

IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

1.0 GENERAL

All plants shall conform to BS 2758 and be in accordance with the National Plant Specification. Supplying nurseries shall be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme. All plants shall be packed and transported in accordance with the Code of Practice for Plant Handling as produced by CPSE. Planting shall not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frostbound or during periods of cold drying winds. All bare root stock shall be root dipped in an approved water-retaining polymer.

If the formation level is compacted it should be topped through before topsoiling.
Topsoil depths to be 150mm for shrub beds and 150mm for grass areas.

2.0 ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND TREES

2.1 Ground Preparation
Where necessary retain existing weeds with a glyphosate based herbicide and allow a suitable period as recommended by the manufacturer for herb to take effect. A general purpose slow release fertiliser at the rate of 75g/m² and Tree Planting and Mulching Compost at the rate of 200t/ha/m² are to be incorporated into the top 100mm of topsoil during final cultivation. All extraneous material such as plastic, weed, metal and stones greater than 50mm in any dimension shall be removed from site.

Tree pits are to be excavated and the base broken up to a further 150mm when the sides will be scarified to prevent smothering. All trees up to and including selected standards are to be supported with single 75mm diameter stakes. All robust, conical evergreen and trees over 10m standard size shall be double staked. Any feature trees semi mature to fully to be secured with a below ground anchoring system such as a deadman anchor. Stakes should be driven 500mm into undisturbed ground before planting the tree, taking care to avoid underground services and cables etc.

2.2 Planting
Shrubs and hedges are to be set out as shown on the drawing and pH planted into the prepared soil at the specified centres with minimal disturbance to the rootball and soil firmness.

Trees are to be placed into the pits and backfilled with topsoil incorporating slow release fertiliser and Tree Planting and Mulching Compost as specified. Firm trees in well and secure with proprietary rubber tree ties and spacers.

Water in all trees and shrubs at the end of each day of planting.

Spread ornamental pine bark mulch to a depth of 75mm across all new planting areas, ensuring groundcover plants are not buried.

2.3 Maintenance
The landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting for a period of 12 months following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.

The site is to be visited monthly throughout the year to undertake the following operations:
Weed Clearance All planting areas are to be kept weed free by hand weeding or herbicide treatment.
Watering All planting areas are to be kept well watered at each visit and each tree to receive 20 gallons.
Staking All tree ties and stakes are to be checked and adjusted if too loose, too tight or if chaffing is occurring. Any broken stakes are to be replaced.
Formative pruning Any damaged shoots/branches are to be pruned back to healthy wood. Plants are to be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice to maintain healthy well-shaped specimens.

3.0 NATIVE SHRUB PLANTING

3.1 Ground Preparation
The extent of the planting area shall be set out using 38C38x1200mm timber stakes at each change in direction and at a minimum of 50m intervals.

Either for notch planting
All herbaceous material within the proposed planting area shall be sprayed out using an approved herbicide at least two weeks before planting and the ground shall be cultivated to a depth of 150mm.
For notch planting
A 100mm diameter circle shall be sprayed out at each planting station using an approved herbicide at least two weeks before planting.

