

Invasive and Non-native Species Management Plan

Site Address: **Land off Archway Road, Huyton, Merseyside L36 9XD**

Client Name: Genr8 Kajima Regeneration (Huyton) Limited

Date: 28/08/2025 (updated: 06/10/2025) (updated: 04/06/2026)

Invasive and Non-native Species Management Plan at Land off Archway Road, Huyton, Merseyside L36 9XD

Arbtech Consultancy Ltd was instructed to write an Invasive and Non-native Species Management Plan for the above-named site to inform a planning application for the following works:

Main 7-acre site:

- *The demolition of the existing muni tower, annex and computer centre, as well as enabling works to the whole site*
- *Phase 1 sees a new council HQ, 130 bed hotel and affordable 75 unit residential block built, as well as some of the public realm.*
- *The outline application for later phases allows for a maximum of 500 residential units and/or commercial development.*

Lathom Road, Lansdowne way & old market:

- *Demolition of existing, and replacement with a 150 space surface level car park, to incl. EV charging and cycle spaces, and public realm.*

Cavendish:

- *Retain existing building, refurbish the interior, make some façade upgrades and punch some new windows through.*

Background

The survey is informed by a previous Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Roost assessment (PEA/PRA) which was carried out by Arbtech Consulting Ltd in March 2025. During the PEA/PRA survey, *Cotoneaster horizontalis* was identified within the northern section of the site and a management plan was recommended detailing how this would be eradicated from the site.

Site location and context

The survey site is centred on National Grid Reference SJ 44183 90863 and has an area of approximately 2.8ha in total. The site comprises multiple buildings (B1-5), associated hardstanding and landscaping including grassland, ornamental shrubs, tree lines and

hedgerows. The site is adjacent to Huyton Village Shopping Centre to the south, within the urban town of Huyton. The surrounding landscape is comprised of urban development including tarmacked roads subject to heavy traffic, urban buildings and residential dwellings with associated vegetated gardens. There are amenity green spaces including that associated with Lord Derby Academy situated ~400m east and Bowring Park and Golf Course situated ~800m west. While the whole site was subject to a walkover survey, updated plans indicated that the associated works are focused on a smaller area within the site (see figure 1 below).

Management Plan Objectives

The plan aims to ensure all identified areas of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* are removed prior to the commencing of works on site, this reducing any risk of cross contamination via soil.

Cotoneaster status on site

During the PEA/PRA undertaken in March, *Cotoneaster horizontalis* was identified in a single location across the site, shown in Figure 1. The updated walkover undertaken in August, indicated there have been no changes to the presence of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* within the site.

