

JBA Consulting

Selsdon Building Contractors Ltd

Blackwell Farm Road

PAS-JBAU-00-00-SP-L-0001 Landscape
Specification

14-02-2025

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Q24

Interlocking Brick / Block Roads / Pavings

Types of paving

115 Permeable Concrete Block Paving [P6]

1. Description: Permeable Paving to Car Park Circulation
2. Manufacturer: Brett Landscaping
 - 2.1. Product reference: Omega Flow 60 (OF60) or Equal Approved
3. Blocks: To [BS EN 1338](#).
 - 3.1. Sizes: 200 L x 100 W x 60 D mm
 - 3.2. Spacer nibs: As manufactured
 - 3.3. Colour/ Finish: Charcoal
4. Jointing
 - 4.1. Material: To engineer's design & specification
 - 4.2. Joint width: To engineer's design & specification
5. Setting out
 - 5.1. Bond: 45-degree herringbone pattern
 - 5.2. Paving build-ups to engineer's design & specification

Execution

200 Execution Generally – Concrete Block Paving

1. Standard: In accordance with [BS 7533-3](#).

220 Samples

1. General: Before ordering, submit samples of concrete blocks/ pavers/ setts that are representative of colour and appearance.

240 Adverse weather

1. General: Do not use frozen materials or lay bedding on frozen or frost covered sub-bases.

420 Tooled Joints in Mortar Bedded Units

1. Jointing: Butter ends of units with bedding mortar as work proceeds, to fill joints.
 - 1.1. Joint width: 8 mm
 - 1.2. Finish: Tool to a neat flush profile.

485 Laying Blocks

1. Setting out: Start from an edge restraint.
2. Cutting: Cleanly, accurately and vertically, without spalling. Do not mark or damage visible surfaces.
3. Cut edges: Turn inwards where possible; do not position against edge restraints or other features.
4. In situ mortar or concrete infill: 1:3 cement:sand as section Z21, coloured to match pavers, in areas up to 65 cm²
5. Compaction: Vibrate to produce thoroughly interlocked paving of even overall appearance with regular joints and accurate to line, level and profile. Do not mark or damage paving units, kerbs and adjacent work.

- 5.1. Concrete blocks and clay pavers: In accordance with BS 7533-3, Annex F, to site category required for laying course material.

490 Laying Permeable Paving

1. General: Consult manufacturer

495 In Situ Surrounds to Obstructions

1. Locations: Where agreed on site and where blocks / pavers cannot be fitted tight up to features
2. Material: 3:1 mix of coarse aggregate and mortar in accordance with BS 7533-3, clause 5.4.3.2.
3. Shape and size: Rectangular, 100 mm (minimum) all round obstruction.
4. Thickness (minimum): Combined depth of blocks/ pavers/ setts and sand laying course.
5. Colour: To approval
6. Timing: Lay and allow to cure in advance of laying blocks/ pavers/ setts.

500 Regularity of Paved Surfaces

1. Maximum variation in gap under a 3 m straight edge placed anywhere on the surface (where appropriate in relation to the geometry of the surface)
 - 1.1. Precast concrete paving blocks and clay pavers for flexible pavements: 10 mm.
2. Difference in level between adjacent paving units (maximum): 2 mm.
3. Sudden irregularities: Not permitted.

505 Regularity of Paved Surfaces

1. Maximum undulations in the surface of pavings (except tactile paving surfaces) under a 1 m straight edge placed anywhere on the surface (where appropriate in relation to the geometry of the surface): 3 mm.
2. Joints between paving units or utility access covers
 - 2.1. Joints flush with the surface: difference in level between adjacent units to be no more than twice the joint width (with a 5 mm max difference in level).
 - 2.2. Recessed, filled joints: difference in level between adjacent units to be no greater than 2 mm; the recess to be no deeper than 5 mm.
 - 2.3. Unfilled joints: difference in level between adjacent units to be no greater than 2 mm.
3. Sudden irregularities: Not permitted.

Completion

615 Completion of paving

1. Final compaction of the surface course: In accordance with BS 7533-3.
2. Vacuum cleaning machines: Not allowed.

Ω End of Section

Q25 Slab Pavings

General - Not Used

System performance - Not Used

Products

315 Concrete Flags [P5]

1. Description: Paving to Patios, Footpaths and Entrances
2. Standard: To [BS EN 1339](#).
 - 2.1. Manufacturer: Brett Landscaping
 - 2.1.1. Product reference: Broadway Economy Riven (BER03) or Equal Approved
3. Colour: Buff
 - 3.1. Finish: Riven
 - 3.2. Nominal sizes: 450 L x 450 W x 32 D mm
4. Setting Out:
 - 4.1. Bond: Stack
5. Paving build-ups to engineer's design & specification

390 Sand / Fine Aggregate for Unbound Laying Course and Jointing of Concrete Flag Paving

1. Standard: To [BS 7533-4](#), unbound construction laying course and jointing material.
2. Purity: Free from deleterious salts, contaminants, lime and cement.
3. Procurement: Obtain from one source and ensure consistent grading.

Execution

610 Material Samples

1. Samples representative of colour and appearance of designated materials: Submit before placing orders.
 - 1.1. Designated materials: All pavings

620 Adverse Weather

1. General
 - 1.1. Temperature: Do not lay or joint paving if the temperature is below 3°C on a falling thermometer or below 1°C on a rising thermometer.
 - 1.2. Frozen materials: Do not use. Do not lay bedding on frozen or frost covered bases.
2. Paving with mortar joints and/ or bedding
 - 2.1. Protect from frost damage, rapid drying out and saturation until mortar has hardened.
3. Paving laid and jointed in sand/ fine aggregate
 - 3.1. Stockpiled laying course sand/ fine aggregate: Protect from saturation.
 - 3.2. Exposed areas of unbound laying course and uncompacted areas of unbound paving: Protect from heavy rainfall.
 - 3.3. Saturated unbound laying course: Remove and replace, or allow to dry before proceeding.

