# Landscape Implementation, Planting specification and management plan

**- Specification for Planting and Grass**

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PLANT SCHEDULE

SPECIFICATION

## 1.0 GENERALLY

. 1.1. All operations to be carried out at appropriate seasonal times and in appropriate weather condition for the work in hand.

. 1.2. All planting works shall be carried out in accordance with BS 4043, BS 4428 and BS 5837.

. 1.3. Container grown plants may be planted at any time of year if ground and weather conditions are favourable and there is a commitment to additional establishment maintenance, watering and replacement of plant failures.

. 1.4. Workmanship and materials not specified shall conform to the appropriate British Standards.

. 1.5. All work shall be carried out in accordance with good horticultural practice, and by competent, experienced and skilled work people.

## 2.0 TOPSOIL

. 2.1. Ensure that the following depths of specified quality site topsoil have been previously laid by the main contractor to all planted areas. Topsoil shall have been laid over decompacted, free-draining subsoil, cleared of all builders materials, rubble, rubbish and the like. Draw any shortfall, drainage problems to contamination to the attention of the Contract Administrator (CA) before commencing cultivation and planting operations:

. Ornamental planted areas 400mm depth

. Grass seeded / Turf areas 150mm depth

. Areas within Tree Protection Zones: Existing topsoil retained undisturbed.

. 2.2. Commencement of planting operations will be taken to signify acceptance of the ground conditions.

## 3.0 PLANTS

. 3.1. All plants to be supplied to BS 3936 Parts 1 to 10 as relevant, BS 4043, and the National Plant Specification, published by the Horticultural Trades Association, to the sizes and specified types.

. 3.2. Plant handling shall be in accordance with the National Plant Specifi cation – Handling and Establishment, except where specified otherwise.

. 3.3. Plants to be protected from drying out/water logging/scorch or any other damage whilst awaiting planting in accordance with the National Plant Specification – Handling and Establishment.

. 3.4. All plants shall be well rooted and sturdy with a well developed and evenly branched branch system.

. 3.5. Plants shall be made available for inspection and approval by the CA on delivery to site, prior to planting.

4.0 CULTIVATION - PREPARATION FOR PLANTING -

. 4.1. Clear site of long grass, rubble, glass and rubbish.

. 4.2. All developed weed growth to be eliminated with a suitable weed killer (to be specified and applied by a registered contractor who holds an appropriate, current, NPTC Certificate of Competence. Chemicals are to be used strictly in accordance with current legislation and relevant codes of practice). Al- low recommended dying off period to elapse prior to cultivation/clearance. Repeat process if not fully effective.

. 4.3. Cultivate all planting areas (except within tree protection zones) to a depth of 300mm removing all stones over 50mm diameter and all other rubbish.

. 4.4. Provide top copies of receipts/delivery dockets for all soil ameliorants to CA.

. 4.5. Add to planting areas: 50mm depth well-rotted approved organic compost, incorporating organic fertiliser - Melcourt Topgrow compost, or equal and approved.

. 4.6. Within tree protection zones cultivation shall be limited to site clearance as above. Plants to be individually pit planted. Pits dug by hand. Incorporate 2 no. Scotts Sierrablen Flora Tablets to each plant.

5.0 CULTIVATION - PLANTING - INDIVIDUAL AND SPECIMEN SHRUBS

. 5.1. Pits for individual or specimen shrubs shall be minimum 600 x 600 x 600mm deep. Enlarge as necessary to accommodate root spread dimensions

plus overall 400mm wider and 250mm deeper.. Report any signs of poor drainage to the Contract Administrator.

. 5.2. Within the backfill material incorporate and thoroughly mix 25% by volume well-rotted approved organic compost incorporating organic fertilizer ( Melcourt Topgrow compost or equal and approved), together with 600g Broadleaf P4 water retaining polymer granules.

. 5.3. Backfill material shall be carefully packed around the rootball in layers not deeper than 150mm. Each layer shall be lightly consolidated in the pit, leaving the final level 50mm above surrounding paving or ground level and the top layer firmly heeled around the root collar.

. 5.4. Thoroughly water in all plants immediately after planting but prior to mulching.

6.0 CULTIVATION - PLANTING – ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL HEDGES and HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

. 6.1. Set out shrub planting carefully and evenly over indicated areas. Remove plants from pots and plastic containers, plant and water in thoroughly. Shrubs shall be individually pit planted in prepared pits sized to accommodate full spread of roots. Plants shall be evenly spaced over the planting area. Very pot bound plants shall be rejected and replaced. Lightly pot bound plants should have their roots teased out to encourage lateral growth. Firm backfill by treading, ensuring the ground is not overly compacted and that the plant is positioned upright.

. 6.2. Thoroughly water in all plants immediately after planting but prior to mulching.

