

TGP Landscape Architects

Neilston Greener Grid Park Section 36 Application

Landscape Specification

10-06-2024

Contents

Q28 Topsoil and soil ameliorants	1
Q30 Seeding/ turfing	4
Q31 External planting	7
Q35 Landscape maintenance	13

Q28

Topsoil and soil ameliorants

System outline

155 Mulching and top dressing system

1. Description: FOR HEDGEROWS; FOR WOODLAND EDGE AREAS; and FOR TREES
2. Composition
 - 2.1. Material: Coarse bark

Products

300 Preparation materials generally

1. Purity: Free of pests and disease.
2. Foreign matter: On visual inspection, free of fragments and roots of aggressive weeds, sticks, straw, subsoil, pieces of brick, concrete, glass, wire, large lumps of clay or vegetation, and the like.
3. Contamination: Do not use topsoil contaminated with subsoil, rubbish or other materials that are:
 - 3.1. Corrosive, explosive or flammable.
 - 3.2. Hazardous to human or animal life.
 - 3.3. Detrimental to healthy plant growth.
4. Subsoil: In areas to receive topsoil or planting media, do not use subsoil contaminated with the above materials.
5. Objectionable odour: None.
6. Give notice: If any evidence or symptoms of soil contamination are discovered on the site or in topsoil or planting media to be imported.

401 Organic fertilizers

1. Manufacturer/ source: Contractor's choice
 - 1.1. Product reference: Contractor's choice
2. Standard: In accordance with the Fertilizer Industry Assurance Scheme (FIAS)
3. Purpose: General purpose fertilizer
4. Type: Sanitized and stabilized compost
5. Availability to plants: Slow-release

Execution

650 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Spreading topsoil.
 - 1.3. Applying herbicide.
 - 1.4. Applying fertilizer.
 - 1.5. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: 3 working days

655 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems. Do not damage adjacent planting.

665 Subsoil surface preparation for:

1. Description: ALL PLANTING AREAS
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
3. General: Excavate and/ or place fill to required profiles and levels, as section D20.
4. Loosening
 - 4.1. When ground conditions are sufficiently dry to allow breaking up of soils, loosen thoroughly to specified depth
 - 4.1.1. Light and noncohesive subsoils: 450 mm
 - 4.1.2. Stiff clay and cohesive subsoils: 450 mm
 - 4.1.3. Rock and chalk subgrades: Lightly scarify to promote free drainage.
 - 4.2. Wet conditions: Do not loosen subsoils.
5. Stones: Immediately before spreading topsoil, remove stones larger than 50 mm.
6. Remove from site: Arisings, contaminants and debris

680 Surplus topsoil to be retained

1. Generally: Spread and level on site:
 - 1.1. Locations: Any areas where topsoil is required for new planting
 - 1.2. Protected areas: Do not raise soil level within root spread of trees that are to be retained.

690 Topsoil storage heaps

1. Location: TBC
2. Height (maximum): 1.5 m
3. Width (maximum): 3.0 m
 - 3.1. Formation: Loose tip and shape from the side only, without running machinery on the heap at any time.
4. Protection
 - 4.1. Do not place any other material on top of storage heaps.
 - 4.2. Do not allow construction plant to pass over storage heaps.
 - 4.3. Prevent compaction and contamination, by fencing and covering as appropriate.

700 Grading of topsoil

1. Topsoil condition: Reasonably dry and workable.
2. Contours: Smooth and flowing, with falls for adequate drainage.
 - 2.1. Hollows and ridges: Not permitted.
3. Give notice: If required levels cannot be achieved by movement of existing soil.

705 Handling topsoil

1. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
2. Aggressive weeds: Give notice and obtain instructions before moving topsoil.
3. Plant: Select and use plant to minimize disturbance, trafficking and compaction.
4. Contamination: Do not mix topsoil with:
 - 4.1. Subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work.
 - 4.2. Other grades of topsoil.
5. Multiple handling: Keep to a minimum. Use or stockpile topsoil immediately after stripping.
6. Wet conditions: Handle topsoil in the driest condition possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall, or when the moisture content is greater than the plastic limit.

