

Superseded

CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Former Cardonnel Court Nursing Home
Cardonnel Road Skewen SA10 6BS

October 2023

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Demolition and Construction Environmental Management Plan (DCEMP) has been prepared on behalf of SWP SPV3 Ltd. (hereafter referred to as SWP) to satisfy condition 3 (CEMP) of planning permission P2023/0499 granted by Neath Port Talbot Council on the 10th October 2023. The aforementioned condition requires details in relation to the management of the construction phase of the project to be detailed in a DCEMP.
- 1.2 The application site is a former care home and granted planning permission for its redevelopment to provide a 16bed residential care facility with associated works under P2023/0499. Works on site have not yet commenced.
- 1.3 This statement covers condition 3 and the full wording of the condition is below.

Condition 3 reads as follows:

No development shall commence (including any demolition or site clearance), until a Demolition & Construction Environmental Management Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Demolition and Construction Environmental Management Plan shall be in accordance with the requirements of British Standard BS5228-1:2009 - "Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites". The approved Statement shall be adhered to throughout the demolition and construction phases. The Statement shall provide for:

- a) Construction methods: details of the extent and phasing of development; details for the storage and management of plant and materials used in constructing the development***
- b) Drainage: Details of drainage measures during construction phases to ensure that the drainage of any adjoining land, and land downstream is not interrupted or otherwise adversely affected by the development.***
- c) General Site Management: details of the construction programme including timetable; details of site clearance; details for erection and maintenance of security hoarding including decorative displays and facilities for public viewing.***
- d) Control of Nuisances: Wheel washing facilities and measures to control light spill.***
- e) Traffic Management: details of site deliveries including routes of vehicles, plus delivery and construction times, taking into account the proximity of residential dwellings details for the loading and unloading of plant and materials; details for the parking of vehicles of site operatives and visitors; scheme for the erection of temporary/semi-temporary signage warning drivers of the presence of children and speed restrictions; Measures to prevent stacking of vehicles onto the public highway; The frequency and size of vehicles used to transport the waste material arising from the demolition works;***
- f) Hours of working on site, including specified hours for deliveries; details of restrictions to be applied during construction and demolition works***

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(including timing, duration and frequency of works) to prevent noise or nuisance amenity issues to surrounding properties.

- g) Responsible Persons: details of the persons and bodies responsible for activities associated with the CEMP and emergency contact details, the CEMP must also be signed by the responsible person.*

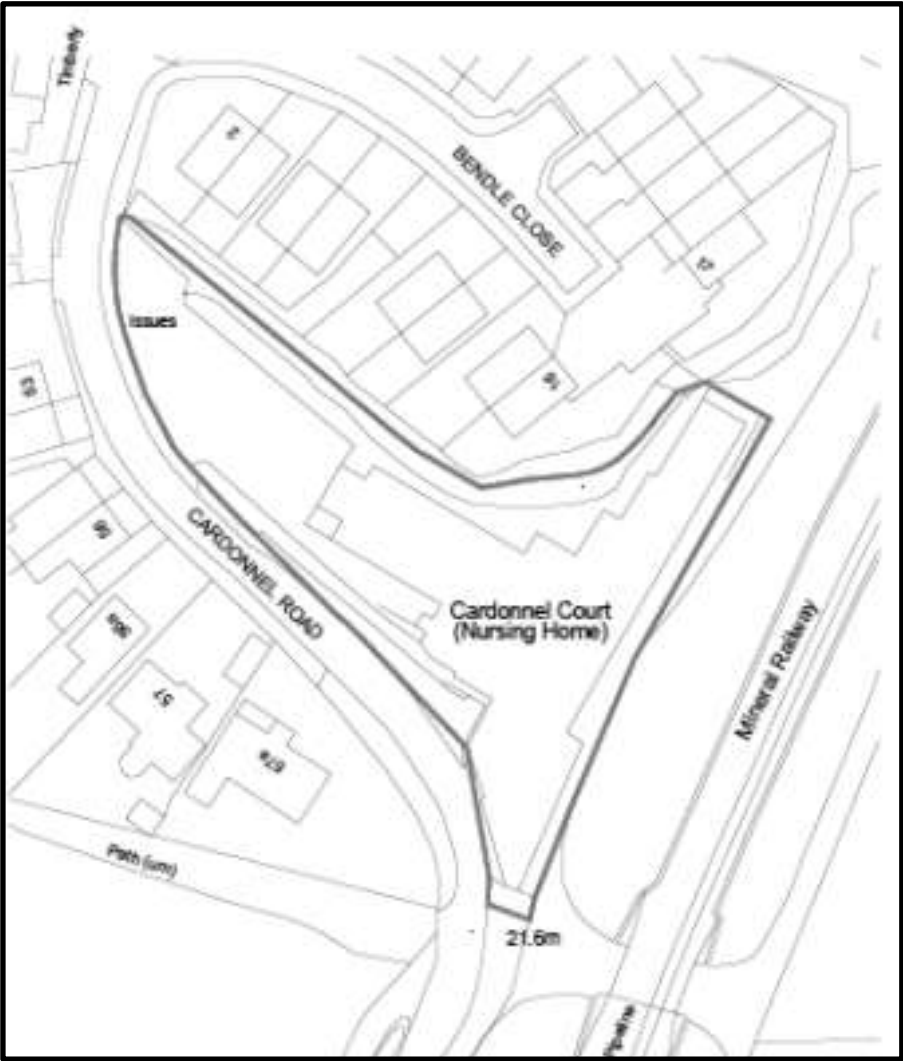
Reason: In the interest of highway and pedestrian safety, the environment, and the amenity of residents, and to ensure accordance with Policies BE1 and TR2 of the adopted Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 1.4 SWP will not be the Principal Contractor but compliance with this CEMP will be a requirement passed onto the Contractor who will either need to comply with the measures set out or re-discharge the condition accordingly.

2.0 SITE LOCATION

- 2.1 The Site is located in the settlement of Skewen in the administrative authority of Neath Port Talbot Council (hereafter referred to as NPTC). Skewen is approximately 2 miles to the west of Neath and 8 miles to the east of Swansea city centre and has excellent links to the M4 motorway, located immediately off junction 43 of the M4 motorway. The site is located to the south of the Skewen settlement in a predominantly residential area.
- 2.2 More specifically, the Site is a roughly triangular shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 0.5ha. The Site has varying ground levels with the highest levels at the Site access point, off Cardonnel Road, and the lowest level along the eastern boundary resulting in the eaves of the existing building being broadly at the same level as Cardonnel Road as it curves around the southern boundary of the Site. The Site currently comprises of a 39bed care home and associated car parking. The existing care home building is ‘T’ shaped, single storey, in a poor state of repair and its footprint occupies the majority of the Site. In the western portion of the Site is a car park area with capacity for around 7no car parking spaces and turning area. The site is almost entirely enclosed by trees and vegetation with the exception of an opening to enable the access point.
- 2.3 The Site is bounded to the north, south and west by residential properties, with Cardonnel Road curving around the western and southern boundaries. The east of the Site is bounded by a planted bank which leads to a mineral railway line. The site is adjacent to watercourse to the north which is known as the Pentrefynnon SINC (NPTSINC099 Pentrefynnon).
- 2.4 Access to the Site is gained via Cardonnel Road which in turn is accessed from either Pale Road or Bosworth Road via Burrows Road.
- 2.5 To the north-east of the Site is the Tennant Canal, Skewen Cutting and tramroad bridge which is an Ancient Scheduled Monument. There are no public rights of way that cross the Site or run along its boundaries. The Site is not affected by flooding.

Figure 1: Extract of the Site Location Plan is below.



3.0 GENERAL SITE MANAGEMENT

Construction Programme

3.1 The construction programme is anticipated to take 54 weeks and given scale of development will not be phased. The full programme is included in Appendix 2.

Site Clearance

3.2 Site clearance, including demolition, will take place once the site set up is complete and anticipated to take 6 weeks.

3.3 Site clearance, which includes the demolition of existing buildings discussed below, will make way for the development. In clearing the elements of the site for development the following measures will be taken which are detailed more fully in the Bat Survey which supported the application and is included at Appendix 3 of this CEMP:

- A suitably licenced and experienced ecologist will be on call for the duration of the works.
- Before any work begins on site, a briefing for contractors and other site-staff ‘toolbox talk’ will be given by an ecologist. The briefing will cover the issues in respect of protected species they may encounter on site, where they might find them, methods of working, and what they need to know to avoid committing an offence. Every briefing attendee will be provided with a copy of a Method Statement and the contact details of an ecologist and Natural Resources Wales.
- If at any point bats or evidence of bats is found, all works will cease, BE Ecological Ltd informed and NRW consulted.
- If bats or their signs are found, a EPS licence may be required before works can legally resume

Demolition

3.4 The former care homes requires demolition to make way for the development and will be undertaken by a separate enabling works contractor. The demolition contractor has been appointed, Allclear, and they have provided a Demolition Method Statement which is contained in Appendix 7 and details how the demolition will be undertaken.

3.5 Allclear contractor in addition to the detailed Demolition Method Statement has also prepared risk assessment which will be issued to the SWP prior to the commencement of any work on site.

3.6 Allclear have been made aware of the requirement of the Bat Survey and Japanese Knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement. The Demolition Method Statement aligns with both of these documents.

3.7 The Demolition Method statements has been reviewed by the Contracts Manager and Appointed Structural Engineer to assess strategies proposed under Health and Safety grounds, as well as the effects on any surrounding structures, services, etc.

Site Set Up

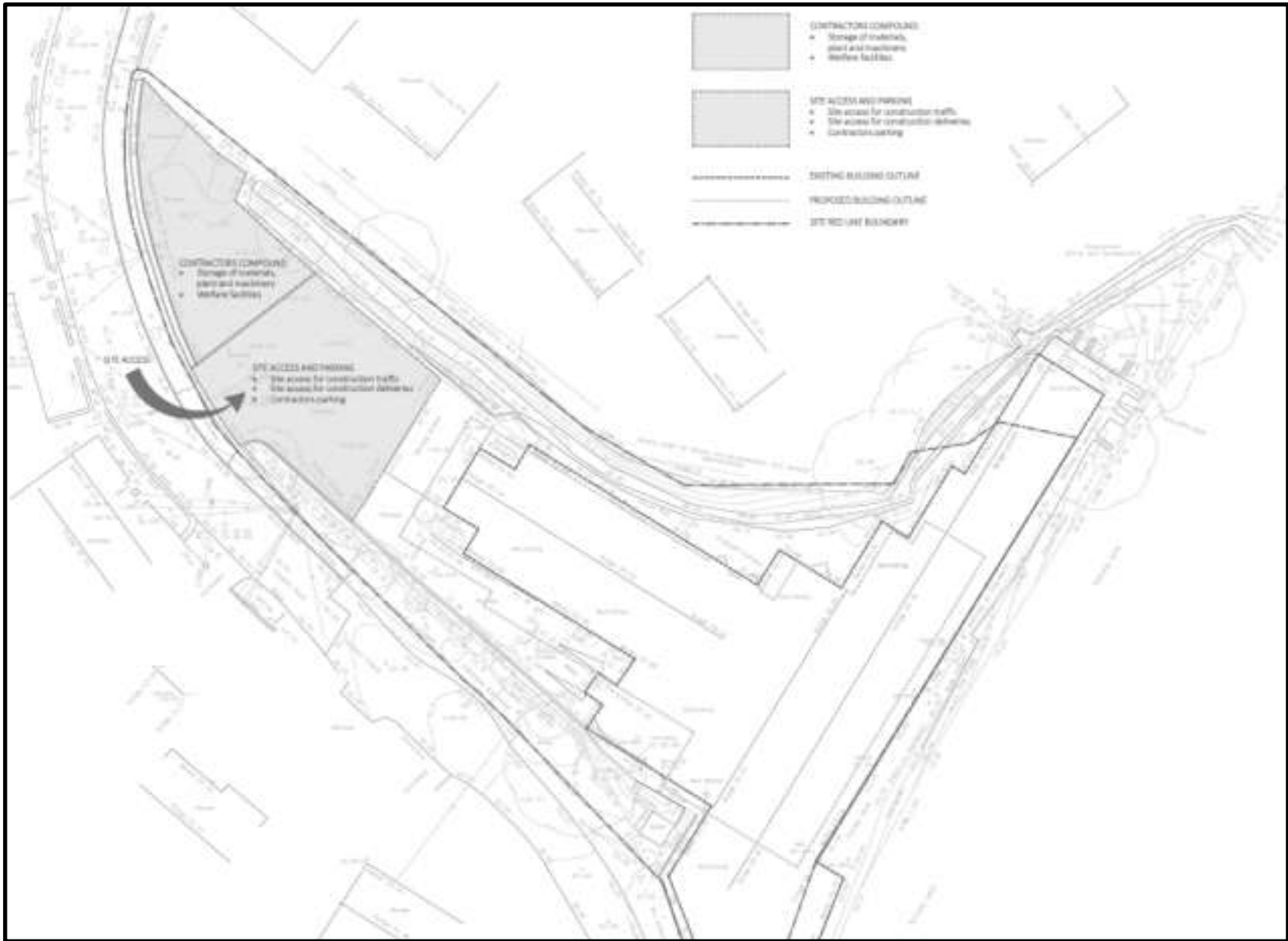
- 3.8

The site set up during construction is shown on the plan extract overleaf and full plan included in Appendix 1. The site set up includes:

 - **Construction access** will be via the existing site access off Cardonnel Road. This will be the only site access during construction and once the development is completed. The access will lead directly to the contractor parking and construction delivery area.
 - **Parking and Delivery Area** (shaded yellow on Site Compound Plan) is accessed via the main site access point, via the contractor’s compound area, and will provide an area for contractor parking and also an off road location for construction deliveries. All construction relates traffic will be directed to this area.
 - **Contractors Compound** (shaded green on Site Compound Plan) is north of the site access and will accommodate the welfare facilities and the store all materials, plant and machinery.
- 3.9

The site will be secured with temporary hoarding, as required, and the hoarding will include the contractor and developer branding as well as details of the development. The Contractor Compound and Site access and Parking Area and will be secured with temporary fencing, if needed. Since they are both located within the confines of the site which will be secured overnight or when construction activities are not taking place it may not be necessary to have fencing internal to the site. This will be determined once a contractor for the development is appointed.

Figure 2: Extract of Site Compound Plan



Welfare Facilities

- 3.10 The welfare facilities will include:
 - Toilet;
 - A supply of hot & cold or warm running water;
 - Heated rest facilities with tables & chairs, facility for boiling water and a means for heating food;
 - A supply of drinking water
- 3.11 The temporary site accommodation may comprise of a self-contained welfare unit provided by a local hire company. The facilities comply with the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 and will be maintained to a high standard of hygiene by all site operatives.
- 3.12 A first aid box with sufficient first aid provisions will be available on site, and the Site Manager will be responsible for ensuring the first aid provisions are adequate and maintained. Morriston Hospital, Heol Maes Eglwys, Cwmrhydyceirw, morriston. SA6 6NL, Telephone: 01792 702222 is the nearest hospital with 24-hour accident and emergency facilities.

Personal Protective Equipment

- 3.13 All personnel and visitors will wear the required personal protective equipment including appropriate footwear and high visibility vests/jackets at all times

Hours of Operation

- 3.14 All works will be carried out in strict accordance with agreed working hours. These

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will be 7:30am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday and 7:30am to 1.00pm on Saturdays. The site will not be operational on Sundays or Bank Holidays. No works will take place on Sundays or during UK holidays.

- 3.15 On occasions however, there may be a requirement for heavy/wide loads to be delivered and removed outside of these hours. Should such an occasion arise, the contractor will provide reasonable notice to the local neighbours via a mail drop, in addition the contractor will be in attendance at all times.

Containment Areas

- 3.16 There will be a containment area within the Contractor Compound to store materials which may be harmful. The containment area will be properly demarcated with appropriate signage. The contained area will be positioned at least 10m away from watercourses and bunded to avoid any spillages in the area shown on the CEMP Masterplan contained in Appendix 6.

Construction Drainage

- 3.17 Adequate space for SUDS including facilities such as settlement ponds and temporary bunds will be provided, as require during construction, to prevent rainwater discharge off site and ensure not drainage of adjoining land and land downstream are affected by the construction works. The location of the settlement pond and temporary bund are shown in the surface Water Drainage Plan shown in Appendix 8. The ditch along the northern boundary will be inspected and if required, gaps within the fence will be protected with barrier fencing reducing the risk of debris leaving the site boundary throughout demolition and construction, if required. All temporary construction drainage features will be located away from the site boundaries, particularly the ditch along the northern boundary. Drainage channels will be monitored daily through visual assessment by the site manager to assess effectiveness. A record of the visual assessment will be recorded on the daily housekeeping schedule to identify any potential issues. Drainage channels will be monitored daily through visual assessment by the site manager to assess effectiveness. A record of the visual assessment will be recorded on the daily housekeeping schedule to identify any potential issues. Please refer to surface Water Drainage Plan contained in Appendix 8.
- 3.18 The final development requires SAB approval which the applicant is currently pursuing. The final SuDs solution will be implemented in accordance with the SAB approval.

4.0 BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

Existing Environment

- 4.1 The site is a brownfield site comprising of an existing building, hardstanding and planting along the boundaries. A Bat Survey has been undertaken at the site which confirmed that the building is not being used as a bat roost.
- 4.2 No evidence of breeding birds was found throughout the buildings at the time of survey.
- 4.3 The site is adjacent to Pentrefynnon SINC (NPTSINC099 Pentrefynnon).
- 4.4 The site is surrounded by trees and broad-leaved woodland.

Potential Effect of Development and Mitigation Measures

- 4.5 During construction of the proposed care home and associated works site clearance needs to take place as described earlier in this CEMP. The site demolition and clearance could adversely impact biodiversity and the potential impacts are summarised below.

Bats

- 4.6 Whilst the building has been surveyed and no bat roost identified, as a precautionary measure the proposed demolition of the building will be undertaken in accordance with the recommended Method Statement included in the Bat Survey (Demolition Method Statement contained in Appendix 7 and Bat survey contained in Appendix 3) which requires the following:
- A suitably licenced and experienced ecologist will be on call for the duration of the works.
 - Before any work begins on site, a briefing for contractors and other site-staff ‘toolbox talk’ will be given by an ecologist. The briefing will cover the issues in respect of protected species they may encounter on site, where they might find them, methods of working, and what they need to know to avoid committing an offence. Every briefing attendee will be provided with a copy of a Method Statement and the contact details of an ecologist and Natural Resources Wales.
 - If at any point bats or evidence of bats is found, all works will cease, BE Ecological Ltd informed and NRW consulted.
 - If bats or their signs are found, a EPS licence may be required before works can legally resume

Watercourse

- 4.7 The proposed development will be offset from the watercourse more than the existing building which will, therefore, be an improvement in the relationship of the site with the watercourse once the proposed development is complete. Also, the watercourse is currently significantly affected by Japanese Knotweed and as part of

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the proposed redevelopment of the site the Japanese Knotweed will be eradicated which will improve the conditions of the watercourse.

4.8 There is the risk of adverse impacts on the watercourse during the construction phase however the following measures will be undertaken to ensure the watercourse is protected for the duration of the construction phase:

- Deliveries, where possible, will be made at least 10m away from the watercourses or construction drainage systems areas;
- All deliveries to be supervised including inspections of all containers, tanks or drums brought on site to ensure they are in a satisfactory condition;
- Refuelling areas will be sited away from watercourses with a fuel overspill bund and kit provided;
- Safe storage of all polluting materials within the containment area which will be located over 10m away from the watercourse;
- Silty water to be treated via settlement ponds (SuDS method);
- Plant wheel washings as and when necessary;
- Site run off will be monitored throughout construction phase;
- The highway gullies will be cleansed periodically throughout construction phase; and
- All contractors will be informed of the potential risk posed to the River Ebbw before starting works and made aware of pollution prevention methods in relation to existing watercourses.

Tree and Hedgerow Protection

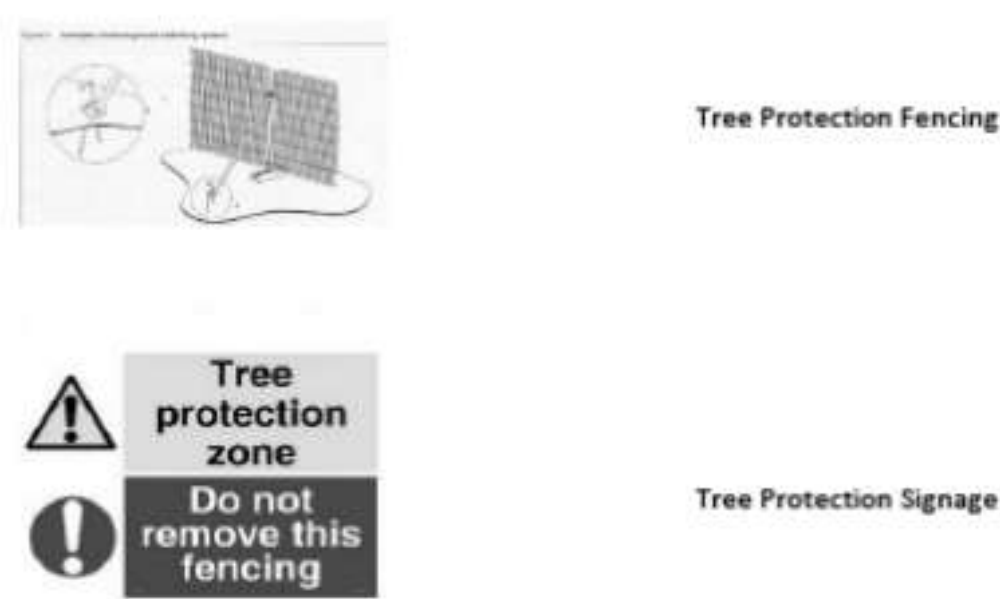
4.8 The trees and hedgerows will be protected in accordance with Tree Protection Plan contained in the Arboricultural Report which was submitted with the planning application. The relevant measures included in that report are extracted below and the full tree report is contained in Appendix 4.

4.7 The Tree Protection Plan measures are:

- Any treeworks required must be carried out prior to the commencement of construction works.
- Heras fencing as shown below will be erected in the location marked on the Tree Protection Plan. Ground protection matting must be used here, and pedestrian access only will be permitted.
- The fenced off area will be designated as the construction exclusion zone (CEZ). Example of fencing shown below.
- All fencing must be in place before construction works begin and must not be moved or removed until all construction works have finished. Signage as shown below must be attached to the fencing.
- All treeworks will be undertaken in accordance with the measures set out in the Japanese Knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement (page 23). The Japanese Knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement is contained in Appendix 5.
- Works within the CEZ are restricted as follows

- No excavations to be carried out unless agreed as part of the planning permission
- No vehicle access.
- No fires to be lit within the CEZ or within 10 metres of the crown of a tree to be retained.
- No storage of construction materials or spoil within the CEZ.
- No mixing of cement or discharge of contaminants such as fuel within the CEZ
- Soil levels within the CEZ must not be altered unless agreed as part of the planning permission.
- No signs or lighting to be attached to trees to be retained.

Figure 3: Tree Protection Fencing and Signage examples



4.8 Condition 4 of the planning consent requires details of a landscaping scheme, including indications of all existing trees (including spread and species) and hedgerows on the land, identify those to be retained and set out measures for their protection throughout the course of development. As such, the above tree protection measures will be considered under the discharge of that condition.

Birds

4.8 Should any bird nest be identified within the building during works, it will be left until such a time the young have fledged the nest of their own accord.

Invasive Species Management

4.11 There is confirmed presence of Japanese Knotweed at the site. The planning application was supported by a Japanese Knotweed Management and Method Statement which will be implemented to ensure the Japanese Knotweed is eradicated appropriately. The Japanese Knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement is contained in Appendix 5.

Avoidance and Mitigation Measures

4.12 In summary, the avoidance and mitigation measures required during construction are:

- Precautionary approach to demolition of the building to ensure no adverse impact on bats (in the unlikely event they are present on site);
- Implementation of the Tree Protection Plan including tree fencing;
- Protection of watercourses and monitoring to take place during construction in accordance with the mitigation measures set out in this CEMP;
- Works to be paused on site if nesting birds are discovered to enable the young to have fledged the next of their own accord; and
- The eradication of Japanese Knotweed to be undertaken in accordance with the Japanese Knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement is contained in Appendix 5.

Ecological Enhancements

- 4.13
- Planning consent P2023/0499 secures various ecological enhancements via the planning conditions imposed including:
- A wildlife friendly external lighting scheme which protects dark corridors is required under condition 11.
 - The installation of long term ecological enhancements to be incorporated within the completed development in the form of 3no. bat tubes and 3no. sparrow terraces, secured via condition 12 of the consent.
 - A comprehensive landscaping scheme for the development which includes wildlife friendly friendly species to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority, ensuring maximum biodiversity enhancements under condition 4.
 - The proposed bin store to have a green roof as per the requirements of condition 13.

Ecological Clerk of Works

- 4.14
- In case of emergencies or queries relating to ecological matters, the ecological clerk is Beth Evans of BE Ecological Ltd (info@beecological.co.uk).

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5.0 SOIL MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Topsoil will be retained and stockpiled on site in a suitable location to ensure it does not:
- Impact on trees or hedgerows
 - Risk blocking the ditch of temporary drainage features
 - Adversely impact or block the watercourse adjacent to the site

5.2 The top soil will be re-used within the grassland areas, games park and sensory gardens.

5.3 The site does not have any suspected site contamination and no additional survey work in relation to ground conditions was requested during the planning process or conditioned to the permission. It is not anticipated that any amelioration of the soil will be required.

6.0	CONTROL OF NUISANCES
	Noise and Vibration
6.1	The Contractor and their sub-contractors should at all times apply the principle of Best Practicable Means as defined in Section 72 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 and carry out all work in such a manner as to reduce any disturbance from noise and vibration to a minimum.
6.2	All plant brought on to site should comply with the relevant EC/UK noise limits applicable to that equipment or should be no noisier than would be expected based on the noise levels quoted in BS 5228-1:2009. Plant should be properly maintained and operated in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
6.3	Electrically powered plant should be preferred, where practicable, to mechanically powered alternatives. All mechanically powered plant should also be fitted with suitable silencers, as appropriate.
6.4	Items of plant on-site operating intermittently should be shut down in the intervening periods between use.
6.5	Where feasible, all stationary plant should be located so that the noise effect at all occupied commercial and residential properties is minimised and, if practicable, every item of static plant when in operation should be sound attenuated using methods based on the guidance and advice given in BS 5228.
6.6	All plant and equipment will be 'silenced' in accordance with the manufacturer's designs and will be regularly serviced / inspected to ensure ongoing compliance. Works will be carried out by trained and competent operatives using best practice techniques. No machine will be allowed to 'idle' when works are not in progress.
6.7	Use of pneumatic breaking should be limited or, better still, alternative techniques should be investigated and utilised; and crunchers should be used in preference to pneumatic breakers; and where breakers are used, they should be of a suitable size for the job.
6.8	Whenever possible, deliveries should be programmed to arrive during daytime hours only and care should be taken when unloading vehicles to minimise noise. Deliveries should be routed so as to minimise disturbance to local residents and delivery vehicles should be prohibited from waiting within or near the site with their engines running.
	Dust Control
6.9	The local authority has the power under the Clean Air Act 1993, to limit the dust, emissions and odours generated by a site. Failure to comply with these limits can result in abatement notices being served if complaints are made.
6.10	Complaints can be avoided by adopting good working practices: • Identify sensitive receptors and inform the authorities of any likely nuisance that may occur

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- Instigate control measures to mitigate any negative impacts
- Develop a daily monitoring regime to record dust conditions while noting weather conditions, construction activities, their location and duration on site.

Dust Suppression

- 6.11 Due to the nature of the construction and existing operation of the site, significant levels of increased dust is not anticipated. Should dust occur associated with the construction of the proposed care home, then this will be kept to a minimum by utilising high pressure hoses to deliver fine mist water sprays onto the working area, when and if required. A constant water supply is available on site. The movement of any crushed material will be kept to a minimum with stockpiles located away from site boundaries and maintained at heights less susceptible to the effects of wind.
- 6.12 Lorries leaving the site carrying materials which could create dust will be sheeted.
- 6.13 With regard to earthworks, during periods of dry weather, when dust is likely to cause a nuisance, specific work areas will be 'damped down'.
- 6.14 In relation to dust generated by plant movements, water will be introduced to the work area via other means i.e. hose pipe, water bowser, sprinkler etc., to limit negative impacts. In addition, prior to disturbing any stockpile of soil or crushed material, consideration will be given to the introduction of water.
- 6.15 There will also be a speed limit of 5mph within the site limits.

Water Damping

- 6.16 As aforementioned, the fine spraying of water is the most effective way of suppressing dust. This will be carried out with a water hose, is required. Spraying will be repeated regularly during warm and sunny conditions. However, spraying will not be allowed to create excessive mud, which could cause run-off into drainage systems or water courses.

Avoiding Dust Generation

- 6.17 The following measures will be employed to avoid dust generation associated with the construction activities.
- The construction traffic route has a hard surface.
 - There will be a need for a haul road internally to the site.
 - Pave heavily used areas and sweep regularly.
 - Limit vehicle speeds – slower speeds generate less dust.
 - Minimise vehicle movements.
 - Wheel wash construction related vehicles leaving the site, if required, to avoid dust on public roads.
 - Exhaust fumes should be directed upwards.
 - Construction related lorries leaving the site will be fitted with sheet covers to contain dust, if necessary.
 - Plant and vehicles should be maintained in good working order.
 - Drivers must observe site speed limits to minimise dust generation.
 - Locate stockpiles out of the wind (or provide wind breaks) to minimise dust generation open storage.

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- Stockpiles kept to a minimum height and use gentle slopes.
- Compact and bind stockpile surfaces if necessary.
- Minimise the storage time for materials on site.
- Store dusty materials away from site boundaries, main site access roads and down wind of sensitive receptors.
- Ensure waste skips are enclosed or covered.
- Damp down earthworks during dry weather
- In relation to Cutting and Grinding the following measures will be taken:
 - Minimise cutting and grinding on site where possible.
 - Use equipment with dust extraction and wet cut where possible.
 - Spray water during cutting of paving slabs.
 - Use block splitters.

External Lighting

- 6.18

No temporary external lighting is anticipated during the construction phase.
- 6.19

Measures to control nuisance specifically relating to demolition works are detailed in full in the Demolition Method Statement contained in Appendix 7 and should be read in conjunction with the measures above.

7.0 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Fuel and Chemical Storage

- 7.1 The storage of fuel and chemicals required during the build will be located on the Contractors Compound within the containment area. The storage area will be contained, bunded and have signage advising what fuel and storage is being store and any safety requirement.
- 7.2 The hazardous material storage area will be located over 10m away from the watercourse along the northern boundary.

Waste Storage

- 7.3 The waste anticipated is only in relation to the demolition activities since there is no cut from the site is anticipated to be removed from site. The Demolition Method Statement, contained in Appendix 7, details how the demolition waste will be stored and removed from site and in summary the measures are:
- Waste shall be segregated on site.
 - A waste skip compound will be established within site compound and safely segregated.
 - Waste skips shall be loaded by mechanical means utilising the demolition specific excavator with grab attachment.
 - Egress for the removal of waste materials and disposing off site all arisings will be by utilising 40yd waste skips and 8-wheel tipper wagons.
 - All waste materials removed from site will be accompanied by a duty of care waste transfer note which describes the waste, and a copy will be retained on site.
- 7.4 Any waste generated from the wider construction will be stored within the compound area and will be covered and removed frequently.
- 7.5 Waste, including demolition material, will be recycled where possible. Any material found to contain Asbestos will be removed appropriately by a licensed operative, as detailed in the Demolition Method Statement, contained in Appendix 7.
- Wastewater**
- 7.6 The only wastewater related to the construction phase is temporary welfare facilities. The drainage of the welfare facilities will be self contained and the associate storage tank of waste water will be emptied as and when required. The welfare facilities will be removed from site completely at the end of the construction period. The welfare facilities will be located away from the site boundaries, including the ditch along the northern boundary.

8.0 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Entrance Point

8.1 The construction access for the Site will be via the existing site access off Cardonnel Road. This will be the only site access during construction and once the development is completed. A route internally to the site compound and dedicated construction worker/contractor parking area will be provided.

