

WINTERBOURNE HOUSE, 53-55 ARGYL RD, READING.
MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

1.1 This maintenance schedule is intended to give guidance on the operations required to establish and maintain the proposed planting.

	Action	Timing/Frequency
All plants	Check for dead/ dying trees, shrubs and groundcovers.	Check twice each year in early and late summer.
	Replace losses with same species/specification.	Following winter.
	Weeding.	Hand weed during each maintenance visit. Maintain in a weed free condition.
	Water.	Inspect all trees and shrub areas to ensure that planting is not stressed through lack of water. If stressed, water the affected planted areas to field capacity. Inspect and water at a minimum of 2 weekly intervals, and every 3-4 days during periods of dry or hot weather. See below for trees.
Trees	Check stakes and re-tension ties as required. Ensure that the supports remain firm and trees vertical.	Every 3 months. Remove stakes after 3 years once tree is established.
	Remove deadwood, suckers and any unsightly water shoots or epicormic growth. Carry out appropriate tree surgery to remove any storm damage.	Annually between November to February. Remove storm damage as necessary.
	Water trees to field capacity.	Weekly for 2-3 growing seasons (approx. April- Oct.) subject to weather conditions. Magnolia (10-12cm girth) as specified requires approx. 20litres/week.
Deciduous shrubs and groundcover	Prune to promote bushy growth and natural shape of plant, respecting ultimate height of each species. Conform to good horticultural practice for each species. Remove overhanging growth from footpaths etc.	Annually between November and February, unless otherwise recommended.
Evergreen shrubs and groundcover	Prune to natural shape of plant.	Annually in April or September.

Fertilising: Trees	No fertiliser to be applied to newly planted trees unless nutrient deficiencies are identified. Apply slow release fertiliser Sierrablen Flora Yellow (or equal) in Years 3 & 5. Work fertiliser into the soil, (<u>not</u> into the watering tube), at 20 cm depth around the drip line of the tree as tablets or granular form in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.	Annually in spring.
Fertilising: shrubs and groundcover areas	Inspect planting for adequate growth and fertiliser requirement. If necessary, apply Sierrablen Flora Yellow granular fertiliser (or equal) prior to commencement of growth in year 4, and every two years thereafter, as a top dressing, at a rate of 70gm/m ² . Work fertiliser into the top 20cm of soil around each plant.	Annually in spring.
Mulching	Replenish mulch in shrub beds and around base of trees to specified depth.	Annually until shrub planting has formed continuous cover.
General	Inspect all plants for pests and diseases and make recommendations for their control or eradication by non-chemical means.	Annually.
	Thinning: densities of plants to be re-assessed and any overcrowded areas thinned to prevent over-congestion, maintaining balanced shrub and groundcover areas.	End of year 5 or earlier if necessary.