retained, the resident Site Manager shall inform the appointed Arboriculturalist at the earliest opportunity and not more than one working day following the incident.

10.2 The appointed Arboriculturalist will visit the site to inspect and assess the circumstances and make any appropriate recommendations. The Council Tree Officer will be informed by the appointed Arboriculturalist of such incidents and recommendations will be submitted for approval.

11 CONTACT LIST

11.1 Contact details of the Developer, Site Manager, appointed Arboriculturalist, Landscape contractor and Council Tree Officer will be made available on site.

11.2 Contact details of all sub-contractors will also be available on site.

BSI - British Standards Institution (2010) *BS3998:2010 Tree Work - recommendations*. BSi, London, UK.

BSI - British Standards Institution (2012) *BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations'*. BSi, London, UK.

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Mattheck, C. and Broeler, H. (1994) *The Body Language of Trees: A Handbook for Failure Analysis*. Research for Amenity Trees No.4. DETR, London, UK.

National Soil Resources Institute (2014). Interactive Map. Available from: <https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/> [Accessed August 2020].

NJUG (2007) *NJUG Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees*. Volume 4: Issue 2. The National Joint Utilities Group, London, UK.

Stace, C. (2010) *New Flora of the British Isles* (Third Edition). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.

Welwyn Hatfield Council website. Interactive map. Available from: www.welhat.gov.uk [Accessed August 2020]

HDA Document Control and Quality Assurance Record

Project Title: Northaw Road, Cuffley Trees
Project Reference: 2080.9
Document Title: Arboricultural Method Statement
Commissioning Party: Bellway Homes Ltd

Issue	Description	Date of Issue	Signed
2	Arboricultural Method Statement	March 2023	<i>CMarsh</i>

	Personnel	Position
Author	Don Newling	Senior Arboriculturalist
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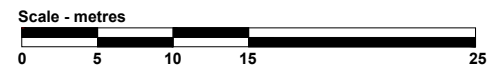
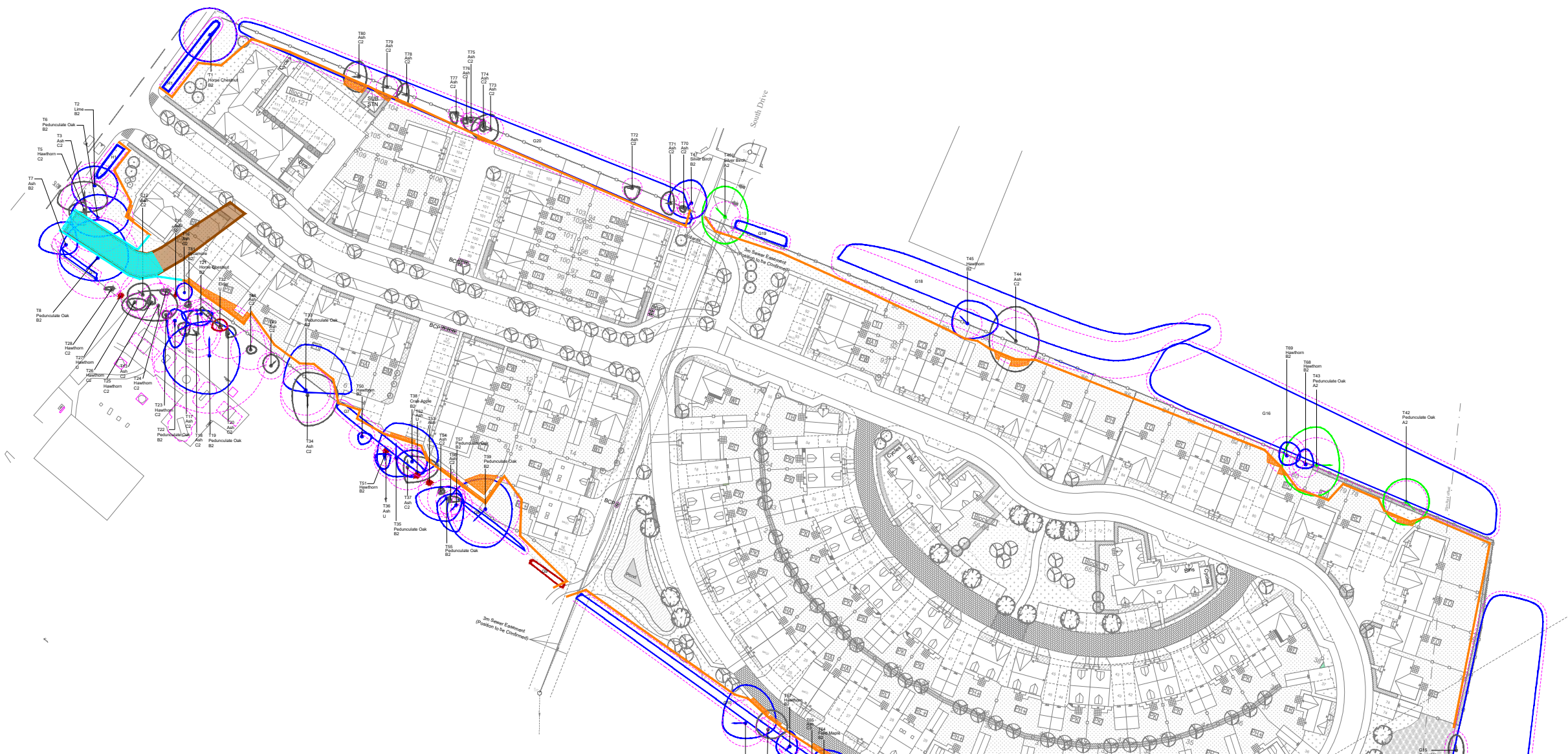
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Appendix A
Tree Protection Plans