Site Parking

8.2 All construction related parking will be located within the curtilage of the site as shown in the Site Compound Plan, as shown on the plan in figure 2 above and included in Appendix 1. The size of the car park ensures all vehicles can manoeuvre safely when parking and exiting the car park area. All contractors will be made aware that parking on public roads is prohibited. Given the scale of the construction, it is not anticipated more than ten construction workers will be on site at one time and most will car share, reducing the level of traffic associated with in the construction phase.

Construction Route

8.3 The construction route into the site will be via the M4, exiting at Junction 43, and via the B4290/Burrows Road onto Bosworth Road and then via the existing site arrangements off Meadow Lane from Cardonnel Road.

Construction Vehicular Movements on Site

8.4 The following vehicles will access the site on a daily basis through the demolition phase (further details contained in the Demolition Method Statement included in Appendix 7:

Source	Type of vehicle and No's	Frequency
Demolition Staff	Max 7No cars per day (contractors will likely car share and will be encouraged to)	14No 2-way trips per day
Demolition Activity	Demolition Specific Excavators with relevant attachments Skid steer loaders (bobcat) with relevant attachments Self-contained pressure-washer for dust suppression / standpipe / hoses / Fine mist water sprayer Mobile Elevated Working Platforms (MEWPS)	Retained on-site for duration of demolition phase
Compound	Storage of materials and machinery/plant only	n/a

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Demolition Waste Removal	Articulated lorries	Between 2 to 20no. during the demolition activity (estimation)
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8.5 The following vehicles will access the site on a daily basis through the construction phase:

Source	Type of vehicle and No's	Frequency
Contractors. Max 10No per day (including site manager)	Max 7No cars per day (contractors will likely car share and will be encouraged to)	14No 2-way trips per day
On-site machinery	2x Excavator 2x Dumpers Telehandler Mobile Crane Concrete Pump Other machinery when required but no more than ten machines will be on site at one time.	Retained on-site for duration of construction phase
Compound	Storage of materials and machinery/plant only	n/a
On site deliveries	Articulated lorries	Between 2 to 20no. deliveries a week depending on the stage of development

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- 8.5 Site construction vehicles will only be operated by those people who have received the relevant training, have produced a copy of their certificates of competency and are authorised to use the vehicle/plant by their employer.
- 8.6 All vehicles on site will be inspected, tested and serviced at the appropriate intervals laid down by legislation and the manufacturer's instructions. All defects must be reported as soon as possible and, where necessary, the vehicle taken out of use. Records of maintenance inspection and tests must be produced to the site manager and visiting safety advisor.
- 8.7 Where construction vehicles are operating or being used on infrastructure roads or other areas where the public have access roof beacons and headlights must be used.
- 8.8 A tele handler will be used to transport superstructure materials around the site and a speed limit of 5mph will be strictly enforced.
- 8.9 Where specific hazards may produce additional risks to traffic movement of site they must be protected by a physical barrier, and high visibility plastic fencing, metal pedestrian barriers, or heras fencing.
- 8.10 There will be no public access to the construction area.
- 8.11 All loading and unloading of plant and materials will take place within the confines of the site access and parking area, as shown in the Site Compound Plan at figure 2 above and full plan contained in Appendix 1.

Pedestrian Movements

- 8.12 There will be no public access to the site for pedestrians. All construction related workers will access the Site Compound and Construction Area via the vehicular route which will have a pedestrian route demarcated for safety. All workers and visitors to site will be required to wear the necessary PPE, including high viability vests.

Existing Road Condition Survey

- 8.13 Due to the limited nature of the construction it is not anticipated that any damage to public roads will occur. There is no requirement under application P2023/0499 to undertake a road condition survey.

Delivery Organisation

- 8.14 Deliveries to site will be strictly controlled through careful planning, scheduling and co-ordination by the site contractor. Only one delivery will be accepted on site at any time and only during working hours, which are provided at paragraph 3.17. Sub-contractors and suppliers will be made aware of this requirement and will be required to give reasonable notice of significant deliveries. All sub-contractor and suppliers will be made aware of the local speed restrictions and of the potential presence of children on the roads around the site, given the residential nature of the area. Drivers will also be warned of this via the scheme of signage, discussed below. A strict delivery procedure will be implemented to ensure that the local roads are not overrun with site and delivery vehicles and to prevent stacking of vehicles on the public highway. Banksmen will be utilised to ensure that traffic flow is always maintained. This arrangement will ensure

Superseded

- all deliveries can be received within the site limits and ensure that no large vehicles are waiting off site.
- 8.15 All delivery loading and unloading will take place in the site confines within the site access and parking area shown in the Site Compound Plan contained in Appendix 1. No deliveries will take place on Cardonnel Road.
- 8.16 The Site Manager will be responsible for the coordination and control of all aspects of material deliveries and movement.

- Storage of Materials and Plant***
- 8.17 Storage of materials and plant will occur throughout the development site and be stored within the the Contractors Compound area as shown on Site Compound Plan at figure 2 above and contained in Appendix 1. No imported material is required to be brought onto site. All unloading of plant or material will take place on site and will not be undertaken on Cardonnel Road.

- Terrain***
- 8.18 The terrain of this site presents no abnormal risk of vehicle overturning.

- Diversions***
- 8.19 There are no diversions as a result of the development of the construction phase.

- Signage***
- 8.20 Temporary signage will be erected along Cardonnel Road when deliveries are due warning drivers of the presence of children and speed restrictions.

9.0	POLLUTION PREVENTION
9.1	It is acknowledged that there are potential sources of pollution on construction sites through the operation including the following: • Direct disturbance of the banks and bed of rivers and lochs • De-watering of excavations • Run-off from exposed ground and material stockpiles • Run-off from roads and haul routes and river crossings • Plant washings/washing areas • Fuel and chemical storage/refuelling areas • Leaking/vandalised equipment • Poorly maintained plant machinery
9.2	The following measures will be employed to prevent emission and odours. Watercourses
9.3	A review of potentially affected watercourses has been undertaken and it can be confirmed that a ditch is adjacent to the Site and potentially at risk of pollution during the construction phase.
9.4	To prevent pollution the following protocols will be carried out: ○ Deliveries will be made away from watercourses or drainage systems areas; ○ All deliveries to be supervised including inspections of all containers, tanks or drums brought on site to ensure they are in a satisfactory condition; ○ Safe storage of all polluting materials; ○ Silty water to be treated via settlement ponds (SuDS method); ○ Plant wheel washings as a when necessary; ○ Site run off will be monitored throughout construction phase; ○ The highway gullies will be cleansed periodically throughout construction phase; and ○ All contractors will be informed of the potential risk posed to the ditch before starting works and made aware of pollution prevention methods in relation to existing watercourses. Flood Risk
9.5	The Site is not in a flood risk area. Plant and Vehicles
9.6	The following measures will be undertaken in relation to plant and vehicles: ○ Plant and vehicles will be maintained in good working order ○ Control deliveries to minimise queuing ○ Ensure engines are switched off when not in use ○ Refuelling areas will be sited away from watercourses with a fuel overspill bund and kit provided. ○ No burning of waste materials will occur on site in relation to the construction activity.

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Drainage

- 9.7 Adequate space for SUDS including facilities such as settlement ponds during construction will be provided. These will be located away from the site boundaries, particularly the western boundary adjacent to the ditch.
- 9.8 The final development requires SAB approval which the applicant is currently pursuing. The final SuDs solution will be implemented in accordance with the SAB approval.

Emergency Procedures

- 9.9 At the project planning stage it is essential to think through the possible incidents and emergencies which could arise during construction works and plan accordingly (risk assessments). These may include:
- pollution incidents – spillages, failure of temporary works, bank collapse, vandalism, fire, etc.;
 - extreme weather events – heavy rainfall, flooding, severe frost and snow.
 - Put in place an emergency response plan on site with a procedure for dealing with emergencies and communicate this procedure to all site staff at site induction.
 - Site staff responsible for taking action in emergencies must be:
 - aware of their responsibilities;
 - trained to use the necessary equipment such as spill control equipment and shut-off valves
- 9.10 In the event of an emergency the NRW will be contacted on 0800 807 060 and this number will be displayed in Site office on notice board at all times.

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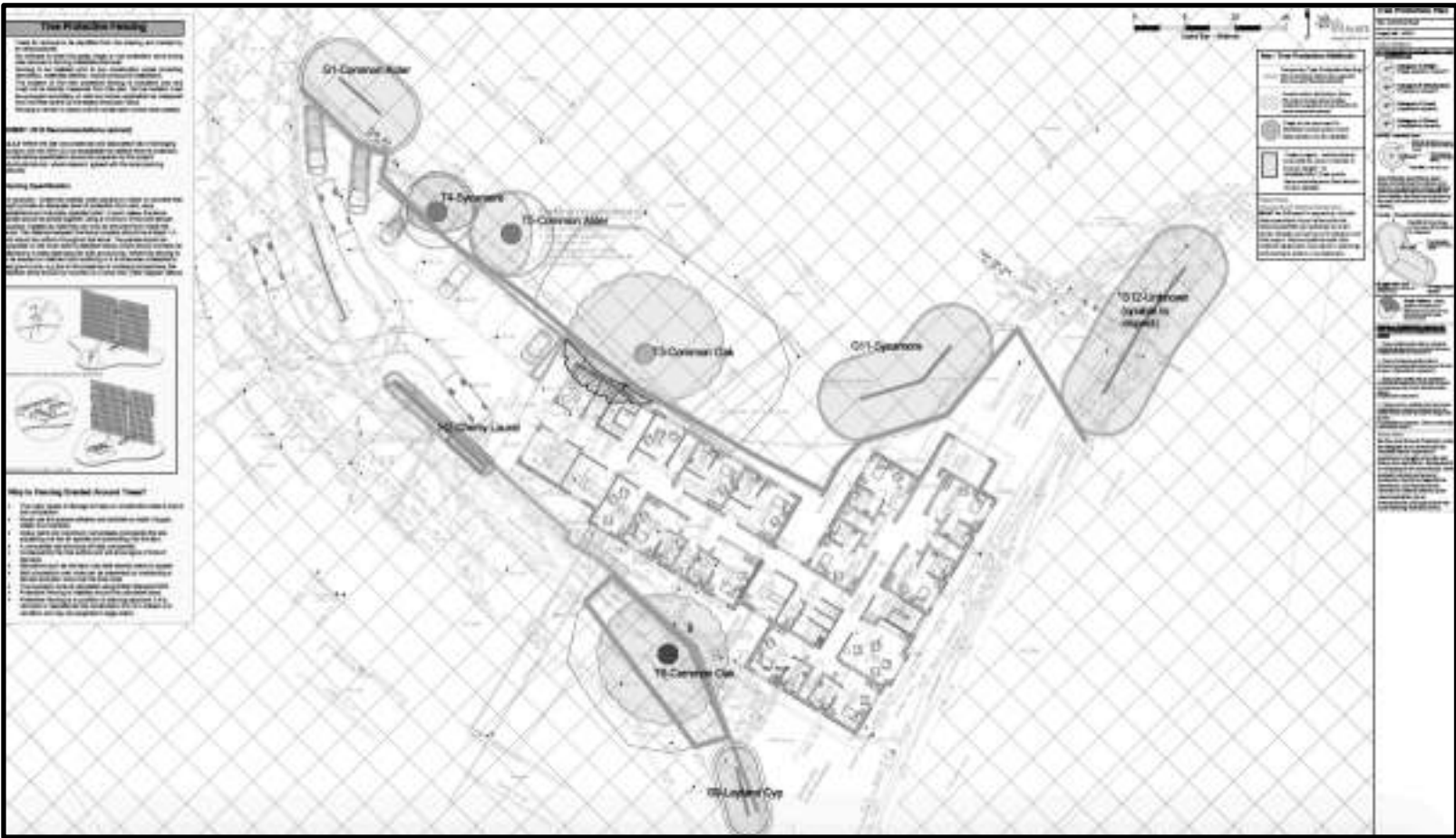
10.0 CEMP MASTERPLAN

10.1 The CEMP Masterplan is provided in Appendix 6, and extracted below, which indicates the following:

- Location of Site Compound
- Location of containment area
- Area dedicated for landscaping
- Location of Biodiversity Enhancements

10.2 The CEMP masterplan should be read in conjunction with the Bat Survey and Arboricultural Report which are included in Appendix 3 and 4 respectively. The Tree Protection Plan of the Arboricultural report is extracted below.

Tree Protection Plan



11.0 CEMP MANAGEMENT

Implementation, Monitoring and Control

- 11.1 The implementation and monitoring of the CEMP will be the responsibility of the Site Manager, details of the site manager are not yet confirmed since the principal contractor is not yet appointed but the Council will be made aware within two weeks of final contractor being selected. In the meantime, the responsible body will be Allclear, the demolition contractors, and they are contactable via the Director Josh Dean (tel: 07526 084437 or email: joshua@allclearsiteservices.co.uk). Josh has electronically signed this document to confirm Allclear are the responsible body for the CEMP until the principal contractor is appointed.
- 11.2 Supervisors appointed by sub-contractors will also ensure that persons working under their control comply with the requirements.
- 11.3 All personnel will be acquainted with the site traffic management requirements and will be provided with a copy of this CEMP. Personnel failing to comply with the requirements of this CEMP, thus placing themselves or others at increased risk of injury, will be dealt with in accordance with normal disciplinary procedures which may result in them being removed from site.

Ecological Clerk of Works

- 11.4 The ecological clerk is Beth Evans of BE Ecological Ltd (info@beecological.co.uk).

Complaints

- 11.5 The site manager shall be nominated to receive any complaints for the duration of the construction works and this person shall either be on site or available by telephone and this telephone made known to the Neath Port Talbot Council.
- 11.6 Any emergency deviation from this CEMP shall be notified to, the Neath Port Talbot Council as soon as practically possible.

Staff Training

- 11.7 All personnel related to the construction activities have a part to play in preventing pollution and harm to the environment during construction. Each member of the site staff will be made aware via a toolbox talk of the potential impact of their activities and will therefore be equipped with the knowledge of how to eliminate or reduce that impact. They will also be provided with a copy of this CEMP.

Signed: *Josh Dean* on behalf of Allclear Demolition Ltd.

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Date: 20/11/2023

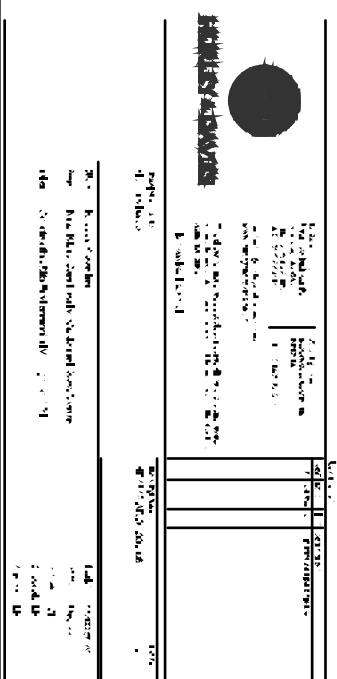
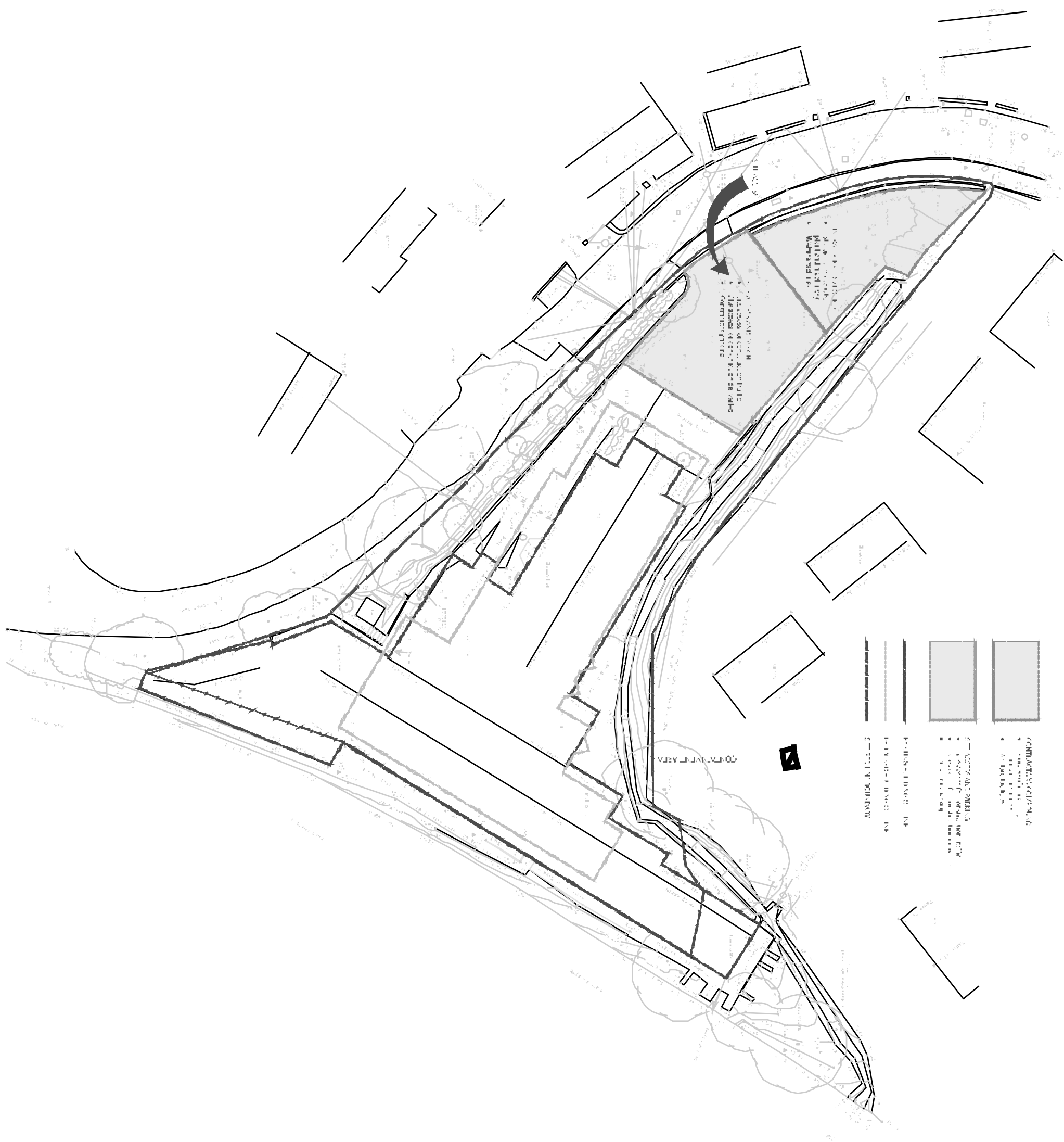
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Date: 20/11/2023

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 – SITE COMPOUND PLAN

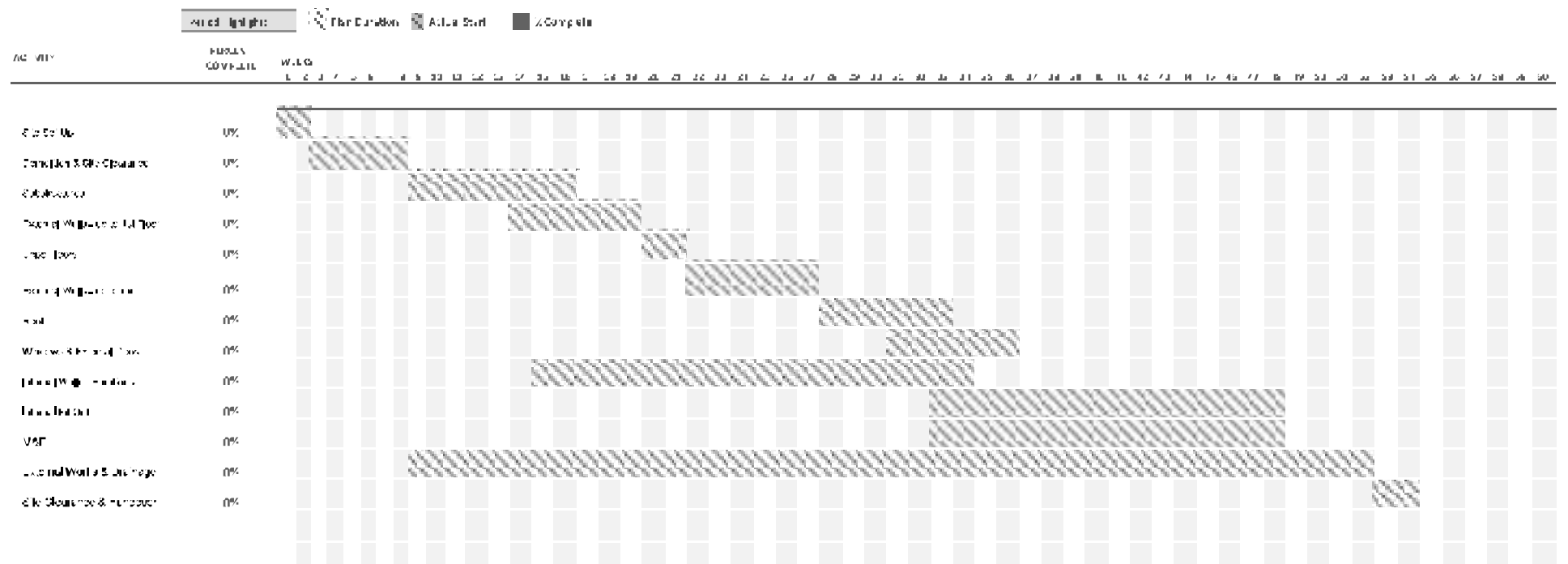
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APPENDIX 2 - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

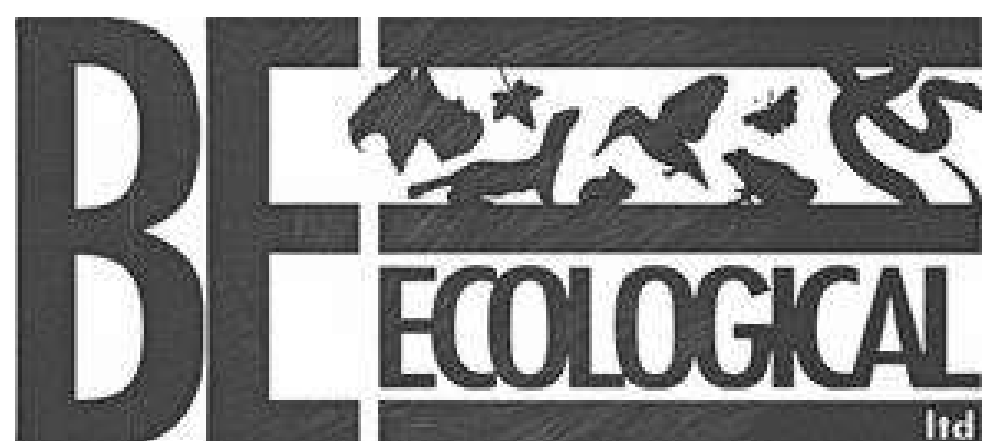
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CARDONNEL COURT CARE FACILITY



APPENDIX 3 – BAT SURVEY

Superseded



**CARDONNEL COURT NURSING HOME, CARDONNEL ROAD,
NEATH**

BAT SURVEY

ISSUE 1, VERSION A

JUNE 2023

Bat Survey Report

Document control

Issue	Author	Checked	Approved	Date
1	BE	BE		19/04/23

Contents Amendment Record

This report has been issued and amended as follows:

Issue	Revision	Description	Approved by	Date
1	A	Update to include results of activity surveys	BE	22/06/23

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is proposed to demolish a former nursing home and replace it with a new 16 bed care facility.

An initial bat inspection survey of the site was undertaken on 17th March 2023. No bats or evidence of bats was seen on the exterior of the building, however, the building has a number of features suitable for roosting bats. As a result, the building was determined as being of at least moderate potential for roosting bats with a minimum of two activity surveys required.

Subsequent activity surveys revealed that the property is not a bat roost. Due to the difficult viewing angle of the building, it is considered necessary that the works are undertaken in line with a non-licensed method statement to safeguard the slight possibility of roosting bats. If at any point bats are observed, all works will cease, BE Ecological Ltd engaged and NRW consulted. Further surveys and/or a licence may be required prior to works re-commencing.

No evidence of breeding birds were found throughout the buildings at the time of survey. However, a single blue tit and a number of sparrows were seen throughout the survey.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

BE ECOLOGICAL LTD was commissioned by the client to undertake an initial bat inspection survey and subsequent activity surveys of a former care home for the potential presence of birds and bats in order to support a planning application to demolish the property and replace it with a 16 bed care home.

The surveys were undertaken in line with the current guidance on standards for bat surveys (Bat Conservation Trust, 2016).

1.2 Site description

The building is a brick and block built, pebble dash rendered structure beneath a clay tile roof. The building is located immediately to the west of Cardonnel Road, Skewen, Neath (figure 1). The building is large and complex with multiple rooves, valleys and pitches. Generally the ridges run from south west to north east and north west to south east. The building is the subject of antisocial behaviour and vandalism.

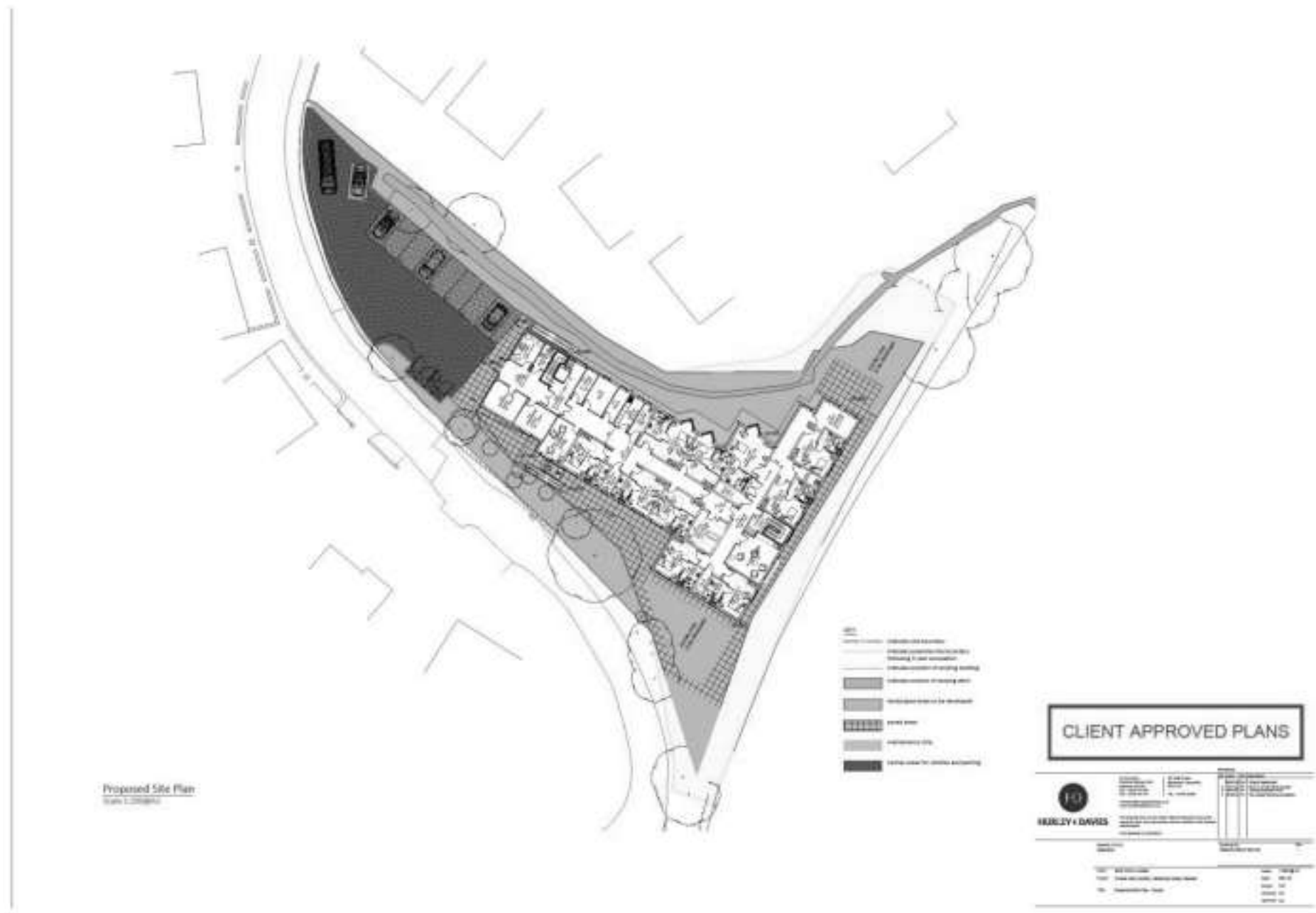
The site is located on the edge of an urban area but is surrounded by trees and broad-leaved woodland and a railway line to the east. The site is adjacent to the (NPTSINC099 Pentrefynnon).



Figure 1- detailed view of site (arrowed red) (Google Maps, 2023)

1.3 Proposed development

It is proposed to demolish the existing building and replace it with a 16 bed care home.



2 LEGISLATION & POLICIES

BATS

2.1 Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) provides safeguards for European Protected Species (those listed under Annex IV Habitats Directive). With regards to bats, this makes it an offence to:

- Deliberately (or recklessly in Scotland) capture, injure or kill a bat
- Deliberately (or recklessly in Scotland) disturb a bat in a way that would (significantly in Scotland) affect its ability to survive, breed or rear young (or hibernate or migrate in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or (significantly in England, Wales and Scotland) affect the local distribution or abundance of the species.
- Damage or destroy a roost (this is an ‘absolute’ offence)
- Possess, control, transport, sell, exchange or offer for sale/exchange any live or dead bat or any part of a bat

2.2 Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) is the legislation for England and Wales for nature conservation, making it an offence to:

- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat at a roost
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a roost

2.3 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires that all public authorities, when carrying out their functions in Wales, seek to “maintain and enhance biodiversity” where it is within the proper exercise of their functions. In doing so, public authorities must also seek to “promote the resilience of ecosystems”. This ensures that biodiversity is an integral part of the decisions that public authorities take in relation to Wales. It also links biodiversity with the long term health and functioning of our ecosystems, therefore helping to align the biodiversity duty with the framework for sustainable natural resource management provided in the Act. In Wales, this legislation replaces and enhances the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) which sought to raise the profile of biodiversity and to make sure that it is considered in all local authority decisions by ensuring that “Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.”. Other elements of NERC 2006 may still apply.

BIRDS

In Britain, all naturally occurring species (including hawfinches) are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The legislation protects all birds, their nests and eggs, and it is an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or take a wild bird;
- intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built; and
- intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.

In addition, birds listed on Schedule 1 of the above legislation, such as the red kite (*Milvus milvus*), are afforded further protection, and it is an offence to:

- Intentionally or recklessly disturb the bird whilst nest building or while at (or near) a nest with eggs or young; and
- Disturb the dependant young of such a bird.

Some birds however are exempt from this protection for certain purposes.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Survey Objectives

- To carry out an initial bat inspection survey the building
- To present the above details and if necessary further surveys, recommendations for mitigation, future research and compensation within this report.
- To carry out a scoping survey for breeding birds

3.2 Survey Summary

The bat survey comprised of a five parts:

- Initial bat inspection survey of building (including birds)
- Data search
- Activity survey 1
- Activity survey 2
- Activity survey 3

3.3 Data Search

The South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBReC) were formerly requested to supply a Bat and Roof-nesting Birds (BARB) survey for the site. The survey to provide; bat records within a 2km buffer, roof nesting birds within 150m buffer plus a list of all Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) designated for bat species within a 10km site buffer in June 2022.

3.4 Surveyor Information

The inspection survey was undertaken by Beth Evans. Beth is the owner of BE ECOLOGICAL LTD and has a postgraduate degree in Environmental Biology: Conservation & Resource Management, specialising in British bats. Beth has 11 years’ experience of ecological surveys, both in a small scale and large multi-disciplinary context. Beth also holds Natural Resources Wales and Natural England bat licences to disturb and handle bats. Beth was accompanied on the survey by Gavin Vella.

