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Designers Risk Assessment

SEVERITY	LIKELIHOOD				Risk = Likelihood x Severity L = Low M = Medium H = High	ACD Reference:	HILL25205
	L	M	H			Project Name:	Northern Arc, Burgess Hill, Phase 1C
	L	L	L	M		Initials of Assessor:	LS
	M	L	M	H		Checked by:	DKM
	H	M	H	H		Date:	17.08.26

Landscape Architecture

Activity/ Element	Potential Hazards	Population at Risk	Initial Risk S L R			Action at Design Stage/ Construction Stage	Action Taken By and Date	Residual Risk to issue	Comments/ Status
Refuse removal	Traffic movements / Pedestrians being run over by moving vehicles	Public, Users, Construction Operatives	H	M	M	Waste removal strategy to identify control requirements / traffic movement / management requirements		L	
Plant removal at ground floor- external sloping site/ landscape obstructions	Restricted access / plant movement risks	Construction / Maintenance Operatives	M	M	M	Review with landscape architect / Plant maintenance and replacement strategy		L	
Working with plants	Plant bark, thorns, splinters can puncture skin and cause pain and infection	Site Operatives	M	L	L	Ensure that adequate safety equipment i.e. gloves and goggles are provided and worn where necessary.		L	
Toxic plant material	Naturally occurring toxic substance either within the plant or omitted by the plant. Potential issue if digested or inhaled or skin reaction	Maintenance Operatives and End Users	M	L	L	Toxic plants are not proposed in prominent locations which are easily accessed by the public or end users. Waste material removed from toxic plants should be removed from site and safely disposed of		L	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Working with shallow excavations for tree planting	Risk of collapse/ falling of loose material and debris	Site Operatives	M	M	M	Plant trees are soon as possible after excavation of tree pit. If this is not possible then cover over pit with boarding and place warning bollards around area.		L	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Working with poisonous plants	Contact and digestion of poisonous plants which can cause skin irritation and stomach upset	Site Operatives	M	L	L	Ensure that adequate safety equipment is provided i.e. gloves, goggles and overalls are provided and worn where necessary. Ensure that operatives susceptible to certain plant varieties are not performing planting or maintenance operations on those plants and those operatives are fully		L	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.

Working adjacent to existing vegetation	Unsafe limbs falling, physical damage due to un-pruned vegetation	Site Operatives	M	L	L	Ensure that adequate safety equipment i.e. hard helmet and goggles are provided and worn where necessary and that tree protection measures are in place.		L	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Application of fill material, subsoil and topsoil	General illness from ingestion, contact with stain etc	Site Operatives	M	M	M	Provide method statement, ensure all existing wounds/cuts are protected in a suitable manner, exhibit good level of hygiene after handling top soil etc.		L	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Handling compost	Bio-aerosols and dust from compost	Site Operatives and Maintenance Operatives	L	L	L	Ensure that adequate safety equipment i.e. gloves, dust masks and overalls		L	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required
Climbing plants on external walls of residential buildings higher than 11m	Potential fire risk	User	H	L	M	Irrigation provided to climbers to ensure plants do not dry out, plants have been selected that do not reach more than 4m. Maintenance plan provided to ensure planting does not become unmanageably high		L	
Planting mature trees	Heavy lifting material, difficulty in handling,	Site Operatives	H	M	H	Operators to be well trained and informed, appropriate choice and use of machinery, choose correct weather conditions, avoid operatives working in tree pit while machinery is in close proximity, avoid prolonged working in base of tree pit, sufficient utility surveys highlighting existing services underground		M	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Tree Pruning	Unsuitable wind conditions, falling from height, items falling from above	Maintenance Operatives	H	M	H	All works to be carried out by suitably trained personnel and in accordance with code of practice. No materials, tools, machinery or chemicals to be left unattended at any time.		M	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Creation of SUDs features and ponds	Risk of drowning	Construction / Maintenance Operatives/ Users	H	L	M	Review commissioning proposals /strategy to minimise work near water feature.		M	
Chemical use/ pesticides/ fertilisers	Inhalation of fumes, ingestion, contact with skin	Site / Maintenance Operatives	H	M	H	Operators to wear protective clothing, keep a record of all chemicals and concentrations used, no chemicals to be left unattended at any time, erect warning signs, ensure appropriate first aid measures are located within site and are accessible		M	Contractors trained & competent in tasks required with RAMS in place for activities.
Installation of play equipment	Heavy lifting material, difficulty in handling	Site operatives	M	M	M	Use appropriate lifting aids		M	

Excavations for planting	Exposure of and damage to underground infrastructure	Construction and site Operatives	H	M	H	Consideration of proposed and existing services within soft landscape and tree pits and consultation with relevant engineers and with sufficient utility surveys. Work to be planned. Locating and identification of buried services to be considered. Operators to be well trained and informed, appropriate choice and use of machinery, choose correct weather conditions, avoid operatives working in tree pit while machinery is in close proximity. Safe digging practises to be followed.		M	
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