Examples of Hoarding protection fencing

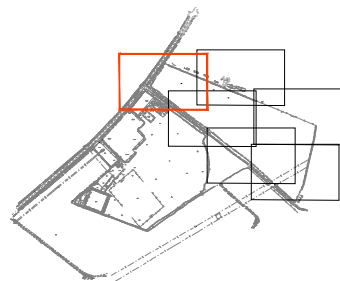


KEY

- Site Boundary
- Tree (T) / Group (G) / Hedge (H) Number
- Tree Canopies
- First Significant Branch
- Root Protection Area
- Temporary Tree Protection Fencing
- Heavy Duty Ground Protection
- Temporary Ground Protection
- Haul road
- Hoarding protection fencing

- BS5837:2012 Tree Categories
- Canopy extent of tree: Category A - High quality
 - Canopy extent of tree: Category B - Moderate quality
 - Canopy extent of tree: Category C - Low quality
 - Canopy extent of tree: Category U - Unsuitable for retention

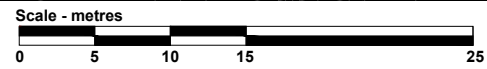
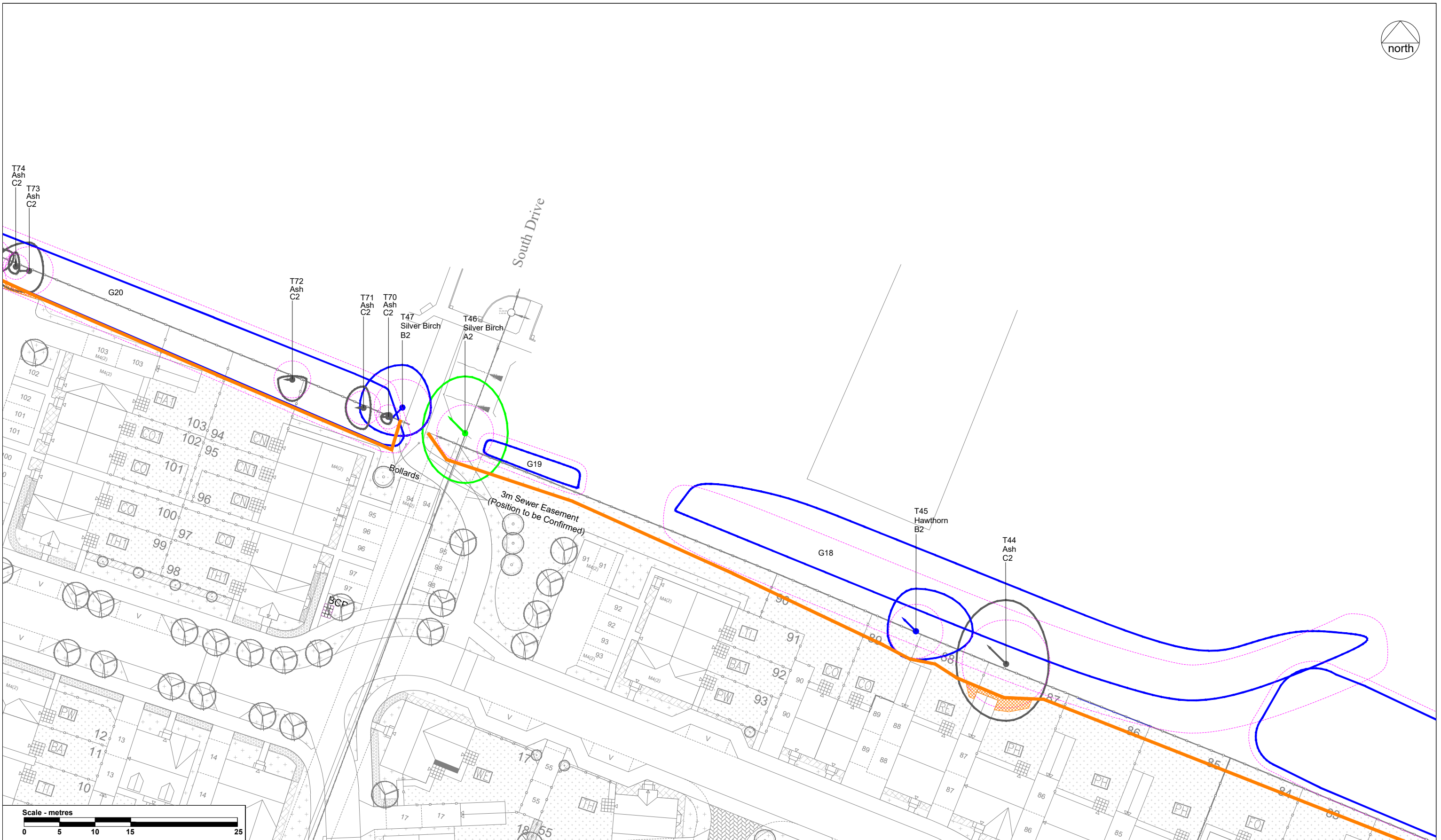
Notes
 A full qualitative analysis of tree cover (The Tree Data Schedule) accompanies this drawing.
 Do not scale off drawing - refer to Tree Data Schedule for accurate crown spread measurements.
 Depictions of tree canopies are based on measurements taken to four cardinal compass points.
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 Please see original drawing for key details.
 A Tree Preservation Order check has not been completed for the entire survey area.
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 TITLE:
 Tree Protection Plan - Sheet 1 of 6
 SCALE AT A3:
 1:500
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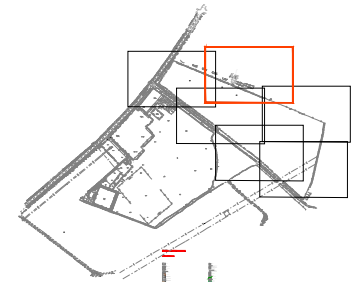
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KEY

