

London Borough of Camden

Maiden Lane Estate

Specification and schedule for tree planting maintenance
for 2 year contractual maintenance period

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Q35 Landscape maintenance- Tree and shrubs only

To be read with Preliminaries/ General conditions.

GENERALLY

- 110 NOTICE
- Give notice before:
 - Application of herbicide.
 - Application of fertilizer.
 - Watering.
 - Each site maintenance visit.
 - Period of notice: 7 days.
- 130 REINSTATEMENT
- Damage or disturbance to soil structure, planting, grass, fencing, hard landscaping, structures or buildings: Reinstate to original condition.
- 156 WATERING
- Supply: to be confirmed.
 - Quantity: Wet to field capacity. Minimum 10-15 litres per tree
 - Application: Do not damage or loosen plants.
 - Compacted soil: Loosen or scoop out, to direct water to rootzone.
 - Frequency: As schedule and when instructed.
- 160 WATER RESTRICTIONS
- 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 ARISING
- General: Unless specified otherwise, dispose of arisings as follows:
 - Biodegradable arisings: Remove to recycling facility.
 - Grass cuttings: Remove to recycling facility.
 - Tree roots and stumps: Remove from site.
 - Shrub and tree prunings: Remove to recycling facility.
 - Litter and nonbiodegradable arisings: Remove from site.
- 180 CHIPPING OR SHREDDING
- General: Not permitted on site.
- 190 LITTER
- Extraneous rubbish not arising from the contract work: Collect and remove from site.
- 195 PROTECTION OF EXISTING GRASS
- General: Protect areas affected by maintenance operations using boards/tarpaulins. Do not place excavated or imported materials directly on grass.
- 197 CLEANLINESS
- Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.
 - General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

SHRUBS/TREES/HEDGES

500 ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PLANTING

- Duration: Two years.
- Weed control:
 - Method: Keep planting beds clear of weeds by maintaining full thickness of mulch.
 - 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.
- Soil condition: Fork over beds to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Do not reduce depth or effect of mulch.
- Watering: as schedule and according to weather conditions.

502 ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PLANTING - FERTILIZER

- Time of year: March or April.
- Type: Slow release.
- Spreading: Spread evenly. Carefully lift and replace any mulch materials.
 - Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations.

510 TREE STAKES AND TIES

- Inspection/ Maintenance times: As scheduled and immediately after strong winds.
- Stakes:
 - Replace loose, broken or decayed stakes to original specification.
 - 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.
- Ties: Adjust, refix or replace loose or defective ties, allowing for growth and to prevent chafing.
 - Where chafing has occurred, reposition or replace ties to prevent further chafing.
- Removal of stakes and ties: During spring when no longer required to support the tree. Fill stake holes with lightly compacted soil.

520 REFIRMING OF TREES AND SHRUBS

- Timing: After strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.
- Refirming: Tread around the base until firmly bedded.
- 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.

535 TREE GRILLES

- Operations: Lift grilles, remove weeds, adjust levels as necessary and lightly compact. Refit grilles, refill interstices and lightly compact to correct level.
- - Material for making up levels and refilling: 6 mm to dust granite aggregate.

540 PRUNING GENERALLY

- Pruning: In accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice.
 - Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem or bark.
 - Wounds: Keep as small as possible and cut cleanly back to sound wood.
 - Cutting: Make cuts above and sloping away from an outward facing healthy bud, angled so that water will not collect on cut area.
 - Larger branches: Prune neither flush nor leaving a stub, but using the branch bark ridge or branch collar as a pruning guide.
- Appearance: Thin, trim and shape each specimen appropriately to species, location, season, and stage of growth, leaving a well balanced natural appearance.
- Tools: Use clean sharp secateurs, hand saws or other approved tools. Trim off ragged edges of bark or wood with a sharp knife.
- Disease or infection: Give notice if detected.
- Growth retardants, fungicide or pruning sealant: Do not use unless instructed.

545 PRUNING OF EXCESSIVE OVERHANG

- Timing: As instructed.
- Operations: Remove growth encroaching onto grassed areas, paths, roads, signs, sightlines and road lighting luminaires.
- Special requirements: Allow ground cover plants to partially overlap paths and lawns.

550 PRUNING OF EXCESSIVE HEIGHT

- Timing: As instructed.
- Operations: Remove excessive height As instructed.

570 FORMATIVE PRUNING OF YOUNG TREES

- Standard: Type and timing of pruning operations to suit the plant species.
- Time of year: Do not prune during the late winter/ early spring sap flow period.
- Young trees up to 4 m high:
 - 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.
 - Remove duplicated branches and potentially weak or tight forks. In each case cut back to live wood.
- Whips or feathered trees: Do not prune.
- Operatives: Member of the Arboricultural Association.

575 PRUNING ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS

- General: Prune to encourage healthy and bushy growth and desirable ornamental features, e.g. flowers, fruit, autumn colour, stem colour.
- Suckers: Remove by cutting back level with the source stem or root.

