

SOFTWORKS SPECIFICATION

I - IMPLEMENTATION

General

All works shall to be undertaken to recognised good horticultural practice and to relevant British Standards. The quality of all landscape works shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard 4428:1989 'Code Of practice For General Landscape Operations'.

All trees and other plants included within the approved details shall be healthy, well-formed specimens of a minimum quality that is compatible with British Standard 3936:1992 (Part 1) 'Specifications for Trees & Shrubs' and British Standard 4043:1989 (where applicable).

Biosecurity

'BS 8545:2014 Trees: From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape' shall be adhered to. In the interest of Biosecurity, trees should not be imported directly from European suppliers and planted straight into the field, unless they have appropriate certification that they are 100% disease free and have come from an area with no known horticultural diseases; If disease free certification is not possible, the trees shall have spent a full growing season in quarantine, in a British nursery to ensure plant health and non-infection by foreign pests and diseases. This is a measure to address the threat of the introduction of pests and diseases from outside the UK.

Soiling and planting specification

- Under existing trees / within tree root protection areas, except where otherwise noted, only the top 100mm of existing soil shall be prepared, by hand, to prevent damage to underlying roots. New plants, where specified, shall be carefully pit planted, to avoid major roots. Give notice of roots over 25mm dia before cutting.
- Topsoil depths generally (away from tree root protection areas):
 - Shrub and hedgerow planting: minimum 350mm depth of topsoil.
- In new planting areas to be topsoiled, away from existing trees, underlying subsoil shall be broken up / ripped as required to provide adequate drainage. Hardcore / rubble / excess kerb haunching shall be fully removed.
- Topsoil to be laid over prepared subsoil as noted. Topsoil shall be kept weed-free prior to planting by hand weeding or use of non-residual herbicides.
- In existing topsoiled areas, the depth of soil shall be checked to ensure minimum requirements noted above are achieved.
- Existing topsoil shall be reused from site where possible.
- Imported topsoil, if required, should be compatible in pH with existing soil on site and shall comply with BS3882: 2015 Multipurpose topsoil.
- Topsoil analysis tests should be undertaken for existing and imported topsoil to assess the pH level, structural analysis, nutrient composition, and toxin profile of the soil is suitable for landscape purposes. Results are to be provided to the Landscape Architect for approval prior to soiling.
- PAS 100 peat free organic matter shall be incorporated into the soil in tree, shrub, and hedge planting areas at a ratio of 1 cubic metre PAS 100 per 20 cubic metres topsoil and thoroughly mixed in prior to planting.
- En-Mag slow release fertiliser shall be incorporated per manufacturer suggested rates in tree, shrub, and hedge planting areas. NO fertilisers shall be applied to wildflower / meadow areas unless otherwise directed.

General

- All shrub and hedge planting areas to be mulched with minimum 50mm settled depth medium graded ornamental bark mulch to suppress weeds.
- Hedge planting to be protected from grazing damage and herbicides, with 600mm x 50mm clear spiral guards with support canes.
- Wildflower mixture to be sown into existing grass areas to supplier's recommendations. Existing grass should be cut very hard in late summer and gaps created either with harrows or by raking (aiming to create around 50% bare soil). Control any weeds such as docks or thistles. Seed to be surface sown in the autumn, bulking up the seed with an inert carrier such as sand to make distribution easier, by machine or broadcast by hand. Rolling not usually necessary. NO fertilisers shall be used.

Tree Planting

All tree planting to be in accordance with BS8545:2014

- Tree pits, to be square in plan, excavated to a minimum size of 600mm larger than the rootball. Base of pit to be slightly domed; not to be broken up unless drainage problems are apparent.
- Tree pit guide size guide:
 - Selected Standard size and above / feathered trees above 3.0m height
1200mm x 1200mm, depth as per rootball*
 - * Bare root trees: Base of pit to have dome of soil to support roots / tree at original level in the nursery.
- Tree pit backfill to reflect soil profile - ie: subsoil up to approx. 400mm from ground surface, topsoil above, approx. 400mm depth.
- 1.2m dia. watering 'dishes' to be formed around the base of each tree, to hold water directly over rootball during watering.
- Trees to be double staked, with a low cross bar, fixed with rubber tree ties and rubber pad.
- Trees outside planting areas to be mulched with minimum 50mm settled depth, medium graded ornamental bark mulch to 1.2m diameter.

