

Methodology for Protection of Root Protection Areas

- *Where possible, micro siting will be used to move any excavations clear of root protection zones where the plans show them to be in close proximity.*
- *If excavation within the RPA is required, hand digging, use of air spades, or thrust boring will be used depending on site constraints.*
- *Excavation within RPAs will be supervised by a qualified arboricultural consultant.*
- *Any roots encountered during excavation that are greater than 25mm in diameter will be retained and bridged beneath or above where feasible. Where root pruning is unavoidable, this will be undertaken using sharp, clean tools to form a neat cut, under arboricultural supervision. Exposed roots will be covered and kept moist throughout the works to prevent desiccation.*
- *Pipes will be laid at existing ground levels where possible, or routed to avoid significant root zones. If excavation within RPAs results in voids, these will be backfilled using a suitable no-dig material such as clean angular aggregate to maintain soil structure and aeration.*
- *Upon completion of the drainage installation, all disturbed areas will be reinstated using appropriate soil or specialist backfill, ensuring that soil compaction is avoided and the existing ground levels are maintained as far as practicable.*
- *All site personnel will be briefed on tree protection measures prior to works commencing, and compliance will be monitored throughout the construction period.*