ARDSLEY HOUSE, BARNSLEY

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

SOFT LANDSCAPE AREAS WITHIN HOUSING AREA

2.0 GRASS AREAS

3.0 SHRUB BEDS

4.0 HEDGING

5.0 TREES

6.0 NATIVE SHRUB MIX

Site: ARDSLEY HOUSE, BARNSLEY
LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN - New Planting

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The aim of this plan is to set out the basic maintenance techniques appropriate for all new planting for both the proposed development at Ardsley House, Barnsley for up to 5 years.

Landscape maintenance is the means by which the soft landscape elements can be established and sustained consistently in order to achieve the desired effect envisaged in the original design. The following new soft landscape elements are to be introduced on the site and their treatment is described year by year:

- Grass
- Shrubs
- Hedging
- Specimen Trees
- Native Shrub Mix

Read in conjunction with drawing no. GR/09/15/01.

SOFT LANDSCAPE AREAS

2.0 GRASS AREAS

2.1 Years 1 - 5

Mowing Regime: Cut every 4-6 weeks during growing season, as necessary. Grass should be cut whenever recovered to 50% above mowing height.
Mowing Height: 20-40mm.

- Spring top dressing and spike for aeration to 200mm.
- Remove all litter and debris from the site at regular intervals in order to maintain litter free grounds.
- Edge trimming to grass areas as necessary to maintain tidy edges.
- Remove all cuttings from site.
- Water as necessary to ensure establishment.

3.0 SHRUB BEDS

3.1 Applicable to all years:

- Maintain litter and weed free beds.
- Prune out any dead wood.
- Water as necessary to ensure establishment.

3.2 Year 1

- All planting beds to be mulched to suppress weeds and retain soil moisture.
- Replace dead or missing plants to original specification.

3.3 Year 2

- Immediately after flowering prune to approx. 1 m the following spring flowering shrubs to ensure maximum flowering and repeat operation every second year:

  Prunus laurocerasus 'Otto Luyken'

- In spring prune back the following shrubs to pairs of healthy buds, in following years also cutting out the oldest wood to prevent congested growth, to encourage well-balanced, vigorous growth:

  Hydrangea paniculata 'Unique'

- Remove old flowerheads and prune out dead, damaged or diseased shoots mid-spring and repeat operation every year:

  Lavandula angustifolia 'Hidcote' (English Lavender)

- Prune down to approx. 500mm at the end of the dormant season (March) to ensure a bright display in winter of red stems and repeat operation every second year:

  Cornus sanguinea 'Mid-Winter Fire'

- Immediately after flowering prune the following summer flowering shrubs back to a strong pair of buds and remove damaged and spindly growth to ensure maximum flowering and repeat operation every second year:

  Cotoneaster horizontalis

- Prune back overcrowded or leggy plants.
- Apply a 50-100mm layer well composted organic fertiliser over planting beds and lightly work into to topsoil prior commencement of growing season and re-mulch.
- Replace dead or missing plants to original specification in order to maintain uniform density of cover throughout the shrub beds.

3.4 Year 3

- Repeat annual operations for those shrubs identified in item 3.3
- Prune back overcrowded or leggy plants.
- Top up mulch where necessary.
- Replace dead or missing plants to original specification in order to maintain uniform density of cover throughout the shrub beds.

3.5 Year 4

- Repeat all procedures as in Year 2
- Thin out plants to reduce overcrowding where necessary.

3.6 Year 5

- Repeat all procedures as in Year 3
- Thin out over-mature plants that are becoming unsightly and have outgrown their useful life and replace with young plants as per original specification.

4.0 HEDGING

4.1 Hedge Management

- Garden Hedges - Ligustrum ovalifolium (Privet):

  Clip two or three times during growing season, removing dead, diseased, damaged or weak growth, to promote a dense hedge, rectangular in cross section and clothed in leaves down to ground level.
  Appropriate height: 1.5m approx.

Once established, all hedging to be assessed prior to clipping to take account of the presence of any nesting birds. If nests are present within the hedges clipping to be postponed until nesting sites have been vacated.

4.2 Applicable to all years:

- Maintain litter and weed free beds.
- Prune out any dead wood.
- Water as necessary to ensure establishment.

4.3 Year 1

- All hedges clipped / pruned in accordance with item 4.1 above.
- Replace dead or missing plants to original specification.
- Apply a 50-100mm layer well composted organic fertiliser over hedge beds and lightly work into to topsoil prior commencement of growing season.
- Top up mulch in hedging beds.

4.4 Year 2 Repeat all procedures as in Year 1

4.5 Year 3 Repeat all procedures as in Year 1

4.6 Year 4

- Hedges should be dense and clothed in leaves to ground level, no further requirement for topping up mulch.
- All hedges clipped / pruned in accordance with item 4.1 above.
- Replace dead or missing plants as necessary to maintain the hedge density.

4.7 Year 5 Repeat all procedures as in Year 4

5.0 TREES

5.1 Year 1

- Water trees as necessary to ensure establishment.
- The bases of trees to be absorbed into the general maintenance of the areas in which they occur.

- One metre diameter circle to be mulched and maintained litter and weed free around all specimen trees that occur in grass areas.
- Dead and missing specimen trees or trees which fail to develop properly during the first season after planting shall be replaced. Specification for replacements shall be the same as for the originals.

5.2 Year 2

- Specimen tree surrounds are to be treated as part of the general maintenance of the areas in which they occur.
- One metre diameter circle to be mulched and maintained litter and weed free around all specimen trees that occur in grass areas.
- Check firmness of stakes and replace broken or missing stakes.
- Loosen tree ties once per month during the growing season in order to accommodate new girth expansion.
- Dead and missing specimen trees or trees which fail to develop properly shall be replaced. Specification for replacements shall be the same as for the originals.
- Water trees as necessary to ensure establishment.
- Apply a 50-100mm layer well composted organic fertiliser (in a one metre diameter circle if occurring within grass areas) and lightly work into to topsoil prior commencement of growing season and re-mulch.

5.3 Year 3

- Repeat all procedures as in Year 2
- Begin phased removal of tree stakes and ties beginning with the stakes of the most vigorous and established trees.
- Thin out competing species of plants around the bases of specimen trees occurring in shrub beds if the specimen trees are suffering due to competition.

5.4 Year 4

- Remove all the remaining stakes and ties of specimen trees except in special circumstances where the trees may be suffering from excessive exposure and as a result unable to stand unaided. These should be removed as soon as the trees are stabilised.
- Any remaining ties should be loosened once per month during the growing season in order to accommodate new girth expansion.
- Dead and missing specimen trees or trees which fail to develop properly shall be replaced. Specification for replacements shall be the same as for the originals.
- Apply a 50-100mm layer well composted organic fertiliser (in a one metre diameter circle if occurring within grass areas) and lightly work into to topsoil prior commencement of growing season and re-mulch.

5.5 Year 5

- Dead and missing specimen trees or trees which fail to develop properly shall be replaced. Specification for replacements shall be the same as for the originals.
- Any remaining ties should be loosened once per month during the growing season in order to accommodate new girth expansion. These should be removed as soon as the trees are stabilised.

6.0 NATIVE SHRUB MIX

Visits to be carried out once a year, prior to the beginning of the growing season to prepare schedules of maintenance works to be undertaken. All operatives must have the appropriate experience to undertake such works as is necessary:

- Area to be cleared of litter.
- Should large shrub or herbaceous plant losses occur replacement planting as per the original specification to be provided in order to maintain uniform density of cover throughout the tree belt.