L1097S01 Rev:

Whitley Wood Lane, Reading

Soft Landscape Specification

Prepared for:
Whitely Wood Properties Ltd

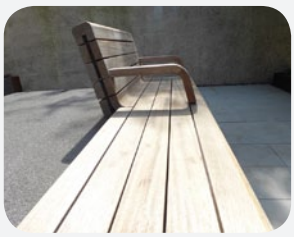
Author: JD Checked: JD

20th January 2025

Rev	Description	Date	By
-	-	-	-

FOR CONDITIONS

This specification should be read in conjunction with the latest revisions of Davis Landscape Architecture's drawings L1097L01 & L1097L02



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Registered in England and Wales
Company Number 07018870
VAT Registration Number 979558439

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D20
Excavating and filling

Generally/the site - Not Used

Clearance/excavating

164 Tree roots

1. Protected area: Do not cut roots within precautionary protection area.
   1.1. Size of area: See Arboriculturist tree report.
2. Excavation in protected area
   2.1. Method: By hand.
   2.2. Backfill as soon as possible or temporarily line with polyethylene sheet to reduce evaporation.
3. Outside protected area: Give notice of roots exceeding 25 mm and do not cut without approval.
4. Cutting
   4.1. Make clean smooth cuts with no ragged edges.
   4.2. Pare cut surfaces smooth with a sharp knife.
   4.3. Treatment of cut roots: Not required
5. Backfill: As dug material, enriched with phosphate fertilizer

168 Site clearance

1. Timing: Before topsoil stripping, if any.
2. General: Clear site of rubbish, debris and vegetation. Do not compact topsoil.
3. Treatment: Apply a suitable non-residual herbicide to areas to receive planting

170 Removing small trees, shrubs, hedges and roots

1. Identification: Clearly mark trees to be removed.
2. Small trees, shrubs and hedges: Cut down.
3. Roots: Grub up and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil and adjacent areas.
4. Safety: Comply with Forest Industry Safety Accord safety leaflets.

180 Chipping and shredding

1. General: Permitted, remove arisings from site.

220 Stripping topsoil

1. General: Before beginning general excavation or filling, strip topsoil from areas where there will be regrading, buildings, pavings/ roads and other areas shown on drawings.
2. Depth
   2.1. Remove to an average depth of 150 mm.
   2.2. Give notice where the depth of topsoil is difficult to determine.
3. Handling: Handle topsoil for reuse or sale in accordance with clause 225.
4. Around trees: Do not remove topsoil from below the spread of trees to be retained.
5. Site storage: Keep separate from excavated sub-soil.

221 Treating topsoil

1. Treatment: Apply a suitable translocated nonresidual herbicide.
2. Timing: Not less than two weeks before excavating topsoil.

225 Handling topsoil

1. Standard: To BS 3882.
2. Aggressive weeds
   2.1. Species: Notify the presence of species included in the Weeds Act, section 2, or the appropriate Wildlife and Countryside Act for the relevant jurisdiction.
   2.2. Give notice: Obtain instructions before moving topsoil.
3. Contamination: Do not mix topsoil with:
   3.1. Subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work.
   3.2. Other soil or material containing aggressive weeds, sharps, plastics and non soil forming materials and notifiable animal or plant diseases.
   3.3. Oil, fuel, cement or other substances harmful to plant growth.
   3.4. Other classifications of topsoil.
4. Multiple handling: Keep to a minimum. Use topsoil immediately after stripping.

250 Permissible deviations from formation levels

1. Beneath mass concrete foundations: ±25 mm.
2. Beneath ground bearing slabs and r.c. foundations: ±15 mm.
3. Embankments and cuttings: ±50 mm.
4. Ground abutting external walls: ±50 mm, but such as to ensure that finished level is not less than 150 mm below dpc.

330 Unrecorded features

1. Give notice: If unrecorded foundations, beds, voids, basements, filling, tanks, pipes, cables, drains, manholes, watercourses, ditches, etc. not shown on the drawings are encountered.

