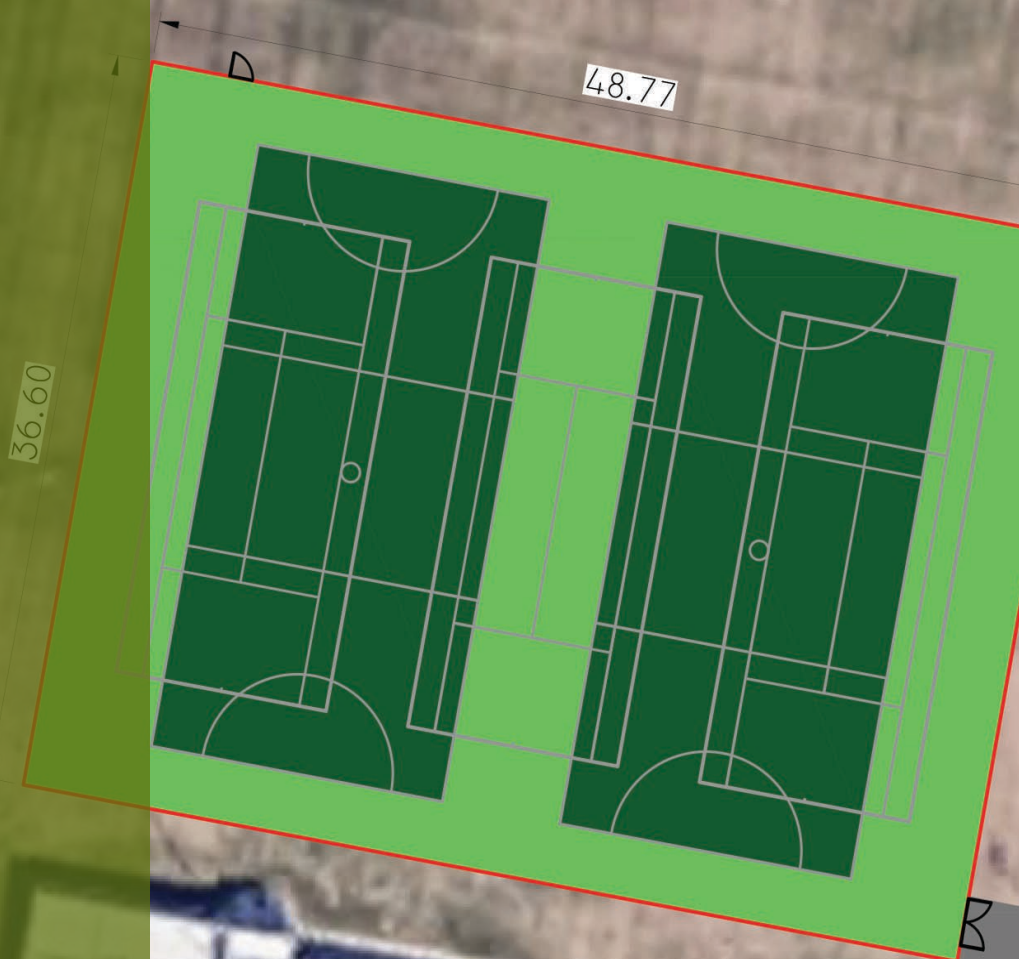




Landscape Management Plan

Imperial College
Sports Ground,
MUGA, Harlington

January 2022 | Project Ref 7704



HCUK Group is a multi-disciplinary environmental practice offering expert advice in archaeology, heritage, landscape, arboriculture, and planning. It began life in 2010 as Heritage Collective LLP, before becoming Heritage Collective UK Limited in 2014. In the coming years diversification saw the addition of Archaeology Collective, Landscape Collective and Planning Collective, before all strands came together to be branded under a single umbrella: HCUK Group, based on the acronym for the original company. A home working company since the beginning, we are pleased to employ a talented workforce of consultants and support staff, who are on hand to advise our clients.