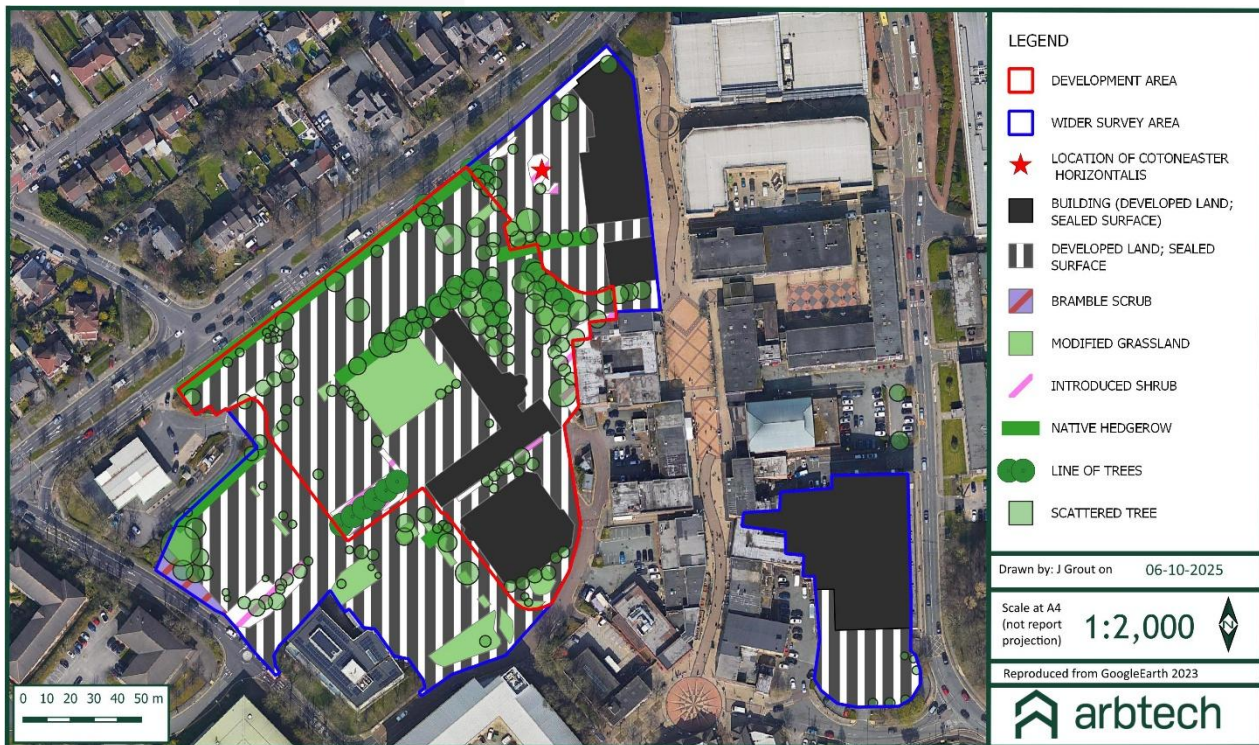


Figure 1

Environmental constraints to treatment

The site is not within a SSSI or other designated site, a nitrate vulnerable or source protection zone and there are no watercourses or semi natural habitats adjacent to the site likely to host protected or notable species. It is not anticipated that herbicide use will impact upon local plant communities to a significant degree. Therefore, there should be no specific constraints to treatment beyond statutory legal compliances surrounding pesticide use and controlled waste disposal.

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

Cotoneaster horizontalis is an invasive species listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA. Whilst removal of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* is not a legal requirement unless it causes a nuisance, it is illegal to allow *Cotoneaster horizontalis* to spread from the applicant's land and into the wild. Soil and plant material contaminated with non-native and invasive plants such as *Cotoneaster horizontalis* may be classified as controlled waste.

Regulatory position statement **Treatment and disposal of invasive non-native plants: RPS 178.** requires that the client treat or bury all types of invasive non-native plant material to be eradicated from a site. As part of this a management plan must be provided detailing how material will be treated to prevent further growth or spread beyond the site.

MANAGEMENT PLAN ADMINISTRATION AND AUDITING

Responsible Persons

The applicant is responsible for ensuring this management plan is implemented and appropriately licenced and qualified removal and controlled waste contractors are used. Any method statement produced by such contractors must be followed. A copy of this document will be provided to the site managers and contractors.

Contractors

No specific legal licence is required to be held by the relevant contractor for the removal of *Cotoneaster horizontalis*. However, the contractor must meet the following requirements to ensure the removal and management of invasive species is appropriately handled:

- Be competent in handling invasive plant species.
- Hold appropriate NPTC (PA1/PA6) or equivalent if applying herbicide.
- Follow waste regulations if transporting/disposing of contaminated material.
- Adhere to site-specific risk assessments and method statements (RAMS).

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE UPDATED PLANS INCLUDE A MUCH SMALL SCOPE OF DEVELOPMENT, WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE THE PRESECNE OF *COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS*. IN THE EVENT THAT WORKS EXTEND TO THE AREA OF *COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS*, THE BELOW MANAGEMENT PLAN SHOULD BE ADHERED TO IN FULL.

MANAGEMENT PLAN – MECHANICAL/MANUAL REMOVAL

The site contains a localised area of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* within the northern section of the wider survey area. The *Cotoneaster horizontalis* has been classified as semi-mature (10cm DBH), as such, it is a relatively large shrub. It is considered that the patch of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* can be removed through manual removal.

