

Landscape Specification & Management Plan

For

Dog Walking Field, Pike Road, Penhow

Prepared By



On Behalf of

Perfect Pet Services

January 2026

CONTENTS

SOFT LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATION	2-7
LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN	8-10

PROGRAMME

All soft landscape works shall be implemented during the first planting season post practical completion to ensure that biodiversity benefits are achieved within as short a time as possible. The specific timing and duration of construction activities and conservation measures are to be confirmed to the local authority, by the main contractor, prior to commencement.

Landscape works to be implemented in a single phase.

All bare-root stock is to be planted between November and March while trees are still dormant.

Containerised stock can be planted at any time of year but not during very cold or wet weather when the ground is likely to freeze or become waterlogged.

SOFT LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATION

Generally

All works shall be carried out in accordance with BS4428:1989, Code for General Landscape Operations.

Clearance

Any significant clearance of vegetation shall take place between September and March so as to avoid the bird nesting season.

Soil

Soil resources are easily damaged by being stripped or moved when wet. Consequently, all topsoil should be stripped when dry (in the summer months) for re-use in landscape areas.

Stripped soils to be stored in bunds no more than 2 m high and kept grassed and free from construction traffic until required for reuse.

Soil Profiles

Tree Planting - 300 mm site won topsoil over 600mm insitu subsoil.

Wildflower Seeding - 300mm insitu subsoil only.

Existing topsoil on site should be checked by a suitably qualified soil scientist and reconditioned where necessary. Enrich Topsoil backfill with slow-release fertilizer. Everris Enmag CRF, or similar approved should be applied at a rate of 70g/m² and to a depth of 200mm.

Spread subsoil should be loosened/ripped after replacement to remove compaction and maximise aeration and drainage. De-compaction to be performed with a tined ripper pulled by an earth-mover or excavator, undertaken when soils are sufficiently dry to be friable.

Any imported soil is to be approved for use by a suitably qualified soil Scientist.

Fallow Cultivation

The contractor shall by cultivation or other approved means allow for suppressing all weed growth on all areas which lie fallow whilst awaiting suitable weather or the right season for planting or seeding.

Cultivation

On newly topsoiled areas or on undisturbed areas where depth of not less than 300mm of topsoil exists after clearing all vegetation, beds shall be dug by hand or cultivated by machine to a minimum depth of 300mm breaking down all lumps and leaving the surface level with a medium tilth. All weeds and debris shall be collected and removed from site. No cultivation is to take place within the root protection areas of retained trees.

Nursery Stock

Where possible all native species planting stock shall be primarily sourced from nurseries providing stock derived from local seed sources. In the eventuality of insufficient availability, stock derived from seed sourced from Forestry Commission UK seed provenance zone 303 in accordance with the Forest Reproductive Material Regulations (2002) shall be used. Where plants from this zone aren't available materials from an adjacent zone shall be sourced. All native species planting stock shall be of British provenance.

All stock must comply with BS3936 (Nursery Stock).

- Top growth shall be typical of the variety and well branched, except for varieties normally grown with a single stem.
- Roots shall be in balance with the size of plant and sufficiently fibrous and developed.
- All containers must be weed free.
- All plants must be fully hardened off prior to planting where protective growing techniques have been used.

All root-balled and containerised tree stock to be supplied in accordance with BS:8545:2014.

Season

All trees, shrubs and ground cover plants shall be planted during suitable weather between October and April. However, containerised material may be planted between May and October. Planting of bare root stock shall be undertaken between November and March while plants are still dormant. Planting shall not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frozen or snow covered.

Planting Trees

Preparation of trees for planting: remove any ropes, wrappings, tree frames, etc., where used for protection of tree in transit and temporary storage. Remove any dead, diseased or broken branches. Shorten any unusually long branches by one third.

Tree pits must be no deeper than the root-ball so that the top surface of the root-ball aligns with the soil surface, with mulch placed above, not so that mulch aligns with the soil surface. The width of the planting hole opening should be twice root-ball diameter with gently sloping, scarified sides, with an undisturbed base.

Tree pits to be backfilled with subsoil below 300mm. The final top 300mm to be backfilled with topsoil. Backfill under and around rootballs in 150-250mm layers firmly consolidated to eliminate air pockets. Make allowance for settlement in the thickness of the final layer which should not be consolidated.

Watering: water whole area of the tree pits thoroughly upon completion of backfilling but delay watering if there is risk of frost within 24 hours.

Mulch should be applied to 2m² where practicable, but tapered towards the base of the stem, so that the root-ball surface receives a thin (1 inch) covering of mulch. Mulch must be maintained for at least three years post planting and be a chipped hardwood bark to Landscape Institute specifications.

Wildflower Seeding

Area to be seeded to be cleared of annual weeds by hoeing or herbicide application.
Perennial weeds to be eradicated by a translocated glyphosate-based herbicide.

Ground to be cultivated to provide a weed free seed bed and firmed if necessary.

Seed mixture to be sown evenly at the recommended rate either during the Spring (April-May) or Autumn (September - October)

Upon completion of sowing, seed bed is to be raked lightly with a spring - tined rake and soil firmed by treading or rolling and the area well-watered with a fine spray.

Native Hedgerow Planting

All planting stock shall be to British Standard 3936:1992. All existing grass and other vegetation to a width of 1m along the line of the hedgerow shall be removed by cutting of all surface vegetation and scraping back/scarifying of turf.

Hedgerow planting to be set out in double staggered rows 300mm apart with plants at 450mm centers.

In locations where a depth of suitable rooting material (topsoil and subsoil) is present to a minimum overall depth of 600mm plants are to be implemented as follows:

- Notch planted or planted into 400 x 400 x 400mm depth pits in a 600mm width strip of cultivated existing ground. Slow release fertilizer shall be incorporated.

In locations where a depth of suitable rooting material (topsoil and subsoil) is NOT present plants are to be implemented as follows:

- plant into a 400 x 400 x 400mm depth pit in a low hedge bank formed from topsoil to BS:3882 over a 600mm width strip of cultivated existing

ground to make up an overall minimum depth of 600mm. Slow-release fertilizer shall be incorporated.

OR

- Planted into a 400 x 400 x 400mm depth pit into a 600mm width excavated trench providing an overall 600mm depth of suitable rooting material of which minimum 400mm depth shall be pre-mixed 80% topsoil/20% compost mixture. Topsoil shall be to BS:3882 consisting of suitable material excavated on site, or imported material if not available.

Planting pits to be backfilled with material excavated from strip/trench. Where additional topsoil is available on site a low hedge bank shall be formed to maximize suitable rooting material. A biodegradable mulch mat roll of 1m width shall be pegged along the length of the hedge. Plants shall be planted through the mulch mat. A layer of 75mm depth medium grade bark mulch shall be applied over the mat.

Protective measures:

Rabbit guards: Proprietary plastic mesh guards to be fixed to individual 25mm square section wooden stakes to be installed around each hedge plant to prevent damage by rabbits and other rodents.

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Management Plan Objectives

The objective of the management plan is to ensure that measures to protect and enhance both natural and created habitats and their associated species in the long term, while ensuring that due consideration is given to the needs of public health and safety. The main aims of the plan are:

- 1) To maintain and where possible enhance the ecological value of the habitats present
- 2) To encourage the successful establishment of newly created habitats
- 3) To provide a management framework for the long-term management of the site ensuring the protection and enhancement of valuable ecological features

Management Responsibilities

This document is intended to be used as the management plan for the site in perpetuity.

Following the implementation of the landscape proposals, the management of landscape areas at the site will be undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor to be appointed by the site operator. The contractor will be expected to make site visits, spread throughout the year to suit the season. All Management will be undertaken in accordance with the specification contained herein.

Landscape Management Specification

All planted areas are to be maintained in a weed free condition and any newly planted trees or shrubs which die, or are destroyed, within 5 years of practical completion shall be replaced in the appropriate season with plants of the same species.

The contractor shall eradicate weed growth within planted and seeded areas by manual or mechanical. The use of herbicide is not permitted.

Existing Trees

Existing trees to be assessed once annually by a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant. Resulting works are to be undertaken in the best interest of the tree and its long-term quality and value.

Newly Planted Trees

All root-balled and containerised tree planting aftercare must be in accordance with BS:8545:2014. Any necessary formative pruning to tree planting must be carried out in accordance with BS: 3998:2010

Check stakes and ties and adjust to allow for growth and movement and replace any broken or defective items. Stakes and ties for tree planting must be removed after no more than three growing seasons. Any sockets at base of tree stems caused by movements to be filled with fine soil.

Any dead twigs or water shoots occurring on the clear stems of newly planted trees shall be removed and disposed of by the contractor.

Minor settlement of newly planted tree pits to be made good by topping up with fine topsoil to grade in with surrounding levels.

For 24 months following practical completion all trees are to be watered at least 5 times during the growing season commencing in May, and thereafter as appropriate, to thoroughly wet the tree pits throughout their full depth. In the third and subsequent years trees should be watered during extended dry periods only (March through to October).

Wildflower Areas

Wildflower areas to be cut every six to eight weeks during the first year after sowing to prevent the grass from over growing the slower growing wildflowers. Cuttings to be removed from site.

In following years wildflower areas are to be cut in early spring, before growth starts, and in October, after all wildflower seeds have been shed. Cuttings to be removed from site.

Native Hedgerow Planting

Once established, native hedgerows to be cut once every two years, outside of the bird nesting season, to maintain a height of 1.8 metres.

Monitoring

Trees

The existing and proposed trees are to be surveyed every two years by a suitably qualified arboricultural contractor. Any required works are to be undertaken in the interests of the trees continuing health and arboricultural value. Local authority to be notified of any proposed tree works.