

Maintenance schedule- 25A Dartmouth Park Road Green Roof.

2.2.1	<p>An external bib cock and wall plate elbow is to be mounted on the side wall of the extension. A small sprinkler is to be installed to this with a battery operated watering valve set to work once every 2 days after initial watering every day for 7 days after laying.</p> <p>Adequate provision has been made for drainage at the bottom of the roof and party wall side. This is achieved by leaving a small gap in the retention feature or a strip that is back-filled with gravel or similar material. Wildflowers need moisture but like a free-draining environment.</p>	Watering System
2.2.3	<p><b>Option A:</b> Loose substrate on a flat roof</p> <p>The growing medium or substrate is supplied in 1m<sup>3</sup> bulk bags. Each weigh approximately 400kgs. 2m<sup>3</sup> bulk bags are.</p> <p>To retain the loose substrate, lay a strip of geo-textile membrane along the inside of the substrate retention feature (e.g upstand or barge board), to allow water to drain without washing out any substrate in the process.</p>	Waterproof membrane
2.2.4	<p>Fill the area with substrate laid evenly at 110mm depth. The substrate will settle by 10% so laying 110mm allows for 10mm settlement.</p> <p>When laying the turf, care should be taken to ensure that all joints are butted up correctly to prevent the growth of weeds. Do not overlap the turf at the joints and do not create tension so joints pull apart or shrink. Any gaps should be filled with loose substrate. Ensure the turf roots are in contact with the substrate and there are no air pockets underneath.</p>	Drainage
2.2.7	<p>Once laid, water the turf <b>thoroughly, for the first week</b>, depending on the weather. It is important to check that the initial watering soaks through to the substrate beneath the turf. Do this by lifting a corner of the turf to ensure that the substrate below the turf has received water from the irrigation. This simple technique ensures the turf receives sufficient water during its first irrigation. Do <b>not</b> allow the turf to dry out while it establishes and this should only take <b>approximately 2 weeks</b>. Do not flood the turf when watering but ensure the substrate is damp. Over watering can result in grass dominating the sward – so only water as necessary. For the first growing season it is important to water the turf occasionally, during extended dry spells. Once well established the Wildflower Turf will tend to cope with most circumstances but the flowers will benefit from water during very dry periods, however the limited depth of growing medium does restrict the availability of water for the plants and additional consideration should be paid to irrigation.</p>	Substrate laying options
		Watering

### 3.3 Wildflower Roof Turf Maintenance

3.3.1	No fertilizer is needed, although in some circumstances, the addition of a light dose of fertilizer in the spring may improve plant development if required.	Fertilizer
3.3.2	Once established Wildflower Turf requires very little maintenance, however in the autumn it is important to cut the plants and remove these cuttings. This can be done by strimming and raking, or using a mower and collecting the cuttings. Make sure these tools are sharp. Cutting the plants back to 1 to 2 inches (25mm to 50mm) in length is an important part of their lifecycle and ensures that re-growth and species diversity will continue year on year. Take care to avoid damage to the roof membrane or any drip irrigation pipes. One cut a year is advised but a second or third cut through the season is acceptable and offers an opportunity to tidy any excess growth.	Cutting regime
3.3.3	A single cut and remove should be carried out from late summer, ideally after the plants have set and shed their seed. Not only does this tidy up the area for the winter but it stops the senesced summer growth from covering the growing plant in a layer of rotting plant material. If left this material becomes detrimental competition to the plants and re-introduces nutrients in the form of 'composting' plant material. After the autumn it is also important to remove any leaf litter that might fall onto the area from any nearby or overhanging trees. Additional cuts should have the arisings removed.	Clear arisings
3.3.4	There is no need for a set date for the late cut and remove. Timings can vary to suit the required look of the site, but thought should be given to the fauna in the habitat on site. Cutting only half of the meadow area at one time will give time for fauna to migrate to the uncut meadow. Allow some regrowth of the cut area before cutting the second half. The aim should be to have finished all cutting by the end of the first week of October. Over time alternate the areas that are cut early and the areas that are left as this will benefit species diversity.	Timing the cut