Introduction

FPCR’s team of professional arboriculturists provide a wide range of services addressing all aspects of arboriculture.

As a multi-disciplinary practice, FPCR offers a high quality arboricultural service.

We utilise a variety of technologies to provide an efficient and accurate service with information to clients and the design team in a format that is ready to use. All our survey information can be provided in AutoCAD or other digital formats. FPCR assists its clients through the provision of a wide range of services addressing all aspects of arboriculture.

Our services include tree surveys to identify opportunities and constraints, Arboricultural Impact Assessments compliant to BS 5837:Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction Recommendations, Arboricultural Method Statements (AMS) and Tree Protection Plans (TPP), Tree Friendly Construction Method Advice, tree and hedgerow surveys in accordance with the National House Building Council guidelines (NHBC) Chapter 4.2, Mortgage and Subsidence Reports, Tree Hazard Assessment and Management, Veteran Tree Assessment and Specialist Management, Woodland and Historic Landscape Management Plans, Tree Preservation Order advice including preparing Tree Work Applications, letters of objection or the undertaking of Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders (TEMPO) assessment, and Specialist survey and assessment including ground/root investigation using Airspade techniques; Soil de-compaction/amelioration.

We also provide additional services including Project Arboriculturist, Tree Work Tender Management, Public Inquiry Representation, Urban Tree Planting Solutions, Green Infrastructure and Planting Scheme Advice, Historical Treescape Advice.

We work on a large number of schemes throughout the UK, both as promotions through the local plan process, and planning applications.

We are able to offer a flexible and tailored approach to the delivery of our services to ensure that they offer value for money, are efficiently delivered and to agreed timescales and deadlines.
Trees and Development

The submission of detailed arboricultural information is a pre-requisite of planning where trees are present within or adjacent to a proposed development site. The benefits of successful integration of mature trees and hedgerows into new residential and commercial developments are widely acknowledged. Inclusion of trees and hedges not only provides a level of maturity and visual amenity, but also has the potential to increase sale prices and improve saleability of individual plots and the development as a whole.

Our arboriculture team are highly experienced in the application of British Standard 5837 ‘Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction.

We provide a baseline tree survey, identification of opportunities and constraints and an Arboricultural Impact Assessment compliant to BS 5837, a minimum requirement for validation of planning applications where trees are present.

Our qualified arboriculturists pride themselves on taking a pragmatic and pro-active approach to projects looking at innovative solutions to a wide range of technical issues with information being presented in a clear, comprehensive and understandable form.

Our team are involved with a wide variety of development projects including commercial and residential developments which range from small infill residential sites to large scale strategic mixed use projects delivered over many years.

Tree and Woodland Management

Tree and woodland management requires a good understanding of trees in relation to their surroundings.

Our surveys include information on the quantity of trees, their species, dimensions, observations on tree condition and recommendations for targeted management where appropriate.

Our Survey and Management Reports include;

- Data collection on varying size tree populations;
- Preparation of tree inventory, supporting assessments and written reports accompanied by accurately plotted management plans;
- Detailed tree hazard assessments;
- Assessment of tree risk and formulation of tree management priority ratings;
- Assessment of tree health through a visual inspection or we can offer decay detection using a range of industry approved equipment;
- Preparation of specific tree and woodland management objectives and tree and hedgerow work specifications for long-term management; and
- Detailed specifications for new tree planting and landscape restoration as well as urban tree planting solutions.

We prepare Woodland Management Plans tailored to suit the needs of a given setting. Such objectives can be managing the woodland resource for timber production, game rearing, recreational benefits, planning obligations, nature conservation or to provide details for grant aided funding.

Preparation of plans can be linked directly to applications for grant aid options with the Forestry Commission through Countryside Stewardship. We can assist in evaluating options to gain funding for woodland management and make applications on your behalf.

Typical Approach

The initial stage of work, would involve meeting the client and consultant team, and becoming fully aware of the background and objectives of the project.
Tree Risk Management and Public Liability

Landowners are responsible for damage or injury caused by trees on their land and have a duty of care to prevent foreseeable harm occurring. This needs to be balanced with the benefits that trees offer to a certain setting whilst adopting a common sense pragmatic approach to their management.

