



Graven Hill Health Hub

BNG Offsite Planting Landscape Specification

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Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Limited

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This document has been prepared and checked in accordance with Waterman Group's IMS (BS EN ISO 9001: 2015, BS EN ISO 14001: 2015 and BS EN ISO 45001:2018)

Issue	Date	Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
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Comments

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Contents

Q31 External planting	1
Q35 Landscape maintenance	9

Q31

External planting

General information/ requirements

112 Site clearance generally

1. General: Remove rubbish, concrete, metal, glass, decayed vegetation and contaminated topsoil.
2. Stones: Remove those with any dimension exceeding
3. Contamination: Remove material containing toxins, pathogens or other extraneous substances harmful to plant, animal or human life.
4. Vegetation:
5. Large roots: Grub up and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil and adjacent areas.
6. Additional requirements:

118 Soil conditions

1. Soil for cultivating and planting: Moist, friable and (except in aquatic/ marginal planting) not waterlogged.
2. Frozen or snow covered soil: Give notice before planting. Provide additional root protection. Prevent planting pit sides and bases and backfill materials from freezing.

120 Climatic conditions

1. General: Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.
 - 1.1. Strong winds: Do not plant.

125 Times of year for planting

1. Deciduous trees and shrubs: Late October to late March.
2. Conifers and evergreens: September/ October or April/ May.
3. Container grown plants: At any time if ground and weather conditions are favourable.
 - 3.1. Watering and weed control: Provide as necessary.

130 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems.

145 Watering

1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
2. Application: Even and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
3. Frequency: As necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting.

146 Watering

1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
2. Application: Even and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
3. Frequency:

150 Water restrictions

1. General: If water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation, do not carry out planting until instructed. If planting has been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

160 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Applying herbicide.
 - 1.3. Applying fertilizer.
 - 1.4. Delivery of plants/ trees.
 - 1.5. Planting shrubs.
 - 1.6. Planting trees into previously dug pits.
 - 1.7. Watering.
 - 1.8. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice: Two working days

200 Plants/ Trees – general

1. **Condition:** Materially undamaged, sturdy, healthy and vigorous.
2. **Appearance:** Of good shape and without elongated shoots.
3. **Hardiness:** Grown in a suitable environment and hardened off.
4. **Health:** Free from pests, diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders.
5. **Budded or grafted plants:** Bottom worked.
6. **Root system and condition:** Balanced with branch system.
 - 6.1. **Standard:** The National Plant Specification
7. **Species:** True to name.
8. **Origin/ Provenance:** As plant schedule
9. **Definition:** Origin and Provenance have the meaning given in the National Plant Specification.

215 Plants/ Trees – specification criteria

1. **Name, forms, dimensions, provenance and other criteria:** As scheduled and defined in the National Plant Specification (available on CS Design Software Limited's website).

216 Plants/ Trees – specification criteria

1. **Name, forms, dimensions and other criteria:** To the relevant part of BS 3936.

235 Container grown plants/ Trees

1. **Growing medium:** With adequate nutrients for plants to thrive until permanently planted.
2. **Plants:** Centred in containers, firmed and well watered.
3. **Root growth:** Substantially filling containers, but not root bound, and in a condition conducive to successful transplanting.
4. **Hardiness:** Grown in the open for at least two months before being supplied.
5. **Containers:** With holes adequate for drainage when placed on any substrate commonly used under irrigation systems.

245 Labelling and information

1. **General:** Provide each plant/ tree or group of plants/ trees of a single species or cultivar with supplier's labelling for delivery to site, showing:
 - 1.1. Full botanical name.
 - 1.2. Total number.
 - 1.3. Number of bundles.

- 1.4. Part bundles.
 - 1.5. Supplier's name.
 - 1.6. Employer's name and project reference.
 - 1.7. Plant specification, in accordance with scheduled National Plant Specification categories.
2. Additional information: Submit on request: Date supplied and consignment details or reference.

246 Labelling and information

1. Standard: To BS 3936.

255 Plants/ Trees reserved at supplier's premises

1. Types/ Species: As plant schedule
2. Predelivery inspection: Give notice.
3. Labelling: Identify inspected plants/ trees as reserved for use on this project.

260 Plant/ Tree substitution

1. Plants/ trees unobtainable or known to be likely to be unobtainable at time of ordering: Submit alternatives, stating:
 - 1.1. Price.
 - 1.2. Difference from specified plants/ trees.
2. Approval: Obtain before making any substitution.