Timing and monitoring of planting works

All planting shall be undertaken, at the latest, within the first planting season (1st November to 31st March inclusive) following substantial completion of the major construction and groundworks. The developer may however, undertake planting prior to this, outside the planting season, using fully containerised planting material. This is on the understanding that increased watering will be required to establish the planting successfully. Where planting is likely to take place outside the planting season, the Contractor is to provide a provisional quote at tender to upgrade all bare root plants to equivalent containerised plants and an allowance for weekly watering June-Aug inclusive.

Wildflower seeding shall be undertaken in the autumm, however an allowance for additional watering and overseeding should be made for seeding undertaken between May-July.

All planting works will be undertaken and supervised by a competent professional landscape contractor.

2 - LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Long term design objectives

The general intent of landscape maintenance of the site is to ensure that over a period of time the planting develops to maturity, to the concept that has been approved by the local planning authority.

Management and maintenance is to be undertaken in such a way as to allow healthy plants to develop, unhindered by weed growth or other inhibiting factors.

Landscape maintenance schedules

All landscape maintenance work is to be undertaken by an experienced landscape maintenance contractor.

Maintenance visits will typically be undertaken once monthly between October and March and twice monthly between April and September. A guide minimum number of 18 visits shall therefore be undertaken. The primary maintenance operations will include:

- Watering trees, plants and wildflower areas as necessary to ensure vigorous and successful establishment during the early years after planting.
- Keeping planting areas free from weeds. All planted / mulched areas shall be hand weeded or treated with a non-residual herbicide as appropriate / required.
- Fertilising of tree pits, hedge and shrub / ground cover areas (only), annually in spring using a suitable organic slow release fertiliser.
- General pruning and trimming to ensure footways, signs etc. are not obscured and to ensure plants develop appropriately according to their species.
- Trimming native hedges to 1.2-1.5m height.
- Overseeding wildflower areas as necessary to establish seeded areas.
- Mowing amenity grass areas as a minimum every two weeks during the growing season to maintain a neat appearance.
- Cutting wildflower meadow areas after flowering in late July / August to 50mm, leaving the 'hay' to dry and shed seed for 1-7 days then remove from site. Mow the re-growth through to late autumn/winter to c.50mm and again in spring if needed. Do not cut from spring through to late July / August to give sown species an opportunity to flower.
- Checking and adjusting all tree stakes and ties at every maintenance visit during the first one to two years after planting. Removal of stakes and ties once trees are securely established (guide 12 - 18 months after planting).
- Removal of litter (to be undertaken as part of the general site cleaning and not necessarily by the landscape maintenance contractor).
- Replacing plants that fail where required, with the approved species, (within 5 years of planting as a minimum). All planting will be inspected annually in late summer. Any dead, dying or diseased plants shall be removed and replanted according to the approved plan in the following planting season (November-March).

PLANT SCHEDULE

Trees

Number	Species	Height	Girth	Specification
3 No.	Acer campestre	4.0-4.5m	14-16cm	EHS :BR :Single staked

Shrubs

Number	Species	Height	Specification	Density
60 No.	Cornus sanguinea 'Annie's Winter Orange'	40-60cm	3L Pot	4/m ²
159 No.	Euonymus japonicus	30-40cm	3L Pot	4/m ²
370 No.	Hebe 'Midsummer Beauty'	30-40cm	3L Pot	4/m ²
158 No.	Hebe 'Mrs Winder'	20-30cm	3L Pot	5/m ²
483 No.	Hebe 'Red Edge'	20-30cm	3L Pot	6/m ²
581 No.	Pittosporum tenuifolium	30-40cm	3L Pot	4/m ²