710 Spreading topsoil on:

1. Description: ALL PLANTING AREAS
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
3. Temporary roads/ surfacing: Remove before spreading topsoil.
4. Layers
 - 4.1. Depth (maximum): 150 mm.
 - 4.2. Gently firm each layer before spreading the next.
5. Depth after firming and settlement: Grassland / Wildflower Meadow: 150mm minimum. For areas of Wildflower Meadow, apply as low fertility topsoil / subsoil mix (50:50 ratio).
Shrubs and Hedgerows: 450mm minimum
Tree Pits: 600mm minimum
6. Crumb structure: Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate visible crumbs wherever possible.

718 Final cultivation

1. Compacted topsoil: Break up to full depth.
2. Tilth: Loosen, aerate and break up topsoil to a tilth suitable for blade grading.
3. Depth: 150 mm Seeded areas, 450mm planting areas.
4. Particle size (maximum): 20 mm
5. Timing: Within a few days before seeding / planting
6. Weather and ground conditions: Suitably dry.
7. Surface: Leave regular and even.
8. Levels: As section D20
9. Undesirable material brought to the surface
 - 9.1. Remove visible weeds.
 - 9.2. Remove roots and large stones with any dimension exceeding 50 mm.

820 Applying general fertilizer

1. Description: TO ALL PLANTING AREAS EXCEPT WILDFLOWER MEADOWS
2. Application: Spread evenly, carefully incorporating below mulch materials.
 - 2.1. Timing: Immediately before cultivation.
 - 2.2. Application rate: To manufacturer's recommendation

845 Applying loose mulch

1. Description: ALL PLANTING AREAS
2. Timing: Immediately after planting
3. Preparation: Clear all weeds
4. Coverage of mulch (minimum)
 - 4.1. Planting beds (depth): 75 mm depth, 250 mm radius around each plant
 - 4.2. Trees: 75 mm depth, 600 mm radius around each tree

Completion - Not Used

Ω End of Section

Q30

Seeding/ turfing

General information/requirements

115 Seeded and turfed areas

1. Growth and development: Healthy, vigorous grass sward, free from the visible effects of pests, weeds and disease.
2. Appearance: A closely knit, continuous ground cover of even density, height and colour.

120 Climatic conditions

1. General: Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.

145 Watering

1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
2. Application: Even and without displacing seed, seedlings or soil.
3. Frequency: As necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all seeding/turfing.

160 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Applying herbicide.
 - 1.3. Applying fertilizer.
 - 1.4. Preparing seed bed.
 - 1.5. Seeding or turfing.
 - 1.6. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: 3 working days

170 Setting out

1. Boundaries: Mark clearly.
2. Delineation: In straight lines or smoothly flowing curves as shown on drawings.

Preparation

210 Herbicide

1. Type: Suitable for suppressing perennial weeds.
2. Timing: Allow fallow period before cultivation.
 - 2.1. Duration: 2 weeks

Seeding

312 Wildflower seed mixture (Type 1)

1. Description: FOR WILDFLOWER MEADOWS
2. Supplier: Scotia Seeds, or similar
 - 2.1. Mixture reference: Hedgerow Meadow Mix (SCM4) or similar
3. Origin of each species (as defined in Flora Locale's Code of practice for collectors, growers and suppliers of native flora): British Native

4. Application rate: 3 g/m²

312 Wildflower seed mixture (Type 2)

1. Description: FOR WILDFLOWER MEADOWS
2. Supplier: Scotia Seeds, or similar
 - 2.1. Mixture reference: Mavisbank Mix (SCM1) or similar
3. Origin of each species (as defined in Flora Locale's Code of practice for collectors, growers and suppliers of native flora): British Native
4. Application rate: 3 g/m²

319 Quality of seed

1. Description: FOR ALL SEEDED AREAS
2. Freshness: Produced for the current growing season.
3. Certification: Blue label certified varieties.
 - 3.1. Standard: EC purity and germination regulations.
 - 3.2. Official Seed Testing Station certificate of germination, purity and composition: Submit when requested.
4. Samples of mixtures: Submit when requested.

330 Sowing

1. General: Establish good seed contact with the root zone.
2. Method: To suit soil type, proposed usage, location and weather conditions during and after sowing
 - 2.1. Distribution: 2 equal sowings at right angles to each other

335 Grass sowing season

1. Grass seed generally: April to June or August to October

336 Wildflower sowing season

1. Wildflower seed generally: March to May or August to October

340 Pre-emergent herbicide

1. Standard: Pesticide Safety Directorate approved.
2. Application rate: In accordance with manufacturer's written recommendation.
 - 2.1. Timing: Immediately after sowing.