265 Plant handling, storage transport and planting

1. Standard: To CPSE 'Handling and establishing landscape plants'.
2. Frost: Protect plants from frost.
3. Handling: Handle plants with care. Protect from mechanical damage and do not subject to shock, e.g. by dropping from a vehicle.
4. Plant packaging: Black polyethylene bags
5. Packaging of bulk quantities: Pallets or bins sealed with polyethylene and shrink wrapped
6. Planting: Upright or well balanced with best side to front.

280 Treatment of tree wounds

1. Cutting: Keep wounds as small as possible.
 - 1.1. Cut cleanly back to sound wood using sharp, clean tools.
 - 1.2. Leave branch collars. Do not cut flush with stem or trunk.
 - 1.3. Set cuts so that water will not collect on cut area.
2. Fungicide/ Sealant: Do not apply unless instructed.

285 Protection of existing grass

1. General: Protect areas affected by planting operations using boards/ tarpaulins.
 - 1.1. Excavated or imported material: Do not place directly on grass.
 - 1.2. Duration: Minimum period.

290 Surplus material

1. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

Plant containers - Not Used

Preparation of planting beds/ planting materials

305 Weed control

1. **Description:** FOR INVASIVE NON-NATIVE WEEDS
2. **Locations:** All planting areas
3. **General:** Prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established, by contractor's choice of herbicide by hand weeding.

385 Mulch matting/ Geotextile fabric

1. **Description:** Mulch Mat to native shrub and tree planting
2. **Manufacturer:** Green-Tech, or similar approved
 - 2.1. **Product reference:** Greenfix Mulch Mat
3. **Type:** Type 11
4. **Recycled content:** Made from starch
5. **Timing:** Lay before planting.
6. **Watering:** Water soil thoroughly before laying.
7. **Laying:** In close contact with soil surface. Lap or butt joints as recommended by manufacturer, with no gaps.
8. **Fixing::** Mulch mats fixed with Green-Tech Degradable Bio Weed Fabric Fixing Pegs, or similar approved. 5 pegs per mulch mat.
9. **Planting:** Cut neat slits or flaps. Refit closely around plant stems.
10. **Overlay:** Bark mulch, 50mm depth

Planting shrubs/ herbaceous plants/ bulbs

401 Regular plant layout

1. **Description:** TO WOODLAND PLANTING
2. **Spacing:** As plant schedule on drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG
3. **Density:** As plant schedule on drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG

405 Shrub planting pits

1. **Timing:** Excavate 1-2 days (maximum) before planting.
2. **Sizes:** As plant schedule on drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG
3. **Pit bottom improvement** Break up to a depth of 150 mm, incorporating 25 g of slow release fertilizer per planting pit.

471 Naturalized hedges

1. **Planting:** In trenches large enough to take full spread of roots. Set out plants evenly.

480 After planting

1. **Watering:** Immediately after planting, thoroughly and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
2. **Firming:** Lightly firm soil around plants and fork and/ or rake soil, without damaging roots, to a fine tilth with gentle cambers and no hollows.
3. **Top dressing:** Mulching and top dressing system, as section Q28
 - 3.1. **Depth:** 50 mm

486 Shrub protection

1. **Manufacturer:** Green-Tech or similar approved
 - 1.1. **Product reference:** Tubex Shrub Shelter Guard and Stake
2. **Type:** As per manufacturers details
3. **Material:** As per manufacturers details
4. **Size:** As per manufacturers details
5. **Colour:** As per manufacturers details
6. **Support:** Single timber stake and ties as per manufacturers details
7. **General:** Ensure that protection methods do not impede natural movement of shrubs or restrict growth.

Planting trees

500 Tree planting

1. **Standard:** Prepare trees and transplant in accordance with BS 8545

505 Tree pits

1. **Sizes:** As per drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG
2. **Sloping ground:** Maintain horizontal bases and vertical sides with no less than minimum depth throughout.
3. **Excavated material:** Remove arisings
4. **Pit bottoms:** Excavate with slightly raised centre: Break up base to a depth of 150 mm.
 - 4.1. **Treatment:** Soil ameliorant worked into pit bottoms
5. **Pit sides:** Scarify.
6. **Backfilling material:** Proprietary tree backfilling material, as section Q28

520 Cellular structural soil system

1. **Locations:**
2. **Manufacturer:**
 - 2.1. **Product reference:**
3. **Geotextile membrane:**
4. **Installation:** Ensure all void spaces are filled with lightly compacted growing medium prior to installation of further layers or sub-bases.

