



Bicester Eco Village,

METHOD STATEMENT: Working around Water Courses and Open Spaces

**Prepared by: Lewis Blake
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1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to identify and confirm the general methodology by which Willmott Dixon Limited (Through their contractors) will carry out the work over and around open spaces and water courses on the development as per Planning Condition 73, which states:

"Where works are necessary within the open space areas relating to the adjustment of ground levels, construction of bridges, footpaths and swales, details of construction areas and adjustment of the fencing to accommodate works shall be submitted to and approved in writing prior to any work taking place within the open space area."

WDH recognise the importance of carrying out the work in a safe and controlled manner ensuring that strict supervision and control measures are maintained throughout the work, whilst making sure that the necessary environmental mitigation measures are put in place..

WDH will therefore provide the necessary project management and site supervision to ensure that the highest quality of health and safety standards are implemented and maintained throughout the work. The nature of the work is such that certain specialist activities and operations will be carried out by WDH and their sub-contractors.

This document is a working document. As work progresses, subcontractors detailed method statement(s) will be incorporated as and when required into this document.

All WDH and subcontract personnel will be competent to carry out their designated tasks during the work. Before commencing work on site, all personnel will receive a site induction, which will include a briefing on all relevant health, safety and welfare matters. As well as working in accordance with this method statement, all subcontractors will accord with the Arboricultural Method Statement, Construction Environment Management Plan and Ecological Construction Method Statement.

2.0 Scope of Works

The Scope of Work (SoW) covered by this document includes all safety, preparation, planning, task implementation, reporting and close-out to complete the works detailed in the Contract documents.

The ranges of activities that may be included within this general SoW include:

- Earth embankments for flood defence
- Concrete structures i.e. Retaining walls and bridges
- Revetment works – stone and natural products, channel excavation and geotextile solutions.
- Culverts and drainage
- Bridge construction
- Creating habitats for wildlife.
- Temporary Works
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The particular SoW for this development is

- Installation of 5no new bridges (2no Vehicular and 3no Pedestrian) associated diversion of watercourse to enable construction, together with protection to prevent scouring of the embankment and landscaping.
- Re-shaping of flood plain and embankments to suit in line with drawings submitted and approved
- Soft Landscaping to create additional habitats for wildlife in line with details submitted and approved
- Construction of new footpaths and cycle way's.
- Removal of trees to facilitate construction works in accordance with the Hyder Arboricultural Method Statement

3.0 References

This document should be referenced with the following Contract Documents::

- Bicester Eco Development – Exemplar Environmental Statement
- Hyder Consulting UK Limited – Arboricultural Method Statement
- Hyder Consulting UK Limited – Ecological Construction Method Statement
- Willmott Dixon – Construction Environment Management Plan

4.0 Associated Drawing No's:

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|--|------------------------------|-----|
| • Water Course Crossing 1 General Arrangement | Hyder Drg 101-001 Rev 4 | |
| • Water Course Crossing 2 General Arrangement | Hyder Drg No 101-002 | Rev |
| • 3Proposed Earthworks Strategy (Sheet 1 of 2) | Hyder Drg No. 7315 (Rev 3) | |
| • Proposed Earthworks Strategy (Sheet 1 of 2) | Hyder Drg No. 7316 (Rev 3) | |
| • River Corridor General Arrangement (1 of 2) | Hyder Drg No.701-221 (Rev 6) | |
| • River Corridor General Arrangement (2 of 2) | Hyder Drg No.701-222 (Rev 3) | |
| • Proposed levels (Sheet 3 of 5) | Hyder Drg No 7238 (Rev 3) | |
| • Proposed levels (Sheet 4 of 5) | Hyder Drg No 7239 (Rev 3) | |
| • Retaining Structure Appraisal Details | Hyder Drg No 101-012 (Rev 1) | |

5.0 Mitigation Measures

Watercourses will be protected by fencing as specified on the plan appended to the document . This fencing will be erected at all times and when works are required within the fenced off areas a permit to enter will be issued and controlled by the Site Manager and the sub-contractors supervisor to ensure the watercourses and areas of open space are

protected at all times during these periods. During works temporary fencing will be erected during stop periods and once works within the protected areas are complete; the high risk fencing will be put back in place.

