

**SOUTHERN OFFICE**

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10 March 2021

By email only: Simon Redfern (SRedfern@ardmoregroup.co.uk)

Ardmore
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London
N1 7GR

Our ref: RS/10408_S/RS

Dear Simon:

Hornsey Town Hall: Supervision Visit 11th February 2021

Following a site visit and comments from the local planning authority regarding various contraventions of the approved tree protection measures at the Hornsey Town Hall development project, Phlorum was instructed to attend a site meeting to ensure adequate mitigation measures have been implemented. The site meeting was undertaken on 11th February 2021 and the following issues were reviewed:

1. Inadequate tree protection fencing adjacent to T4. On the date of the site visit, tree protection fencing had been moved to completely protect the root protection area of this tree. Some evidence of soil compaction is evident within the construction exclusion zone defined by the fencing. The soil should therefore be aerated by either using an airspade, or by piercing the soil with a fork taking care not to break up the soil to a point that fibrous roots are damaged, or to damage the bark of larger, woody structural roots. T4 was originally intended to be transplanted within the site, however it has now been decided that it would be impractical given the size of the tree, and the landscaping scheme has been amended to retain the tree in its existing location (an updated arboricultural method statement will be provided in due course).
2. Inadequate tree protection fencing adjacent to T2 and T3. The position of the tree protection fencing has been moved sufficiently to protect the exposed portions of these root protection areas. As with T4, there is evidence of soil compaction within the construction exclusion zone, therefore the soil should be carefully aerated using a fork or airspade.

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3. Proximity of contractor cabins and hard standing seating area to T27/T28.
The position of the multi-storey contractor cabins was measured to be just outside the root protection areas of these two trees, however a concrete seating area had been installed within the root protection areas. The concrete surface was being removed using controlled hand tools on the date of the site visit, following which the root protection areas must be fully cordoned from access until the landscaping phase of development. The soil within the root protection areas must be aerated as described for T4. An electric sub-station has been installed to the north of T27 (as approved by the local planning authority), which has resulted in root pruning within the root protection area. The position of the sub-station was not designed when the arboricultural impact assessment and method statement were originally produced for the development, and this loss of rooting area will need to be a consideration when the new arboricultural method statement is provided for the updated landscaping scheme.
4. Site hoarding adjacent to G21. Concern was raised that the site hoarding adjacent to G21, which was supported by above ground concrete blocks, could be causing compaction of the rooting medium. Prior to the site visit, the position of the hoarding was temporarily moved out of the root protection areas to the face of the new building. The rooting medium between the building and G21 should be decompacted as described for T4. The position of the hoarding will need to be moved back close to its original position to enable the installation of scaffolding on the side of the building. This can be achieved by installing temporary ground protection measures, details of which will be included in the new arboricultural method statement.

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peter Davies'.

Peter Davies
FdSc Arboriculture M.Arbor.A
Arboriculturist