



## PLANTING SPECIFICATION

### General Guidance

All plant handling to be in accordance with the HFA 'Handling and establishing landscape plants' Part I, Part II and Part III (obtainable from the Horticultural Trades Association) and the CROSE publications 'Plant Handling' and all planting to conform to National Planting Specification Guidelines.

The individual setting-out of the plants on site shall be the responsibility of the contractor and should follow closely the locations shown on this detailed planting proposal drawings supplied by the landscape architect. Contractor to ensure that plants are equally spaced within individual planting groups.

Contractor to ensure that smaller plants are located to the front of plant species groups as shown on detailed planting plans.

Contractor shall maintain existing levels around the base of existing trees and shall undertake all planting works occurring within root protection areas (RPA) in accordance with BS5857:2012. Contractor shall not remove or relocate any tree protection fencing without prior consent of the client.

Contractor to check the locations of all underground services, existing and proposed, prior to the excavation of any tree pits or shrub beds and identify any potential conflicts to the client / landscape architect.

All arisings shall be removed from site and the contractor shall at all times, keep the site free from rubbish and debris.

For the duration of the works the contractor shall keep the site free from injurious weeds as listed in the Weeds Act 1959.

All plants should be supplied at the same size and of the same species as specified in the planting schedules on the landscape proposals plan. Any proposed replacement species or deviation from the planting schedules should be highlighted to and agreed with the client prior to installation.

All plants shall be hardened-off at the Contractor's own nursery or at the source prior to planting out.

All field grown and rootballed trees must have been transplanted or undercut in the nursery no less than 18 months prior to supply.

The Contractor shall carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable. Planting is not to take place during periods of frost or strong winds.

The contractor is to ensure that adequate watering and weed control is provided at the time of planting.

Any topsoil retained on site in stockpiles for use in planting works is to be stored in accordance with the DEFRA publication, 'Code of practice for the sustainable use of soils on construction sites'.

Do not use peat or peat based products.

Prior to planting, planting areas shall be cleared of grass and weed growth physically and/or chemically with a proprietary translocated herbicide and a period of time shall be allowed to elapse as recommended by the manufacturer before commencement of soil preparation for planting.

All plants are to be watered thoroughly before planting stages to ensure rootball is thoroughly soaked prior to final backfilling.

### Tree Planting

Generally plant trees in pits with minimum dimensions of:

- 1000 x 1000 x 700-800mm deep for trees in soft planted areas including: grass/shrub areas and rear gardens.

Backfill the pits in layers as specified below (from bottom up):

- Drainage layer
  - 200mm layer of compacted inert free draining gravel or pea shingle, wrapped in geo-textile membrane
- 100mm layer of washed medium-course sand to act as bedding layer between geotextile and soil.

### Topsoil layer

- 400-500mm layer of retained site-sourced topsoil (free from weeds) or imported topsoil (Multi-purpose grade to BS3882:2015, sandy loam), depth dependent on size of rootball.

Depth of topsoil should only be as deep as the rootball of proposed tree to a max. depth of 400-500mm. Should the rootball be larger i.e. 300mm height, then the pit should be increased in depth to suit, but with the difference in depth from the 400-500mm topsoil layer and the drainage layer made up of quality imported free-draining subsoil to BS8601:2013 to avoid topsoil occurring at depths of greater than 500mm.

Likewise, for smaller trees i.e. feathered trees, with more limited rootball size, the depth of topsoil can be reduced to reflect the surrounding topsoil depths or to a max. topsoil depth of 350mm, with a further layer of site-sourced or imported subsoil (to BS8601:2013) below to create a total depth of growth medium of between 400-500mm to 150-200mm layer of subsoil. Drainage layer should remain as above.

As stated above, the min. pit size for trees planted in newly created planting areas should be 1m x 1m, however where planting is occurring in clean, undisturbed ground, pits should be dug to approx. 700mm greater than the rootball to limit distribution of surrounding soil structure.

Break up bottom of tree pit to a depth of 200mm and ensure ground is free-draining. Loosen edges of tree pit at time of planting by hand, using a fork to ensure good drainage. Pit should be excavated no greater than 48hrs prior to planting and de-watered as required.

Incorporate a soil conditioner/amendment in the form of peat free general-purpose shrub compost or well rotted spent mushroom compost or 'Roomaster' by Greenleaf Ltd (01423 332100) into backfilled topsoil material at the rate of min. 40L per pit.

