

Tree Categories

Trees are categorised in accordance with the cascade chart in Table 1 of the British Standard BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'

Category 'U' - Trees in such condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.

Category 'A' - Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.

Category 'B' - Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.

Category 'C' - Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.

Root Protection Area

In order to avoid damage to the roots or rooting environment of retained trees, the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) should be plotted around each of the category A, B and C trees. This is a minimum area in m² which should be left undisturbed around each retained tree.

The RPA is calculated using the British Standard BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'.

The calculated RPA is capped to 707m², which is the equivalent to a circle with a radius of 15m. Where there appears to be restrictions to root growth the root protection area is reshaped to more accurately reflect the likely distribution of the roots.

Note: No unauthorised excavations are to be carried out within the RPAs of any retained trees. Any level changes must form part of a construction method statement & must protect the rooting environments of all retained trees.

Issue: Proposed hard surfacing replacement is situated within RPAs of trees T01, T03 & T04.
Solution: Proposed resurfacing is to be designed so that it can be constructed entirely above the existing soil level and the existing sub-base is retained.

Issue: Proposed entrance widening is partially situated within RPA of trees T01.
Solution: Excavations for the widening within the RPA are to be carried out under arboricultural supervision.