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Site Boundary | Temporary Tree Protection Fencing | Canopy extent of tree: Category A - High quality |
| Tree (T) / Group (G) / Hedge (H) Number | Heavy Duty Ground Protection | Canopy extent of tree: Category B - Moderate quality |
| Tree Canopies | Temporary Ground Protection | Canopy extent of tree: Category C - Low quality |
| First Significant Branch | Haul road | Canopy extent of tree: Category U - Unsuitable for retention |
| Root Protection Area | Hoarding protection fencing | |

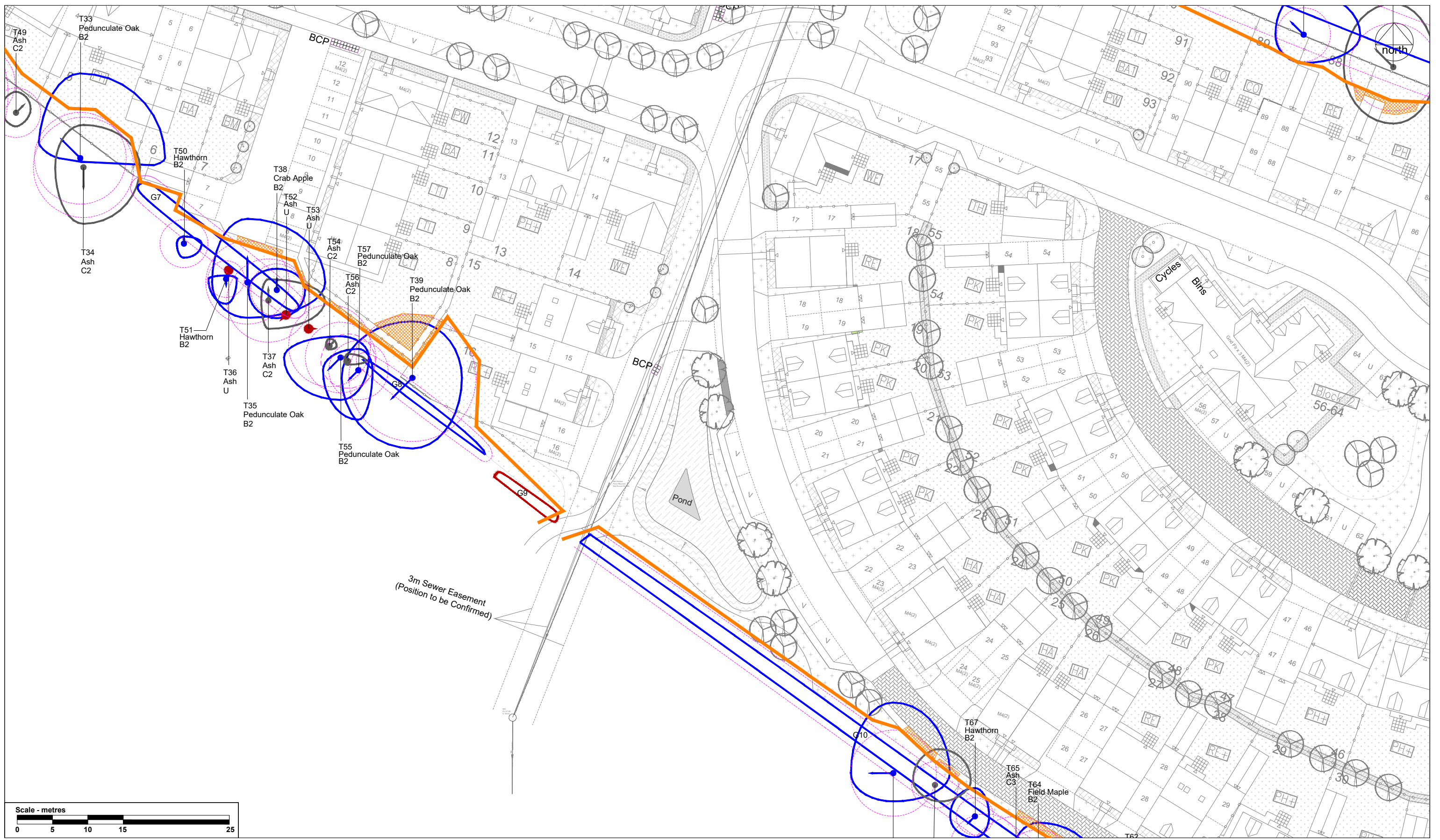
Notes
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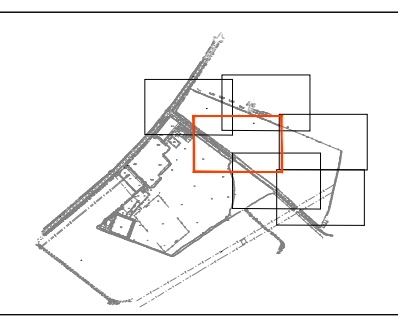
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KEY		BS5837:2012 Tree Categories	
	Site Boundary		Canopy extent of tree: Category A - High quality
	Tree (T) / Group (G) / Hedge (H) Number		Canopy extent of tree: Category B - Moderate quality
	Tree Canopies		Canopy extent of tree: Category C - Low quality
	First Significant Branch		Canopy extent of tree: Category U - Unsuitable for retention
	Root Protection Area		Temporary Tree Protection Fencing
			Heavy Duty Ground Protection
			Temporary Ground Protection
			Haul road
			Hoarding protection fencing