Incorporate soil improver 'Terracontin Arbor' by Greenleaf Ltd (01423 332100) at a rate of 1kg per pit, mixed thoroughly into backfilled topsoil.

Backfill topsoil mix in layers of 150mm, firming at each layer and loosening the pit sides to aid drainage. The surface level of the pit should be 50mm above the surrounding ground.

Trees shall be planted in the centre of the excavated pits.

Trees in soft planted areas to be dressed with a minimum 75mm mulch layer, consisting of pine bark fines, particle size 15-50mm to a min. diameter of 1000-1200mm where appropriate.

Trees shall be installed with proprietary flexible perforated irrigation/emersion pipe with integral cap. Pipe to be installed encircling equally around rootball to the full depth of planting pit, with the final cap section installed just above ground level and raised securely in place to the adjacent timber stake.

All trees in grass areas to be protected by min. 225mm high x 12-15mm diam. proprietary plastic sitestemhole guards. Where trees have a basal trunk diameter greater than 12mm e.g. semi-mature, then two or more guards should be joined together using joining tape and then secured in place.

### Root Barrier Membranes

Where trees are grouped in close proximity to hard paved areas or proposed service runs, a root barrier membrane is to be installed as prescribed below.

For all proposed trees centred in a location within 3m of an adjacent hard standing/footpath or carriageway, kerb line, a proprietary root barrier membrane will be installed to protect the hard standing and any underground services located beneath from future damage by tree roots.

Root barrier membranes are to extend to a depth as outlined below:

- For trees adjacent to hard standings only (see underground services), install 'Rootcut 3007' by Greenleaf Urban (01424 717797) or equal and approved, ribbed root barrier membrane, to a depth of 300mm, ribs facing tree, joints fixed with joining tape, install 10mm above final surface level of soft landscaping.
- For trees adjacent to hard standings incorporating underground services, install the following dependent on the depth of underground services:
  - For services 450mm deep
    - 'Rootcut 4007' by Greenleaf Urban (01424 717797) or equal and approved, ribbed root barrier membrane, to a depth of 400mm, ribs facing tree, joints fixed with joining tape, install 10mm above final surface level of soft landscaping.
  - For services 600mm deep
    - 'Rootcut 1000' by Greenleaf Urban (01424 717797) or equal and approved, ribbed root barrier membrane, to a depth of 1000mm, ribs facing tree, joints fixed with joining tape, install 10mm above final surface level of soft landscaping.
  - For services deeper than 800mm
    - 'Rootcut 2000' by Greenleaf Urban (01424 717797) or equal and approved, ribbed root barrier membrane, to a depth of 2000mm, ribs facing tree, joints fixed with joining tape, install 10mm above final surface level of soft landscaping.

For locations where a hard standing with or without underground services exists on both sides of the tree e.g. grass verge, then a root barrier is to be installed against both kerbs/ existing fences.

**Ornamental Shrub Planting**

Plant shrubs and groundcover into pre-prepared planting beds consisting of topsoil to a depth of no greater than 400mm, overlying clean, free-draining subsoil. Topsoil to be either existing retained site sourced topsoil (free from weeds) or imported topsoil imported topsoil (Multi-purpose grade to BS3882:2015, sandy loam) or a combination of the two as necessary.

Subsoil layer to be fully broken-up, to ensure adequate decompaction and alleviate free-drainage. For light and non-cohesive subsoils, when ground conditions are reasonably dry, loosen thoroughly to a depth of 300mm (450mm for stiff clay / cohesive soils). Remove all stones and debris greater than 50mm, including roots and tubs of grass. Top 50mm of subsoil to be reduced to a medium silt suitable for final shaping using a grading blade.

Where applicable the use of a small tractor mounted single tire ripper to decompact subsoil layer sufficiently.

Incorporate a soil conditioner/amendment in the form of peat free general-purpose shrub compost or well rotted spent mushroom compost across the planting bed in a 50mm layer at a rate of 30kg per m<sup>2</sup>, and incorporate to a depth of 225mm.

Install a proprietary geo-textile weed suppressant membrane onto the surface of the pre-prepared shrub planting beds with minimum 300mm laps. Once planting bed is prepared, dig planting holes for shrubs to be a depth of 200mm and a width of 150mm greater than the source pot size, ensuring that pit walls are loosened to ensure good drainage.

