BS 5837 2005: trees in relation to construction

Creating harmony between trees and structures.

The introduction of BS5837:2005 has increased the requirement for accurate tree surveys in relation to development projects where trees are present. It is now considered the benchmark by most Local Planning Authorities and without one many applications are delayed. In our experience the requirement for a tree survey is often overlooked or left until the last minute and projects can then be subject to re-design or protracted discussions that only serve to increase costs. Capita Symonds' arboriculture team is fully conversant with the timely application of the standard and the production of reports to satisfy Local Planning Authority requirements. This expertise is strengthened by our extensive experience in providing consultancy services to a number of Planning Departments.

When used in an effective and timely manner, the tree survey will provide guidance to the designer using the information within the Tree Schedule and Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) and any tree related issues will be put into context in the Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA) for the various design options. The finalized design will require a Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) that could include details of pre-development tree work, timing and phasing of operations, compliance with Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZs), installation of services, any work required in CEZs and landscaping mitigation.

When used effectively the BS5837 survey will result in the retention of the most suitable trees and create the conditions necessary to ensure their long-term survival within or around a project, thereby enhancing the scheme and the local landscape for the future.

For further information on this service contact:

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