Turfing - Not Used

Protecting/cutting

530 First cut of grassed areas

1. Timing: When grass is reasonably dry.
 - 1.1. Height of initial growth: 75 mm
 2. Preparation
 - 2.1. Debris and litter: Remove.
 - 2.2. Stones and earth clods larger than 25 mm in any dimension: Remove
 3. Height of first cut: 50 mm
 4. Mower type: Contractor's choice
- TGP Landscape Architects
10-06-2024

5. Arisings: Remove from site

590 Cleanliness

1. Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.
2. General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at Completion and after any maintenance operations.

Maintenance

610 Failures of seeding/ turfing

1. Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing until: the end of the rectification period.
2. Defective materials or workmanship: Areas that have failed to thrive.
 - 2.1. Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage.
3. Method of making good: Recultivation and reseeding/ returfing.
4. Timing of making good: The next suitable planting season

650 Maintaining grassed areas with perennial wildflowers

1. Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing until: the end of the rectification period.
2. Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
3. Height and frequency of cut in first growing season
 - 3.1. Time of first cut: March / April
 - 3.2. Height of first cut: 75 mm
 - 3.3. Frequency of subsequent cutting (minimum): Annually
4. Height and frequency of cut in second growing season
 - 4.1. Time of cut: Single cut in October
 - 4.2. Height of cut: 75 mm, arisings removed
5. Watering: When instructed

Ω End of Section

Q31

External planting

General information/ requirements

112 Site clearance generally

1. General: Remove rubbish, concrete, metal, glass, decayed vegetation and contaminated topsoil.
2. Stones: Remove those with any dimension exceeding 50 mm.
3. Large roots: Grub up and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil and adjacent areas.

118 Soil conditions

1. Soil for cultivating and planting: Moist, friable and (except in aquatic/ marginal planting) not waterlogged.
2. Frozen or snow covered soil: Give notice before planting. Provide additional root protection. Prevent planting pit sides and bases and backfill materials from freezing.

120 Climatic conditions

1. General: Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.
 - 1.1. Strong winds: Do not plant.

125 Times of year for planting

1. Deciduous trees and shrubs: Late October to late March.
2. Conifers and evergreens: September/ October or April/ May.
3. Container grown plants: At any time if ground and weather conditions are favourable.
 - 3.1. Watering and weed control: Provide as necessary.

130 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems.

145 Watering

1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
2. Application: Even and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
3. Frequency: As necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting.

160 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Delivery of plants/ trees.
 - 1.3. Planting shrubs.
 - 1.4. Planting trees into previously dug pits.
2. Period of notice: One week

170 Soil requirements

1. Type
 - 1.1. Planted beds: Existing topsoil
 - 1.2. Tree pits, shrub pits and other backfilling: Existing topsoil

1.3. Mulch applied after planting: Mulching and top dressing system, as section Q28

200 Plants/ Trees – general

1. Condition: Materially undamaged, sturdy, healthy and vigorous.
2. Appearance: Of good shape and without elongated shoots.
3. Hardiness: Grown in a suitable environment and hardened off.
4. Health: Free from pests, diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders.
5. Root system and condition: Balanced with branch system.
 - 5.1. Standard: The National Plant Specification
6. Species: True to name.
7. Origin/ Provenance: British grown
8. Definition: Origin and Provenance have the meaning given in the National Plant Specification.

215 Plants/ Trees – specification criteria

1. Name, forms, dimensions, provenance and other criteria: As scheduled and defined in the National Plant Specification (available on CS Design Software Limited's website).

235 Container grown plants/ Trees

1. Growing medium: With adequate nutrients for plants to thrive until permanently planted.
2. Plants: Centred in containers, firmed and well watered.
3. Root growth: Substantially filling containers, but not root bound, and in a condition conducive to successful transplanting.
4. Hardiness: Grown in the open for at least two months before being supplied.
5. Containers: With holes adequate for drainage when placed on any substrate commonly used under irrigation systems.

260 Plant/ Tree substitution

1. Plants/ trees unobtainable or known to be likely to be unobtainable at time of ordering: Submit alternatives, stating:
 - 1.1. Price.
 - 1.2. Difference from specified plants/ trees.
2. Approval: Obtain before making any substitution.