370 Underground structures in landscape areas

1. Generally: Remove walls, roads, foundations, disused services, drains, manholes and the like to minimum depth.
2. Minimum depth below finished levels
   2.1. Grass, ground cover and perennial planting: 500 mm.
   2.2. Shrub planting: 750 mm.
   2.3. Within 2 m of tree planting: 1000 mm.
3. Walls and slabs remaining: In every 10 m² of wall or slab, make a drainage hole at least 600 mm diameter.

Disposal of materials

420 Topsoil storage heaps

1. Location: Agree with Contract Administrator (CA)
2. Standard: To BS 3882.
3. Height (maximum): 1200
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.

421 Topsoil storage heap treatment

1. Treatment: Apply a suitable herbicide at appropriate times to prevent seeding of weeds.

441 Surplus subsoil

1. Excavated material: Stockpile in temporary storage heaps.
2. Retained material: Spread and level surplus subsoil on site.
   2.1. Locations: Agree with Contract Administrator (CA)
   2.2. Protected areas: Do not raise soil level within root spread of trees that are to be retained.
3. Remaining material: Remove from site.

450 Water

1. Generally: Keep all excavations free from water until:
   1.1. Formations are covered.
   1.2. Below ground constructions are completed.
   1.3. Basement structures and retaining walls are able to resist leakage, water pressure and flotation.
2. Drainage: Form surfaces of excavations and fill to provide adequate falls.
3. Removal of water: Provide temporary drains, sumps and pumping as necessary. Do not pollute watercourses with silt laden water.

454 Ground water level, springs or running water

1. Give notice: If it is considered that the excavations are below the water table.
2. Springs/ Running water: Give notice immediately if encountered.

460 Permanent drainage system

1. Disposal of water from the excavations through system: Not permitted.

Filling

500 Proposed fill materials

1. Details: Submit full details of proposed fill materials to demonstrate compliance with specification, including:
   1.1. Type and source of imported fill.
   1.2. Proposals for processing and reuse of material excavated on site.
   1.3. Test reports as required elsewhere.
2. Timing: At least 21 days before starting filling

510 Hazardous, aggressive or unstable materials

1. General: Do not use fill materials which would, either in themselves or in combination with other materials or ground water, give rise to a health hazard, damage to building structures or instability in the filling, including material that is:
   1.1. Frozen or containing ice.

1.2. Organic.
1.3. Contaminated or noxious.
1.4. Susceptible to spontaneous combustion.
1.5. Likely to erode or decay and cause voids.
1.6. With excessive moisture content, slurry, mud or from marshes or bogs.
1.7. Clay of liquid limit exceeding 80 and/or plasticity index exceeding 55.
1.8. Unacceptable, class U2 as defined in the 'Specification for highway works', clause 601.

530 Placing fill

1. Surfaces of excavations and areas to be filled: Free from loose soil, topsoil, organic material, rubbish and standing water.
2. Freezing conditions: Do not place fill on frozen surfaces. Remove material affected by frost. Replace and recompact if not damaged after thawing.
3. Adjacent structures, membranes and buried services
   3.1. Do not overload, destabilise or damage.
   3.2. Submit proposals for temporary support necessary to ensure stability during filling.
   3.3. Allow 14 days (minimum) before backfilling against in situ concrete structures.
4. Layers: Place so that only one type of material occurs in each layer.
5. Earthmoving equipment: Vary route to avoid rutting.

535 Compaction generally

1. General: Compact fill not specified to be left loose as soon as possible after placing.
2. After compaction: Surface of each layer must be well closed, showing no movement under compaction plant, and without cracks, holes, ridges, loose material and the like.
3. Defective areas: Remove and recompact to full thickness of layer using new material.

610 Compacted filling for landscape areas

1. Fill: Material capable of compaction by light earthmoving plant.
2. Filling: Layers not more than 200 mm thick. Lightly compact each layer to produce a stable soil structure.

