

**Before Independent Hearing Commissioners appointed by Wellington  
City Council**

In the matter of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

And

In the matter of hearing of submissions on the Proposed Wellington City District  
Plan

Between

**Argosy Property No 1 Limited**

and

**Wellington City Council**

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Statement of arboricultural evidence of David Spencer on behalf  
of Argosy Property No 1 Limited (submitter 383)

Hearing Stream 3

Dated 14 April 2023

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## MAY IT PLEASE THE COMMISSIONERS

### INTRODUCTION

1. My name is David Spencer, and I am an Arboricultural Consultant. I am currently the director and Principal Consultant Arborist for Tend – Tree Consultancy Limited. I have been an arborist for 22 years and hold the following qualifications:
  - (a) Level 3 Technicians Certificate in Arboriculture, Capel Manor College, London, UK;
  - (b) BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture, Capel Manor College London, UK.
  - (c) Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA - Advanced User);
  - (d) VALID Tree Risk Assessment;
  - (e) ISA's Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ); and
  - (f) BSc, Physics 2ii. University of Exeter, Devon, UK
2. I am currently the Secretary of the New Zealand Arboricultural Association and a member of the International Society of Arboriculture.
3. I have been engaged by Argosy Property No 1 Limited (**Argosy**) to provide expert evidence on the Notable Trees Chapter of the Proposed Wellington City District Plan (**PDP**).

### CODE OF CONDUCT

4. I have read and am familiar with the Environment Court's Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses, contained in the Environment Court Practice Note 2023, and agree to comply with it. My qualifications as an expert are set out above. Other than where I state that I am relying on the advice of another person, I confirm that the issues addressed in this statement of evidence are within my area of expertise. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.

## SCOPE

5. My evidence will cover the following key areas of the PDP:
  - (a) The objectives, policies, rules and standards that I support.
  - (b) The definition of Root Protection Area, which needs to be updated to align with both National and International best practice and research.
  - (c) The definition of a Technician Arborist. This should allow experience and the existing list of Approved Arboricultural Consultants held by Wellington City Council to be included.
  - (d) Some changes to the proposed rules and standards, TREE-R1, TREE-R2, TREE-S2, and TREE-S4.
6. In preparing my evidence, I have reviewed:
  - (a) The PDP.
  - (b) The notable trees section of the section 42A report for Hearing Stream 3.
  - (c) The submission of Mr Jeremy Partridge in full and the submission of Forest and Bird in part.
  - (d) Previous submission of the New Zealand Arboricultural Association on the National Planning Standards in 2018.
7. Attached as **Appendix A** to this statement is a copy of the Notable Trees chapter of the PDP which includes the additional amendments proposed by Argosy.

## Support

8. In general, the PDP Notable Trees chapter is well thought through and easy to follow. I support the following sections in full and as written.
  - (a) All Objectives and Policies (taking into account the amendments proposed in the section 42A report).

- (b) The following Rules and Standards:
  - (i) TREE-R3 and TREE-R4.
  - (ii) TREE-S1 and TREE-S3.
- 9. I support Policy TREE-P1 as the STEM process identifies age as a criteria and other criteria that are sufficient.
- 10. In general, I support policies TREE-P3 and TREE P4 as they recognise situations where the pruning of trees is necessary to clear infrastructure or improve tree health. However, I would like to suggest an addition to TREE-R1 to further support these policies, which I will discuss in more detail later in my evidence.