265 Plant handling, storage transport and planting

1. Standard: To CPSE 'Handling and establishing landscape plants'.
2. Frost: Protect plants from frost.
3. Handling: Handle plants with care. Protect from mechanical damage and do not subject to shock, e.g. by dropping from a vehicle.
4. Plant packaging: Coextruded polyethylene bags with black interior and white exterior
5. Packaging of bulk quantities: Pallets or bins sealed with polyethylene and shrink wrapped
6. Planting: Upright or well balanced with best side to front.

280 Treatment of tree wounds

1. Cutting: Keep wounds as small as possible.
 - 1.1. Cut cleanly back to sound wood using sharp, clean tools.
 - 1.2. Leave branch collars. Do not cut flush with stem or trunk.
 - 1.3. Set cuts so that water will not collect on cut area.

2. Fungicide/ Sealant: Do not apply unless instructed.

290 Surplus material

1. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

Plant containers - Not Used

Preparation of planting beds/ planting materials

300 Herbicide

1. Locations: ALL PLANTING AREAS
2. Type: Suitable for supressing perennial weeds.
3. Timing: Allow fallow period before cultivation.
 - 3.1. Duration (minimum): One week

Planting shrubs/ herbaceous plants/ bulbs

400 Random plant layout

1. Description: TO WOODLAND EDGE PLANTING,
2. Density: At 0.3 plants per m² (approx 1.8m centres); in random groups of 3 - 7no. plants of the same species

401 Regular plant layout

1. Description: TO HEDGEROWS
2. Spacing: In regular, double staggered rows; Random groups of 3-7no. plants of the same species
3. Density: At 5 plants per linear metre

405 Shrub planting pits

1. Sizes: Wide enough to accomodate roots when fully spread and 150 mm deep
2. Pit bottom improvement Incorporating 25 g of slow release fertilizer per planting pit, or similar.

471 Naturalized hedges

1. Planting: In trenches large enough to take full spread of roots. Set out plants evenly as per Clause 401 above.

480 After planting

1. Watering: Immediately after planting, thoroughly and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
2. Firming: Lightly firm soil around plants and fork and/ or rake soil, without damaging roots, to a fine tilth with gentle cambers and no hollows.
3. Top dressing: Mulching and top dressing system, as section Q28
 - 3.1. Depth: 75 mm

486 Shrub protection

1. Type: Spiral guard
2. Size: 0.6 m high x 50 mm diameter
3. Colour: Contractor's choice
4. Support: single bamboo cane, 900 mm length, 300 mm buried below ground.

5. **General:** Ensure that protection methods do not impede natural movement of shrubs or restrict growth.

Planting trees

500 Tree planting

1. **Standard:** Prepare trees and transplant in accordance with BS 8545

505 Tree pits

1. **Sizes:** 600 mm diameter x 600 mm deep, as per drawing 2120 D01: Softwork Details.
2. **Sloping ground:** Maintain horizontal bases and vertical sides with no less than minimum depth throughout.
3. **Excavated material:** Separate topsoil and subsoil material and stockpile for backfilling.
4. **Pit bottoms:** Excavate with slightly raised centre: Break up base to a depth of 150 mm.
 - 4.1. **Treatment:** Soil ameliorant worked into pit bottoms.
5. **Pit sides:** Scarify.
6. **Backfilling material:** Topsoil, as section Q28

535 Tree stakes

1. **Stakes:** Softwood, peeled chestnut, larch or oak, straight, free from projections and large or edge knots and with pointed lower end.
2. **Stake size (minimum):** 50 mm diameter
3. **Stake length (minimum):** 1.2 m long, with 450 mm buried below ground.

546 Single vertical staking for

1. **Description:** FEATHERED TREES
2. **Staking**
 - 2.1. **Position:** Close to tree position on windward side.
 - 2.2. **Driving:** Vertically at least 450 mm into bottom of pit before planting.
 - 2.3. **Backfilling:** Consolidate material around stake.
 - 2.4. **Firming:** Sufficiently firm to prevent movement of the rootball/ rootstock.
3. **Height of stakes:** Cut off just below lowest branch of tree
4. **Ties:** Biodegradable natural fibre
 - 4.1. **Number of ties:** One
5. **Tying:** Secure tree firmly but not rigidly to stake with ties. Prevent tree from touching stake using spacer blocks or cushions if required.
 - 5.1. **Position:** Top tie within 25 mm of top of stake and additional ties equally spaced along the stake.
6. **Nails:** To BS 1202-1, galvanized, minimum 25 mm long and with 10 mm diameter heads.

