LIZARD
Landscape Design and Ecology

SOFT LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATION

DURRINGTON POLICE STATION

West Sussex County Council

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Q28
Topsoil and soil ameliorants

System outline

135 Planting bed soil system

1. Description: For tree planting
2. Composition
   - 2.1. Topsoil: Site sourced topsoil, subject to soil testing. Otherwise, imported topsoil to BS 3882
   - 2.2. Ameliorants: None
   - 2.3. Accessories: None

145 Plant pit backfilling soil system

1. Description: For tree planting
2. Composition
   - 2.1. Topsoil: Excavated material, subject to soil testing. Otherwise, imported topsoil to BS 3882
   - 2.2. Ameliorants: None
   - 2.3. Accessories: None

155 Mulching and top dressing system

1. Description: For tree planting
   - 1.1. Location: To base of trees located as shown in drawing LLD3292-LAN-DWG-200
2. Composition
   - 2.1. Material: Wood chippings produced on site from tree removal, and / or sanitized and stabilized composted conifer bark mulch.
   - 2.2. Size: Medium grade ornamental bark mulch particle size 10 -35 mm. No fines.
   - 2.3. Diameter: 30-45 cm greater diameter than root ball when planted.
   - 2.4. Depth: Minimum 75 mm
   - 2.5. Additional requirements: FSC certified;
     Free from pests, disease, fungus, weeds or any contaminant that is hazardous to human or animal life or detrimental for plant growth.

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 bark;
   Composted animal manures;
   Composted green waste
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: For tree planting
2. Quantity: Provide as necessary to complete the work.
3. Standard: To BS 3882.
4. Classification: Multipurpose
   - 4.1. Soil textural class to BS 3882, Figure 1: Sandy loam
5. Source: Local - submit proposals
   - 5.1. Product reference: Submit proposals

340 Imported subsoil to BS 8601

1. Description: For tree planting
2. Quantity: Provide as necessary to complete the work.
3. Standard: To BS 8601.
4. Classification: Multipurpose
   - 4.1. Soil textural class to BS 8601, Figure 1:: Sandy loam
5. Source: Local - submit proposals
   - 5.1. Product reference: Submit proposals

Execution

620 Importing topsoil

1. Give notice: Before stripping topsoil for transfer to site.
    1.1. Notice period: 14 days

625 Sample loads

1. Description: For imported topsoil
2. Deliver to site a sample load: of 5 kg
3. Give notice: Allow inspection before making further deliveries to site. Retain for comparison with subsequent loads.
    3.1. Notice period: 14 days

630 Documentation for imported topsoil

1. Description: For tree planting
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: As agreed with Contract Administrator

650 Notice

1. Give notice before
    1.1. Setting out.
    1.2. Spreading topsoil.
    1.3. Applying fertilizer.
    1.4. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: 2 weeks

655 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 500 mm of tree and plant stems.

660 Grading subsoil for

1. Description: For tree planting
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 8601.
3. General: Grade to smooth flowing contours to achieve specified finished levels of topsoil.
4. Avoid compaction.
5. Excess subsoil: Remove.

665 Subsoil surface preparation for

1. Description: For tree planting
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: 300 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 50 mm.
6. Remove from site: Arisings, contaminants and debris;
   Builders rubble

680 Surplus topsoil to be retained

1. Generally Spread and level on site:
   - 1.1. Locations: As agreed with Contract Administrator
   - 1.2. Protected areas: Do not raise soil level within root spread of trees that are to be retained.

685 Surplus materials to be removed

1. Topsoil removal from site: Topsoil remaining after completion of all landscaping work
2. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

690 Topsoil storage heaps

1. Location: As agreed with Contract Administrator
2. Height (maximum): 1.0 m
3. Width (maximum): Subject to space available
   - 3.1. Formation: Loose tip and shape from the side only, without running machinery on the heap at any time.
4. Protection
   - 4.1. Do not place any other material on top of storage heaps.
   - 4.2. Do not allow construction plant to pass over storage heaps.
   - 4.3. 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 tree planting
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
3. Temporary roads/ surfacing: Remove before spreading topsoil.
4. Layers
   - 4.1. Depth (maximum): 300 mm.
   - 4.2. Gently firm each layer before spreading the next.
5. 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.

