

# **SPECIFICATION**

Project Name Barnsley Levelling Up Fund Projects

Client Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

File Ref Specification (sections Q28, Q30, Q31 and Q35)

**Description** BALU-BBA-XX-XX-SP-L-0002

**Date** 2025-02-10

BBA Project No 23048
Revision P01

Revision description For information





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# **Q28**

# Topsoil and soil ameliorants

# System outline

#### 136 Planting bed topsoil system

- 1. Description: FOR GENERAL PLANTING AREAS AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTING BEDS
- 2. Composition
  - 2.1. Topsoil: As spec clause Q28/315A. Minimum depth 300 mm
  - 2.2. Subsoil: As spec clause Q28/315C. Site sourced or imported. Minimum depth 300 mm
  - 2.3. Accessories: Mycorrhizal inoculant

#### 137 Species poor grass topsoil system

- 1. Description: For species poor grassed areas
- 2. Composition
  - 2.1. Topsoil: As spec clause Q28/315A. Minimum depth 150 mm
  - 2.2. Subsoil: As spec clause Q28/315C. Site sourced or imported. Minimum depth 300 mm
  - 2.3. Accessories: Mycorrhizal inoculant

#### 138 Newtral grassland topsoil system

- 1. Description: For wildflower meadow areas
- 2. Composition
  - 2.1. Low fertility topsoil: As spec clause Q28/315B. Minimum depth 150 mm
  - 2.2. Subsoil: As spec clause Q28/315C. Site sourced. Minimum depth 300 mm
  - 2.3. Accessories: Mycorrhizal inoculant

#### 145 Planting pit backfilling topsoil system

- 1. Description: FOR ALL TREE PITS
- 2. Composition
  - 2.1. Topsoil: As spec clause Q28/315C. Site sourced or imported. Minimum depth 600 mm
  - 2.2. Subsoil:
  - 2.3. Ameliorants: Fertilizer
  - 2.4. Accessories: Mycorrhizal inoculant

#### 155A Mulching and top dressing system Bark nuggets

- 1. Description: SHRUB BEDS, TREES
- 2. Composition
  - 2.1. Material: Bark nuggets (15-65 mm)
  - 2.2. Supplier: Melcourt Industries Limited or similar approved

Address: Boldridge Brake, Long Newnton,

Tetbury, Glos GL8 8RT Tel: +44 (0)1666 502711 Fax: +44 (0)1666 504398 Email:mail@melcourt.co.uk

Website: http://www.melcourt.co.uk

- 2.3. Properties:
  - Main Constituent: pine, Douglas fir and larch bark
  - Origin: British
  - Nominal particle size range mm: 15 65 mm
  - Wood Content: < 5 %

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- Dust and Fines: minimal
- pH: 4.5-5.5
- Typical Bulk Density Range: 200 -250 kg/m3
- Quality Range: Deluxe
- Main Constituent: pine, Douglas fir and larch bark
- Minimum effective depth: 50mm
- Settlement factor: 5% after 30 days
- Durability: 4 years+
- FSC Certified: YES
- BS 4790 Fire Tested: YES
- The product shall be pest, disease and weed free and not have been treated with any additives.
- All product volumes to be calculated using The Bulk Density method, as set out in BS EN 12579:2000 and BS EN 12580:2000.

### **Products**

# 300 Preparation materials generally

- 1. Purity: Free of pests and disease.
- 2. Foreign matter: On visual inspection, free of fragments and roots of aggressive weeds, sticks, straw, subsoil, pieces of brick, concrete, glass, wire, large lumps of clay or vegetation, and the like.
- 3. Contamination: Do not use topsoil contaminated with subsoil, rubbish or other materials that are:
  - 3.1. Corrosive, explosive or flammable.
  - 3.2. Hazardous to human or animal life.
  - 3.3. Detrimental to healthy plant growth.
- 4. Subsoil: In areas to receive topsoil or planting media, do not use subsoil contaminated with the above materials.
- 5. Objectionable odour: None.
- 6. Give notice: If any evidence or symptoms of soil contamination are discovered on the site or in topsoil or planting media to be imported.

# 310 Materials not permitted

1. Materials: Products containing peat and River and canal dredgings

### 315 A Imported topsoils

- 1. Description: General purpose topsoil
- 2. Manufacturer: Boughton Loam or similar approved
- 3. Contact details
  - 3.1. Address: Telford Way Industrial Estate

Telford Way

Kettering

Northamptonshire

United Kingdom

**NN16 8UN** 

- 3.2. Telephone: +44 (0)1536 510515
- 3.3. Web: www.boughton.co.uk
- 3.4. Email: info@boughton.co.uk
- 4. Product reference: BLS 20 Boughton Screened Natural Topsoil, Single Source
- 5. General requirements: Topsoil, growing medium, subsoil and preparation materials generally
- 6. Supplier: Boughton Loam or similar approved
- 7. Source: Manufacturer's standard.
- 8. Soil textural class

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- 8.1. Standard: Soil textural class to BS 3882, Figure 1: [Sandy loam]. Clay 15%, Silt 30%, Sand 55% 8.2. Class: Sandy loam.
- 9. Chemical analysis
  - 9.1. pH (range): 6.5-7.5.
- 10. Organic matter by dry weight (nominal): 10-15%.
- 11. Nutrient content: Minimum index values for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium to be as for BS 3882 multipurpose topsoil.
- 12. Stones
  - 12.1. Size in any dimension (maximum): 20 mm.
  - 12.2. Stone content by dry weight (maximum): 12%.
- 13. Permitted materials for manufactured topsoil
  - 13.1. Declaration of compliance
    - 13.1.1. Composted materials: In accordance with PAS 100.
- 14. Materials not permitted: Peat.