566 Tree protection (Feathered Trees)

1. **Type:** Tree Guard
2. **Size:** 0.6 m high, 100 mm diameter
3. **Colour:** Contractor's choice
4. **Support:** Single timber stake
5. **General:** Ensure that protection methods do not impede natural movement of trees or restrict growth.

576 Tree pit surfacing – loose fill

1. Surfacing material: Mulch, as section Q28
2. Area: Full extent of tree pit surface Full extent of tree pit surface
3. Depth: 75 mm
4. Watering: Water soil thoroughly before laying.
5. Installation: Ensure the base of the tree stem is kept free from loose filled material.

Woodland/ matrix/ buffer zone planting

605 Existing vegetation/ Weed clearance

1. Surface vegetation clearance: Screef an area one metre diameter around each planting location
2. Arisings: Remove.

615 Existing trees/ Seedlings/ Coppice shoots

1. Existing trees and seedlings: Retain. Refer to Vegetation Management Plan.

Protecting/ maintaining/ making good defects

710 Maintenance

1. Duration: Carry out the operations in the following clauses from completion of planting until the end of the rectification period.
2. Frequency of maintenance visits: In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule

720 Failures of planting

1. Defects due to materials or workmanship not in accordance with the Contract: Plants/ trees/ shrubs that have failed to thrive.
 - 1.1. Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage after completion.
 - 1.2. Rectification: Replace with equivalent plants/ trees/ shrubs.
2. Replacements: To match size of adjacent or nearby plants of same species or match original specification, whichever is the greater.
3. Timing of making good: During the next suitable planting season

740 Cleanliness

1. Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces and grassed areas.
2. General: Leave the works in a clean tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

750 Planting maintenance generally

1. Weed control: Maintain weed free area around each tree and shrub.
 - 1.1. Diameter (minimum): The larger of 1 m or the surface of original planting pit.
 - 1.2. Keep planting beds clear of weeds: By hand or machine (Strimming).
2. Precautions: Ensure that trees and shrubs are not damaged by use of mowers, nylon filament rotary cutters and similar powered tools.
3. Firming up: Gently firm loosened soil around trees/ shrubs. Straighten leaning trees/ shrubs.
4. Tree accessories: Check condition of stakes, ties, guys, guards and irrigation and ventilation systems.
 - 4.1. Broken or missing items: Replace.
 - 4.2. Loose stakes: Re-firm in the ground or replace as necessary to provide support to the tree.

- 4.3. Loose guys: Re-firm anchor points and adjust as necessary to provide support to the tree.
- 4.4. Ties: Adjust to accommodate growth and prevent constriction or abrasion.
- 4.5. Damage to bark: Cut back neatly with sharp knife. Prevent further damage.
- 4.6. Frequency of checks: At each scheduled maintenance visit
5. Watering: As required for healthy establishment, depending on weather conditions

760 Planting maintenance – pruning

1. General: Prune to promote healthy growth and natural shape.
 - 1.1. Dead, dying, diseased wood and suckers: Remove.
 - 1.2. Timing: In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule
 - 1.3. Trees: Favour a single central leading shoot.
2. Arisings: Remove.

780 Maintenance instructions

1. General: Before end of the maintenance period, submit printed instructions recommending procedures to be established by the Employer for maintenance of the planting work for one full year: Provide a schedule of any ongoing maintenance problems experienced during the rectification period.

790 Final mulching

1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period.
2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to remulching, applying water where necessary.
3. Planting beds: Remulch.
4. Depth (minimum): 75 mm
5. Trees: Remulch.
6. Depth (minimum): 75 mm

Ω End of Section

Q35 Landscape maintenance

Generally

110 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Each site maintenance visit.
2. Period of notice: Seven days

130 Reinstatement

1. Damage or disturbance to soil structure, planting, grass, fencing, hard landscaping, structures or buildings: Reinstatement to original condition.

