



**Mr Wayne Bennett, Margaret Cartilage Estate**

**Pear Tree Farm, Brierley**

**BNG LANDSCAPE STRATEGY**

**9542-BLS-01**

Revised January 2026

# **BNG Landscape Strategy- Design Input (For Coordination)**

**Project: Pear Tree Farm, Brierley**

**Client / Agent:** Mr Wayne Bennett/ BLD

**Landscape:** Robinson Chartered Landscape Architecture

**Ecology:** Estrada Ecology

**Date:** January 2026

**To be Read in Conjunction with Soft Landscape Strategy 9542-SL-01A**

## **1. Introduction and Purpose**

This report sets out the landscape-led strategy to support the delivery of a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) at Pear Tree Farm. It describes the spatial approach, habitat typologies and planting specifications that enable BNG delivery in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy, whilst also supporting placemaking, amenity and long-term management objectives.

The report is intended to:

- explain the design rationale for habitat creation and enhancement;
- provide clear habitat specifications aligned with the submitted Soft Landscape Strategy; and
- support the statutory BNG assessment undertaken separately by Estrada Ecology using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric.

This document does not calculate biodiversity units or determine the final BNG outcome. The quantitative assessment, baseline values, condition targets and final net gain are reported within Estrada Ecology's BNG submission and will determine compliance with the 10% requirement.

## **2. Overview of the BNG Strategy & Mitigation Hierarchy**

The site is tightly constrained, with limited opportunity to deliver meaningful biodiversity enhancement solely within the red line boundary. In response, the strategy follows the mitigation hierarchy, prioritising:

1. Retention of existing higher-value features where possible;
2. On-site enhancement within the red line, focused on peripheral POS areas and soft landscape buffers; and
3. Off-site provision within blue line ownership, forming the primary driver for BNG delivery.

This approach reflects best practice guidance and ensures that biodiversity gain is delivered in locations where it can be ecologically functional, spatially coherent, and capable of long-term management.

## **BNG Strategy**

The strategy is deliberately structured around a clear hierarchy of contribution:

- **Primary BNG driver:**  
Blue line habitat creation, including species-rich hedgerow extension, mixed native scrub nodes, hedgerow trees and a wildflower field margin, secured within land under the applicant's control.
- **Secondary BNG support:**  
Red line habitat enhancement, including mixed scrub, woodland-edge grassland (EM6F) and retained POS planting that contributes ecological value whilst remaining compatible with residential amenity use.
- **Supportive Wildlife elements:**  
Amenity grass, ornamental and sensory planting, and compact street trees, which support placemaking, wildlife/ microhabitat diversity and visual coherence but are not relied upon to deliver quantified net gain.

## **3. Red Line Boundary – Landscape and Biodiversity Contribution**

### **3.1 Public Open Space (POS) Strategy**

The entrance POS areas have been refined to function as multifunctional, accessible spaces. The layout comprises:

- Peripheral habitat bands of mixed scrub and woodland-edge grassland (EM6F); and
- A central area of retained amenity grass, providing usable green space and maintaining visual openness at the site entrance.

This arrangement ensures:

- clear legibility and usability of the POS;
- reduced pressure on sensitive habitat edges; and
- effective integration with existing mature trees.

### **3.2 Woodland-Edge Grassland within RPAs**

Woodland-edge grassland (EM6F) is proposed only within the outer extents of Root Protection Areas and will be established through low-impact overseeding and light surface scarification. No excavation, soil importation, changes in soil level, or woody planting are proposed within RPAs.

This treatment is compatible with arboricultural best practice and represents an enhancement over intensive amenity grass management.

All works within Root Protection Areas will be undertaken in accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement, with no changes to soil levels or use of heavy machinery.

### 3.3 Mixed Scrub Habitat (On-Site)

A modest area of mixed native scrub is retained within the red line to provide structural habitat diversity, visual enclosure and ecological stepping stones.

The extent of this habitat has been limited to ensure that it does not compromise the usability of POS areas.

Furthermore, no mixed scrub planting is proposed within the RPA zones of any existing trees.

## 4. Blue Line Boundary – Primary BNG Delivery

The blue line land to the north and east of the site forms the principal mechanism for achieving 10% BNG.

Key elements include:

- Extension and enrichment of hedgerow H4 using a species-rich native mix;
- New mixed native scrub nodes positioned to reinforce existing woodland and hedgerow networks;
- Hedgerow trees to strengthen linear connectivity and future canopy cover; and
- A species-rich wildflower field margin, forming a buffer between development and agricultural land.