### Root Protection Area Definition

- 11. The definition of Root Protection Area (RPA) in the PDP is outdated and inaccurate:

*means for a tree with a spreading canopy, the area beneath the canopy spread of a tree, measured at ground level from the surface of the trunk, with a radius to the outer most extent of the spread of the tree's branches, and for a columnar tree, means the area beneath the canopy extending to a radius half the height of the tree (whichever is greater).*

- 12. Canopy size or tree height are not strong predictors of tree root architecture. A more accurate predictor of tree root spread is a trunk girth measurement.<sup>1</sup>
- 13. This is also the preferred measurement in the following international standards:
  - (a) Australian Standard - AS 4970 - 2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites;
  - (b) The British Standard "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction to Construction - Recommendations" (BS 5837) (2012); and

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<sup>1</sup> Day, S; Wiseman, P; Dickinson, B; & Harris, R. (2010). Contemporary Concepts of Root System Architecture of Urban Trees. *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry*, 36(4): 149-159.

- (c) American National Standard: ANSI A300 (Part 5)-2012: Management of Trees and Shrubs During Site Planning, Site Development, and Construction.
14. This approach is also supported by the New Zealand Arboricultural Association (NZ Arb). The following statement is taken from their website:

***NZ Arb also supports and recommends the following international tree protection zones as:***

*The Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) which is a circle taken from the centre of the trunk with a radius equal to 12 times the diameter of the trunk measured at 1.4m (DBH) above ground level. An incursion of any more than 10% of the area of the TPZ is considered a 'major incursion'*

15. In addition, NZ Arb made a submission on the National Planning Standards to that effect in 2018, which unfortunately was ignored.
16. As set out in Argosy's submission on the PDP, the following definition for RPA from the Australian Standard should be used:

*Means the area to be protected from root disturbance. It is calculated by using the following formula (from the Australian Standard): Root Protection Area = DBH x 12*

*DBH is diameter of the trunk at breast height = trunk diameter measured at 1.4m above ground level.*

*Radius is measured from the centre of the stem at ground level.*

*For multi-stemmed trees, the following formula is used: Total DBH = Square root ((DBH1)<sup>2</sup> + (DBH2)<sup>2</sup> + (DBH3)<sup>2</sup>) or  $\sqrt{(DBH1^2 + DBH2^2 + DBH3^2 + \dots)}$*

*The assessment of the root protection area must also take into account:*

- (a) *existing root morphology and site conditions such as the presence of roads, structures, and underground services,*
- (b) *topography and drainage,*
- (c) *the soil type and structure,*

(d) *the likely tolerance of the tree to root disturbance or damage based on species, age, condition, and past management.*

17. Using 'dripline' or canopy dimension as a measure of the RPA will give an inaccurate measure of Root Protection Area.
18. I consider it would be good practice to update the methodology used in the PDP based on up-to-date research and best practice.
19. The PDP then goes on to apply the following standard in TREE-S4 to works in the RPA:

*Works must not disturb more than 10 per cent of the [root protection area](#);*

20. The above standard is based on the Australian Standard definition of a RPA, however the PDP does not currently apply the Australian Standard definition. Applying the above standard to an incorrect measure of the RPA could lead to a greater number of roots being removed, thus damaging our most important and significant trees.
21. The reasons given in the section 42a report for recommending using the 'Drip Line' measure of RPA are that of simplicity and ease of measurement. To accurately measure the height of a tree using the PDP definition of RPA requires either climbing it and using a very long tape measure or a device such as a laser range finder. Both approaches are not commonly used by people outside of the arboricultural profession. It is much easier and simpler to wrap a tape around the tree and measure its diameter using the Australian Standard definition of RPA.
22. Accessing private property to measure the stem diameter is something I have done many times before for the purposes of assessing proposed development in the RPA of trees. Typically, the tree owner is proposing the development and therefore access is provided. However, sometimes the tree is on a neighbouring site and access is required to be requested. In these circumstances, I have never been refused access to a neighbouring site to measure a tree's DBH. I therefore do not agree with the concern in the s42A report that access to the tree is required.