Beth Evans was assisted during the activity surveys by Michael Rogers, Stephen Shutt, Gavin Vella, Dion Rowles and Sylvia Sanyalou. Stephen is an experienced licensed bat ecologist. Michael Hogan held a bat licence in Wales for many years. Gavin vella is an experienced ornithological surveyor and bat surveyor, with Mike, Dion and Sylvia having undertaken numerous bat surveys with BE Ecological Ltd over the last two seasons.

3.5 Internal & External Inspection

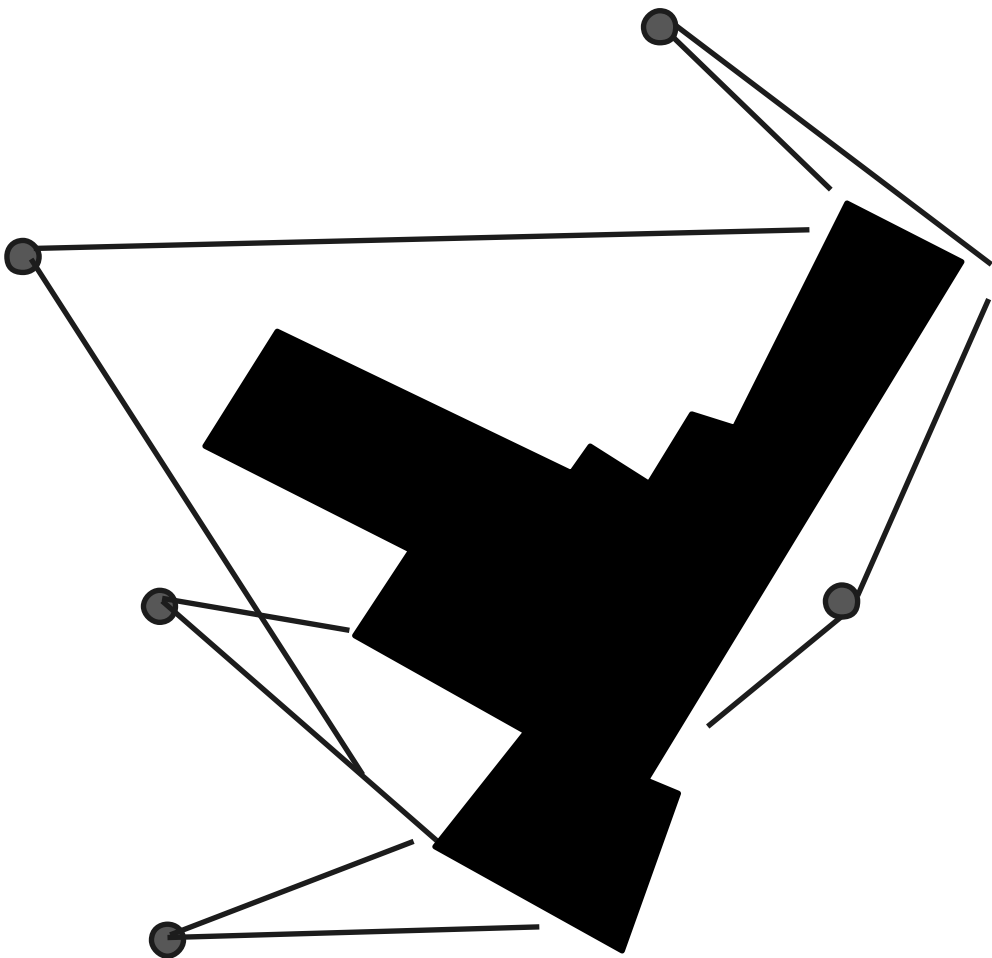
An initial inspection survey was carried out on 17th March 2023 by Beth Evans to search the building, both internally and externally to identify potential bat roosting areas and signs of bat use including; live bats, dead bats, droppings, urine staining, grease marks and discarded prey items. The buildings and all areas/items of interest were recorded and photographed. Extension ladders/steps were used to safely access areas where no safe access was available the survey was conducted using, close focus binoculars and/or a high powered lamp.

3.6 Activity Surveys (emergence/re-entry surveys)

Building ‘emergence’ and ‘re-entry’ surveys were carried out on the following dates, times and weather conditions. Climatic conditions including rain, wind, temperature and cloud cover were recorded for each survey using a hand held Kestrel 4500 weather station.

3.6.1 Survey 1- 3rd May 2023

A dusk survey was carried out on 3rd May 2023 using surveyors, positioned in such a way that as much of the building was visible to surveyors as possible. Surveyors and cameras were equipped with Batlogger M detectors.



Approximate surveyor location

3.6.2 Survey 2- 18th May 2023

A dusk survey was carried out on 18th May 2023 as above.

3.5.1 Survey 3- 21st June 2023

A dusk survey was carried out on 21st June 2023 as above.

3.7 Survey limitations

Any survey for bat species can only be a series of snapshots in time. Bats are highly mobile, long lived creatures (capable of living up to 30 years, sometimes longer) with complex social structures and utilising multiple roost sites within a year. The implications of this are that surveys and surveyors have to make informed assumptions based on observations, recorded data, local information and a detailed knowledge of the species.

Access around some areas of the building is dangerous and not accessible to surveyors for health and safety reasons. In addition to this, there are numerous trees surrounding the building that obscure view. Surveys were undertaken as best as practically possible.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Designated Sites

The site is adjacent to the Pentrefynnon SINC (NPTSINC099 Pentrefynnon) (noted from pre-application comments). Please note the data search did not identify this site as a SINC.

The closest records of roosting bats refer to roosts of common pipistrelle and brown long-eared bats approximately 180m from the site.

Other records further afield refer to noctule, myotis sp., and soprano pipistrelle.

4.2 Inspection survey

4.2.1 External survey results

The survey carried out by BE Ecological Ltd revealed no droppings or evidence of bats on the exterior of the building. However, a number of potential access points for bats were noted. These include but are not limited to:

- Gaps beneath ridge tiles
- Gaps beneath slipped/missing tiles
- Gaps via smashed windows and doors
- Gaps beneath fascias/soffits
- Gaps beneath lead flashing

As a result of the above, the building is of at least moderate potential and therefore will require at least two activity surveys to be undertaken in the appropriate season (May to September) prior to any planning determination.

4.2.2 Internal survey results

The building is the subject of vandalism and anti-social behaviour. As a result it was deemed unsafe for surveyors to enter the building due to human presence at the time of survey. This is unlikely to be a constraint as further emergence surveys have been recommended and commissioned. Any bats in the building will be observed during these surveys.

1.1 Activity surveys

The surveys were undertaken as per the table below:

1.2 Survey Schedule and Weather Conditions

Table 1: Schedule and weather conditions

Visit	Date (sunrise) (sunset)	Start End	Time	Temp C	Wind	Cloud Cover	Notes
Survey 1 03/05/23	20:42	Start	20:30	14	Low	30%	Dry evening, insects flying
		End	22:15	13	Low	15%	
Survey 2 18/05/23	21:05	Start	20:50	18	Low	100%	Dry evening insects flying
		End	22:35	18	Low/moderate	100%	
Survey 3 21/06/23	21:37	Start	21:25	10	Low	60%	Dry evening insects flying
		End	23:10	18	Moderate	40%	

1.3 Activity Survey Results

1.3.1 Survey 1- 3rd May 2023

Activity was moderate throughout the course of the survey.

The first bat heard was a common pipistrelle, the bat was seen foraging along the vegetation to the north of the site approximately 15 minutes post sunrise. Following this, common pipistrelle bats were also seen foraging along the street to the south of the development site.

Throughout the course of the survey, a small number of common and soprano pipistrelles were seen foraging along the vegetated boundaries of the site. Approximately 40 minutes post sunrise a lesser horseshoe bat was recorded by the surveyor to the west of the building, foraging along the railway line to the rear.

No bats emerged from or interacted with the building on this date.

4.2.1 Survey 2- 18th May 2023

The results of this survey were similar to that of the previous survey with common and soprano pipistrelle activity present at the site for the majority of the night with bats favouring the tree lines surrounding the building.

A small number of noctule calls were heard throughout the course of the survey but the bats were not seen.

A small number of myotis sp. calls (natterers) were heard along the railway line to the west later into the evening. A number of common pipistrelles were observed flying high over the building at sunset.

No other bats emerged from or interacted with the building on this date.

4.2.2 Survey 3- 21st June 2023

Bat activity was relatively low compared with that of the previous two surveys.

The first bat heard was a common pipistrelle approximately 30 minutes post sunrise. The bat was seen foraging along the vegetation to the north of the site.

Small numbers of soprano and common pipistrelle calls were heard throughout the course of the survey with a single noctule and myotis sp. pass towards the end of the survey at the north of the site.

No bats emerged from or interacted with the building on this date.

4.3 Identified Roosts

The building was not identified as a bat roost on this date.

4.4 Conclusion & Recommendations

Bat activity at the site is moderate across the full set of surveys. Species heard include common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, myotis sp and lesser horseshoe bats.

No bat roosts were identified within the building on the site. Due to the complex access around the building, it is considered necessary that the works are undertaken in line with a method statement (appended to this report).

If at any point bats or evidence of bats are found, all works will cease, BE Ecological Ltd will be informed, NRW consulted. Further surveys and/or a licence may be required prior to works recommencing on the building.

4.5 Breeding Birds

No evidence of breeding birds was found throughout the buildings at the time of survey. Should a birds nest be identified within the building during works, it will be left until such a time the young have fledged the nest of their own accord.

5 INTERPRETATION & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 Active Season Usage

At the time of survey it appears that the building is not a bat roost.

5.2 Hibernation Season Usage

It is considered that due to the level of disturbance presence at the building. Hibernation is unlikely.

5.3 Ecological Impacts of development

It is considered that the property is not a bat roost and therefore impacts on roosting bats are unlikely.

6 ENHANCEMENT

6.1 Bats

Three bat tubes <https://www.nhbs.com/ib-vl-05-vivara-pro-build-in-woodstone-batbox> or similar will be installed in the south eastern elevation of the new build. The bat boxes will be positioned beneath the eaves and protected from any lighting.

6.2 Birds

Three Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terraces or the following <https://www.nhbs.com/sparrow-terrace-nest-box> will be attached to the northern and eastern elevations of the new build.

Native species planting will be incorporated into the final design and any landscaping.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1.1 Timing

It is considered that the building is not a bat roost and therefore restrictions on timings are not necessary.

7.1.2 Timber/roofing materials

N/A- the building is not a bat roost

7.1.3 Lighting

Bat boxes and any bat mitigation/compensation will not be directly illuminated. All external lighting will face downwards and be set on timers to ensure that bats can use the area should they wish. – In addition to this, any onsite lighting will conform to the following guidelines:

<https://theiip.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

The eastern boundary of the site (railway line) should be protected from any onsite lighting due to the presence of lesser horseshoe bats.

7.1.4 Bat Licensing

A bat licence will not be required in this instance.

7.1.5 Supervision

N/A.

7.1.6 Compliance

Following completion of the project, the ecologist will visit the site to verify the correct installation of

the enhancement measures. E-mail confirmation will be issued to the LPA.

8 REFERENCES

Bat Conservation Trust. (2016) *Bat Surveys - Good Practice Guidelines*. Bat Conservation Trust, London.

Mitchell-Jones, A.J. & McLeish, A.P. (2004) *The bat workers' manual (3rd Edition)*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee.

Mitchell-Jones, A.J. (2004). *Bat Mitigation Guidelines*. Natural England.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (HMSO).

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) (as amended) (HMSO).

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (HMSO).

APPENDIX A- PHOTOGRAPHS



Superseded

Cardonnel Road

April 2023





9 METHOD STATEMENT

1. A suitably licenced and experienced ecologist will be on call for the duration of the works.
2. Before any work begins on site, a briefing for contractors and other site-staff ‘toolbox talk’ will be given by an ecologist. The briefing will cover the issues in respect of protected species they may encounter on site, where they might find them, methods of working, and what they need to know to avoid committing an offence. Every briefing attendee will be provided with a copy of a Method Statement and the contact details of an ecologist and Natural Resources Wales.
3. If at any point bats or evidence of bats is found, all works will cease, BE Ecological Ltd informed and NRW consulted.
4. If bats or their signs are found, a EPS licence may be required before works can legally resume.

APPENDIX 4 - ARBORICULTURAL REPORT



ArbTS - Arboricultural Technician Services Ltd
(Tree Consultancy Services)

Stephen Lucocq *BSc (Hons), Tech Cert (ArborA), M.Arbor.A*
Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association

Web site: www.ArbTS.co.uk

Email: info@ArbTS.co.uk

Mobile: 07789 551 591

Arboricultural Report

Including:

Tree Survey Data &

Tree Constraints Plan,

Arboricultural Impact Assessment,

Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement

To the British Standard 5837:2012
*(Trees in relation to design, demolition
and construction. Recommendations)*

Date – 25th January 2023

Site – Cardonnell Road, Skewen

Project Reference – ArbTS_1574.1_Cardonnell Road

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4	Tree Protection Plan	
5	Tree Photographs	

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to assess the quality of the trees at Cardonnel Road, Skewen, assess the arboricultural impact of the proposed development design and provide details regarding the protection of retained trees during construction work.
- 1.2 This report identifies the quality of the trees on this site as categorised by the *British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations*. The survey and findings, as reported here, represent an unbiased third-party opinion offering professional advice on the value of the trees on or adjacent to this site. To illustrate the constraints identified trees pose to the design of future development, a Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) has been drawn, as found in Appendix 2.
- 1.3 Arboricultural constraints within the surveyed site relate primarily to the preservation of trees recommended for retention. Identified trees must be protected during the construction phase by employing a combination of tree protection methods as illustrated in Appendix 4, Tree Protection Plan and detailed within Section 6 - Arboricultural Method Statement.
- 1.4 The trees' root system and the associated soil structure is often overlooked during the construction process and can be damaged or altered by compaction, causing significant damage to the health of the tree. Generally, the tree's entire root system is within the top 600mm of soil, where it can be easily damaged. A calculated ground area around the tree should be protected during the onsite construction phase. In this report, it is referred to as the Root Protection Area (RPA).

2.0 The Tree Survey

- 2.1 The tree survey was conducted by *Stephen Lucocq BSc (Hons), Tech Cert (ArborA), M.Arbor.A* on 18th January 2023.
- 2.2 Trees over 75mm were tagged where appropriate with numbered metal identification tags at around 2.0 metres above ground level.
- 2.3 All observations were made from the ground with an acoustic-sounding hammer. No invasive decay detective instruments were used.
- 2.4 The survey was carried out per *British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations*. This standard gives a systematic, consistent, transparent evaluation method for tree surveying.
- 2.5 The tree survey was conducted with the aid of a topographical survey.
- 2.6 **Preliminary management recommendations:** The survey has identified preliminary management recommendations for the trees on or adjacent to this site. Details regarding these specified operations are given in this report (See Appendix 1 - Tree Survey Data). Where work priority is stated to be H – High due to safety reasons, these operations should be carried out as soon as possible. Where work priority is

said to be M/H – medium/high or higher, these operations should be undertaken before the commencement of any works on site.

2.7 **Limitations of the tree survey:** Whilst every effort is made to ensure an accurate assessment of the tree's condition during the survey, no responsibility can be taken for resultant damage or injury that occurred by a failing tree. The survey only gives a snapshot of what is visible and is not obscured on the day of the survey. The survey identifies trees of varying quality and their above-ground/below-ground constraints. This survey does not constitute a full tree condition survey/tree risk assessment of the site, and this report is only valid for 24 months from the date of the tree survey.

3.0 The Trees

3.1 The complete tree survey data can be found in Appendix 1A Tree Survey Data

3.2 Tree Survey Summary Table (See Appendix 3 for BS5837 category definitions).
(A more detailed Tree Survey Data Summary can be found in Appendix 1B)

BS5837:2012 Quality Category	Total Number of Individual Trees Surveyed	Total Number of Tree Groups Surveyed	Total Number of Tree Areas Surveyed	Total Number of Woodland Areas Surveyed	Total Number of Hedgerows Surveyed	Total
A (High - Most desirable for retention)	1	0	0	0	0	1
B (Moderate - Desirable for retention)	1	0	0	0	0	1
C (Low - Optional for retention)	2	5	0	0	1	8
U (Poor - Unsuitable for retention)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total A,B,C,U	4	5	0	0	1	10

4.0 Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) Information

4.1 A Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) can be found in Appendix 2 of this report. An introduction to TCP can also be found at the start of this Appendix Section. For further information and details regarding TCP, please see the *British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*.

5.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)

5.1 The following Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been made for the proposed development design.

5.2.1 Tree Loss – AIA – LOW - The following trees are required to be removed to facilitate the construction of the proposed development design.

5.2.2 Individual Tree Loss –

- o Tree T4 - Sycamore – Low quality (C category)

5.2.3 Grouped Tree Loss –

- o Tree Group – G9 – Leyland Cypress – Low quality (C category)

5.2.4 Overall Tree Loss –

One tree and one tree group are identified to be removed to facilitate the construction of the proposed development design. All these trees identified for removal are low-quality (C Category). These trees should not present a constraint on developing the site.

5.3 Root Protection Area (RPA) –AIA – LOW - RPA potential damage can be managed by installing tree protective fencing, as designed by an Arboriculturist, which will ensure no significant long-term adverse effects impact will occur to any of the retained trees.

5.4 Tree surgery work – AIA – LOW- Some minor branch reduction/branch lifting pruning work will be required to facilitate this proposed scheme, as detailed in the tree protection plan (Appendix 4). This work will be carried out to the *British Standard 3998:2010 tree work recommendations*. Adhering to this standard will ensure no adverse impact on these trees' long-term health or visual amenity.

5.5 Future Tree Pressures – AIA – LOW / MODERATE - The development design has considered the tree constraints of the larger higher value trees on this site to ensure they are suitably included in the design. Overall, the design has considered the size and value of the trees to minimise any future pressures to heavily prune or fell the higher-value trees

5.6.1 AIA – Conclusion – Overall AIA – LOW - The site has several Arboricultural constraints that must be considered in the development design phase. One tree and one tree group are identified to be removed to facilitate the construction of the proposed development design. All these trees identified for removal are low-quality (C Category). These trees should not present a constraint on developing the site.

5.6.2 This proposed development design has aimed to retain all of the higher-value trees (A + B Category) that form part of the site whilst sustainably using it for residential development.

5.6.3 The construction of the proposed development, whilst complying with the tree protection scheme as detailed in section 6, will ensure that no significant long-term adverse Arboricultural impact occurs on the health of any retained trees on or adjacent to this site or the long-term amenity of the area.

6.0 Arboricultural Method Statement

6.1 The Tree Protection Plan to facilitate the construction of the development design can be found in Appendix 4 of this report. The Tree Protection Plan must comply with all of the following:

- Be regarded as sacrosanct and follow the sequence of events as detailed in the table below
- Be installed before commencement of any demolishing or construction works on site
- Must not be removed or altered without prior approval of the local planning authority

6.2 The following table below provides a detailed sequence of events that must occur to protect the retained trees during all stages of the construction process. These methods must be communicated to the entire construction team before any work on site.

Stage	Arboricultural Method Statement (In the sequence of events)
1.) Preconstruction (Prior to any on-site construction work, including demolition work, site material storage etc.)	1.1 – Design areas for construction site storage by the site supervisor and the appointed Arboriculturist.
	1.2 – Design position, form and construction methods of all utility services with Arboricultural consideration. All underground service designs MUST conform to the NJUG Volume 4 Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees. The full document is available at http://www.njug.org.uk/ . Local Planning Authority to be consulted on utility service design details and, if satisfied, to be approved in writing before installation during the construction phase.
	1.3– Tree surgery work to be carried out is detailed in the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 4) of this report and to the <i>British Standard:3998:2010: Recommendation for tree works</i> .
	1.4 – Tree protective fencing installed in the position and form as detailed in the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix - 4). Installation is to be supervised by the appointed Arboriculturist. All weather tree construction exclusion zone posters are to be secured to fencing at regular intervals.
	1.5 – Site storage area containers installed as designed and supervised by the site supervisor and the appointed Arboriculturist.
	1.6 – Appointed Arboriculturist to document all tree protection methods in situ and photographs taken for reference purposes. Copy of document report sent to all parties.

2.) Construction	2.1 – The site supervisor is to be briefed by the appointed Arboriculturist regarding the Tree Protection Plan/Methods, and a laminated copy of the plan/methods is to be secured onto the wall in the site supervisor's office. Contact details of the appointed Arboriculturist, Council's Tree Officer, to be included. Emphasis is to be made to the site supervisor on the importance of the Tree Protection Plan/Methods and possible planning enforcement action (Stop Notice), problems with discharging tree protection conditions and/or legal action for noncompliance with these tree protection methods.
	2.2 – All contractors are to be briefed by the site supervisor and/or the appointed Arboriculturist regarding the tree protection plan and methods before starting work on site. Emphasis made to contractors on the importance of the Tree Protection Plan/Methods and possible planning enforcement action (Stop Notice), problems with discharging tree protection conditions and/or legal action for noncompliance with these tree protection methods.
	2.3 – The construction phase begins
	2.4- Tree Safe Construction (Throughout site) – areas outside of the construction exclusion zones, as shown on the tree protection plan, must adhere to the following: •Building materials and fuels such as oil, bitumen or cement should not be stacked or discharged within 20 metres of the tree's stem. •Fires will not be lit beneath any tree or in a place where flames could extend to within 10 metres of the tree. •Trees to be retained and protected should not be used as anchorage for services or equipment. •The use of cranes and large machinery on site should be planned and care taken not to damage the trees during the process.
	2.5 – Unforeseen issues which require the alteration of the Tree Protection Plan/Methods, required tree surgery work or immediate remedial work will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval in writing.
3.) Post Construction (Once all construction work has been completed, this includes all utility services)	3.1 – Tree Protection fencing Removed.
	3.2 – Hard and soft landscaping commence - All landscape team members are to be briefed regarding tree protections by an Arboriculturist.
	3.3 – Any required remedial tree action is taken, such as Leaf Mulch Application, soil de-compaction methods, contamination clean up etc., to be carried out.

7.0 Conclusion

7.1 Adhering to the tree protection details in this report, the proposed development can be constructed without any significant long-term adverse impact on the retained trees or the area's amenity.

8.0 Further Information & Qualifications

Stephen Lucocq has been involved in Arboriculture within South Wales for over twenty years. He has worked as an Arborist for many of these years and has an excellent working knowledge of the practical side of the profession. He has always taken an active interest in all areas of Arboriculture and kept up to date with current research and developments.

Qualifications

- First Class BSc (Hons) Degree – Combined Studies - Biology and IT
- Arboricultural Association Technicians Certificate – Level 4 - (Merit)
- PTI - Professional Tree Inspection (Lantra Awards)
- 2D Computer-Aided Design (City and Guilds - Level 3)
- Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) – Mike Ellison
- Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) – Mike Ellison
- Arboriculture and Bats (Lantra)
- Industrial Rope Access Trade Association (IRATA)
- Practical Arboriculture Qualifications (NPTC)

Membership

- Arboricultural Association Professional Member (M.Arbor.A)

9.0 Web Information & Bibliography

Web Information

- Arboricultural Association
<http://www.trees.org.uk/>
- Cellular Confinement System
GeoWeb - [GreenFix](#)
CellWeb - [Geosynthetics](#) [Cellweb](#)
- Underground Utilises Installation
<http://www.njug.org.uk/>

Bibliography

- British Standards 3998 (2010) Recommendations for Tree Work UK; British Standards Intuition
- British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations UK; British Standards Intuition
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- Mattheck, C (2007) Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment Germany; Karlsruhe Research Centre
- Shigo, A.L (1991) Modern Arboriculture USA; Shigo and Trees, Association
- Sterry, P (2007) Collins Complete British Trees London; Collins
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- Weber, K & Mattheck, C (2003) Manual of wood decay UK; Arboricultural Association

10.0 Appendix 1A -Tree Survey Data

Superseded

Tree ID	Tree Species	Age	Stems	Stem Diam (mm)	Canopy Class (Height)	Height (Lower Branch Height)	WCH	Fol	Scr	Wat	Ch/LS	Stem Cond	LSL	Comments	Primary Management Recommendations	Work Priority	RPR (m)	RPA (m ²)
C1	Alnus glutinosa (Common Alder)	M	1	300	C2	2(5)	7	4	4	4	F/P	F	1C1	Low C category. In an tree. Surrounding vegetation on prevented close inspection of the tree therefore a observations and measurements are estimated.	Group of alder, same in poor condition	N	3.6	40.72
C2	Prunella laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel) (pruner)	PI1	1	55	C2	3(0)	1	1	1	-	-	F	1C+	Here very little is possible report. maintenance.			0.5	2.55
T3	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	1	850	A3	2(6)	8	8	5	8	C/F	N/A	4C1	Low A category. Surrounding vegetation on prevented close inspection of the tree therefore a observations and measurements are estimated.	back of same age, twin stem, fair to good form, southern side of crown is back from existing building, located on a lower level than site building		10.2	326.9
T7	Acer pseud-platanus (Sycamore)	PM	1	300	C2	5(3)	7	4	2	3	-	F	1C1	Surrounding terrain prevented close inspection of the tree therefore a observations and measurements are estimated.	small multi-stemmed sycamore, in an static		3.8	40.72
T5	Alnus glutinosa (Common Alder)	M	1	350	C2	2(3)	7	2	4	4	-	N/A	1C1	Surrounding terrain prevented close inspection of the tree therefore a observations and measurements are estimated.	multi-stemmed alder with dry canes		4.2	55.42
T8	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	M	2	450	B3	4(4)	8	8	-	7	C/F	C/F	2C1	In an tree	twin stem oak located on high level behind retaining wall		7.81	75.9
C9	X Quercus petraea (Le/Noak Oak)	M	1	200	C2	6(0)	2	2	2	2	C/F	F	1C1		small section of exlandilicifers growing along side retaining wall		2.4	78.1
C10	X Quercus petraea (Le/Noak Oak)	M	1	200	C2	11(0)	7	1	1	4	C/I	I	1C+		small section of exlandilicifers		1.2	1.42
C11	Acer pseud-platanus (Sycamore)	M	1	350	C2	2(4)	7	4	4	4	-	N/A	1C1	Surrounding vegetation on prevented close inspection of the tree therefore a observations and measurements are estimated.	secondary group of sycamore upright in form, inspected from a distance		4.2	55.42
C12	Unknown (Unknown)	M	1	350	C2	12(4)	6	4	4	4	-	N/A	1C+	Surrounding vegetation on prevented close inspection of the tree therefore a observations and measurements are estimated.	boundary group of upright in form, inspected from a distance		4.2	55.42

10.0 Appendix 1B – Detailed Tree Survey Data Summary

(Please see Appendix 3 - Tree Survey Key)

Field Usage Results.		
Total Records: 12		
Type	Count	% of Total
T	4	33.3
G	5	41.7
H	1	8.3
Tree Species	Count	% of Total
Alnus glutinosa (Common Alder)	2	16.7
Quercus robur (Common Oak)	2	16.7
Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	2	16.7
X Cupressocyparis leylandii (Leyland Cyp)	2	16.7
Unknown (Unknown)	1	8.3
Average Stem Diameter	Count	% of Total
<50	2	16.7
<100	1	8.3
<250	1	8.3
<500	6	50
<750	1	8.3
<1000	1	8.3
Cat	Count	% of Total
A2	1	8.3
B2	1	8.3
C2	8	66.7
U	2	16.7
Age	Count	% of Total
EM	2	16.7
M	8	66.7
Height	Count	% of Total
<5	1	8.3
<10	2	16.7
<15	7	58.3

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Phy Cond	Count	% of Total
G/F	4	33.3
F	5	41.7
F/P	1	8.3
Sluc Cond	Count	% of Total
G/F	1	8.3
F	5	41.7
N/A	4	33.3
Est. Remain Contrib	Count	% of Total
10+	8	66.7
20+	1	8.3
40+	1	8.3
RPR	Count	% of Total
<5	10	83.3
<10	1	8.3
<15	1	8.3

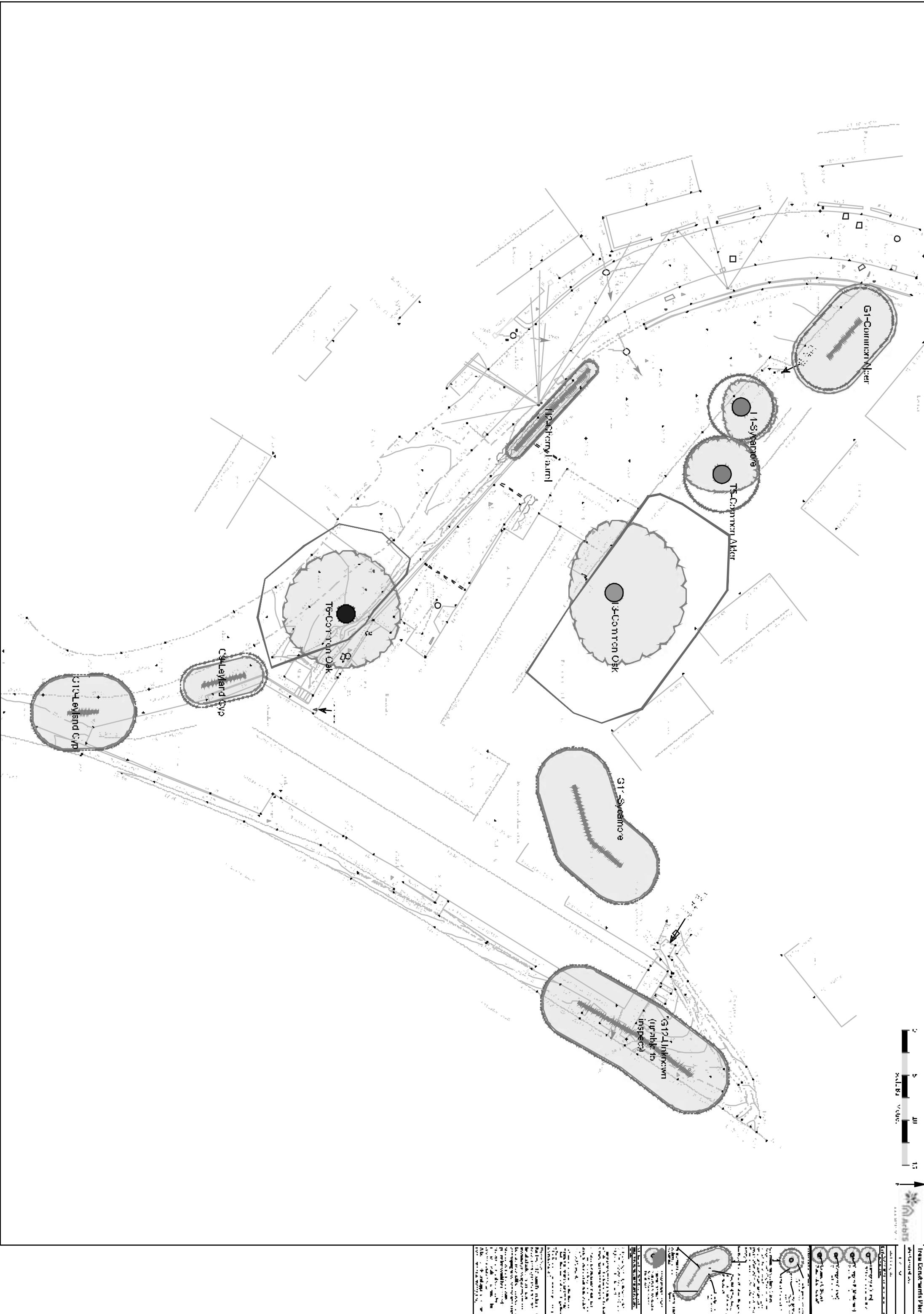
10.0 Appendix 2 - Tree Constraints Plan

An introduction to the Tree Constraints Plan (TCP)

Trees identified to be retained should be treated as constraints to the design of future development. A Tree Constraints Plan has been drawn and can be found over leaf.

