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Landscape Supporting Notes

1.1. Existing Services

- 1.1.1. Where services have been indicated, exact positions for these will need to be determined by the contractor on site prior to work commencing.

1.2. Ground Preparation

- 1.2.1. Prior to work commencing all debris, rubbish, rubble, perennial weeds and dead tree roots to be removed from site. All material to be disposed of must be transported to a licensed waste disposal facility.
- 1.2.2. Break up compacted ground in areas to be planted to a depth of 250mm before topsoil is imported to planting areas.

1.3. Subsoil

- 1.3.1. Subsoil to be spread 250mm below new grass and shrub areas. Tree pits to be constructed as described in 'Plant and Planting Specification'
- 1.3.2. Subsoil to be spread by hand or using a back-acting track vehicle to cause minimum compaction and loss of soil structure. No soil handling work to be undertaken when the soil is wetter than the plastic limit.

1.4. Topsoil

- 1.4.1. Topsoil imported to the site shall be general purpose grade as described in BS 3882: 2007 clause 4.1a – Recommendations and classifications for topsoil. The soil should be free of weeds, roots or perennial weeds, pests, diseases, debris, tree roots, sticks, subsoil and foreign matter and shall be capable of being broken down to a fine tilth.
- 1.4.2. Topsoil shall be stored in heaps not exceeding 1.5m high. Heaps should be graded to shed water and avoid ponding, these heaps shall be maintained in a weed free condition and protected from contamination or trespass by heavy machinery.
- 1.4.3. Topsoil should be lightly consolidated in layers not exceeding 150mm using track laying machinery. Works should not be undertaken in wet weather, to avoid damaging soil structure.

1.4.4. Topsoil should be laid to the following minimum depths:

- 150mm beneath new grass areas.
- 400mm beneath new shrub areas.

1.4.5. Finished levels after settlement shall be as follows:

- 25mm above adjacent paving from new grassed areas and non-mulched shrub beds.
- 75mm below adjacent paving and grassed areas for mulched shrub beds.
- 150mm below any damp proof course.

1.5. Plant and Planting Specification

1.5.1. All plant stock, plant handling and planting to be undertaken in accordance with the following British Standard Specifications and Code of Practice:

- BS 3936: 1992 Part 1 Nursery stock. Specification for Trees and Shrubs.
- BS 3936: 1981 Part 10 Nursery stock. Ground cover plants.
- BS 5236 Recommendations for cultivation and planting of trees in the advanced nursery stock category.
- BS 4428: 1989 Recommendations for general landscaping operations
- The Code of Practice for Plant Handling 1985, (Horticultural Trades Association)

1.6. Plant Stock

1.6.1. Plant stock to be supplied in accordance with the size and description specified on the plant schedule and position indicated on the drawing.

1.6.2. Plant stock shall be healthy, vigorous, free from pests and diseases and suitably hardened off for the proposed situation of planting, and lifted at a time in accordance with good nursery practice. Stock shall have a well formed fibrous root system and be free from perennial weeds. The form of trees shall be in accordance with BS 3936: Part 1: 1992 Section 7 Form of Trees.

1.7. Plant Handling

1.7.1. All plant materials shall be lifted, bundled, labelled, packaged, transported, temporarily stored and planted in accordance with procedures and methods illustrated in the publication 'Plant Handling' (HTA)

1.8. Planting of whips and transplants

1.8.1. The Nature of the material to be planted is variable and the contractor shall allow for planting to be properly carried out in all cases as described in BS 4428: 1989 section 7 Amenity tree planting, section 8 woodland planting and section 9 Planting of shrubs, herbaceous and bulbs. All Plants shall be planted at same depth as they

were grown. Roots shall not be bent, broken or forced into inadequate pits or notches. Rabbits guards and stock proof fencing will be used to protect plant material during establishment.

1.9. Shrub Planting

- 1.9.1. All bare root stock shall be planted between November and April, if planting is to be carried out at any other time of the year, containerised stock shall be used. Plants shall be delivered to site in quantity's which can be planted in the same day. No plant roots shall be allowed to dry out.
- 1.9.2. Plant stock shall be watered in on the same day with the equivalent to the pot size or 5 litres per plant if bare root.

1.10. Standard Tree Planting

- 1.10.1. Tree planting pits to be double the root ball or pot size in all dimensions. Base and sides of pit to be scarified. All grass and weed competition around the base of the tree should be eliminated (an area of at least one metre around the base of each tree is recommended). Care should be taken when applying herbicides near the base of the tree as this can be absorbed by the trunk. The base of the tree which is to be kept weed free can be mulched annually to a depth of 50mm. See supporting tree detail for more information.
- 1.10.2. All works shall be carried out to the minimum standard according to:
 - BS 3936: 1980 Nursery stock specification for trees and shrubs.
 - BS 5236: 1975 Recommendations for the cultivation and planting of trees in the advanced nursery stock category.

1.11. Mulch

- 1.11.1. All shrub beds shall be spread with a medium grade bark mulch to a settled depth of 75mm. Mulch to be free from fines, weeds, disease and contaminates.

1.12. Grass Seeding

- 1.12.1. Seed mix shall be British seed houses grade A19 mix or similar approved.
- 1.12.2. Topsoil shall be cultivated to a fine tilth, be free from weeds, stones and other debris.
- 1.12.3. Levels to be graded to form finished levels as indicated in section "Topsoil"
- 1.12.4. Roll, fertilize at 50g/sq. m 10-14days prior to seeding, sow at a rate of 25-35 g/sq. m and lightly rake. First cut to be undertaken when grass reaches 50mm.

1.13. Turfed Areas

- 1.13.1. To be supplied in accordance with BS 3936: 1990 Recommendations for turf for general purposes. Turf shall be laid in accordance with BS 4428: section 6, when weather and soil conditions are suitable and, where possible this should be carried out in autumn and early winter. No turf should be laid in exceptionally dry or frosty weather or in any other unsuitable weather conditions.

1.14. Landscape Maintenance

- 1.14.1. Plant stock and soft landscaped areas shall be maintained for a period of 5 years via the developer's agent or appointed management company, during which time the following operations shall be carried out.

1.15. Regular Visits

- 1.15.1. Monthly maintenance visits to include the following operations :

- Hand weed planting beds
- Remove litter
- Sweep mulch spillage
- Re-firm plant stock as required
- Adjust stakes and ties as necessary
- Prune plant stock as required to encourage good form
- Check all plant stock and report signs of pests, diseases, death and damage.

1.16. Watering

- 1.16.1. Wet full depth of topsoil Water should be applied in an even manner avoiding damage or displacement of plants or soil. This should be carried out as often as necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting. Consideration should be taken that the site resides on free draining soil.

1.17. Grass Cutting

- 1.17.1. Grass shall be cut throughout the growing season to maintain a height of approximately 38mm. Grass areas shall be edged, watered as necessary and all clippings shall be removed.

1.18. Plant Replacements

- 1.18.1. All dead, dying and vandalised plant stock shall be replaced at the end of each growing season throughout the maintenance period.

1.19. Protection of existing trees

1.19.1. The recommendations in BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations must be complied with at all times.

- Any work to the existing trees is to be carried out by a qualified tree surgeon.
- The position and construction of any protective fencing shall be agreed with the local authority prior to any works commencing.
- Under no circumstances must any materials be stored under the canopy of existing trees and no cement, oil or diesel stored near them.
- No vehicles should pass under the canopy of existing trees.
- No ropes, cables, services or notice boards shall be fixed to existing trees.
- All levels around existing trees need to be maintained and must not be raised or reduced. Scaffolding may only be erected within protected areas if it is so in accordance to BS5837.