23. Noting that the PDP definition of RPA is commonly applied by other district plans is useful, but I am aware that our profession has been trying to change this approach for years. These Councils are all doing it incorrectly to the detriment of our most significant trees in many cases.
24. The PRP definition of RPA is also in contradiction of Council's own specialist advice from its Park's Services Manager.
25. I recommend that the Council get the correct and most up to date definition of an RPA into the District Plan rules. Wellington (the Capital City) should lead the way in moving away from this 32-year-old method. This is becoming more and more important given the increasing awareness of the value of trees and the benefits they provide, especially our larger, older, and bigger trees.

**Definition of a Technician Arborist.**

26. The current definition of a Technician Arborist is restrictive as it requires the Level 6 Diploma, something which could be replaced by suitable experience and technical expertise.
27. Council already maintains a list of Approved Consultant Arborist who are recommended for work within the root zone of protected trees, which includes several arborists who do not hold the Level 6 Diploma or equivalent but do have suitable experience. This list is currently provided by the Council to resource consent applicants and could be published on the Council's website and continue to be maintained and referred to. I have attached the current list to my evidence as Appendix B.
28. I consider that the following amendment to the definition of Technician Arborist is necessary (with the additions underlined):
  - (a) has demonstrated competency to Level 6 New Zealand Diploma in Arboriculture standard (or to an equivalent arboricultural standard) and/or is listed on Wellington City Council's list of approved arboricultural consultants.

### **TREE-R1 Trimming and pruning of notable trees.**

29. TREE-R1 defines the situations where trimming or pruning of notable trees can be undertaken as a permitted activity. This includes where trimming or pruning is necessary to prevent interference with buildings, footpaths and other infrastructure, and where broken branches, dead wood or diseased branches can be removed which would improve tree health.
30. However, there are other situations where pruning or trimming is appropriate and should be enabled as a permitted activity. Pruning and trimming, where it is in accordance with arboricultural best practice, can have benefits for a tree. It would be onerous to require a resource consent to be required for pruning and trimming that is in accordance with arboricultural best practice and undertaken or supervised by a works arborist, and notice is given to the Council prior to the works commencing. I consider that this would be consistent with TREE-P4.
31. I therefore support an amendment to TREE-R1 to include another matter as follows (to address the concern raised in Argosy's submission) (additions underlined):
- (a) The trimming and pruning is necessary to Comply with the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003; or
  - (b) The works are necessary to prevent interference with footpaths, buildings, structures or network utilities and are undertaken to the minimum extent required to prevent interference and TREE-S1 is complied with; or
  - (c) The works involve the removal of broken branches, dead wood and diseased vegetation and TREE-S1 is complied with; or
  - (d) The works will be in accordance with arboricultural best practice and TREE-S1 is complied with; or
  - (e) The works are essential due to a serious and imminent threat to the safety of people or damage to property and TREE-S2 is complied with.



32. This would be in line with other District Plans and given it can only be carried out subject to compliance with TREE-S1 so there are sufficient controls in place to protect the trees.

**TREE-R2 Activity and development within the root protection area of notable trees.**

33. The section 42A report has agreed that it is appropriate to include footpaths in (b), but then goes on to remove (b) and (c) on the basis that works for the maintenance and repair of infrastructure are in another chapter ('Infrastructure – Other Overlays' chapter - Rule INF-OL-R64).
34. In my experience this rule may not be identified if it is only sitting within the Infrastructure chapter. I do not consider that there is any issue in duplicating this rule so that it is included in both chapters. In addition, I consider it important that the works in (a) and (b) are subject to compliance with standard TREE-S4 in respect of works in the RPA. I consider that it is important to include (b) and (c) in TREE-R2 as follows:

Activity status: **Permitted**

Where:

- (a) The works involve the planting of shrubs, flowers, ground cover, other small plants or covering ground in lawn or bark, or the mowing of grass; or
- (b) The works are for the maintenance and repair of existing roads or footpaths, transport or other infrastructure; and
- (c) TREE-S4 is complied with.