# 315 B Imported low fertility topsoils

- 1. Description: Low fertility topsoil
- 2. Manufacturer: Contractor's choiceor site worn
- 3. General requirements: Low fertility topsoil, growing medium and preparation materials generally
- 4. Supplier: Premium Topsoil Suppliers or similar approved
- 5. Source: Manufacturer's standard.
- 6. Soil textural class
  - 6.1. Standard: Soil textural class to BS 3882, Figure 1: [Sandy loam]. Clay 15%, Silt 30%, Sand 55% 6.2. Class: Sandy loam.
- 7. Chemical analysis
  - 7.1. pH (range): 6.5-7.5.
- 8. Organic matter by dry weight (nominal): <2%
- 9. Nutrient content: Minimum index values for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium to be as for BS 3882 low fertility soils
- 10. Stones
  - 10.1. Size in any dimension (maximum): 10 mm.
  - 10.2. Stone content by dry weight (maximum): 12%.
- 11. Permitted materials for manufactured topsoil
  - 11.1. Declaration of compliance
    - 11.1.1. Composted materials: In accordance with PAS 100.
- 12. Materials not permitted: Peat.

### 315 C Imported subsoil

- 1. Description: For general landscaping works
- Quantity: Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.
- 3. Classification: Soil textural class to BS 8601:2013, Figure 1: [Sandy loam]. Clay 15%, Silt 30%, Sand 55%
- 4. Source: Imported or site worn
- 5. Base material: Imported aggregates

# 380 Mycorrhizal inoculant

- 1. Description: FOR TREE PITS AND SHRUB PLANTING
- 2. Manufacturer: Contractor's choice
  - 2.1. Product reference: Contractor's choice

#### 405 Inorganic fertilizers

1. Description: FOR PLANTING BEDS

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- 2. Manufacturer/ source: Contractor's choice
  - 2.1. Product reference: Contractor's choice
- 3. Standard: In accordance with The EC Fertilisers (England and Wales) Regulations 2006
- 4. Purpose: General purpose fertilizer
- 5. Type: NPK (macronutrient)
- 6. Availability to plants: Slow-release

#### **Execution**

### 610 Topsoil analysis

- 1. Soil to be analysed: SAMPLES FROM AREAS TO BE STRIPPED Imported topsoil
- 2. Soil analyst: Contractor's choice
- 3. Samples: Collect in accordance with BS 3882.
- 4. Submit
  - 4.1. Declaration of analysis: In accordance with BS 3882, clause 6 and Table 1.
  - 4.2. Additional analysis: Soil resource

### 620 Importing topsoil

- 1. Give notice: Before stripping topsoil for transfer to site.
  - 1.1. Notice period: 7 days

# 630 Documentation for imported topsoil

- 1. Description: FOR ALL AREAS
- 2. Timing: Submit at handover.
- 3. Contents
  - 3.1. Full description of all soil components.
  - 3.2. Record of source for all soil components.
  - 3.3. Record drawings showing the location and depth of all soils by type and grade.
  - 3.4. Declaration of analysis: in accordance with BS 3882, clause 6 and Table 1.

### 655 Mechanical tools

- Restrictions: Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems. Do not damage adjacent planting.
- 2. New Item: Undertake works in accordance with Arboricultiral Method Statement

#### 660 Grading subsoil for:

- 1. Description: Areas covered by topsoil
- 2. Standard: In accordance with BS 8601.
- 3. General: Grade to smooth flowing contours to achieve specified finished levels of topsoil. As drawing SLDD-BBA-ZZ-00-DR-L-2102 Proposed Site Levels Plan
- 4. Areas of thicker topsoil: Excavate locally.
- 5. Avoid compaction.
- 6. Excess subsoil: Remove.

#### 665 Subsoil surface preparation for:

- 1. Description: All planting beds
- 2. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
- 3. General: Excavate and/ or place fill to required profiles and levels, as section D20.
- 4. Loosening
  - 4.1. When ground conditions are sufficiently dry to allow breaking up of soils, loosen thoroughly to specified depth
    - 4.1.1.Light and noncohesive subsoils: 150 mm

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- 4.1.2. Stiff clay and cohesive subsoils: Not applicable
- 4.1.3. Rock and chalk subgrades: Lightly scarify to promote free drainage.
- 4.2. Wet conditions: Do not loosen subsoils.
- 5. Stones: Immediately before spreading topsoil, remove stones larger than 20 mm.
- 6. Remove from site: Arisings, contaminants and debris and Builders rubble

### 685 Surplus materials to be removed

- 1. Topsoil removal from site: Topsoil remaining after completion of all landscaping work
- 2. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

# 690 Topsoil storage heaps

- 1. Location: Submit proposals
- 2. Height (maximum): 1.0 m
- 3. Width (maximum): 2.0 m
  - 3.1. Formation: Loose tip and shape from the side only, without running machinery on the heap at any time.
- 4. Protection
  - 4.1. Do not place any other material on top of storage heaps.
  - 4.2. Do not allow construction plant to pass over storage heaps.
  - 4.3. Prevent compaction and contamination, by fencing and covering as appropriate.

# 700 Grading of topsoil

- 1. Topsoil condition: Reasonably dry and workable.
- 2. Contours: Smooth and flowing, with falls for adequate drainage.
  - 2.1. Hollows and ridges: Not permitted.
- 3. Give notice: If required levels cannot be achieved by movement of existing soil.