Prior to any works taken place within the protected areas around the watercourses, the necessary authorities will be notified and the works authorised before commencement. These notices will be displayed with the Permit to enter. All operatives working within these areas will be inducted on the permit and requirements set by the local authorities in these protected areas. WDH will keep works around watercourses and protected areas to a minimum and only where necessary.

The protective fencing will also be inspected by an Ecologist to ensure the fencing is adequate for purpose and situated at the correct distances from the watercourses, and written confirmation received prior to any works commencing in close proximity to these areas.

All works within open space will be undertaken in accordance with the Contract Documents outlined above.

6.0 Project Quality Plan

In accordance with the WDH Operating Procedures a WDH Project Quality Plan will be operated on this project.

7.0 WDH Health & Safety Policy

This document is included within the WDH Project Quality Plan. Also it has been issued to every Company Employee. Copies are made available to all subcontractors and copies will be available on site.

8.0 Health & Safety Environmental - Supervision and management of the Works.

We will be appointing an experienced and competent team to undertake this project. We have built up a team of experienced and competent staff and management who are well versed in the standards, requirements, expectations and policies of the Environment Agency.

This project will be overseen by our Building Manager, Lewis Blake who will report to our Project Director – Bob Reeves.

Lewis Blake will be appointed to administer these works. He has previous experience on environmentally sensitive schemes in London, Milton Keynes, Uxbridge and Birmingham.

A dedicated, experienced Engineer TBA will also be appointed.

This work will be administered from our office based on site.

9.0 Hazards & Risk Assessments

Various hazards have been identified as associated with the works and risk assessments have been carried out to determine the control measures required reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

A Risk Register (WDH002) has been prepared for this project. The principal risks identified for this project include:

- Working near water
- Slips, trips and falls,
- Lifting operations
- Failure of the reservoir embankment or adjacent structures
- Cuts, scratches, bites, stings, etc. from insects and plants
- Working with plant and equipment, especially piling and cutting equipment
- Leptospirosis –(Weill's Disease), Lyme's Disease and other infections
- Working with the general public
- Manual Handling
- Existing overhead and underground services, including land drains, electricity and gas services
- Lone working
- Effects of weather (sun, wind and temperature)

10.0 Environmental Issues

A number of Environmental risks have been identified for this project and these are included in the Risk Register (WDH 002). Detailed Environmental Risk Assessments are produced for specific tasks and are an integral part of each Method Statement. The principal risks identified for this project include:

- Contamination of land or watercourse by oils or hydraulic fluids
- Disturbance to wildlife
- Damage to flora and fauna, including nesting birds and water voles
- Noise
- Spread of invasive species / cross contamination
- Vandalism, resulting in fire, contamination or damage

Mitigation measures for different environmental risks are outlined in the Contract Documents identified in this document, which will be made available to all sub contractors.

11.0 Resources

Willmott Dixon Homes Limited employs a large directly employed labour which is supplemented by local or specialist subcontractors.

The operatives proposed for these works are all long term employees and subcontractors to WDH. They have been employed on previous contracts for the EA, so they are experienced and competent. Operatives will be trained and qualified for specific tasks.

General training will be given for:

- Working near Water
- Manual Handling.
- Environmental Awareness

Specific task trained operatives will be deployed for:

- Banking and slinging, crane supervision and preparation of Lift Plans
- Excavations
- Temporary works
- Tree works – surgery and felling

12.0 Programme Narrative

The programmed start date has been initially set for commencement October 2013

Upon Contract Award we will develop the Construction Phase Health & Safety Plan and submit this to the CDM Co-ordinator for recommendation of approval by the Client, as required by the CDM 2007 Regulations. Prior to commencement of works full MS and RA will be submitted to the EA for approval prior to commencement of works on site

The initial period programmed for the works relating to the infrastructure and associated landscaping Works is 52 weeks. An overall programme for infrastructure and phases 1 – 4 inclusive is envisaged to be 200 weeks.

Prior to any works commencing on site the protective fencing will be erected around all Watercourses, protected trees and hedgerows.