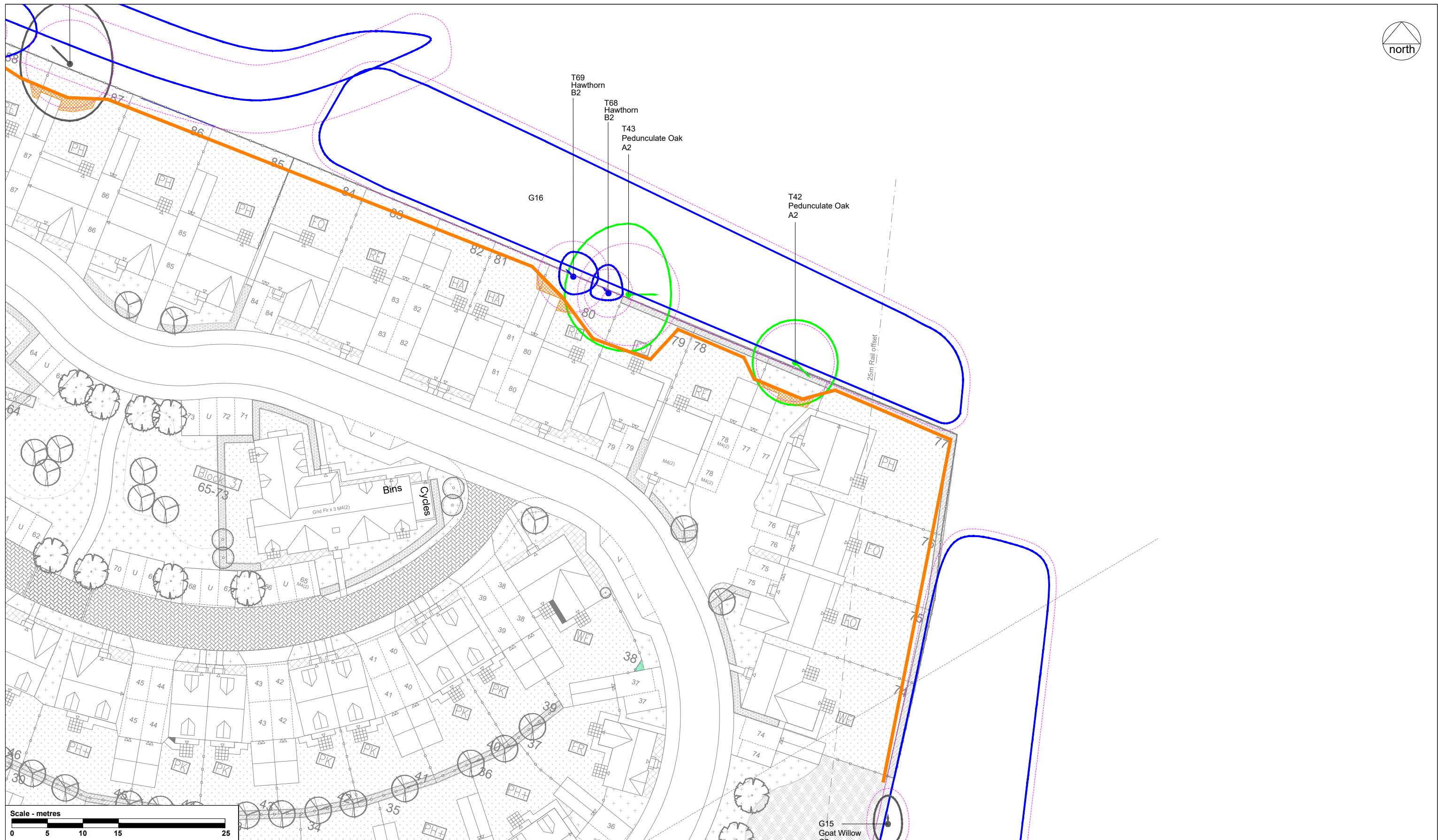
Notes
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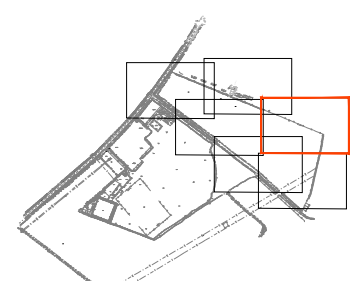
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Site Boundary	Temporary Tree Protection Fencing
Tree (T) / Group (G) / Hedge (H) Number	Heavy Duty Ground Protection
Tree Canopies	Temporary Ground Protection
First Significant Branch	Haul road
Root Protection Area	Hoarding protection fencing

BS5837:2012 Tree Categories

Canopy extent of tree: Category A - High quality
Canopy extent of tree: Category B - Moderate quality
Canopy extent of tree: Category C - Low quality
Canopy extent of tree: Category U - Unsuitable for retention