# 705 Handling topsoil

- 1. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
- 2. Aggressive weeds: Give notice and obtain instructions before moving topsoil.
- 3. Plant: Select and use plant to minimize disturbance, trafficking and compaction.
- 4. Contamination: Do not mix topsoil with:
  - 4.1. Subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work.
  - 4.2. Other grades of topsoil.
- 5. Multiple handling: Keep to a minimum. Use or stockpile topsoil immediately after stripping.
- 6. Wet conditions: Handle topsoil in the driest condition possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall, or when the moisture content is greater than the plastic limit.

### 710 Spreading topsoil on:

- 1. Description: Planting beds and areas designated for the hedgerow
- 2. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
- 3. Temporary roads/ surfacing: Remove before spreading topsoil.
- 4. Layers
  - 4.1. Depth (maximum): 150 mm.
  - 4.2. Gently firm each layer before spreading the next.
- 5. Depth after firming and settlement: as BS 3882 suggest for various types of planting
- 6. Crumb structure: Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate visible crumbs wherever possible.

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# 715 Loose tipping of topsoil

- 1. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
- 2. General: Do not firm, consolidate or compact topsoil when laying. Tip and grade to approximate levels in one operation with minimum of trafficking by plant.

# 720 Finished levels of topsoil after settlement

- 1. In relation to adjoining paving, kerbs or hard surfaces: 25 mm above
- 2. In relation to adjacent grass areas: 25 mm above
- 3. Seeded areas: Extend cultivation into existing adjacent grassed areas sufficient to ensure full marrying in of levels.
- 4. Within root spread of existing trees and shrubs to be retained: Do not dig or cultivate.
- 5. Adjoining soil areas: Marry in.

## 755 Site-made growing media

- 1. Description:
- 2. Quantity: Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil or growing media existing on site and to complete the work.
- 3. Composition
  - 3.1. Base material:
  - 3.2. Additional materials:
- 4. Crumb structure: Made up of discernible crumbs.
- 5. Particles
  - 5.1. Size in any dimension (maximum):
  - 5.2. Large particle content by dry weight (maximum):
- 6. Organic content (by dry weight):
- 7. Nutrient content: Minimum index values for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and magnesium to be as for BS 3882 multipurpose topsoil.

### 845 Applying loose mulch

- 1. Description: FOR PLANTING BEDS (mulching material as clauses 155A)
- 2. Timing: Immediately after planting
- 3. Preparation: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened, applying water where necessary
- 4. Coverage of mulch (minimum)
  - 4.1. Planting beds (depth): 50 mm depth
  - 4.2. Trees: In a circular area of 500 mm radius measured from the tree stem
- 5. Finished level of mulch: 30 mm below adjacent grassed or paved areas

#### Completion

#### 910 Applying maintenance fertilizer to grass swards

- 1. Description: TO LAWNS
- 2. Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/turfing until the end of the rectification period.
- 3. Time of year: During April and May
- 4. Application: Evenly spread, carefully incorporating below mulch materials.
- 5. Rate: To manufacturer's recommendations

# 920 Applying mulch

- 1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period
- 2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to mulching, applying water where necessary.
- 3. Planting beds: Re-mulch.



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- 3.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm
- 4. Trees: Remulch.
  - 4.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm
- 5. Container planting: Remulch.
  - 5.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm

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# Q30 Seeding/ turfing

### General information/requirements

#### 115 Seeded grass areas

- Growth and development: Healthy, vigorous grass sward, free from the visible effects of pests, weeds and disease.
- 2. Appearance: A closely knit, continuous ground cover of even density, height and colour.

#### 120 Climatic conditions

1. General: Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.

#### 145 Watering

- 1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
- 2. Application: Even and without displacing seed, seedlings or soil.
- 3. Frequency: As necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all seeding/turfing.

#### 150 Water restrictions

Timing: If water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation do not carry out seeding/turfing until instructed. If seeding/turfing has been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

#### 160 **Notice**

- 1. Give notice before
  - 1.1. Setting out.
  - 1.2. Preparing seed bed.
  - 1.3. Seeding or turfing.
  - 1.4. Visiting site during maintenance period.
- 2. Period of notice: 1 week

#### 170 Setting out

- 1. Boundaries: Mark clearly.
- 2. Delineation: In straight lines or smoothly flowing curves as shown on drawings.

#### **Preparation**

#### 210 Herbicide

- 1. Description: FOR ALL GRASSED AREAS
- 2. Type: Suitable for suppressing perennial weeds.
- 3. Timing: Allow fallow period before cultivation.
  - 3.1. Duration: As manufacturer's recommendation

#### 212 Seed bed cleaning before sowing

- 1. Description: ALL GRASSED AREAS
- 2. Operations: As seed supplier's recommendations.



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## 250 Soil requirements

1. Type

1.1. Seeded areas: Soil for grass swards, as section Q28

# Seeding

#### 311 Grass seed

1. Description: FOR GRASSED BANKS

2. Supplier: Germinal or similar approved. A18 Road Verge and Embankments

2.1. Mixture reference:

40.0%	CORAIL STRONG CREEPING RED FESCUE	(Festuca rubra rubra)
20.0%	MARKUS SMOOTH STALKED MEADOW GRASS	(Poa pratensis)
12.5%	ABERWIN PERENNIAL RYEGRASS	(Lolium perenne)
10.0%	JOANNA CHEWINGS FESCUE	(Festuca Rubra Commutata)
10.0%	ZURICH PERENNIAL RYEGRASS	(Lolium perenne)
5.0%	HIGHLAND BROWNTOP BENTGRASS	(Agrostis castellana)
2.5%	ABERLASTING (SMALL) W CLOVER	(Trifolium repens)

3. Application rate: 40 g/m<sup>2</sup>

#### 312 Wildflower seed mixture

1. Description: FOR WILDFLOWER MEADOWS

2. Supplier: Emorsgate

2.1. Mixture reference: EM1 basic General Purpose Meadow Mixture (to TGA Quality standards)

3. Origin of each species (as defined in Flora Locale's Code of practice for collectors, growers and suppliers of native flora): British Native

4. Application rate: 5 g/m<sup>2</sup>

### 319 Quality of seed

- 1. Description: FOR GRASSED BANKS
- 2. Freshness: Produced for the current growing season.
- 3. Certification: Blue label certified varieties.
  - 3.1. Standard: EC purity and germination regulations.
  - 3.2. Official Seed Testing Station certificate of germination, purity and composition: Submit when requested.
- Samples of mixtures: Submit when requested.