535 Tree stakes

1. **Stakes:** Softwood, peeled chestnut, larch or oak, straight, free from projections and large or edge knots and with pointed lower end.
 - 1.1. **Preservative treatment:** Not required
2. **Stake size (minimum):** 75 mm diameter
3. **Stake length (minimum):** 1500 mm

546 Single vertical staking for

1. **Description:** WHIPS AND FEATHERED TREES
2. **Staking**
 - 2.1. **Position:** Close to tree position on windward side.
 - 2.2. **Driving:** Vertically at least 300 mm into bottom of pit before planting.
 - 2.3. **Backfilling:** Consolidate material around stake.

- 2.4. **Firming:** Sufficiently firm to prevent movement of the rootball/ rootstock.
3. **Height of stakes:** Cut off to approximately 600 mm above ground level
4. **Ties:** Biodegradable natural fibre
 - 4.1. **Number of ties:** Submit proposals
5. **Tying:** Secure tree firmly but not rigidly to stake with ties. Prevent tree from touching stake using spacer blocks or cushions if required.
 - 5.1. **Position:** Top tie within 25 mm of top of stake and additional ties equally spaced along the stake.
6. **Nails:** To BS 1202-1, galvanized, minimum 25 mm long and with 10 mm diameter heads.

566 Tree protection

1. **Manufacturer:** Green-Tech or similar approved
 - 1.1. **Product reference:** Tubex Tree Shelter Guard and Stake
2. **Type:** As per manufacturers details
3. **Material:** As per manufacturers details
4. **Size:** As per manufacturers details
5. **Colour:** As per manufacturers details
6. **Support:** Single timber stake and ties as per manufacturers details
7. **General:** Ensure that protection methods do not impede natural movement of trees or restrict growth.

Woodland/ matrix/ buffer zone planting

600 Woodland work generally

1. **Services:** Check for below and above ground services, including land drainage, in the vicinity. Give notice if they may be affected and obtain instructions before proceeding.
2. **Safety:** Comply with Arboriculture and Forestry Advisory Group Safety leaflets.

605 Existing vegetation/ Weed clearance

1. **Surface vegetation clearance:** Screef an area one metre diameter around each planting location
2. **Arisings:** Remove.

615 Existing trees/ Seedlings/ Coppice shoots

1. **Existing trees and seedlings:** Retain.
2. **Coppice shoots:** Remove all stems and treat with suitable herbicide to prevent regrowth

625 Cultivation

1. **General:**
2. **Consolidation:**
3. **Soil within root spread of trees to be retained:** Do not plough or cultivate.

665 Setting out

1. **Distance between trees:** As drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG

680 Setting out

1. **Planting density:** As drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG
2. **Layout:** Random groups of no less than 3 or more than 7 of the same species, ensuring that no three plants are aligned in any one direction.

Protecting/ maintaining/ making good defects

710 Maintenance

1. **Duration:** Carry out the operations in the following clauses from completion of planting until the end of the rectification period.
2. **Frequency of maintenance visits:** In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule

720 Failures of planting

1. **Defects due to materials or workmanship not in accordance with the Contract:** Plants/ trees/ shrubs that have failed to thrive.
 - 1.1. **Exclusions:** Theft or malicious damage after completion.
 - 1.2. **Rectification:** Replace with equivalent plants/ trees/ shrubs.
2. **Replacements:** To match size of adjacent or nearby plants of same species or match original specification, whichever is the greater.
3. **Timing of making good:** During the next suitable planting season

730 Protective fencing

1. **Fencing type:** As detailed in Arboricultural documentation
2. **Erection:** On completion of planting.
3. **Removal:** After planting is well established

740 Cleanliness

1. **Soil and arisings:** Remove from hard surfaces and grassed areas.
2. **General:** Leave the works in a clean tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

