

MAPLE PLACE EASTLEIGH

SOFT LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

Aspect (Eastleigh) Ltd



Written by:	LS
Checked by:	DKM
Date:	15/08/2023
Ref:	EBC23222 man
Revision:	B

Contents

1.0 Objectives	1
2.0 Background Information	1
3.0 Preliminaries	2
4.0 General Maintenance	3
5.0 Existing Trees and Vegetation	5
6.0 Shrub and Tree Planting	7
7.0 Hedgerows	10
8.0 Maintenance Schedules	11

Revision	Date	Details	Revised

1.0 Objectives

- 1.1. To ensure the successful planting operations, establishment, and continued healthy growth through to maturity of the trees, shrubs, and grass.
- 1.2. To achieve a clean, tidy condition and appearance of all external areas.
- 1.3. To ensure that the development provides biodiversity enhancements.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1. ACD Environmental was commissioned in 2022 to prepare the following documentation:
 - Soft Landscape Proposals
 - Soft Landscape Specification
- 2.2. The controlling authority is Eastleigh Borough Council, which should be consulted on any matters relating to existing trees and the approved ACD detailed landscape proposals for the project.

Eastleigh Borough Council

Eastleigh House,

Upper Market St,

Eastleigh

SO50 9YN

Tel: 023 8068 8000

3.0 Preliminaries

- 3.1. Failures of Plants (Pre-practical Completion): The Contractor entirely at his own cost shall replace any trees, shrubs, or other plants other than those found to be missing or maliciously damaged.
- 3.2. Malicious Damage or Theft before Practical Completion: The Contractor at his own expense shall make all loss or damage arising from theft or malicious damage before practical completion of the entire project good.
- 3.3. Post Practical Completion: The Principle Contractor is to cost and appoint a soft landscaper to maintain the onsite communal areas only for a period of 12months post practical completion. This is to ensure the plants establish in the first year.
- 3.4. Replacement of plants shall take place as many times as is necessary to maintain a complete cover of plants and to maintain the scheme as designed by the Architect, and within the correct season for the type of plant, tree, shrub, and grassland mix.

4.0 General Maintenance

- 4.1. Following installation and after transfer the landscape shall be the responsibility of and maintained in perpetuity by:
- Domestic Owners,
 - Hampshire County Council Highways,
 - The Applicant,
- 4.2. The agreement for which shall be set up by the applicant when the maintenance agreement is completed and is operative.
- 4.3. The Applicant shall ensure that any landscape contractor employed shall carry out the periodic maintenance of all planted areas. Inspection checks shall be carried out at monthly intervals and the appropriate work carried out.
- 4.4. The landscape contractor employed by the applicant shall carry out in all areas any shrub, tree, grass, and other plants replacements that may be necessary.

- 4.5. The adopted body shall be responsible for all periodic maintenance and replacement thereafter for all planted areas to which its management agreement relates, and shall ensure that any landscape contractor employed by it carries out periodic maintenance of all such areas following the general horticultural schedules below. Either inspection checks shall be carried out by a competent person, a member of the British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) or the Landscape Institute (LI), acting for the Management Company, at minimum monthly intervals and the appropriate work carried out.
- 4.6. No existing trees, shrubs, or grass shall be removed or cut without specific instructions from the Contract Administrator and written agreement of the Local Planning Authority Tree Officer. Existing trees are to be retained, protected, and undisturbed throughout the contract.

5.0 Existing Trees and Vegetation

- 5.1. All works should be undertaken following the British Standard BS3998:2010 Tree Work Recommendations, by recognised tree contracting companies from the Arboricultural Association's list of registered contractors. Proof of experience and insurance providers will be required. All work shall be undertaken at the appropriate time and with the consent of the Management Company and Local Planning Authority if necessary.
- 5.2. All operations should be carried out sensitively, taking care not to unnecessarily damage the trees that are being worked on or any other neighbouring vegetation. The practice of natural target pruning should be used to ensure that branches are not cut “flush” with the stem, and conversely, a “stub” is not left proud, as in both scenarios it is not possible for the tree to adequately react to the wounding and may lead to an area of decay developing.
- 5.3. All trees on site should be visually checked annually. These checks should be staggered so that the trees are inspected at different times in the year. If any tree displays signs of decline, distress or damage then a competent person should be instructed to carry out a tree inspection where necessary. A comprehensive inspection of all the trees on site should be carried out by a competent person at a maximum interval of every three years.
- 5.4. Any vegetation clearance should be undertaken in the autumn and winter months outside of the time during which birds are most likely to nest (March-August) where possible. If this is not possible then vegetation to be removed must be subject to a nesting bird check by a suitably experienced ecologist no more than 24 hours prior to the works taking place. Should nesting birds be recorded then a suitable exclusion zone will be established where no works can proceed until it has been confirmed that the young have fledged.
- 5.5. Where there is a need for surface treatment refer to ACD Landscape Proposal Plan EBC23222 11B for details.