### 322 Quality of wildflower seed

- Standard: In accordance with Flora Locale's 'Code of practice for collectors, growers and suppliers of native flora'.
- 2. Freshness of seed: Germination test certification no greater than 2 years old
- 3. Samples: Submit when requested.

# 330 Sowing

- 1. General: Establish good seed contact with the root zone.
- 2. Method: To suit soil type, proposed usage, location and weather conditions during and after sowing 2.1. Distribution: 2 equal sowings at right angles to each other

### 335 Grass sowing season

1. Grass seed generally: April to June or August to October

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# 336 Wildflower sowing season

1. Wildflower seed generally: March to May or August to October

# 340 Pre-emergent herbicide

- 1. Standard: Pesticide Safety Directorate approved.
- 2. Application rate: In accordance with manufacturer's written recommendation.
  - 2.1. Timing: Immediately after sowing.

# 352 Edges to seeded areas

- 1. Description: ADJACENT TO PLANTING BEDS AND TREE PITS
- 2. Timing: After seeded areas are well established.
- 3. Edges: Clean straight lines or smooth curves.
  - 3.1. Mulch and soil: Draw back to permit edging.
- 4. Arisings: Remove.
- 5. Completion: Respread soil and mulch.

#### 355 Surface reinforcement mat/ mesh

- 1. Description: FOR SLOPES GREATER THAN 1:3
- 2. Manufacturer: Geosynthetics Ltd or similar approved
  - Product reference: Strataweb 200mm system overlaid with Biodegradable Erosion Control CoirMat Type CTR23-4510 V1 or similar approved
- 3. Type: Proprietary product
  - 3.1. Size: As manufactured
- 4. Fixing/ Jointing: 700mm J Pins 2.5pins/m² for Strataweb
  - 150mm Biodegradable pins (2.5pins/m² see pin pattern) for Biodegradable Erosion Control CoirMat
- 5. Topsoil dressing: Topsoil as Q28/315A over Strataweb
  - 5.1. Thickness: 100 mm
- 6. Additional seeding: As grass seed for lawns
- 7. Removal of fixings: Not required

#### Turfing - Not Used

### Protecting/cutting

# 510 Protective fencing

- Fencing type: Heras fencing
  - 1.1. Height: 2.1 m
- Erection: On completion of seeding/ turfing.
- 3. Removal: After grass is well established. Fencing will remain the property of the Contractor

### 530 First cut of grassed areas

- 1. Timing: When grass is reasonably dry.
  - 1.1. Height of initial growth: 75 mm
- 2. Preparation
  - 2.1. Debris and litter: Remove.
  - 2.2. Stones and earth clods larger than 25 mm in any dimension: Remove
- 3. Height of first cut: 40-60 mm
- 4. Mower type: Contractor's choice
- 5. Arisings: Remove from site

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#### 540 First cut of wildflower meadows

- 1. Description: WILDFLOWER MEADOWS
- 2. Height of initial growth: 75 mm
- 3. Preparation:
- 4. Debris and litter: Remove.
  - 4.1. Stones and earth clods larger than 25 mm in any dimension: Remove
- 5. Height of first cut: 50 mm
- 6. Mower type: Contractor's choice
- 7. Arisings: Remove from site

#### 590 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.

#### **Maintenance**

## 610 Failures of seeding/ turfing

- 1. Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing until: the end of the rectification period.
- 2. Defective materials or workmanship: Areas that have failed to thrive.
  - 2.1. Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage.
- 3. Method of making good: Recultivation and reseeding
- 4. Timing of making good: Submit proposals

# 620 Maintaining

- 1. Description: GENERAL GRASSED AREAS
- Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing until: the end of the rectification period.
- 3. Maximum height of growth at any time: 150mm
- 4. Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
- 5. Cutting: As and when necessary to a height of 50 mm-75mm.
  - 5.1. Arisings: Remove in accordance with wildflower lawn management to allow for seeds to drop. Please refer to landscape management and maintenance plan.
- 6. Trimming: All edges.
  - 6.1. Arisings: Remove.
- 7. Weed control: Substantially free of broad leaved weeds.
  - 7.1. Method: Application of a suitable selective herbicide.
- 8. Stones brought to the surface: Remove regularly.
  - 8.1. Size: Exceeding 20 mm in any dimension.
- 9. Areas of settlement: Make good.
- 10. Watering: When required to ensure survival during rectification period to ensure survival.

