

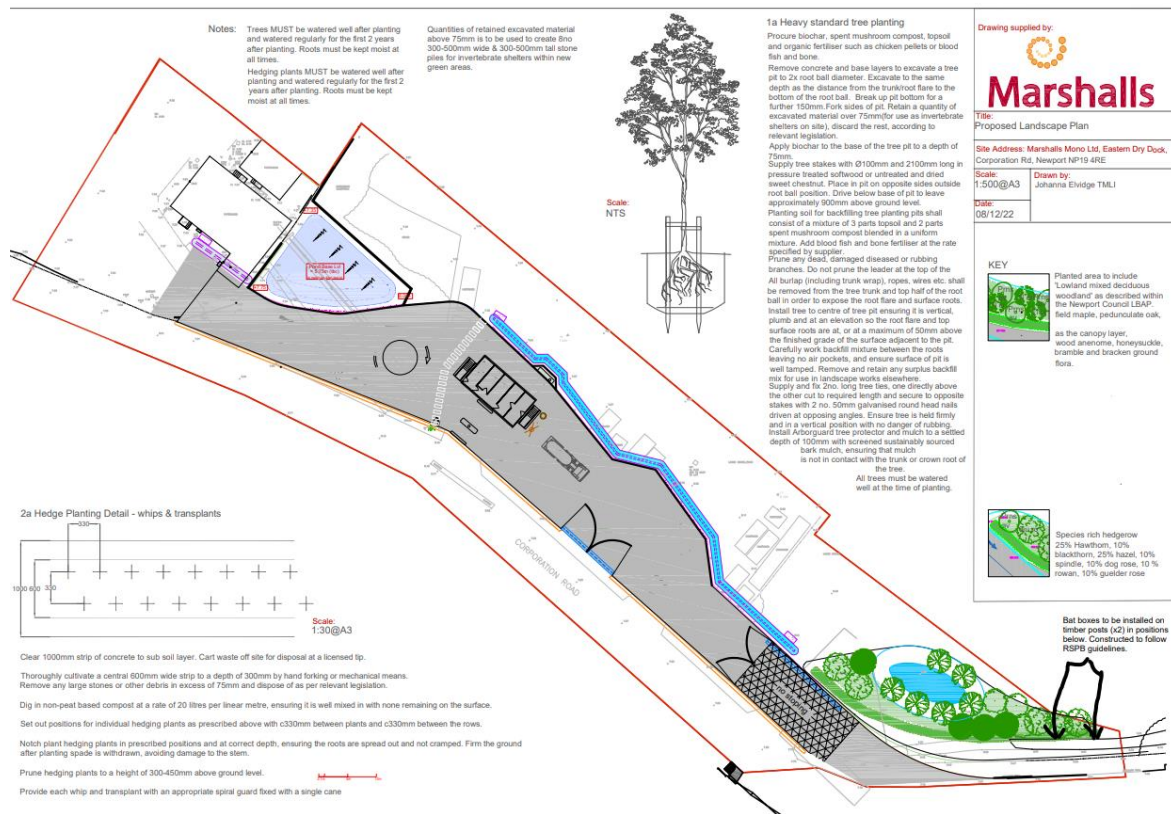
Document: Soft Landscape 5 year Management Plan including Biodiversity enhancements

Project: HGV entry road

Location: Marshalls Newport Works - Corporation Road, NP19 4RE

Version: V5

Date: 2.10.2025



A. Soft Landscape 5 year Management Plan

Document purpose:

Provide a soft landscape maintenance and management plan for five years to cover new planting until established

Species Type

A) Lowland mixed deciduous trees (eg Field maple and pedunculate oak)

- Trees must be watered well after planting and then watered regularly for the first two years after planting.
- Roots must be kept moist at all times.
- Any trees that fail within the first 5 years are to be replaced
- No routine pruning necessary. Remove diseased, damaged, congested or crossing shoots. Shoots that are growing in unwanted directions can also be pruned out.
- Look out for the following problems when you are pruning: bacterial canker, bracket fungi, coral spot and verticillium wilt.
- Tree guards and canes to be removed once the tree has become sufficiently established.

B) Hedging plants

Hedgerows need to be cut to keep them thick and bushy. However, annual cutting is not always needed:

- Only cut each hedge every 2 years; this reduces maintenance and labour costs, creates a bushier hedge for wildlife and allows flower and berry production in the intervening years.
- Hedges with slow growing species, such as hawthorn, can be cut on a 3 year cycle.
- So not cut back to the same height repeatedly, raising the cutting height each time will avoid placing the hedge under stress and allow it to regenerate more vigorously.
- Cut hedges to a variety of shapes and sizes; “A” shaped hedges provide good stock proofing and shelter, create song posts for birds and enable hedgerow trees to develop if left untopped.
- Leaving 1-2 metre (or wider) verges of tall grass by hedges provides nesting habitat for birds and protects hedgerows from pesticide or fertiliser spray drift.
- Hedges can be trimmed, laid and coppiced from September to February but try and cut as late in the winter as possible so wildlife can take advantage of the nuts and berries produced in the autumn.

C) **Attenuation Pond & Wet Woodland Ground Flora**

- Re-firm soil around plantings as necessary during monthly inspection.
- Remove debris as required.
- Remove vigorous weeds by hand during March-October

B. Biodiversity Enhancement

B1. Bat Boxes

- **Proposal** – to be installed on timber poles as per landscape plan.
- **Timing** – to be installed withing 6 months of the project completing.
- **Management** – ongoing periodic visual ground level inspections to check bat boxes are not damaged. If damaged and in need of replacement then specialist input may be required. No specific cleaning proposed as bat droppings do not typically accumulate within these types of boxes

Notes on installation:

They should be made from untreated wood – wood that has not been pressure-treated with chemicals. Bats are sensitive to smells and preservative chemicals may be harmful to them.