580 PRUNING FLOWERING SPECIES OF SHRUBS AND ROSES

- Time of year:
 - Winter flowering shrubs: Spring.
 - Shrubs flowering between March and July: Immediately after the flowering period.
 - Shrubs flowering between July and October: Back to old wood in winter.
 - Rose bushes: Early spring to encourage basal growths and a balanced, compact habit.

590 PRUNING PARTICULAR SPECIES

- Species to be pruned to separate specific instructions: to be confirmed.

600 TRIMMING RAPIDLY ESTABLISHING HEDGES

- General: Allow to reach planned height as rapidly as possible.
Form: Trim back lateral branches moderately.

605 TRIMMING SLOWLY ESTABLISHING HEDGES

- Operations:
 - Timing: Cut back hard in June and September to encourage bushy growth down to ground level.
 - Form: Allow to reach planned dimensions only by gradual degrees, depending on growth rate and habit.

620 REMOVAL OF DEAD PLANT MATERIAL

- 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.

625 CLIMBING PLANTS

- Pruning: Remove excess growth, to ensure that signs, light fittings, doors and windows are kept clear at all times.
- Insecure growth: Attach to supporting wires or structures using 1 mm diameter black plastics coated steel wire.
- Supporting structures: Check and repair as necessary.

630 DEAD AND DISEASED PLANTS

- Removal: Within one week of notification.
- Replacement: In the next scheduled round of replacement planting.

635 REINSTATEMENT OF SHRUB/ HERBACEOUS AREAS

- Dead and damaged plants: Remove.
- Mulch/ matting materials:
 - Carefully move to one side and dig over the soil, leaving it fit for replanting.
 - Do not disturb roots of adjacent plants.
- Replacement plants:
 - 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.
 - Additional requirements: Submit proposals.
- Dressing: Slow release fertilizer:
 - Type: Submit proposals.
 - Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations.

645 WEED CONTROL GENERALLY

- Weed tolerance: At all times, weed cover less than 5% and no weed to exceed 100 mm high.
- Adjacent plants, trees and grass: Do not damage.

650 HAND WEEDING

- General: Remove weeds entirely, including roots.
- Disturbance: Remove the minimum quantity of soil, and disturb plants, bulbs and mulched surfaces as little as possible.
- Completion: Rake area to a neat, clean condition.
- Mulch: Reinstate to original depth.

- 655 WEED CUTTING BY HAND OR MACHINE
 - Undesirable grass, brambles and herbaceous growth: Cut down cleanly to a maximum height of 75 mm.
 - Herbicides: Do not use.
- 657 HERBICIDE TO KILL REGROWTH
 - Type: Suitable foliar acting herbicide to kill regrowth.
 - Timing: Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing dead weeds.
- 670 WEED CONTROL WITH SUMMER HERBICIDE
 - Type: Suitable foliar acting herbicide.
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- 675 DIGGING OVER
 - General: Dig over beds. Do not damage existing plants, bulbs and roots.
Depth of dig (minimum): 150 mm.
- 680 SOIL AERATION
 - Compacted soil surfaces:
 - Prick up: To aerate the soil of root areas and break surface crust.
 - Size of lumps: Reduce to crumb and level off.
 - Damage: Do not damage plants and their roots.
- 685 SOIL LEVEL ADJUSTMENT
 - Level of soil/mulch at edges of beds: Reduce to 50 mm below adjacent grass or hard surface.
Arisings (if any): Spread evenly over the bed.
- 690 MAINTENANCE OF LOOSE MULCH
 - Thickness (minimum): 75 mm.
 - Top up: Annually.
 - Mulch spill on adjacent areas: Remove weeds and rubbish and return to planted area.
 - Weeding: Remove weeds growing on or in mulch by hand weeding.
- 695 FERTILIZING ESTABLISHED TREES AND SHRUBS
 - Time of year: During February or March.
 - Type of fertilizer: Slow release.
 - Application: Spread evenly.
 - Rate: As manufacturer's recommendations.
- 705 WINTER LEAF REMOVAL
 - Operations: Take down temporary leaf fences. Collect accumulations of drifted leaves from the vicinity and from planting beds.
 - Arisings: Remove to recycling facility.

Maiden Lane

SCHEDULE OF TREE MAINTENANCE WORKS DURING TWO YEAR CONTRACTUAL MAINTENANCE PERIOD

	Operation	TOTAL Number of operations per year	Month												Notes
			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
i)	Prune to remove dead or damaged material and promote good shape and growth.	1	/	/									/	/	
ii)	Remove weeds at base of trees using herbicide or hand weeding	7			1	2	1	1	1	1	1				
iii)	Water trees using irrigation tube	16					2	4	4	4	2				Contractor to monitor weather conditions and tree conditions and adjust watering schedule accordingly.
iv)	Replace or remove stakes and ties or adjust guying	2				1						1			
v)	Re-firm trees after heavy frost or strong winds	6	/	/	/							/	/	/	
vi)	Check and adjust tree grilles	2			1						1				
vii)	Top up mulch to depth of 100mm	1			1										

Key

/ Operation to be completed during a season/within a range of months

1 Number of operations per month