- 3.4. Laying dry sand/ fine aggregate jointed paving in damp conditions: Brush in as much jointing sand as possible. Minimize site traffic over paving. As soon as paving is dry, top up joints and complete compaction.

625 Laying Pavings – General

1. Appearance: Smooth and even with regular joints and accurate to line, level and profile.
2. Falls: To prevent ponding.
3. Bedding of paving units: Firm so that rocking or subsidence does not occur or develop.
 - 3.1. Bedding/ Laying course: Consistently and accurately graded, spread and compacted to produce uniform thickness and support for paving units.
4. Slopes: Lay paving units upwards from the bottom of slopes.
5. Paving units: Free of mortar and sand stains.
6. Cutting: Cut units cleanly and accurately, without spalling, to give neat junctions with edgings and adjoining finishes.

630 Levels of Paving

1. Permissible deviation from specified levels
 - 1.1. Generally: +/-6 mm.
2. Height of finished paving above features
 - 2.1. At gullies: +6 to +10 mm.
 - 2.2. At drainage channels and kerbs: +3 to +6 mm.

637 Regularity of Paved Surfaces

1. Maximum undulations in the surface of pavings (except tactile paving surfaces) under a 1 m straight edge placed anywhere on the surface (where appropriate in relation to the geometry of the surface): 3 mm.
2. Joints between paving units or utility access covers
 - 2.1. Joints flush with the surface: Difference in level between adjacent units to be no more than twice the joint width (with a 5 mm maximum difference in level).
 - 2.2. Recessed, filled joints: Difference in level between adjacent units to be no greater than 2 mm; the recess to be no deeper than 5 mm.
 - 2.3. Unfilled joints: Difference in level between adjacent units to be no greater than 2 mm.
3. Sudden irregularities: Not permitted.

645 Protection

1. Cleanliness: Keep paving clean and free from mortar droppings, oil and other materials likely to cause staining.
2. Materials storage: Do not overload pavings with stacks of materials.
3. Handling: Do not damage paving unit corners, arrises, or previously laid paving.
4. Mortar-bedded pavings: Keep free from traffic after laying:
 - 4.1. Pedestrian traffic (minimum): Three days
 - 4.2. Vehicular traffic (minimum): Seven days
5. Access: Restrict access to paved areas to prevent damage from site traffic and plant.

650 Cementitious Bases and Sub-Bases

1. General: Protect from moisture loss, if not covered by another pavement course within 2 hours of completion.

655 Condition of Sub-Bases / Bases before Spreading Laying Course

1. Trenches and excavation of soft or loose spots in subgrade: Fill and thoroughly compact.
2. Granular surfaces: Lay and compact so as to be sound, clean, smooth and close-textured enough to prevent migration of bedding/ laying course materials into the sub-base during compaction and use, free from movement under compaction plant and free from compaction ridges, cracks and loose material.
3. Prepared existing and new bound bases (roadbases): Sound, clean, free from rutting or major cracking. Remove sharp stones, projections and debris.
4. Sub-base/ Roadbase level tolerances: To [BS 7533-101](#), annex A.
5. Levels and falls: Accurate and within the specified tolerances.
6. Drainage outlets: Within 0-10 mm of the required finished level.
7. Features in unbound paving (including mortar-bedded restraints and drainage ironwork): Complete to required levels; adequately bed and haunch in mortar.
8. Sub-bases containing cement/ hydraulic binder: Cure for minimum times specified in [BS 7533-4](#).

710 Laying Flag and Slab Paving – Sand / Fine Aggregate Laying Course and Jointing

1. Standard: In accordance with [BS 7533-4](#).
2. Flag installation and cutting: To [Interpave](#) publication [Concrete flag paving](#).
3. Laying course
 - 3.1. Nominal thickness after compaction: 30 mm with a tolerance of -10 to + 5 mm
4. Joint width: 2–5 mm.

715 Laying Flag and Slab Paving – Mortar Laying Course and Jointing

1. Standard generally: In accordance with [BS 7533-4](#).
2. Flag installation and cutting: To [Interpave](#) publication [Concrete flag paving](#).
3. Laying course
 - 3.1. Nominal thickness: 30 mm before laying paving slabs
4. Joint width (nominal): 6–10 mm

780 Laying Mortar-Bedded Accessories

1. Description: Any accessory required, including drainage channels for example.
2. Foundation: To engineers specification
3. Bedding
 - 3.1. Mortar: Ready-mixed
 - 3.2. Thickness: 10 mm minimum to 40 mm maximum.
4. Laying: Bed units on foundation, and secure with continuous mortar haunching.
 - 4.1. Keep exposed faces clean and free from mortar.
5. Jointing: Tooled mortar

785 Tooled Joints in Mortar-Bedded Units

1. Joints: Completely filled with bedding mortar as work proceeds.
 - 1.1. Joint width: 6 mm
 - 1.2. Finish: Neat flush profile.

Completion

915 Completion of Paving with Dry Sand or Fine Aggregate-filled Joints

1. Sand dressing: Leave a thin layer of dry jointing sand/ fine aggregate over the paving until opened to public access
2. Final compaction of the surface course: In accordance with [BS 7533-3](#).
3. Vacuum cleaning machines: Not allowed.

