

East West Rail Phase 2

Compound A1: Land north-east of Charbridge Lane

Arboricultural Method Statement

Network Rail

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Document History

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope of assessment

- 1.1.1 This document is an Arboricultural Method statement (AMS) to discharge planning condition 7 and condition 8 for the approved early works Compound A1 as part of planning application reference 19/00607/F.
- 1.1.2 This document should be read in conjunction with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) document reference 133735-EWR-REP-EEN-000176, which presents the findings of the tree survey on the recorded trees within Compound A1, as part of this advanced works planning application.
- 1.1.3 The AMS has been prepared by a qualified arboriculturist in accordance with the British Standard *BS5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations'* to produce this AIA and is supplemented by a Tree Protection Plan (TPP) covering the compound area, drawing number '133735_2A-EWR-OXD-XX-DR-L-019001' was submitted as part of the planning application. The TPP is to be supplemented by the proposed layout plan drawing number '133735_2A-EWR-OXD-A1-DR-WC-000001', which is included in Appendix C of this report.

1.2 Overview

- 1.2.1 This AMS should read alongside the Environmental Appraisal Report (EAR) which describes the advance works and the environmental effects of these advance works. The EAR contains the AIA and TPP within appendix D of the report.
- 1.2.2 The planning application for Compound A1 was approved and the following conditions assigned to address arboricultural issues:
- 1.2.3 **Condition 7** – *'Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, an Arboricultural Method statement (AMS) undertaken in accordance with BS:5837:2012 and all subsequent amendments and revisions, which shall also include an exclusion zone around the existing trees within the site, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter all works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved AMS'*.
- 1.2.4 **Condition 8** – *'Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, full details of a scheme of supervision for the Arboricultural protection measures, to include the requirements set out in a) to e) below, and which is appropriate for the scale and duration of the development works, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the arboricultural protection measures shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details:*
- 1.2.4.1 *a) written confirmation of the contact details of the project arboriculturist employed to undertake the supervisory role of relevant arboricultural issues*
 - 1.2.4.2 *b) the relevant persons/contractors to be briefed by the project arboriculturist on all on-site tree related matters*
 - 1.2.4.3 *c) the timing and methodology of scheduled site monitoring visits to be undertaken by the project arboriculturist*
 - 1.2.4.4 *d) the procedures for notifying and communicating with the Local Planning Authority when dealing with unforeseen variations to the agreed tree works and Arboricultural incidents*
 - 1.2.4.5 *e) details of appropriate supervision for the installation of load-bearing 'structural cell' planting pits and/or associated features such as irrigation systems, root barriers and surface requirements (e.g.: reduced dig systems, arboresin, tree grills)'*.
- 1.2.5 This AMS shall seek to address these conditions. However, condition 8(E) is not relevant as no bespoke engineering approaches are required for the trees in this compound. This is due to the works being positioned outside of the root protection areas of trees.

1.3 Construction compound A1

- 1.3.1 The compound is within Route Section 2A and is a satellite compound. The current layout of the compound is shown on drawing number '133735_2A-EWR-OXD-A1-DR-WC-000001'.
- 1.3.2 The layout has been informed by the existing tree constraints and the location of protective barriers is illustrated on the drawing. This drawing and subsequent revisions shall be used to set out the location of the tree protective barriers.

2. Pre-commencement site meeting

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 A pre-commencement site meeting shall take place prior to the construction of the compound. This meeting should include representatives from the EWR Alliance and include the Site Manager, Environmental Manager and the supervising Arboriculturist.
- 2.1.2 The purpose of the meeting is to raise awareness with the relevant parties of the trees on site and to confirm the individual responsibilities regarding trees. It will also confirm any requirements for tree related information to be included within induction material and daily briefings to members of staff working or visiting the compound.
- 2.1.3 It shall also confirm the following:
- 2.1.3.1 Where tree protective barriers are required.
 - 2.1.3.2 Tree works to be undertaken.
 - 2.1.3.3 Where/when arboricultural supervision will be required.