750 Planting maintenance generally

1. **Weed control:** Maintain weed free area around each tree and shrub.
 - 1.1. **Diameter (minimum):** The larger of 1 m or the surface of original planting pit.
 - 1.2. **Keep planting beds clear of weeds:** By hoeing
By maintaining full thickness of mulch
2. **Planted areas:** Fork over beds as necessary to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Take care not to reduce depth or effect of mulch.
3. **Precautions:** Ensure that trees and shrubs are not damaged by use of mowers, nylon filament rotary cutters and similar powered tools.
4. **Firming up:** Gently firm loosened soil around trees/ shrubs. Straighten leaning trees/ shrubs.
5. **Trees:** Spray crown when in leaf during warm weather.
 - 5.1. **Timing:** After dusk.
6. **Tree accessories:** Check condition of stakes, ties, guys, guards and irrigation and ventilation systems.
 - 6.1. **Broken or missing items:** Replace.
 - 6.2. **Loose stakes:** Re-firm in the ground or replace as necessary to provide support to the tree.
 - 6.3. **Loose guys:** Re-firm anchor points and adjust as necessary to provide support to the tree.
 - 6.4. **Ties:** Adjust to accommodate growth and prevent constriction or abrasion.
 - 6.5. **Damage to bark:** Cut back neatly with sharp knife. Prevent further damage.
 - 6.6. **Frequency of checks:** At each scheduled maintenance visit
7. **Watering:** As required for healthy establishment, depending on weather conditions

760 Planting maintenance – pruning

1. General: Prune to promote healthy growth and natural shape.
 - 1.1. Dead, dying, diseased wood and suckers: Remove.
 - 1.2. Timing: In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule
 - 1.3. Trees: Favour a single central leading shoot.
2. Arisings: Remove.

770 Woodland planting maintenance

1. Watering: Only as necessary to prevent plants wilting.
2. Loose plants: Refirm surrounding soil, without compacting.
3. Weed control: Cut down and remove weeds prior to setting seed in a 1 m diameter area around each tree.
4. Vegetation except trees and coppice shoots to be retained: Cut within the plantation area.
 - 4.1. Height (maximum): 25 mm
 - 4.2. Arisings: Leave between rows.
5. Mechanical, chemical or mulching methods of vegetation control: Submit proposals.
6. Ditches and drains: Keep clear.
7. Watering:

780 Maintenance instructions

1. General: Before end of the maintenance period, submit printed instructions recommending procedures to be established by the Employer for maintenance of the planting work for one full year: Provide a schedule of any ongoing maintenance problems experienced during the rectification period.

790 Final mulching

1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period.
2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to remulching, applying water where necessary.
3. Planting beds: Remulch.
4. Depth (minimum): 50 mm
5. Trees: Remulch.
6. Depth (minimum): 50 mm

Ω End of Section

Q35 Landscape maintenance

Generally

130 Reinstatement

1. Damage or disturbance to soil structure, planting, grass, fencing, hard landscaping, structures or buildings: Reinstatement to original condition.

155 Watering

1. Supply: No site supply available, submit proposals
2. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil
3. Application: Do not damage or loosen plants.
4. Compacted soil: Loosen or scoop out, to direct water to rootzone.
5. Frequency: As necessary for the continued thriving of all planting.

160 Water restrictions

1. 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

1. General: Unless specified otherwise, dispose of arisings as follows:
 - 1.1. Biodegradable arisings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.2. Grass cuttings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.3. Tree roots and stumps: Remove from site
 - 1.4. Shrub and tree prunings: Remove to recycling facility
 - 1.5. Litter and nonbiodegradable arisings: Remove from site

180 Chipping or shredding

1. General: Not permitted on site.

181 Mechanical equipment

1. General: Minimize.
2. Prohibited equipment: Chippers
3. Timing: Use of mechanical equipment allowed between the hours of 10:00 am and 4:00 pm only

190 Litter

1. Extraneous rubbish not arising from the contract work: Collect and remove from site.

195 Protection of existing grass

1. General: Protect areas affected by maintenance operations using boards/tarpaulins. Do not place excavated or imported materials directly on grass.

197 Cleanliness

1. Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.
2. General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

Grassed areas

210 Maintenance of grassed areas

1. **General:** Maintain turf in a manner appropriate to the intended use.
2. **Soil and grass**
 - 2.1. **Condition:** Maintain a healthy vigorous sward, free from disease, fungal growth, discolouration, scorch or wilt.
 - 2.2. **Waterlogging and compaction:** Prevent.
 - 2.3. **Damage:** Repair trampling, abrasion or scalping.
3. **Ornamental lawns:** Maintain reasonably free from moss, excessive thatch, weeds, frost heave, worm casts and mole hills.
 - 3.1. **Edges:** Neat and well defined, in clean straight lines or smooth flowing curves.
4. **Litter and fallen leaves:** Remove regularly to maintain a neat appearance.