Ω End of Section

Q28

Topsoil and Soil Ameliorants

System outline - Not Used

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.

305 Permitted Materials

1. **Materials:** Composted green/ food waste certified to PAS 100
2. **Give notice:** before ordering or using.
3. **Declaration of compliance in accordance with BS EN 13650:** Required

310 Materials Not Permitted

1. **Materials:** Products containing peat

315 Imported Topsoil to BS 3882

1. **Description:** To all planting beds
2. **Quantity:** Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.
3. **Standard:** To BS 3882.
4. **Classification:** Multipurpose
5. **Source:** Contractor's choice, supplier to be currently registered under a third-party quality assurance scheme; submit registration at tender. Provide qualitative analysis and source details prior to delivery to site. Report is to include recommendations for soil improvement if required.
6. The landscape architect must give their approval for both the supply and distribution of all site won and imported as dug (natural topside) topsoil required for the project in order to provide the best possible conditions for the long term health, growth and vigor of all soft landscaping.
7. Full details of any soil or soil forming materials proposed for importation to the site must be submitted to the Landscape Architect, Project Supervisor and Project Manager. The material must be assessed for contamination and suitability for use on site. Full donor site details, proposals for contamination testing; including testing schedules, sampling frequencies and allowable contaminant concentrations (as determined by appropriate risk assessment), must be submitted.

Execution

610 Topsoil Analysis

1. Soil to be analysed: Imported topsoil
2. Soil analyst: Submit Proposals
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. Report detailing soil analyst's recommendations.

615 Sampling & Testing of Materials

1. The soil materials considered for importation shall be independently sampled while stockpiled off site at their source or manufacture location.
2. The samples shall be truly representative of the soil to be offered. One Composite Sample shall be taken for every 500m³ of each type of soil to be imported, with a minimum of 3 no. samples to be tested per source (unless alternative testing rates have been agreed with the Landscape Architect).
3. Samples shall be analysed strictly in accordance with relevant Testing Schedule given in clauses Q28/632, 633, and 634. The samples shall be analysed and reported on a 10 working day turnaround and the Contractor should incorporate this in their programme.
4. An accelerated analysis turnaround will be permitted at the Contractor's cost where programme constraints deem this necessary.
5. The sampled soil materials shall be temporarily stockpiled at the source location until the Contract administrator has provided written approval on its suitability for use within the project.
6. Give notice: Before stripping topsoil for transfer to site.

620 Importing Topsoil

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

625 Sample Loads

1. Description: For Imported Topsoil
2. Deliver to site a sample load: 5kg
3. Give notice: Allow inspection before making further deliveries to site. Retain for comparison with subsequent loads.
 - 3.1. Notice period: 7 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: 2

635 Documentation for Compost and Composted Materials

1. **Description:** For compost
2. **Timing:** Submit at handover.
3. **Contents**
 - 3.1. Full description of all compost components.
 - 3.2. Record of source for all compost components.
 - 3.3. Analyst's report for each test carried out.
 - 3.4. **Declaration of compliance:** in accordance with PAS 100 and BSI PD CR 13456.
 - 3.5. **Quality Compost Protocol certification:** Required
4. **Number of copies:** 2

640 Documentation for Preparation Materials

1. **Description:** For organic materials
2. **Timing:** Submit at handover.
3. **Contents**
 - 3.1. Full description of all components.
 - 3.2. Record of source for all components.
 - 3.3. Analyst's report for each test carried out.
 - 3.4. Supplier's declaration of compliance with BSI PD CR 13456.
4. **Number of copies:** 2

650 Notice

1. **Give notice before**
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Spreading topsoil.
 - 1.3. Applying herbicide.
 - 1.4. Applying fertilizer.
 - 1.5. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. **Period of notice:** 2 working days

655 Mechanical tools

1. **Restrictions:** Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems. Do not damage adjacent planting.

660 Grading Subsoil For:

1. **Description:** For planting beds and grassed 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 beds and grassed areas
2. **Standard:** In accordance with BS 3882.
3. **General:** Excavate and/ or place fill to required profiles and levels.

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: 300 mm

4.1.2. Stiff clay and cohesive subsoils: 450 mm

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 25 mm.

6. Remove from site: Arisings, contaminants and debris

670 Inspecting Formations

1. Give notice: Before spreading topsoil for For planting beds and grassed areas.

2. Notice period: 2 days

690 Topsoil Storage Heaps

1. Protection

1.1. Do not place any other material on top of storage heaps.

1.2. Do not allow construction plant to pass over storage heaps.

1.3. 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 planting beds and grassed 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: As per the drawings

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.

720 Finished Levels of Topsoil after Settlement

1. In relation to adjoining paving, kerbs or hard surfaces: Level with adjacent surfaces
2. In relation to dpc of adjoining buildings: Not less than 150 mm below.
3. **Seeded areas:** Extend cultivation into existing adjacent grassed areas sufficient to ensure full marrying in of levels.
4. **Sportsfields:** To even levels and within the following permitted deviations:
 - 4.1. From levels or gradients shown on drawings: ± 75 mm.
 - 4.2. From line between boning rods 30 m apart: ± 25 mm.
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.

810 Applying Compost

1. **Description:** To planting areas
2. **Application rate for trees and shrubs:** 50mm thick to planting areas.
 - 2.1. **Timing:** Apply prior to cultivation.