- **Tree Quality** - The TCP highlights the above and below-ground constraints each tree poses to design future development schemes. Further, the BS5837 tree quality category (A - High, B - Moderate, C - Low and U- Unsuitable for retention) are coloured coded as solid circles at the centre of the tree's position.
- **Root Protection Area** – The magenta circle on the TCP sets out the root protection area (RPA). No construction work in this area, ground-level alteration or site traffic (machinery or persons) should occur. This prevents damage to tree roots and soil compaction. (Where possible, an Arboriculturist can design suitable tree protection methods to facilitate construction work/site traffic within these areas).
- **Tree Canopy** - The green circle/oval on the TCP sets out the above-ground constraints of tree canopy spread. Within this area, no construction work or site traffic (machinery or persons) should occur if the tree is to be retained. This prevents damage to the tree branches and trunk. (Where possible, an Arboriculturist can design suitable tree protection methods to facilitate construction work/site traffic within these areas).
- **Tree Shading** – Shade from the retained trees should be considered in the development design. Depending on the tree's height and width, the shade cast will be from a North West to East pattern through the central part of the day.
- **Tree Future growth** - Within future development design, consideration should also be given to the ultimate height and extent of the canopy spread of all trees within site identified to be retained.

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Item Description and Part 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 83	
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10.0 Appendix 3 - Tree Survey Data Key

- **Tree ID #** - Identifies the location of individual trees (T-ID Number), Groups of trees (G-ID Number), Area of trees (A-ID Number), Hedgerow (H-ID Number), Woodland (W-ID Number), Row of trees (R-ID Number) and tree Stumps (S-ID Number) on the accompanying plan. *(Please note: A group of trees here refers to two or more standing trees that form a visual whole, whereas an area of trees refers to dispersed individual trees standing within the site)*
- **Tree Species** - Scientific names and common tree name in brackets are generally shown.
- **Age**
 - o (Y) Young – Less than 1/3 of life completed
 - o (SM) Middle Aged - 1/3 - 2/3 of life completed
 - o (EM) Early Mature – Just entering Maturity
 - o (M) Mature – more than 2/3 of life completed
 - o (OM) Over Mature - more than 3/3 of life completed and declining
 - o (V) Veteran - (v) Veteran – Veteran trees have no precise definition but are trees considered to be of biological aesthetic or ecological value because of their age
- **Stems** – Number of tree stems used to calculate the RPR/RPA
- **Stem Diam (mm)** - Diameter of tree stem measured in millimetres for single stem trees or average stem diameter calculated for multi-stemmed trees as detailed in section 4.6 & Annex C of the British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. The height above ground level where the stem measurement was taken will be shown if not measured at 1.5 metres above ground level. *(Please note: that the stem diameter of certain trees will have to be estimated due to difficulties in taking measurements or for trees with a large number of stems)*
- **Cat** – Tree Quality Category - British Standard 5837:2012 A, B, C, U + 1, 2, 3

Based on BS5837:2012, categories A, B, C, and U provide the basis for prioritising trees for retention:

- o A – Those of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. (*Most desirable for retention*)
- o B - Those of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years. (*Desirable for retention*)
- o C – Those of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. (*Optional for retention*)
- o U – Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years. (*Unsuitable for retention unless provides high conservation value*)

Retention Criteria Subcategories: Used for identifying subcategories

E.g. A2 = A high-quality tree with high landscape qualities (further details can be found in British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations UK; British Standards Intuition)

- o 1 – Mainly Arboricultural qualities
 - o 2 – Mainly landscape qualities
 - o 3 – Mainly cultural values, including conservation
- **Height + (Lower Branch Height)** - Tree height in metres and in brackets height in metres of the crown (tree branches) clearance at its lowest point above adjacent ground levels.
- **Nrth, Est, Sth, Wst** - Crown Spread (Metres) -Tree branch spread in metres measured in four directions (North, East, South, West) from the trunk.
- **Phys Cond** - Physiological Condition Indicating the health of the tree -
 - o (G) Good
 - o (F) Fair
 - o (P) Poor
 - o (D) Dead
- **Struc Cond** – Structural Condition indicating the structural integrity of the tree -
 - o (G) Good – No, or remediable physical defects or decay
 - o (F) Fair - Physical non-remediable defects or decay present, not presenting imminent danger but should be monitored
 - o (P) Poor - physical non-remediable defects or decay present, tree liable to imminent collapse or loss of major limbs.
 - o (D) Dead
- **Est. Remain Contrib** - (<10, 10+, 20+, 40+)

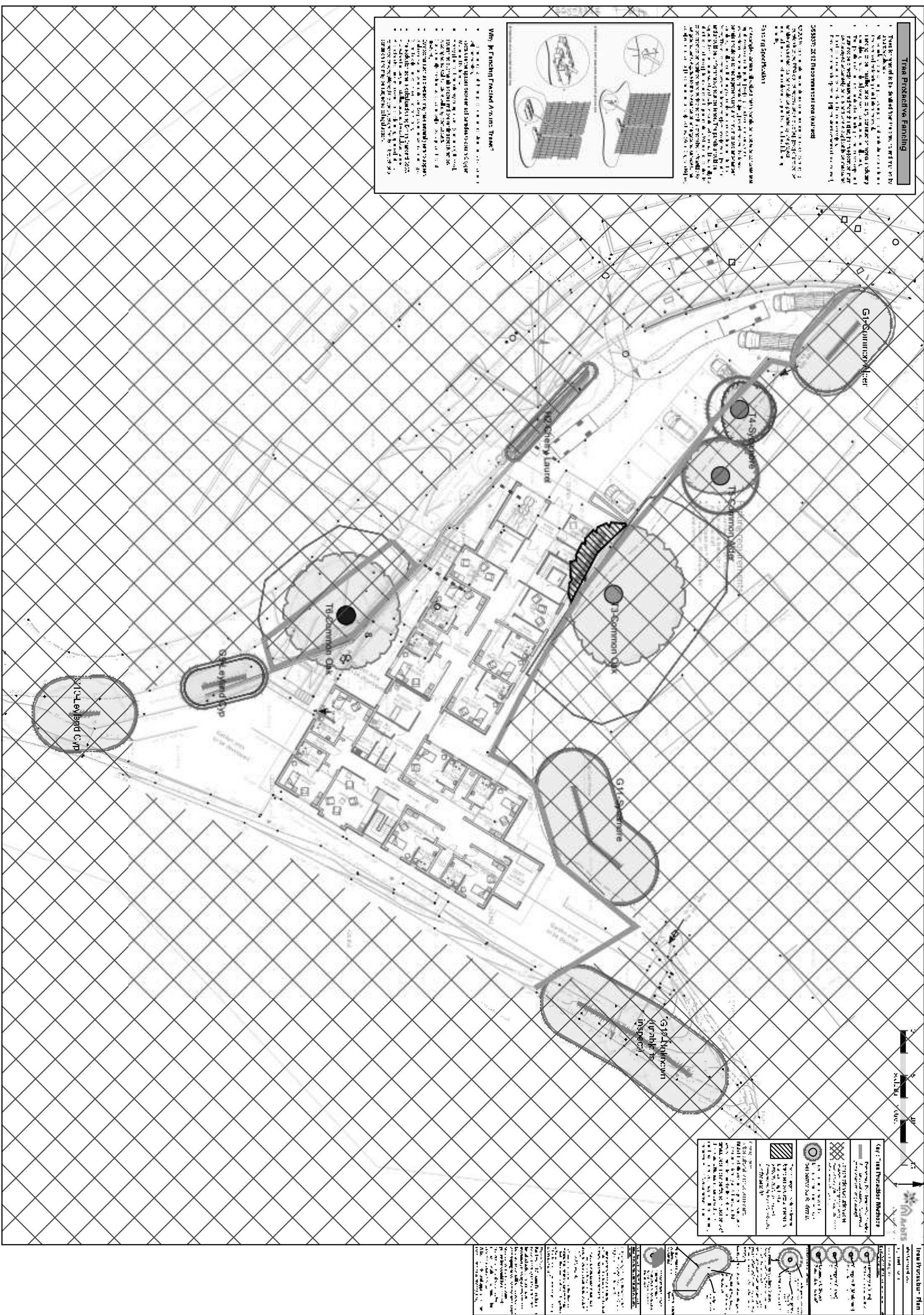
The trees estimated remaining contribution in years, recorded as:

 - o <10 – less than 10 years
 - o 10+ – at least 10 years
 - o 20+ – at least 20 years
 - o 40+ – at least 40 years
- **Comments** – Additional Comments, if required
- **Preliminary Management Recommendations** – Work Recommendations, including further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment and pose potential for wildlife habitat.

- **Work Priority - Work Priority -This gives a work priority rating of preliminary management for each tree.**
 - o H - High – Urgent work to be carried out as soon as practicable due to safety reasons (Within 14 days).
 - o H/M – High - Medium – Work to be carried out within 6 months/or before the construction phase begins
 - o M - Medium – Work to be carried out in 12 months
 - o L - Low – After consideration/Re-inspect in 18-24 months
 - o Blank – No work required.
- **RPR – Root protection radius / RPA - Root Protection Area - Is a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority. RPR is a circular area measured as a radius in metres from the tree's centre, or RPA is an area in metres squared. This area may be changed in shape but not reduced in size, providing adequate protection for the tree's rooting system.**

10.0 Appendix 4 – Tree Protection Plan

Superseded



10.0 Appendix 5 – Tree Photographs

Tree ID#13



Tree ID#G1, 14, 15



Tree ID#T3



Tree ID#T3 + H1



Superseded

Project Ref: ArbTS_1574.1_Cardonnel Road

25th January 2023

Tree ID#T6



Tree ID#G9



Tree ID#G10



Tree ID#G11





**APPENDIX 5- JAPANESE KNOTWEED MANAGEMENT AND METHOD
STATEMENT**



Mobile: 07790 505 232
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Japanese knotweed Management Plan & Method Statement

SURVEYOR DETAILS

Company: Knotweed Control Swansea Limited
Name: Jo Mullett
Address: 4 Silver Close West Cross Swansea SA3 5PQ

CLIENT

Name: Mr Luke Hurley
Organisation: Hurley and Davies
E mail: luke@hurleyanddavies.co.uk

SITE DETAILS

Address: Cardonnel Court, Cardonnel Road, Neath SA10 6BS
Job ref: CC/ SA10 6BS/2023

DATES

Site visit: 19 January 2023
Report: 1 February 2023



CONTENT

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- 2. SITE DETAILS
- 3. JAPANESE KNOTWEED ON SITE
- 4. JAPANESE KNOTWEED DETAIL
- 5. PROPOSED WORKS ON SITE IN RELATION TO THE JAPANESE KNOTWEED
- 6. JAPANESE KNOTWEED METHOD STATEMENT
- 7. JAPANESE KNOTWEED MANAGEMENT PLAN
- 8. OTHER INVASIVE NON NATIVE PLANT SPECIES

APPENDICES

- i. KNOTWEED CONTROL SWANSEA LIMITED DETAILS
- ii. THE SPREAD AND INVASIVE NATURE OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED
- iii. SITE HYGIENE – BIOSECURITY MEASURES
- iv. GENERAL JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS
- v. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS OFFERED BY KNOTWEED CONTROL
- vi. LEGISLATION
- vii. CODES & MORE INFORMATION
- viii. KNOTWEED CONTROL SWANSEA LIMITED’S TERMS & CONDITIONS
- ix. THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY’S SUGGESTED WORDING FOR EXCLUSION FENCING
- x. THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY’S GUIDE TO JAPANESE KNOTWEED RHIZOME ID

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1. Background

- Formerly a 39 bed care home for the elderly, the site is now a state of disrepair and in the process of being sold.
- A pre-planning application enquiry (reference Q2022/0081) proposal has been registered with the Planning Department of Neath and Port Talbot Country Borough Council for the demolition of the existing build and construction of a new 2 storey building for 16 adults requiring supported living.
- The Planning Department require a Japanese knotweed Eradication Method Statement/Report in addition to information already received as both to limit the disturbance or spread the Japanese knotweed during any preparatory site investigation/survey as well as during the development phase of the proposed scheme.
- In January 2023 Mr Luke Hurly from Hurley and Davies, Chartered Surveyors contacted Knotweed Control Swansea Limited for assistance in regard to the Japanese knotweed on site on behalf of their clients who is in the process of purchasing the site.
- A site visit was undertaken by Knotweed Control Swansea Limited 19 January 2023 and this Japanese knotweed Management Plan report has been created laying out the options available for the Japanese knotweed following all current relevant legislation and best practice guidance.
- Although the Environment Agency's Managing Japanese knotweed on Development Sites: Code of Practice was withdrawn in 2016 and some of the information is out of date, it still is the best guidance for development or redevelopment sites with regards to Japanese knotweed.
- It is essential that all biosecurity measures (see ii. **SITE HYGIENE – BIOSECURITY MEASURES** are put in place BEFORE any other works or investigations are carried out.
- Several other invasive non-native species (INNS) were observed within the boundaries (see 8. **OTHER INVASIVE NON NATIVE SPECIES**).
- There is no equivalent development site guidance for the other invasive non-native species but there is a good legacy of suitable control, biosecurity and monitoring measures.

1.2. Scope of the Report

- Knotweed Control has not been given any details of the timing of the development and has only been supplied with a floor plan of the main building so the Japanese knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement covers the control, biosecurity and monitoring measures for;
 - Pre development works
 - Vegetation clearance/ control
 - Tree works
 - Demolition and removal works
 - Waste disposalAnd to a lesser degree;
 - Post development maintenance and management ground works
 - Use of the garden and outdoor space

1.3. Objectives

- The main objectives of this Japanese knotweed Management Plan/ Method Statement are to
 - ensure the owner & operators is aware of the potential issues, legalities and obligations with regards to Japanese knotweed
 - locate the general position of and condition, health and state the Japanese knotweed affecting the site
 - help to contain and minimise any spread of any viable Japanese knotweed propagules during all phases of the project both around and off site
 - provide control and management options of the Japanese knotweed
 - provide monitoring and longer term management options of the Japanese knotweed

2. SITE DETAILS

2.1. Site details

- The site is currently a derelict nursing home complex in a triangle of land between Cardonnel Road running diagonally from the north west to the south east, Bendle Close to the north and a railway line to the east.
- The foot print of the old buildings cover most of the east of the site with tarmacked parking and access towards the west.
- The boundary along Cardonnel Road from the north west to the south east consists of a raised concrete bed with woody shrubs, the old vehicle and pedestal entrance and a soil bank.
- The boundary along Bendle Close or northern boundary has running parallel an old wooden fence, a ditch and stream and a line of trees all backing onto the rear gardens of 2 to 17 Bendle Close.
- The boundary to the east has a fence separating the railway line embankment which falls steeply away down to the track, along the longest axis of the old building.

2.2. General Site Plan



General Site Plan

Key	
	Site boundary
	Existing building
	Stream/ ditch
	Railway line



2.3. Site ownership, boundaries, permissions & access

- The ownership of the site and potential purchaser are currently unknown to Knotweed Control, the houses to on Cardonnel Road and Bendle Close are assumed to be privately owned and railway line assumed to be owned and managed by Network Rail.
- The pre-planning application enquiry plans have been provide to Knotweed Control by Mr Luke Hurley from Hurley and Davies.
- Access is restricted to parts of the plot due to fencing, rotten decking, dense vegetation and the railway line and there are some steep slippery slopes, uneven ground, running water and fly tipped waste. The building has been broken into and some looting taken place.
- Japanese knotweed does not respect ownership or legal boundaries so permission to access and control any Japanese knotweed not within the site boundaries will be required so as not to cause reinfection.

Please note:

⚠ Where land owners cannot be located but all reasonable effort has been made to find and contact them, the owner of the subject property will be required to take responsibility and give written permission for treatment in the land owners absence before treatment can commence

2.4. Water courses

- The stream in the ditch and along the northern boundary comes from a culvert popping out beneath Cardonnel Road and runs from west to east across the site.

Please note;

- ⚠ Under the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 a Simple or Higher Risk Agreement for the use of Herbicide near water or a designated site may be required from Natural Resources Wales.
- ⚠ Aquatic approved herbicides only must be used near water courses by qualified operators.

3. JAPANESE KNOTWEED ON SITE

3.1. General description

- The Japanese knotweed was observed in several locations around the site but all on the boundary perimeter.
- Japanese knotweed areas are as followings;
 - JK01, within the site boundary. subdivided into 4 different locations (JK01a, b, c & d)
 - JK02; along the boundary with Cardonnel Road
 - JK03; along the boundary with Cardonnel Road showing evidence of herbicide treatment
 - JK04; along the railway track showing evidence of herbicide treatment
 - JK05; to the north east of the site other side of the stream

3.2. Japanese knotweed Distribution Map



*Japanese knotweed
Distribution Map*

Key	
	JK01
	JK02
	JK03
	JK04
	JK05
	3m rhizome buffer zone



3.3. Original source of infection

- It can be impossible to say with certainty where the original source of the Japanese knotweed is on site.
- However in this case the railway is the most likely historical source the Japanese knotweed and the area is generally a well-known for Japanese knotweed.

Please note;

- ▲ *South Wales is a hotspot for Japanese knotweed especially in where there is a history of heavy industry, soil disturbance helping spread the plant.*
- ▲ *It is readily spread along railway lines, tramways, rivers, canals, roads & action such as fly tipping, contaminated waste & poor biosecurity practices, all of which have played their part in its spread.*
- ▲ *Other invasive species are also not uncommon in this area and south Wales as a whole.*

3.4. Local sources of re-infection

- All mature established areas of Japanese knotweed that will affect the works directly and functions of the have been identified in this report and but it is possible there are smaller out breaks in the dense vegetation (see 3.6. History or evidence of herbicide treatment, control, disturbance & monitoring)
- It must also be noted that there is a risk from other sources of Japanese knotweed including that;
 - not visible or obvious during the site visit due to evidence being removed, covered, treated etc.
 - dormant rhizome material under the ground
 - new contaminated material brought onto site
 - areas not treated as part of the Japanese knotweed Management Plan
 - secondary spread or cross contamination on site

3.5. Length of time Japanese knotweed on site

- Again it is often impossible to say with certainty how long the Japanese knotweed have been on site
- However the extensive areas of mature knotweed growing as a monoculture with tall thick stems and the deep leaf litter and in some places such as along the railway line where there are tell-tale large crowns, all indicate knotweed has been on site for many years.
- The oldest Google Earth aerial images available show Japanese knotweed has been on site since at least 1999 and the oldest Google Street View available for this area shows Japanese knotweed along Cardonnel Road since at least 2008.

3.6. History or evidence of herbicide treatment, control, disturbance & monitoring

- It appears there has been some control of the Japanese knotweed in areas JK01a, JK03 and JK04
- During the site visit on 19 January 2022 there were tall thick stems of Japanese knotweed in area JK01a are assumed to be from 2021 growing season not only because they are brittle faded but also there appears to be no growth in the 2022 season looking at Google Street View photos from June 2022. It is assumed the herbicide treatment took place in 2021.
- During the site visit area JK03 had the winter remains of short thin sporadic growth assumed to be from the 2022 season as it was moist and still brown orangey. There was also a lot of bare earth with limited revegetation from annual self-seeded plants that have blown in. Both indicated herbicide treatment. Some of the stems have stunted deformed regrowth called sub lethal bonsai growth not an uncommon response to glyphosate based herbicide treatment. Google Street View photos in area JK03 from June 2022 indicate that the area must have had herbicide treatment in 2021 and then again in 2022.
- The Japanese knotweed area JK04 along the railway embankment looking at Google Earth images shows it was a large mature and established area of knotweed from appeared from at least 1999 (large knotweed crowns still in evidence on site) but the aerial images appear to show treatment from 2016. During the site visit on 19 January 2022 the evidence supports this in area JK04 with remaining short thin sporadic regrowth and sub lethal bonsai growth typical of glyphosate based herbicide treatment.

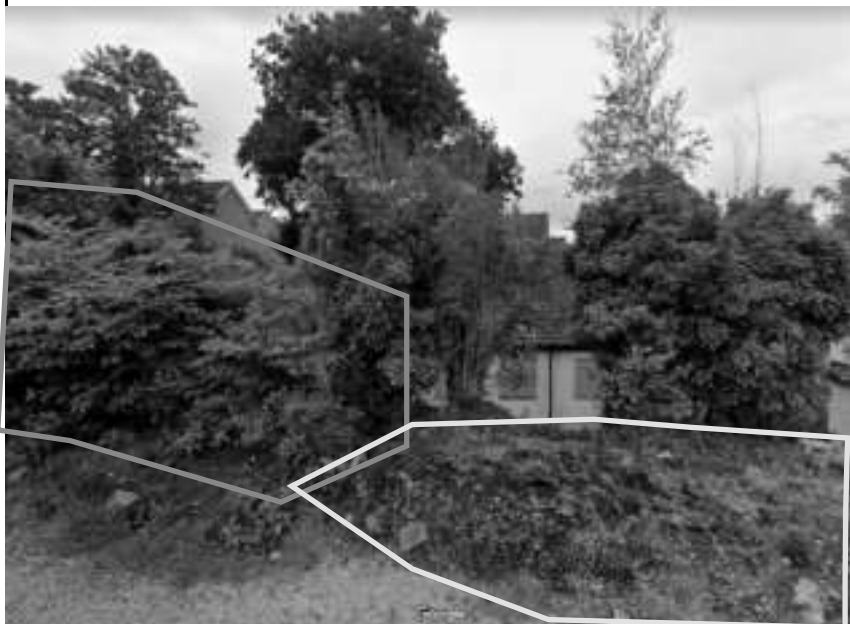
Superseded



Google Street View photos showing no live Japanese knotweed growth in June 2022 in area JK01a



During the site visit on 19 Jan 2022, faded brittle standing canes assumed to be from 2021 season



Google Street View photos from June 2022; JK03 yellow showing evidence of herbicide treatment



Site visit 19 January 2022; JK03 yellow showing bare ground, short thin sporadic regrowth

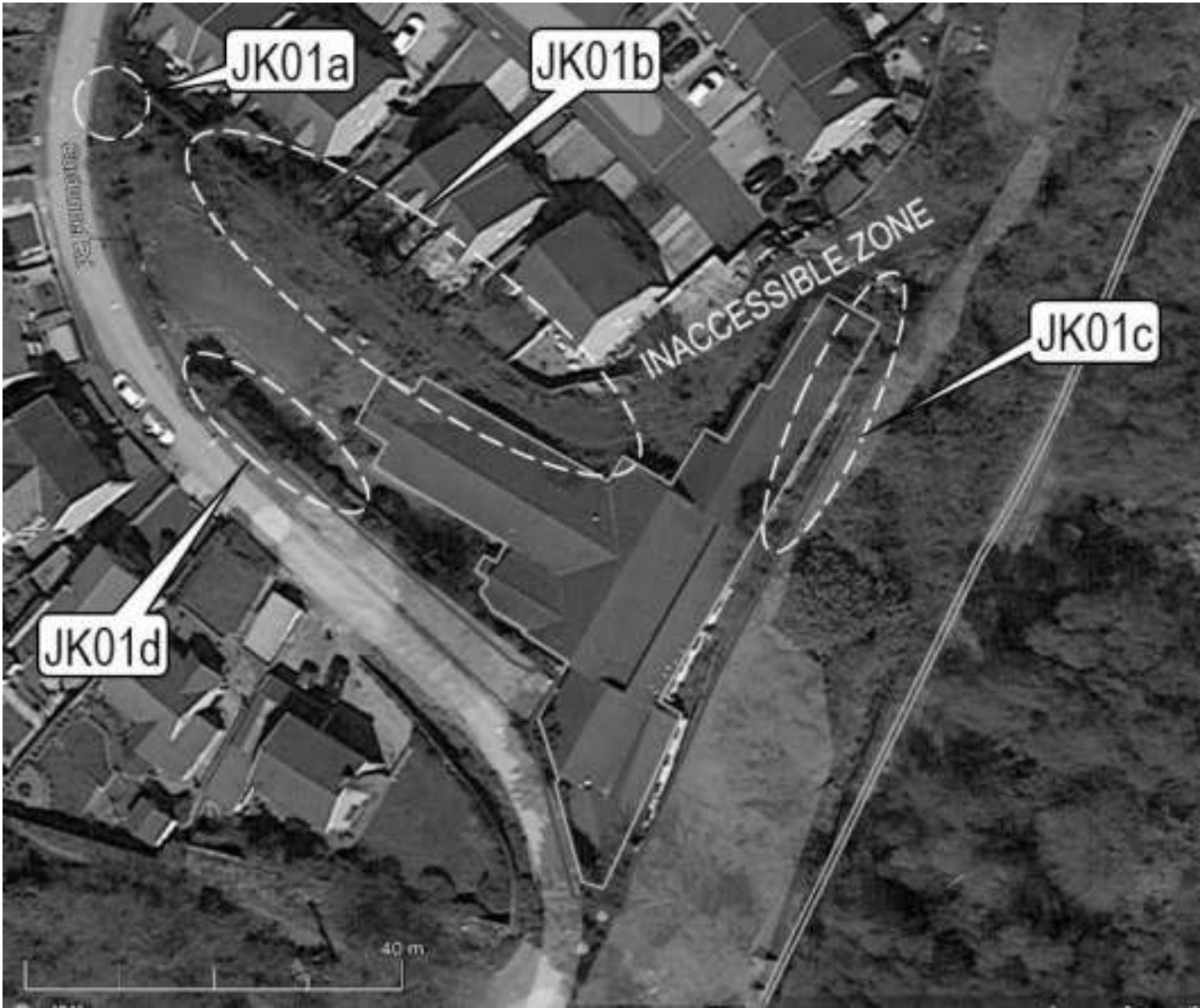


JK04 on railway embankment showing old large knotweed crowns (dark brown lumps in photo on the right), bare ground and short thin sporadic regrowth and some sub lethal bonsai growth

Please Note:

⚠ Correct control from the outset is essential as inconsistency or incorrect control or disturbance can make the Japanese knotweed spread quicker than it might have otherwise reducing the effectiveness of future treatment, extending the timeframes and increasing costs. It is also very easy to spread Japanese knotweed as it only takes 0.7gm of rhizome the size of a pea to create new area of infestation.

4. JAPANESE KNOTWEED DETAIL



*Japanese knotweed
Distribution Map*

Key	
	JK01
	JK02
	JK03
	JK04
	JK05

4.1.a. JK01a

Location	Within the site boundary in the raised concrete planting border along Cardonnel Road				
General	Small area of mature established knotweed				
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth				
2022 Growth	• No evidence from growth from 2022 growing season				
2021 Growth	• A small area of mature and dense knotweed growth with tall thick fading fragile tall thick stems still standing from the 2021 growing season				
	Height	1-2.5m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density
Other vegetation	Bramble				
Note	Evidence of herbicide (see 3.4. History or evidence of herbicide treatment, control, disturbance & monitoring)				



During the site visit on 19 Jan 2022, faded brittle standing canes assumed to be from 2021 growing season

4.1.b. JK01b

Location	Within the site boundary along the northern boundary with Bendle Close behind the wooden fence					
General	Mature established knotweed in several clumps mainly on the stream bank closest to the site although some on the opposite bank near some trees that have been felled					
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any regrowth					
2022 Growth	• Tall thick dark black brown robust canes still standing with brown orangey seed stalks still in place					
	Height	0.2-2.5m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density	Med
2021 Growth	• Tall thick faded and fragile canes only standing due to support from younger canes					
Other vegetation	Bramble, ivy and other native woodland species					
Note	Fly tipped household and garden rubbish Access hindered towards east of site from fallen branches, bramble					



General area of JK01a behind the fencing with tall stems from 2022 growing season still standing with brown orangey seed stalks still in place



JK01b: Tall thick dark black brown robust canes from the 2022 growing season and tall thick faded and fragile canes from the 2021 growing season all along the southern stream bank

4.1.c. JK01c

Location	Within the site boundary along the eastern boundary parallel to the railway line					
General	Several individuals stems with one larger area with multiple canes					
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth					
2022 Growth	• Several individual short thin brown orangey stems still standing • A larger area with many tall thick dark black brown robust canes still standing with brown orangey seed stalks still in place					
	Height	0.2-2m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density	Low to med
2021 Growth	• Larger area with tall thick faded and fragile canes only standing due to support from younger canes					
Other vegetation	Bramble and ivy and woodland species					
Note	Hard to access					



Several individuals stems with one larger area with multiple canes



Individuals stems along site the old building

4.1.d. JK01d.