2.2 Contact details

- 2.2.1 The current contact details for the project arboriculturist and relevant EWR Alliance staff are as follows:

Table 2.1: Contact details

Role	Name	Contact number	Site compound induction date
Construction Environment Manager	Paula Collins	07818 528728	To be confirmed
Arboriculturist	Tom Dale	01223 814088	To be confirmed
Site Manager	Steve Golla	07469 414938	To be confirmed
Cherwell and South Northamptonshire Council Arboricultural Officer	Iain Osenton	01295 221708	To be confirmed

- 2.2.2 Table 2.1 shall be updated as the Scheme progresses to take into account any subsequent role changes or additional members of staff. The Local Authority Tree Officer shall be kept updated on such changes.

2.3 Site supervision

- 2.3.1 The Arboriculturist shall undertake a minimum of four supervisory visits to the site. It is anticipated that further supervisory visits shall be undertaken as required during the progression of the Scheme to enable an auditable succession of monitoring events for a review of the protection measures implemented for the trees. The final frequency of these visits is to be determined on completion of the pre-commencement site visit. However, the four detailed in table 2.2 shall be undertaken.
- 2.3.2 On completion of each site visit the *pro forma* in Appendix B of this report shall be completed by the Arboriculturist and submitted to the Client/Project Manager and the Local Authority Tree Officer.
- 2.3.3 Where the Arboriculturist (author) is not able to attend the ongoing monitoring visits, these visits are to be undertaken by a suitably briefed and experienced Arboriculturist or suitable delegate. The visits in table 2.2 have been identified to co-ordinate with specific works events that are listed in the table below.

Table 2.2: Programme of site supervision

Programme	Arboriculturist or delgate	Site compound induction date
Pre-commencement site meeting	Project Arboriculturist - Tom Dale or suitably qualified delegate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Confirm location and specification of tree protective barriers; b) Confirm tree works undertaken; c) Confirm requirements for tree protection information to be included in induction details for the site; d) Confirm requirements for reporting any tree related incidents; e) Confirm ongoing Arboricultural monitoring and contact details.
Setting out of protective barriers	Project Arboriculturist - Tom Dale or suitably qualified delegate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Review location and specification of tree protective barriers; b) Confirm any additional tree protection measure requirements; c) Submit site monitoring <i>pro forma</i> to Client / Project Manager.
During operation	Project Arboriculturist - Tom Dale or suitably qualified delegate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Review location and specification of tree protective barriers; b) Assess condition of retained trees, specifically for any construction related damage; c) Confirm any additional tree protection measure requirements; d) Submit site monitoring <i>pro forma</i> to Client / Project Manager.
Post-construction	Project Arboriculturist - Tom Dale or suitably qualified delegate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Inspect all retained trees to make sure they have not been damaged during the construction operations; b) To instruct any remedial works that may be required should a tree defect be identified as a result of the construction operations.