830 Applying Top Dressing

1. **Description:** To turfing
2. **Rate:** To manufacturers recommendations
3. **Timing:** Apply prior to cultivation.

845 Applying Loose Mulch

1. **Description:** To planting areas
2. **Timing:** Immediately after planting
3. **Preparation:** Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened, applying water where necessary
4. **Coverage of mulch (minimum)**
 - 4.1. **Planting beds (depth):** 50mm
 - 4.2. **Trees:** 50mm
5. **Finished level of mulch:** Level with adjacent grassed or paved areas

Completion

920 Applying Mulch

1. **Timing:** At end of the rectification period and throughout the maintenance period if it has been removed / displaced.
2. **Watering:** Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to mulching, applying water where necessary.
3. **Planting beds:** Re-mulch.

- 3.1. Depth (minimum): 50mm
- 4. Trees: Remulch.
 - 4.1. Depth (minimum): 50mm
- 5. Container planting: Remulch.
 - 5.1. Depth (minimum): 50mm

Ω End of Section

Q30

Seeding/ turfing

General information/requirements

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.

160 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Applying herbicide.
 - 1.3. Applying fertilizer.
 - 1.4. Preparing seed bed.
 - 1.5. Seeding or turfing.
 - 1.6. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: 2 working days

170 Setting Out

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

Preparation - Not Used

Seeding

311 Daisy Lawn Seed Mixture

1. **Description:** Daisy lawn seed mixture to private back gardens
2. **Supplier:** Emorsgate or similar approved
 - 2.1. **Mixture reference:** EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture
3. **Application rate:** 4g/m²

312 Wildflower Seed Mixture

1. Description: Wildflower meadow to communal spaces.
2. Supplier: Emorsgate or similar approved
 - 2.1. Mixture reference: EM3 Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture
3. Application rate: 4g/m2

319 Quality of Seed

1. Description: For all seeded 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.

322 Quality of Wildflower Seed

1. Description: All seeded areas
2. Standard: In accordance with Flora Locale's 'Code of practice for collectors, growers and suppliers of native flora'.
3. Germination testing: Not required
4. Freshness of seed: Produced for the current growing season
5. Samples: Submit when requested.

330 Sowing

1. General: Establish good seed contact with the root zone.
2. Method: To suppliers recommendations
 - 2.1. Distribution: To suppliers recommendations

335 Grass Sowing Season

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

336 Wildflower Sowing Season

1. Wildflower seed generally: March to May or August to October

Turfing

400 Cultivated Turf

1. Description: For front gardens
2. Supplier: Topsoil or equal approved
 - 2.1. Product reference: Garden Turf
3. Properties of soil used for turf production: Submit proposals

420 Delivery and Storage

1. Timing: Lay turf with minimum possible delay after lifting. If delay occurs, lay turf out on topsoil and keep moist.
2. Frosty weather or waterlogged ground: Do not lift turf.
3. Delivery: Arrange to avoid need for excessive stacking.

4. Stacking height (maximum): 1 m.
5. Dried out or deteriorated turf: Do not use.
6. Certification
 - 6.1. Standard: To BS 3969.

423 Inspection of Turf

1. Description: For all grassed areas
2. Sampling method: To BS 3969.
3. Give notice: Before lifting turf.
 - 3.1. Period of notice: 3 working days

430 Turfing Generally

1. Time of year: Autumn or early winter
2. Timing of laying
 - 2.1. Spring and summer: Within 18 hours of delivery.
 - 2.2. Autumn and winter: Within 24 hours of delivery.
3. Weather conditions: Do not lay turf when persistent cold or drying winds are likely to occur or soil is frost bound, waterlogged or excessively dry.
4. Working access: Planks laid on previously laid turf. Do not walk on prepared bed or newly laid turf.
5. Jointing: Laid with broken joints, well butted up. Do not stretch turf.
6. Edges: Whole turfs, trimmed to a true line.
7. Adjusting levels: Remove high spots and fill hollows with fine soil.
8. Consolidating: Lightly and evenly firm as laying proceeds to ensure full contact with substrate. Do not use rollers.
9. Dressing, brushed well in to completely fill all joints: Mulching and top dressing system, as section Q28
10. Watering: Thoroughly water completed turf immediately after laying. Check that water has penetrated into the soil below.

440 Turfing on Banks Exceeding 30° Slope

1. Turf configuration: Diagonal or horizontal.
2. Securing turfs
 - 2.1. Fixings: Pointed softwood pegs, 200 mm long x 25 mm square
 - 2.2. Frequency of fixings: Each turf
3. Removal of fixings: When turf is thoroughly self anchored by its roots. Make good any damage to grass until area is accepted

450 Trimming Turf

1. Newly planted tree pits: Neatly cut away around individual trees.
 - 1.1. Diameter: 1000 mm
 - 1.2. Tree pit surface: Respread existing mulch

Protecting/cutting

530 First Cut of Grassed Areas

1. Timing: When grass is reasonably dry.
 - 1.1. Height of initial growth: 40-75 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: Submit proposals

620 Maintaining

1. Description: 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: 75mm
4. Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
5. Cutting: As and when necessary to a height of 50 mm.
 - 5.1. Arisings: Remove
6. Trimming: All edges.
 - 6.1. Arisings: Remove.
7. Weed control: Substantially free of broad leaved weeds.
 - 7.1. Method: Hand pulled or cultivated.
8. Stones brought to the surface: Remove regularly.
 - 8.1. Size: Exceeding 50 mm in any dimension.
9. Areas of settlement: Make good.
10. Watering: As per maintenance plan

