

# 705E Fitzjohn's Office

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## Q35 Landscape maintenance

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.

#### 155 WATERING

- ~ Supply: Potable mains water.
- ~ Quantity: Wet to field capacity .
- ~ Application: Do not damage or loosen plants.
- ~ Compacted soil: Loosen or scoop out, to direct water to rootzone.
- ~ Frequency: As necessary for the continued thriving of all planting.

#### 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 ARISINGS

- ~ General: Unless specified otherwise, dispose of arisings as follows:
  - Biodegradable arisings: Compost on site.
  - Grass cuttings: Compost on site.
  - Tree roots and stumps: Remove from site.
  - Shrub and tree prunings: Compost on site.
  - Litter and nonbiodegradable arisings: Remove from site.

### SHRUBS/TREES/HEDGES

#### 500 ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PLANTING

- ~ Duration: One year.
- ~ 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: Contractor's choice.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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: Annually.
- ~ 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.

#### 555 PRUNING TREES AND SHRUBS

- ~ Standard: To BS 7370-4.
- ~ Special requirements: None.

#### 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.

#### 600 TRIMMING RAPIDLY ESTABLISHING HEDGES

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

#### 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.

#### 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: None.
- ~ Dressing: Slow release fertilizer:
  - Type: Organic.
  - Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations.

#### 645 WEED CONTROL GENERALLY

- ~ Weed tolerance: Weed to clear ground every two weeks..
- ~ 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.

#### 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.

#### 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: Every three months.
- ~ 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 April or May.
- ~ 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: Compost on site.

#### 860 REMOVING TREES, SHRUBS AND HEDGES

- ~ Standards: To BS 3998, Appendix A and Health & Safety Executive (HSE)/ Arboricultural and Forestry Advisory Group Safety Leaflets.
- ~ Existing services: Check for below and above ground services. Give notice if they may be affected.
- ~ Shrubs and smaller trees: Cut down and grub up roots.
- ~ Tree stumps:

- Removal: Remove mechanically to a minimum depth of 300 mm below ground level.
- Removal by winching: Give notice. Do not use other trees as supports or anchors.
- ~ Protection: As section A34.
- ~ Work near retained trees: Where tree canopies overlap and in confined spaces generally, take down trees carefully in small sections to avoid damage to adjacent trees that are to be retained.
- ~ Filling holes:
  - Material: Use as-dug material and/ or imported soil as required.
  - Finishing: Consolidate and grade to marry in with surrounding ground level.

## **HARD LANDSCAPE AREAS/FENCING**

### **910 HARD SURFACES AND GRAVEL AREAS**

- ~ Herbicide: Apply a suitable foliar acting or residual herbicide. Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing arisings.
- ~ Hard surfaces: Remove litter, leaves and other debris.
- ~ Surface gutters and channels: Remove mud, silt and debris.
- ~ Drainage gullies: Empty traps and flush clean.
- ~ Gravel areas: Rake over. Remove weeds, litter, leaves and debris, and level off.
- ~ Repairs to flexible bituminous pavings: In accordance with the original paving specification or BS 7370-2, clause 4.12.
- ~ Stain removal: In accordance with BS 7370-2, table 4.

### **920 FENCING**

- ~ Fences: Inspect and repair to maintain protection against intruders.