**TREE-S2 Emergency trimming or pruning work.**

35. This standard as it reads, requires a wait of one hour before work can start to mitigate an emergency. It would be better to allow the emergency work to occur and notify Council as soon as practicable.
36. If a Works Arborist was called to an emergency, they would first visit the site and inspect the tree to determine if it was an emergency and then would

proceed to either carry out mitigation or source the required equipment and additional resources.

37. Asking them to notify Council one hour before they can start means an additional and unnecessary hour is wasted until the emergency can be resolved. This could end up with a road closed or power being out for longer, and for the arborist to be on one job longer, when other emergencies may need attending to.
38. It would be better to allow the Works Arborist to deal with the emergency at hand and then notify council as soon as is practicable. As a Works Arborist is required to undertake the pruning there is an extra layer of control to ensure the work is appropriate.

#### **TREE-S4 – Works in the root protection area**

39. In general, I support the amended wording proposed in the section 42a report. The new wording covers off most of the previous issues I had with correct methods, brand names etc.
40. I also seek a further adjustment to TREE-S4 as follows.

Excavation must be undertaken by one or a combination of the following methods:

- (a) ~~directional drilling~~ trenchless methods at a depth of 1m or greater; or
  - (b) hand-digging, air excavation spade, or hydro excavation
41. Trenchless methods is a broader term that captures directional drilling and other techniques that minimise root damage such as pipe bursting, earth boring etc.

#### **CONCLUSION**

42. I have reviewed the latest version of the PDP and am generally in support. However, I think it is important for both the overall workability of the provisions, and to achieve the best outcome for notable trees, that further amendments are made as addressed in my evidence.

43. Most importantly the definition of Root Protection Area (RPA) needs to be in line with best practice, and not follow an outdated model that will be to the detriment of our most significant trees in Wellington.

**DATED** at Wellington this 24 April 2023

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**David Spencer**

**Appendix A – Amendments sought by Argosy Property No 1 Limited to Notable Trees chapter of Proposed Wellington City District Plan and related definitions**

Key:  
 Black text – original wording of Proposed Wellington City District Plan  
 Red text – Council officer’s recommended amendments, set out in the Council officer’s s 42a report.  
 Green text – additional amendments proposed by Argosy Property No 1 Limited.

## Definitions

<b>ROOT PROTECTION AREA</b>	<p>means for a tree with a spreading canopy, the area beneath the canopy spread of a tree, measured at ground level from the surface of the trunk, with a radius to the outer most extent of the spread of the tree’s branches, and for a columnar tree, means the area beneath the canopy extending to a radius half the height of the tree (whichever is greater).</p> <p><u>Means the area to be protected from root disturbance. It is calculated by using the following formula (from the Australian Standard): Root Protection Area = DBH x 12.</u></p> <p><u>DBH is diameter of the trunk at breast height = trunk diameter measured at 1.4m above ground level.</u></p> <p><u>Radius is measured from the centre of the stem at ground level.</u></p> <p><u>For multi-stemmed trees, the following formula is used: Total DBH = Square root ((DBH<sub>1</sub>)<sup>2</sup> + (DBH<sub>2</sub>)<sup>2</sup> + (DBH<sub>3</sub>)<sup>2</sup>) or √(DBH<sub>1</sub><sup>2</sup> + DBH<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup> + DBH<sub>3</sub><sup>2</sup> + ....)</u></p> <p><u>The assessment of the root protection area must also take into account:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>existing root morphology and site conditions such as the presence of roads, structures, and underground services,</u></li> <li>• <u>topography and drainage,</u></li> <li>• <u>the soil type and structure,</u></li> <li>• <u>the likely tolerance of the tree to root disturbance or damage based on species, age, condition, and past management.</u></li> </ul>
<b>TECHNICIAN ARBORIST</b>	<p>means a person who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. by possession of a recognised arboricultural degree or diploma and on the job experience, is familiar with the tasks, equipment and hazards involved in arboricultural operations; and</li> <li>b. has demonstrated proficiency in tree inspection and evaluating and treating hazardous trees including experience in the use of industry recognised risk-assessment methods; and</li> <li>c. has demonstrated competency to Level 6 New Zealand Diploma in Arboriculture standard (or to an equivalent arboricultural standard) <u>and/or is listed on Wellington City Council’s list of approved arboricultural consultants.</u></li> </ol>
<b>TREE</b>	<p>means a woody plant 3 metres or greater in height includes a Tree Fern, but excludes a vine with a stem diameter less than 50 mm.</p>
<b>TRIMMING AND PRUNING</b>	<p>means the selective removal of parts of vegetation or of tree branches that do not affect roots.</p>
<b>WORKS ARBORIST</b>	<p>means a person who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. by possession of a recognised arboricultural degree, diploma or certificate and on the job experience, is familiar with the tasks, equipment and hazards involved in arboricultural operations; and</li> <li>b. has demonstrated competency to Level 4 New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture Services (Arboriculture) standard (or to an equivalent arboricultural standard).</li> </ol>