Bioremediation - Not Used

'specification for highway works: earthworks specification' appendices - Not Used

Ω End of Section

Q28
Topsoil and soil ameliorants

System outline

155 Mulching and top dressing system

1. Description: To all trees and planting beds except grass lawn/turf
2. Composition
   2.1. Material: Bark Mulch. Rolawn (01904 757372) Pro Mulch or similar approved.

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.

310 Materials not permitted

1. Materials: Products containing peat.

335 Imported manufactured topsoil, Multipurpose

1. Description: For tree pits, planting beds and grass/turf.
2. Quantity: Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.
3. Source: Submit proposals.
   3.1. Product reference: Submit proposals including soil report for approval.
4. Soil textural class: Sandy loam.
5. Reaction, to BS 1377-3: pH 5.5-8.
6. Organic matter to PD CR 13456: Minimum 5%
7. Nutrient content: Minimum index values for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium to be as for BS 3882 multipurpose topsoil.
8. Crumb structure: Made up of discernible crumbs.
9. Stone size in any dimension (maximum): 10mm

335B EXISTING OR IMPORTED SUBSOIL To meet the requirements of BS8601

Execution

610 Topsoil analysis

1. Soil to be analysed: Imported topsoil
2. Soil analyst: Tim O'Hare Associates Tel:01491 822653 or Voelcker Consultants Tel: 02087469550, or equal and approved. Laboratory used to operate in accordance with MCERTS Performance Standard for Laboratories Undertaking the Chemical Testing of Soil.
3. Samples: Collect in accordance with BS 3882.
4. Submit
   4.1. Declaration of analysis: In accordance with BS 3882, clause 6 and Table 1.
   4.2. Additional analysis: Not required
   4.3. Report detailing soil analyst's recommendations.

620 Importing topsoil

1. Give notice: Before stripping topsoil for transfer to site.
   1.1. Notice period: 5 days

630 Documentation for imported topsoil

1. Description: For all planting areas
2. Timing: Submit at handover.
3. Contents
   3.1. Full description of all soil components.
   3.2. Record of source for all soil components.
   3.3. Record drawings showing the location and depth of all soils by type and grade.
   3.4. Declaration of analysis: in accordance with BS 3882, clause 6 and Table 1.
4. Number of copies: Two

655 Mechanical tools

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

660 Grading subsoil for:

1. Description: For planting areas.
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 8601.
3. General: Grade to smooth flowing contours to achieve specified finished levels of topsoil.
4. Areas of thicker topsoil: Excavate locally.
5. Avoid compaction.
6. Excess subsoil: Remove.

665 Subsoil surface preparation for:

1. Description: For 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: 300mm to ensure free draining.

4.1.2. Stiff clay and cohesive subsoils: As necessary to ensure free draining.

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 20 mm.
6. Remove from site: Arisings, contaminants and debris.

675 Preparation of undisturbed topsoil

1. Standard: In accordance with BS 4428.
   1.1. Grading and cultivation: Category C
2. Hard ground: Break up thoroughly.
3. Clearing: Remove visible roots and large stones with a diameter greater than 10mm.
4. Areas covered with turf or thick sward: Plough or dig over to full depth of topsoil.
5. Fallow period (minimum): One month
   5.1. Weed control: At appropriate times treat with a suitable translocated nonresidual herbicide.

685 Surplus materials to be removed

1. Topsoil removal from site: Topsoil remaining after completion of all landscaping work
2. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

690 Topsoil storage heaps

1. Location: Agree with Contract Administrator (CA)
2. Height (maximum): 1.5m if heap is to be maintained for a period exceeding 2 weeks.
   3m for periods less than 2 weeks.
3. Width (maximum): 3m if heap is to be maintained for a period exceeding 2 weeks.
   10m for periods less than 2 weeks.
   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: For 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: 300 mm
6. Crumb structure: Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate visible crumbs wherever possible.