# 650 Maintaining grassed areas with perennial wildflowers

- 1. Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing until: the end of the rectification period.
- 2. Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
- 3. Height and frequency of cut in first growing season
  - 3.1. Time of first cut: March/ April
  - 3.2. Height of first cut: 40-60 mm
  - 3.3. Frequency of subsequent cutting (minimum): Every 6-8 weeks until autumn
  - 3.4. Height of growth permitted (maximum): 150 mm
- 4. Height and frequency of cut in second growing season

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- 4.1. Time of cut: October, March and August If invasive grass becomes problematic, allow for a mid summer cut in June/July
- 4.2. Height of cut: Year 1 40-60mm Year 2 - 75mm, cut 3x per year
- 5. Trimming: All edges.
  - 5.1. Arisings: Spring cut Remove. Late Summer cut and Autumn cut - Leave arisings for 7 days to allow seed to drop.
- 6. Watering: Contractor's choice

 $\Omega$  End of Section





# **Q31**

# External planting

### General information/ requirements

#### 112 Site clearance generally

- 1. General: Remove rubbish, concrete, metal, glass, decayed vegetation and contaminated topsoil.
- 2. Stones: Remove those with any dimension exceeding 50 mm.
- 3. Contamination: Remove material containing toxins, pathogens or other extraneous substances harmful to plant, animal or human life.
- 4. Vegetation: Clear scrub to ground level by flail mowing and remove arisings
- 5. Large roots: Grub up and dispose of without undue disturbance of soil and adjacent areas.

#### 118 Soil conditions

- 1. Soil for cultivating and planting: Moist, friable and (except in aquatic/ marginal planting) not waterlogged.
- 2. Frozen or snow covered soil: Give notice before planting. Provide additional root protection. Prevent planting pit sides and bases and backfill materials from freezing.

#### 120 **Climatic conditions**

- 1. General: Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.
  - 1.1. Strong winds: Do not plant.

#### 125 Times of year for planting

- Deciduous trees and shrubs: Late October to late March.
- Herbaceous plants (including marginal): September/ October or March/ April.

#### 130 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems.

#### 145 Watering

- 1. Quantity: Wet full depth of topsoil.
- 2. Application: Even and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
- 3. Frequency: As necessary to ensure establishment and continued thriving of planting.

#### 150 Water restrictions

General: If water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation, do not carry out planting until instructed. If planting has been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

#### 160 **Notice**

- Give notice before
  - 1.1. Setting out.
  - 1.2. Applying herbicide.
  - 1.3. Delivery of plants/ trees.
  - 1.4. Planting shrubs.
  - 1.5. Planting trees into previously dug pits.
  - 1.6. Watering.
  - 1.7. Visiting site during maintenance period.



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2. Period of notice: Three working days

### 170 Soil requirements

- 1. Type
  - 1.1. Planted beds: Planting bed soil system, as section Q28
  - 1.2. Tree pits, shrub pits and other backfilling: Plant pit backfilling soil system, as section Q28
  - 1.3. Mulch applied after planting: Mulching and top dressing system, as section Q28

# 200 Plants/ Trees - general

- 1. Condition: Materially undamaged, sturdy, healthy and vigorous.
- 2. Appearance: Of good shape and without elongated shoots.
- 3. Hardiness: Grown in a suitable environment and hardened off.
- 4. Health: Free from pests, diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders.
- 5. Root system and condition: Balanced with branch system.
  - 5.1. Standard: The relevant parts of BS 3936
- 6. Species: True to name.
- 7. Origin/ Provenance: Grown in the United Kingdom for at least one growing season, unless otherwise approved
- 8. Definition: Origin and Provenance have the meaning given in the National Plant Specification.

## 216 Plants/ Trees – specification criteria

1. Name, forms, dimensions and other criteria: To the relevant part of BS 3936.

# 235 Container grown plants/ Trees

- 1. Growing medium: With adequate nutrients for plants to thrive until permanently planted.
- 2. Plants: Centred in containers, firmed and well watered.
- 3. Root growth: Substantially filling containers, but not root bound, and in a condition conducive to successful transplanting.
- 4. Hardiness: Grown in the open for at least two months before being supplied.
- 5. Containers: With holes adequate for drainage when placed on any substrate commonly used under irrigation systems.

#### 260 Plant/ Tree substitution

- 1. Plants/ trees unobtainable or known to be likely to be unobtainable at time of ordering: Submit alternatives, stating:
  - 1.1. Price.
  - 1.2. Difference from specified plants/ trees.
- 2. Approval: Obtain before making any substitution.

### 265 Plant handling, storage transport and planting

- 1. Standard: To CPSE 'Handling and establishing landscape plants'.
- 2. Frost: Protect plants from frost.
- 3. Handling: Handle plants with care. Protect from mechanical damage and do not subject to shock, e.g. by dropping from a vehicle.
- 4. Plant packaging: Black polyethylene bags
- 5. Planting: Upright or well balanced with best side to front.

### 280 Treatment of tree wounds

1. Cutting: Keep wounds as small as possible.



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- 1.1. Cut cleanly back to sound wood using sharp, clean tools.
- 1.2. Leave branch collars. Do not cut flush with stem or trunk.
- 1.3. Set cuts so that water will not collect on cut area.
- 2. Fungicide/ Sealant: Do not apply unless instructed.

### 290 Surplus material

1. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

#### **Plant containers - Not Used**

## Preparation of planting beds/ planting materials

#### 300 Herbicide

- 1. Description: TO CLEAR EXISTING VEGETATION
- 2. Locations: All planting areas
- 3. Type: Suitable for supressing perennial weeds.
- 4. Timing: Allow fallow period before cultivation.
  - 4.1. Duration (minimum): Three weeks

### 305 Weed control

- 1. Description: FOR INVASIVE NON-NATIVE WEEDS
- 2. Locations: All planting areas
- 3. General: Prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established, by hand weeding, by contractor's choice of herbicide.

#### Planting shrubs/ herbaceous plants/ bulbs

### 400 Random plant layout

- Description: TO ALL BEDS
- 2. Spacing: Random groups of 1-3 plants of the same species.
- 3. Density: As plant schedule

### 405 Shrub planting pits

- 1. Timing: Excavate 1-2 days (maximum) before planting.
- 2. Sizes: Wide enough to accommodate roots when fully spread and 75 mm deeper than root system
- 3. Pit bottom improvement Break up to a depth of 150 mm, incorporating 25 g of slow release fertilizer per planting pit.