718 Final cultivation

1. Description: For tree planting
2. Compacted topsoil: Break up to full depth.
3. Tilth: Loosen, aerate and break up topsoil to a tilth suitable for blade grading.
4. Depth: 300 mm
5. Particle size (maximum): 20 mm
6. Timing: Within a few days before planting
7. Weather and ground conditions: Suitably dry.
8. Surface: Leave regular and even.
9. Levels: As shown on drawings
10. Undesirable material brought to the surface
    - 10.1. Remove visible weeds.
    - 10.2. Remove roots and large stones with any dimension exceeding 50 mm.

720 Finished levels of topsoil after settlement

1. In relation to adjoining paving, kerbs or hard surfaces: 0-25 mm below
2. In relation to dpc of adjoining buildings: Not less than 150 mm below.
3. In relation to adjacent grass areas: 0-25 mm below
4. Seeded areas: Extend cultivation into existing adjacent grassed areas sufficient to ensure full marrying in of levels.
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.

Completion

920 Applying mulch

1. Timing: At end of the rectification period
2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to mulching, applying water where necessary.
3. Trees: Remulch.
   3.1. Depth (minimum): 75 mm

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; retain and protect trees indicated on drawings
5. Large roots: Grub up and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil and adjacent areas.

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: Late October to late March.
2. Conifers and evergreens: September/ October or April/ May.

130 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 1 m of existing trees and 0.5 m of other plant stems.

145 Watering

1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
2. Application: Even and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
3. Frequency: As necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting. Two times per week in summer as minimum during establishment period.

146 Watering Trees

1. Quantity: Soil analysis to be undertaken to measure matric potential (capacity to release water) of soil prior to calculating irrigation needs. If soil analysis not practical, apply 80 l per application, per tree, in the summer. Less (c. 10 l) in the spring and autumn.
2. Application: Even and without damaging or displacing plants or soil. Wet full depth of topsoil.
3. Frequency: When planted, and at the point of bud burst in the spring. To be continued throughout the spring and summer until the leaves have fallen in autumn (for deciduous trees)
   Apply water two times per week during summer.

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. Applying fertilizer.
   1.3. Delivery of plants/ trees.
   1.4. Planting trees into previously dug pits.
   1.5. Watering.
   1.6. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: Two weeks

170 Soil requirements

1. Type
   1.1. Planted beds: Planting bed soil system, as section Q28
   1.2. Tree pits, shrub pits and other backfilling: Plant pit backfilling soil system, as section Q28
   1.3. Mulch applied after planting: Mulching and top dressing system, 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.
   6.1. Standard: The National Plant Specification
7. Species: True to name.
8. Origin/ Provenance: Grown in the United Kingdom for at least one growing season, unless otherwise approved.
   Local provenance for native species.
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 (available on CS Design Software Limited's website).

235 Container grown 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 and information

1. General Provide each plant/ tree or group of plants/ trees of a single species or cultivar with 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. Supplier's name.
    1.6. 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, Name or designation of rootstock of budded or grafted plants.

246 Labelling and information

1. Standard: To BS 3936.

260 Plant/ Tree substitution

1. Plants/ trees unobtainable or known to be 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 CPSE 'Handling and establishing landscape plants'.
2. Frost: Protect plants from frost.
3. Handling: Handle plants with care. Protect from mechanical damage and do not subject to shock, e.g. by dropping from a vehicle.
4. Plant packaging: Black polyethylene bags
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. Excavated or imported material: Do not place directly on grass.
   1.2. Duration: Minimum period.

290 Surplus material

1. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.
   Non-contaminated debris and woody arisings can be retained for habitat creation on site.
   Refer to Landscape Architect or Ecology Consultant's ecological enhancements proposals, if applicable.

Preparation of planting beds/ planting materials

305 Weed control

1. Description: For invasive non-native weeds
2. Locations: All planting areas
3. General: Prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established, by hand weeding and loose mulching.