- 5.6. All arisings from any work carried out, including leaf material, branches, wood chip, and timber should be removed from the site, unless otherwise specified. The work site should be left clean and tidy as instructed.
- 5.7. If large branches or entire trees need to be dismantled it is recommended that a rigging system be used where possible to reduce the risk of damage to surrounding structures and also to reduce ground compaction and deterioration during works. It is preferable if contactors are certificated with NPTC Unit CS41 Dismantling and Rigging.
- 5.8. Heavy Ivy infestation is not recommended in development situations, where wind risk may be a concern. The form of the tree can also be affected and it is therefore proposed to remove any dense infestation of Ivy if evident or to simply sever any ivy stems at the base of the tree during the maintenance period.

6.0 Shrub and Tree Planting

- 6.1. The applicant will maintain all shrubs and trees beyond the boundaries of domestic ownership in perpetuity.
- 6.2. Formative tree pruning is to be undertaken until a permanent structurally sound scaffold system of branches typical of the species and appropriate to the site circumstances is produced. Pruning should be done in late winter so that berries can remain available for wildlife.
- 6.3. Post-planting management and maintenance of trees shall be following BS8545:2014 section 11 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape-recommendations.
- 6.4. A formal assessment of young tree health and development shall be undertaken annually. This assessment shall include foliar appearance, leaf size and leaf canopy density, extension growth, and incremental girth development. Trees shall also be assessed continually throughout the year on an ad hoc basis. Wherever practicable the performance of young trees shall be assessed by testing leaf fluorescence and leaf chlorophyll content.
- 6.5. The density of planting will require that all weeding is carried out by hand, using the appropriate tools. All resultant material should be removed from the site.
- 6.6. The Management Company is responsible for litter picking in those areas that it manages.
- 6.7. All plants shall be inspected monthly for wind firmness and firmed as necessary at the same time. Stakes shall likewise be checked for firmness and all tree and plant ties inspected and made good if required.
- 6.8. All stakes and ties shall be removed as soon as the developing root system is strong enough to support the tree, this is usually after two full growing seasons.

- 6.9. All grilles, grids, guards, and other protective furniture shall be inspected annually and removed as soon as it is no longer needed to protect the tree or where it is causing damage to the tree.
- 6.10. The soil around newly planted trees shall be regularly inspected for soil capping or compaction and remedial action is taken if needed.
- 6.11. All trees shall be checked regularly for mammal, human, or other external damage, and remedial action is taken where necessary.
- 6.12. Minor pruning of dead or damaged wood shall be carried out annually in late winter. All wounds must not be treated with a sealant as per BS3998:2010 Tree Works Recommendations. On substantial trees, the Local Planning Authorities Tree Officer must be consulted for any necessary approvals.
- 6.13. Watering: All plants are to be well watered immediately after planting operations. To be wet to the full depth of topsoil or wet to field capacity using either potable mains water, recycled or treated greywater. If there is any surface compaction the soil is to be loosened to direct water to the root zone, taking care not to damage or loosen plants. Watering operations are to be undertaken as many times as necessary to ensure the continued thriving of all planting materials. Any failures due to drought shall be replaced by the Management Company/ies at their own cost.
- 6.14. Water restrictions: If the 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.