155 Watering

1. Supply: Potable mains water
2. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil
3. Application: Do not damage or loosen plants.
4. Compacted soil: Loosen or scoop out, to direct water to rootzone.
5. Frequency: As necessary for the continued thriving of all planting

160 Water restrictions

1. General: If water supply is, or is likely to be, restricted by emergency legislation, submit proposals for an alternative suitable source of water. Obtain instructions before proceeding.

170 Disposal of arisings

1. General: Unless specified otherwise, dispose of arisings as follows:
 - 1.1. Biodegradable arisings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.2. Grass cuttings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.3. Tree roots and stumps: Remove from site
 - 1.4. Shrub and tree prunings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.5. Litter and nonbiodegradable arisings: Remove from site

190 Litter

1. Extraneous rubbish not arising from the contract work: Collect and remove from site.

197 Cleanliness

1. General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

Grassed areas

220 Grass cutting generally

1. Before mowing: Remove litter, rubbish and debris.
2. Finish: Neat and even, without surface rutting, compaction or damage to grass.
3. Adjoining hard areas: Sweep clear and remove arisings.
4. Drought or wet conditions: Obtain instructions.

225 Tree stems

1. Precautions: Do not allow nylon filament rotary cutters and other mechanical tools closer than 100 mm to the stem of any tree. Complete operations close to stems using hand tools

272 Maintaining grassed areas with perennial wildflowers

1. Preparation: Before each cut remove litter and debris.
2. Height and frequency of cut in first growing season
 - 2.1. Time of first cut: March / April
 - 2.2. Height of first cut: 75 mm
 - 2.3. Frequency of subsequent cutting (minimum): Annually
3. Height and frequency of cut in second growing season
 - 3.1. Time of cut: Single cut in October
 - 3.2. Height of cut: 75 mm, arisings removed
4. Watering: As schedule and when instructed

350 Fertilizer – spring application

1. Type: Slow-release
2. Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations. Avoid wildflower meadows.

Flower beds/ seasonal beddings - Not Used

Shrubs/ trees/ hedges

500 Establishment of new planting

1. Duration: Five full growing seasons from the date of planting
2. Weed control
 - 2.1. Method: Keep planting beds clear of weeds by hoeing and screefing; Maintaining full thickness of mulch.
 - 2.2. Area: Maintain a weed-free area around each tree and shrub, minimum diameter the larger of 1 m or the surface of the original planting pit.
3. Watering: When instructed

502 Establishment of new planting – fertilizer

1. Time of year: March or April.
2. Type: Slow-release
3. Spreading: Spread evenly.
 - 3.1. Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations

510 Tree stakes and ties

1. Inspection/ maintenance times: As scheduled and immediately after strong winds
2. Stakes
 - 2.1. Replace loose, broken or decayed stakes to original specification.
 - 2.2. If longer than half of clear tree stem height, cut to this height in spring. Retie to tree firmly but not tightly with a single tie.
3. Ties: Adjust, refix or replace loose or defective ties, allowing for growth and to prevent chafing.
 - 3.1. Where chafing has occurred, reposition or replace ties to prevent further chafing.
4. Removal of stakes and ties: At end of Year 5

- 4.1. Fill stake holes with lightly compacted soil.

520 Refirming of trees and shrubs

1. Timing: After strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.
2. Refirming: Tread around the base until firmly bedded.
3. Collars in soil at base of tree stems, created by tree movement: Break up by fork, avoiding damage to roots. Backfill with topsoil and refirm.

525 Tree guards

1. Loose or defective guards: Adjust, refix or replace to original specification and to prevent chafing.

540 Pruning generally

1. Pruning: In accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice.
 - 1.1. Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem or bark.
 - 1.2. Wounds: Keep as small as possible and cut cleanly back to sound wood.
 - 1.3. Cutting: Make cuts above and sloping away from an outward-facing healthy bud, angled so that water will not collect on cut area.
 - 1.4. Larger branches: Prune neither flush nor leaving a stub, but using the branch bark ridge or branch collar as a pruning guide.
2. Appearance: Thin, trim and shape each specimen appropriately to species, location, season, and stage of growth, leaving a well-balanced natural appearance.
3. Tools: Use clean sharp secateurs, hand saws or other approved tools. Trim off ragged edges of bark or wood with a sharp knife.
4. Disease or infection: Give notice if detected.
5. Growth retardants, fungicide or pruning sealant: Do not use unless instructed.