Our arboriculture team provides risk management for numerous public and private locations including universities, public parks, commercial and private residential clients.

Risk management plans recommend work for trees that will not only maintain a high level of safety to the general public but carry out work that will benefit the condition and safe longevity of the tree. This work can include tree surgery as well as decay detection and soil decompaction where a trees decline may be reversible.

Monitoring can include regular vitality assessments as well as chlorophyll tests to measure tree health and determine the most appropriate course of action to reduce the development of hazards through die back.

Veteran Tree Survey and Historic Treescapes Management

Britain has some of the oldest veteran trees in Europe. These make up a large part of our cultural heritage and provide landscape and ecological value too.

FPCR understand the importance of safeguarding Veteran trees. We advise our clients on how best to manage and preserve these specialist and increasingly rare trees.

Veteran tree management aims to maximise the life span of veteran trees whilst preserving the intrinsic value of its habitats through recommending, appropriate tree work.

Veteran tree management also provides the opportunity to maintain a population of veteran trees for the future allowing time for Veteranisation of nearby trees and a succession of new tree planting to ensure long term continuity.

Working in conjunction with our Ecology department FPCR provides comprehensive management recommendations to fulfil our clients requirements.

- Individual detailed tree inspections
- Assessments of habitat provided by veteran trees;
- Assessment of signs of plant, insect and animal species; associated with veteran trees
- Assessment and overview of veteran tree viability;
- Assessment of tree risk and formulation of tree work priority ratings;
- Prescription of targeted veteran tree works specifications for long-term management; and
- Trees mapped accurately onto Ordnance Survey, GIS/CAD or GPS.
Home Buyers

Mortgage lenders, underwriters and insurers often require a pre-purchase report or risk appraisal to enable them to make their evaluation. Our arboricultural team offer a range of arboricultural services tailored specifically for home purchase.

Our team can provide reports tailored to a particular circumstance. Such reports identify all trees and vegetation in close proximity to the property and outline any risks, both above and below ground to provide clear and sensible tree management advice in accordance with the client.

Our reports include a detailed survey of the trees providing information on species, height, spread, stem diameter, distances from structures and tree condition.

FPCR work alongside other specialists to determine the potential influence of the trees or vegetation upon a property and can recommend methods of reducing or eradicating the issue which is detailed within a report identifying the recommended method of action to be taken.

FPCR can also undertake assessments where trees and other vegetation have been implicated in causing damage to structures, where insurance claims are being pursued.

Often being instructed by loss adjusters and property owners directly, we work alongside appointed structural engineers and other professionals to investigate the causes of structural damage and appropriate solutions.

Our reports are produced in a legible clear and concise standard format with all plans drawn to scale using current software.

Tree Preservation Order and Conservation Area Advice

FPCR can act as agents on behalf of a developer and/or land owner when evaluating the suitability of Tree Preservation Orders or applying for tree surgery work to any trees subject to protection or within a Conservation Area.

Our services include:

- Making objections or representation to the Local Planning Authority to the serving of Tree Preservation Orders on behalf of tree owners or developers;
- Having dialogue with the Local Planning Authority over the suitability of certain trees within Tree Preservation Orders, in the context of a future development proposal;
- Provision of supporting documentation and client support when meeting or consulting with the Local Planning Authority as your agent;
- Undertaking independent TEMPO Assessments (Tree Evaluation Method for Preservation Orders), a system employed to subjectively quantify and evaluate Tree Preservation Orders and determine whether a TPO would be justified; and
- Making tree work applications on behalf of clients for a variety of practical tree surgery requirements or root excavations to trees protected by such designations. Any consent granted can then be managed and supervised to ensure the work is completed satisfactorily and within the specified timeframes.
Cranbrook New Town, Exeter

FPCR are providing arboricultural, landscape and urban design services for Cranbrook New Town that will ultimately deliver some 8,000 new homes, part of East Devon’s ‘West End’ growth area.

Following outline approval, FPCR were appointed by the Cranbrook New Community Partners to undertake the detailed landscape design and implementation of Cranbrook Phase 1 (3,500 homes). The extensive green infrastructure and public realm proposals that have been developed and designed by FPCR include a new Country Park and a Ecology Park, neighbourhood ‘village’ squares and street design, formal sports pitches, play areas and sports hub, and a new town centre square.