Native Hedgerow

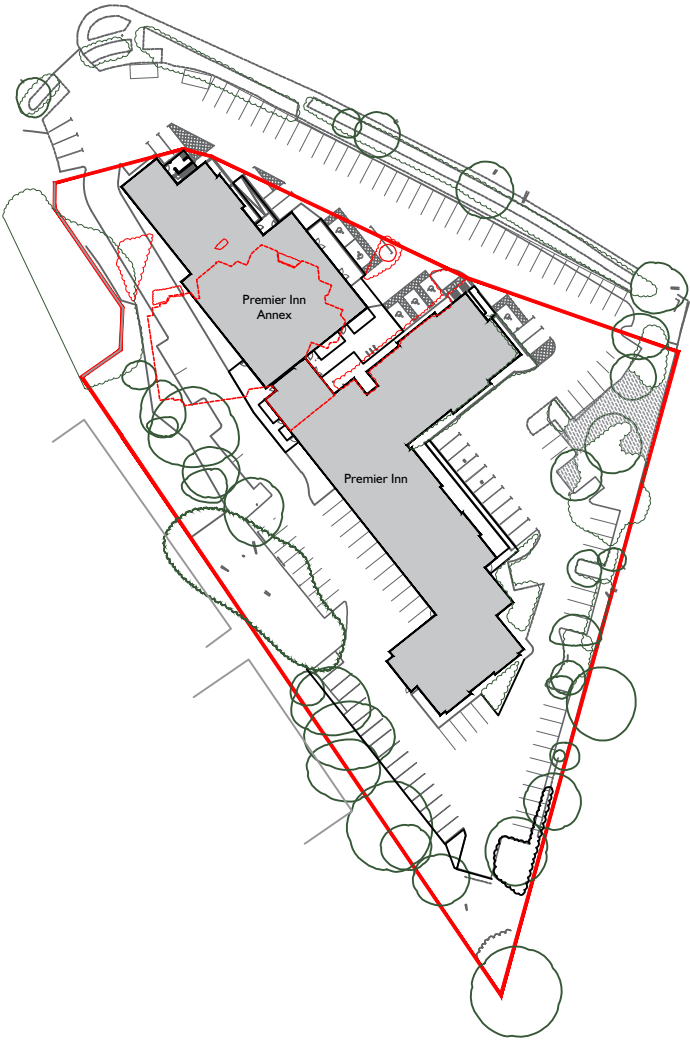
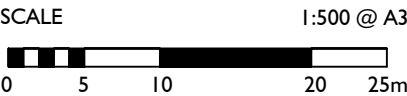
Number	Species	Height	Specification	Density
55 No.	Carpinus betulus	60-80cm	1 + 1 :BR	1/m

Herbaceous

Number	Species	Height	Specification	Density
81 No.	Ajuga reptans 'Catlin's Giant'	20-30cm	3L Pot	6/m ²
146 No.	Bergenia cordifolia 'Purpurea'	20-30cm	3L Pot	6/m ²
37 No.	Euphorbia amygdaloides 'Purpurea'	30-40cm	3L Pot	4/m ²
134 No.	Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'	20-30cm	2L Pot	6/m ²
208 No.	Salvia nemorosa 'Caradonna'		3L Pot	4/m ²

Wild Flower Seeding

Area	Mix	Supplier	Rate
157m ²	EM4F - Wild Flowers for Clay Soils	Emorsgate Seeds	1.5g/m ²



Refer to I159-SW-01
for Planting Plan

A	Reduction in berry species	11.03.2026	ES	ES
-	First issue	25.03.2025	SP	ES
rev	description	date	by	chk

project
PI MANCHESTER AIRPORT (HEALD GREEN)

client
WHITBREAD GROUP PLC

drawing title
DETAILED LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS - 2 OF 2

drawing number	revision	status	scale
I159-SW-02	A	PLANNING	NTS@A3

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