555 Pruning trees and shrubs

1. Standard: To BS 7370-4.
2. Special requirements: None

615 Trimming field hedges

1. Operations: Trim to specified height and profile using suitable mechanical cutters.

620 Removal of dead plant material

1. Operations: At the end of the growing season, check all shrubs and remove all dead foliage, dead wood, and broken or damaged branches and stems.

630 Dead and diseased plants

1. Removal: As soon as possible
2. Replacement: In the next suitable planting season

645 Weed control generally

1. Weed tolerance: At all times, weed cover less than 5% and no weed to exceed 100 mm high
2. Adjacent plants, trees and grass: Do not damage.

650 Hand-weeding

1. General: Remove weeds entirely, including roots

2. **Disturbance:** Remove the minimum quantity of soil, and disturb plants, bulbs and mulched surfaces as little as possible.
3. **Completion:** Rake area to a neat, clean condition.
4. **Mulch:** Reinstate to original depth.

655 Weed cutting by hand or machine

1. **Undesirable grass, brambles and herbaceous growth:** Cut down cleanly to a maximum height of 75 mm.
2. **Herbicides:** Give notice before use

690 Maintenance of loose mulch

1. **Thickness (minimum):** 75 mm
 - 1.1. **Top up:** Annually
2. **Mulch spill on adjacent areas:** Remove weeds and rubbish and return to planted area.
3. **Weeding:** Remove weeds growing on or in mulch by Hand-weeding.

710 Woodland Edge planting maintenance

1. **Watering:** In exceptional circumstances to prevent plants dying.
2. **Loose plants:** Refirm surrounding soil, without compacting.
3. **Vegetation:** Except trees and coppice shoots to be retained, cut down to 200 mm above ground level within the plantation area.
 - 3.1. **Arisings:** Leave between rows.
4. **Ditches and drains:** Keep clear.

Green walls - Not Used

Tree work

810 Tree work generally

1. **Identification:** Before starting work agree which trees, shrubs and hedges are to be removed or pruned.
2. **Protection:** Avoid damage to neighbouring trees, plants and property
3. **Standard:** To BS 3998 and Health & Safety Executive (HSE) 'Forestry and arboriculture safety leaflets'.
4. **Removing branches:** Cut vertical branches similarly, with no more slope on the cut surface than is necessary to shed rainwater.
5. **Appearance:** Leave trees with a well-balanced natural appearance.
6. **Chain saw work:** Operatives must hold a certificate of competence.
7. **Tree work:** To be carried out by an approved member of the Arboricultural Association.

815 Additional work

1. **Defective, diseased, unsafe or weak parts of trees additional to those scheduled for attention:** Give notice if detected.

835 Cutting and pruning generally

1. **Tools:** Appropriate, well maintained and sharp.
2. **Final pruning cuts**
 - 2.1. **Chainsaws:** Do not use on branches of less than 50 mm diameter.

- 2.2. Hand saws: Form a smooth cut surface.
- 2.3. Anvil type secateurs: Do not use.
- 3. Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem.
- 4. Wounds: Keep as small as possible, cut cleanly back to sound wood leaving a smooth surface, and angled so that water will not collect on the cut area.
- 5. Cutting: Cut at a fork or at the main stem to avoid stumps wherever possible.
- 6. Large branches: Remove only if unavoidable
 - 6.1. Remove in small sections and lower to ground with ropes and slings.
- 7. Dead branches and stubs: When removing, do not cut into live wood.
- 8. Unsafe branches: Remove epicormic shoots and potentially weak forks that could fail in adverse weather conditions.
- 9. Disease or fungus: Give notice if detected. Do not apply fungicide or sealant unless instructed.

Water areas - Not Used

Hard landscape areas/ fencing

910 Hard surfaces and gravel areas

- 1. Herbicide: Apply a suitable foliar-acting or residual herbicide. Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing arisings.
- 2. Hard surfaces: Remove litter, leaves and other debris.
- 3. Surface gutters and channels: Remove mud, silt and debris.
- 4. Drainage gullies: Empty traps and flush clean.
- 5. Repairs to flexible bituminous pavings: In accordance with the original paving specification or BS 7370-2, clause 4.12.
- 6. Stain removal: In accordance with BS 7370-2, Table 4.

920 Fencing

- 1. Fences: Inspect and repair to maintain protection against intruders.

Ω End of Section



Specification created using NBS Chorus