

Newport City Council

NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL - HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

ELLEN RIDGE

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SPECIFICATION

P01

16-12-2025

SOFT LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS INCLUDING
PLANTING PLAN, SCHEDULE AND MAINTENANCE
SPECIFICATION FOR A TRAVELLER'S SITE. TO
DISCHARGE PLANNING CONDITIONS RELATED TO
A RECENT NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT
APPLICATION.

Contents

Q35 Landscape maintenance1

Q35

Landscape maintenance

Generally

105 Maintenance objectives

1. Location: Soft landscape/planting areas
 - 1.1. Duration: Five years
2. Aims: Enhanced landscape quality
Provide wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity
3. Restrictions: The site is only accessible through a secured gate; prior arrangement is required for access.
4. Results: Adequate establishment, and ongoing vitality of plants

110 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Application of herbicide.
 - 1.2. Application of fertilizer.
 - 1.3. Watering.
 - 1.4. Each site maintenance visit.
2. Period of notice: Seven days

130 Reinstatement

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

140 Control of mammalian pests

1. Specialist firms: Submit proposals
 - 1.1. Method: Submit proposals

155 Watering

1. Supply: Potable mains water
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

181 Mechanical equipment

1. General: Minimize.
2. Prohibited equipment: None
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 Performance-based maintenance of grassed areas

1. General: Maintain grass verges 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. Litter and fallen leaves: Remove regularly to maintain a neat appearance.

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.

235 Bulbs and corms in grassed areas

1. Before flowering: Do not cut.
2. Interval between end of flowering and start of grass cutting (minimum): 6 weeks

250 Leaf removal

1. Operations: Collect fallen leaves.
2. Special requirements: Remove by hand raking
3. Disposal: Remove from site for recycling

270 Mowing rough-grassed verges

1. Grass height: 300 mm maximum

2. Arisings: Remove
3. Frequency:: Twice annually or as required to maintain neat appearance.

272 Maintaining grassed areas with perennial wildflowers

1. Preparation: Before each cut remove litter and debris.
2. Height and frequency of cut in first growing season
 - 2.1. Time of first cut: June/ July
 - 2.2. Height of first cut: 100 mm
 - 2.3. Frequency of subsequent cutting (minimum): As per supplier's recommendations.
3. Height and frequency of cut in second growing season
 - 3.1. Time of cut: Single cut in October
 - 3.2. Height of cut: 75 mm
4. Trimming: All edges.
 - 4.1. Arisings: Remove.
5. Watering: Contractor's choice

275 Cutting summer flowering wildflower meadows

1. Times of year/ frequency of cutting: July and September
2. Height of cut: 75 mm
3. Arisings: Leave for two to three days after cutting then remove

380 Reinstatement of damaged lawns

1. Damaged turf: Remove to a depth of 40 mm.
2. Preparation: Cultivate substrate to a fine tilth.
3. Reinstatement: Contractor's choice of returfing or topsoiling and reseeding:
 - 3.1. Returfing: Quality and appearance to match existing.
 - 3.2. Reseeding: Fill with fine topsoil to BS 3882 multipurpose class, free from stones, debris and weeds. Reseed with a seed mix to match existing grass in quality and appearance.
4. Protection and watering: Provide as necessary to promote successful germination and/ or establishment.

381 Reinstatement of worn or damaged lawns

1. Worn or damaged areas: Make good by returfing or reseeding:
 - 1.1. Returfing standard: To BS 7370-3, clause 12.2.
 - 1.2. Reseeding standard: To BS 7370-3, clause 12.6.
2. Turf or seed: To match existing in appearance and quality.
3. Protection and watering: Provide as necessary to promote successful germination and/ or establishment.

Flower beds/ seasonal beddings - Not Used

Shrubs/ trees/ hedges

500 Establishment of new planting

1. Duration: Two years
2. Weed control
 - 2.1. Method: Keep planting beds clear of weeds by 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:** As schedule and when instructed

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.

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.

545 Pruning of excessive overhang

1. **Timing:** Annually
2. **Operations:** Remove growth encroaching onto grassed areas, paths, roads, signs, sightlines and road lighting luminaires.
3. **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:** Approved specialist contractor

605 Trimming slowly establishing hedges

1. **Operations**
 - 1.1. **Timing:** Cut back hard in June and September to encourage bushy growth down to ground level.
 - 1.2. **Form:** Allow to reach planned dimensions only by gradual degrees, depending on growth rate and habit.

615 Trimming field hedges

1. **Operations:** Trim to specified height and profile using suitable mechanical cutters.

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:** Reinstate to original depth.

690 Maintenance of loose mulch

1. **Thickness (minimum):** 75 mm
 - 1.1. **Top up:** Twice per year
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.

Green walls - Not Used

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:** Avoid damage to neighbouring trees, plants and property
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 if unavoidable
 - 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.

860 Removing trees, shrubs and hedges

1. **Standard:** To BS 3998.
2. **Existing services:** Check for below and above ground services. Give notice if they may be affected.
3. **Shrubs and smaller trees:** Cut down and grub up roots.
4. **Tree stumps**
 - 4.1. **Treatment:** Cut as close to ground as possible and kill by applying a suitable herbicide into drilled holes immediately after felling
 - 4.2. **Removal by winching:** Give notice. Do not use other trees as supports or anchors.
5. **Protection:** Avoid damage to neighbouring trees, plants and property
6. **Work near retained trees:** Where tree canopies overlap and in confined spaces generally, take down trees carefully in small sections to avoid damage to adjacent trees that are to be retained.
7. **Filling holes**
 - 7.1. **Material:** Use as-dug material and/ or imported soil as required.
 - 7.2. **Finishing:** Consolidate and grade to marry in with surrounding ground level.

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

895 Clearance of watercourses

1. **Clearance:** Remove litter, debris, accumulated silt and excessive vegetation causing an obstruction.
2. **Frequency:** Once annually
3. **Time of year:** Autumn
4. **Method:** By hand
 - 4.1. **Access:** From one bank only.
 - 4.2. **Position:** At least 1 m from the top of the bank.
5. **Phasing:** Not required

Hard landscape areas/ fencing - Not Used

Ω End of Section



Specification created using NBS Chorus