PBA Solutions was contracted by a developer to deal with a large infestation of Japanese knotweed that was close to a boundary line, preventing groundworks and construction in the site area.

A drainage channel that could not be disturbed ran along the edge of the knotweed stand and knotweed was also growing among the roots of retained trees. To reduce the volume of waste being produced a limited-level excavation and removal of knotweed was instructed. This process leaves a small volume of knotweed rhizome in the soil: because of these constraints a root barrier had to be incorporated into the methodology.

CuTex was selected over an impermeable membrane because of its permeability: large areas of the barrier had to be placed in a horizontal position; an impermeable membrane would have caused water retention in the soil above the membrane and starved soil below the membrane of moisture. This would have been undesirable for the development itself and for the retained trees.

Choosing CuTex for the installation created a reliable barrier against the Japanese knotweed, while allowing for moisture delivery to tree roots and preventing waterlogging in the soil. CuTex proved once again its versatility, whilst being both resilient and durable.

CuTex is a permeable geocomposite root barrier consisting of a copper sheet mechanically encapsulated between a woven polypropylene geotextile and a high strength nonwoven polypropylene geotextile. CuTex functions not only as a physical barrier, but also as a chemical barrier.

The benefits of using CuTex:
- **CuTex is Safe** – tested for biodiversity
- **CuTex is Permeable** – does not prevent water passage allowing for sustainable urban drainage
- **CuTex Inhibits Root Growth** – CuTex acts as both a physical and a chemical barrier to prevent the spread of Invasive roots.

For more information on CuTex please contact our Sector Manager Steve Worsley at sworsley@geofabrics.com