This entire chapter has been notified using the RMA Part One, Schedule 1 process ([P1 Sch1](#)).

# Ngā Rākau Rangatira

## Notable Trees

<b>TREE</b>	<b>Notable Trees</b>
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### Introduction

Within Wellington City, individual and groups of trees are identified and protected for their significant historic heritage, ecological or amenity values. These trees may be notable as prominent natural features and landmarks, contributors to local identity, spectacular or rare specimens, or associated with special sites, events or people. It is important that these trees are identified, protected and cared for so that they can be enjoyed by future generations.

Notable trees can be either indigenous or exotic species and located on either public land (such as road reserves or parks) or on private property. For a tree to be notable it must be evaluated against the 'Standard Tree Evaluation Method' (STEM) and score 110 points or higher or have significant cultural and historical value, taking into account potential STEM scores.

Notable trees are different to urban allotment trees which are trees that are part of significant natural areas (SNAs) in urban neighbourhoods.

SCHED6 lists notable trees.

### Other relevant District Plan provisions

It is important to note that in addition to the provisions in this chapter, the following Part 2: District-Wide chapters may also be of relevance, including:

- **Subdivision** - The Subdivision Chapter contains provisions which manage subdivision of sites with notable trees.
- **Earthworks** - The Earthworks Chapter manages the adverse effects of earthworks on the environment, including within the root protection area of notable trees.
- **Infrastructure - Other overlays** - The Infrastructure - Other Overlays chapter manages repair, maintenance and installation of infrastructure within the root protection area of notable trees.

Resource consent may therefore be required under rules in this chapter as well as other chapters. Unless specifically stated in a rule or in this chapter, resource consent is required under each relevant rule. The steps to determine the status of an activity are set out in the General Approach chapter.

### Objectives

<b>TREE-01</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
	Notable trees are recognised for their contribution to the city's amenity, history, ecology and

	sense of place and cultural value to mana whenua.
<b>TREE-O2</b>	<b>Protecting notable trees</b>  Notable trees are protected from inappropriate modification, subdivision, development and destruction.
<b>TREE-O3</b>	<b>Maintaining notable trees</b>  Notable trees are maintained to a safe and healthy standard.