Notes
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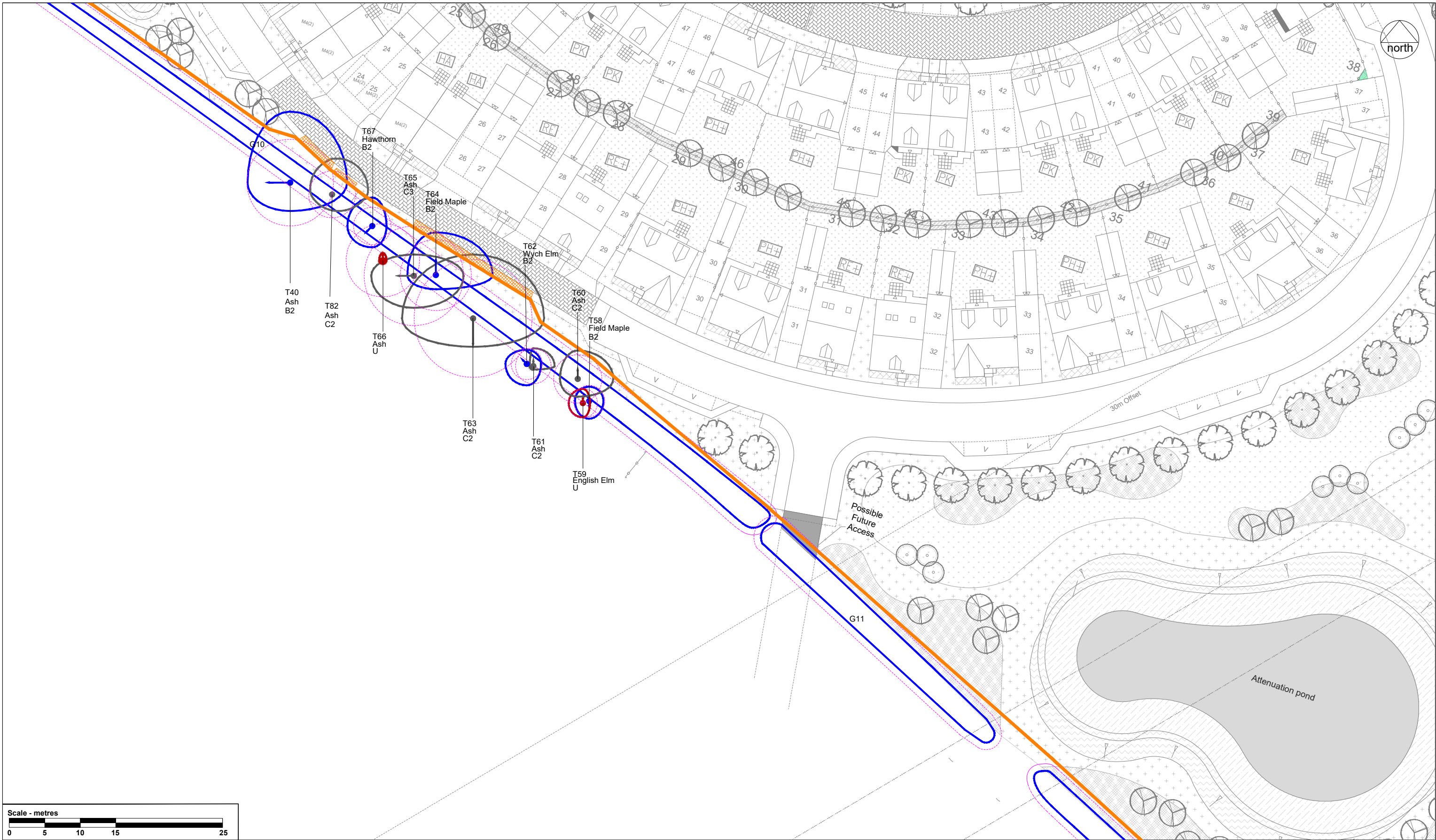
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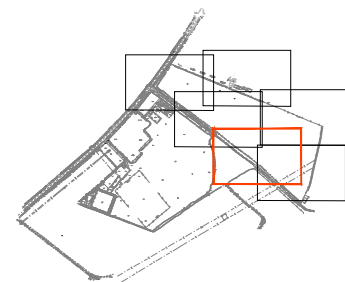
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	Tree (T) / Group (G) / Hedge (H) Number
	Tree Canopies
	First Significant Branch
	Root Protection Area

	Temporary Tree Protection Fencing
	Heavy Duty Ground Protection
	Temporary Ground Protection
	Haul road
	Hoarding protection fencing

BS5837:2012 Tree Categories

	Canopy extent of tree: Category A - High quality
	Canopy extent of tree: Category B - Moderate quality
	Canopy extent of tree: Category C - Low quality
	Canopy extent of tree: Category U - Unsuitable for retention