# 435 Climbing plants used as ground cover

- Planting
  - 1.1. Canes or other supports: Remove.
  - 1.2. Arrangement: Spread stems.
- 2. Fixing: Pinned to ground to ensure good contact.

### 470 Formal hedges

- 1. Shrubs for hedges: Consistent in species, cultivar and clone to ensure a uniform hedge.
- 2. Planting: In trenches large enough to take full spread of roots. Set out plants evenly.



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# 471 Naturalized hedges

Planting: In trenches large enough to take full spread of roots. Set out plants evenly.

# 472 Fencing support for new hedges

- 1. Type: Timber post and general pattern wire mesh, as section Q40
- Timing: Before planting hedge.
- 3. Support: Lightly secure hedge plants to fence wires at appropriate intervals.

# 480 After planting

- 1. Watering: Immediately after planting, thoroughly and without damaging or displacing plants or soil.
- 2. Firming: Lightly firm soil around plants and fork and/ or rake soil, without damaging roots, to a fine tilth with gentle cambers and no hollows.
- 3. Top dressing: Mulching and top dressing system, as section Q28
  - 3.1. Depth: 50 mm

### Planting trees

### 500 Tree planting

1. Standard: Prepare trees and transplant in accordance with BS 8545

### 505 Tree pits

- 1. Sizes: 100 mm wider than the ball and 150mm deeper than the rootball.
- 2. Sloping ground: Maintain horizontal bases and vertical sides with no less than minimum depth throughout.
- 3. Excavated material: Separate topsoil and subsoil material and stockpile for backfilling
- 4. Pit bottoms: Excavate with slightly raised centre: Break up base and cultivate to a depth of 150 mm.
  - 4.1. Treatment: Soil ameliorant worked into pit bottoms
- 5. Pit sides: Scarify.
- 6. Backfilling material: Proprietary tree backfilling material, as section Q28

### 510 Tree pit root barriers

- Locations: As drawing FE003-BBA-ZZ-00-L1017
- 2. Manufacturer: Contractor's choice
  - 2.1. Product reference: Contractor's choice
- 3. Thickness: 1.5 mm
- 4. Barrier depth: 600 mm
- 5. Foil liner: Submit proposals
- 6. Top of root barrier in relation to finished topsoil level: 10 mm above ground level
- 7. Installation: With sides vertical. Remove all sharp objects adjacent to barrier.

# 512 Tree pit irrigation and ventilation accessories

- 1. Locations: To all tree pits adjacent paved areas
- 2. Manufacturer: Green Blue Urban or similar approved
  - 2.1. Product reference: RootRain Metro 35mm
- 3. Type: Perforated plastics irrigation pipe with inlet
- 4. Pipe diameter: 35 mm
- 5. Ring diameter: 560 mm (to fit around rootball)
- 6. Inlet: Black plastics, with cap
- 7. Installation

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- 7.1. Pipe: Lay in loop above root ball with slight fall away from inlet pipe. Trim length to ensure a close fit in the tree pit. Connect both ends of pipe securely into plastics tee junction on inlet.
- 7.2. Top cap of inlet: Protruding slightly above finished surround level.
- 7.3. Backfill material: Carefully compact in layers.

#### 535 Tree stakes

- 1. Stakes: Softwood, peeled chestnut, larch or oak, straight, free from projections and large or edge knots and with pointed lower end.
  - 1.1. Preservative treatment: Not required
- 2. Stake size (minimum): 75 mm diameter
- 3. Stake length (minimum): 2400 mm

### 550 Double staking for

- 1. Description: ALL TREES
- 2. Staking
  - 2.1. Position: Either side of tree position and perpendicular to wind direction.
  - 2.2. Driving: Vertically at least 300 mm into bottom of pit before planting.
  - 2.3. Backfilling: Consolidate material around stake.
  - 2.4. Firming: Sufficiently firm to prevent movement of the rootball/ rootstock.
- 3. Height of stakes: Cut off just below lowest branch of tree
- 4. Horizontal bracing: Timber cross bar, 75 mm x 38 mm x 700 mm
  - 4.1. Fixing: Firmly fix using nails on windward side of tree and as close as possible to the stem without making contact with the bark. Position cross bar horizontally and 25 mm from top of stakes
- 5. Ties: Expanding
- 6. Tying: Secure flexible webbing around tree stem firmly without causing constriction or chafing
- 7. Nails for fixing ties, belts and webbing: To BS 1202-1, galvanized, minimum 25 mm long and with 10 mm diameter heads.
- 8. Nails for fixing cross bars: To BS 1202-1, galvanized round wire, minimum 75 mm long and 3.75 mm gauge

### 576 Tree pit surfacing – loose fill

- 1. Surfacing material: Mulch, as section Q28
- 2. Area: 1000 mm radius circle
- 3. Depth: 50 mm
- 4. Watering: Water soil thoroughly before laying.
- 5. Installation: Ensure the base of the tree stem is kept free from loose filled material.

#### Woodland/ matrix/ buffer zone planting

### 605 Existing vegetation/ Weed clearance

1. Arisings: Remove.

### 680 Setting out

- 1. Planting density: As plant schedule
- 2. Layout: Random groups of no less than 3 or more than 7 of the same species, ensuring that no three plants are aligned in any one direction.