Ensure planting appears random / natural and not formal in accordance with the planting proposal layouts as supplied by the Landscape Architect.

All shrub areas to be dressed with a minimum 75mm mulch layer, consisting of medium chipped tree bark, composted for 2-4 weeks, particle size 15-50mm, laid directly onto weed suppressant membrane.

The contractor shall take the necessary precautions to ensure all shrub areas are protected throughout the establishment period by temporary fencing.

### Ornamental Hedge Planting

Plant hedges into pre-prepared planting trenches, 500-600mm wide for double rows. Planting strips to consist of topsoil to a depth of 350-400mm, mixed with soil conditioner as specified below.

Topsoil to be either, existing retained site-sourced topsoil (free from weeds) or imported topsoil (Multi-purpose grade to BS3882:2015, sandy loam) or a combination of the two as necessary.

Incorporate a soil conditioner/amendment in the form of peat free general-purpose shrub compost or well rotted spent mushroom compost along planting trench in a 20mm layer at the rate of 30kg per m<sup>2</sup>, and incorporate to a depth of 225mm.

Install a proprietary weed suppressant membrane onto the surface of the pre-prepared trench, with minimum 300mm laps. Plant hedge plants into pre-prepared planting strips which are deep enough as to be 200mm greater than the root depth of the supplied plant stock.

All hedge planting areas to be dressed with a minimum 75mm mulch layer, consisting of medium chipped tree bark, composted for 2-4 weeks, particle size 15-50mm, laid directly on weed suppressant membrane.

Where not planted against a proposed fence-line or wall, hedges to be supported by min. 1000 high timber post and wire fence, consisting of min. 75mm diameter x 2000mm long, rounded timber posts, driven in at 2000mm centres with 3No. galvanised wire supports evenly spaced along the vertical axis of the post. Corner posts and end bracing posts are to be additionally supported by 45° angled, 50mm diameter timber studs.

### Plant Sourcing

All plant and seed material will be well UK sourced and grown. All plant material to be sourced from reputable suppliers with good biosecurity and phytosanitary procedures.

**General Planting Maintenance**

All soft landscape areas to be maintained to BS7370-4:1993.

Sufficient watering should be undertaken by the contractor to establish and maintain healthy plant growth.

All failed / defective plants identified within the first 5 years of installation should be replaced at the earliest available planting season to ensure a continued coverage of growth. Replacement plants should be of the same species and specification of the failed specimens.

Bare areas and areas of dead grass which become apparent should be rectified by overseeding and/or turf re-installation at the soonest available planting season.

All shrub planting and formal hedges shall be pruned at least twice per annum, removing dead or dying wood, to maintain a healthy, natural shape and promote good form.

All planting areas should be kept tidy and free from weeds, brinnings, debris and litter. Weeds should be removed by hand unless where it is unreasonable, whereby weeds can be treated by the application of a suitable proprietary herbicide.

Herbicide usage to be limited to spray usage on calm days (no wind) and undertaken by suitably qualified operatives in accordance with current legislation.

Tree stakes, ties and guards should be checked annually for adjustment and/or replacement/removal as required.

## LEGEND

RED LINE / SITE BOUNDARY

EXISTING TREES / VEGETATION

TREES / VEGETATION REMOVED

Planting / Soft Landscape

ORNAMENTAL HEDGE PLANTING

ORNAMENTAL SHRUB PLANTING

CLIMBING SHRUB PLANTING

SPECIMEN SHRUB PLANTING

Hardscape / Surfaces

RESIN BOUND GRAVEL

GRAVEL

GRANITE SETT PAVING

DRAINAGE CHANNEL

BRICK WALL

FRENCH DRAIN

1:100

0 1 2 3 4 5 metres

A 07.06.21 jc Removal phormium "Rainbox Queen" and replace with 4no. Sorbus aucuparia "Cardinal Royal"

Rev Date By Description

Drawing Status

FOR INFORMATION

Client Lysander Associates

Project 28 Harley Road, London

Title Detailed Landscape Plan & Surface Water Management

Scale 1:100 @ A1 Drawn LR

Date September 2020 Checked JC

Drawing No. MH7664-001 Rev A

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