Notes
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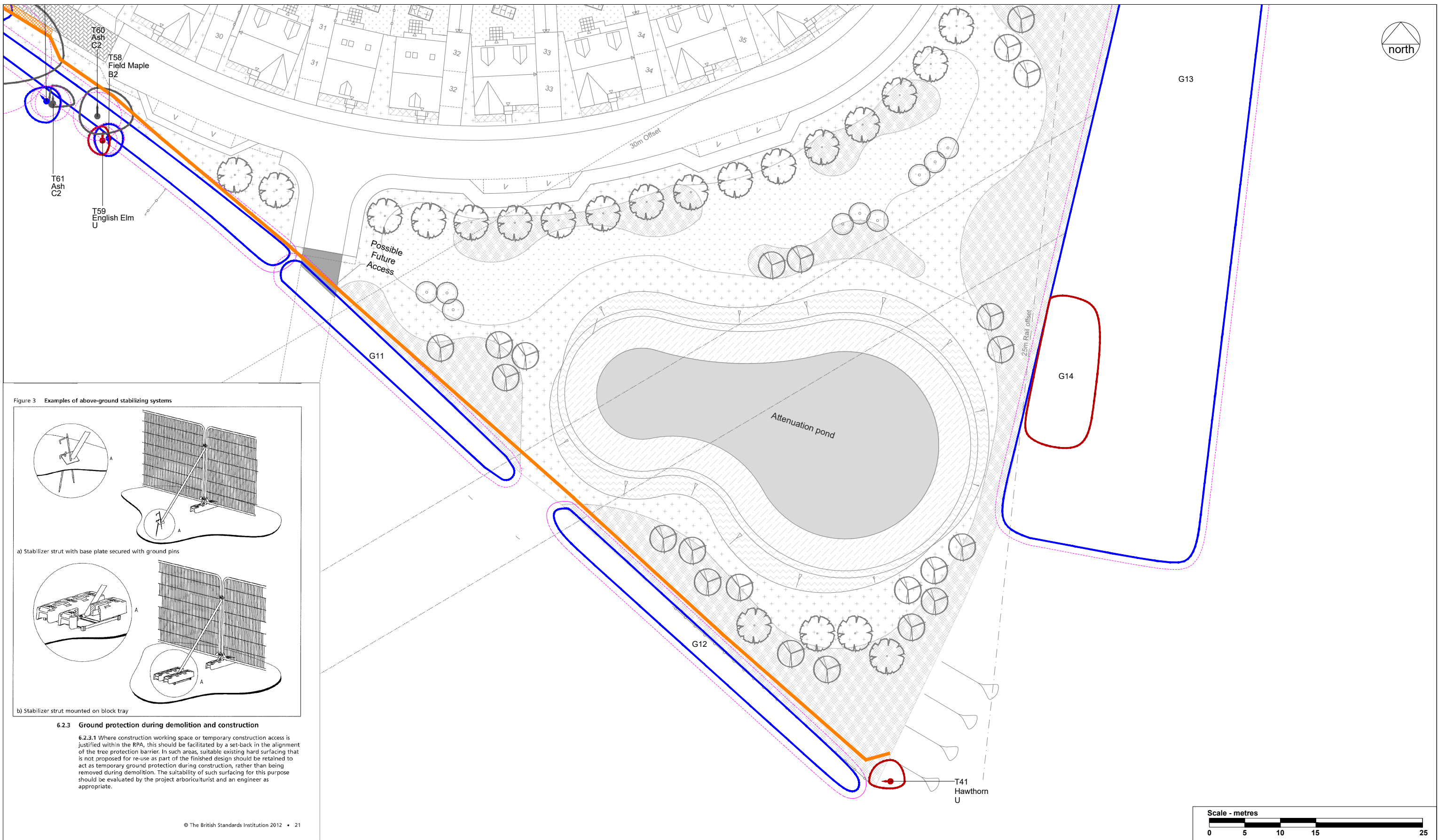
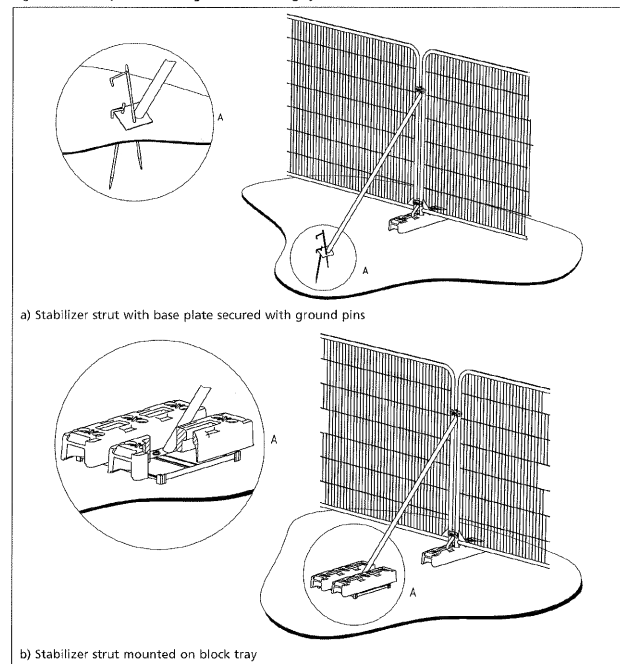


Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



6.2.3 Ground protection during demolition and construction

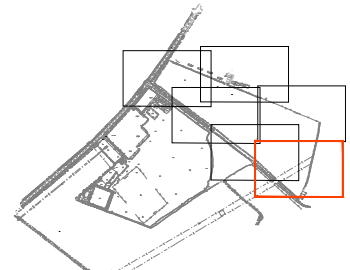
6.2.3.1 Where construction working space or temporary construction access is justified within the RPA, this should be facilitated by a set-back in the alignment of the tree protection barrier. In such areas, suitable existing hard surfacing that is not proposed for re-use as part of the finished design should be retained to act as temporary ground protection during construction, rather than being removed during demolition. The suitability of such surfacing for this purpose should be evaluated by the project arboriculturist and an engineer as appropriate.