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 50 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
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. **Herbaceous plants (including marginal):** September/ October or March/ April
3. **Container-grown plants:** At any time, if ground and weather conditions are favourable
 - 3.1. **Watering and weed control:** Provide as necessary

130 Mechanical Tools

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

145 General Watering

1. **Quantity:** Wet full depth of topsoil
2. **Application:** Even, and without damage or displacement of plants or soil
3. **Frequency:** As necessary to ensure that plant is established and continues to thrive

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

160 Notice

1. **Give notice before**
 - 1.1. **Setting out.**
 - 1.2. **Delivery of plants/ trees.**
 - 1.3. **Planting shrubs.**

- 1.4. Planting trees into previously dug pits.
- 1.5. Watering.
- 1.6. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: Three working days

170 Soil Requirements

1. Type
 - 1.1. Planted beds: As section Q28
 - 1.2. Tree pits, shrub pits and other backfilling: As section Q28
 - 1.3. External container planting: As section Q28
 - 1.4. Mulch applied after planting: 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
7. Species: True to name
8. Origin/ provenance: Grown in the United Kingdom for at least one growing season, unless otherwise approved
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](#).
2. Name, forms, dimensions and other criteria: To the relevant part of BS 3936.

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 to National Plant Specification and Other Information

1. General: Provide each plant/ tree (or group of plants/ trees) of a single species or cultivar with the 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. The supplier's name.
 - 1.6. The employer's name and project reference.

- 1.7. Plant specification, in accordance with scheduled [National Plant Specification](#) categories.
2. Additional information: Submit on request: Country of origin

246 Labelling to BS 3936 and Other Information

1. **Standard:** To BS 3936.

260 Plant / Tree Substitution

1. Plants/ trees unobtainable, or likely to be unobtainable at time of ordering. Submit alternatives, stating:
 - 1.1. **Price:**
 - 1.2. **Difference from specified plants/ trees:**
2. **Approval:** Obtain before making any substitution

265 Plant Handling, Storage, Transport and Planting

1. **Standard:** To Committee of Plant Supply and Establishment (CPSE) [Recommendations for Plant Handling](#).
2. **Frost:** Protect plants from frost.
3. **Handling:** Handle plants with care. Protect them from mechanical damage and do not subject them to shock, e.g. by dropping them from a vehicle.
4. **Plant packaging:** Coextruded polyethylene bags with black interior and white exterior
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.

285 Protection of Existing Grass

1. **General:** Protect areas affected by planting operations using boards/ tarpaulins.
 - 1.1. **Tools:** Do not use machinery
 - 1.2. **Excavated or imported material:** Do not place directly on grass.
 - 1.3. **Timing:** October to March
 - 1.4. **Duration:** Minimum period.

290 Surplus Material

1. **Subsoil:** Remove
2. **Stones:** Remove
3. **Debris:** Remove
4. **Wrapping material:** Remove
5. **Canes:** Remove
6. **Ties:** Remove
7. **Temporary labels:** Remove
8. **Rubbish:** Remove

9. Prunings and other arisings: Remove

Plant containers - Not Used

Preparation of planting beds/ planting materials

305 Weed Control

1. Description: For invasive non-native weeds
2. Locations: Whole site
3. General: Prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established: By hand-weeding.

Planting shrubs/ herbaceous plants/ bulbs

400 Random Plant Layout

1. Description: To shrub groundcover mix
2. Spacing: As per planting plans and schedule
3. Density: As per planting plans and schedule

401 Regular Plant Layout

1. Description: For specimen shrubs
2. Spacing: As per planting plans and schedule
3. Density: As per planting plans and schedule

405 Shrub Planting Pits

1. Timing: Excavate One to two days (maximum) before planting.
2. Sizes: Wide enough to accommodate roots when fully spread and 75 mm deeper than root system
3. Pit bottom improvement Break up to a depth of 150 mm, incorporating 10 kg compost.

471 Naturalized Hedges

1. Description: Native instant hedgerow troughs.
2. Planting: To suppliers recommendations.

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: As per detailed drawing
2. Sloping ground: Maintain horizontal bases and vertical sides with no less than minimum depth throughout

3. **Excavated material:** Separate topsoil and subsoil material and stockpile for backfilling
4. **Pit bottoms:** excavate with slightly raised centre: Break up base to a depth of 200 mm
 - 4.1. **Treatment:** As per detailed drawing
5. **Pit sides:** Scarify
6. **Backfilling material:** As per detailed drawing

510 Tree Pit Root Barriers

1. **Description:** Wherever the installed rootball will be within 2 m of a building foundation or below ground services. Allow for 3 linear metres per tree pit
2. **Manufacturer:** Green Blue Urban or similar
 - 2.1. **Product reference:** ReRoot1000
3. **Thickness:** As per manufacturer's detail
4. **Barrier depth:** 1000mm
5. **Top of root barrier in relation to finished topsoil level:** 50mm below ground level
6. **Installation:** With sides vertical. Remove all sharp objects adjacent to barrier.

512 Tree Pit Irrigation and Ventilation Accessories

1. **Description:** Trees in soft landscape
2. **Manufacturer:** Submit proposals
 - 2.1. **Product reference:** Submit proposals
3. **Type:** Perforated plastics irrigation pipe with inlet
4. **Pipe diameter:** As supplied
5. **Ring diameter:** 900mm
6. **Inlet:** Black plastics
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.