Location	Within the site boundary on Cardonnel Road				
General	3 small area of mature established knotweed in the bank next to the entrance to the old building				
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth				
2022 Growth	• Tall thick dark black brown robust canes still standing with brown orangey seed stalks still in place				
	Height	1-2.5m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density Med
2021 Growth	• Tall thick faded and fragile canes only standing due to support from younger canes				
Other vegetation	Bramble and over grown woody shrubs				
Note	On the other side of the bank along Cardonnel Road is untreated knotweed area JK02				



3 small area of mature established knotweed in the bank next to the entrance to the old building

4.2. JK02

Location	Outside the site boundary along Cardonnel Road opposite 57 Cardonnel Road					
General	A large area of mature established untreated Japanese knotweed					
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth					
2022 Growth	• Tall thick dark black brown robust canes with brown orangey standing and seed stalks still in place					
	Height	1.5-2m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density	High
2021 Growth	• Tall thick faded and fragile canes only standing due to support from younger canes					
Other vegetation	Monoculture of Japanese knotweed but with bramble and other hedgerow species at the edges					
Note	On the other side of the bank by the old building is knotweed area JK01d					

	
Google Street View photos from June 2022; JK03 JK02 orange untreated area	Site visit 19 January 2022; JK03 yellow showing JK02 orange untreated area
	
JK02 Tall thick dark black brown robust canes standing with brown orangey seed stalks still in place	

4.3. JK03

Location	Outside the site boundary along Cardonnel Road opposite 57A Cardonnel Road					
General	A large area of mature established Japanese knotweed					
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth					
2022 Growth	• Winter remains of short thin sporadic growth moist and still brown orangey • Some stems with stunted deformed regrowth called sub lethal bonsai growth					
	Height	0.2-1.5m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density	High
2021 Growth	• No older growth evident on site					
Other vegetation	Mainly bare earth with limited revegetation from annual self-seeded plants					
Note	Evidence of herbicide (see 3.4. History or evidence of herbicide treatment, control, disturbance & monitoring)					



Google Street View photos June 2022; JK03 yellow showing bare ground & short thin sporadic regrowth



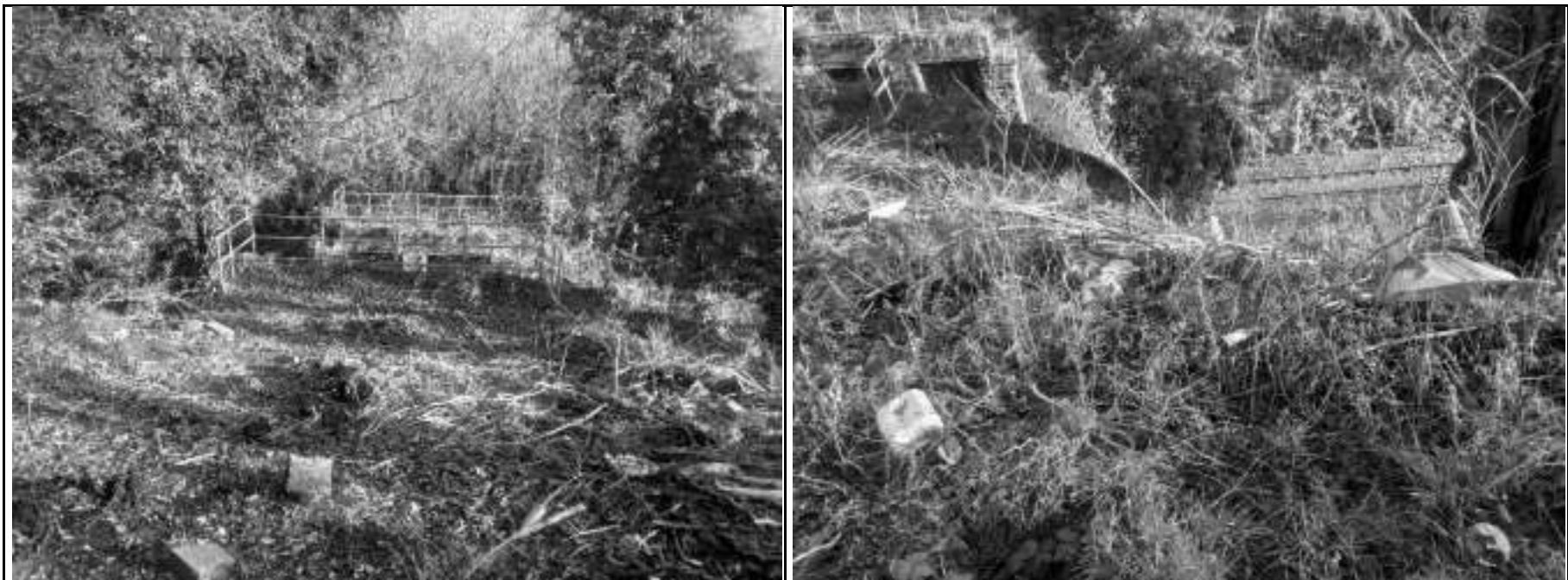
Site visit 19 January 2022; JK03 yellow showing bare ground & short thin sporadic regrowth



Bare ground and short thin sporadic regrowth all evidence of herbicide treatment

4.4. JK04

Location	Outside the site boundary along the railway embankment					
General	A large area of mature established Japanese knotweed					
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth					
2022 Growth	• Winter remains of short thin sporadic growth moist and still brown orangey • Some stems with stunted deformed regrowth called sub lethal bonsai growth					
	Height	0.2-1.5m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density	High
Older Growth	• Large old crowns					
Other vegetation	Mainly bare earth with limited annual self-seeded revegetation					
Note	Evidence of herbicide (see 3.4. History or evidence of herbicide treatment, control, disturbance & monitoring)					



Winter remains of short thin sporadic growth & some stems with stunted deformed regrowth called sub lethal bonsai growth but mainly bare earth with limited revegetation



Large old crown old established mature knotweed (brown lumps)

4.5. JK05

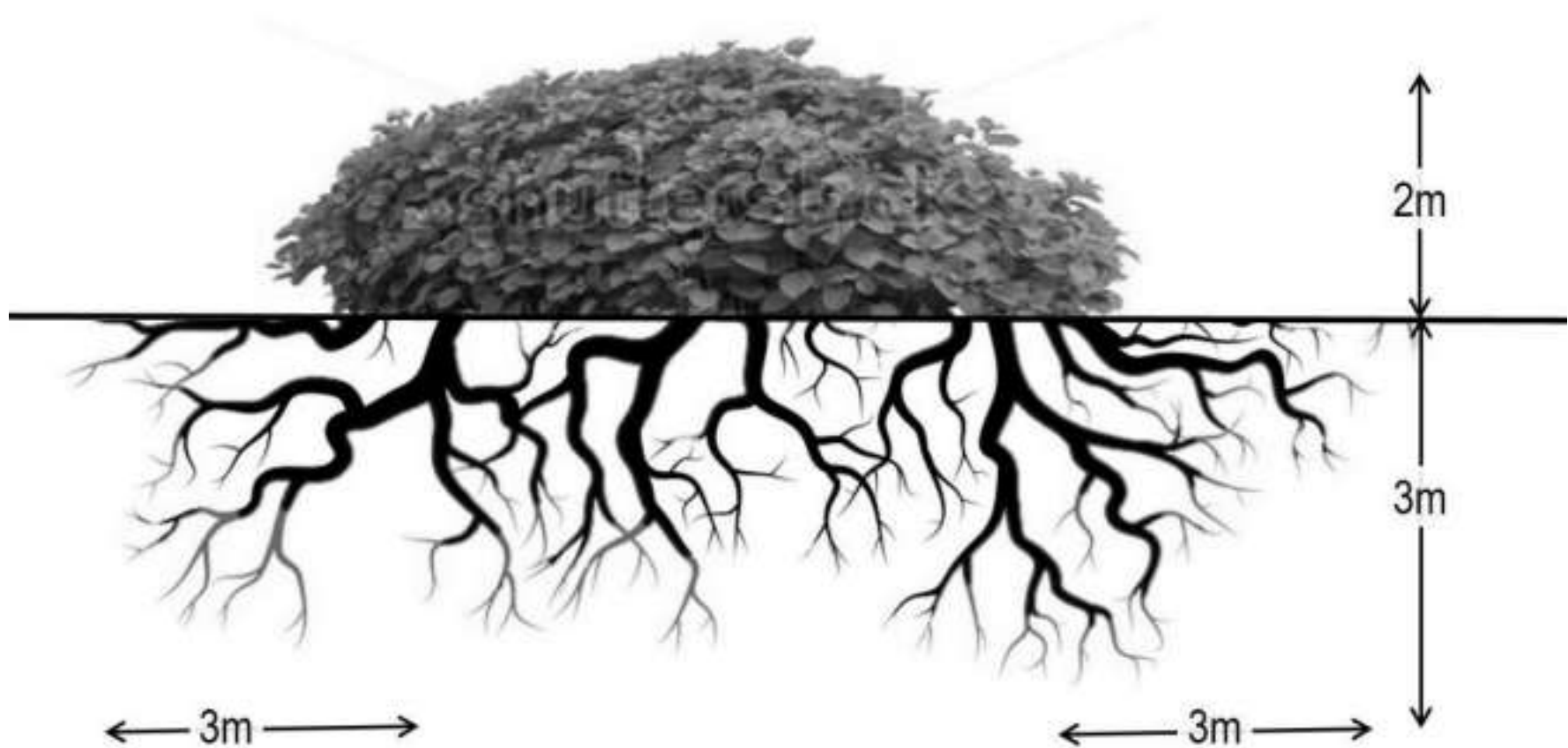
Location	Unsure if within the boundary but in the north east of the general location perhaps along the stream/ ditch					
General	In inaccessible zone so observations from afar appear to show a large area of mature established Japanese knotweed					
2023 Growth	• Too early in the season any growth					
2022 Growth	• Appears to be tall thick dark black brown robust canes with brown orangey standing and seed stalks still in place					
	Height	1.5-2.5m	Stem diameter	> & <8 mm	Density	High
2021 Growth	• Too far to see					
Other vegetation	Appears to be a monoculture of Japanese knotweed surrounded by dense vegetation including thick bramble					
Note						



In an inaccessible zone but appears to be tall thick dark black brown robust canes with brown orangey standing and seed stalks still in place

4.6. Japanese knotweed Underground Rhizome Buffer Zone

- Japanese knotweed has been likened to an iceberg with only about 20% of the whole biomass of a mature plant being visible above ground including stems, leaves & crown material being above ground the rest being subterranean rhizome and root system.
- The actual extent of Japanese knotweed on site will depend on many factors including the volume, maturity and length of time growing on site and substrate/growing medium which will also affect the success of the herbicide treatment.
- In the **3.2. Japanese knotweed Distribution Map** the purple area is the theoretical 3m buffer zone potential underground rhizome growth around all visible areas of Japanese knotweed.
- 3m is required to be recorded and mapped in accordance with the Property Care Association Code of Practice Management of Japanese Knotweed -2022 whilst the Environment Agency's Environment Agency Managing Japanese knotweed on Development Sites: Code of Practice, (withdrawn in 2016) uses a 7m buffer/ safety zone which is now through to be very cautions but is still a good guide and to complicate things, research has shown rhizome rarely extends more than 4m from above ground growth. (Fennell, Wade, Bacon; Japanese knotweed: An analysis of capacity to cause structural damage 2018



5. PROPOSED WORKS ON SITE IN RELATION TO THE JAPANESE KNOTWEED

- Each site and situation is unique with regard to the control and management of Japanese knotweed and INNS with variations in the extent and age of infestation, location of planned works, infrastructure, access points, time and money available therefore different control methods and combinations can be adopted to suit the client and specific site issues (see v. **GENERAL JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS**)
 - Although the Environment Agency's Managing Japanese knotweed on Development Sites: Code of Practice was withdrawn in 2016 and some of the information is out of date, it still is the best guidance for development or redevelopment sites with regards to Japanese knotweed.
 - Although most of the visible evidence of Japanese knotweed on site is limited to the outer boundaries it may affect the wider development as the rhizomes can extend much further than the above ground growth (see **4.6. Japanese knotweed Underground Rhizome Buffer Zone.**)
 - Knotweed Control has mapped a 3m rhizome buffer zone but refers to a 7m rhizome buffer zone in the Management Plan/ Method Statement to be extra cautious especially with some areas of knotweed being so well established.
 - Knotweed Control has not been given any details of the timing of the development as they are still unclear but has only been supplied with a floor plan of the main building so the Japanese knotweed Management Plan and Method Statement covers the control, biosecurity and monitoring measures for;
 - Pre development works
 - Vegetation clearance/ control
 - Tree works
 - Demolition and removal works
 - Waste disposal
- And to a lesser degree;
- Post development maintenance and management ground works
 - Use of the garden and outdoor space
- The timings and order of the Japanese knotweed Method Statement may change from this place due to the work schedules and this plan is assuming the knotweed works are to start straight away.
 - It must be noted however Japanese knotweed herbicide treatment is time critical and can only be undertaken at certain times with the optimum treatment taking place in late summer through to the autumn.

6. JAPANESE KNOTWEED METHOD STATEMENT

PRE DEVELOPMENT WORKS

1. Japanese knotweed does not respect ownership or legal boundaries so permission to access and control any Japanese knotweed not within the site boundaries will be required so as not to cause reinfection.

Please note:

⚠ *Where land owners cannot be located but all reasonable effort has been made to find and contact them, the owner of the subject property will be required to take responsibility and give written permission for treatment in the land owners absence before treatment can commence*

2. The site should ideally be secured so that no material contaminated with Japanese knotweed is brought onto site via fly tipping.
3. Again ideally, an exclusion fence around all known or visible areas of Japanese knotweed with signage in a zone 7m should be erected to prevent access and by site traffic and operatives to limit disturbance.

Please note

⚠ *Japanese knotweed is like an iceberg; only about 20% or so of the total biomass of the plant is visible above ground*

⚠ *The actual extent of Japanese knotweed on site will depend on many factors including the volume, maturity and length of time growing on site and substrate/growing medium which will also affect the success of the herbicide treatment.*

⚠ *7m is distance used by many organisations including surveyors and lenders as the “safe” distance from structures which is often over cautious.*

⚠ *Japanese knotweed and is required to be recorded and mapped 3m from visible growth in accordance with the Property Care Association’s Code of Practice: Management of Japanese knotweed 2018*

4. Where fencing may not be possible there should at least be signage and any works and vehicle movement or storage within 7m required approval/ supervision of a **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works (JKCoW)** see point 5.
5. **A Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works (JKCoW)** should be appointed to approval, oversee and supervise any works and vehicle movement or storage within 7m on any visible above ground Japanese knotweed. This could be a member of the existing team who should be aware of the potential extent of the knotweed and who can identify Japanese knotweed in all states including winter and underground rhizomes (see pages x. **THE ENVIRONMENT AGNECY’S GUIDE TO JAPANESE KNOTWEED RHIZOME ID**) but also has the authority to halt or improve works practice if concerned about cross contamination or where there may be unapproved works near the knotweed.
6. There should be a **toolbox talk for all regular works** on site regarding **location of knotweed, legislation, the importance of biosecurity & good practice** with regard to Japanese knotweed who can intervene when they see back practise around the areas of Japanese knotweed or contact the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works (JKCoW)** to either halt or improve works practice as **point 5.**

VEGETATION CLEARANCE / CONTROL

7. It is this stage that fencing and signage is really important to prevent access and disturbance by site traffic and operatives especially as new contractors are brought onto site with no awareness.
8. Where vegetation is to be cleared/ controlled once again those areas that are **Japanese knotweed FREE should be removed first**, working towards the known areas with Japanese knotweed to reduce the likelihood of cross contamination or spreading viable propagules.
9. Where vegetation clearance/ control is to take place near the knotweed it should be done with **hand tools** and should take extra care should be taken – if knotweed canes are to be cut they **should be left in situ** to rot down as they are a controlled waste (see **vi. LEGALISATION**)
10. All tools, equipment and foot wear should be **thoroughly cleaned and inspected** by the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works before moving onto another area for clearance/ control** (to stop the spread around site) and **when moving off site** (to stop the spread off site as it an offence under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, see **vi. LEGALISATION**).
11. It must be noted that there **may be other areas of knotweed NOT MAPPED** either beneath the soil surface or just not visible for some other reason e.g. in dense vegetation therefore if during the clearance works if any other potential areas of Japanese knotweed are found, works should be halted and the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works** brought in to investigate.
12. If other areas of Japanese knotweed are found, they will have to have the similar procedures as above with the addition of the material being put back where it was and vehicles and machinery required to be pressure washed the in situ and inspected before being moved.
13. At this stage if my client choses in some places that the **6.1.1. “Dig and dump” / excavation and landfill as per 6.1. JAPANESE KNOTWEED MANAGEMENT PLAN**, is required in some areas it could be done at this stage to remove contaminated soils and limited further potential spread.

TREE WORKS

14. Where trees require to be taken down, arborists should be made aware of the Japanese knotweed with their works overseen by the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works**.
15. They should work on trees in areas that are **knotweed FREE areas first** moving towards the trees in the known Japanese knotweed areas to reduce likelihood of spreading viable propagules.
16. When felling the trees or limbs are to be dropping in the knotweed area avoid disturbing the knotweed as much as possible in the 7m rhizome buffer zone around all visible above the ground knotweed.
17. When removing tree limbs once felled, careful extraction is required as not to pick up viable Japanese knotweed propagules and moving them around or off site especially on treads on vehicles and footwear
18. Careful cleaning e.g. pressure washing and inspection of any tools, treads on vehicles and footwear needs to be undertaken by the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works** to ensure no potential knotweed propagules are taken before leaving the location.

DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL WORKS

19. There is a high risk of cross contamination of potentially viable knotweed material during the demolition and removal due to the proximity of the knotweed to the structures – the building, foundations and car park and path areas including concrete and tarmac.
20. Work on again should start in areas that are **knotweed FREE areas** first moving towards the areas with Japanese knotweed so there is reduced likelihood of cross contamination or spreading viable propagules.
21. When demolishing structures or removing them from site, the knotweed should be disturbed as little as possible including the rhizome buffer zone 7m from the visible above the ground knotweed canes.
22. When removing materials and structures from site near the knotweed, careful extraction is required as not to pick up viable Japanese knotweed propagules and moving them around or off site especially on treads on vehicles and footwear or the structures or materials themselves.
23. Careful cleaning e.g. pressure washing and inspection of any treads on vehicles and footwear or the structures or materials needs to be undertaken by the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works** to ensure no potential knotweed propagules are taken before leaving the location.
24. Any vegetation, concrete, spoil, tarmac, soil etc. potentially contaminated with Japanese knotweed material is classed as a controlled waste (see (see vi. **LEGALISATION**) so should be kept to a minimal and stored transported and disposed of appropriately (see **WASTE DISPOSAL** point 25 below)

WASTE DISPOSAL

25. All Japanese knotweed and material potentially contaminated with knotweed propagules as small as 0.7gm, the size of a pea will be classed as a controlled waste (see. vi. **LEGALISATION**). It is therefore generally preferable to keep this waste on site rather than take to a landfill (see 7.1. “Dig & Dump”/ excavation & landfill) with the associated extra costs and increased complexity in logistics.

POST DEVELOPMENT GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

26. Japanese knotweed is a long lived perennial, easily spread, unpredictable and notoriously hard to kill. Knotweed Control does not guarantee **ERADICATION** and the lack of above ground of regrowth does not mean the knotweed has all been killed. Japanese knotweed rhizome can remain dormant deep in the soil for over 20 years & can be broken by disturbance or a change in conditions.
27. If there are to be any ground works within 7m of any area of known Japanese knotweed it is essential that a Method Statement is created by the operator to show the steps being undertaken to limited the interfere with the management of the Japanese knotweed and all biosecurity steps and procedure put in place to stop or managed the spread across and off site.
28. Great care must be taken when undertaking general works on site that may disturb the knotweed rhizomes (e.g. vegetation or trees, paths ,track, or underground or ground work) and to ensure no viable material is spread around the site (e.g. on infected equipment, machinery, tools, footwear and material such as soil, plants etc.) It is therefore important there is fencing and/ or signage of the potential location of rhizome even when all visible sign of the knotweed has gone.

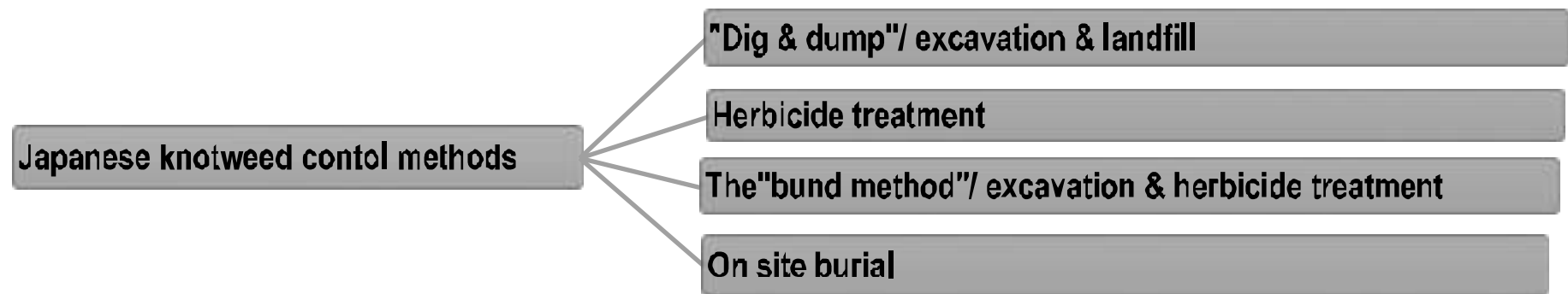
-
- 29. Careful cleaning e.g. pressure washing and inspection of any treads on vehicles and footwear or the structures or materials needs to be undertaken by the Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works to ensure no potential knotweed propagules are taken before leaving the location.
 - 30. Longer term monitoring is always required and even after the suggested timeframes it is likely a "mop-up" herbicide treatment may be required in the future.

USE OF THE GARDEN AND OUTDOOR SPACE

- 31. Again any activities that will potential interfere with or disturb the growth of the Japanese knotweed could stimulate the growth of and spread viable propagules
- 32. Also of the knotweed growth to be treated post development is damaged or compacted it could hindering the long term efficacy of any ongoing herbicide treatment as there needs to be as much surface area and growth on which to apply the herbicide and may take longer that it would otherwise.

7. JAPANESE KNOTWEED MAMANGEMENT PLAN

- Japanese knotweed control comes with a few options available (see iii. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS - INTERGREATED WEED MANAGEMENT (IWM))



- Each method has with its own pros and cons & iv. **PROS AND CONS OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS**) but these are the options available to my client currently with details as follows.
- It may be that different locations of knotweed require different methods and may depend on the timing of the works.
- In this case it appears the only options available are as follows but it is up to my client to decide which is/ are the best;
 - 7.1. “Dig & dump” (excavation & landfill)
 - 7.2. Herbicide treatment
- There is no room for the following methods of control.
 - 7.3. The “Bund method” (excavation & herbicide treatment)
 - 7.4. On site burial

7.1. “Dig and dump” (excavation and landfill)

- The Environment Agency’s Managing Japanese knotweed on Development Sites: Code of Practice states landfill should only be used if there is no viable alternative .
1. Ideally the Japanese knotweed would have at least 1 season of herbicide treatment to reduce the vigour of the plant and rhizome (see 7.2. Herbicide Treatment)
 2. The works to take place in this area
 - a. must be overseen by the **Japanese knotweed Clerk of Work**
 - b. **A dedicated track lined with an appropriate membrane** for the movement vehicles to minimise likelihood with to stop cross contamination
 - a. Any potentially soil contaminated with Japanese knotweed will need to be carefully excavated until there is no more visible rhizomes left in the soil.
 - b. Any removed spoil is classed controlled waste
 - c. This can be sieved / screened to remove knotweed material to reduce the volume going to landfill but the sieved material must still be treated as controlled waste.
 - d. **An extra bucket of “clean” soil removed in case of extended rhizomes**
 - c. **All paper work including transfer notes must be in place to show duty of care** at each stage
 - a. Transported by a licenced waste carrier in suitably covered
 - d. **Needs to go to a landfill site licenced to accept Japanese knotweed and tonnage agreed in advance.**
 - e. **Vehicles, tools, footwear must be thoroughly pressure washed and inspected** when leaving the development and landfill site before it can move off site

Please note:

- ⚠ *Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 ALL Japanese knotweed material is classed as “controlled waste” however if the Japanese knotweed has been treated with certain pesticides the rhizomes and contaminated soil will be classes as a “hazardous waste” an different legation comes into force under the ‘Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005’.*
- ⚠ *Landfilling both “controlled” and “hazardous” waste are expensive and environmentally problematic and should only be undertake if all other avenues have been explored.*
- ⚠ *When cleaning and inspecting vehicles and equipment all voids should all be checked with particular care is needed in the load space, tyre treads, wheel arches, digging buckets and caterpillar tracks where there are small moving parts are where any knotweed material could be trapped (it only takes 0.7gm the size of a pea of rhizome or crown material to create a new plant)*

3. Even after very careful and skilful excavation, very small pieces of viable rhizome may remain in the soil so a monitoring programme should be follow for several years with a herbicide treatment “mop up” annually of any regrowth (see 7.2. Herbicide Treatment)
4. **Longer term monitoring is always required** as Japanese knotweed is a very long lived perennial and can be a highly unpredictable and notoriously hard to kill as well as remain dormant yet still viable in the soil for many years.

Please note:

- ⚠ *Japanese knotweed is a long lived perennial, is highly unpredictable and notoriously hard to kill*
- ⚠ *Knotweed Control does not guarantee ERADICATION and the lack of above ground of regrowth does not mean the knotweed has all been killed.*
- ⚠ *Japanese knotweed rhizome can remain dormant deep in the soil for over 20 years & can be broken by disturbance or a change in conditions*

7.2. Herbicide Treatment

1. **Permission for treatment, clearance & monitoring** must be gained by the subject property's owner from all land owners where control is to take place before any remediation works are undertaken and for duration of the agreed control plan. This is permission is assumed at the start of treatment.
2. During the winter 2023, in knotweed's dormant period, any dense vegetation including bramble and old Japanese knotweed canes should be **cut down the and left in situ to rot**, carefully ensuring no viable material is spread or taken off site.

Please note:

- ⚠ *Clearance of old Japanese knotweed canes & other vegetation ensures any knotweed regrowth is not inhibited in the following spring making it bigger and healthier & more susceptible to treatment*
- ⚠ *It also makes it easier to access, and better herbicide coverage when spraying – all of which improving results of treatment*
- ⚠ *Winter clearance may only be required for the first few years depending on how the vegetation regrows.*
- ⚠ *Knotweed or contaminated material is classed as a “controlled” waste so has strict transportation, storage and disposal regulations so should be left to rot down or incinerated on site.*

3. During the 2023 growing season, it essential if there is any **Japanese knotweed, it must be left to grow with no disturbance or interference.**

Please note:

- ⚠ *The knotweed must be left to grow with no disturbance or interference so that it is as big and healthy as possible. The larger the leaves and stems the more surface area on which to apply the herbicide or stems to inject making the treatment more effective.*
- ⚠ *Also the timing of treatment is essential (see **v. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS OFFERED BY KNOTWEED CONTROL Treatment Timing**)*

4. Any Japanese knotweed growth will be;
 - a. treated using a professional aquatic approved glyphosate based herbicide
 - b. by an appropriate qualified operator
 - c. under licence by Natural Resources Wales to used herbicide need water and protected sites
 - d. by an appropriate qualified operator
 - e. at the optimum time of year - in this case from mid to late autumn, before leaves change colour or fall from the lands and before the early frosts
 - f. applied via foliar spray and/or stem injection depending on the size of the leaves and stems -foliar spray in this case as the growth is so small
 - g. in the correct conditions (not windy & no rain forecast for at least an hour after application
 - h. in accordance with the herbicide label, best practice guidance and relevant legislation
 - i. following appropriate health and safety and environmental protection procedures
5. The herbicide will start working within 24 hours and carry on working for **at least 6 weeks** so again it is essential it is **left undisturbed for the herbicide to continue to work.**
6. After each year's treatment the knotweed will regrow smaller so the treatment is to be **undertaken slightly later in the season in following years** and **most likely to be applied via foliar spray.**
7. For more information **see v. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS OFFERED BY KNOTWEED CONTROL.**

Please note:

- ⚠ *After every year's treatment regrowth will be smaller and more sporadic with smaller leaves and thinner stems. Stems may be too small to inject so will be applied via foliar spray*
- ⚠ *As there is less leaf surface area on which to apply herbicide (i.e. smaller leaves) it makes successive treatments less effective which is why it can take 3-8 years to control the knotweed*
- ⚠ *Also late season treatment is the most affective as it will draw the herbicide into deeper rhizomes that earlier treatment*
- ⚠ *Later season treatment also means the smothering annual weeds have died down exposing more of the knotweed*

- 8. Herbicide treatment and perhaps vegetation clearance as per steps 2. **Winter . will need to be repeated for at least 3 years several years** and points 3-7, the Herbicide Treatment may need to be undertake for quite a few more years perhaps up to 8 in areas where It is mature and established or disturbed during the project.
- 9. **Longer term monitoring is always required** as Japanese knotweed is a very long lived perennial and can be a highly unpredictable and notoriously hard to kill as well as remain dormant yet still viable in the soil for many years.

Please note:

- ⚠ *Japanese knotweed is a long lived perennial, is highly unpredictable and notoriously hard to kill*
- ⚠ *Knotweed Control does not guarantee ERADICATION and the lack of above ground of regrowth does not mean the knotweed has all been killed.*
- ⚠ *Japanese knotweed rhizome can remain dormant deep in the soil for over 20 years & can be broken by disturbance or a change in conditions*

7.3. The “Bund method” (excavation & herbicide treatment)

- There is no room for this method of control on this particular site so it is not an option.

7.4. On site burial

- There is no room for this method of control on this particular site so it is not an option.

8. OTHER INVASIVE NON NATIVE SPECIES (INNS) ON SITE

- During the site visit Knotweed Control observed other Invasive Non Native Species on site not just Japanese knotweed including the following;
 - Cherry laurel (Prunus Lusitanica
 - Buddleia (Buddleja Davidii)
 - Himalayan balsam (Impatiens glandulifera) –possibly
 - Himalayan honeysuckle (Leycesteria formosa)
 - Ash die back (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) likely to be on the ash trees (Fraxinus excelsior)

APPENDICES

- i. KNOTWEED CONTROL SWANSEA LIMITED DETAILS
- ii. SITE HYGIENE – BIOSECURITY MEASURES
- iii. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS - INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT (IWM)
- iv. THE PROS AND CONS OF CONTROL METHODS
- v. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS OFFERED BY KNOTWEED CONTROL
- vi. LEGISLATION
- vii. CODES & MORE INFORMATION
- viii. KNOTWEED CONTROL SWANSEA LIMITED'S TERMS & CONDITIONS
- i. THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY'S SUGGESTED WORDING FOR EXCLUSION FENCING
- ii. THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY'S GUIDE TO JAPANESE KNOTWEED RHIZOME ID

i. KNOTWEED CONTROL SWANSEA LIMITED DETAILS

Company: Knotweed Control Swansea Limited
Company no: 9815953
Director: Joanne Mullett
Address: 20 Penfilia Road, Brynhyfryd, Swansea, SA5 9HX
Tel: 07790505232
E mail: knotweedcontrol@gmail.com
Website: www.knotweedcontrolwales.co.uk

Surveyor: Jo Mullett
Qualifications: Property Care Association
Qualified Technician (QTPCA) (2014)
Certified Surveyor of Control & Eradication of Japanese knotweed (CSJK) (2015)
National Proficiency Test Council
Safe Use in Pesticides PA1, PA6 (2011), PA6AW (2013) & PA6INJ (2016)
Credit & Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW)
Swansea University Advanced Professional Training Bioscience
Invasive Plants: Identification, Ecology and Control: (2013)
City & County of Swansea
Internal training for the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) (2014)
Non-native Species Secretariat e-learning
Module 1. Introduction to Invasive Non-native Species
Module 2a. Introduction to Identification and Recording
Module 2b. Identification of Invasive Freshwater Plants
Module 2c. Identification of Invasive Freshwater Invertebrates
Module 2d. Identification of Invasive Riparian Plants
Module 3. Biosecurity

Property Care Association: www.property-care.org
Knotweed Control is a member of the Property Care Association (2015) Invasive Weed Control Group (PCA IWCG) which enables consumers a means of identifying specialist contractors and consultants in the control and management of invasive species, offering the highest levels of technical knowledge and practical skill.

TrustMark: www.trustmark.org.uk
As a member of the Property Care Association Knotweed Control is be default part of the TrustMark, a scheme licensed by Government and supported by consumer protection groups enabling clients to find local trustworthy, reliable **tradespeople** operating to Government Endorsed Standards.

Amenity Training Register: www.basis-reg.co.uk/Schemes/Amenity/About-Amenity-Register
The BASIS Amenity Training Register is a professional register demonstrating members have up-to-date training and knowledge to responsibly manage pesticide use in the amenity sector.

The Amenity Standard www.theamenitystandard.co.uk/
A bespoke voluntary quality management standard of he Amenity Forum and backed by the Government to which highlights the need to use professionally approved operators in public spaces and promotes best practice in areas including invasive weed control.

ii. SITE HYGIENE - BIOSECURITY MEASURES

- Good site hygiene - biosecurity measures is essential on sites with Japanese knotweed to minimise the risk spreading of Japanese knotweed around or illegally, off site.
- It only takes a viable piece of Japanese knotweed material 0.7gm, the size of a pea, to make a new plant which can quickly establish so great care is needed when handling contaminated material.
- All Japanese knotweed is classed as a "controlled" waste and has very specific legal regulations regarding transport, storage
- Knotweed Control cannot be held responsible for
 - any cross contamination from untreated local sources
 - cross contamination from material moved around site
 - or new source of Japanese knotweed brought into site

Japanese Knotweed Dos and Don'ts

DO

- ✓ ... Do get professional advice on as soon as possible
- ✓ ... Do ensure contractors are members of the Property Care Association or INNSA)
- ✓ ... Do check qualifications of operators (National Proficiency Tests Council Certificate of Competence)
- ✓ ... Do work with neighbouring land owners to deal with the Japanese knotweed
- ✓ ... Do make yourself aware of Japanese knotweed & the law
- ✓ ... Do take great care not to spread the knotweed around site especially crown & rhizome material!
- ✓ ... Do thoroughly clean tools, vehicles and machinery if used near Japanese knotweed.
- ✓ ... Do put up fencing and signs to keep out where Japanese knotweed is likely to be disturbed
- ✓ ... Do take care not to read too on the internet – there are so many recycled myths!
- ✓

DON'T

- ✗ ... Don't panic!
- ✗ ... Don't spread Japanese knotweed by digging, mowing, flailing, cutting, chopping or chipping etc.
- ✗ ... Don't cut down live knotweed – it needs to be big & healthy for the herbicide treatment to be effective
- ✗ ... Don't put knotweed material in council black bag, green waste or take to Civic Amenity Sites
- ✗ ... Don't put it in your compost bin – you won't to kill it this way and you could spread it in the garden.
- ✗ ... Don't allow Japanese knotweed to spread into the wild or neighbouring land
- ✗ ... Don't break the law so find out about your responsibilities
- ✗ ... Don't ignore Japanese knotweed – the problem won't go away on its own & will only get worse!

iii. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS - Integrated Weed Management (IWM)

- Integrated Weed Management (IWM) is the use of a combination of preventive, cultural, mechanical (physical), chemical (herbicide) or biological practices in order to control weed, invasive non-native or problematic plants including Japanese knotweed.
- There are several different recognised methods of dealing with Japanese knotweed (see the Property Care Association's Code of Practice: Management of Japanese knotweed 2018)
- Each have their own advantages and disadvantages (see **iv. PROS AND CONS OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS**) and the method chosen depends on a number of factors on site and in relation to the client's requirements and may change with circumstances
- The 4 general methods fall into different types;
 - a. **Physical or mechanical** (including digging/ excavation/ landfill "dig & dump"/ on site burial/ screening/ membranes/ rhizome fragmentation/ cultivation)
 - b. **Chemical or herbicide control**
 - c. **A combination of control** (including "Bund method" excavation & herbicide treatment)
 - d. **Biological/ biological agent/ bio-control** - currently unavailable as at the research phase
- Each control method for Japanese knotweed is chosen appropriate to the site, the time frames and money available and each have their own advantages and disadvantages (see **iv. PROS AND CONS OF CONTROL METHODS**) but all require great care but there should always monitoring of the site following control due to the highly invasive and persistent nature of Japanese knotweed.
- It is not uncommon for Japanese knotweed to respond to inconsistency/ incorrect/ incomplete herbicide treatment, control or disturbance in unpredictable way making subsequent treatment more complicated, prolonged and expensive.
- Control options currently include;
 - **Herbicide treatment:** applying herbicide to Japanese Knotweed in situ. See **v. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS OFFERED BY KNOTWEED CONTROL**
 - **"Dig & dump" (excavation & landfill):** exaction of Japanese knotweed material and removal to a landfill. At least 1 season of herbicide treatment is recommended before excavation and some herbicide treatment may be required to "mop up" any small remains.
 - **The "Bund method" (excavation & herbicide treatment):** excavation and movement of Japanese Knotweed material to an area of the site where it will not be disturbed. Creation of a bund and subsequent treatment with herbicide.
 - **Screening/ sifting:** excavation of Japanese Knotweed material and screening (sieving) the material through a mesh or other selective system to remove rhizome fragments, which are then disposed of correctly and safely. The soil that passed through the screener will still be classed as controlled waste and may be used on site but must be located where it will not be disturbed. This soil will then need to be monitored for at least two growing seasons and any regrowth treated with herbicide as per the stockpiling treatment above, or dug out (usually manually), before control can be considered complete.