<b>Policies</b>	
<b>TREE-P1</b>	<b>Identifying notable trees</b>  Identify notable trees having regard to:  a. Tree health, condition and ecological value; b. Amenity value and community benefit; c. Notability and recognition; and d. Significant cultural and heritage value.
<b>TREE-P2</b>	<b>Support for landowners</b>  Support landowners to take long term care and maintenance of notable trees through the provision of education and advice.
<b>TREE-P3</b>	<b>Allowing trimming and pruning of notable trees</b>  Allow the trimming and pruning of notable trees where the works:  1. Maintain or improve tree health; 2. Prevent interference with footpaths, property or network utilities; or 3. Are essential due to a serious threat to people or property.
<b>TREE-P4</b>	<b>Other trimming and pruning</b>  Only allow other trimming and pruning of scheduled notable trees where it can be demonstrated that the works:  1. Will not compromise the values of the identified notable tree or group; 2. Will not compromise long term tree health; 3. Are consistent with best arboricultural practice; and 4. Will not increase the risk of the notable tree or group being subject to damage from wind.
<b>TREE-P5</b>	<b>Managing activities in the root protection area</b>  Require activities and development to be located outside of the root protection area of notable trees unless the works will not compromise:  1. The long-term health of the scheduled notable tree; and 2. The values of the notable tree.
<b>TREE-P6</b>	<b>Repositioning and Relocation</b>  Only allow the repositioning or relocation of notable trees where it can be demonstrated that:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repositioning or relocation is necessary to enable the efficient development and operation of infrastructure; and</li> <li>2. Alternatives that would otherwise retain the notable tree in its current position have been explored but are not practicable; and</li> <li>3. Methods proposed are consistent with best arboricultural practice.</li> </ol>
<b>TREE-P7</b>	<p><b>Destruction <u>and removal</u></b></p> <p>Only allow the destruction <u>and removal</u> of notable trees where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The tree poses a serious and imminent threat to the safety of people or property; or</li> <li>2. The tree is dead, or in a state of terminal decline; or</li> <li>3. There are no reasonable alternatives including:                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Trimming and pruning; and</li> <li>b. Repositioning and relocation.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

<b>Rules: Land use activities</b>	
<b>TREE-R1</b>	<b>Trimming and pruning of notable trees</b>
All Zones	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Activity status: <b>Permitted</b></li> </ol> <p>Where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The trimming and pruning is necessary to Comply with the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003; or</li> <li>b. The works are necessary to prevent interference with footpaths, buildings, structures or network utilities and are undertaken to the minimum extent required to prevent interference and TREE-S1 is complied with; or</li> <li>c. The works involve the removal of broken branches, dead wood and diseased vegetation and TREE-S1 is complied with; or</li> <li>d. <u>The works will be in accordance with arboricultural best practice and TREE-S1 is complied with; or</u></li> <li>e. The works are essential due to a serious and imminent threat to the safety of people or damage to property and TREE-S2 is complied with.</li> </ol>
All Zones	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Activity status: <b>Restricted Discretionary</b></li> </ol> <p>Where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Compliance with any of the requirements of TREE-R1.1 cannot be achieved.</li> </ol> <p>Matters of discretion are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The matters in TREE-P4.</li> </ol> <p>Notification status: An application for resource consent made in respect of rule TREE-R1.2 is precluded from being either publicly or limited notified.</p>
<b>TREE-R2</b>	<b>Activity and development within the root protection area of notable trees</b>
All Zones	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Activity status: <b>Permitted</b></li> </ol> <p>Where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The works involve the planting of shrubs, flowers, ground cover, other small plants or covering ground in lawn or bark, or the mowing of grass; or</li> <li>b. <u>The works are for the maintenance and repair of existing roads or footpaths,</u></li> </ol>