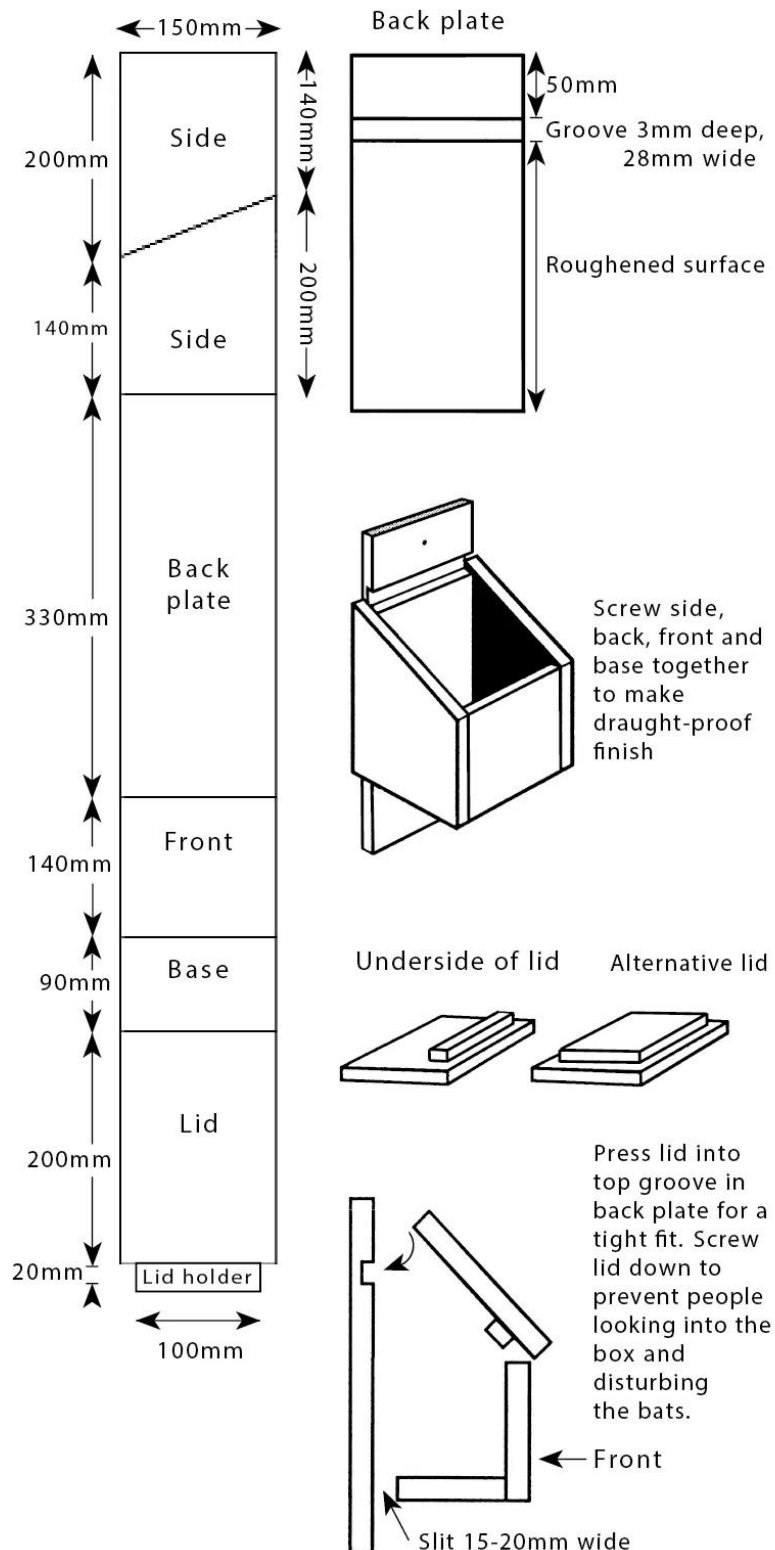
The bat box should also be made from rough-sawn wood (rather than smooth, planed wood). It'll also need to have good, tight joints – bats hate a draught!

It'll need a narrow slit at the back of the box, with a rough piece of wood leading up to it that they can clamber up. compartments, and one that is as large as possible.

A deep cavern makes bats feel really safe and keeps the air temperature more constant.

Look for a spot that is at least 3m (10 feet) from the ground and exposed to the sun for part of the day. so it faces between southwest and southeast. Make sure there is a clear flight line in. Some foliage around the box would be ideal if feasible.

Bat box design



B2. Bird Boxes

- **Proposal** – to be installed on timber poles as per landscape plan.
- **Timing** – to be installed within 6 months of the project completing.
- **Management** – ongoing periodic visual ground level inspections to check bat boxes are not damaged. If damaged and in need of replacement then specialist input may be required.
 - Where required, cleaning of the boxes should be undertaken from October to January, outside of the nesting bird season (March to August inclusive). The old nesting material which accumulates after every breeding season and the droppings from earlier in the season should be removed along with any egg shells or unhatched eggs.

Notes on installation:

The box will need to be between 2 and 5 metres from the ground, to keep birds safe from predators. Make sure that the birds have a clear flight path to the nestbox without any obstacles directly in front of the entrance.

When attaching the box, make sure it tilts forwards slightly so that any driving rain will hit the roof and bounce clear. If the box is likely to be exposed to heavy rain it's a good idea to cover the top of the lid with recycled leather or rubber. This will provide further waterproofing and extend the life of the box.

Face somewhere between north and east to avoid it getting too hot or wet. Avoid placing it in direct sunlight.

Bird box design