715 Loose tipping of topsoil

1. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
2. General: Do not firm, consolidate or compact topsoil when laying. Tip and grade to approximate levels in one operation with minimum of trafficking by plant.

718 Final cultivation

1. Description: For all planting areas.
2. Compacted topsoil: Break up to full depth.
3. Tilth: Loosen, aerate and break up topsoil to a tilth suitable for blade grading.
4. Depth: 75 mm
5. Particle size (maximum): 2-8 mm
6. Timing: Within a few days before planting
7. Weather and ground conditions: Suitably dry.
8. Surface: Leave regular and even.
9. Levels: See Levels plan
10. Undesirable material brought to the surface
    10.1. Remove visible weeds.
    10.2. Remove roots and large stones with any dimension exceeding 10 mm.

720 Finished levels of topsoil after settlement

1. In relation to adjoining paving, kerbs or hard surfaces: See Levels plan.
2. In relation to dpc of adjoining buildings: Not less than 150 mm below.
3. In relation to adjacent grass areas: See Levels plan.
4. Seeded areas: Extend cultivation into existing adjacent grassed areas sufficient to ensure full marrying in of levels.
5. Within root spread of existing trees and shrubs to be retained: Do not dig or cultivate.

6. Adjoining soil areas: Marry in.
7. Thickness of turf or mulch: Included.

Completion

920 Applying mulch

1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period.
2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to mulching, applying water where necessary.
3. Planting beds: Re-mulch.
   3.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm 50 mm
4. Trees: Remulch.
   4.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm
5. Container planting: Remulch.
   5.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm

Ω End of Section

Q30
Seeding/ turfing

General information/requirements

110 Programme of implementation

1. Seeding to commence by September 2025 and to be completed by March 2026, prior to the occupation of the dwellings

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.

150 Water restrictions

1. Timing: If water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation do not carry out seeding/turfing until instructed. If seeding/turfing has been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

170 Setting out

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

Preparation

212 Seed bed cleaning before sowing

1. Description: ALL GRASSED AREAS
2. Operations: As seed supplier's recommendations.

250 Soil requirements

1. Type
   1.1. Seeded areas: Soil for grass swards, as section Q28

Seeding

310 Grass seed

1. Description: FOR ALL GRASSED AREAS

2. Mixture: 35% Chewings fescue, 35% Slender red fescue, 20% Smooth stalked meadow grass, 10% Brown top bent
3. Application rate: 5-10 g/m²

319 Quality of seed

1. Description: FOR ALL GRASSED 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 and diagonally to main axis

335 Grass sowing season

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

352 Edges to seeded areas

1. Description: ADJACENT TO PLANTING BEDS AND TREE PITS
2. Timing: After seeded areas are well established.
3. Edges: Clean straight lines or smooth curves.
   3.1. Mulch and soil: Draw back to permit edging.
4. Arisings: Remove.
5. Completion: Respread soil and mulch.

Turfing - Not Used

Protecting/cutting

530 First cut of grassed areas

1. Timing: When grass is reasonably dry.
   1.1. Height of initial growth: 50 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: 40 mm
4. Mower type: Contractor's choice
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: Agree with Contract Administrator

620 Maintaining

1. Description: GENERAL GRASSED AREAS
2. Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing until: the end of the rectification period.
3. Maximum height of growth at any time: 40mm
4. Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
5. Cutting: As and when necessary to a height of 40mm.
   5.1. Arisings: Remove
6. Bulb planting areas: Do not cut until bulb foliage has died down.
7. Trimming: All edges.
   7.1. Arisings: Remove.
8. Weed control: Substantially free of broad leaved weeds.
   8.1. Method: Application of a suitable selective herbicide.
9. Stones brought to the surface: Remove regularly.
   9.1. Size: Exceeding 10 mm in any dimension.
10. Areas of settlement: Make good.
11. Watering: As necessary.