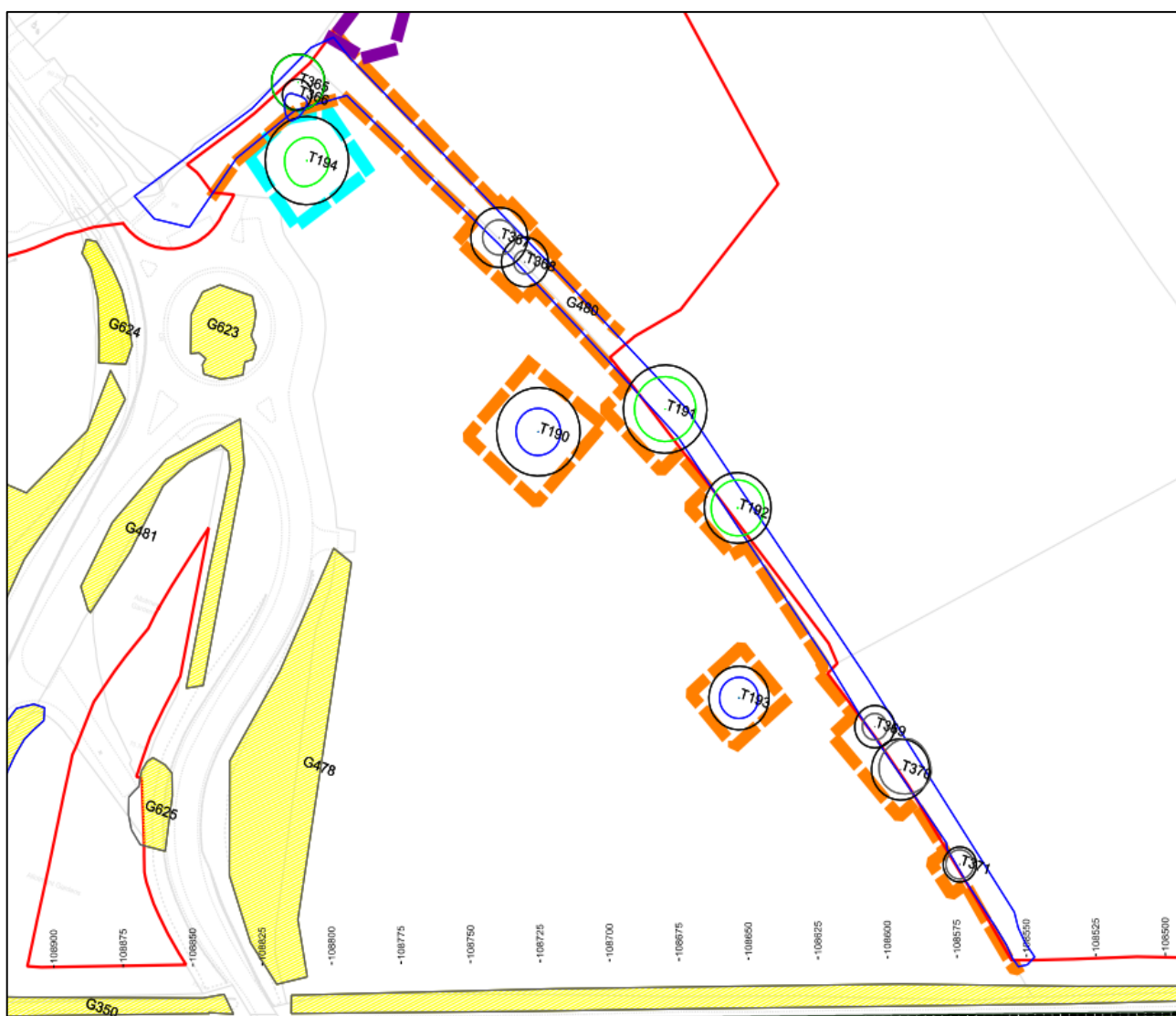
2.3.4 Where emergency matters arise regarding trees, e.g. unexpected access required within construction exclusion zones or damage to retained trees, then the Arboriculturist is to co-ordinate a visit to the site in person or delegate his powers to a suitably qualified person.

2.3.5 Any variations or incidents related to trees shall be reported in writing to the Local Authority Tree Officer by email. Details of the variations or incidents shall incorporate photographic evidence and site notes as appropriate. Suitable remedial measures, including potentially the provision of new planting where deemed appropriate shall be confirmed with the Local Authority Tree Officer in writing.

3. Construction exclusion zone (CEZ) & protective barriers

3.1 CEZ definition

- 3.1.1 For the purpose of this AMS the CEZs can be defined as all the soft surfaces within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees outside of the works areas and the areas behind the tree protection fencing.
- 3.1.2 The RPAs of the trees have been used to inform the layout of the proposals. An insert taken from the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) that was submitted as part of the original planning application is included below.
- 3.1.3 The significant trees requiring protection are T190 and T193, which are located within the compound area. The remaining trees are set back from the proposals, but still require protection as part of the Scheme.



Insert 3.1: extract from TPP submitted as part of the planning application.

- 3.1.4 Fencing shall be installed to act as barriers and define CEZs between the trees and the compound operations.

