PMP Surfacing

Case Study

Tree surrounds

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Tree Surrounds

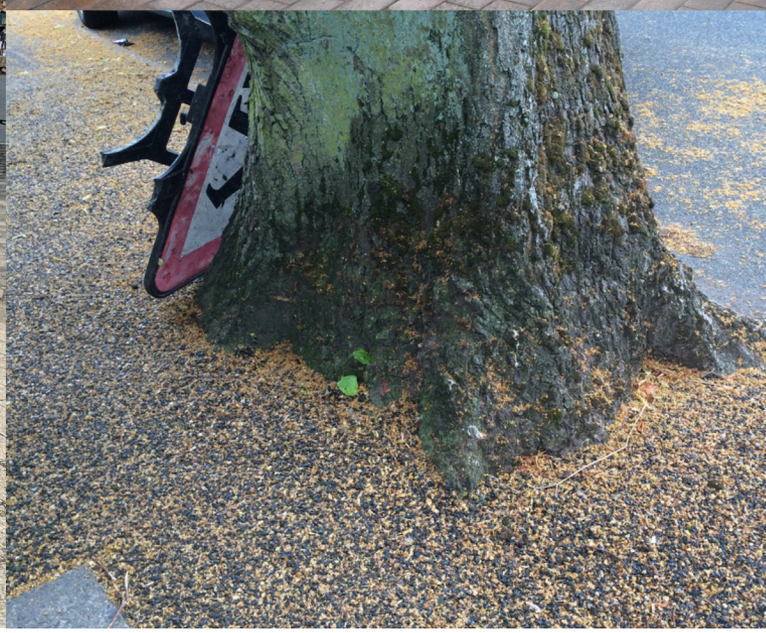
The issues with using traditional materials around trees are evident in the photos to the right where root growth and movement has had a severe impact on the footpath.

PMP Surfacing has worked closely with Dudley MBC and AMEY Construction in Birmingham as both organisations look to address the issue of tree surrounds within their respective locations.

Both organisations identified the benefits of using KBI Flexipave as the preferred material for new and replacement tree surround, for reasons outlined within this case study.

The success of our initial work with both Dudley MBC and AMEY Construction has seen both organisations become members of the PMP Green Partnership Scheme, which allows them to now use their own teams to mix and lay KBI Flexipave.

This allows organisations to install Flexipave at their own discretion.



There are many factors involved in healthy tree growth, some of the key ones are:

- Root access to water and air.
- Unrestricted root growth.
- Protection from soil compaction.
- Protection of roots from extremes of temperatures.
- Maintenance work.

The use of Flexipave for tree surrounds is increasingly common due to the way it compliments the above points.

The benefits of using it as a tree surround can therefore be expanded to the whole footpath or verge.

Above: With root intrusion spreading well beyond the normal tree pit boundary, Birmingham City Council engineers have now specified the use of KBI Flexipave into the wider pavement area.

Using Flexipave around trees helps with these factors because

- Its porosity allows water and air to easily reach the roots.
- Its flexibility allows the roots to expand and grow under the Flexipave without restriction, and without damaging the surface by causing cracking or lifted paving.
- It prevents the soil becoming compacted due to foot traffic or vehicle overrun and will not crack due to ground subsidence or vehicle overrun.
- Able to be installed on to a number of different bases.
- KBI Flexipave helps to imitate the natural insulating qualities of mulch and fallen vegetation found on the woodland floor, therefore protecting the roots from extremes of cold, and heat especially in urban areas.

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