Together, these components create a **continuous ecological corridor**, linking:

- retained habitats adjacent to the Methodist Church and along existing residential fringes,
- the PROW hedgerow network and coarse grassland paddock to the north-west, and
- the wider agricultural landscape.

All blue line habitats are located within land under the applicant's control and are capable of being secured for long-term management through appropriate legal mechanisms.

## 5. Habitat Specification and Planting Design

Detailed habitat specifications are set out in **Sections 5.1–5.12** of this report and are directly cross-referenced to the submitted **Soft Landscape Strategy Plan (9542-SL-01A)**.

These specifications define:

- species composition and percentage mixes;
- planting densities and establishment methods; and
- intended character and management outcomes.

All planting has been selected to balance:

- ecological function,
- residential amenity,
- visual coherence, and practical maintenance considerations.

### 5.1 Red Line – Native Single Species Hedgerow (*Carpinus betulus*)

- 100 % Hornbeam; double-staggered @ 5 plants/m; 60–80 cm BR; 1.0–1.2 m maintained.

### 5.2 Red Line – POS Shrub (Shade-Tolerant Mix; 1.5–2.0 plants/m<sup>2</sup>; 40–60 cm BR)

**Native Shrub Mix:** *Corylus avellana* 25%, *Ilex aquifolium* 15%, *Euonymus europaeus* 10%, *Viburnum opulus* 10%, *Cornus sanguinea* 10%, *Crataegus monogyna* 10%, *Prunus spinosa* 5%, *Rosa canina* 5%, *Lonicera periclymenum* 5%, *Acer campestre* 5%.

### 5.3 Red Line – Grassland (Hedgerow/Woodland Edge) to POS Core Area

- Emorsgate EM6F / Boston Seeds BS5P @ 4 g/m<sup>2</sup>;
- Bulbs (*Galanthus*, *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) @ 80–100 bulbs/m<sup>2</sup> to provide early-season nectar within shaded grassland polygons.
- One late-summer hay cut; arisings removed.

### 5.4 Red Line – Urban Trees (Compact Native/Near-Native Mix) 12-14cm girth Heavy Standards RB

- *Pyrus calleryana* ‘Chanticleer’ (6), *Amelanchier alnifolia* ‘Obelisk’ / × *grandiflora* ‘Robin Hill’ (6), *Sorbus aucuparia* ‘Autumn Spire’ (4), *Betula pendula* ‘Fastigiata’ (2).
- 12–14 cm girth; coordinated with NHBC / services; root barriers where needed.

### 5.5 Blue Line – Native Hedgerow Species Rich (Triple-Staggered; 7 plants/m; 1.5 m width; 40–60 cm BR)

**Native Hedgerow Mix:** *Crataegus monogyna* 35%, *Corylus avellana* 15%, *Prunus spinosa* 10%, *Ilex aquifolium* 10%, *Euonymus europaeus* 10%, *Viburnum opulus* 10%, *Rosa canina* 5%, *Lonicera periclymenum* 5%.

### 5.6 Blue Line – Scrub Nodes A & B (Sunny; 1.5 plants/m<sup>2</sup>; 40–60 cm BR)

**Native Scrub Mix:** *Crataegus* 20%, *Corylus* 15%, *Prunus spinosa* 10%, *Ulex europaeus* 10%, *Rhamnus cathartica* 10%, *Viburnum lantana* 10%, *Rosa canina* 8%, *Lonicera periclymenum* 7%, *Euonymus* 5%, *Rubus fruticosus* 5%.

### **Note on Mixed Scrub Habitat 5.2 & 5.6 Ground Layer Establishment**

To aid soil stabilisation and early habitat establishment, the mixed scrub areas will be under-sown with a light native grass and forb nurse mix (e.g. *Emorsgate EG2* or *EM6F*, incorporating fine fescues, bent grasses and a limited proportion of shade-tolerant wildflowers such as *Lotus corniculatus*, *Plantago lanceolata* and *Leontodon autumnalis*). This ground layer is intended to provide temporary cover and long-term structural diversity beneath the developing scrub canopy.

For BNG purposes, the scrub is recorded as the primary habitat, and the seeded ground flora is therefore not entered separately within the metric to avoid double-counting. However, its inclusion will strengthen the justification for a “Good” condition target, supporting the ecological resilience and visual quality of the habitat as it matures.

### **5.7 Blue Line – Field-Margin Meadow (3m width; 4 g/m<sup>2</sup>)**

**Grasses (70 %):** *Festuca rubra*, *Agrostis capillaris*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Alopecurus pratensis*

**Wildflowers (30 %):** *Lotus corniculatus*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Leucanthemum vulgare*, *Knautia arvensis*, *Prunella vulgaris*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Ranunculus acris*, *Silene dioica*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Galium verum*, *Vicia cracca*.