FPCR are involved in all aspects of landscape design, implementation, and contract administration in addition to delivering reserved matters landscape applications, landscape and hedgerow management plans, Design Codes, arboricultural assessments and detailed arboricultural method statements. The practice is appointed as part of the on-going promotion of the future Cranbrook phases. This has included producing Landscape & Visual Impact Assessments, Green Infrastructure Strategies and Landscape Masterplans as part of subsequent outline planning applications.

Client: EDNC Consortium
(Hallam Land Management Ltd, Persimmon and Taylor Wimpey)
Location: Exeter
Project Details:
Arboricultural Assessment
Arboricultural Method Statements
New Country Park and Ecology Park
One of NHS England - ‘Healthy New Towns’
Tickow Lane, Shepshed

The Arboricultural Assessment identified a number of young trees within the roadside verge beyond the site boundary that would need to be removed to allow a new mains sewer to be constructed.

Following consultation with the developer and local authority a plan to relocate the trees was proposed and the trees were moved, using a tree spade, to areas of public open space within the site. Trees were mulched and guyed before being protected by fencing erected alongside the protection for the retained tree cover to ensure integration was successful.

No-dig construction adjacent to the existing tree cover was employed to ensure tree roots were protected through implementation of private driveways serving the dwellings.

The trees were a significant feature of the landscape and integration within the development proved to be an important legacy of the site once completed.

Client: William Davis
Location: Shepshed, Leicestershire
Project Details: Tree relocation, Successful tree integration, Significant feature of the landscape
The survey was carried out in accordance with BS 5837:2012 and after working closely with Associated Architects with regard to retaining trees in the proposed development, a full report was submitted to accompany the planning application.

Later, as part of a condition of planning approval set by Birmingham City Council, an Arboricultural Method Statement was commissioned which set out tree protection measures including: the positioning of the required fencing; distances from tree stems; ground work requirements and treatments around retained trees.

Client: The University of Birmingham
Location: Birmingham
Project Details: Arboricultural Assessment
Arboricultural Method Statement
Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton

FPGR were the appointed Arboricultural Consultants advising the design team for a detailed planning application for 60 homes and an apartment block on the site of the former offices for ADAS, Wolverhampton.

Prior to being occupied by ADAS in the 1970’s, the site was the former Woodthorne House and its grounds built circa 1867. The site supported a range of trees that were a part of the original gardens or landscaping to the offices. A Tree Preservation Order was made in 1962 which applied to the majority of trees on the site.

The proposed scheme planned to integrate new houses with the existing tree cover to retain the character of the site. Due to the high quality of the tree cover, major consideration was needed for the existing trees which informed and led the development proposals.

FPGR undertook a comprehensive tree survey and impact assessment in accordance with BS 5837:2012. Following the base line assessment decisions as to which trees would be removed and which would be suitable for retention in the context of the new site use was carefully considered. FPGR also engaged in dialogue with Wolverhampton City Council’s Tree Officer at an early stage in the work to discuss the proposals and integration of trees.

The existing character of the site’s frontage onto Wergs Road was retained and enhanced through the addition of new trees to form a ‘tree lined’ entrance into the development, reflective of the former landscape. Further tree planting within the residential areas was also sympathetic to the historical setting securing trees for future generations.

Client: Barratt David Wilson
Location: Wolverhampton
Project Details: Tree Survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment
Retention and enhancement
Preservation of historical setting
Fountaindale School, Mansfield

Fountaindale School is a special needs facility located within an area of dense mixed conifer and broadleaf woodland to the south of Mansfield. The original facility was first constructed during the 1950’s and was no longer providing the modern facilities required for care of its students.

Designs for a new specialist facility were developed to fulfil the requirements of the staff and pupils which would include the construction of the new school building adjacent to the existing structure. Due to the amount of close proximity tree cover surrounding the school, careful consideration of the potential impacts upon trees was required to satisfy the Local Authority that the new facility could be incorporated alongside the woodland without significant impact.

FPCR were employed to provide a detailed Arboricultural Assessment to accompany a planning application for the new school. The assessment process utilised existing basic data produced early on in the process and supplemented the information with detailed assessment of the trees that were potentially going to be affected through the construction of the school and access road serving the site.