Planting shrubs/ herbaceous plants/ bulbs

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: 75 mm

Planting trees

500 Tree planting

1. Standard: Prepare trees and transplant in accordance with BS 4428

502 Antidesiccant for conifers/ Evergreens

1. Manufacturer: Submit proposals
    1.1. Product reference: Submit proposals
2. Application: Dip or thoroughly spray before delivering to site. Spray again soon after planting.
    2.1. Do not apply in wet or frosty weather.
    2.2. Ensure full coverage of underside of foliage.

505 Tree pits

1. Sizes: Twice the width of the root spread, and the same depth of the root system.
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: Do not disturb base, unless soil compacted or of low permeability..
    4.1. Treatment: Not required
5. Pit sides: Scarify if smeared and compacted.
6. Backfilling material: Topsoil, as section Q28

535 Tree stakes

1. Stakes: Softwood, peeled chestnut, larch or oak, straight, free from projections and large or edge knots and with pointed lower end.
    1.1. Preservative treatment: Tanalised
2. Stake size (minimum): 75 mm diameter
3. Stake length (minimum): 1800 mm or Contractor's choice

550 Double staking for

1. Description: Heavy Standard Trees
2. Staking
    2.1. Position: Either side of tree position and perpendicular to wind direction.
    2.2. Driving: Vertically at least 300 mm into bottom of pit before planting.
    2.3. Backfilling: Consolidate material around stake.
    2.4. Firming: Sufficiently firm to prevent movement of the rootball/ rootstock.
3. Height of stakes: Cut off at approximately one third of the height of the clear stem of tree
4. Horizontal bracing: Timber cross bar, 75 mm x 38 mm x 900 mm
    4.1. Fixing: Firmly fix using nails on windward side of tree and as close as possible to the stem without making contact with the bark. Position cross bar horizontally and 25 mm from top of stakes
5. Ties: Biodegradable natural fibre
6. Tying: Secure tree firmly but not rigidly to cross bar. Prevent tree from touching cross bar using spacer blocks or cushions if required
7. Nails for fixing ties, belts and webbing: To BS 1202-1, galvanized, minimum 25 mm long and with 10 mm diameter heads.
8. Nails for fixing cross bars: To BS 1202-1, galvanized round wire, minimum 75 mm long and 3.75 mm gauge

566 Tree protection

1. Manufacturer: Contractor's choice
   1.1. Product reference: Contractor's choice
2. Type: Spiral
3. Material: Biodegradable
4. Size: Contractor's choice
5. Colour: Green
6. Support: Single timber stake
7. General: Ensure that protection methods do not impede natural movement of trees or restrict growth. Whip / tree guards shall be carefully placed over the plant and the entire base pushed a minimum of 25mm into the ground.

576 Tree pit surfacing - loose fill

1. Surfacing material: Mulch, as section Q28
2. Area: Entire planting area
3. Depth: 75 mm
4. Watering: Water soil thoroughly before laying.
5. Installation: Ensure the base of the tree stem is kept free from loose filled material. Ensure root flare clearly visible above ground level.

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. The rectification period is to be for 1 year (TBC with form of contract) after practical completion..
2. Frequency of maintenance visits: TBC with land owner. In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule

720 Failures of planting

1. Defects due to materials or workmanship not in accordance with the Contract: Trees that have failed to thrive.
   1.1. Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage after completion.
   1.2. Rectification: Replace with equivalent trees.
2. Replacements: To match size of adjacent or nearby plants of same species or match original specification, whichever is the greater.
3. Timing of making good: During the next suitable planting season

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 planting areas.
2. Planted areas: Fork over beds as necessary to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows.
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, guys, guards 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: As schedule
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, only outside of nesting season.
    1.3. Trees: Favour a single central leading shoot.
2. Arisings: Remove.

790 Final mulching

1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period.
2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to remulching, applying water where necessary.
3. Depth (minimum): 75 mm
4. Trees: Remulch.
5. Depth (minimum): 75 mm

Ω End of Section

Q35
Landscape maintenance

Generally

105 Maintenance objectives

1. Location: Soft landscape scheme.
    1.1. Duration: 5 years
2. Aims: Safeguard and improve landscape quality; Improved landscape visual amenity; Provide wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity
3. Results: Successful establishment; Long-term contribution to landscape character and biodiversity; Visual amenity.