-
- **Rhizome fragmentation and cultivation:** digging and breaking up rhizome material and soil with the aim of increasing the leaf surface area to rhizome volume ratio and to un-compact, disturb and aerate the soil. Crown removal can be integrated into such works, including prior to the commencement of herbicide treatment. The subsequent Japanese Knotweed growth is then treated with herbicide.
 - **On site burial:** excavation of Japanese Knotweed material with burial at another part of the site at an appropriate depth to prevent regrowth. Monitoring of the area will still be required and any regrowth treated with herbicide.
 - **Root barrier membrane:** prevention of horizontal and vertical growth of Japanese Knotweed by installing a vertical and/or horizontal membrane barrier. Monitoring of the area will still be required for at least two growing seasons and any regrowth treated with herbicide.
 - **Removal to landfill:** excavation and transport of Japanese Knotweed material to a licensed landfill using haulage vehicles. Monitoring of the area will still be required and, although all rhizome material should have been removed, any regrowth treated with herbicide.
 - **Biological control:** There are currently no approved methods for the biological control of Japanese Knotweed. Trials are being conducted by CABI for several biocontrol agents.

iv. PROS AND CONS OF CONTROL METHODS

- The following table has been taken from the Property Care Association Code of Practice Management of Japanese Knotweed and shows a comprehensive list of the pros and cons of different control methods.

Herbicide treatment	
Pros	Cons
- Cost effective - Treatment can be carried out in situ without risk of spreading the plant further. - Quickly reduces the capacity of the plant to spread on/off site. - Quickly eliminates the capacity of the plant to impact built structures. - Easy to administer	- Can take many years to achieve acceptable results, especially where stands are mature. - Management plans that rely solely on herbicide treatment must include at least 2 years of monitoring after all evidence of growth has ceased. - Herbicide treatment alone should not be recommended on sites with future development plans that involve the soil being dug and disturbed. - Construction works cannot continue in areas still containing the plant and the risks associated with landscaping treated soils, e.g. stimulating regrowth, should be made clear to the client and mitigated for. - The use of some herbicides is restricted near waterbodies and desired vegetation. - Some herbicides can persist in the soil. - If soil is disturbed at a later date, regrowth can occur. - Effective control requires expert knowledge of herbicide treatment of Japanese Knotweed. - Soil which contains Japanese Knotweed that has been treated with herbicide is still classed as controlled waste if it enters the waste stream. - Herbicide treatment can induce temporary dormancy.

Stockpiling	
Pros	Cons
• Cost effective • Site work can be undertaken while treatment takes place elsewhere on-site.	• Requires an area that can be left undisturbed for several years. • Soil from a stockpile must remain on the site. • The same cons as herbicide treatment apply in the stockpile area. • Plant material can be accidentally spread e.g. after a change in ownership. • The depth of the stockpiled soil must be appropriate for the future use of the soil. • Rhizome buried deeper in a bund is less likely to express itself and may become dormant; as such, bunds should be created as shallow as is practical and should not exceed 0.5m. • If larger bunds are created, it may be necessary to apply for planning permission.
Screening	
Pros	Cons
• Can be cost effective but not always. • Less material needs to be disposed of to waste facility. • The treated soil can be re-introduced on site as fill or in soft landscaping areas. •	• Where soil needs to be imported, less is required from elsewhere to fill voids created by excavation. • All screened soil is still classed as controlled waste • Small fragments of Japanese Knotweed will still be present in the soil and could lead to re-infestation. • Area where screened soils are re-used must be monitored for regrowth. • Follow up herbicide treatment or manual removal may be required. • Plant material can be accidentally spread during movement. • Soil type and makeup dictate if it can be screened or not. • Rhizome fragmentation and cultivation, including crown removal
Rhizome fragmentation and cultivation, including crown removal	
Pros	Cons
• Increases the leaf surface area to rhizome volume ratio • Breaks up and aerates the soil. • Can increase the effectiveness of herbicides under certain scenarios. • Can improve the potential for eradication on sites where the Japanese Knotweed is persistent. • Crown removal removes a large amount of surface and underground biomass.	• Most above ground vegetation must be cleared, even desirable plants. • Cleared vegetation would usually need to be disposed of. • A large area must be dug to ensure all rhizome containing soil has been included. • Rhizome located deeper in the soil may be missed and result in regrowth. • Soil should be compacted at the end of the treatment to help reduce the potential of deep soil rhizome regrowth. • Crown removal can be time consuming or impractical for large infestations and removed crown must be managed appropriately

Burial	
Pros	Cons
- Does not require a set-a-side area for control. - Work can continue immediately after burial. - Quickly removes the Japanese Knotweed from an undesirable area	- Restrictions remain on the site, e.g. in some areas deep excavation would interfere with buried material. - The use of the area above burial site is limited. - Typically requires a large hole to receive material, so it may not be possible if soil is shallow or water table is high. - The appropriate environment agency must be notified. - Plant material can be accidentally spread during movement.
Root barrier	
Pros	Cons
- Can be installed to reduce the chance of horizontal and vertical rhizome spread. - Can be used to protect structures, hard surfaces and services. - Work can continue immediately after installation in areas protected by membranes.	- Tears in the membrane or poorly sealed seams between sheets can be exploited by growing rhizome. - Can only be installed in favourable weather conditions. - Damp and/or wet conditions and/or work surfaces will reduce the robustness of heat welded seals. - Surface drainage and underground water can affect installation and ponding can occur, all of which must be taken into consideration. - Installation of root barrier is a form of control/prevention to be used in conjunction with other methodology, as it is not in itself a method of eradication.
Landfill	
Pros	Cons
- Quickly removes the Japanese Knotweed from an undesirable area - No restrictions left onsite. - Work can continue immediately after removal. - Fast and efficient	- Relatively expensive - Disposal to landfill reduces valuable landfill capacity and needs haulage (which damages the environment and increases the risk of Japanese Knotweed spreading) and in the long term unsustainable. As such, disposal to landfill should only be considered as last resort when Japanese - Knotweed cannot be classed as a controlled waste with specific storage , transportation and disposal regulations and controls
Biological control	
Pro	Con
Targeted control of a specific species after extensive lab and field tests	- Not currently commercially available as still in the research phase - Does not kill Japanese knotweed outright but another control method to hinder growth

v. JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL METHODS OFFERED BY KNOTWEED CONTROL

GLYPHOSATE BASED HERBICIDE CONTROL

- Generally acknowledged as the cheapest & often the best front-line tool for Japanese knotweed control for residential situations Knotweed Control Swansea Limited only offers in-situ glyphosate-based herbicide/ clearance/ monitoring programmes
- A professional glyphosate-based, aquatic approved herbicide applied following best practice (see [Optimising physiochemical control of Japanese knotweed](#)) via stem injection and/ or foliar spray.
- Control using glyphosate typically takes 3 - 8 years & the success of any treatment is determined by a number of factors some of which are not easy to know or predict even from the site visits as detailed later.
- Tall, strong and healthy knotweed is more susceptible to herbicide treatment so it must be left to grow with no undisturbed with no inference before application (i.e. no mowing, cutting, strimming, herbicide treatment, compaction of soil, covering, tramping, grazing, digging/ excavation or covering with membrane/ mulch/ decking etc.) as it could negatively affect the ongoing treatment and invalidate guarantees and insurance.
- Glyphosate starts working within 24 hours, shows signs of response within 7 days (leaves browning & dropping) and continues to work for over 6 weeks.
- Glyphosate applied to the stems or leaves is translocated to the growing cells of plant (meristem) interfering with protein production, stopping cell division and causing the plant, over time, to starve.
- After each year's treatment, the size of the Japanese knotweed will reduce so in following years there are less leaves and surface area on which the herbicide can be absorbed therefore the response becomes affective less and dramatic, one reason why treatment takes so long.

Please note:

- ⚠ *Knotweed Control cannot be held responsible for any growth or cross-contamination from untreated local sources, cross-contamination across site or new material brought onto site, therefore, good site hygiene (biosecurity) is essential to prevent reinfection and spread. If good site hygiene practices are not followed it could invalidate the guarantees*
- ⚠ *Under the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 a Simple or Higher Risk Agreement for the use of Herbicide near water or a designated site may be required from Natural Resources Wales.*
- ⚠ *Aquatic approved herbicides only must be used near water courses by qualified operators.*

Glyphosate application

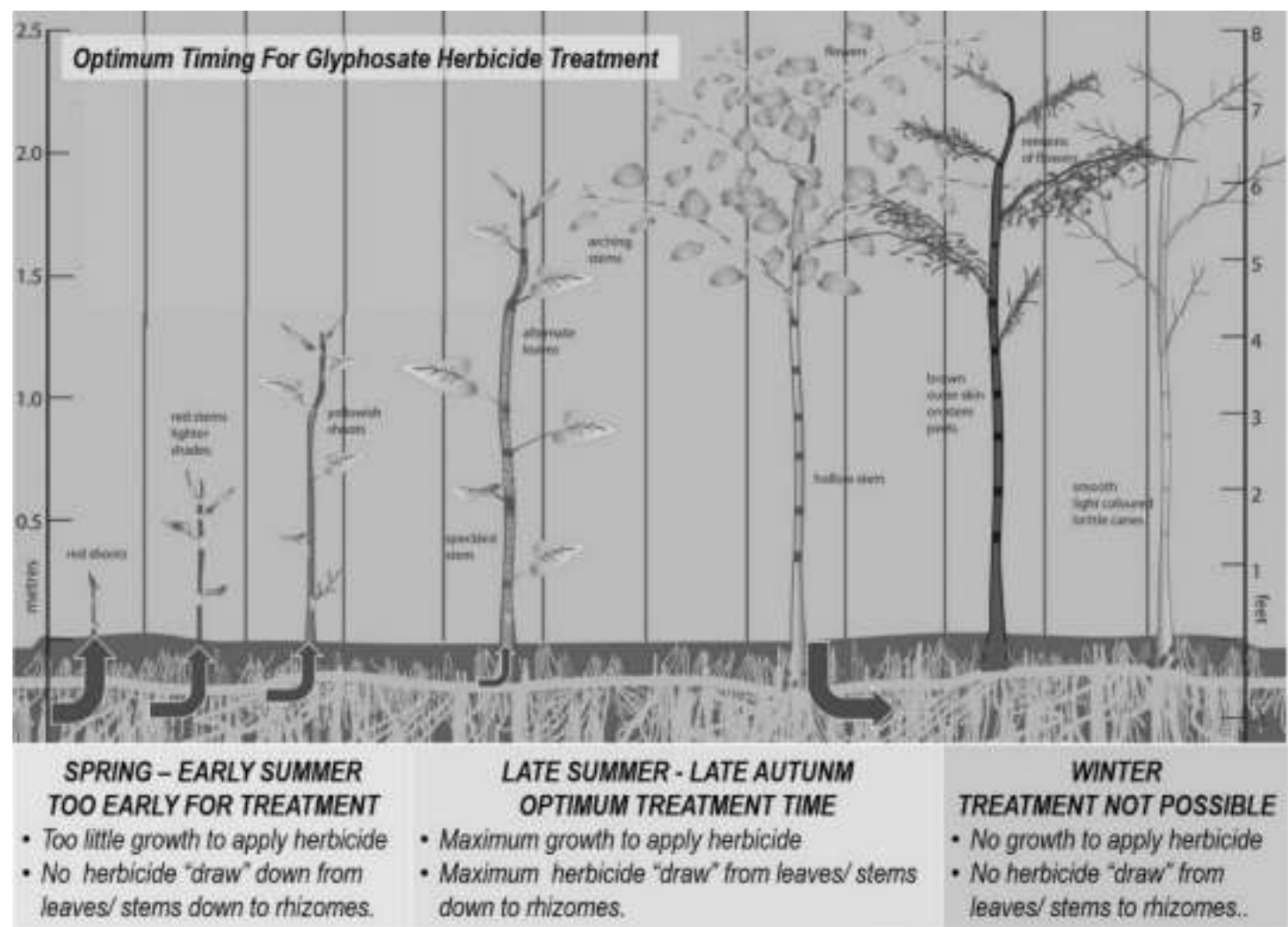
- Stem injection is very effective, highly targeted method but stems need to be at least 8mm in diameter.
- Foliar spray is used on stems less than 8mm in diameter and must be applied when it is not windy and there is no rain for a least an hour after treatment and great care is needed to protect pollinating insects.
- Treatment should be repeated until there is no evidence of regrowth.

People Pets & Animals

- As per product label; *"People, pets and wildlife need not be kept out of treated areas. It is best not to walk in areas where the spray is still wet as transfer to other vegetation may lead to unwanted damage to other foliage. Once the spray is dry this cannot occur. Keep stock out of treated areas for 5 days. Treated poisonous plant species [e.g. ragwort] must be removed before regrazing or conserving"*
- Japanese knotweed is NOT a poisonous plant therefore does not require to be removed after treatment.

Treatment Timing

- Treatment can take place once the knotweed is large enough, green and actively growing, before the knotweed dies back in the autumn or is damaged by early frosts.
- Optimum treatment time is mid-summer to late autumn as described below.



Original graphic
courtesy of Cornwall
Knotweed Forum

Factors Affecting Herbicide Treatment

- Factors affecting treatment efficacy include
 - The length of time an area has been infected (density, health and size of knotweed)
 - Previous control (e.g. herbicide use, digging, cutting, mowing)
 - Time of year treatment takes place
 - Herbicide application method and dosage
 - Re or cross-contamination from existing or new sources
 - Other environmental conditions (e.g. drought, flood, humidity soil type, fertility, plant stress)
 - Incorrect, incomplete or inconsistency control (see **Incorrect Control** below)

Incorrect Control

- Japanese knotweed is unpredictable and can respond to incorrect, incomplete or inconsistent control in several ways, making subsequent treatment more complicated, prolonged and expensive therefore trying to tackle the problem yourself can make the situation worse
- This can include mowing, cutting, strimming, herbicide treatment, compaction of soil, covering, tramping, grazing, digging/ excavation or covering with membrane/ mulch/ decking etc.
- There should be no disturbance or deviation from the Japanese knotweed Management Plan as this can negatively affect the ongoing treatment and invalidate guarantees and insurance.

Response to Incorrect Control

- The response of the knotweed to incorrect control includes;
 - Increased rate of spread and or growth
 - Deformation of subsequent years' growth called sub lethal bonsai growth
 - Enforced dormancy of which has been documented for up to 20 years
- Antagonistic effect of previous to subsequent treatments reducing the overall effectiveness

CLEARANCE & CONTROLLED RHIZOME FRAGMENTATION/ CULTIVATION

- Clearance of old Japanese knotweed canes & other vegetation may be needed especially in the winter to improve access, allow the knotweed to grow impeded and enable better access and herbicide coverage when spraying.
- Knotweed or contaminated material is classed as a “controlled” waste so has strict transportation, storage and disposal regulations so should be left to rot down or incinerated on site.
- After each year’s treatment, the size of the Japanese knotweed will reduce so in following years there are less leaves and surface area on which the herbicide can be absorbed therefore the response becomes affective less and dramatic, one reason why treatment takes so long.
- Controlled rhizome fragmentation/ cultivation at this point of done correctly can stimulate dormant growth and is then treated with herbicide the following season and may be deemed as suitable.

Please note: Clearance

- ⚠ Great care is needed not to spread any of the viable knotweed material around or off site so good biosecurity measures will be followed.
- ⚠ All Japanese knotweed material is classed as “controlled waste” has strict transportation, storage and disposal regulations so should be left to rot down or incinerated on site.

MONITORING

- Although 2 years is usually sufficient to determine if regrowth will take place, is not a guarantee the knotweed has been eradicated.
- If soil is disturbed after this period regrowth can occur due to exposing deeper rhizome that might be dormant and has been recorded as long as 20 years, after treatment appears to have been complete.
- The Property Care Association’s Code of Practice; Management of Japanese knotweed 2018 states; *“The final monitoring visit is the visit carried out after the completion of control action and after which there has been at least two full growing seasons with no evidence of Japanese Knotweed growth. In this context, growing season refers to the entire active growth period in a given year. Although two full growing seasons are usually sufficient to determine if regrowth will take place, if soil is disturbed after this period regrowth can sometimes occur due to exposing deeper rhizome that might be dormant.”*

vi. LEGISLATION

Professional advice should always be sought regarding the legalities of Japanese knotweed as it is a complex and new area of law, the following points can be used for basic guidance. Although not illegal to have Japanese knotweed on your land:

- **Private nuisance** Japanese knotweed could be deemed as a private nuisance where Japanese knotweed causes someone unreasonable interference with the enjoyment or use of their land
- **Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981**; it is an offense to plant or otherwise allow Japanese knotweed & other plants on Schedule 9 list to spread in the wild. DEFRA define 'the wild' as *"The diverse range of natural and semi-natural habitats and their associated wild native flora and fauna in the rural and urban environments in general. This can also be broadly described as the general open environment."*
- **Environmental Protection Act 1990**; Japanese knotweed & contaminated material is "controlled waste" requiring specific disposal regulations.
- **Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005** if certain herbicides have been used it could be classes as a "hazardous waste" requiring specific disposal regulation.
- **Duty of Care Regulations 1991**; Both controlled and hazardous wastes have specific paperwork requirements for handling, transportation and disposal.
- Under the **Town & Country Planning Act 1990**; Planning conditions to treat Japanese knotweed can be enforced so developers have to treat Japanese knotweed
- **Misrepresentation Act 1965**; If a vendor lies or omits information about a property being "affected" by Japanese knotweed on the TA6 Property Information Form (since 2013) they could be in breach of the.
- **Professional negligence**; Surveyors have a duty to record the presence of Japanese knotweed otherwise a claim could be made for
- **Consumer Protection Regulations**; Estate Agents also have an obligation to disclose the presence of Japanese knotweed as a "material fact" through the
- **Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014**; knotweed is not specifically mentioned but community protection notices can be used against individuals who are acting unreasonably and who persistently or continually act in a way that has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality.
- **Regulation (1143/2014) on Invasive Alien Species (IAS)**; Surprisingly Japanese knotweed is NOT listed a species of Union concern by the European Commission on their or any of the updated lists.
- **Infrastructure Act 2015**, Welsh Ministers and Natural Resources Wales (others in other UK counties) are able to arrange 'Species Control Agreements' & serve 'Orders' on land owners who allow non-native invasive species to establish on their land.

vii. CODES & MORE INFORMATION

Knotweed Control operates in compliance with all current legislation and best practise guidance in the treatment of Japanese knotweed and other invasive non-native species including:

- Property Care Association's Code of Practice for the Management of Japanese knotweed 2012
- Property Care Association's Code of Practice: Management of Japanese knotweed 2018
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Professional standard for Japanese knotweed 2022
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) information paper on Japanese knotweed 2012
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) information paper amendment 2015.
- Environment Agency Managing Japanese knotweed on Development Sites: Code of Practice 2013
- The Invasive Non-Native Specialists Association (INNSA) Technical Standards
- Swansea University research paper Optimising physiochemical control of Japanese knotweed 2018
- Fennell, Wade, Bacon; Japanese knotweed: An analysis of capacity to cause structural damage 2018

For the safe and responsible use, storage and transportation of pesticides Knotweed Control follows:

- DEFRA's Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products 2008
- Crop Protection Association Amenity Best Practice: Using Pesticides in the Community 2013

More Information

- UK Government www.gov.uk/guidance/prevent-the-spread-of-harmful-invasive-and-non-native-plants
- Non-native Species Secretariat www.nonnativespecies.org/
- Devon County Council www.devon.gov.uk/japanese_knotweed
- House of Commons, Science and Technology Committee [Japanese knotweed and the built environment Seventeenth Report of Session 2017–19](#)

viii. KNOTWEED CONTROL'S TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

- These Terms & Conditions (T&C) form the agreement between Knotweed Control Swansea Limited (Knotweed Control) and the client(s) & may be amended within reason any time.

2. COPY RIGHT

- Materials created by Knotweed Control including reports, document formats, diagrams, photos etc. created by Knotweed Control
 - Remain the property of Knotweed Control,
 - Are subject to copyright
 - Cannot be share of reproduced unless by written agreement in advance
 - May only be used for the purpose they were originally intended unless with prior agreement

3. SITE VISITS & REPORTS

- Knotweed Control will undertake visual, non-intrusive inspection from safely accessible areas both inside and where possible, outside the subject property boundaries.
- Information for reports will be based on data collected during site visits and where if suitable, client(s), neighbours, verified biological records as well as other resources such as on line maps/ records & photos.
- Even if there is no obvious Japanese knotweed seen during a visit, does not guarantee there is no Japanese knotweed on site.
- Material could have been unintentionally or deliberately concealed, removed or treated with herbicide but there still could still be dormant or viable rhizome underground, hidden behind walls, hedges or fences or in dense vegetation.
- When Japanese knotweed dies down in the winter with little or no visible signs from winter through spring or sometime event into late summer.

4. BOUNDARIES, PERMISSIONS & ACCESS

- Knotweed Control cannot be held responsible for omissions of land where boundaries plans have not been made available or incorrect or misleading information given.
- The herbicide treatment, clearance & monitoring phase can commence once:
 - Permission is gained from my client from all land owners here the Japanese knotweed is to be controlled.
 - My client(s) is/ are responsible for gaining permission from other land owners where knotweed is to be treated and this will be assumed at the start of any works
 - Conditions are safe and appropriate for the works
- Where landowners cannot be located, the client(s) will be required to give written permission for treatment in the owner's absence.
- The client(s) will need to arrange access with tenants or occupiers etc.

5. ESTIMATES

- Estimates remain valid for the season in which they are given.
- Estimates are an indication of costs but might need to revised for changes such as if;
 - There have been any changes undertaken on site since Knotweed Control's visit,
 - The extent of the Japanese knotweed has been e.g. hidden, treated with herbicide or cleared or
 - The visit has been undertaken during the winter through to spring when it can be hard to estimate the full extent of the knotweed.
- If Knotweed Control deems conditions too dangerous it reserves the right to cancel works, cease operations or charge extra to cover additional risk and/ or costs to make the site safe.

6. PAYMENT & REFUNDS

- Invoices can be paid with cash, cheque or through BACS and are deemed to have been received once funds have been cleared.
- Receipts are available on request as record of payment.
- Some works will be invoiced and must be paid up from and in full before works are undertaken such as guarantee packages when a property is being sold.
- Other works will be invoiced after works have taken place such as site visits, Japanese knotweed Management Plan Reports or annual treatment or which must be paid within 14 days unless stated as different on the invoice or agreed in writing
- Where there are late or non-payments;
 - An administration fee & interest will be charged
 - Legal action will be taken to recover costs
 - Upfront payment for future works may be required or works refused altogether
 - No refunds will be made of payments to date
 - Guarantees will be invalidated.
- Where the Japanese knotweed treated area covers ground with multiple owners land and cost have been agreed to be shared, it is up to my client(s) to pay Knotweed Control's invoice and they must recover costs from other land owners themselves. Invoices will not be split.
- No refunds will be made where Guarantees Packages have been paid for but no longer required.
- Guarantee Packages payment be placed in an escrow Transpact account, a third party holding account where the full contact cost of the works is paid up front and Knotweed Control will drawing down money annually after works have been undertaken. Extra fees to cover admin and annual draw down fees.

7. SITE HYGIENE – BIOSECURITY

- Knotweed Control cannot be held responsible for any growth untreated local sources or cross contamination from new contaminated material brought onto site therefore good site hygiene (biosecurity measures) is essential to prevent reinfection and spread.

8. CANCELLATION OF SERVICES

- If the client(s) wishes to cancel services outstanding invoices will be sent and any out of pocket expenses from Knotweed Control will be charged.
- Knotweed Control retains the right to cancel works if the site is deemed unsafe or where invoices unpaid.

9. COMPLAINTS

- Knotweed Control strives to deliver a service that meets client(s)'s satisfaction but the event of a complaint Knotweed Control will work with the client(s) to come to a mutually suitable solution.
- When a problem cannot be resolved between the client(s) and Knotweed Control an independent person or persons from the Property Care Association Invasive Weed Control Group can be asked to inspect services.
- Any costs incurred through this process will be payable by the client(s).

10. GUARANTEE PACKAGES

- Knotweed Control offers Guarantee Packages which combine Knotweed Control's Guarantee and an Insurance Backed Guarantee (IBG)
- Site visits & Japanese knotweed Management Plan (JKMP) (JKMP) required for Guarantee Package as creates the word of the works on which the guarantee is based.
- Insurance Backed Guarantee (IBG) policy costs are per property and includes Insurance Premium Tax
- Where Insurance Backed Guarantee (IBG) is required and others have undertaken treatment, there may be additional costs due to the extra time required and risk involved (you wouldn't expect a roofer to guarantee someone else's work!)

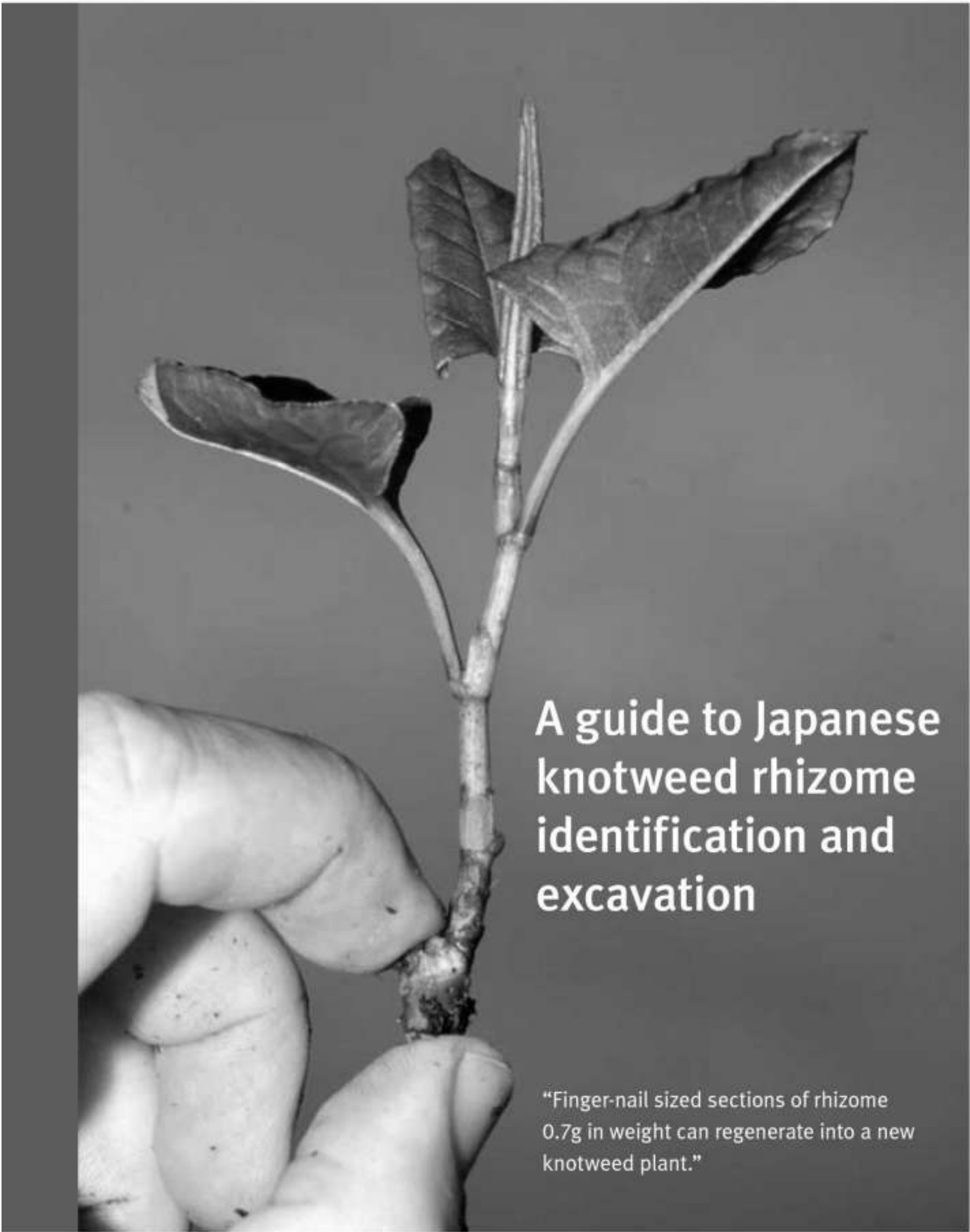
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- The **Knotweed Control's Guarantee** is an guarantee to treat any Japanese knotweed regrowth in the treatment area during the suggested guarantee phase as per the Japanese knotweed Management Plan (JKMP)
 - The **Insurance Backed Guarantee (IBG)** is a policy taken out through an third party insurance company to ensure that in the unlikely event Knotweed Control ceases to trade, works will be honoured by another contractor arranged through the insurance company.
 - Guarantee packages will;
 - Include a herbicide treatment, clearance and monitoring, details of which are stated in the Japanese knotweed Management Plan (JKMP)
 - **Knotweed Control's Guarantee** then starts after the suggested treatment period
 - **After 2 growing seasons with no Japanese knotweed regrowth a "completion certificate"** will be issued by Knotweed Control and the **Insurance Backed Guarantee (IBG)** then commences.
 - Guarantee packages remain valid as long as
 - There is **no interference in the treatment area** (i.e. no mowing, cutting, strimming, herbicide treatment, compaction of soil, covering, tramping, grazing, digging/ excavation or covering with membrane/ mulch/ decking etc.) Light, hand weeding is permitted.
 - There is **no deviation** from the Japanese knotweed Management Plan by anyone other than Knotweed Control (unless agreed in advance in writing)
 - Knotweed Control may change the detail of the Japanese knotweed in keeping with research, good practice and legation or depending on how the Japanese knotweed responds to treatment
 - Permission Agreement(s) are in place **from all landowners in the treatment area** & for the time frame required and it is the **client's responsivity to gain permission** from land owners before works commence. This is **assumed at the start of the works**
 - There are no permissions revoked during the treatment monitoring and guarantee phase by any other land owners where treatment is to be undertaken a in the Japanese knotweed Management Plan.
 - **All invoices are paid upfront and in full** (unless agreed in advance and in writing)
 - Knotweed Control is informed of any regrowth in the treatment area **as soon as it appears and must be within 3 months of the growth.**
 - Japanese knotweed Management Plans (JKMP) & Guarantee Packages are specific to each individual property although the works themselves may affect other properties.
 - Knotweed Control Swansea Limited's Terms & Conditions apply to Knotweed Control's Guarantee
 - Guarantee Protection Insurance Ltd (GPI)'s Term & Conditions apply to the Insurance Backed Guarantees
 - Guarantee Packages can be transferred to the new property owners as long as Knotweed Control has been given **written notice with the new owner's contact details within 3 months of the sale** (name, address, email and phone number) in order to be able to honour any on-going works. There **will** be administration costs associated with updating guarantee details by the insurance company but not normally by Knotweed Control Swansea Limited
 - No refunds or legal claims can be made against Knotweed Control Swansea Limited if the points above are not followed and will void Guarantee Packages.

i. THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY'S SUGGESTED WORDING FOR SIGNAGE



Restricted Access

**The soil in this area
contains Japanese knotweed
and is being treated.
Do not enter unless authorised.
Do not remove soil from this
area without authorisation.**



A guide to Japanese knotweed rhizome identification and excavation

“Finger-nail sized sections of rhizome 0.7g in weight can regenerate into a new knotweed plant.”