**Supplier equivalents:** Emorsgate **EM3** (General Purpose Meadow) or Boston Seeds **BS1P** (Wildflower Meadow) with extra hedge-edge species (e.g., red campion, self-heal). For shadier runs immediately under the hedge face, merge in a hedgerow/woodland-edge sub-mix (*EM6F* / *BS5P*) over the inner 0.5 m.

### **5.8 Blue Line – Hedgerow Trees (21 No. Light Standards 8–10 cm girth BR)**

*Crataegus monogyna* (6), *Sorbus aucuparia* (4), *Betula pendula* (3), *Acer campestre* (3),

*Prunus avium* (3), *Malus sylvestris* (2).

Irregular spacing (~25–30 m); guards, mulch, and formative pruning.

### **5.9 Red Line – Semi-Ornamental Planting**

#### **2-7.5L @ 2-3plants/ m<sup>2</sup>**

*Viburnum tinus* 15%, *Hebe ‘Red Edge’* 10%, *Escallonia ‘Apple Blossom’* 10%, *Prunus laurocerasus ‘Otto Luyken’* 10%, *Choisya ‘Sundance’* 10%, *Cornus ‘Midwinter Fire’* 10%, *Santolina chamaecyparissus ‘Lemon Queen’* 10%, *Carex elata ‘Aurea’* 5%, *Stipa tenuissima* 5%, *Miscanthus ‘Gracillimus’* 5%, *Festuca*

*glauca* 5%, *Brachyglottis sunshine*' 5%.

Low-maintenance eclectic mix for visual and pollinator benefit.

### 5.10 Red Line – On-Plot Sensory Planting (SE Aspect)

2-3L @ 3-4 plants/ m<sup>2</sup>

*Lavandula 'Hidcote'* 15%, *Rosmarinus 'Jessops Upright'* 10%, *Santolina 'Lemon Queen'* 10%, *Hebe 'Red Edge'* 10%, *Choisya 'Sundance'* 10%, *Carex elata 'Aurea'* 10%, *Stipa tenuissima* 10%, *Nepeta 'Walker's Low'* 10%, *Verbena bonariensis 'Lollipop'* 5%, *Achillea 'Terracotta'* 5%.

Sun-loving fragrant mix with evergreen base for year-round texture.

### 5.11 Red Line – On-Plot Sensory Planting (NW Aspect; Dry Shade) 2-5L @ 3-4 plants/ m<sup>2</sup>

*Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'* 15%, *Heuchera 'Obsidian'* 10%, *Skimmia 'Kew Green'* 10%, *Osmanthus × burkwoodii* 10%, *Viburnum davidii* 10%, *Carex bronze* 10%, *Deschampsia 'Goldtau'* 10%, *Fern Polystichum setiferum* 10%, *Euonymus 'Green Spire'* 5%, *Sarcococca confusa* 5%.

Evergreen and scented layered composition for winter structure.

### 5.12 Red Line– Lawns and Bulbs

- **Front Lawns:** 39 m<sup>2</sup> amenity turf (e.g. Rolawn Medallion) for placemaking and visual coherence.
- **Rear Flowering Lawns:** 1,199 m<sup>2</sup> Emorsgate EL1 flowering lawn mix @ 4 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
- **Spring Bulbs:** 19 m<sup>2</sup> naturalised mix (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, *Crocus vernus*, *Scilla sibirica*) beneath trees and hedges within amenity contexts. These enhance aesthetic and ecological continuity but fall outside metric scoring polygons.

**NB:** Semi-ornamental and on-plot sensory plant mixes 5.9-5.11 may be subject to change at detailed design.

## 6. Long-Term Management and Delivery

It is anticipated that long-term management of BNG habitats will be secured through appropriate legal mechanisms and planning conditions, including the requirement for a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP).

This report provides the design intent and specification framework to inform that future document. Preparation of the LEMP is expected to be undertaken at the post-permission stage once planning conditions are confirmed.

## 7. Relationship to the Statutory BNG Metric

This landscape strategy has been prepared to enable the delivery of a minimum 10% BNG but does not seek to quantify biodiversity units or predict final outcomes.

The Statutory BNG assessment, including baseline values, habitat condition targets and net gain calculations, is reported separately by Estrada Ecology and will determine final compliance with the 10% requirement.

Based on the scale of blue line habitat provision and supporting on-site enhancements, it is anticipated that the scheme will be capable of achieving the required net gain, subject to verification through the statutory metric.