- 6.15. All planted areas shall be given an application of an approved top dressing at the rate of 40g/m² in May. This should be in the slow-release form e.g. Enmag or similar. This should be worked lightly into the soil, without disturbing the roots, before the bark mulch is re-spread. Unless specific nutritional deficiencies are identified, no fertiliser shall be applied to newly planted trees in the first season. If visual inspection points to nutrient deficiency further investigation of causes will be necessary. Remedial action may include additional fertiliser application, pH testing, assessment of organic content, and levels of compaction.
- 6.16. Shrubs shall be maintained in a balanced shape and shall be annually pruned to allow for this. Any growth which will obscure windows, signs, or sight-lines shall be removed. Once established, any support canes shall be removed from the shrubs. Trailing and climbing material shall be assisted in its growth by securing growing leaders where necessary.
- 6.17. Groundcover planting species have been specified so as not to exceed 600mm in height. However, should planting exceed expectations, this should be carefully cut down to below 600mm in height to avoid interference with visibility.
- 6.18. The bark mulch should be maintained at an even spread, 75mm deep, of consistent thickness, to ensure that it is effective as a weed suppressant and moisture conserver. Following any maintenance operations and on a bi-annual basis, the mulch shall be supplemented to allow for any material which may have been lost.
- 6.19. No plant substitutions to be made without the prior written agreement of the Local Authority Landscape Section.

7.0 Hedgerows

- 7.1. Hedge maintenance operations are to be carried out in line with general principles as outlined in the previous section, including clauses detailing litter removal, weeding, trimming, removal of dead plants, and reinstatement of plant materials.
- 7.2. Around free standing hedges a 3 strand galvanised wire and tanalised softwood timber post fence, to BS1722 Part 3:1986 Fences, specification for strained wire fences, is to be erected to run through the centre of the proposed hedgerow. This is to prevent access through the site by pedestrians until the hedges are fully established. After five years, the hedges have been fully established. The temporary
- 7.3. Hedge Heights: Hedges to be maintained in a neatly clipped form to a maximum height of 1m.

8.0 Maintenance Schedules

Every week

- All plants shall be watered following 10 days without rain. Then weekly until natural rainfall during June – August.

Every two weeks

- There should be a minimum fortnightly litter pick over the entire site.

Every month

- Weed control shall be allowed at monthly intervals. All areas to be weeded by hand.
- All plants shall be inspected monthly for wind firmness and firmed as necessary at the same time. Stakes shall likewise be checked for firmness and tree ties checked.

Every six months

- The bark mulch should be topped up bi-annually
- Hedges to be managed – cut in line with the guidance given in section 7.0

Annual

- Replacement of any failed shrubs will be allowed annually to ensure that the planting areas are fully stocked at all times.
- Any hollows which appear due to the settlement shall be top dressed annually, early in the growing season.
- Minor pruning of dead or damaged wood shall be allowed annually in late winter.
- All planted areas shall be given an application of an approved top dressing in May.
- Shrubs shall be maintained in a balanced shape and prevented from obscuring signs, windows, and encroaching on paths.
- Check for invasive species and remove them from the site.
- Undertake a formal assessment of young tree health and development.

Every 5 Years

- A suitably qualified person to undertake a review of the condition, success, and long-term maintenance of the planting.

Any amendments to the landscape management plan required to ensure a good planting scheme should be submitted to the LPA for approval. The LPA may draw the managing company's attention to defects in the maintenance or failure to comply with the landscape management plan and require that the Management Company rectify these defects or apply for a variation to the landscape management plan.

LIMITATIONS OF USE AND COPYRIGHT

All rights in this report are reserved. No part of it may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, or stored in any retrieval system of any nature, without our written permission. Its content and format are for the exclusive use of the addressee in dealing with this project only. Until all invoices rendered by ACD Environmental Ltd to the Client have been paid in full, the copyright of any documents, forms, statements, maps, plans and other such material will remain vested in ACD Environmental and no unauthorised use of such material may be made by the Client or any person purporting to be acting on his/her behalf. It may not be sold, lent, hired out or divulged to any third party not directly involved in this site without the written consent of ACD Environmental Ltd ©



Head Office

Rodbourn Rail Business Centre
Grange Lane
Malmesbury
SN16 0ES
Tel: 01666 825646

Surrey Office

The Old Mill, Fry's Yard
Bridge Street
Godalming
GU7 1HP
Tel: 01483 425714

Hampshire Office

Crescent House
Yonge Close
Eastleigh
SO50 9SX
Tel: 02382 026300

Email: mail@acdenv.co.uk

Website: www.acdenvironmental.co.uk

ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS * PROTECTED SPECIES LICENSING * MITIGATION * IMPACT ASSESSMENT *
ARBORICULTURAL SITE MONITORING AND SUPERVISION * ARCHAEOLOGY
LANDSCAPE & VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT * LANDSCAPE AUDIT * PROJECT MANAGEMENT *
EXPERT WITNESS* LANDSCAPE DESIGN & PLANNING LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT