PLANTING SPECIFICATION

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 landscape operatives will be appropriately trained, certified and qualified to undertake the tasks required. When required, the relevant certificates will be made available for inspection. All work is to be carried out in accordance with the relevant British Standards, Codes of Practice and Legislation.

1.2. All plants shall conform to BS 3936 and be in accordance with the National Plant Specification. Supplying nurseries shall be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme. All plants shall be packed and transported in accordance with the Code of Practice for Plant Handling as produced by CPSE.

1.3. Prior to planting soil percolation tests will be undertaken to ensure the soil is free draining and that planting will not become waterlogged. If soil is not free-draining the landscape architect should be informed and advice should be sought from a soil scientist, following which remediation/drainage solutions undertaken to ensure planting will thrive.

1.4. Planting shall not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frost bound or during periods of cold drying winds. All bareroot planting stock will be kept covered until actually planted in order to minimise water-loss and prevent the roots from drying out. Tree handling, storage and planting shall be in accordance with BS 8545 Chapters 9 to10 and Annexes E to F.

1.5. The landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting for a period of 12 months following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.

1.6. A minimum intervention approach will be used in terms of weed control. In areas of transplant tree/shrub or ornamental shrub planting this is to be achieved by using mulch mats and hand-weeding. Weed killer and other chemicals will be used as little as possible on site. Spot removal of weeds will be carried out by hand removal as necessary.

2. TREE PLANTING

Ground Preparation and Tree Pit Excavation

2.1. Where necessary remove existing weeds by hand. Chemical removal using a glyphosate based herbicide will be avoided unless large areas need clearing – following which allow a suitable period to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.

2.2. Tree pits of at least 75mm diameter greater than the root system and no deeper than the rootball / container depth are to be excavated and the sides well scarified to prevent smearing. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm in any dimension shall be removed from site.

2.3. During excavation of the pit, the soil dug should be placed to one side separating topsoil and subsoil as far as is practical.

2.4. Drainage: prior to tree planting a review of the soil type should be undertaken to ensure that the tree pit base will allow water to percolate, and the pit will not become waterlogged. If free vertical drainage will not occur through the base of the tree pit, then a drainage system must be put in place, such as connection to a land drain or additional excavation to reach the gravel seam. Professional advice should be sought from a soil scientist and, if required, a drainage engineer.

Tree Planting

2.5. Trees shall be planted as per the planting arrangement as set out on the planting plan and plant schedule.

2.6. The typical rooting depth for trees is 900mm. The first 300mm shall be made up of topsoil; it shall be ensured that a suitable subsoil provides the remainder of the minimum rooting depth.

2.7. The root system of the tree should be wetted prior to planting. The tree should be planted at the correct depth taking into account the position of the root flare and the finished level - the rootball or root stem transition should be level with the existing host soil or surface. The base of the rootball should typically sit on subsoil, for larger rootballs the subsoil will sit around the lower portion of the rootball.

2.8. Tree pits should be backfilled with the excavated topsoil, if the original topsoil is not available or deemed unsuitable, a multi-purpose topsoil should be used. Any subsoil excavated should be discarded and the subsoil depth (beyond 300mm deep) backfilled with a high sand content subsoil. Backfill should be added gradually, in layers of 150mm to 230mm depth, ensuring the tree is held upright At each stage the fill should be firmed in to eliminate all air pockets under and around the root system, but with care being taken not to excessively compact the soil. The final layer should not be consolidated.

2.9. 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 final cultivations.

2.10. All multi-stem trees are to be staked with a single diagonal stake, driven at 45° to the lead stem.

2.11. All extra heavy and heavy standard size trees are to be double staked with 75mm dia stakes. Stakes should be driven at least 300mm into undisturbed ground before planting the tree, taking care to avoid underground services and cables etc. and should typically be one third the height of the tree stem above ground.

2.12. Staked trees shall be secured to stakes with suitable proprietary rubber tree ties and spacers.

2.13. Immediately after planting, but before applying the below bark mulch, all trees should be saturated to field capacity.

2.14. Ornamental composted bark mulch will be spread to a depth of 75mm across a 0.8m dia circle around individual trees, ensuring that the root flare and base of the stem, along with any ground cover plants, are not buried.

3. NATIVE HEDGE PLANTING

Ground Preparation

3.1. Where necessary existing weeds will be treated with a glyphosate-based herbicide and a suitable period allowed to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.

3.2. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm diameter will be removed from site to a registered waste disposal facility.

Planting

3.3. The planting arrangement shall be as set out in the plant schedule on the relevant planting plan.

3.4. Bare-root hedge plants shall be notch planted in a double staggered row at the rate of 5 plants per linear metre (using L- shaped notches) using spades of a design suitable for this purpose. The notches must be vertical and deep enough for the roots to hang freely, with the transplant being planted so that the root collar is exactly level with the ground surface. The notch must then be closed and the soil will be well firmed round the roots in line with the guidelines as set out in BS 4428 (1989).

3.5. Container-grown hedge plants will be planted into a pit dug 1.5x the diameter of the root mass, with the bottom and sides of the planting pit broken up to aid root expansion. The plants will be planted so that the root collar is exactly level with the ground surface.

3.6. All bare-root hedge planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm clear plastic spiral guards, supported with 0.9m 12/14lb canes as advised by the manufacturer.

3.7. All container-grown shrubs will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm plastic shrub shelters, supported with 0.9m x 32 mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer.

Maintenance during first growing season

3.8. All dead, dying or diseased hedge 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.

3.9. The planting area will be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period using approved herbicides in April, June and August

4. NATIVE SHRUB PLANTING

Ground Preparation

4.1. Cut existing rough grass and weeds to between 20mm and 30mm and remove 300x300mm squares of turf at 1/m².

Planting

4.2. The minimum overall recommended rooting depth for shrubs is 600mm and for trees is 900mm. The first 300mm shall be made up of multi-purpose topsoil; it shall be ensured that a suitable subsoil provides 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.

4.3. Shrub / tree planting is to be as per the planting pattern as set out on the planting plan and planting schedule, with shrubs / trees planted at even spaces into the prepared soil at the specified number per centre, with minimal disturbance to the rootball, and well firmed in. Planting should avoid man-

made grids and lines, and should group species together in groups of 5-7 plants. Spread ornamental pine bark mulch to a depth of 75mm to a 900mm diameter around each planting station.

4.4. All bare-root planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 0.6m (for shrub species) or 1.2m (for tree species) plastic shrub/tree guards, supported with 0.9m (or 1.35m for trees) x 32mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer

4.5. All container-grown planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm plastic shrub shelters, supported with 0.9m x 32mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer.

Maintenance

4.6. Using approved herbicides, a 900mm diameter circle centred on each planting station shall be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period. In the autumn following planting the CA will prepare a list of all plants which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the following planting season.

5. SHRUB/ HERBACEOUS PLANTING

5.1. Shrubs/herbaceous 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.

5.2. Recommended rooting depths are 600mm for shrubs/herbaceous plants. Multi-purpose 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

5.3. Within the day of planting shrub/herbaceous plants should be saturated to field capacity, this shall be done before applying the below bark mulch.

5.4. Spread ornamental pine bark mulch to a depth of 75mm across all new planted areas, taking care not to bury groundcover plants.

6. AMENITY GRASS

Preparation

6.1. Areas seeded shall be sprayed out with a glyphosate herbicide and cultivated to a depth of 100mm removing all weeds, debris and stones over 25mm diameter. The surface shall be raked to smooth flowing contours with a fine tilth. Amenity grass areas will receive pre-seeding fertiliser at 70 g/m2. Meadow grass areas will not be fertilised.

6.2. The minimum overall recommended rooting depth for grass is 450mm, the first 150mm shall be made up of a multi-purpose topsoil, it shall be ensured 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

6.3. Grass/turf finish levels will be 25mm above surrounding kerbs, paving and plant bed edges.

Seeding

6.4. Grass seed shall be sown either in April/May or September/October during calm weather and not when the ground is frost bound or waterlogged. Seed shall be sown in two equal sowings in transverse directions at 35 g/m2 for amenity grass. After sowing the contractor shall lightly rake the seed into intimate contact with the soil.

Initial Cut

6.5. When newly seeded amenity grass areas reach 50mm they should be lightly rolled and cut to a height of 25mm. All arisings shall be removed. Any bare patches shall be made good at this time. Amenity grass shall be regularly maintained between 25 and 50mm during the first season after sowing. Long or rough mown grass will be maintained between 50 and 75mm during the first season after sowing.

7. WILDFLOWER MEADOWS GRASSLAND

Preparation

7.1. Areas of wildflower meadow to be seeded shall be sprayed out with a glyphosate herbicide and cultivated to a depth of 100mm removing all weeds debris and stones over 75mm diameter. The surface shall be raked to smooth flowing contours with a fine tilth.

Seeding

7.2. Seeds shall be sown either in April/May or September/October during calm weather and not when the ground is frost bound or waterlogged.

7.3. To achieve an even sowing, bulk with an inert carrier, such as sand. Seed shall be sown in two equal sowings in transverse directions at e.g. 4g/m2 for EM8 Meadow mixture for wetlands, EM2 General Purpose Meadow Mixture and EL1 Flowering Lawn Mixture . After sowing the contractor shall roll in the seed to guarantee intimate contact with the soil, ensuring not to rake or cover the seed with soil.

Initial Cut

7.4. During first 12 months sward to be regularly cut to minimise competition and weed seed production. Cutting should be frequent enough to disperse the cuttings, or if less frequent remove the cuttings. Cutting to be suspended between April and July to allow flowering of the cornfield annuals.

7.5. When newly seeded wildflower areas reach 50mm they should be cut to a height of 25mm. All arising's shall be removed. Any bare patches shall be made good at this time. Both amenity and meadow grass shall be regularly maintained between 25 and 50mm during the first season after sowing.

8. BULB PLANTING

8.1. Bulb planting is to be naturalistic in character and should not be planted in manmade grids or lines. Random planting can be achieved by evenly scattering the bulbs/corms over the marked out bulb planting area and planting where they fall.

8.2. Bulbs are to be planted at a depth suitable for each species with the base in contact with the bottom of the hole. The removed soil backfilled and firmed on top and, where relevant, the removed plug of turf neatly replaced after planting.

9. GENERAL MAINTENANCE

9.1. The Landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting for a period of 12 months following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost. The site is to be visited monthly throughout the year to undertake the Following operations:

- Weed clearance: All planting areas to be kept weed free by hand weeding or herbicide treatment.
- Litter clearance: All litter is to be removed from planting beds.
- Watering: All planted areas are to be watered for the first two years from May to September following any dry periods of 7 days.

Trees and Shrubs

9.2. All trees are to be watered weekly from May to the end of September unless unnecessary due to heavy rain; to receive 20 gallons of water. All shrubs are to be watered for the first two years from May to September following any dry periods of 7 days. 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. Any damaged shoots/branches are to be pruned back to healthy wood. Plants are to be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice to maintain healthy, well-shaped specimens. Native shrubs - Using approved herbicides a 1m diameter circle centred on each planting station shall be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period. Stakes may be removed from Year 2 if plant is fully established and if shelter is suppressing further growth.

Hedges

9.3. Hedge lines shall be kept mulched until established. At the end of the Defects Liability Period / First Year's Maintenance the CA will prepare a list of all plants which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the following planting season at the contractor's expense.



PLANTING SCHEDULE

TREE PLANTING

Species	Form	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Clear Stem (cm)	Root Condition
Acer pseudoplatanus	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Acer campestre 'Elsrijk'	EHS	14-16	450-500	Min200	RB
Acer campestre	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Amelanchier arborea 'Robin Hill'	Multi-stem	–	300-350	–	RB
Betula pendula	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Betula utilis 'Jacquemontii'	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Carpinus betulus	EHS	14-16	450-500	Min200	RB
Carpinus betulus 'Lucas'	EHS	14-16	400-500	Min200	RB
Crataegus laevigata 'Pauls Scarlet'	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Ilex 'Nellie R. Stevens'	HS	12-14	300-350	Min200	50L
Corylus avellana	Multi-stem	–	200-250	–	RB
Corylus colurna	EHS	14-16	450-500	Min200	RB
Malus sylvestris	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Prunus sargentii	HS	12-14	450-500	Min200	RB
Pyrus calleryana 'Redspire'	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Sorbus aucuparia	HS	12-14	450-500	Min200	RB
Sorbus aucuparia 'Streetwise'	HS	12-14	450-500	Min200	RB
Sorbus aria	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Tilia cordata	HS	12-14	350-400	Min200	RB
Tilia cordata 'Greenspire'	EHS	14-16	450-500	Min200	RB

FEATURE TREE PLANTING

Species	Form	Girth (cm)	Height (cm)	Clear Stem (cm)	Root Condition
Acer platanoides 'Deborah'	EHS	14-16	450-500	Min200	RB
Acer x freemanii Autumn Blaze	EHS	14-16	450-500	Min200	RB
Cercidiphyllum japonicum (ms)	Multi-stem	–	300-350	–	75L
Prunus avium 'Plena'	EHS	14-16	350-400	Min200	RB

SINGLE SPECIES NATIVE HEDGE

To be planted at 0.4 centres in double staggered rows (5/lin m)

Species	Height (cm)	Form	Root Condition
Carpinus betulus	80-100	Transplant	B

NATIVE HEDGEROW

To be planted at 0.4 centres in double staggered rows (6/lin m)

Species	Mix %	Height (cm)	Form	Age	Root Condition
Acer campestre	5	80-100	Transplant	1+1	B
Corylus avellana	30	80-100	Branched; 4 breaks	1+2	B
Crataegus monogyna	40	60-80	Transplant	1+1	B
Lonicera periclymenum	5	60-80	Several shoots; 2 breaks	–	2L
Rosa canina	10	60-80	Branched; 3 breaks	1+1	B
Viburnum opulus	10	80-100	Branched; 3 breaks	1+2	B

Note : Individual species groups should be planted so that they are evenly distributed over the entire length of the hedge - single species groups with approximately 3-7 plants per group.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTING

Species	Height (cm)	Form	Root Condition	Density
Abelia grandiflora	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Anemanthele lessoniana	–	–	3L	3/m²
Bergenia cordifolia 'Purpurea'	–	–	3L	4/m²
Brachyglottis 'Sunshine'	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Berberis thunbergii 'Erecta'	40-60	Branched	5L	3/m²
Berberis verruculosa	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Carex testacea 'Prairie Fire'	–	–	3L	4/m²
Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. repens	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Cornus 'Sibirica Variegata'	40-60	Bushy	3L	2/m²
Cornus sericea 'Flaviramea'	40-60	Bushy	3L	2/m²
Cotoneaster 'Coral Beauty'	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Choisya ternata	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Choisya × dewitteana 'Aztec Gold'	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Cistus creticus	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Erysimum 'Bowles's Mauve'	–	–	3L	4/m²
Hebe 'Great Orme'	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Hebe rakaiensis	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Hypericum hidcote	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Lonicera pileata	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Osmanthus heterophyllus 'Purpureus'	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Perovskia 'Blue Spire'	40-60	Bushy	3L	4/m²
Pittosporum 'Tom Thumb'	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Golf Ball	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Prunus laurocerasus 'Otto Luyken'	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Stipa tenuissima	–	–	3L	4/m²
Spirea cinerea 'Grefsheim'	40-60	Bushy	3L	3/m²
Stephanandra incisa 'Crispa'	30-40	Bushy	3L	4/m²
Weigela florida 'Wings of Fire'	40-60	Bushy	5L	3/m²
Viburnum tinus 'Eve Price'	40-60	Bushy	5L	2/m²
Viburnum davidii	30-40	Bushy	5L	3/m²

Note: mixes to be planted in an evenly spaced but irregular pattern in single species groups with approximately 5-9 plants per group.