211 Maintenance of grassed areas

1. **Standard:** To BS 7370-3. Carry out maintenance appropriate to each category of turf, as follows:
 - 1.1. **Objectives:** To BS 7370-3, Table 6.
 - 1.2. **Programme:** To BS 7370-3, clause 11.
 - 1.3. **Mowing methods:** To BS 7370-3, Table 3.

220 Grass cutting generally

1. **Before mowing:** Remove litter, rubbish and debris.
2. **Finish:** Neat and even, without surface rutting, compaction or damage to grass.
3. **Edges:** Leave neat and well defined. Neatly trim around obstructions.
4. **Adjoining hard areas:** Sweep clear and remove arisings.
5. **Drought or wet conditions:** Obtain instructions.

225 Tree stems

1. **Precautions:** Do not use mowing machinery closer than 100 mm to tree stems. Use nylon filament rotary cutters and other hand held mechanical tools carefully to avoid damage to bark.

226 Tree stems

1. **Precautions:** Do not allow nylon filament rotary cutters and other mechanical tools closer than 100 mm to the stem of any tree.
 - 1.1. **Operations close to stems:** Complete using hand tools.

270 Mowing rough grassed areas

1. **Grass height:** 75 mm maximum
2. **Arisings:** Remove

340 Spot weedkilling in rough grass areas

1. **Herbicide:** Suitable non-residual herbicide
2. **Operations:** Spot treat as per maintenance schedule.

345 Control of Japanese knotweed

1. **Operations:** Spot treat in June and September during suitable weather conditions and when plants are growing vigorously.

2. **Herbicide:** As deta LEMP In accordance with the INNSA 'Code of practice. Managing Japanese knotweed'
3. **Application:** In accordance with the INNSA 'Code of practice. Managing Japanese knotweed'
4. **Arisings:** In accordance with the INNSA 'Code of practice. Managing Japanese knotweed'

Flower beds/ seasonal beddings

460 Beds of perennials or perennials and annuals

1. **Plant supports:** Stake and tie plants using
 - 1.1. **Length:**
 - 1.2. **Maintain** throughout the growing season.
2. **Gaps in planting:** Refill by replanting.
3. **Watering**
 - 3.1. **New plants:** Before and after planting out.
 - 3.2. **Ongoing:** As necessary for the continued thriving of all planting.
4. **Operations at end of growing season**
 - 4.1. **Trim:** Older flowering stems of herbaceous perennials.
 - 4.2. **Remove:** Redundant plant supports, litter, debris and arisings.
 - 4.3. **Cultivate:** Fork over the soil, taking care not to cause undue disturbance to plants.
 - 4.4. **Top dress:** Apply

490 Thinning by removal of surplus plants

1. **Plants to be thinned:** As per LEMP
2. **Standard:** BS 7370-4, clause 3.5.17.1.
3. **Timing:** Thin when foliage of adjacent plants has begun to touch.
4. **Roots**
 - 4.1. **Disturbance to adjacent plants:** Minimize.
 - 4.2. **Soil:** Refill holes with topsoil to leave an even graded surface.
 - 4.3. **Mulch:** Maintain mulch as original specification.
5. **Adjacent plants:** Make good any minor damage immediately.
6. **Plants for retention:** Select plants with a strong healthy habit.

Shrubs/trees/hedges

500 Establishment of new planting

1. **Duration:** 2 years
2. **Weed control**
 - 2.1. **Method:** Keep planting beds clear of weeds by hoeing and screening and maintaining full thickness of mulch.
 - 2.2. **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.
3. **Soil condition:** Fork over beds to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Do not reduce depth or effect of mulch.
4. **Watering:** Keep plants watered as necessary before planting out and water in after planting.

510 Tree stakes and ties

1. **Inspection/ Maintenance times:** As scheduled and immediately after strong winds
2. **Stakes**

- 2.1. Replace loose, broken or decayed stakes to original specification.
- 2.2. If longer than half of clear tree stem height, cut to this height in spring. Retie to tree firmly but not tightly with a single tie.
3. Ties: Adjust, refix or replace loose or defective ties, allowing for growth and to prevent chafing.
 - 3.1. Where chafing has occurred, reposition or replace ties to prevent further chafing.
4. Removal of stakes and ties: When instructed
 - 4.1. Fill stake holes with lightly compacted soil.