Project Number: 7704

File Origin: <https://heritagecollectiveuk.sharepoint.com/sites/Projects/Shared Documents/Projects 7501-8000/7701-7800/07704 - Imperial Sports Ground/LC/Reports/7704 - Landscape Management Plan.docx>

Author with date	Reviewer code, with date
SH 07.01.22	CB 07.01.22

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Detailed Planting Plan 7704 01

1. Introduction

- 1.1** This landscape management plan has been prepared by HCUK Group on behalf of Imperial College London in respect of a planning application for the development of land at Imperial Sports Ground, Harlington, London, UB3 5EH.
- 1.2** This document should be seen as an operational guide, which covers soft landscaping, and is subject to amendment in the light of changing conditions. Different landscape features mature and develop, and it is therefore recommended that this management plan be reviewed at five yearly intervals to ensure that the management aims and tasks are still relevant and required.
- 1.3** This document should be read in conjunction with any ecological and arboricultural recommendations set out in the respective reports, and the planting proposals produced by HCUK GROUP (see Appendix 1).

2. Management Plan

Responsibilities

- 2.1** After Practical Completion all areas will be maintained by the appropriate parties as shown on the Landscape Masterplan (Appendix 1).

Objectives of the Management Plan

- To ensure clear objectives for the site are laid down and agreed.
- To set clear standards for the performance of the landscape maintenance work following handover from the landscape contractor.
- To identify and resolve any potential conflicts between different users of the site.
- To develop work programmes and schedules to be used by maintenance staff.
- To maintain and enhance the landscape character of the site.
- Present a visible indication of high quality for all hard landscaped areas.
- To ensure that the application site provides an attractive, safe and useable landscape framework.
- To ensure the establishment and growth to maturity of all new areas of planting.

Planting Plan

- 2.2** The landscape planting plan (Appendix 1) illustrates the landscape framework across the site and how different hard and soft landscape elements feature throughout.
- 2.3** The development site includes a range of soft landscape elements such as proposed trees, existing grassland and ornamental shrub planting.

General

- 2.4** The site shall be visited monthly to collect and remove any litter. Any such debris shall be taken to an approved waste disposal site by an approved waste carrier in accordance with the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.
- 2.5** Until well established, all shrubs and trees are to be watered during the growing season following any dry periods of 7 days. The watering regime shall be as below.

Trees

- 2.6** Water should be applied to the base of the tree, evenly distributed over the entirety of the root-ball.
- 2.7** A newly planted tree should be watered in when planted to field capacity, and at the point of bud burst in the spring and should be continued throughout the spring and summer until the leaves have fallen in autumn (for deciduous trees).
- 2.8** Watering is advised for the first 2 seasons after planting, further to this the tree should be able to access water from the surrounding soil.

Shrubs

- 2.9** Shrubs within the project (see drawing 07704 01 Soft Landscape Plan) will be watered during establishment. i.e. they will be watered in to field capacity when first planted. Thereafter they will be watered to saturation once per month during the establishment period. If there are any spells of dry weather lasting at least seven days, and/or the plants are showing signs stress due to lack of water, the plants will receive additional watering to field capacity.

Watering method

- 2.10** During the two year establishment all shrubs are to be watered manually using a water bowser (if required) and hose, or alternative trees can be planted with a slow release watering bag (e.g. Treegator available from Greentech (www.greentech.co.uk)).

- 2.11** After the establishment period, the plants are to be watered via precipitation, unless there are long dry spells lasting at least ten days, or the plants show signs of stress due to lack of water. In which case the shrubs need to be watered manually to field capacity every 5 days until further precipitation.
- 2.12** During the two year establishment, the trees will be watered at the following rates. During the height of summer (July/August), water should be applied at a rate of 25L every other day. This application rate can be gradually increased from 10L every other day in the spring and decreased to 10L every other day, before leaf fall in the autumn.

Monitoring

- 2.13** A suitably qualified Landscape Architect/land manager shall carry out a site inspection annually for the duration of the management plan. An annual general walkover of the site by the Landscape Architect/land manager should record the effectiveness of the proposed landscape planting and record any species that are struggling to establish. A record of species failures, probable reasons for failures and numbers of replacements needed should be recorded.
- 2.14** All adjustments shall be agreed in writing with the local planning authority prior to any alterations in management practices.
- 2.15** Monitoring will help ensure the landscape planting is establishing as intended. Monitoring will also give an early warning of any injurious weeds or vegetation failure that may occur, or any loss of proposed planting. Over time the monitoring information will build up a picture of the success or otherwise of the management plan and inform any amendments that may be required.
- 2.16** Recommendations will be made where relevant to update and amend the management plan and inform the objectives to ensure they are still required and relevant.