	<p><a href="#">transport or other infrastructure; and</a></p> <p>c. <a href="#">TREE-S4 is complied with.</a></p>
	<p>Note: This rule does not apply to <del>network-utilities</del> <a href="#">infrastructure</a> within the root protection area of notable trees.</p>
All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: <b>Restricted Discretionary</b></p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance with <del>any-of</del> the requirements of TREE-R2.1 cannot be achieved.</p> <p>Matters of discretion are:</p> <p>3. The matters in TREE-P5.</p> <p>4. <a href="#">The extent of compliance with TREE-S4; and</a></p> <p>5. <a href="#">If the Notable Tree is a Kauri, measures to a minimize risk of spread of Kauri dieback disease including containment and disposal of soil.</a></p> <p>Notification status: An application for resource consent made in respect of rule TREE-R2.2 is precluded from being either publicly or limited notified.</p>
<b>TREE-R3</b>	<b>Destruction, relocation or removal of notable trees</b>
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: <b>Permitted</b></p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. The tree is dead or is in terminal decline and TREE-S3 is complied with; or</p> <p>b. The tree poses a serious and imminent threat to people or property which cannot be made safe by trimming and pruning and TREE-S2 is complied with.</p>
All Zones	<p>2. Activity status: <b>Discretionary</b></p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. Compliance with any of the requirements of TREE-R3.1 cannot be achieved.</p>
<b>TREE-R4</b>	<b>All other land use activities</b>
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: <b>Discretionary</b></p> <p>Where:</p> <p>a. The activity is not otherwise provided for as a permitted activity, restricted discretionary activity, or a non-complying activity.</p>
<b>TREE-R5</b>	<b>The storage or discharge of any toxic substance within the root protection area of notable trees</b>
All Zones	<p>1. Activity status: <b>Non-complying</b></p>



Standards	
<b>TREE-S1</b>	<b>Certification by works arborist</b>
All Zones	1. The works are undertaken or supervised by a works arborist and Council is advised at least 10 working days prior to the work commencing.
<b>TREE-S2</b>	<b>Emergency trimming or pruning work</b>
All Zones	1. The works are undertaken or supervised by a works arborist and Council is advised at least 1 hour prior to the work commencing <u>or as soon as practicable after the works have occurred.</u>
<b>TREE-S3</b>	<b>Certification that a scheduled notable tree is dead or in terminal decline</b>
All Zones	1. Certification is obtained from a technician arborist that the scheduled notable tree is dead or in terminal decline, and Council is advised at least 10 working days prior to the work commencing.
<b>TREE-S4</b>	<b>Works in the root protection area</b>
All Zones	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All works must be undertaken under the direction of a technician arborist;</li> <li>2. Excavation must be undertaken <u>by one or a combination of the following methods:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>directional drilling trenchless methods at a depth of 1m or greater; or</u></li> <li>b. hand-digging, air <del>excavation spade</del>, <u>or</u> hydro <del>excavation vac or drilling machine, within the root protection area at a depth of 1m or greater;</del></li> </ol> </li> <li>3. The surface area of a single excavation must not exceed 1m<sup>2</sup>;</li> <li>4. Works involving root pruning must not be on roots greater than 35mm in diameter at severance;</li> <li>5. Works must not disturb more than 10 per cent of the root protection area;</li> <li>6. Any machines used must operate on top of paved surfaces and/or ground protection measures;</li> <li>7. Any machines used must be fitted with a straight blade bucket; <del>and</del></li> <li>8. <u>Measures to minimize risk of spread of Kauri dieback disease including containment and disposal of soil must be included if the tree is a Kauri; and</u></li> <li>9. Council is advised at least 10 working days prior to the work commencing.</li> </ol>

## Appendix B – Wellington City Council list of Approved Consultant Arborists



Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

### Wellington City Council supplier list for arboricultural consultancy services

#### **TendTrees**

David Spencer  
[David.spencer@tendtrees.co.nz](mailto:David.spencer@tendtrees.co.nz)  
027 322 3833

#### **Arb Innovations**

Craig de Denus  
[craig@arbinnovations.co.nz](mailto:craig@arbinnovations.co.nz)  
021 810 540

#### **Paper Street Tree Company**

Richie Hill  
[richie@paperstreettree.co.nz](mailto:richie@paperstreettree.co.nz)  
021 0229 1586

#### **Peers Brown Miller**

Simon Miller  
[simon.miller@peersbrownmiller.co.nz](mailto:simon.miller@peersbrownmiller.co.nz)  
021 980 771

#### **Treecology Tree Consultancy**

Jez Partridge  
[jez.partridge@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:jez.partridge@yahoo.co.nz)  
0210 263 9129

#### **TreeTech**

Chris Walsh  
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