**TMV LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATION:**

**All landscape works to be carried out broadly in accordance with the relevant current British Standards; National Planting Specifications Guidelines; Horticultural Trades Association Standards; CPSE 'Plant Handling' Standards & COSHH Regulations.**

**TOPSOIL**

**Importation:**

- Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work. Any imported soil should be to BS 3882.

**Handling:**

- Ensure that any aggressive weeds are removed from site – do not cut or distribute.
- Select and use plant to minimize disturbance, trafficking and compaction.
- Do not contaminate topsoil with subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from building works.
- Alleviate any compaction of the soil prior to planting or turfing and do not handle topsoil in wet conditions or after heavy rainfall.

**PLANTING**

**Seeding & Turfing:**

- Ensure that there is a healthy, vigorous grass sward, free from the visible effects of pests, weeds and disease.
- The final sward should form a closely knit, continuous ground cover of even density, height and colour.

**Watering:**

· Water to field capacity following planting. Maintenance watering of trees and the grassy shrub mix will need to be specified to twice weekly minimum in dry periods. Watering of new trees should be to field capacity.

**Site Clearance:**

· Remove rubbish, concrete, metal, glass, decayed vegetation and contaminated topsoil.

**Soil Conditions:**

· Soil for cultivating and planting must be moist, friable and not waterlogged.

· No planting to take place if soil is frozen or snow covered and any plants waiting to be planted should be given additional root protection.

- Prevent planting pit sides and bases and backfill materials from freezing.

**Plants:**

· Plant names, forms, dimensions and other criteria: To be labelled as per the applicable section of BS 3936.

· Frost: Protect plants from frost and handle plants with care. Protect from mechanical damage and do not subject to shock, e.g. by dropping from a vehicle.

· Planting: Upright or well balanced with best side to front, well firmed in and evenly spaced.

· Trees to be staked with a single low stake at 45degrees to the stem and tied with an adjustable rubber tie.

· Hedge and shrub whips to be slot planted and unprotected in order to encourage more natural growth.

· Newly planted hedges to be maintained at a height of 800mm within the Site. Mixed native hedges to be maintained at a height of 1.4m.

**Timing:**

- The landscape scheme/planting programme is confirmed as being timetabled for implementation by or during the first planting season (mid-November to mid-March) following commencement of works.

**Cultivation:**

· Compacted topsoil to be broken up to full depth. Cultivate, aerate and break up soil a few days before planting when weather and ground conditions are suitably dry, leaving the surface regular and even.

- Any undesirable material brought to the surface including visible weeds, roots and large stones to be removed.

**Weeding of planted areas:**

· All areas to be checked regularly and kept free of invasive weeds. Either remove by hand (root included) or spot treated with a non-residual herbicide in accordance with the Manufacturer's instructions.

**Mulching:**

· Well- rotted bark mulch, free of pests, disease, fungus and weeds to be applied 100mm thick to be applied to all planting areas.

**Spot treatment of weeds:**

· Weeding of planted areas to be undertaken on a regular basis to ensure that the plants are given a fair chance to establish. Care to be taken to ensure that invasive and aggressive weeds do not become a problem and impact on the overall planting scheme. Where necessary, spot treatment of weeds in planted and grassed areas would be undertaken to ensure that they do not seed and establish elsewhere.

· Regular tidying of the planting beds – including:

- removal of leaf litter and any other debris

- shrubs and trees to be regularly pruned in order to maintain healthy growth and vigour.

- Any dead, diseased or dying trees or shrubs to be taken away or affected limbs removed.

**MANAGEMENT**

**Protection of existing vegetation:**

· There are a number of hedges on the peripheries of the site and where possible, existing vegetation would be retained. Protection of trees and hedges would be in accordance with BS 5837: 2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction.n should be taken when working adjacent to the existing trees and heges, particularly in relation to the washing out of machines, storage of materials and other activities which may be deemed hazerdous to the health and well being of the existing vegetation.

**Inspection Timetable:**

· The planting will be subject to an annual inspection each summer for the first 5 years to ensure that any dead, dying or diseased plants are removed. Those removed will be replaced with the same size or species as per the planting specification. Management of the overall scheme will incorporate regular reviews to check that the scheme is establishing well and any concerns highlighted and an appropriate professional consulted in order to address any issues.