

Written Statement: Fencing Installation Methodology within Root Protection Areas

Work Methodology and Specification for Security Fence Installation

This statement is provided to address the requirement for detailed work methodology in relation to the installation of security fencing where it falls within the Root Protection Area (RPA) of retained trees, as identified in the tree officer's comments.

Fencing Installation within RPA: Method Summary

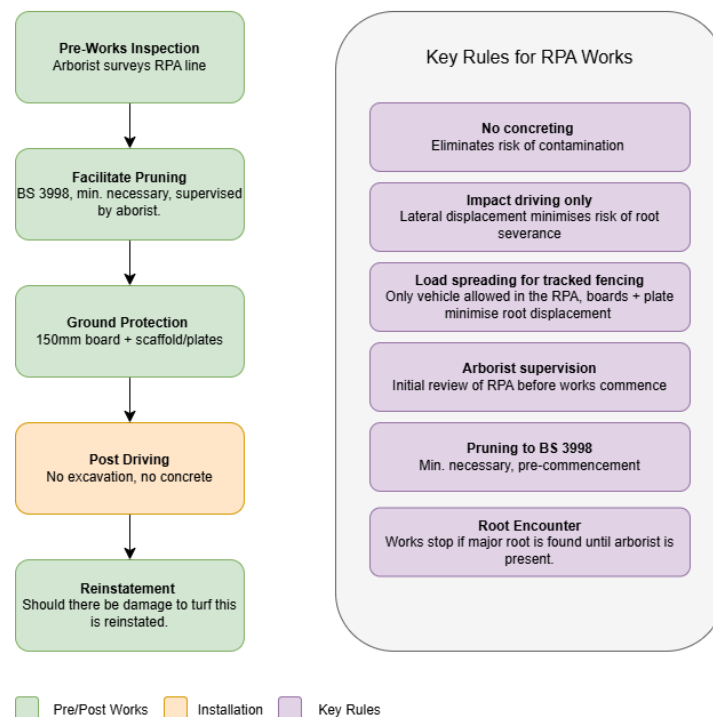


Figure 1: visual summary

Fencing Post Installation Method

No concrete/postcrete will be used in the installation of fence posts. All posts will be driven directly into the ground mechanically using a tracked fencing machine equipped with a hydraulic post driver. This method avoids the introduction of any contaminants or alkaline materials into the soil profile and eliminates the need for excavation of post holes.

Facilitative Pruning

Prior to the commencement of fencing works the construction team, alongside the site arboriculturist, during work stage 1 of the AMS will inspect the fencing line within the RPA and identify any branches that overhang or obstruct the fencing installation corridor. Any necessary facilitative pruning will be carried out in accordance with BS 3998:2010 (*Tree Work — Recommendations*) before machinery enters the RPA. No pruning will exceed that which is necessary to safely facilitate installation.

Ground Protection within the RPA

To protect existing structural roots and prevent compaction of the rooting substrate by the tracked fencing machine, the following ground protection measures will be implemented wherever the fencing line falls within the calculated RPA:

A minimum of 150mm of wood chip or similar material will be laid across the working corridor, overlaid with timber, scaffold boards or road plates to distribute the load of the tracked machine. This acts to spread the weight of the machinery, thereby significantly reducing ground pressure and the risk of root severance or compaction damage.

Excavation and Root Management

The tracked post driver operates by direct impact driving, which displaces soil laterally rather than removing it. This method does not involve open excavation and therefore significantly reduces the risk of severing structural roots in comparison to augered or dug post holes. In the event that a root of 25mm diameter or greater is encountered during driving and prevents further progress at a given location, the post position will be adjusted following consultation with the project arborist to avoid damaging that root. Root severance will not be used as a means to achieve post placement.

Supervision and Contingency

All works within the RPA will be reviewed by the appointed arborist prior to post installation in the RPA. A pre-commencement briefing will be held with the fencing contractor to confirm working procedures. Should any unforeseen root or ground conditions be encountered, works in the RPA will cease and the arborist will be consulted before resuming works in the RPA.

Trees Impacted

List of trees identified in the AMS with works occurring within the RPA:

- T3-A1
- T4-B3
- T6-C1
- T11-B3