520 Refirming of trees and shrubs

1. Timing: After strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.
2. Refirming: Tread around the base until firmly bedded.
3. 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.

525 Tree guards

1. Loose or defective guards: Adjust, refix or replace to original specification and to prevent chafing.

530 Tree shelters

1. Loose or defective shelters: Adjust, refix or replace to original specification and to prevent chafing.
2. Removal: When instructed

537 Nesting wild birds

1. Survey: Before starting hedge or tree work during the period of February to August (inclusive), carry out a survey by a qualified ecologist and submit report
2. Accidental disturbance: Report immediately.

540 Pruning generally

1. Pruning: In accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice.
 - 1.1. Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem or bark.
 - 1.2. Wounds: Keep as small as possible and cut cleanly back to sound wood.
 - 1.3. Cutting: Make cuts above and sloping away from an outward facing healthy bud, angled so that water will not collect on cut area.
 - 1.4. Larger branches: Prune neither flush nor leaving a stub, but using the branch bark ridge or branch collar as a pruning guide.
2. Appearance: Thin, trim and shape each specimen appropriately to species, location, season, and stage of growth, leaving a well-balanced natural appearance.
3. Tools: Use clean sharp secateurs, hand saws or other approved tools. Trim off ragged edges of bark or wood with a sharp knife.
4. Disease or infection: Give notice if detected.
5. Growth retardants, fungicide or pruning sealant: Do not use unless instructed.

555 Pruning trees and shrubs

1. Standard: To BS 7370-4.
2. Special requirements: None

570 Formative pruning of young trees

1. Standard: Type and timing of pruning operations to suit the plant species.
2. Time of year: Do not prune during the late winter/ early spring sap flow period.

3. Young trees up to 4 m high
 - 3.1. Crown prune by removing dead branches and reducing selected side branches by one third to preserve a well-balanced head and ensure the development of a single strong leader.
 - 3.2. Remove duplicated branches and potentially weak or tight forks. In each case cut back to live wood.
4. Whips or feathered trees: Do not prune.
5. Operatives: Member of the Arboricultural Association

575 Pruning ornamental shrubs

1. General: Prune to encourage healthy and bushy growth and desirable ornamental features, e.g. flowers, fruit, autumn colour, stem colour.
2. Suckers: Remove by cutting back level with the source stem or root.

580 Pruning flowering species of shrubs and roses

1. Time of year
 - 1.1. Winter flowering shrubs: Spring.
 - 1.2. Shrubs flowering between March and July: Immediately after the flowering period.
 - 1.3. Shrubs flowering between July and October: Back to old wood in winter.
 - 1.4. Rose bushes: Early spring to encourage basal growths and a balanced, compact habit.

620 Removal of dead plant material

1. 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

1. Removal: As soon as possible
2. Replacement: In the next suitable planting season

645 Weed control generally

1. Weed tolerance: At all times, weed cover less than 5% and no weed to exceed 100 mm high
2. Adjacent plants, trees and grass: Do not damage.

650 Hand weeding

1. General: Remove weeds entirely, including roots.
2. Disturbance: Remove the minimum quantity of soil, and disturb plants, bulbs and mulched surfaces as little as possible.
3. Completion: Rake area to a neat, clean condition.
4. Mulch: Reinststate to original depth.

655 Weed cutting by hand or machine

1. Undesirable grass, brambles and herbaceous growth: Cut down cleanly to a maximum height of 25 mm.
2. Herbicides: Do not use

680 Soil aeration

1. Compacted soil surfaces
 - 1.1. Prick up: To aerate the soil of root areas and break surface crust.
 - 1.2. Size of lumps: Reduce to crumb and level off.

- 1.3. Damage: Do not damage plants and their roots.

685 Soil level adjustment

1. Level of soil/mulch at edges of beds: Reduce to 50 mm below adjacent grass or hard surface.
 - 1.1. Arisings (if any): Spread evenly over the bed.