- KEY**
- Existing Trees to be Retained & Protected
  - Existing Native Hedgerow Retained & Protected
  - Existing Trees/ Hedges to be Removed
  - Existing Amenity Grassland Retained (178 sqm)
  - Proposed Native Hedgerow Trees (5.8) 8-10cm girth; Light Standards; 2.5-3.0m ht; BR TOTAL BLUE LINE: 21no.
  - Proposed Compact Street Trees (5.4) 12-14cm girth; Heavy Standard; 3-3.5m ht; RB TOTAL SITE: 18no.
  - Native Species Rich Hedgerow (5.5) 40-60cm thd whips; BR; Triple Staggered; 7 plants/Lm; 1.5m width TOTAL LENGTH BLUE LINE: 124 Lm
  - Native Scrub Habitat (5.6) 40-60cm thd whips; BR; 1.5 plants/m² TOTAL BLUE LINE AREA: 600 sqm
  - Native Shrub Habitat (POS) (5.2) 40-60cm thd whips; BR; 1.5-2.0 plants/m² TOTAL SITE AREA: 97 sqm
  - Native Single Species Hedgerow (5.1) 60-80cm thd whips; BR; 5 plants/Lm; 1-1.2m maintained TOTAL LENGTH: 69 Lm
  - Semi-Ornamental Planting Mix (5.9) 2-7.5L pots @ 2-3 plants/m² TOTAL AREA: 92 sqm
  - On-plot Sensory Planting South Eastern Facing Mix (5.10) 2-3L pots @ 3-4 plants/m² TOTAL AREA: 48 sqm
  - On-plot Sensory Planting North Western Facing Mix (5.11) 2-5L pots @ 3-4 plants/m² TOTAL AREA: 40 sqm
  - On-plot Front Lawns- Turf (5.12) eg 'Medallion' by Rotawm TOTAL AREA: 40 sqm
  - On-plot Rear Gardens- Grass Seed (5.12) eg EL 1 Flowering Lawn Mix by Enronsgate, sown at 4g/sqm TOTAL AREA: 1170 sqm
  - Meadow Mix to Field Margin (5.7) 70% grasses; 30% wild flowers sown @ 4 g/m²; 3m width EM3/ BS1P General Purpose Meadow with hedgerow mix EM6F/ BS5P over the inner 0.5m against hedgerow planting TOTAL BLUE LINE AREA: 400 sqm
  - Hedgerow/ Woodland Edge Grassland Mix (POS) (5.3) EM6F/ BS5P Mix sown @ 4g/m² with native bulbs @80-100m² TOTAL SITE AREA: 99 sqm
  - Naturalising Spring Bulbs (5.12) Bulbs 80-100/ m²; grade 8/10 TOTAL AREA: 19 sqm
  - Gravel Margin Detail -protects dwelling perimeters from dampness adjacent planting borders

To be read in conjunction with the following documents;  
 BNG Landscape Strategy Report 9542-BLS-01 by RCLA  
 -Refer to report sections 5.1-5.12 for species mixes.  
 AIA ref 0514 Rev C dated 090925 by Selwyn Trees  
 PEA ref SQ 1996 dated 100724 by Estrada Ecology

**NOTES:**  
 This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all relevant contract documentation from the design team, with any conflicting information to be brought to the attention of Robinson Chartered Landscape Architecture in writing before commencing on site.  
 The contractor is to check and verify all levels and dimensions before construction. Any discrepancies are to be brought to the attention of Robinson Chartered Landscape Architecture in writing before commencing on site.  
 All dimensions in mm, unless otherwise stated.  
 Do not scale from this drawing.  
 All sub base and concrete specification to engineer's details.  
 Waterproofing of any element to be specified by others.  
 All proprietary products shall be installed in accordance with manufacturers written instructions.  
 Plants should be ordered to suit site areas in accordance with scheduled plant species.  
 Any proposed plant substitution shall be agreed with the landscape architect prior to ordering.  
 Do not scale areas or dimensions from this plan as the layout has been derived from a large scale CS base plan.  
 It is the contractors responsibility to ascertain the positions of all underground and above services.  
 Tree locations and design layout may be subject to change following an accurate survey of all service locations.

29/10/20	AK	Revised following LPA comments	A	CR
22/10/20	AK	Submit RPA notes	SEVEN	BR
DATE	DESIGN	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	REVISION LETTER	CREATED BY

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Drawing Status:  
 Planning

Client:  
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Project:  
 Pair Tree Farm  
 Church Street, Brierley, Barnsley

Drawing Title:  
 SOFT LANDSCAPE STRATEGY  
 FOR BNG DELIVERY

Drawing Date: 1/10/20	Drawn By: AK	Checked By: AK	Drawn Date: 18/10/20
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