In addition to the rhizome described within the identification chart, very new rhizome growth, delicate and white in appearance, can be found during the growing season.

v) How do I remove rhizome?

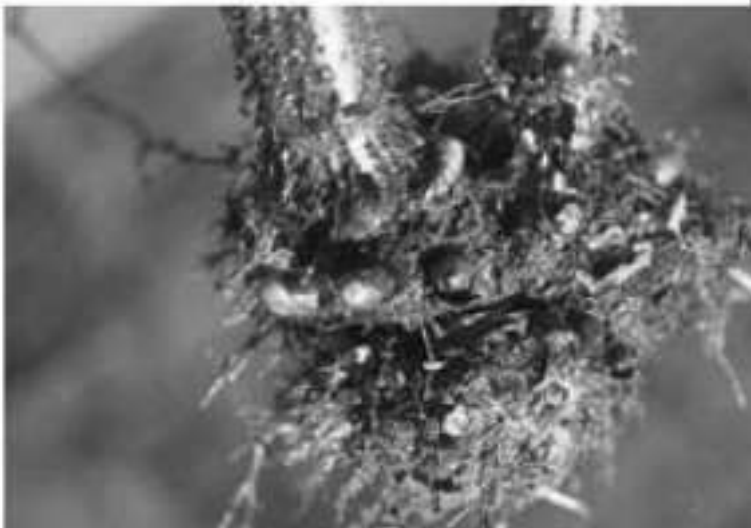
Put simply, remove the rhizome with extreme care. It is important to read the code of practice before starting excavation. The majority of knotweed rhizome is confined to the top 0.5m of soil. Remove the soil by first scraping off the crowns and surface rhizome and putting to one side. Crowns and rhizome can be dried and burned (see Section 5.2 of Code) prior to treatment with the remaining soil. Crown material in particular is resistant to burning; therefore it is important to regard this material as still potentially infectious.

The next 0.5-1m of soil can then be removed and put aside, and then the remaining soil to a depth of approximately 3m can be excavated. This material should form the base of a bund (See Section 5.5 of Code), or the top layer of buried material (See Sections 5.4 and 4.1 of Code). This process of excavation can be proportioned to any depth of excavation, rather than adopting the 3m generalised depth.

Guidance on the containment and movement of knotweed-infested soil is provided within Sections 2, 6 and 7 of the Code of Practice.

Careful use of the information within this guide should enable operators to effectively inspect the edge of their excavation for remaining rhizome. Depending on the history of the site, the depth to which knotweed rhizome extends can vary between 0.5m – 10m. The history of the infestation, soil type and the water table can all have a profound impact on the extent of rhizome. Situations in which rhizome is greater than 3m tends to be associated with situations in which additional waste has been regularly dumped on an established knotweed stand, or wind-blown sand has created a dune system.

Careful excavation of rhizome has the potential to significantly reduce the volume of waste removed instead of simply excavating a 7m x 3m volume of soil. It also ensures effective removal in situations where a 7m x 3m excavation is an under-estimate. In all cases the precautionary approach must be adopted rather than risk leaving rhizome behind.



A guide to Japanese knotweed rhizome identification and excavation

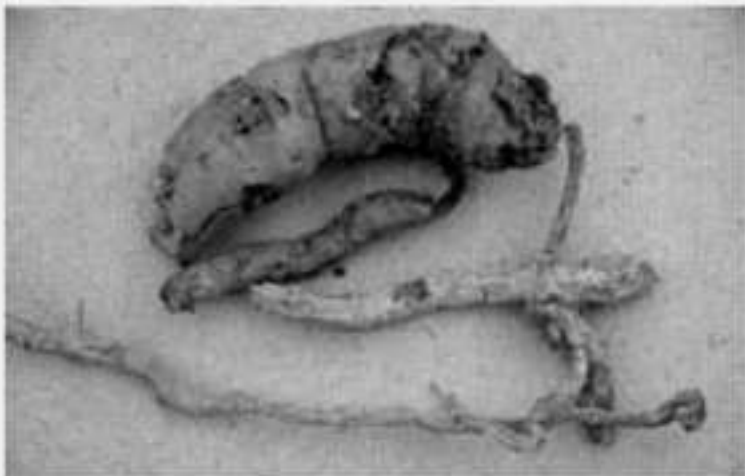


This guide should be used in conjunction with the Environment Agency code of practice, ‘managing Japanese knotweed on development sites’. It has been produced as a separate guide to facilitate use during excavations.

i) What is Japanese knotweed?
Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* was introduced into the UK during the mid-nineteenth century as an ornamental plant. It has since become one of the most problematic invasive weeds in Europe (see Section 1 of Code)

Japanese knotweed is a perennial weed, producing tall canes, up to 3m (10 feet) in height during the summer. The canes have characteristic purple flecks, and produce branches from nodes along its length. These branches support shovel-shaped leaves and clusters of white flowers in autumn. The canes die off in winter, turning brown and shedding their leaves. This produces dense mulch that precludes the growth of native plants.

ii) What is Japanese knotweed rhizome?
Japanese knotweed canes grow from dense crowns that also produce extensive underground stems, called rhizomes. These rhizomes also produce fine, white, hair-like roots. It is hard to state with certainty the likely extent of rhizome spread from the parent plant. Research has shown that rhizome can grow a distance of at least 7m (23 feet) and achieve a depth of at least 2m (6 feet) from the parent crown. However, the actual extent of the rhizome can vary considerably depending on the soil type and the history of the site. Many knotweed infestations start life as a result of fly-tipped waste, and repeated applications of waste on top of the initial infestation can result in a deep matrix of rhizome.



iii) Why is it important to be able to identify Japanese knotweed rhizome?

Whilst knotweed can regenerate from small sections of cane, most knotweed in the UK arises from rhizome and crown material. Finger-nail sized sections of rhizome 0.7 g in weight can regenerate into a new knotweed plant. It appears that the regenerative potential of rhizome varies. Thick, old woody tissue appears to be less able to produce new growth than crown material or thinner succulent rhizome. This has implications for those excavating knotweed rhizomes, where there is a risk of thin terminal rhizome from the edge of the cut being overlooked, which would have a high regenerative potential.

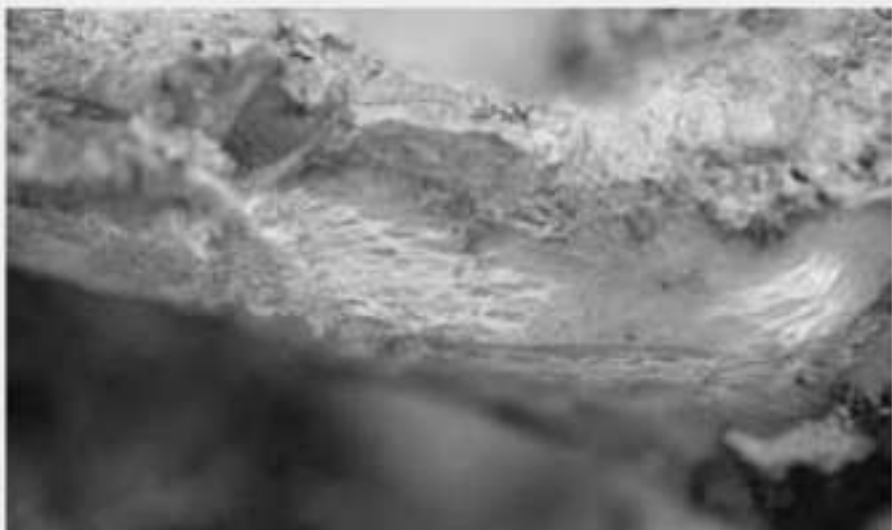
There are often situations in which it is necessary to be able to identify rhizome without the benefit of intact knotweed canes for assistance. If a site is undisturbed it is fairly easy to recognise characteristic summer growth, or the dead winter canes. If the site has already been scraped, it is necessary to inspect the waste material for evidence of knotweed; dead canes, leaves and rhizome, to establish if the weed is present on site. Knowledge of rhizome identification is then required to identify the location and extent of the infestation.

The cost of knotweed management can be significantly reduced if knotweed and non-knotweed waste streams can be kept separate. If poor initial management of a site has already precluded this option, this should be of great concern to any subsequent developer.

Waste hauliers also need to take care to inspect waste material prior to accepting it (See Section 6.2 of Code). Soil containing viable knotweed material is not suitable for disposal under an exemption from Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Section 34 imposes a duty of care on a person who produces, imports, carries, keeps, treats or disposes of controlled waste, or acts as a broker for such wastes.

iv) How do I recognise rhizome?

An identification chart for knotweed rhizome, and a comparison with other commonly encountered roots, is provided within Appendix II. The former Welsh Development Agency, now part of the Welsh Assembly Government, has produced a tabular guide to the identification of knotweed rhizome that is reproduced in Appendix III with their kind permission.



Root / rhizome identification chart - Japanese knotweed

Plants commonly found on development sites



Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*
(and other Asiatic invasive knotweeds).
Japanese knotweed is commonly encountered on brownfield sites, where soil disturbance and fly-tipping are common. Close proximity to rivers, roads and railways may also provide a source of invasion.

External appearance of root or rhizome



Colour:
Dark brown, lighter when dried.

Texture:
Smooth skin, becoming rough when desiccated.

Features:
often forming long knotty lengths. May support small red buds, particularly on crowns (base of stem). Fine hair-like roots common, particularly on thinner sections.

Snap Test



Snapability:
Easy. Very carrot-like in structure and colour when fresh. More woody when dry. Older material, particularly near the crown, can be very woody. Colour can vary from deep red to pale yellow, with orange the most common. Younger fresh material usually has a different coloured core.

Scrape Test



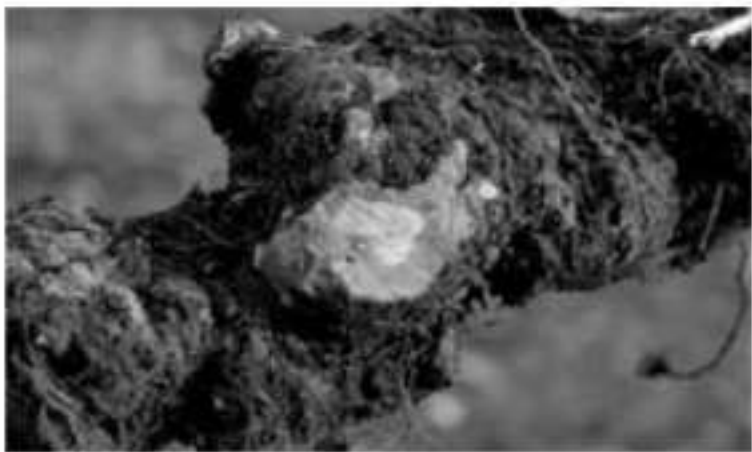
Outer layer:
Thin skin, easily removed when fresh.

Inner layer:
Pale threads often run through darker fibrous flesh, particularly in larger rhizome. Often variations in colour through rhizome when split lengthways. Crown material is often caked with soil and can be hard to recognise. Cleaning should reveal red buds and characteristic flesh.

Not all rhizome regenerates in the same manner and the factors that determine rhizome regeneration are the subject of research. It appears that older rhizome becomes woody, and tends to be utilised by the plant for food storage, whereas the fresh young rhizome is more carrot-like and much more infectious. Therefore, the small pieces at the extreme edge of the rhizome ring are potentially the most infectious, and therefore require the greatest of care. It is good practice to excavate another 0.5m around the perimeter of the cut after all rhizome has been apparently removed as a further precaution.

Rhizome is an underground stem, rather than a root, and will tend to spread laterally. The rhizome at the periphery of the matrix will tend to be shallow, therefore the excavation usually describes a saucer-shaped profile.

Having excavated the rhizome it is essential that waste streams are kept separate and that rhizome is not allowed to contaminate spoil that has been removed from areas free from rhizome.



Remember:

Do not excavate rhizome unless you have to, especially if you do not have the capacity to treat the material on site.

A 0.7g piece of rhizome is approximately the size of your little fingernail, and this may be capable of growing into a new plant.

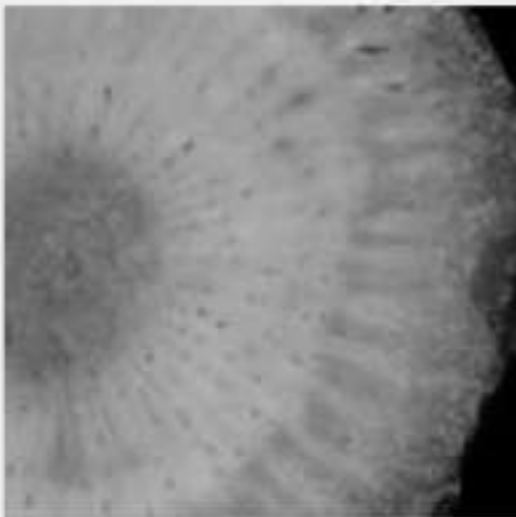
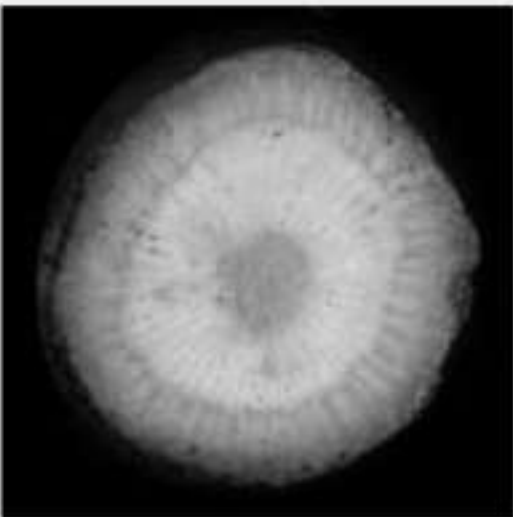
The matrix of the rhizome will vary in size and extent, depending on the nature and history of the site. Careful use of this guide will minimise the waste

you produce and significantly reduce your costs.

Rhizome may remain dormant for at least 20 years. Dormant rhizome may regrow if it is disturbed. Lack of regrowth is not evidence of eradication.

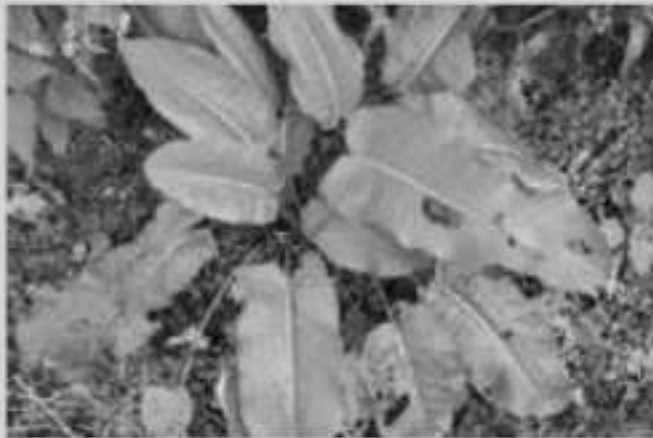
Avoid spreading rhizome by following the guidance given within the knotweed code of practice.

If you spread rhizome into the environment you may be liable to prosecution under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981.



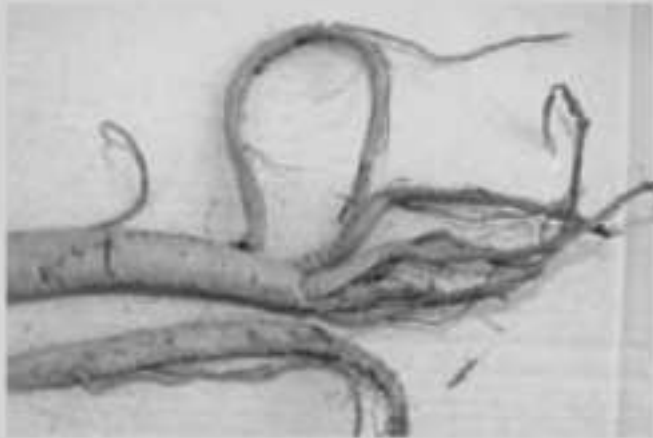
Root / Rhizome identification chart - other common plants

Plants commonly found on development sites



Dock:
Common on disturbed ground and in topsoil. Agricultural weed and covered by the Weeds Act 1959. Closest native plant to knotweed, so similar root appearance.

External appearance of root or rhizome

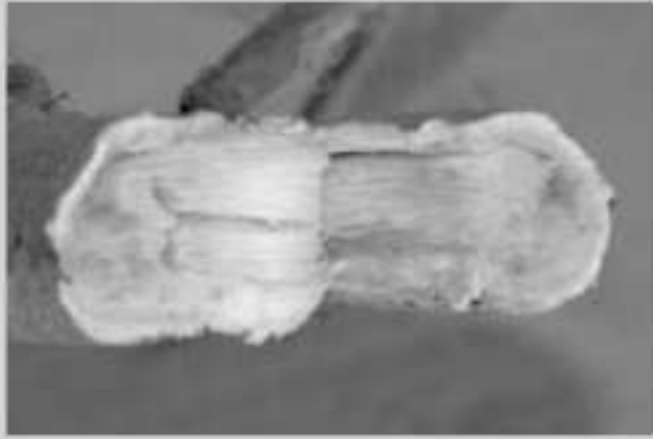


Colour:
pale red/brown.

Texture:
Fleshy skin.

Features:
Tapering, with branches clustered near the tip. Lacking the knotty appearance of knotweed.

Snap Test



Snapability:
Easy. Rubbery, but lacks the carrot-like snappiness of knotweed. Core is similar colour to the rest of the root, lacking the colour variation of knotweed rhizome.

Scrape Test



Outer layer:
Thin skin, similar to knotweed.

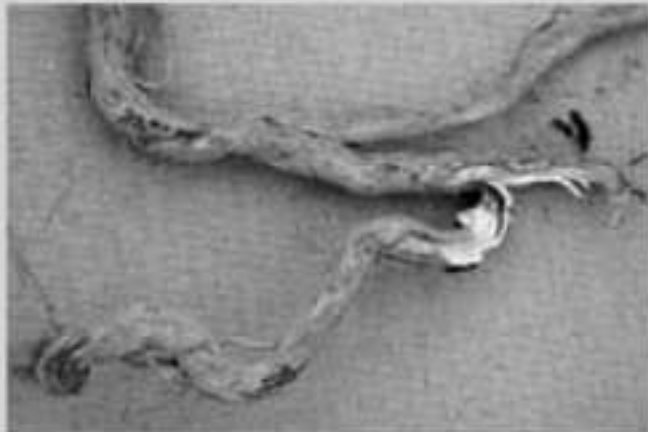
Inner layer:
fleshy, with a distinct core. Orange/yellow in colour, but usually paler than knotweed.

Plants commonly found on development sites



Buddleja (Butterfly bush):
Introduced shrub (intro: 1890), colonising waste ground and masonry. Spread by seed. Pink, purple or white flowers. Corky bark. Silver underside to leaves.

External appearance of root or rhizome



Colour:
Pale brown.

Texture:
Bark-like.

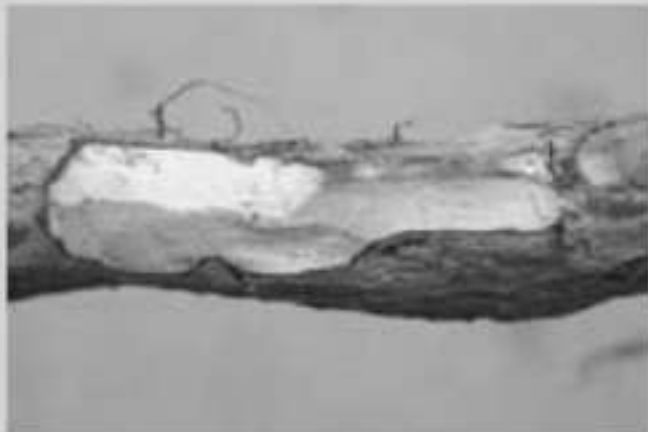
Features:
Bark easily damaged and revealing the woody core. Tough.

Snap Test



Snapability:
Very poor. Tends to rip rather than break cleanly. Distinct core.

Scrape Test



Outer layer:
Thin wrinkled bark.

Inner layer:
White wood.

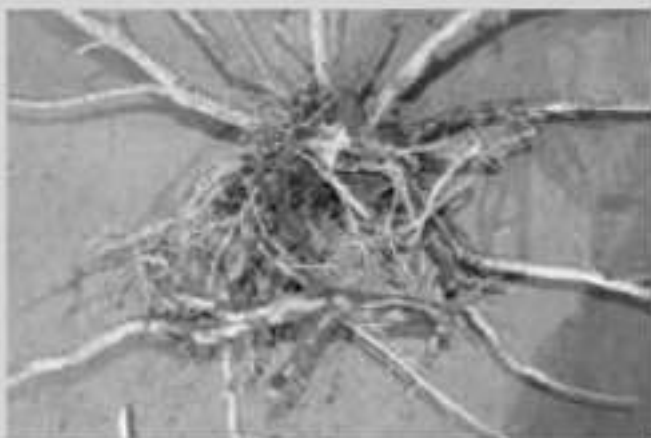
Root / Rhizome identification chart - other common plants

Plants commonly found on development sites



Elder:
Native shrub, typical of disturbed ground and wasteland. White clusters of flowers in spring, black berries in autumn.

External appearance of root or rhizome



Colour:
Pale brown/yellow

Texture:
Fleshy and smooth. Wrinkled if desiccated.

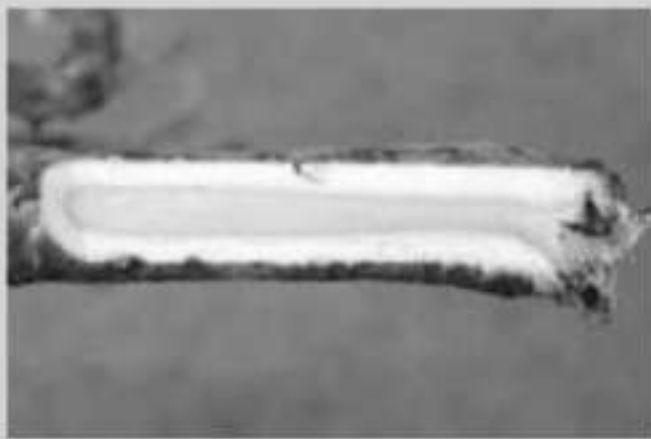
Features:
Fleshy rootlets.

Snap Test



Snapability:
Reasonable. Thin sections snap, but larger sections are too woody. Tends to tear.

Scrape Test



Outer layer:
Skin easily removed.

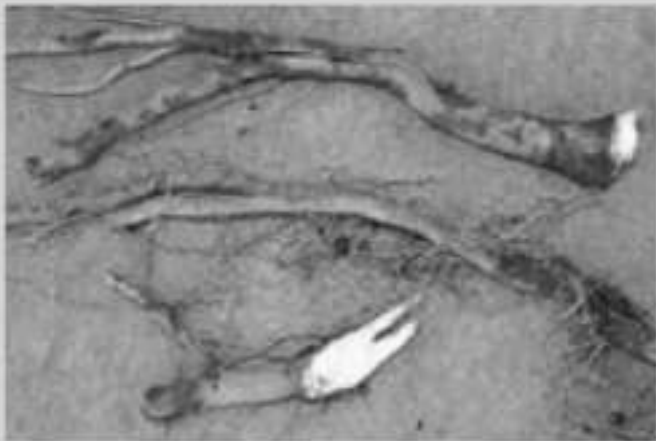
Inner layer:
White fleshy layer with a pale woody core.

Plants commonly found on development sites



Sycamore (and most other trees):
Trees are common colonisers of waste ground.
Their roots are occasionally mistaken for rhizome.

External appearance of root or rhizome

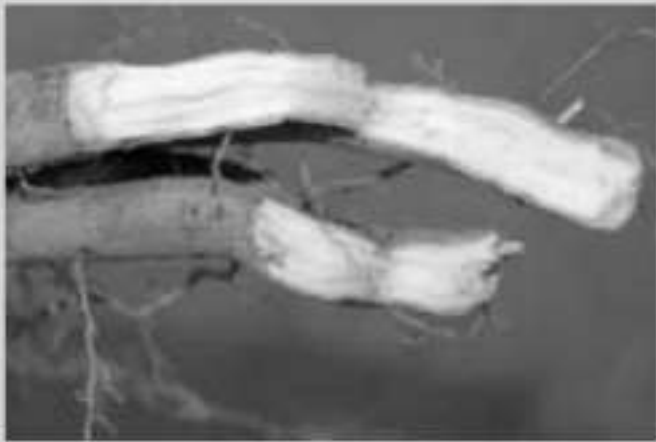


Colour:
Mid-brown.

Texture:
Fairly smooth and even.

Features:
Does not fragment as easily as knotweed. Tend to remain in tapered sections. Fine rootlets.

Snap Test



Snapability:
Very poor. Very woody, tending to break and tear rather than snap. Fairly uniform in colour and structure.

Scrape Test



Outer layer:
Tough bark.

Inner layer:
Pale coloured wood.

Table for the identification of Japanese knotweed rhizome

General characteristics	Yes	No
Twig-like appearance		
Fleshy with hardness like carrot		
Brittle when fresh, break easily like carrot		
Young rhizome is white and very soft		
Exterior of rhizome	Yes	No
Colour dark brown, like coffee granules		
Texture of the outer bark leathery		
When bark is removed, tissue is pale orange/yellow		
Nodes at 1-2cm spacing		
Nodes slightly enlarged and 'knotty'		
At nodes white fibrous roots are common		
If present, fresh buds at nodes are red/pink		
Interior of rhizome		
Longitudinal view	Yes	No
Colour: pale orange and light yellow, similar to a carrot		
Central core is usually dark orange/brown, like rust, and sometimes hollow		
Cross section	Yes	No
Cortex with rays coming from centre, like spokes from a wheel		
TOTAL		

If the 'yes score is greater than the 'no' score, then treat the identified rhizome as Japanese knotweed.

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APPENDIX 6 – CEMP MASTERPLAN

Superseded

APPENDIX 7 DEMOLITION METHOD STATEMENT

Superseded



Demolition Method Statement

Cardonnel Court
CARDONNEL ROAD
SKEWEN
NEATH
MS 01 REV 02

23-00333

SA10 6BS

23rd October 2023
Author – Daniel Beck

Structural Demolition
Inc. Internal strip out in preparation for full structural demolition.
Grub up ground bearing slab and foundations.
Works near adjoining rail line.

HEALTH & SAFETY NOTE TO ALL PERSONS ENGAGED TO CARRY OUT ANY WORKS ON SITE ON BEHALF OF ALL CLEAR DEMOLITION
ALL STAFF EITHER DIRECTLY EMPLOYED OR SUB-CONTRACTED TO ALL CLEAR DEMOLITION ARE EXPECTED TO COMPLY AND FOLLOW
ALL SITE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND WORK TO AND COMPLY WITH ALL METHODS OF WORKS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS AND ENSURE
AT ALL TIMES TO KEEP THEMSELVES AND COLLEAGUES SAFE.
ALL PERSONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE MINDFUL OF THE WORKS THEY ARE BEING ASKED TO DO AND IF AT ANY POINT THEY FEEL THE
WORKS ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN UNSAFELY OR IN DEFEE ANY PRACTICES OR PERSONS CARRYING OUT ANY WORKS THEY DEEM
TO BE UNSAFE THEY ARE TO MAKE EITHER ALLCLEAR DEMOLITION'S SITE MANAGER OR IF ANOTHER CONTRACTOR THEIR MANAGER
IMMEDIATELY AWARE AND ENSURE THE ACTIVITY IS STOPPED AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN.

IF IN DOUBT
STOP, ASK, TELL
KEEP EVERYONE AROUND YOU SAFE!

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This **Method Statement** has been produced in accordance with **BS6187:2011 Code of Practice for Demolition** and **Regulation 20 of the CDM Regulations 2015**, the information contained herein are to be complied with by all site personnel. This Method statement is classed as a live document and information may be changed or added as the works progress.

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Cardonne| Court, Cardonne| Road, Skewen, NEATH



Allclear Demolition Directory

Name / Position	Email	Tel No.
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TBC Site Supervisor		



DEMOLITION METHOD STATEMENT
Cardonnel Court, Carconnel Road, Skewen, Neath SA10 6BS / MS 01 REV 02
23rd October 2023

1. Introduction and General Comments

- 1.1
- This document is the demolition method statement describing the internal strip out followed by the structural demolition works at the above site. Allclear Demolition have been appointed to undertake the these works by Squirrel Wood Properties.
- 1.2
- This Method Statement is to be read in conjunction with the Demolition and Construction Environmental Management Plan (DCEMP), the requirements of which must be strictly observed.
- 1.3
- Allclear Demolition has visited site and assessed the structures and how they are stabilised and confirm that the sequence of operations detailed below is a safe system of work. The likelihood of damage to adjacent structures or nuisance to the occupiers due to ground-borne vibration is considered to be high due to the proximity of the neighbouring buildings and occupying tenants, the proposed method of works has been planned in such a way to minimise disruption.
- 1.4
- Allclear Demolition employees must always whilst on site comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 etc., the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 and all other relevant safety legislation codes, standards, and guidance.
- 1.5
- Allclear Demolition employees are familiar with the British Standard B.S. 6187 Code of Practice for Demolition 2011 which has been referred to during the preparation of this Method Statement.
- 1.6
- Plant certificates will be obtained for all plant used and copies of the certificates retained on site to demonstrate compliance with relevant legislation (PUWER, LOLER)
- 1.7
- All site personnel are to produce CSCS / CCDO licenses. All plant operators are to produce CPCs / NPORS licenses. All staff involved in the demolition element of the works are to have current asbestos-awareness training certificates and or CAT B and face-fit tests. Each member of site staff will be made aware of DCEMP and their requirements to comply with it and will also be provided with a copy of this DCEMP.

- 1.8
- SITE STAFF

(Additional Labour if required will be provided on site dependant on workload & programme)

Operatives	Inc. Regular visits by Senior Management.
1 – 2 No. Site Supervisor	
Up to 4 No Plant / Machine Operatives.	
Up to 8 No Demolition Operatives.	

- 1.9
- PLANT & EQUIPMENT

(Additional Plant and equipment will be provided on site dependant on workload & programme)

Plant
Demolition Specific Excavators with relevant attachments
Skid steer loaders (bobcat) with relevant attachments
Self-contained pressure-washer for dust suppression / standpipe / hoses / Fine mist water sprayer
Mobile Elevated Working Platforms (MEWPS)
Equipment
Hand tools (including sledgehammers, shovels, brooms, wrecking-bars, 18v impacts drivers)
Circular ("Stihl") saws, Reciprocating Saws (or 110v Variant)
Oxyacetylene Cutting Equipment.
Bunded fuel tank with drip tray and spill kit
2.0m high "Heras" fencing
Podium towers or Scaffold towers

Superseded



- 1.10 Previous experience of similar work is such that noise levels as high as the Upper Exposure Action Value (85dB(A)) are not expected to occur. The proposed method of working and the equipment to be used have been selected, in part, to reduce noise levels to the lowest reasonably practicable level in line with the Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 (Reg 6(1)) and it is not considered necessary to undertake any noise measurement (Reg 5(2)(c)). Should it be necessary to modify the method of demolition, this position will be reviewed (Reg 5(4)(b)).
- In addition to this, the measures set out in DCEMP to control noise and vibration will be undertaken during the course of the demolition works.

- 1.11 All waste materials will be removed from site utilising 40 / 35 / 20 cu yd roll-on-off (Hook load or "roro") skips for general waste, timber, and scrap steel and concrete arisings. All waste will be accompanied by a duty of care waste transfer note which describes the waste, and a copy will be retained on site.