515 Tree Pit Drainage

1. **Description:** To all tree pits
2. **Depth of excavation:** Increase from specified size to allow for aggregate layer, with base slightly falling to outlet.
3. **Aggregate layer:** Clean gravel or broken stone, with no fines, graded 40 to 20 mm.
 - 3.1. **Depth:** 150mm

535 Tree Stakes

1. **Description:** Double staking to secure all trees
2. **Stakes:** Softwood, peeled chestnut, larch or oak; straight, free from projections and large or edge knots, and with pointed lower end
 - 2.1. **Preservative treatment:** None
3. **Stake size (minimum):** 70mm round diameter
4. **Stake length (minimum):** 2000mm

550 Double Staking

1. Staking
 - 1.1. Position: Either side of tree position, and perpendicular to wind direction
 - 1.2. Driving: Vertically at least 300 mm into bottom of pit before planting
 - 1.3. Backfilling: Consolidate material around stake
 - 1.4. Firming: Sufficiently firm to prevent movement of the root ball/ rootstock
2. Height of stakes: Cut off at approximately one third of the height of the clear stem of tree
3. Horizontal bracing: Timber cross bar
 - 3.1. Fixing: Firmly fix, using nails on the windward side of the tree, and as close as possible to the stem, without making contact with the bark. Position cross bar horizontally and 25 mm from the top of the stakes
4. Ties: 2No.
Biodegradable natural fibre ties that expand with the growth of the tree allow the tree stem to thicken naturally.

576 Tree Pit Surfacing – Loose-fill

1. Description: To all trees
2. Surfacing material: Mulch, as section Q28
3. Area: 1000 mm radius circle
4. Depth: 50 mm
5. Watering: Water soil thoroughly before laying
6. Installation: Ensure that the base of the tree stem is kept free from loose-filled material

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: In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule

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 the same species or to match the original specification: whichever is the greater
3. Timing of making good: In accordance with an agreed defects rectification programme

730 Protective Fencing

1. Fencing type: Contractor's choice
2. Timing: On completion of planting
3. Removal: After planting is well established

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 surface of original planting pit
 - 1.2. **Keep planting beds clear of weeds:** By maintaining full thickness of mulch and hand hoeing operations
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, 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. **Ties:** Adjust to accommodate growth and prevent constriction or abrasion.
 - 6.4. **Damage to bark:** Cut back neatly with sharp knife. Prevent further damage.
 - 6.5. **Frequency of checks:** At each scheduled maintenance visit
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 the maintenance of the planting work for one full year: Provide a schedule of any ongoing maintenance problems experienced during the rectification period.

790 Final Mulching

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

Ω End of Section

Q35

Landscape Maintenance

Generally

105 Maintenance Objectives

1. Location: All planting and grass areas and tree planting
 - 1.1. Duration: One year
2. Aims: Enhanced landscape quality
3. Restrictions: N/A
4. Results: As scheduled

110 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Watering.
 - 1.2. Each site maintenance visit.
2. Period of notice: Two days

130 Reinstatement

1. Damage or disturbance to soil structure, planting, grass, fencing, hard landscaping, structures or buildings: Reinstatement to original condition.

140 Control of Mammalian Pests

1. Specialist firms: Submit proposals
 - 1.1. Method: Submit proposals

155 Watering

1. Supply: Submit proposals
2. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil
3. Application: Do not damage or loosen plants.
4. Compacted soil: Loosen or scoop out, to direct water to rootzone.
5. Frequency: As necessary for the continued thriving of all planting

160 Water Restrictions

1. General: If water supply is, or is likely to be, restricted by emergency legislation, submit proposals for an alternative suitable source of water. Obtain instructions before proceeding.

170 Disposal of Arisings

1. General: Unless specified otherwise, dispose of arisings as follows:
 - 1.1. Biodegradable arisings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.2. Grass cuttings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.3. Tree roots and stumps: Remove from site
 - 1.4. Shrub and tree prunings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.5. Litter and nonbiodegradable arisings: Remove from site

181 Mechanical Equipment

1. **General:** Minimize.
2. **Prohibited equipment:** None - gain approval before use
3. **Timing:** Use of mechanical equipment allowed between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm only

190 Litter

1. **Extraneous rubbish not arising from the contract work:** Collect and remove from site.

195 Protection of Existing Grass

1. **General:** Protect areas affected by maintenance operations using boards/tarpaulins. Do not place excavated or imported materials directly on grass.

197 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.

Grassed areas

210 Performance-based 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.

211 Maintenance of Grassed Areas

1. **Standard:** To BS 7370-3. Carry out maintenance appropriate to each category of turf, as follows:
 - 1.1. **Objectives:** To BS 7370-3, Table 6.
 - 1.2. **Programme:** To BS 7370-3, clause 11.
 - 1.3. **Mowing methods:** To BS 7370-3, Table 3.

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.

225 Tree Stems

1. **Precautions:** Do not allow nylon filament rotary cutters and other mechanical tools closer than 100 mm to the stem of any tree. Complete operations close to stems using hand tools

250 Leaf Removal

1. Operations: Collect fallen leaves.
2. Special requirements: Remove by hand raking
3. Disposal: Remove from site for recycling

255 First Cut Of

1. Description: Grassed areas
2. Height of initial growth: 50 mm
3. Preparation
 - 3.1. Debris and litter: Remove.
 - 3.2. Stones and earth clods larger than 25 mm in any dimension: Remove
4. Height of first cut: 25 mm
5. Mower type: Contractor's choice
6. Arisings: Remove

260 Mowing Lawns

1. Grass height: Maintain between 25 and 50 mm
2. Arisings: Remove

285 Top Dressing

1. Location: All lawns
2. Timing: November, following scarification and aeration
3. Material: Sanitized and stabilized compost to PAS 100
4. Supplier: Contractor's choice
 - 4.1. Product reference: Contractor's choice
5. Declaration of analysis: Submit.
6. Additional analyses: Not required
7. Application rate: 5-6 mm depth

309 Edges to Seeded Areas

1. Location: All edges
2. Timing: After seeded areas are well established.
3. Method: Cut to clean, straight lines or smooth curves. Draw back soil to permit edging.
4. Arisings: Remove.