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## Protecting/ maintaining/ making good defects

#### 710 Maintenance

- 1. Duration: Carry out the operations in the following clauses from completion of planting until the end of the rectification period.
- 2. Frequency of maintenance visits: In accordance with the agreed maintenance schedule

#### 720 Failures of planting

- Defects due to materials or workmanship not in accordance with the Contract: Plants/ trees/ shrubs that have failed to thrive.
  - 1.1. Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage after completion.
  - 1.2. Rectification: Replace with equivalent plants/ trees/ shrubs.
- 2. Replacements: To match size of adjacent or nearby plants of same species or match original specification, whichever is the greater.
- 3. Timing of making good: During the next suitable planting season

#### 750 Planting maintenance generally

- 1. Weed control: Maintain weed free area around each tree and shrub.
  - 1.1. Diameter (minimum): The larger of 1 m or the surface of original planting pit.
  - 1.2. Keep planting beds clear of weeds: By maintaining full thickness of mulch
- 2. Planted areas: Fork over beds as necessary to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Take care not to reduce depth or effect of mulch.
- 3. Precautions: Ensure that trees and shrubs are not damaged by use of mowers, nylon filament rotary cutters and similar powered tools.
- 4. Firming up: Gently firm loosened soil around trees/ shrubs. Straighten leaning trees/ shrubs.
- 5. Trees: Spray crown when in leaf during warm weather.
  - 5.1. Timing: After dusk.
- 6. Tree accessories: Check condition of stakes, ties, guys, guards and irrigation and ventilation systems.
  - 6.1. Broken or missing items: Replace.
  - 6.2. Loose stakes: Re-firm in the ground or replace as necessary to provide support to the tree.
  - 6.3. Loose guys: Re-firm anchor points and adjust as necessary to provide support to the tree.
  - 6.4. Ties: Adjust to accommodate growth and prevent constriction or abrasion.
  - 6.5. Damage to bark: Cut back neatly with sharp knife. Prevent further damage.
  - 6.6. Frequency of checks: At each scheduled maintenance visit
- 7. Watering: As required for healthy establishment, depending on weather conditions

#### 780 Maintenance instructions

General: Before end of the maintenance period, submit printed instructions recommending procedures to be established by the Employer for maintenance of the planting work for one full year: Provide a schedule of any ongoing maintenance problems experienced during the rectification period.

#### 790 Final mulching

- 1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period.
- 2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to remulching, applying water where necessary.
- 3. Planting beds: Remulch.
- 4. Depth (minimum): 50 mm
- 5. Trees: Remulch.
- 6. Depth (minimum): 50 mm

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# Q35

# Landscape maintenance

# Generally

## 105 Maintenance objectives

- 1. Location: Wigan and Leigh College, Parson's walk campus
  - 1.1. Duration: 1 year, recitification period following practical completion.
- 2. Aims: Establishment and thriving of all planted material.

#### 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: 7 days

#### 130 Reinstatement

1. Damage or disturbance to soil structure, planting, grass, fencing, hard landscaping, structures or buildings: Reinstate 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: See wildflower lawn maintenance requirements.
  - 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.



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Prohibited equipment: Leaf blowers Mowers and strimmers

#### 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 Maintenance of grassed areas

- 1. General: Maintain meadow grass areas according to maintenance requirements set out in Q30.
- 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.

# 211 Maintenance of grassed areas

- 1. Standard: To BS 7370-3. Carry out maintenance appropriate to each category of turf, as follows:
  - 1.1. Objectives: To BS 7370-3, Table 6.
  - 1.2. Programme: To BS 7370-3, clause 11.
  - 1.3. Mowing methods: To BS 7370-3, Table 3.

# 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.

#### 225 Tree stems

1. Precautions: Do not use mowing machinery closer than 100 mm to tree stems. Use nylon filament rotary cutters and other hand held mechanical tools carefully to avoid damage to bark.

#### 250 Leaf removal

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



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#### 255 First cut of

- 1. Description: ALL GRASSED AREAS
- 2. Height of initial growth: 75 mm
- 3. Preparation
  - 3.1. Debris and litter: Remove.
  - 3.2. Stones and earth clods larger than 25 mm in any dimension: Remove
- 4. Height of first cut: 40 -60mm
- 5. Mower type: Contractor's choice
- 6. Arisings: Remove

#### 260 Mowing lawns

- 1. Grass height: 75 mm maximum
- 2. Arisings: Remove

#### 272 Maintaining grassed areas with perennial wild flowers

- 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: March/ April
  - 2.2. Height of first cut: 40-60 mm
  - 2.3. Frequency of subsequent cutting (minimum): Every 6–8 weeks until autumn
  - 2.4. Height of growth permitted (maximum): 150 mm
- 3. Height and frequency of cut in second growing season
  - 3.1. Time of cut: October, March and August3.2. Height of cut: 75 mm
- 4. Trimming: All edges.
  - 4.1. Arisings: Remove after 7 days, allowing seed to drop from arisings.
- 5. Watering: Contractor's choice

#### 273 Maintaining grassed areas with annual wild flowers

- 1. Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
- 2. Timing of first cut: After flowers have set seed. As soon as flowers start to lose colour and look untidy.
- 3. Height of first cut: 100 mm
- 4. Subsequent cutting: Cut as necessary, so the height of growth does not exceed 150 mm.
  - 4.1. Height of cut: 100 mm
- 5. Trimming: All edges. All edges.
  - 5.1. Arisings: Remove
- 6. Watering: When instructed

#### 275 **Cutting summer flowering wild flower meadows**

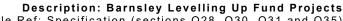
- 1. Times of year/ Frequency of cutting: July and September
- 2. Height of cut: 75 mm
- 3. Arisings: Leave for 2-3 days after cutting then remove

#### 320 Levelling hollows and bumps in turf

1. Standard: To BS 7370-3, clauses 12.4 and 12.5.

#### 325 Relieving surface compaction in turf

- 1. Standard: To BS 7370-3. 2. Method: Surface slitting
- 3. Top dressing: Fine sand



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3.1. Depth: 2-5 mm

#### 330 Selective herbicide

1. Location: All lawns

2. Herbicide: Suitable for suppressing perennial weeds

#### 340 Spot weedkilling in rough grass areas

- 1. Herbicide: Suitable for suppressing perennial weeds
- 2. Operations: Spot treat all broad leaved weeds.