3. Management Schedules

Amenity Grass (around MUGA) – Management Objectives

(This Amenity Grass management schedule is indicative and does not supersede any existing amenity Grass management policy)

- To maintain amenity grass areas at specified height
- To keep grass areas in good condition
- To keep grass areas free from litter and rubbish

Management Objective	Maintenance Task	Method	Timing	Years
Control height of amenity grass for recreational use	Cut grass to between 25-50mm	Mow with pedestrian or sit-on mower as necessary – arisings should be removed from site and composted. Trim around obstacles such as fences, walls and posts to same standard as the surrounding grass area. Clean path areas after mowing.	Approx. 16-20 times during growing season April – October (every 7 to 10 days during May, June, July and August but do not cut in drought conditions)	1,2,3,4,5
Keep edges to amenity grass areas neat and tidy	Trim edges to shrub beds	By hand using long handled edging shears (shrub beds). The use of strimmers is not acceptable.	May, July, September	1,2,3,4,5
Keep all grass areas free from litter	Litter removal	Hand picking.	Before each cut and monthly October - March.	1,2,3,4,5

Proposed tree planting – Management objectives

- To ensure successful establishment of tree planting
- To maintain newly planted trees to ensure a good survival rate and development
- To minimise competition from grass and weeds
- To keep planted areas free from litter and rubbish

Management Objective	Maintenance Task	Method	Timing	Years
Ensure successful establishment of tree planting	Check tree ties and staking stability	Check stake is holding the tree securely. Adjust tie if necessary. Replace stake and tie if necessary	Twice yearly, spring and autumn	1,2,3
Keep tree planted areas free from weeds to reduce competition	Visual inspection to check mulching levels Weeding	Top up mulching levels where required, minimum once a year top up to depth of 75mm Weed clearance by hand, hoe or fork, or by use of herbicide as required. Take care not to disturb roots and avoid excessive treading of bed surface Do not use strimmers in these areas.	Monthly from March to October or as required	1,2,3,4,5
Maintain integrity of planting scheme	Monitor and record any tree losses/vandalism	Maintain tree planting and replace any losses. Check and mark dead trees in August/September – replace in the next growing season	October/ November	1,2,3,4,5

Management Objective	Maintenance Task	Method	Timing	Years
Keep planting areas free from excess leaf litter and fallen twigs and branches	Removal of leaves and tree debris	Leaf blower and leaf collection equipment	November to December	1,2,3,4,5
Keep paths/seating areas/parking areas clear from branches/vegetation.	Pruning/cutting back	Prune back tree branches/vegetation from encroaching onto adjacent paths and highways. Prune to a height of 5m over highways and 3m over paths	As required from March to October.	1,2,3,4,5

Ornamental shrub planting – Management objectives

- To establish new areas of new ornamental shrubs and to present visible indication of high quality with regular site maintenance
- To maintain newly planted shrubs and ground cover to ensure a good survival rate and development
- To minimise competition from grass and weeds
- To keep planted areas free from litter and rubbish

Management Objective	Maintenance Task	Method	Timing	Years
Keep planted beds free from weeds to reduce competition and improve visual amenity	Weeding Top up bark mulch	Weed clearance by hand, hoe or fork as required. Take care not to disturb shrub roots and avoid excessive treading of bed surface. Avoid use of	Monthly from March to October or as required Top up bark mulch once a year	1,2,3,4,5

Management Objective	Maintenance Task	Method	Timing	Years
		herbicide until 75% of the ground is covered. Top up bark mulch a the depth of 75mm		
Maintain integrity of planting scheme	Monitor and record any plant losses. Report to client.	Replace missing plants and maintain to ensure survival	October/ November	1,2,3,4,5
Keep paths/seating/parking area clear from vegetation.	Pruning/cutting back	Prune back shrubs from encroaching onto adjacent paths/seating/parking area.	As required from March to October.	1,2,3,4,5
To keep newly planted shrubs and ground cover in prime condition and appearance.	Qualified horticultural staff to inspect and check on condition of ornamental planting.	Prune dead foliage and flowers and extension growth as necessary	As required depending on species	1,2,3,4,5
To keep newly planted shrubs free from pests and disease	Qualified horticultural staff to inspect and check on health of ornamental planting.	Deal with individual problems as they arise keeping use of pesticides to a minimum	Monthly from March to October	1,2,3,4,5
To keep newly planted shrub beds free from litter and rubbish	Remove litter and rubbish	Remove by hand	Monthly	1,2,3,4,5

Appendix 1 – Planting Plan and Outline Specification