311 Re-forming Grass Edges

1. Location: All edges
2. Method: Draw back soil and re-form edges to clean, straight lines or smooth-flowing curves, sloping slightly back from vertical
3. Finishing: Damaged parts of turned turf replaced with sound turf
 - 3.1. Support: Not required

320 Levelling Hollows and Bumps in Turf

1. Standard: To BS 7370-3, clauses 12.4 and 12.5.

325 Relieving Surface Compaction in Turf

1. Standard: To BS 7370-3.
2. Method: Spiking
3. Top dressing: Fine sand
 - 3.1. Depth: 1-2 mm

380 Reinstatement of Damaged Lawns

1. Damaged turf: Remove to a depth of 40 mm.
2. Preparation: Cultivate substrate to a fine tilth.
3. Reinstatement: Contractor's choice of returfing or topsoiling and reseeding:
 - 3.1. Returfing: Quality and appearance to match existing.
 - 3.2. Reseeding: Fill with fine topsoil to BS 3882 multipurpose class, free from stones, debris and weeds. Reseed with a seed mix to match existing grass in quality and appearance.
4. Protection and watering: Provide as necessary to promote successful germination and/ or establishment.

381 Reinstatement of Worn or Damaged Lawns

1. Worn or damaged areas: Make good by returfing or reseeding:
 - 1.1. Returfing standard: To BS 7370-3, clause 12.2.
 - 1.2. Reseeding standard: To BS 7370-3, clause 12.6.
2. Turf or seed: To match existing in appearance and quality.
3. Protection and watering: Provide as necessary to promote successful germination and/ or establishment.

Flower beds/ seasonal beddings

460 Planting Areas

1. Gaps in planting: Refill by replanting. Allow for 5% replacement planting within the 1 year maintenance period; species to be as currently proposed. If unavailable, species to be confirmed by LA
2. Watering
 - 2.1. New plants: Before and after planting out.
 - 2.2. Ongoing: The contractor is responsible for the watering of the planting to ensure successful establishment and healthy growth up to practical completion. Following PC, the client is responsible for maintenance.
3. Operations at end of growing season
 - 3.1. Trim:
 - 3.2. Remove:

Leaf litter, debris and arisings from around the resting plant canopies and crowns and leave neat and tidy for the winter months
 - 3.3. Allow for visual inspection of planting areas to identify the presence of weed species, particularly persistent perennial species (allow for hand weeding of these during the summer and autumn months.) The contractor shall ensure that all operatives are trained to distinguish weed grasses from shrub and grass species.

Shrubs/ trees/ hedges

500 Establishment of New Planting

1. **Duration:** One full growing season from the date of planting
2. **Weed control**
 - 2.1. **Method:** Keep planting beds clear of weeds by hand weeding and maintaining full thickness of mulch.
 - 2.2. **Area:** Maintain a weed-free area around each tree and shrub, minimum diameter the larger of 1 m or the surface of the original planting pit.
3. **Soil condition:** Fork over beds to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Do not reduce depth or effect of mulch.
4. **Watering:** As schedule and when instructed

510 Tree Stakes and Ties

1. **Inspection/ maintenance times:** As scheduled 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:** Around 2 years after planting, 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.

537 Nesting Wild Birds

1. **Survey:** Before starting hedge or tree work during the period of February to August (inclusive), carry out a survey by a qualified ecologist and submit report
2. **Accidental disturbance:** Report immediately.

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.

545 Pruning of Excessive Overhang

1. Timing: Annually
2. Operations: Remove growth encroaching onto grassed areas, paths, roads, signs, sightlines and road lighting luminaires.
3. Special requirements: None

550 Pruning of Excessive Height

1. Timing: Annually
2. Operations: Remove excessive height As instructed.

555 Pruning Trees and Shrubs

1. Standard: To BS 7370-4.
2. Special requirements: None

570 Formative Pruning of Young Trees

1. Standard: Type and timing of pruning operations to suit the plant species.
2. Time of year: Do not prune during the late winter / early spring sap flow period.
3. Young trees up to 4 m high
 - 3.1. Crown prune by removing dead branches and reducing selected side branches by one third to preserve a well-balanced head and ensure the development of a single strong leader.
 - 3.2. Remove duplicated branches and potentially weak or tight forks. In each case, cut back to live wood.
4. Whips or feathered trees: Do not prune.
5. Operatives: Suitably qualified arborist

575 Pruning Specimen 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.

580 Pruning Flowering Species of Shrubs

1. Time of year
 - 1.1. Winter flowering shrubs: Spring.
 - 1.2. Shrubs flowering between March and July: Immediately after the flowering period.
 - 1.3. Shrubs flowering between July and October: Back to old wood in winter.

611 Trimming Non-tapering Established Hedges

1. Time of year: Trim once between October and April
2. Operations
 - 2.1. Form: Trim carefully and neatly to regular line and shape with vertical sides.
 - 2.2. Trim: Remove current growth rather than old wood.
3. Tools/ cutting: Suitable mechanical cutters

620 Removal of Dead Plant Material

1. **Operations:** At the end of the growing season, check all shrubs and remove all dead foliage, dead wood, and broken or damaged branches and stems.