7.0 CULTIVATION- POST PLANTING AND MULCHING

. 7.1. On completion of planting cultivate and rake the surface of the soil, ensuring that there is no compaction. Apply 50mm depth of proprietary bark mulch size range 5-35mm, with less than 5% wood to all planting areas, including hedges, but excluding areas shown on the drawings as forestry areas which shall be left as bare soil.

8.0 CULTIVATION - GRASS

. 8.1. Turf areas, except within tree protection zones, shall be cultivated to a depth of 150mm to leave a fine tilth, free from stones over 30mm and

firmed by treading or rolling without compacting the soil. The finished surface shall be free from any irregularities, bumps or hollows.

. 8.2. All areas to be laid to Turf shall be treated with Germinal Seeds Agrosil LR pre-seeding granular fertiliser, applied at a rate of 100g/m2 (turf) applied fully in accordance with manufacturers latest printed instructions. Germinal Seeds (Tel: 01522 868714).

. 8.3. Turf shall be well-rooted medium/ fine textured cultivated downland fescue turf, suitable for ordinary lawns. Ryegrass content shall be limited to maximum 30% of a dwarf creeping species. The Contractor shall provide suppliers details and turf analysis to the CA for approval prior to ordering.

. 8.4. All turf shall be of close texture, even density and showing no signs of discolouration.

. 8.5. Turf shall be laid in rows to broken/stretcher bond. Turfs shall be laid closely butted. Turves to be well watered immediately after laying.

. 8.6. Any irregularities in turf laying shall be corrected by lifting turfs, adjusting levels by the addition or taking away of underlying the turf and relaying the turf. Levels shall not be achieved by rolling.

. 8.7. Seed/turf areas to finish 30mm above adjoining pavings and 150mm below any damp-proof course. Grass/turf edges shall be cleanly trimmed to an even, geometrical line, in accordance with the contract drawings. Prior to Practical Completion, all grass areas shall be cut to 30mm when the grass has reached a height of 75mm. All clippings shall be collected and disposed of off site

9.0 IMPLEMENTATION TIMESCALE

. 9.1 Construction works are due to commence during 2018.

. 9.2 Building and infrastructure works are due to complete by Summer 2019.

. 9.3 Planting and turfing works are to commence after building and infrastructure works are completed sometime in the summer of 2019.

. 9.4 Management and maintenance of the landscape scheme would commence following certified practical completion of the landscape works.

10.0 MAINTENANCE AND PLANTING DEFECTS LIABILITY (Initial 12 months following Practical Completion)

. 10.1. Pre-practical completion maintenance to conform to the specification for post-practical completion maintenance - Specification to be confirmed with client.

. 10.2. All work shall be carried out in accordance with good horticultural and landscape management practice, and by competent, experienced and skilled operatives.

. 10.3. Carry out all operations necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all plant material (including grass ).

. 10.4. FREQUENCY OF VISIT:
- Maintenance visits to be made on a fortnightly basis from 1 April - 31 October and on a monthly basis at other times.

. 10.5. WEED CONTROL - ORNAMENTAL PLANT BEDS : Weed by hand all ornamental planting areas and remove arisings so that at the end of each visit, all ornamental planting beds are weed free and tidy.

. 10.6. PESTS AND DISEASES: ensure that all shrub stock is treated or protected as necessary against attack by insects/mammalian pests or disease.

. 10.7. EXISTING TREES AND HEDGEROWS: No specific maintenance operations required during the first 12 months except for the Contractor to monitor their growth, condition and health/safety and to draw to attention any actions that need to be carried out.
Ensure that no branches or vegetation encroaches onto highways or public footpaths by careful pruning at the appropriate time.

. 10.8. MULCH: Maintain an even cover of bark mulch over planted areas. Sweep up from paved surfaces.

. 10.9. PLANTING: Firm all loosened plants.

. 10.10. GRASS: Cut grass to 25mm at each visit - twice per month from 1 April to 31 October. Areas to be box mowed. Clippings taken off site. Maintain grass areas free of broad leaved weeds by the application of suitable selective herbicide.

11.0 PLANT REPLACEMENT

. 11.1. PLANT REPLACEMENTS / DEFECTS: At the end of the growing season immediately preceding the end of the defects liability period (12 months after Practical Completion), prior to leaf fall, an inspection shall be made with the Contract Administrator. Any plants found to have died, are diseased, badly damaged or not making satisfactory growth, shall be replaced at the Contractor's expense. Plant replacements shall be to the original specification and shall be carried out in the first suitable planting season after the inspection carried out (this may take replacement planting outside the 12 months defects period).

12.0 HANDOVER (At the end of the Defects Liability Period):

. 12.1. All grassed areas, shall be handed over in a healthy, well cut and weed-free condition. The surface shall be free of irregularities. All plants must be in place, undamaged, and showing satisfactory, healthy growth. Mulch shall be made up to 50mm depth. The site shall be neat, tidy and free of litter, rubbish, weeds and contractors debris. Paved areas shall be free of mulch and contractors debris.