

NOTE: These implementation and maintenance guidelines are for planning purposes only to indicate the level of workmanship to be specified and do not constitute a detailed specification.

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 All plants will conform to BS 3936-1 (1992): and be in accordance with the National Plant Specification. Supplying nurseries will be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme. All tree planting will be in accordance with BS: 8545:2014. All plants will be packed and transported in accordance with the Code of Practice for Plant Handling as produced by CPSE.
- 1.2 Planting will not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frost bound or during periods of cold drying winds.
- 1.3 All bare-root planting stock will be kept covered until actually planted in order to minimise water-loss and prevent the roots from drying out.
- 1.4 All bare-root planting stock will be root dipped in an approved water-retaining polymer.
- 1.5 If the formation level is compacted it should be ripped through before topsoiling. Recommended topsoil depths are 450mm for shrubs and 150mm for grass.

2. TREE PLANTING

Ground Preparation and Tree Pit Excavation

- 2.1 If the formation level is compacted it will be ripped through before topsoiling.
- 2.2 Where necessary existing weeds will be treated with a suitable glyphosate-based herbicide and a suitable period allowed to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.
- 2.3 Tree pits will be excavated to approximately 100mm larger than the diameter of the root spread and to be planted in accordance with BS 4428 (1989). The bottom and sides shall be forked to break up the subsoil. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm diameter in any dimension will be removed from site.

Planting

- 2.4 Trees are to be placed into the pits and backfilled with local topsoil previously stripped from the site. A general-purpose slow release fertiliser (at the rate of 75gm/m2) and Tree Planting and Mulching Compost (at the rate of 20litres/m²) are to be incorporated into the top 150mm of topsoil during backfilling. Where tree pits are more than 300mm deep, backfilled material shall be consolidated/firmed in 150mm layers.
- 2.5 Trees shall be planted as per the planting pattern set out in the plant schedule on the relevant drawing.
- 2.6 Trees shall be well firmed-in and secured with stakes, proprietary rubber tree ties and spacers as below.
- 2.7 All newly planted trees over 1.5m high will be held so that movement at the root collar is minimised until new roots have developed to anchor the tree. Therefore low staking (75mm dia x 1.5m length) will be used and attached to the tree at approximately 600mm above ground level. Stakes will be driven 300mm into undisturbed ground before planting the tree, taking care to avoid underground services and cables. The trees will be staked using proprietary rubber ties and must be firmly fixed with a spacing device used to prevent chafing against the tree.

- 2.8 All trees up to and including selected standards are to be supported with single 75mm diameter stakes.
- 2.9 Composted bark mulch will be spread to a depth of 75mm across in a 1.0m diameter circle around all individual trees.
- 2.10 All trees and shrubs shall be watered in at the end of each day of planting.
- 2.11 Shrubs are to be set out as shown on the drawing and pit planted into the prepared soil at the specified centres with minimal disturbance to the rootball and well firmed in. Spread ornamental pine bark mulch to a depth of 75mm across all new planting areas, ensuring groundcover plants are not buried.

Watering during first growing season

- 2.12 The site is to be visited as required throughout the year to undertake the following operations:
- 2.13 Watering: During the first year of establishment all shrubs are to be watered to saturation at field capacity once per month and additionally following any dry periods of 7 days. The trees require 10L every two days in early spring, increasing to 25L of water every 2 days during July/August. Then gradually decreasing again to 10L per day by the end of leaf fall in the autumn.
- 2.14

3. SHRUB/HERBACEOUS PLANTING

- 3.1 Shrubs plants are to be set out as shown on the drawing and pit planted into the prepared soil at the specified densities with minimal disturbance to the rootball and well firmed in.
- 3.2 Recommended rooting depths are 600mm for shrubs plants. Multipurpose topsoil depths shall be 300mm for shrubs/herbaceous, ensuring that a suitable subsoil shall provide the remainder of the minimum rooting depth. Before receiving topsoil, subsoils should be loosened using ripping equipment, this shall be done when the subsoil is dry to encourage soil shattering. All stones and other objects larger than 50 mm shall be removed from the prepared surface
- 3.3 Within the day of planting shrub/herbaceous plants should be saturated to field capacity, this shall be done before applying the below bark mulch.
- 3.4 Spread ornamental pine bark mulch to a depth of 75mm across all new planted areas, taking care not to bury groundcover plants.

4. MAINTENANCE OF ALL TREES AND SHRUB PLANTING

- 4.1 In the autumn following planting the CA/landscape contractor will prepare a list of all trees and shrubs which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the following planting season. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.
- 4.2 The site is to be visited three times per month at regular intervals between October and March and once per month between April and September, to undertake the following operations:

• Weed clearance: All tree pits and shrub areas are to be kept weed free by hand weeding or herbicide treatment. The bark mulch shall be topped up at least once annually.

• Litter clearance: All litter is to be removed from tree planting areas.

• Checking trees: All tree ties and stakes are to be checked and adjusted if too loose, too tight or if chaffing is occurring. Any broken stakes are to be replaced.

• Formative pruning: Any damaged shoots/branches are to be pruned back to healthy wood. Trees are to be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice (BS 3998) to maintain healthy well-shaped specimens which are appropriately shaped for their circumstances.

Planting

Maintenance during first growing season

- 4.3 All dead, dying or diseased plants will be replaced with plants of similar size and species. If the failure of the plant is due to disease and the disease is considered likely to re-occur then an alternative species may be used as replacement if agreed with the LPA.
- 4.4 Any broken stakes on shelters will be replaced and all tree and shrub guards adjusted as required to ensure continued protection from browsing damage.
- 4.5 The planting area will be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period using approved herbicides in April, June and August.

Revision	Description	Date
-	First issue	5/1/22



W: www.hcukgroup.co.uk

Client:
Imperial College London

Project:
Imperial College Sports Ground MUGA

Description:
Soft Landscape Specification

Status:
FOR PLANNING

Scale: 1:500 @A3	Drawn I SH CB	Checked CB	Date: 5/1/2022
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Job Number: 7704	Drawing Number: 2	Revision: -
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