Soft Landscaping Plan
Planting and Maintenance
Method Statement

Keepers Cottage
Allington Lane
West End
Southampton
SO30 3HP

Soft Landscaping Planting and Maintenance

1. Introduction

1.1 This soft landscaping Method Statement should be read in conjunction with the Proposed Site Plan 0226-13 dated 16/09/2013

2.0 Plant Schedule

Code	Plant Name	Size	Density	Number
Hedge	Cupressus laylandii	Bare root 1.5m Hgt	Hedging single row 1m between plants .	11
Trees T1	Common Whitebeam Sorbus aria	10-12	As per plan 0226.13	4no

3. Cultivation and Planting

3.1 Unless otherwise agreed, planting shall take place during favourable weather conditions in the dormant season between October and April i.e. the first planting season after the completion of main site works.

4.0 Hedging

4.1 Planted in a single row 1m between plants. Plants 1.5m height.

4.2 All areas to be planted to be thoroughly dug and all pernicious weeds and arising's to be removed from site.

4.3 In areas where it is deemed that the soil is of poor quality or below required levels then these areas should be topped up with quality top soil. At this time well-rotted manure or a soil improver can be added and forked into the top 40cm. All areas to be planted should be applied with a slow release fertilizer applied at manufacturers recommended rates.

4.4 To prepare the soil for the hedge a trench will be dug out at least 45cm wide and 30cm deep. Well-rotted manure will be forked into the bottom of the trench and the trench back filled with the soil and well-rotted manure.

4.5 Hedging plants should be planted to the soil level of the container or to the nursery mark. In the case of bare root shrubs or hedging plants these can be planted by notch planting.

4.6 On completion of planting the hedge should be well watered and a layer of mulch put on top this again could be in the form of well-rotted manure or proprietary mulching compost. Further mulching will take place each spring to a depth of 7.5cm which will help to retain moisture and suppress weed growth.

5.0 **Trees**

5.1 Trees will be planted in prepared tree pits with the bases forked over and organic matter or a proprietary tree planting compost incorporated to improve drainage. The soil to be backfilled around the tree on planting will be improved by mixing in well-rotted manure or a tree planting compost and a slow release fertilizer. The soil to be worked into and around the roots and soil firmed. Trees to be planted to same depth as the nursery mark. Trees will be staked using a single tree stake and two ties which can be removed after one year of planting.

5.2 On completion of planting trees should be thoroughly watered and the ground covered around each tree with mulch to a depth of 50mm.

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6.0 **Five year maintenance schedule**

6.1 **Hedging**

On completion of planting the hedge material will be maintain to good horticultural standards. Pruning in the first five years will not be required other than to enhance natural growth by tipping back main leaders to encourage bushy growth to form a dense screen. Any dead, damaged and diseased growth will be removed. Any dead or diseased hedging will be replaced at the first available opportunity i.e. the next planting season, and will be replaced with plants as per agreed Proposed Site Plan 0226-13 dated 16/09/2013

Any weeds will either be removed by hand or sprayed out using a contact weed killer at manufactures recommended rate of application. During periods of dry weather and on a regular basis for at least the first two years the plants will be thoroughly watered during dry periods..

6.2 **Trees**

On completion of planting the trees to be maintained to good horticultural standards. Pruning in the first five years will not be required other than removal of any dead branches and some formative pruning. Any dead or diseased trees to be removed and replanted as per Proposed Site Plan 0226-13 dated 16/09/2013 at the first planting season after removal. Any weeds around the base will be removed by hand or sprayed out using a contact weed killer at manufactures recommended rate of application. During periods of dry weather and on a regular basis for at least two years trees will be thoroughly watered during periods of dry weather. Stakes and ties to be removed after two years. Each spring mulch to be topped up to 50mm.

Nigel Trowell
16.09.13