110 Notice

1. Give notice before
    1.1. Application of fertilizer.
    1.2. Watering.
    1.3. Each site maintenance visit.
2. Period of notice: Two weeks

130 Reinstatement

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

155 Watering

1. Supply: No site supply available, submit proposals
2. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil. Application dose and frequency to be determined on soil analysis including matric potential (capacity to release water). If soil analysis not practical/ results not available, apply 80 l per application per tree two times per week during establishment period (first two years) during summer. Post establishment, irrigate only when required, due to prolonged period of dry weather. Always check soil moisture before applying new dose.
3. Application: Do not damage or loosen plants. Apply in the morning.
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: If not diseased, reuse for habitat creation.
   1.4. Shrub and tree prunings: If not diseased, reuse for habitat creation.
   1.5. Litter and nonbiodegradable arisings: Remove from site

180 Chipping or shredding

1. General: TBC with contract administrator.

181 Mechanical equipment

1. General: Minimize.
2. Prohibited equipment: TBC with land owner.
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

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.

226 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.
   1.1. Operations close to stems: Complete using hand tools.

Shrubs/trees/hedges

500 Establishment of new planting

1. Duration: Two full growing seasons from the date of planting
2. Weed control
    2.1. Method: Keep planting beds clear of weeds by maintaining full thickness of mulch.
    2.2. Area: Maintain a weed free area around each tree, 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.
4. Watering: As schedule and when instructed

502 Establishment of new planting – fertilizer

1. Time of year: March or April.
2. Type: Organic
3. Spreading: Spread evenly.
    3.1. Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations

510 Tree stakes and ties

1. Inspection/ Maintenance times: Annually, 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: During spring when no longer required to support the tree; usually one full growing season is sufficient.
    4.1. Fill stake holes with lightly compacted soil.

520 Refirming of trees

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.

525 Tree guards

1. Loose or defective guards: Adjust, refix or replace to original specification and to prevent chafing.

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: As instructed
2. Operations: Remove growth encroaching onto grassed areas, paths, roads, signs, sightlines and road lighting luminaires.

555 Pruning trees

1. Standard: To BS 7370-4.
2. Special requirements: Growth retardents not permitted

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: Approved specialist contractor

630 Dead and diseased plants

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

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: Reinstate to original depth.

655 Weed cutting by hand or machine

1. Undesirable grass, brambles and herbaceous growth: Cut down cleanly to a maximum height of 75 mm.
2. Herbicides: Do not use

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.

695 Fertilizing established trees

1. Time of year: After flowering
2. Type of fertilizer: Organic
3. Application: Spread evenly.
    3.1. Rate: As manufacturer's recommendations

705 Winter leaf removal

1. Operations: Take down temporary leaf fences. Collect accumulations of drifted leaves from the vicinity and from planting beds.
2. Arisings: Compost on site

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 an approved member of the Arboricultural Association.

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.
    1.5. Other unwanted objects, e.g. tree houses, swings.

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.

845 Crown lifting

1. Clearances: Remove branch systems to give clearance.
    1.1. Height: As recommended by BS 7370-4, clause 3.7.2.3
2. Removing branches: Remove whole branches back to the stem, or cut lower portions of branches back to lateral or sublateral buds or branches. Do not leave stumps.

855 Cutting tree roots

1. Excavating: Use hand tools only.
2. Protected area: Do not cut roots within an area which is the larger of:
    2.1. The branch spread of the tree.
    2.2. An area with a radius of half the tree's height, measured from the trunk.
3. Outside protected area: Give notice of roots exceeding 50 mm in diameter. Do not cut without approval.
4. Cutting
    4.1. Cutting: Make clean smooth cuts with a hand saw.
    4.2. Wounds: Minimize. Avoid ragged edges.
    4.3. Finishing: Pare cut surfaces smooth with a sharp knife.
5. Backfilling
    5.1. Protection: Cover cut roots with clean sharp sand.
    5.2. Material: Backfill with original topsoil.

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

Ω End of Section



LIZARD

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Specification created using NBS Chorus