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 10 mm.
3. Contamination: Remove material containing toxins, pathogens or other extraneous substances harmful to plant, animal or human life.
4. Vegetation: Clear scrub to ground level by flail mowing and remove arisings; retain and protect trees indicated on drawings
5. Large roots: Grub up and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil and adjacent areas.
6. Additional requirements: None

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. Container grown plants: At any time if ground and weather conditions are favourable.
   2.1. 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.

150 Water restrictions

1. General: If water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation, do not carry out planting until instructed. If planting has been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

170 Soil requirements

1. Type
   1.1. Planted beds: Planting bed soil system, as section Q28
   1.2. Tree pits, shrub pits and other backfilling: Plant pit backfilling soil system, as section Q28

1.3. External container planting: Container planting growing media system, as section Q28
1.4. 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. Budded or grafted plants: Bottom worked.
6. Root system and condition: Balanced with branch system.
   6.1. Standard: The National Plant Specification
7. Species: True to name.
8. Origin/ Provenance: British grown
9. 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.

245 Labelling and information

1. General: Provide each plant/ tree or group of plants/ trees of a single species or cultivar with supplier's labelling for delivery to site, showing:
   1.1. Full botanical name.
   1.2. Total number.
   1.3. Number of bundles.
   1.4. Part bundles.
   1.5. Supplier's name.
   1.6. Employer's name and project reference.
   1.7. Plant specification, in accordance with scheduled National Plant Specification categories.

246 Labelling and information

1. Standard: To BS 3936.

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: Black polyethylene bags
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. Description: TO CLEAR EXISTING VEGETATION
2. Locations: All planting areas
3. Type: Suitable for supressing perennial weeds.
4. Timing: Allow fallow period before cultivation.
   4.1. Duration (minimum): Two weeks

305 Weed control

1. Description: FOR INVASIVE NON-NATIVE WEEDS
2. Locations: All planting areas
3. General: Prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established, by contractor's choice of herbicide.

Planting shrubs/ herbaceous plants/ bulbs

405 Shrub and herbaceous planting pits

1. Timing: Excavate 1-2 days (maximum) before planting.
2. Sizes: 150 mm wider than roots when fully spread and 200 mm deep
3. Pit bottom improvement Break up to a depth of 150 mm, incorporating 25 g of slow release fertilizer per planting pit.

470 Shrub hedges

1. Shrubs for hedges: Consistent in species, cultivar and clone to ensure a uniform hedge.
2. Planting: In trenches large enough to take full spread of roots. Set out plants evenly.

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: 50 mm

Planting trees

500 Tree planting

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

505 Tree pits

1. Sizes: 75 mm deeper than root system and wide enough to accommodate roots when fully spread
2. Sloping ground: Maintain horizontal bases and vertical sides with no less than minimum depth throughout.
3. Excavated material: Remove arisings
4. Pit bottoms: Excavate with slightly raised centre: Break up base to a depth of 200 mm.
   4.1. Treatment: Not required
5. Pit sides: Scarify.
6. Backfilling material: Topsoil, as section Q28

512 Tree pit irrigation and ventilation accessories

1. Locations: To all tree pits
2. Manufacturer: Greenleaf Tel:01424 433233; or equal and approved.
   2.1. Product reference: Root Rain Urban, installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
3. Type: Perforated plastics ventilation pipe with inlet.
4. Pipe diameter: As manufactured.
5. Ring diameter: As manufactured.
6. Inlet: Black plastics, with cap
7. Installation
   7.1. Pipe: Lay in loop above root ball with slight fall away from inlet pipe. Trim length to ensure a close fit in the tree pit. Connect both ends of pipe securely into plastics tee junction on inlet.
   7.2. Top cap of inlet: Protruding slightly above finished surround level.
   7.3. Backfill material: Carefully compact in layers.