#### 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: 1 year / Rectification period following practical completion
- 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, minimum diameter 1.2m, mulch 50mm
    - All hedge and shrub beds to be covered in mulch, 50mm thickness.
- 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: Contractor's choice

#### 502 Establishment of new planting – fertilizer

- 1. Time of year: March or April.
- 2. Type: Slow release
- 3. Spreading: Spread evenly. Spread evenly.
  - 3.1. Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations

#### 510 Tree stakes and ties

1. Inspection/ Maintenance times: As scheduled and immediately after strong winds

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- 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.

# 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.
- Tools: Use clean sharp secateurs, hand saws or other approved tools. Trim off ragged edges of bark or wood with a sharp knife.
- Disease or infection: Give notice if detected.
- 5. Growth retardants, fungicide or pruning sealant: Do not use unless instructed.

### 555 Pruning trees and shrubs

Standard: To BS 7370-4.
 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.

# 575 Pruning ornamental shrubs

- 1. General: Prune to encourage healthy and bushy growth and desirable ornamental features, e.g. flowers, fruit, autumn colour, stem colour.
- 2. Suckers: Remove by cutting back level with the source stem or root.

### 580 Pruning flowering species of shrubs and roses

- 1. Time of year
  - 1.1. Winter flowering shrubs: Spring.

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- 1.2. Shrubs flowering between March and July: Immediately after the flowering period.
- 1.3. Shrubs flowering between July and October: Back to old wood in winter.
- 1.4. Rose bushes: Early spring to encourage basal growths and a balanced, compact habit.

### 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.

# 620 Removal of dead plant material

 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: Within 1 week of notification
- 2. Replacement: Within 2 weeks

#### 635 Reinstatement of shrub/ herbaceous areas

- 1. Dead and damaged plants: Remove.
- 2. Mulch/ matting materials
  - 2.1. Carefully move to one side and dig over the soil, leaving it fit for replanting.
- 3. Do not disturb roots of adjacent plants.
- 4. Replacement plants
  - 4.1. Use pits and plants: To original specification or to match the size of adjacent or nearby plants of the same species, whichever is the greater.
- 5. Dressing: Slow release fertilizer:
  - 5.1. Type: Contractor's choice
  - 5.2. Application rate: As manufacturer's recommendations

### 640 Thinning by removal of surplus plants

- 1. Plants to be thinned: Overgrown shrub and herbaceous beds
- 2. Standard: BS 7370-4.
- 3. Timing: When foliage of adjacent plants has begun to touch
- 4. Roots
  - 4.1. Disturbance to adjacent plants: Minimize.
  - 4.2. Soil: Refill holes with topsoil to leave an even graded surface.
  - 4.3. Mulch: Maintain mulch as original specification.
  - 4.4. Adjacent plants: Make good any minor damage immediately.
- 5. Plants for retention: Select plants with a strong healthy habit.

## 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.

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- 3. Completion: Rake area to a neat, clean condition.
- 4. Mulch: Reinstate to original depth.

### 657 Herbicide to kill regrowth

- 1. Type: Suitable foliar acting herbicide to kill regrowth.
- 2. Timing: Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing dead weeds.

#### 670 Weed control with summer herbicide

- Type: Suitable foliar acting herbicide.
- 2. Timing: Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing dead weeds.

#### 680 Soil aeration

- 1. Compacted soil surfaces
  - 1.1. Prick up: To aerate the soil of root areas and break surface crust.
  - 1.2. Size of lumps: Reduce to crumb and level off.
  - 1.3. Damage: Do not damage plants and their roots.

# 685 Soil level adjustment

- 1. Level of soil/mulch at edges of beds: Soil level Reduce to 50 mm below adjacent grass or hard surface.
  - 1.1. Arisings (if any): Spread evenly over the bed.

#### 690 Maintenance of loose mulch

- 1. Thickness (minimum): 50 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 .

#### 705 Winter leaf removal

- 1. Operations: Take down temporary leaf fences. Collect accumulations of drifted leaves from the vicinity and from planting beds.
- 2. Arisings: Remove to recycling facility

#### 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

 Defective, diseased, unsafe or weak parts of trees additional to those scheduled for attention: Give notice if detected.

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### 820 Prevention of wound bleeding

1. Standard: To BS 3998.

### 825 Prevention of disease transmission

1. Standard: To BS 3998.

#### Water areas - Not Used

### Hard landscape areas/fencing

# 910 Hard surfaces and gravel areas

- 1. Herbicide: Apply a suitable foliar acting or residual herbicide. Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing arisings.
- 2. Hard surfaces: Remove litter, leaves and other debris.
- 3. Surface gutters and channels: Remove mud, silt and debris.
- 4. Drainage gullies: Empty traps and flush clean.
- 5. Gravel areas: Rake over. Remove weeds, litter, leaves and debris, and level off.
- 6. Repairs to flexible bituminous pavings: In accordance with the original paving specification or BS 7370-2, clause 4.12.
- 7. Stain removal: In accordance with BS 7370-2, table 4.

# 920 Fencing

1. Fences: Inspect and repair to maintain protection against intruders.

### 930 Graffiti removal

- Method: Detergent Pressure wash
- 2. Subsequent treatment: Transparent, two-part, anti-graffiti coating

Ω End of Section