- 3.1.5 Site operations not permitted in the CEZs without consultation with an Arboriculturist include storage of plant, equipment or materials, vehicular or plant access, washing down of vehicles or machinery, handling, discharge or spillage of any substances, including cement washings, or any actions likely to cause localised water-logging. No mechanical digging, scraping or excavation shall be permitted in the CEZ and no earthworks or changes in the finished ground levels made other than those agreed by an Arboriculturist.

3.2 Tree protective barriers

- 3.2.1 The TPP covering the compound area, drawing number '133735_2A-EWR-OXD-XX-DR-L-019001', was submitted as part of the planning application. The TPP is supplemented by drawing number '133735-2A-EWR-OXD-A1-DR-WC-000001' Compound A1 Proposed Plan - see appendix C of this report.
- 3.2.2 This plan illustrates the location of the 'Heras' fencing for the internal trees and the 2.4m high 'Paladin' perimeter fence, which will protect the trees beyond the compound footprint. The setting out of the fencing shall be undertaken in conjunction with the arboriculturist using datum points taken from the geo-referenced site drawings.
- 3.2.3 The proposed plan is to be pinned up on site in a highly visible area and in the site hut if appropriate, so that all staff involved in the works have a point of reference for tree protection issues.
- 3.2.4 The protective barriers are to be installed prior to any works commencing. The location and setting out details for the fencing are currently detailed on drawing '133735-2A-EWR-OXD-A1-DR-WC-000001'. The barriers are to be erected to exclude construction activity in the RPAs of retained trees.
- 3.2.5 The internal protective barrier is to comprise 2m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet. The panels are to be joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers, installed so they can only be removed from inside the fence. The distance between the fence couplers is to be at least 1m and is to be uniform throughout the fence; the panels are to be supported by inner side stabiliser struts attached to a base plate secured on a block tray. See appendix A for tree protection fencing details.
- 3.2.6 The protected areas shall be seen as sacrosanct and once installed shall not be moved or altered without recommendation by the project Arboriculturist and, where necessary, approval from the local planning authority.

3.3 Ground protection

- 3.3.1 No areas of temporary ground protection have been identified.

4. Tree works

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 All tree works are to be undertaken in line with current recommendations in accordance with BS3998:2010 *Tree work – Recommendations* and shall comply with the current Arboriculture and Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG) guidance or applicable Forestry Industry Safety Accord advice published by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) or FISA.
- 4.1.2 Tree works are to be planned to ensure protection of people, property and wildlife. If works are to be undertaken during the bird nesting season, then advice is to be sought from an Ecologist prior to undertaking the works.
- 4.1.3 The tree works contractor is to be made aware of the site access limitations. The contractor will have to submit a risk assessment and method statement for review by the Contractor or Supervisor prior to commencing works on site.