550 Double staking for all Trees

1. Description: ALL TREES
2. Staking
   2.1. Position: Either side of tree position and perpendicular to wind direction.
   2.2. Driving: Vertically at least 300 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 to approximately 600 mm above ground level
4. Horizontal bracing: Timber cross bar, 100 mm x 38 mm x 1000 mm
   4.1. Fixing: Firmly fix using nails on windward side of tree and as close as possible to the stem without making contact with the bark. Position cross bar horizontally and 25 mm from top of stakes
5. Ties: Adjustable
6. Tying: Secure rubber belting around tree stem firmly without causing constriction or chafing
7. Nails for fixing ties, belts and webbing: To BS 1202-1, galvanized, minimum 25 mm long and with 10 mm diameter heads.
8. Nails for fixing cross bars: To BS 1202-1, galvanized round wire, minimum 75 mm long and 3.75 mm gauge

Woodland/ matrix/ buffer zone planting - Not Used

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: Monthly during growing season

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 use of approved non-residual herbicides
2. Planted areas: Fork over beds as necessary to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Take care not to reduce depth or effect of mulch.
3. Precautions: Ensure that trees and shrubs are not damaged by use of mowers, nylon filament rotary cutters and similar powered tools.
4. Firming up: Gently firm loosened soil around trees/ shrubs. Straighten leaning trees/ shrubs.
5. Trees: Spray crown when in leaf during warm weather.
   5.1. Timing: After dusk.
6. Tree accessories: Check condition of stakes, ties, guys, guards and irrigation and ventilation systems.

6.1. Broken or missing items: Replace.
6.2. Loose stakes: Re-firm in the ground or replace as necessary to provide support to the tree.
6.3. Loose guys: Re-firm anchor points and adjust as necessary to provide support to the tree.
6.4. Ties: Adjust to accommodate growth and prevent constriction or abrasion.
6.5. Damage to bark: Cut back neatly with sharp knife. Prevent further damage.
6.6. Frequency of checks: Agree with CA

7. 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: As appropriate to the species
   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 details of any special procedures to be carried out.

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): 50 mm
5. Trees: Remulch.
6. Depth (minimum): 50 mm

Ω End of Section

Q35
Landscape maintenance

Generally

105 Maintenance objectives

1. Location: All Planting
   1.1. Duration: One year
2. Aims: Provide wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity and Enhanced landscape quality
3. Results: As scheduled

Grassed areas

210 Maintenance of grassed areas

1. General: Maintain turf in a manner appropriate to the intended use.
2. Soil and grass
   2.1. Condition: Maintain a healthy vigorous sward, free from disease, fungal growth, discolouration, scorch or wilt.
   2.2. Waterlogging and compaction: Prevent.
   2.3. Damage: Repair trampling, abrasion or scalping.
3. Ornamental lawns: Maintain reasonably free from moss, excessive thatch, weeds, frost heave, worm casts and mole hills.
   3.1. Edges: Neat and well defined, in clean straight lines or smooth flowing curves.
4. Litter and fallen leaves: Remove regularly to maintain a neat appearance.

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. Edges: Leave neat and well defined. Neatly trim around obstructions.
4. Adjoining hard areas: Sweep clear and remove arisings.
5. Drought or wet conditions: Obtain instructions.

Flower beds/ seasonal beddings - Not Used

Shrubs/trees/hedges

510 Tree stakes and ties

1. Inspection/ Maintenance times: Annual 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: During spring when no longer required to support the tree
   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.

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

575 Pruning ornamental shrubs

1. General: Prune to encourage healthy and bushy growth and desirable ornamental features, e.g. flowers, fruit, autumn colour, stem colour.
2. Suckers: Remove by cutting back level with the source stem or root.

600 Trimming rapidly establishing hedges

1. General: Allow to reach a height of 0.6 metre as rapidly as possible.
   1.1. Form: Trim back lateral branches moderately.

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.

Tree work - Not Used

Water areas - Not Used

Hard landscape areas/fencing - Not Used

Ω End of Section

Specification created using NBS Chorus