

READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH SITE/LANDSCAPE DRAWINGS

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To be read with Preliminaries and General Conditions.**

REVISIONS

For dates of issue see Drawing/Specification Issue Record Sheet (not part of this document)

Revision	Date	By	Ch k'd	Revised Items	Comments
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Site Preparation

1 De-compaction and grading of sub soil

- 1.1 Prior to the spreading of any topsoil, the sub soil is to be graded to smooth flowing contours.
- 1.2 Areas of compaction are to be treated as follows:
 - 1.2.1 Compaction zones, within the root protection area of existing trees, are to be carried out with a compressed air lance, should it be required.
 - 1.2.2 Where the beds are less than 5m, the area is to be de-compacted by hand, breaking up the sub soil to a depth of 450mm with a fork. In areas wider than 5m mechanical de-compaction will be used.

2 Top soiling

- 2.1 Topsoil to conform to BS3882, 1994. Topsoil is to be free from rocks over 50mm in diameter, pernicious weeds, wire, roots and bricks.
- 2.2 On planted areas the topsoil to be a minimum of 300 mm deep. All levels to be flush with any adjacent kerbs or hard surfaces after settlement, and not less than 150mm below the damp proof course of adjacent buildings.
- 2.3 Top soil should not be handled after heavy rainfall, or when it is wetter than the plastic limit defined by BS3882, annex N2.
- 2.4 Over areas that have received de-compaction treatment, the topsoil is to be spread with a low ground pressure tracked machine.

3 Setting Out

- 3.1 Planting zones shall be laid out in line with the soft landscape drawings, and measured from existing fixed points.
- 3.2 The supervisor is to check that all beds conform to the plan, prior to cultivation. Failure to do so may result in rejection of the work by the client, making good will be at the contractor's own cost.

4 Cultivation

- 4.1 Planted areas are to be cultivated to a minimum depth of 300mm, in line with *BS4428:1989 Code of practice for general landscape operations*. This is to be carried out by hand where beds are less than 5m wide. A tractor mounted rotovator, with low ground pressure, may be used on beds 5m or wider where access permits. The beds are to be levelled or graded to an evenly running fall and finish, flush with adjacent hard surfaces. All weeds, grass and rubbish exposed during cultivation are to be removed from site.
- 4.2 Cultivation under the crown spread of protected trees is to be carried out by hand only, and care paid not to damage existing roots. No mechanical cultivation is to be permitted within the root areas.
- 4.3 Lawn turf: Prepare site by removing any existing vegetation; rotovate to a depth of approx. 100mm deep to create a workable tilth (or hand dig if area is small); rake to a smooth tilth; remove stones larger than 20mm; ensure no high points or depressions, achieve a smooth even surface; apply pre-turf fertiliser at 35 grams per square metre; lay turf using turf boards to avoid standing on newly laid turf; water in and water 2x per day for 3-4 weeks (unless heavy rainfall precludes the need). Carry out first mow on a high setting approx. 3 weeks after it is laid.

Planting

5 Container shrubs and herbaceous.

- 5.1 All plants to be true to the type, and to be container grown or as otherwise specified, to the size specified. No substitutions are to be accepted unless previously agreed.
- 5.2 Any plants that are rejected are to be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.
- 5.3 All shrubs and herbaceous material are to be in line with *BS 3936:1980 Nursery stock specification for trees and shrubs*, planting operations to be in line with *BS4428:1989 Code of practice for landscape operations*. Immediately before planting, the pots are to be well watered. Holes are to be hand excavated to a sufficient size to take the entire container. The plant is to be planted to the depth of the root-collar.
The soil is to be back filled and then firmed around the plant.
The surface of the bed is to be left cultivated and free from weeds, debris and stones. Any broken or unhealthy growth to be pruned from the plant after planting. All plants are to be watered in thoroughly to field capacity of the soil, directly after planting.
Planted areas are to receive an application of slow release fertiliser, to manufacturer's specifications.

6 Select Standard Trees/ Tree Pit Specification

- 6.1 All trees to be of the size specified, true to type and free of pests and diseases.
- 6.2 Trees are to be planted in the locations shown on the site plans.
- 6.3 The plants are to conform *BS8545: Trees from Nursery to Independence in the landscape*. All trees are to be container grown.
- 6.4 Trees are to be planted in hand dug pits, a minimum of 750mm x 750mm x 750mm or 300mm larger than the spread of the roots. An area of 1m x 1m x 500mm deep will be excavated, and filled with good quality topsoil, in the location of each tree pit, to reduce the potential for compaction around proposed tree planting. The bottom and sides of the pit are to be broken up using a fork. The tree is to be planted to the depth of the root-collar and the pit back filled, with the soil firmed in layers of 150mm, and watered to field capacity. All tree pits are to have root directors and root watering points, all as detailed in **Appendix A**.
- 6.5 All trees are to be double staked and tied, with a biodegradable tie, to a height of no more than a third of the tree. Stakes are to be peeled timber that has been pressure treated.