- 1.12 Allclear Demolition will endeavour to undertake the work described below in such a way as to minimise the impact of that work. Therefore, the supervisor will:

Take all reasonable steps to minimise the creation of dust, using water sprays to dampen buildings being demolished and the demolition arisings.

Curtail, suspend, or re-arrange work as necessary to allow the demolition to proceed if possible whilst reducing its impact on any the occupiers and neighbouring properties / premises.

Ensure all plant is fit for its purpose and adequately maintained so that noise generation is within the manufacturer's stated maximum noise level.

Consider activity on site at the start of the day to minimise disturbance of the neighbours. Reversing manoeuvres will be avoided in the early morning to prevent reversing sirens sounding. Mobile plant, which requires approximately 20 minutes idling to warm-up before a shift, will be parked sensibly away from nearby residential properties.

Monitor the condition of the public highway when HGVs are leaving site. A jet wash will be used if necessary. Self-propelled road sweepers will be engaged from time to time as necessary to keep the highway clean.

- 1.13 All visitors to site will receive an induction from Principal Contractor along with Allclear Demolition's Site supervisor before being admitted to the works area. During the induction, the current activities on site will be described to assist visitors in anticipating the presence of mobile plant on site. If necessary, visitors will be accompanied / chaperoned around site. All workers and visitors to site will be required to wear the necessary PPE, including high visibility vests.

ADDITIONS AND OR AMENDMENTS MAY BE MADE TO THIS MEHOD STATEMENT FROM TIME TO TIME AS WORKS PROGRESS. VARYING ELEMENTS OF WORKS AND OR PROCEDURES MAY CHANGE TO ENSURE TASKS ARE CARRIED OUT SAFELY AND CORRECTLY. ANY ADDITIONS OR AMENDMENTS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH ALLCLEAR'S SITE PERSONNEL AND CLIENTS SITE MANAGEMENT TEAM. THE SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES DISCUSSED ALONG WITH PLAN OF WORKS AGREED WILL BE DISCUSSED AND EXPLAINED TO ALL ALLCLEAR SITE OPERATIVES.



2. Welfare and Accommodation

- 2.1 Suitable albeit temporary welfare facilities and a compound will be established within the curtilage of the site, prepared, and maintained by the Principal Contractor as described in the DCEMP.
- 2.2 The temporary site accommodation may comprise of a self-contained welfare unit provided by a local hire company. The facilities comply with the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 and will be maintained to a high standard of hygiene by all site operatives.

3. Working Hours

7.30 am - 5.00pm Monday-Friday
8.00 am – 4.00pm Saturday-Sunday

4. Services

- 4.1 All services to the area of works are to be disconnected or isolated and arranged by the client.
- 4.2 Allclear Demolition Ltd reserves the right to cease or indeed not begin any works on site if live services remain. The client can arrange for services to be terminated / isolated within the area of works by a suitably qualified person to permit works to begin.
- 4.3 The water supplies to the building will be terminated at the external stop-taps. Mains water supplies to the site are to be retained for as long as possible to provide water for dust suppression. Once water supply is terminated (cut off) a self-contained pressure washer bowsers will be used.
- 4.4 A full copy of services plans, and disconnections / isolations is to be provided by the client and reviewed by Allclear Demolition before work commences on site. Mains records for the site will be maintained by the client in the site office.

EXISTING DRAINS

- 4.5 All existing drain runs which will have been recorded by survey are to be maintained and kept clear of all demolition materials and debris. All gullies and channel drains, including gullies serving downpipes are to be kept clear to allow proper draining of precipitation falling on the site. Allclear will construct temporary bunds as required to intercept surface water run-off and prevent rainwater discharge beyond the site boundary.

STREAM / DITCH

- 4.6 Located at the northern boundary, running parallel an old wooden fence, a ditch and stream along with a line of trees all backing onto the rear gardens of 2 to 17 Bendle Close will be inspected and if required, gaps within the fence will be protected with barrier fencing reducing the risk of debris leaving the site boundary throughout tasking.

5. Safety

All necessary Site Registers, Risk Assessments, Method Statements, Relevant Surveys, Plant Certification, Waste Carriers, Insurance etc will be kept on site under the control of Allclear Demolition's Site supervisor and can be inspected at any time. All accidents are to be reported and subsequently entered in the site accident report book.

- 5.1 Senior Staff at Allclear Demolition will endeavour to measure Health and Safety on site by conducting regular internal site safety audits ensuring works are being conducted to a high standard and in accordance with the agreed contract.



- 5.2 The mandatory first aid requirements for a construction site are covered in the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations. The appointed person (Allclear site supervisor) will provide and stock a first aid box with sufficient supplies to cater to the number of workers on site. An appointed person must be always on-site.
- 5.3 All operatives on site must wear full PPE including as a minimum safety boot, hard hats, a high visibility vest or coat and gloves. Additional PPE requirements as identified within the risk assessments will be utilised when undertaking specific tasks. A supply of spare hard hats, overalls, gloves, goggles, masks, and relevant PPE will be stored on Site.



EN ISO 20345



BS EN 397



EN 471



EN 420



EN 352



EN 166



FFP3

- 5.4 Smoking is not permitted anywhere on site. A smoking zone will be established within the site compound / welfare area, with an additional smoking zone and or zones located at specific points around the site.
- 5.5 Adequate segregation of pedestrians and vehicular traffic will always be maintained. Unobstructed access to and egress from the buildings must always be maintained. Pedestrian access to the buildings will be defined using suitable and adequate barriers. Reversing of vehicles and plant will always be minimised. This will be highlighted on a site plan and will form part of the site induction for all operatives.
- 5.6 Emergency procedures will be in line with Allclear Demolition’s protocols. All incidents on site (including near misses) are to be reported to Allclear demolition’s site management and recorded on the relevant documentation for the incident (near miss, accident, dangerous occurrence etc).
- 5.7 Emergency contact numbers are posted on the wall of the welfare facilities. For major emergencies, Allclear demolition’s Site supervisor is to be informed to enable them to coordinate the emergency services on arrival on site and to manage or suspend on-going site activities.
- 5.8 Mobile plant will be used, along with relevant waste skips positioned within exclusion zones formed using 2.0m high Heras fencing.

PLANT REFUELLING

- 5.9 As detailed in the DCEMP, refuelling plant and machinery on site, plant operators are to refuel in the designated re-fuelling areas where a bunded fuel tank will be stored together with spill kits. Should any spillages occur the spill kits provided shall be used immediately and the site team shall be informed of such spillages. Fuel will be stored in the containment area.
- 5.10 During the refuel process engines must always be switched off. Plant operators are to use the plants own refilling pipe. This shall be placed into the tank and the pump switched on. Operators are to ensure that the cap is removed from the fuel tank during this process to allow the gases to escape preventing tank expansion.
- 5.11 Upon completion of refuelling the pump shall be switched off and the pipe shall be removed from the tank but must remain within the bunded area. The pump shall be then switched on again to drain any excess fuel from the pipe itself. The pipe shall then be removed from the tank and place back in its housing within the plant/ machinery. The bowser/ tank shall then be locked by the operator and the designated area secured.



DUST

- 5.12
- Dry areas of works will be dampened down to prevent the spread of airborne dust. All personnel working in a dusty area shall, where necessary, wear a dust mask deemed suitable by the HSE (Health and Safety Executive)
- 5.13
- During the demolition works a self-contained pressure washer bowser and, if made available, a standpipe and hoses will be utilised for dust suppression. Subsequently, both will be positioned outside of the immediate demolition zone. Water will be delivered into the area using the gun attachment on the bowser / hoses. An added pressure washer / standpipe will be attached to the working end of the excavator arm throughout tasking.

HOT WORKS

- 5.14
- Should it be necessary to undertake any hot-cutting, Circular ("Stihl") saws / reciprocating saw or 110v variants will be used. Only certified operatives will be used to undertake these works, which will be in accordance with the Risk Assessments (hot works). A permit to undertake hot works will be provided daily.
- 5.15
- If Oxyacetylene cutting equipment is required, gas and oxygen bottles will be stored separately in fenced off areas with appropriate signage.
- 5.16
- Fire Extinguishers – In date, brought to site for use throughout hot works taskings.
- 5.17
- Added to this, mains water supplies to the site in the form of fire hydrants are to be retained for as long as possible to provide water for potential extinguishing purposes.

GUIDANCE ON EMERGENCY RESCUE - MEWP

- 1)
- Rescue Plan

Normal and auxiliary control systems built into a mobile elevating work platform (MEWP) will allow the operator to bring the platform of the machine safely to ground level under controlled conditions. It is extremely unusual not to be able to lower the platform using these controls or for all these systems to fail. The following is an example of a rescue plan for people who work at height using a MEWP.

EMERGENCY SITUATION	PROPOSED ACTION
Failure of upper control functions while elevated.	Where the normal upper control functions fail, the operator will use the upper auxiliary controls to lower the platform safely.
Failure of the operator to be able to operate the MEWP functions while elevated due to one of the following reasons: A. Operator incapacitated. B. Auxiliary functions fail to operate from upper control station	Where the operator is incapable of lowering the raised platform using the upper controls, an appointed person familiarised in the use of the 'ground' controls will lower the platform safely using the normal ground controls.
Failure of normal ground controls	Where the normal ground controls fail, an appointed person familiarised in the use of the ground controls will use the ground auxiliary controls to safely lower the platform.
Failure of ALL normal and auxiliary lowering functions.	Where all normal and auxiliary functions have failed a competent and authorised service engineer should be contacted



Names of nominated ground person(s) on site familiarised and authorised to lower the work platform in the event of an emergency or a machine malfunction.

Name	Signature

This rescue plan should be brought to the notice of those exposed to the risk of working at height and those supervising and managing the same work at height.

2) Consideration for mid-air rescue:

A mid-air platform rescue should only be considered in exceptional circumstances and only after:

- All normal and auxiliary lowering procedures have been attempted and these are unable to lower the platform.
- Site management have contacted the competent and authorised service engineer listed in the rescue plan, to report failure of normal and auxiliary lowering systems and request engineering access.

If after inspection by the competent engineering assistance, it is not possible to affect a timely repair to allow the machine to be brought to the ground safely; senior site management should be contacted for permission to carry out mid-air rescue.

Or

Where the competent engineering assistance is not readily available and an immediate risk exists to the health and safety of any occupants from remaining in the elevated basket until an engineer can attend, then senior management should be contacted for permission to carry out mid-air rescue.

3) Code of Practice for mid-air rescue

- A. Rescue using another MEWP should only be performed once a site-specific risk assessment has been carried out and a specific plan has been documented and approved by senior management.
- B. The rescue machine must be positioned to enable the rescue procedure to be carried out without compromising the safety of any personnel involved in the rescue procedure.
- C. The Platforms of both machines must be adjacent to each other with a minimal gap between them, unless exceptional circumstances mean this is not possible. (Where this is not possible, the circumstances shall be recorded on to the risk assessment form.)
- D. Where reasonably practical, precautions should be taken to prevent inadvertent movement of both platforms during the transfer.
- E. The person being rescued (transferred from basket to basket) should wear a full body harness with an adjustable lanyard – the lanyard should be attached to the anchor point on the rescue machine before transfer takes place.
- F. Care must be taken to not overload the rescue machine during transfer. This may mean making more than one journey to complete the rescue.



Operation 1

6. Site Establishment

The site is currently a derelict nursing home complex in a triangle of land between Cardonnel Road running diagonally from the northwest to the southeast, Bendle Close to the north and a railway line to the east. Network Rail which operates one of the main transport links from South Wales to London.

The footprint of the old buildings cover most of the east of the site with tarmacked parking and access towards the west. The boundary along Cardonnel Road from the northwest to the southeast consists of a raised concrete bed with woody shrubs, the old vehicle and pedestal entrance and a soil bank.

The boundary along Bendle Close or northern boundary has running parallel an old wooden fence, a ditch and stream and a line of trees all backing onto the rear gardens of 2 to 17 Bendle Close. The narrow entrance of Cardonnel road branches out with the two boundaries either side partially retaining the road on one side and a water course on the other.

The boundary to the east has a fence separating the railway line embankment which falls steeply away down to the track, along the longest axis of the old building. A visual inspection of the building did not reveal any significant structural issues with the primary structure, though the timber decking at the rear of the building is currently not safely accessible due to the condition of the timber.



The boundary of site and agreed areas of works have been established by the client and Allclear Demolition. Additional 2.0m high Heras fencing will be utilised within the site as segregation, waste skip compounds and drop zone areas. Warning signs will be displayed at appropriate points of segregation throughout the site.

Waste material and demolition arisings will be removed from site by mechanical means, loading into 40yd waste skips located within an established compound.

- 6.1
- Prior to any works commence on site and before any strip out and minor demolition works begin, a thorough, systematic search of the task area is to be undertaken by the Allclear Demolition site manager to ensure no trespassers, other unauthorised persons are within the building. The integrity of the exclusion zone will be checked at the beginning and end of every working day and after breaks to ensure, so far as it is reasonably practicable to do so, that no person is within the immediate tasking area.



Bat Survey

BE Ecological Ltd: Survey Issue 1, Version A, June 2023

Section 9 - Method Statement

- 6.2 A suitably licenced and experienced ecologist will be on call for the duration of the works.
- 6.3 Before any work begins on site, a briefing for contractors and other site-staff ‘toolbox talk’ will be given by an ecologist. The briefing will cover the issues in respect of protected species they may encounter on site, where they might find them, methods of working, and what they need to know to avoid committing an offence. Every briefing attendee will be provided with a copy of a Method Statement and the contact details of an ecologist and Natural Resources Wales.
- 6.4 If at any point bats or evidence of bats is found, all works will cease, BE Ecological Ltd informed and NRW consulted.
- 6.5 If bats or their signs are found, an EPS licence may be required before works can legally resume.

Japanese Knotweed

Knotweed Control (Swansea) Ltd: Survey CC/ SA10 6BS/2023, 1st February 2023

Japanese knotweed Management Plan & Method Statement.

- 6.6 There is a high risk of cross contamination of potentially viable knotweed material during the demolition and removal due to the proximity of the knotweed to the structures – the building, foundations and car park and path areas including concrete and tarmac.
- 6.7 Work on again should start in areas that are **knotweed FREE areas** first moving towards the areas with Japanese knotweed so there is reduced likelihood of cross contamination or spreading viable propagules.
- 6.8 When demolishing structures or removing them from site, the knotweed should be disturbed as little as possible including the rhizome buffer zone 7m from the visible above the ground knotweed canes.
- 6.9 When removing materials and structures from site near the knotweed, careful extraction is required as not to pick up viable Japanese knotweed propagules and moving them around or off site especially on treads on vehicles and footwear or the structures or materials themselves.
- 6.10 Careful **cleaning e.g. pressure washing and inspection** of any treads on vehicles and footwear or the structures or materials needs to be undertaken by the Japanese knotweed Clerk of Works to ensure no potential knotweed propagules are taken before leaving the location.
- 6.11 Any vegetation, concrete, spoil, tarmac, soil etc. potentially contaminated with Japanese knotweed material is classed as a controlled waste (see vi. **LEGALISATION**) **so should be kept to a minimal and stored transported and disposed of appropriately.**



Operation 2

7. Structural Demolition

- ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS
- INTERNAL STRIP OUT (GENERAL) ACROSS SITE
- STRUCTURAL DEMOLITION
- WORKING ADJACENT TO LIVE RAILWAY
- FOUNDATIONS & FOOTINGS
- LOGISTICS FOR WASTE REMOVAL

Description of Works

This Method statement is the outline describing the works associated with the complete structural demolition, including grubbing out and removal of existing foundations of the former Cardonnal Court nursing home, a single storey T shaped plan formation. 39 individual rooms, constructed of load bearing masonry walls with timber joists supporting the ceiling and forming the floor for the attic. The existing pitched roof profile is likely formed with timber rafters throughout.



Existing Site Plan

On completion of site set up an internal soft strip of fixtures and fittings, doors, windows and anything not structurally integral to the building will take place in preparation for the structural demolition. All soft stripping works are to be carried out manually by operatives utilising hand tools, separating, and disposing off site all arisings utilising 40yd waste skips.

Demolition of the superstructure will be undertaken by mechanical means using demolition specific excavators with appropriate attachments. All arisings are to be either stockpiled away from the immediate task area in preparation for the removal from site or loaded directly into waste skips. Following the demolition task, the existing ground bearing slab is to be grubbed up and removed from site along with all risings produced from the structural demolition.

The area around any demolition tasks will be segregated and drop zones established using Heras fencing with appropriate signage attached. Entry will be restricted to demolition personnel only.

Risk assessments for this process; for the tools, plant and equipment which will be utilised to undertake this work and for the associated hazards are recorded in a separate document. The risk assessments and this method statement are mutually complementary.



ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS

*A pre-demolition / pre-refurbishment survey in line with HSG 264 has been produced for the building on site. Surveys were undertaken by **Environmental Management Solutions**, Survey Ref: **E-31670**, On **27th October 2022**. A copy of the R&D survey is available on site and kept in the site managers office.*

NO ASBESTOS DETECTED

- 7.1 All Allclear Demolition Ltd staff are CAT B (NNLW) Notifiable Non-Licence Waste asbestos removal trained operatives. Staff are trained and experienced in asbestos identification (identification in the form of samples sent to an accredited laboratory will still be required to positively identify the suspect material) and removal. If suspect materials other than those identified in the report are suspected or identified **works will cease** and the area made safe, additional procedures for the safe removal of the material will be required depending on the material discovered and revised RAMS / PLAN OF WORKS produced covering the removal. All staff will be briefed on this during the induction process including RAMS induction.

INTERNAL STRIP OUT (GENERAL) ACROSS SITE

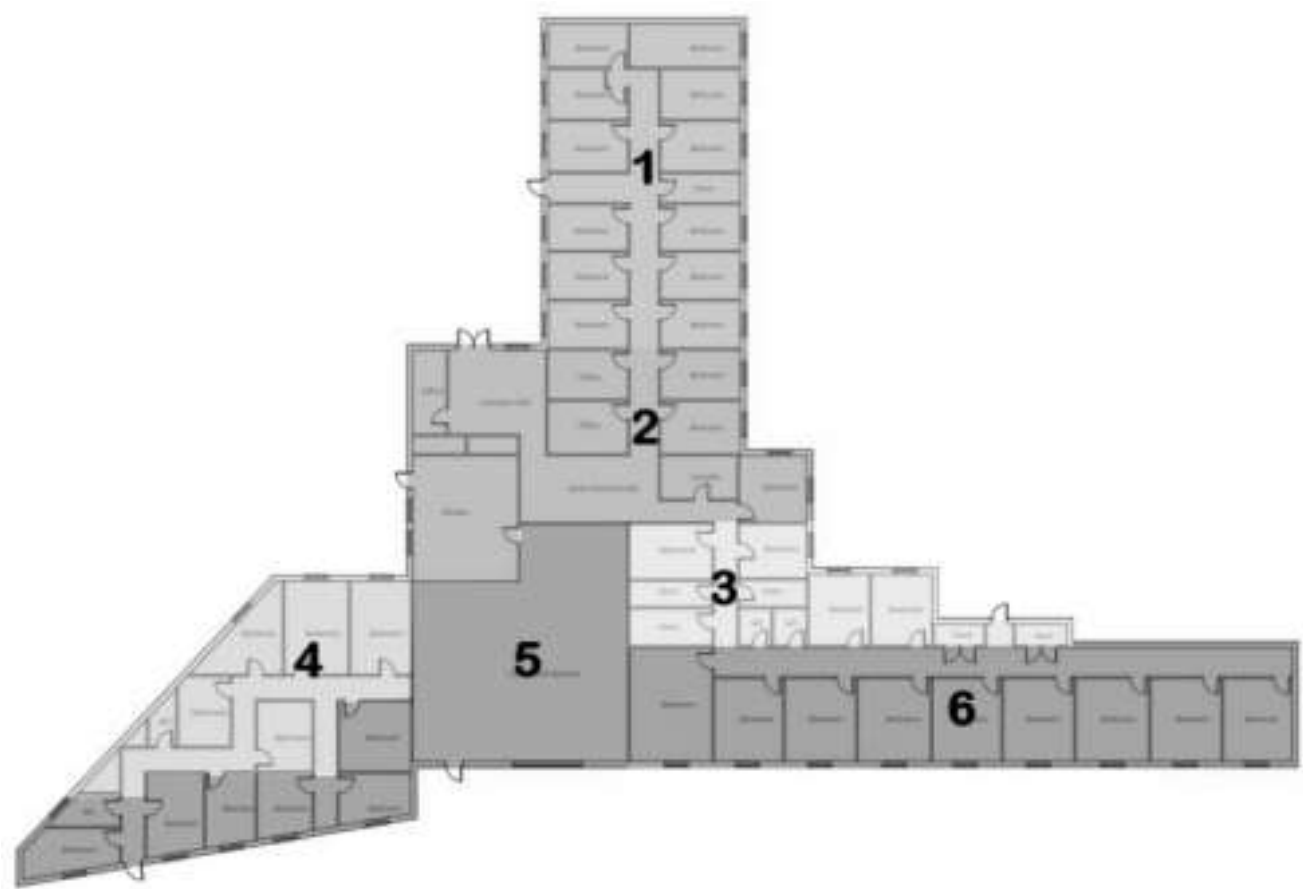
Soft stripping as the name suggests is the removal / stripping of all / most of the soft materials within a building, this is generally, carpets, loose furnishings, doors, panelling etc., mainly anything that is not structural or integral to the building, most of the building on site will need a varying degree of soft stripping, some to assist in the removal of asbestos containing materials if identified, and others to assist in the demolition. Where it is possible materials can be left within the building and removed mechanically where possible to minimise the manual handling and exposure of operatives.

- 7.2 The nature of the work is such that manual handling is unavoidable. Toolbox talks will be held on this subject at intervals during the work to ensure operatives do not put themselves at risk of musculoskeletal injury due to their work. The toolbox talk will draw on the guidance in the HSE's publication "Getting to Grips with Manual Handling "(INDG143)
- 7.3 Pedestrian access to the works area will be via specified routes to be confirmed by the site manager during the site induction. Allclear Demolition Ltd operatives are to use only the specified routes to and from the works areas.
- 7.4 Heras fencing or pedestrian barriers will be used as edge protection.
- 7.5 In general, soft-stripping is a reverse of the fitting-out of a building; so, carpets and floor coverings are removed first followed by "second fix" features then "first fix" features and finally internal non-structural walls. Working sensibly and systematically away from the building access point, demolition operatives will remove all loose furniture by hand and using hand carts, wheelbarrows, trolleys etc to agreed drop zone points on the outside of the building.
- 7.6 Using hand tools, the demolition operatives will then strip out all identified doors, frames, windows, timber of any description, (not appertaining to roof or main structure) toilets, pipe work, ducting, electrical items, carpet, window coverings and any debris.
- 7.7 Arising's from the stripping tasks will be deposited directly into the skips wherever possible, which will be in a fenced loading area. Alternatively, materials will be retrieved using the skid-steer dumper which will be used to convey the material to the skips for subsequent removal to a recycling facility or transfer station. It will be the responsibility of the site supervisor to ensure that suitable loading areas are maintained, and that fencing integrity will be in place (most notably immediately after removal of skips).
- 7.8 Access to the ceilings will be via podium tower / scaffold tower – where the latter is used it will be inspected prior to use by a PASMA trained operative and a tag confirming it is safe to use applied. The tower will be inspected daily, and the tag updated accordingly.



STRUCTURAL DEMOLITION

Following the internal soft strip, removing all materials not structural or integral to the building, the sequenced structural demolition down to existing slab level of the former nursing home building will commence. Consisting of brickwork façade, internal blockwork partitions, timber roof trusses with supporting timber beams, with a hipped tile covered roof. Roof structures are to be removed initially, followed by the external brick and internal blockwork partitions are to be raised to slab level, processing and removing all arisings from site.



Proposed Demolition Sequence

- 7.9 Demolition of the superstructure will be undertaken by mechanical means using demolition-specific excavator with appropriate attachments. Tasking shall be planned so that at the end of each shift, works are left in a safe position overnight.
- 7.10 During the demolition works either a self-contained pressure washer or a standpipe and hoses will be utilised for dust suppression. The pressure washer / standpipe will be positioned outside of the immediate demolition zone. Water will be delivered into the area using the gun attachment on the bowser / hoses.
- 7.11 The area around the designated building will be segregated using Heras fencing with appropriate signage attached. Entry will be restricted to demolition personnel only. Banks men provided during demolition works are to be kept out of the demolition areas when demolition is being undertaken.
- 7.12 The plant operator must ensure the area is checked and clear before commencing with demolition tasking. Banks men will not be permitted to work near or under any blocks / walls within the demolition area.
- 7.13 This operation will begin by ensuring with the use of a self-contained pressure-washer unit that operatives will keep the works area wet throughout the tasking.
- 7.14 Starting from within the site boundary, using the demolition specific excavator with selecta grab attachment, the operator will firstly grab a section of the tile covered roof truss and purlins, allowing loose tiles to fall within the footprint of the building. Removing individual timber trusses from the building, placing directly into waste skips nearby or placed away from the immediate tasking area for

Superseded



- processing later. Any loose brick / block will be allowed to fall to the foot of the wall within the building footprint.
- 7.15 This process will continue, removing sections of exposed roof truss and purlins, in the process exposing the buildings brick and blockwork gable and side elevations ready for removal.
- 7.16 Again, using the Selecta grab attachment, the outer gable and side walls will be worked down from roof to ground floor level with all arisings being caused to fall to the ground at the foot of the wall or within the building footprint.
- 7.17 Once a section of the external gable and side brick walls have been removed down to ground floor level, the operator will then remove further sections of the wooden roof structure moving through the building. Progressing, further sections of the gable and side walls will be worked down to ground level with all arising being caused to fall within the building footprint.
- 7.18 Any internal walls will also be removed. If the walls are wooden stud walls they will be grabbed and removed and either placed directly into a skip or placed away from the immediate works area for processing later, for brick /block walls, again these will be grabbed with all arisings allowed to fall within the footprint of the building.
- 7.19 The processes described above in paras 7.9 – 7.18 will continue working through the single storey building being demolished. At all times the building will be stepped in profile. Demolition of the roof will always be further advanced than the floors below such that the building develops a stepped profile in cross section to maintain the stability of the building and to limit the imposed and very short-term loading from demolition arisings. Any imposed loading is estimated to be significantly less than the loading applied when the building was occupied.
- 7.20 On completion, the ground bearing slab will be cleared of all arisings which will be subsequently stockpiled ready for the removal from site. When an accumulation of blockwork and brick (hardcore) materials has been generated the excavator shall load the materials onto 8 Wheel tipper wagons, removing the materials from site to a local recycling centre.

WORKING ADJACENT TO LIVE RAILWAY

“The Network rail representatives have an interest in the works being undertaken due to the proximity of their asset. All demolition works being undertaken should be outlined in a method statement and programme of works” - Structural Demolition Report, Doc Ref: C1953-CB3-ZZ-XX-RP-S-0001

Rail Safety Brief to be given to all operatives at the start of works.

- 7.21 Network Rail (NWR) will provide a copy of their emergency procedures for the stopping of trains and power isolation if this is required. Copies of the procedures shall be always displayed in the site cabin and communicated to the operatives during the site induction. The contents of the emergency procedures shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed to any third parties away from the site.
- 7.22 **If required** during the commencement of demolition works highlighted in sequence areas 5 and 6, Network Rail supervision (Rail Safety Supervisor – RSS) may want to be present for these works, generally if the tasking is within 10m of NWR boundary fence. Weather conditions shall be monitored, and the works will not be carried out in any strong windy conditions.
- 7.23 **Reducing Risk** - A physical demarcation line will be established utilising the existing boundary fencing panels with debris netting attached along with added kickboards reducing the risk of debris from rolling down the embankment onto the railway line approx. 20m distance from demolition operations.

Superseded



- 7.24 Manual Demolition will be considered when reducing the structural wall nearest to the NWR boundary fence utilising hand tools with access gained with the use of a tower scaffold, allowing arisings to fall within the building footprint.
- 7.25 On the attached plan below, hatched in yellow, this will be demarcated on site using the existing fencing. Operatives and plant shall not be positioned beyond this area. Highlighted in Yellow is a complete out of bounds area. At no time shall any plant, MEWP or the like work in this area. All excavators to be used are standard 360 excavators, no cranes, no long/ high reaches required for these works.



Demarcation line – Yellow dash Out of Bounds – Yellow Live Railway Line – Red dash

REMOVAL OF FOOTINGS AND FOUNDATIONS

This element of the method statement consists of the removal of ground bearing floor slabs, foundations, and hard stands in their entirety. Ensuring that the structure has been demolished down to the slab level before the commencement of this task, confirming that services have been identified and disconnection outside the footprint of the site, further, that certification has been issued and a hard copy available within the site office.

- 7.26 Once the structure has been demolished down to the ground bearing slab, the redundant materials will be cleared form the working area leaving only the slab hardstanding and foundations.
- 7.27 Using the bucket attachment on the demolition excavator the ground bearing slab will be lifted, commencing in one corner, a small excavation will be undertaken to expose the underside of the slab. The demolition excavator will be positioned on the slab section, the bucket will be beneath, then under mechanical pressure exerted by the excavator the slab will be lifted and released which will cause the slab to fracture.
- 7.28 Should the slab require pre-weakening then the demolition excavator fitted with a hydraulic breaker attachment will break various holes within the slab. This will be in strategic locations pre-weakening the slab; this will result in the slab breaking up more easily when lifted.
- 7.29 On completion of the sectional removal of concrete hardstanding, foundations and footings, operatives will establish stockpiles of arisings. Whilst removing foundations the sides of the excavation will be battered back to prevent them collapsing under the weight of the machine and to ensure that no vertical drops are left on the site.



LOGISTICS FOR WASTE REMOVAL

- 7.30 Waste shall be segregated as far as reasonably practical on site.

Waste arisings will be removed as Wood, Plasterboard, General Waste, hardcore and clean metallic waste arisings, all will be removed from the work area and loaded into skips / wagons for removal from site.
- 7.31 It has been agreed that a waste skip compound will be established within the curtilage of the site within a segregated fenced off compound.
- 7.32 Waste skips shall be loaded by mechanical means utilising the demolition specific excavator with grab attachment.
- 7.33 Egress for the removal of waste materials and disposing off site all arisings will be by utilising 40yd waste skips and 8-wheel tipper wagons.
- 7.34 All waste materials removed from site will be accompanied by a duty of care waste transfer note which describes the waste, and a copy will be retained on site.

Site Access & Egress

- 7.35 The construction route into the site will be via the M4, exiting at junction 43, and via the B4290 / Burrows Road onto Bosworth Road and then via the existing site arrangements off Meadow Lane from Cardonnel Road

Superseded



ALL PERSONS SIGNING BELOW

This is record of document / task specific induction – by signing below you confirm that:

- 1. The contents of the Method Statement/Plan of Work and related assessments, Document Reference as detailed, have been explained to you or read by you and that you understand the contents and requirements detailed therein.
- 2. You will work in a safe manner as detailed in Method Statements/Plan of Work and related assessments.
- 3. If you cannot follow the Method Statement and related assessments due to any reason you will advise the Site Supervisor and work with them to review and change the Method Statement and related assessment(s) if appropriate

NOTE: Personnel can receive induction into as many Method Statements/other Documents as needed but do not start work without receiving induction and 'signing on'

Project No: 23-00333		Project Title: Cardonnel Court, Cardonnel Road, Skewen, Neath SA10 6BS	
MS Issue: 01 Revision Number: 02		Date Issued: 23 Oct 23	Title: CARDONNEL COURT - NEATH
DATE	NAME (PRINT)	SIGNATURE	INDUCTION BY (INITIALS)



Method Statement Amendment Sheet

Job / Project Title		
MS Revision Nr.		
Date		
Completed by:	Name	Signature

Description of Works	
Task <i>What is the task</i>	
Duration of Task	
Sequence <i>How are you going to do the task?</i>	
Location	

Resources Required	
Personnel	
Supervision	
Plant & Equipment	

Assessment of Significant Risks for all Tasks.	
Access <i>Working at height / enclosed spaces?</i>	
Others at Risk <i>Other site Personnel / Members of Public?</i>	
Noise / Manual Handling	
Hot Works <i>Permit Issued / Fire Fighting Equipment?</i>	

Superseded



Superseded

APPENDIX 8 -SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE PLAN

Superseded