690 Maintenance of loose mulch

1. Thickness (minimum): 50 mm
 - 1.1. Top up: Annually or as required to maintain 50mm depth
2. Mulch spill on adjacent areas: Remove weeds and rubbish and return to planted area.
3. Weeding: Remove weeds growing on or in mulch by hand weeding.

693 Maintenance of mulch matting/ Sheet mulches

1. General: Inspect and reattach or refirm mulch mats and sheet mulches.
2. Type: Geotextile
 - 2.1. Remove: After 1 year.

710 Woodland planting maintenance

1. Watering: In exceptional circumstances to prevent plants dying.
2. Loose plants: Refirm surrounding soil, without compacting.
3. Vegetation: Except trees and coppice shoots to be retained, cut down to 100 mm above ground level within the plantation area.
 - 3.1. Arisings: Leave between rows.
4. Ditches and drains: Keep clear.

715 Woodland thinning

1. Mature planting density: As per drawing WIE16470-ZZ-XX-DR-L-74-110_BNG
2. Timing: Thin in stages in accordance with the agreed management plan.

Tree work

810 Tree work generally

1. Identification: Before starting work agree which trees, shrubs and hedges are to be removed or pruned.
2. Protection:
3. Standard: To BS 3998.
4. Removing branches: Cut vertical branches similarly, with no more slope on the cut surface than is necessary to shed rainwater.
5. Appearance: Leave trees with a well-balanced natural appearance.
6. Chain saw work: Operatives must hold a Certificate of Competence.
7. Tree work: To be carried out by an approved member of the Arboricultural Association.

815 Additional work

1. Defective, diseased, unsafe or weak parts of trees additional to those scheduled for attention: Give notice if detected.

820 Prevention of wound bleeding

1. Standard: To BS 3998.

825 Prevention of disease transmission

1. Standard: To BS 3998.

830 Cleaning out and deadwooding

1. Remove
 - 1.1. Dead, dying, or diseased wood, broken branches and stubs.
 - 1.2. Fungal growths and fruiting bodies.
 - 1.3. Rubbish, windblown or accumulated in branch forks.
 - 1.4. Wires, clamps, boards and metal objects, if removable without causing further damage and not part of a support structure that is to be retained.
 - 1.5. Other unwanted objects, e.g. tree houses, swings.

835 Cutting and pruning generally

1. Tools: Appropriate, well maintained and sharp.
2. Final pruning cuts
 - 2.1. Chainsaws: Do not use on branches of less than 50 mm diameter.
 - 2.2. Hand saws: Form a smooth cut surface.
 - 2.3. Anvil type secateurs: Do not use.
3. Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem.
4. Wounds: Keep as small as possible, cut cleanly back to sound wood leaving a smooth surface, and angled so that water will not collect on the cut area.
5. Cutting: Cut at a fork or at the main stem to avoid stumps wherever possible.
6. Large branches: Remove only with prior approval
 - 6.1. Remove in small sections and lower to ground with ropes and slings.
7. Dead branches and stubs: When removing, do not cut into live wood.
8. Unsafe branches: Remove epicormic shoots and potentially weak forks that could fail in adverse weather conditions.
9. Disease or fungus: Give notice if detected. Do not apply fungicide or sealant unless instructed.

855 Cutting tree roots

1. Excavating: Use hand tools only.
2. Protected area: Do not cut roots within an area which is the larger of:
 - 2.1. The branch spread of the tree.
 - 2.2. An area with a radius of half the tree's height, measured from the trunk.
3. Outside protected area: Give notice of roots exceeding 50 mm in diameter. Do not cut without approval.
4. Cutting
 - 4.1. Cutting: Make clean smooth cuts with a hand saw.
 - 4.2. Wounds: Minimize. Avoid ragged edges.
 - 4.3. Finishing: Pare cut surfaces smooth with a sharp knife.
5. Backfilling
 - 5.1. Protection: Cover cut roots with clean sharp sand.
 - 5.2. Material: Backfill with original topsoil.

865 Bark damage

1. Wounds

- 1.1. Do not attempt to stop sap bleeding.
 - 1.2. **Bark:** Remove ragged edges using a sharp knife.
 - 1.3. **Wood:** Remove splintered wood from deep wounds.
 - 1.4. **Size:** Keep wounds as small as possible.
2. Liquid or flux oozing from apparently healthy bark: Give notice.

Water areas - Not Used

Hard landscape areas/fencing - Not Used

Ω End of Section

UK and Ireland Office Locations