Removal Method:

- The *Cotoneaster horizontalis* should be isolated prior to any site clearance activities.
- Prior to the removal of the main stem, hand pulling of seedlings and young plants should

take place when soil is moist. This is to target any recently established shrubs around the larger plant.

- Complete excavation of root systems for mature plants and 500cm of earth surrounding the shrub to ensure all root systems have been removed.
- Due to the size of the shrub, large machinery will be utilised to excavate the plant, and if necessary, use of hand tools (mattocks, spades) for root extraction.
- Remaining earth left on the roots should be shaken off.
- If berries are present on the plant, the stems should be covered with a strong paper bag to prevent berries falling to the ground during transfer of the shrub.

If required, site clearance can commence once all strands of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* have been removed from site providing all other ecological recommendations have been adhered to as per the PEA/PRA (Arbtech Consulting Ltd, 2025), this includes the potential presence of nesting birds. If new strands of *Cotoneaster horizontalis* are identified during site clearance, these should be removed as per this management plan.

Timing: Best undertaken during growing season (April-July) when plants are actively growing and in flower but before berry production to reduce further spread.

Equipment Required:

- Hand tools (spades, mattocks, pruning shears).
- Heavy machinery for large specimens (mini-digger, excavator).
- Collection bags/containers for plant material.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE).

MANAGEMENT PLAN - FINAL TREATMENT - DISPOSAL

To prevent spread beyond the site, propagative material such as roots and soils containing potential *Cotoneaster horizontalis* propagules **must** be buried or burned on site or removed from the site by a licenced waste contractor to a site with relevant permits.

Disposal activities will involve one or a mixture of the following as appropriate;

- **Burying:** If required, deep burial (minimum of 2m depth) with impermeable covering may be accepted.
- **Chipping:** If required, the shrub material must be chipped and composted onsite for a minimum of 2 years before use.
- **Burning:** This method would only be permitted where appropriate licences are held and fire safety protocol are followed.
- **Off-site disposal:** licensed landfill could be utilised which is the preferred method for large quantities.

MANAGEMENT PLAN - PREVENTING FURTHER SPREAD

During treatment, all plant and other tools will be cleaned and checked for

propagative material to ensure other parts of the site are not contaminated. Areas to be treated will be fenced off and signposted. Once treatment works are complete, all plant and other equipment must be cleaned prior to removal from site.

Once waste contractors have transferred the *Cotoneaster horizontalis* waste at the disposal site they must

- Brush jet-wash vehicles and any equipment to clear them of any propagative material.
- Inspect vehicles and equipment for pieces of plant material.

It is advised that any vehicles coming on site are checked for evidence that this is being done between sites.

SHOULD WASTE CONTRACTORS SHOW EVIDENCE THAT THEIR EMPLOYERS HAVE NOT ADEQUATELY TRAINED THEM IN THE APPROPRIATE TRANSFER OF *COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS* THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY SHOULD BE INFORMED.

MANAGEMENT PLAN – POST-CONTROL MONITORING

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), a post-control monitoring programme will be implemented following the completion of all *Cotoneaster* removal and treatment works on site.

Given the self-seeding nature of *Cotoneaster* species and the potential for residual seed material to persist within the site substrate, the risk of re-establishment remains a material consideration. Monitoring inspections will be undertaken by a suitably qualified professional at 3, 6, and 12-month intervals following the completion of initial control works, assessing the effectiveness of previous treatments, identifying any regrowth, and determining whether further intervention is required.

Any regrowth identified will be subject to prompt follow-up treatment in accordance with the control methods outlined within this management plan.

All monitoring visits will be documented, with findings recorded in written reports supported by photographic evidence. Records will include the date of inspection, surveyor details, observations regarding the presence or absence of regrowth, and details of any follow-up treatment carried out, if required. All records will be retained and made available to the LPA upon request to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the relevant planning condition. The monitoring programme will continue for a minimum of two years post-completion, or until two consecutive annual inspections confirm the absence of viable *Cotoneaster* growth across the site, whichever is the later.

Author

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Bibliography

- Arbtech Consulting Limited (March 2025). Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Roost Assessment. Land off Archway Road, Huyton, Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley, Merseyside, L36 9XD.