Initial concepts brought forward, identified the loss of tree cover immediately surrounding the existing school site. An additional topographical survey and Arboricultural assessment conducted by FPCR identified higher quality tree cover surrounding the site and encouraged the developer to position the building and access road sympathetically to avoid the loss of these quality specimen trees.

Client: BAM Construction and Education Funding Agency (EFA)
Location: Mansfield
Project Details: Detailed Arboricultural Assessment
Successful tree integration
New Lubbesthorpe, Leicestershire

A significant urban extension of 4,250 new homes together with a secondary and two primary schools, a district centre, two local centres and a gateway employment area as well as a further strategic employment site.

Around half of the 400 hectare site dedicated as green space taking the form of extensive new parklands, encompassing the Lubbesthorpe Deserted Medieval Village (a Scheduled Monument) and Lubbesthorpe Brook, as well as new informal and formal public open space. New road infrastructure includes two new bridges crossing both the M1 and M69 motorways to connect the development with Leicester to the east of the M1 and to provide a link between the new housing and the strategic employment site located south of the M69.

FPCR have provided landscape, ecology and arboricultural services and co-ordinated the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) work. The Practice also produced the Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Framework and Management Plan and the Arboricultural Assessment, along with the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Ecological Assessment and Waste Assessment for the Environmental Statement.

Following outline approval, FPCR are preparing the Green Infrastructure package for the first phase of development and detailed landscape and public realm design for Reserved Matters Applications.

Client: Hallam Land Management,
Barratt David Wilson,
Davidson Developments
Location: Leicestershire
Project Details: 400Ha
Landscape, Ecological and Arboricultural Consultants
Select Client List

Althorp Estate
Amazon
Avant Homes
Bak
Balfour Beatty
Barratt Homes
Banwood Homes
Bellway Homes
Birmingham City Council
Birmingham City University
Birmingham International Airport
Bloor Homes
Bovis Homes
British Airways Authority
British Gas
British Land Developments
CALA Homes
Cambridgeshire County Council
Cambridge University
Central Networks
Charles Church
Chesterfield College
Church Commissioners
City of London
Commercial Estates Group
Co-op
Corby Borough Council
Cory Environmental
Crown Estate
David Wilson Homes
Davidson Developments
East Midlands Airport
Environment Agency
Everards Brewery
Extracare Charitable Trust
FCC Environment
Forestry Commission
Gallagher Estates
Galliford Try
Gladman
Gleeson Developments
Goodman
Hallam Land Management Ltd
Hanson
Harworth
Highways England
Historic England
Home England
IKEA
IM Properties
J&B Developments Partnership Ltd
JCB
Jelson
Keepmoat Homes
LaFarge
Laing O’Rourke
Lands Improvement
Larkfleet Homes
Lidl
Lincoln City Council
London Thames Gateway
Leicestershire County Council
Loughborough University
MacTaggart and Mickel
Mick George
Miller
Ministry of Defence
National Grid
National Trust
Natural England
Network Rail
Norbert Dentressangle
North Notts College
North West Regional Health Authority
Northamptonshire County Council
Nottinghamshire County Council
Nottingham City Airport
Nottingham Trent University
Oxford Brookes University
Parkridge
Persimmon Homes
ProLogis
Pure Leisure Group
Redrow Homes
Rolls Royce Aerospace Group
Roscoe
Roxhill Developments Ltd
Savills
Segro
Severn Trent
Shropshire County Council
Skanska
South Derbyshire District Council
South Northamptonshire Council
St Modwen Developments Ltd
Sytner Cars
Tarmac
Taylor Wimpey
The National Forest
Tumber & Townsend
University of Leicester
University of Oxford
Waystone Ltd
Westerman Homes
William Davis
Wilson Bowden Developments
Wincanton Logistics
Winvic Construction
FPCR are extremely versatile because of their combined long term expertise across a huge range of varied projects. The diverse integrated team thrive on complex and challenging schemes, ranging from the restoration of historic landscaped parks to the masterplanning of 21st century garden villages. We are happy to explore any opportunity. For more information, please see our website or contact us by email or telephone.