7 Mulching

- 7.1 All beds to be mulched to a depth of 75mm with medium grade bark mulch

Maintenance for the establishment period of 5 years

8 Tree planting: Generally

- 8.1 Trees are to be watered once a fortnight during the growing season of April to September, this may need to be adjusted during extreme climatic conditions.
Tree stakes and securing systems are to be checked once a month throughout the year.
Dead or dying trees are to be replaced during the planting season of November to March, and are to be of the same size and species as the original specification for the first 3 years.
Tree stakes and ties are to be removed after 2 years.

9 Shrubs / Herbaceous

- 9.1 Planted areas are to be hand weeded fortnightly during the growing season of March to October.
All weeds are to be removed by hand and any bark mulch disturbed replaced.
Planting beds are to be watered fortnightly during March to October if climatic conditions are dry. The ground is to be watered to field capacity.
Shrub beds are to be formatively pruned during the appropriate time of year for the species.

An annual application of slow release fertiliser, applied to manufacturer's recommendations, is to be applied in May.

Bark Mulch is to be topped up annually, to ensure specified coverage is maintained.

Dead or dying shrubs are to be replaced during the planting season of November to March, and are to be of the same size and species as the original specification for the first 3 years

10 Hedges

- 10.1 As for 9.1 Shrubs, and in addition hedges are to be pruned to establish and retain desired shape and height at appropriate times, once or twice a year dependent on species.

PLANT LIST -Read in conjunction with Site/ Landscape Plans

Latin Name	Common Name / Notes	Size
NEW Trees		
NT1 Amalanchier lamarkii	Snowy mespilus	2.5-3.0m h, single stem
NT2 Betula utilis	Silver birch (native)	3.5-4.0m h, girth 19-20cm 90 litre
Hedges		
H1 Prunus lusitanica	Portuguese laurel	60-90cm h, 5 litre
H2 Taxus baccata	English yew	60-90cm h, 2 litre/bare root
Shrubs/Herbaceous		
SH1 Anemone x hybrida 'Honorine Jobert'	Japanese anemone	2 litre
SH 2 Choysia ternata	Mexican orange blossom	5 litre
SH3 Cistus x hybridus	Rock rose	3 litre
SH4 Cotoneaster salicifolius 'Gnom'	Prostrate cotoneaster	5 litre
SH5 Eleagnus submacrophylla	Eleagnus	3 litre
SH6 Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'	Spindle bush	3 litre
SH7 Hakonechloa macra	Japanese grass, ground cover	2 litre
SH8 Hebe rakaiensis	Shrubby veronica	3 litre
SH9 Hebe parviflora angustifolia	Shrubby veronica	3 litre
SH10 Pachysandra terminalis	Japanese spurge, ground cover	2 litre
SH11 Viburnum Tinus	Viburnum	3 litre

Lawns

L1 Amenity lawn

General purpose TGA Standard lawn turf sown with 25% dwarf perennial rye grass, 35% slender creeping red fescue, 20% smooth stalked meadow grass, 20% chewings fescue.

KEY to plant groups shown on drawings

Densities and layouts, where required , are to be confirmed when hard edges are in place and areas checked.

- (A) SH4
- (B1) Tree NT2, under-planted with SH10
- (B2) Tree NT2, under-planted with SH7
- (C) Hedge H1
- (D) SH5
- (E) Tree NT1, under-planted with SH7
- (F) SH6, SH10
- (G) SH1, SH2, SH3, SH8, SH9
- (H) SH9, SH11
- (J) Lawn L1, SH7 (sides of path) SH8, SH6

(K) SH2, SH4, SH9

(L) Tree NT1 under-planted with SH7; clipped hedge H2 around circular feature; L1 lawn.

(M) L1 lawns

APPENDIX A:

Root Director and Tree Irrigation

Tree pits with Root Directors and Irrigation Points to be constructed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions/recommendations (see following page). iSee also Section 6 of this document for soil specification etc.

1. CIS Ltd model 2111 Root Director (1300 sq base, 1050 sq top). **Obtain confirmation before order**
2. CIS ref "Metro" root watering system to trees

<http://www.cis-streetfurniture.co.uk/products/tree-protection/root-direction/>



Root Director Installation

Backhoe excavation of a square hole about 100mm deeper than the Root Director so that sand can be used to assist final levelling. The soil beneath the centre of the new tree should be loosened to a depth of 400mm to ensure there are no obstructions and assist root penetration downwards.

Stake holes can be simply cut, using a Stanley knife or similar, before placing the Root Director, and give firm vandal-proof support for the stakes. If a tree grate finishing flush with the paving is to be installed on top of the Root Director its thickness should be allowed for, otherwise the upper lip of the Root Director should be flush with the surrounding surface. Backfill inside the Root Director with an appropriate material. The backfilling outside the Root Director should be no more permeable to the roots than the undisturbed ground. Internal and external backfilling should proceed together so that the Root Director is not unduly distorted

