

Station Hill Reading Enabling Works

Landscape Maintenance Specification SHRN-LDA-NP-GF-SP-L-700-001

March 2020

Introduction

The management objective for the proposed tree planters as part of the enabling works is to secure the establishment of a healthy and attractive landscape that provides new habitat and visual amenity to the public, and if possible protects and re-uses existing trees that are re-located from within the site.

The maintenance procedures described in this document are to be followed throughout the period that the proposed planters are in operation.

For site plans describing the enabling works proposals and location of trees, refer to drawings

- Existing Plan: SHRN-CRL-SW-ZZ-PL-A-0801
- Proposed Plan: SHRN-CRL-SW-ZZ-PL-A-0803

The proposed development site is not located in a Conservation Area, there is no landscape or ecological designation on the site, and no trees are under TPO's.

General Maintenance Requirements

At all times planters shall be kept clear of all litter and debris and the Contractor shall ensure that all paths are swept clean of arisings. Soil and arisings are to be removed from hard surfaces and grassed areas and removed from site. Leave the works in a clean tidy condition after any maintenance operations.

- Water as necessary to secure healthy establishment and to avoid the need for replacement due to dry periods (less than 30mm rainfall at the end of a four week period). Watering ideally to take place in the evening, once the planting is no longer in full or part sun;
 - Fallen leaves are not to accumulate and shall be collected and removed off site;
 - Apply a slow release fertiliser in spring;
 - Control rabbits or other mammalian pests. If required, submit a method statement for the approval of the Project Manager and Ecologist;
 - Beds, fence lines and hard surfaces shall be kept free from annual and perennial weeds by manual and/or chemical methods. Hand weed within planting beds between 1 March and 30 September before weeds and grasses set seed. Only proprietary brands of contact, translocated and residual herbicides to be used, and all pesticides/herbicides and the operatives using them must have the approval and conform to the latest legislation contained within Part III of the Food and Environmental protection Act and the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 as amended;
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- All planted areas, including trees, are to be inspected monthly for any signs of pest or disease infection, and upon discovery of such pest or disease a suitable approved pesticide or other remedy in accordance with good horticultural practice shall be applied;
- Replace any failures of plants within the establishment period with immediate effect with the same species and size, these should be coordinated with Contract Administrator and Landscape Architect.
- Where plants are placed at high densities for instant impact or have established well and are spreading, remove whole plants and re-use in gaps where these may have developed; split plants in densely covered beds and re-plant gaps as necessary;

Trees / Shrubs

- Maintain healthy, vigorous planting;
- When planting trees and shrubs ensure that planting pit depth is a minimum of 50mm greater than the root ball and all soil on sides and bottom of the pit is loose;
- Species specific pruning at appropriate time of year to promote healthy growth and species specific shape and form. Ensure nursery's recommendations are followed for each particular species;
- Bark mulch to be maintained to a depth of 70mm thickness at all times, and inspected three times a year in the active growing season. If mulch is found to be less than an even depth of 50mm, it shall then be topped up;

Herbaceous and Bulb overlay planting to planters

- Re-firm soil around any loose plants without compacting;
 - If slug and snail damage becomes apparent, Contractor is to water in nematodes to manufacturer's specification and supplement with an organic slug pellet product;
 - Cut back all herbaceous planting in late January/early February and remove arisings from site. Contractor to take care not to disturb emerging bulbs during this time. Any dead foliage or skeletal growth that has collapsed, or looks unsightly, should be removed.
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