Proposed play equipment

1 ***Street Acrobats Type 01*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. 4.16100
Height 2.40 m

2 ***Middle Pyramid Tower*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. 3.42000
Height 9.00 m

3 ***Car Tyre Swing*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. 6.18460
Height 3.15m

4 ***Horizontal triangular net, wide-meshed*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. L6.51640
Height 2.20 m

5 ***Balance Blocks*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. 6.51700
Length 3.85 m

6 ***Dendrophone*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. 10.53000
Height 1.95 m

7 ***Sound Cushions*** by Richter Spielgerate
Order No. 9.02410
Size 0.15x0.55x0.55m

KEY

Existing trees (with RPAs) to be retained to BS 5837

Existing hedgerows/groups (with RPAs) to be retained to BS 5837

Existing hedgerows/groups (with RPAs) to be removed

Proposed feature tree planting

Proposed tree planting

Proposed native shrub planting

Proposed ornamental shrub planting

Proposed native hedgerow planting

Areas of proposed amenity grass

Areas of proposed species rich grasslad eg. EM2 Standard General Purpose Meadow Mixture

Areas of proposed wet meadow grassland eg. EM8 Meadow Mixture for Wet Soil by Emorsgate

Areas of bulb planting within grass

Gravel footpath routes - to be timber edged hoggin gravel

Asphalt footpath

No dig hoggin footpath solution within RPA's
Proposed Cellweb system 75mm depth

Timber knee railing 0.4m

Estate railings - 1.0m height

Entrance points into play areas (Pedestrian (PG) & Maintenance Gate (MG)). The design of the gates to match the style of the estate railings

Seats - Contemporary steel framed timber seat FSC hardwood with armrests - to be root fixed eg. Caerphilly Seat by Broxap
Length: 2180mm
Width: 570mm Frame colour : RAL 7016

Picnic benches - Contemporary modern steel framed timber picnic bench with treated softwood timber slats. Comprises table and 2 benches - to be root fixed eg. Caerphilly Picnic Bench by Broxap
Table Length: 2180mm
Table Height: 780mm
Table Width: 800mm
Bench Height & Seat Level: 480mm
Bench Width: 570mm
Frame colour : RAL 7016

Litter bins - Square shaped, with flat canopy roof to be embedded post, or steel plate for surface mount. Manufactured from mild steel sheet metal, hot dip galvanised and powder coated eg. Lilleshall Litter Bin by Broxap
Overall Height: 820 mm
Capacity: 56 Litres Colour : RAL 7016

Dog waste bins - Classic dog waste bin with top opening lid. To be embedded post, or steel plate for surface mount eg. Sirius Dog Waste Bin by Broxap
Capacity: 40 Litres Colour : RAL 7016

Proposed play equipment (refer to play area equipment images for details)

Feature boulders - Stone boulders of varying heights with rounded edges. Approximately 1/3rd of each boulder shall be buried for stability. The maximum height of each boulder above ground shall be no more than 600mm (refer to play area equipment images for details)

Proposed play safety surfacing - to be a bound rubber mulch suitable for childrens play (e.g. TigerMulch) and laid to the critical fall heights and extent as specified by the manufacturer. All play safety surfaces to be laid to BS EN1176 + BS EN 1177. The rubber mulch surfaces will be Yellow in colour

Proposed play space information board - board is to be located at the LEAP as shown. The board is to be timber in construction and to include the following information:
- information on the space
- operational information (rules of the space)
- name and telephone number of the operator of the facility with an invitation to report any incident or damage

Timber bridge to allow crossing the attenuation feature

CONCEPT ON-PLOT

Proposed tree planting

Proposed ornamental hedgerow planting

Proposed ornamental shrub planting

Area of ornamental gravel

Area of ornamental bark mulch

Area of amenity grass

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Hollies 5&6, Llanwern. Newport - Detailed POS Landscape Proposals

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