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KEY	
	Site Boundary
	Tree (T) / Group (G) / Hedge (H) Number
	Tree Canopies
	First Significant Branch
	Root Protection Area
	Temporary Tree Protection Fencing
	Heavy Duty Ground Protection
	Temporary Ground Protection
	Haul road
	Hoarding protection fencing

BS5837:2012 Tree Categories	
	Canopy extent of tree: Category A - High quality
	Canopy extent of tree: Category B - Moderate quality
	Canopy extent of tree: Category C - Low quality
	Canopy extent of tree: Category U - Unsuitable for retention

Notes
 A full qualitative analysis of tree cover (The Tree Data Schedule) accompanies this drawing.
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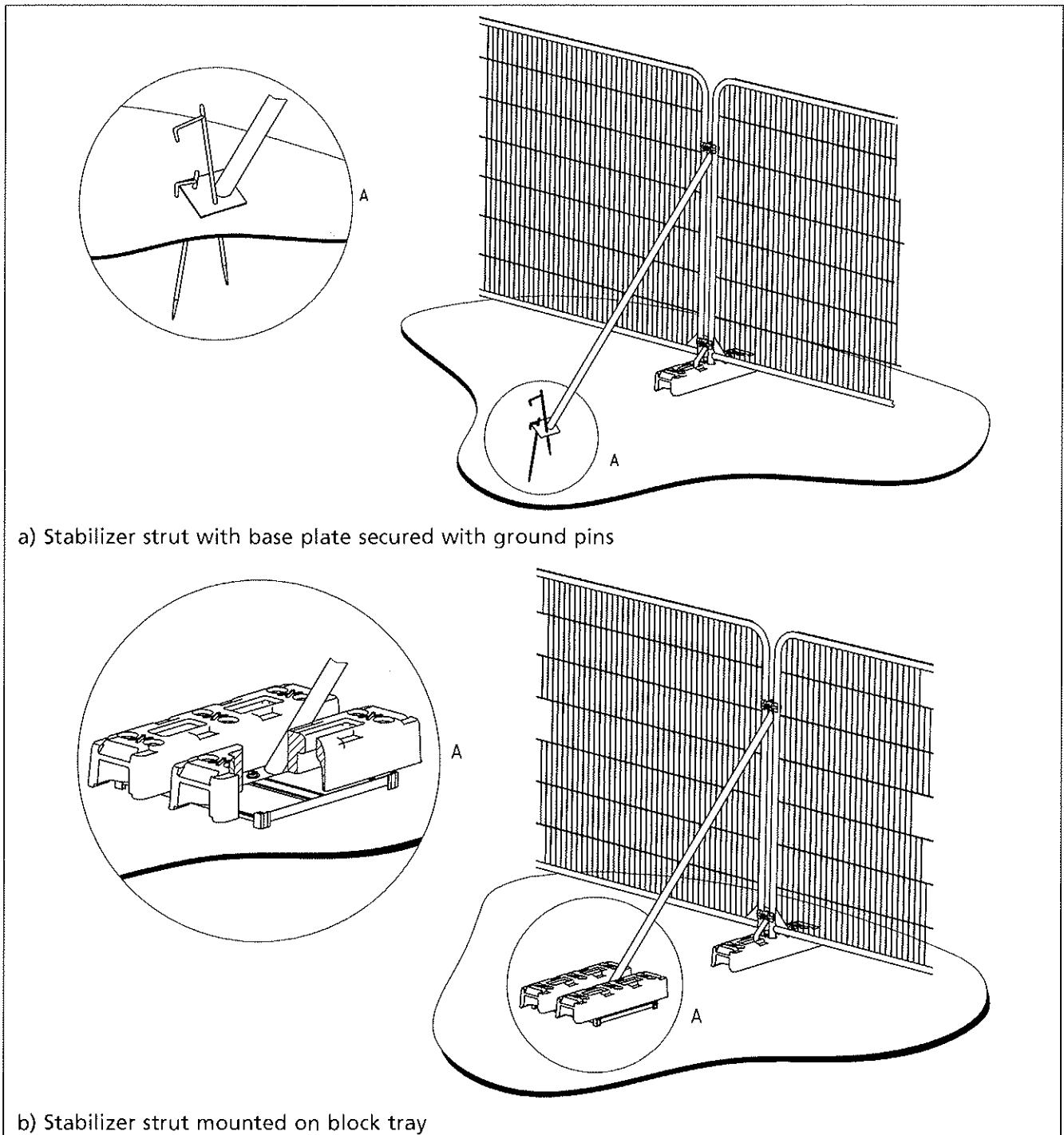
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Appendix B

Figure 3, 3a and 3b of BS5837: 2012

Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



6.2.3 Ground protection during demolition and construction

6.2.3.1 Where construction working space or temporary construction access is justified within the RPA, this should be facilitated by a set-back in the alignment of the tree protection barrier. In such areas, suitable existing hard surfacing that is not proposed for re-use as part of the finished design should be retained to act as temporary ground protection during construction, rather than being removed during demolition. The suitability of such surfacing for this purpose should be evaluated by the project arboriculturist and an engineer as appropriate.