630 Dead and Diseased Plants

1. **Removal:** As soon as possible
2. **Replacement:** In the next scheduled round of replacement planting

635 Reinstatement of Shrub/ Herbaceous Areas

1. **Dead and damaged plants:** Remove.
2. **Mulch/ matting materials**
 - 2.1. Carefully move to one side and dig over the soil, leaving it fit for replanting.
3. **Do not disturb roots of adjacent plants.**
4. **Replacement plants**
 - 4.1. **Use pits and plants:** To original specification or to match the size of adjacent or nearby plants of the same species, whichever is the greater.
 - 4.2. **Additional requirements:** None

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:** Reinststate to original depth.

680 Soil Aeration

1. **Compacted soil surfaces**
 - 1.1. **Prick up:** To aerate the soil of root areas and break surface crust.
 - 1.2. **Size of lumps:** Reduce to crumb and level off.
 - 1.3. **Damage:** Do not damage plants and their roots.

685 Soil Level Adjustment

1. **Level of soil/mulch at edges of beds:** Reduce to 50 mm below adjacent grass or hard surface.
 - 1.1. **Arising (if any):** Spread evenly over the bed.

690 Maintenance of Loose Mulch

1. **Thickness (minimum):** 75 mm
 - 1.1. **Top up:** Annually
2. **Mulch spill on adjacent areas:** Remove weeds and rubbish and return to planted area.
3. **Weeding:** Remove weeds growing on or in mulch by Hand-weeding.

700 Snow Removal from Shrubs / Trees

1. **Standard:** To BS 7370-4.
2. **Plants subject to snow removal:** As instructed
3. **Timing:** Within 24 hours of snowfall

705 Winter Leaf Removal

1. **Operations:** Collect accumulations of drifted leaves from the vicinity and from planting beds.
2. **Arisings:** Remove to recycling facility

Green walls - Not Used

Tree work

810 Tree Work Generally

1. **Identification:** Before starting work agree which trees, shrubs and hedges are to be removed or pruned.
2. **Protection:** Avoid damage to neighbouring trees, plants and property
3. **Standard:** To BS 3998.
4. **Removing branches:** Cut vertical branches similarly, with no more slope on the cut surface than is necessary to shed rainwater.
5. **Appearance:** Leave trees with a well-balanced natural appearance.
6. **Chain saw work:** Operatives must hold a certificate of competence.
7. **Tree work:** To be carried out by a suitably qualified arborist.

815 Additional Work

1. **Defective, diseased, unsafe or weak parts of trees additional to those scheduled for attention:** Give notice if detected.

820 Prevention of Wound Bleeding

1. **Standard:** To BS 3998.

825 Prevention of Disease Transmission

1. **Standard:** To BS 3998.

830 Cleaning Out and Deadwooding

1. **Remove**
 - 1.1. Dead, dying or diseased wood, broken branches and stubs.
 - 1.2. Fungal growths and fruiting bodies.
 - 1.3. Rubbish, windblown or accumulated in branch forks.
 - 1.4. Wires, clamps, boards and metal objects, if removable without causing further damage and not part of a support structure that is to be retained.

835 Cutting and Pruning Generally

1. **Tools:** Appropriate, well maintained and sharp.
2. **Final pruning cuts**
 - 2.1. **Chainsaws:** Do not use on branches of less than 50 mm diameter.
 - 2.2. **Hand saws:** Form a smooth cut surface.

- 2.3. Anvil type secateurs: Do not use.
3. Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem.
4. Wounds: Keep as small as possible, cut cleanly back to sound wood leaving a smooth surface, and angled so that water will not collect on the cut area.
5. Cutting: Cut at a fork or at the main stem to avoid stumps wherever possible.
6. Large branches: Remove only if unavoidable
 - 6.1. Remove in small sections and lower to ground with ropes and slings.
7. Dead branches and stubs: When removing, do not cut into live wood.
8. Unsafe branches: Remove epicormic shoots and potentially weak forks that could fail in adverse weather conditions.
9. Disease or fungus: Give notice if detected. Do not apply fungicide or sealant unless instructed.

865 Bark Damage

1. Wounds
 - 1.1. Do not attempt to stop sap bleeding.
 - 1.2. Bark: Remove ragged edges using a sharp knife.
 - 1.3. Wood: Remove splintered wood from deep wounds.
 - 1.4. Size: Keep wounds as small as possible.
2. Liquid or flux oozing from apparently healthy bark: Give notice.

870 Cavities in Trees

1. Investigation: Remove rubbish and rotten wood. Probe the cavity to find the extent of any decay, and give notice.
2. Water-filled cavities: Do not drain.
3. Sound wood inside cavities: Do not remove.
4. Cavity openings: Do not cover

Water areas - Not Used

Hard landscape areas/ fencing

910 Hard Surfaces

1. Hard surfaces: Remove litter, leaves and other debris.
2. Surface gutters and channels: Remove mud, silt and debris.
3. Drainage gullies: Empty traps and flush clean.
4. Repairs to flexible bituminous pavings: In accordance with the original paving specification or BS 7370-2, clause 4.12.
5. Stain removal: In accordance with BS 7370-2, Table 4.

920 Fencing

1. Fences: Inspect and repair to maintain protection against Intruders.

930 Graffiti Removal

1. Method: Pressure wash
2. Subsequent treatment: Not required

Ω End of Section



Specification created using NBS Chorus