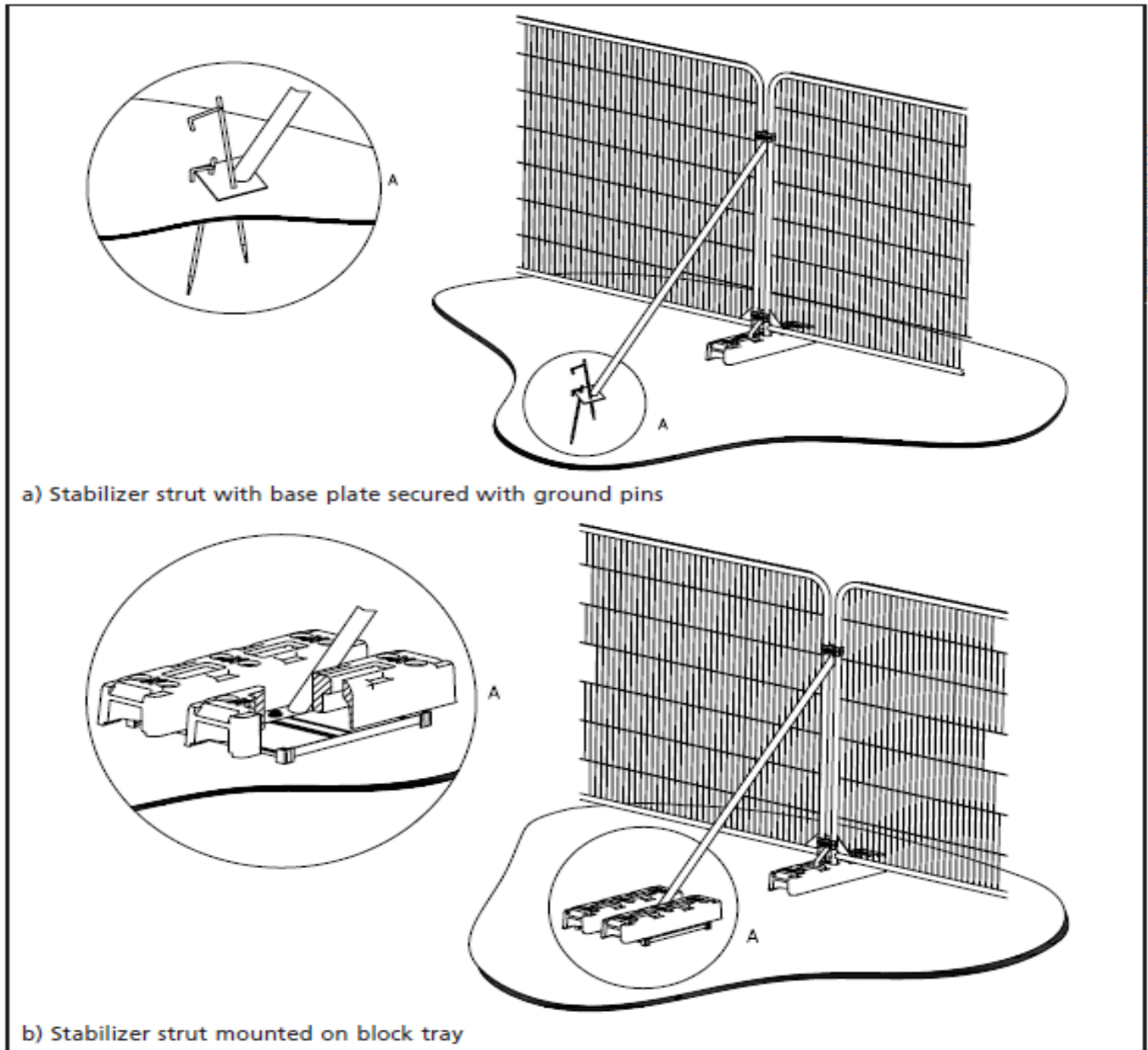
4.2 Tree works

- 4.2.1 Tree-specific management operations shall be undertaken on the following trees:
- G480 – fell dead elm within falling distance of compound area
 - T194 – detailed inspection of root plate by an arboriculturist prior to any construction operations
 - T367 – reduction in height of tree if works within falling distance of the tree due to structural defects recorded
 - T368 – detailed inspection of root plate by an arboriculturist prior to any construction operations
 - T369 – remove hung-up broken branch and undertake aerial inspection of branch unions within middle to upper crown
 - T370 – tree to be coppiced or pollarded as specified after detailed inspection by arboriculturist.
 - G478 – part of group to be felled to accommodate access to site.
 - G351 – part of group to be felled to accommodate access to the main line.
- 4.2.2 All arisings are to be processed in accordance with any ecological requirements.

Appendix A Tree protection fencing specification

A.1 Tree Protection Fencing

The fencing specification shall accord to either of the layout details below.



Appendix B

B1. Site visit *pro forma*

Job number:			
Document ref:			
Revision:			
Purpose description:			
Originated:			
Checked:			
Authorised:			
Date:			
Notice:			

Purpose of Monitoring Visit

□

Date of Visit

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Observations

□

Recommended Actions

□

Relevant Photographs

Number	Photograph	Description

Appendix C Proposed Plan '133735_2A-EWR-OXD-A1-DR-WC-000001