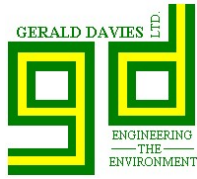


Gerald Davies Limited



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Aftercare Maintenance Specification

Glynneath Development Landscape

TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE AND SCHEDULE OF REQUIREMENTS

1.0 GENERAL

CONTRACT PERIOD: 12 months from practical completion of the implementation of the soft landscaping.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: All the operations specified and in accordance with the Contract Drawing, Glyneath Development. Landscape Proposals drawing 002.

UNIFORM: Staff will wear corporate workwear at all times when on site.

REMOVAL OF ARISING: All arisings from hedge cutting, tree and shrub pruning, weeds, leaves, litter, rubbish, dirt and other arisings shall be removed unless specifically described as to be left. Arisings shall be swept up, collected and disposed of on the same day as the various items of work are undertaken.

All arisings from maintenance operations (other than grass cutting, unless deemed necessary to do so) carried out within the scope of this Contract shall be collected, removed and disposed of at the Contractor's tip.

1.1 REPORT TO THE CLIENT

During the maintenance period any issues on site shall be noted and reported to the client, examples below:

- activities by others which prevent normal maintenance operations proceeding in the site areas e.g. Statutory Authorities work, new constructions, storage of materials and parking on landscape areas etc.
- damage caused to the site areas by the activity of others on site
- missing gulley covers or damaged service covers noted during the course of the works
- damage to boundary fences, seats or other features for which the client is responsible
- persistent litter problems
- theft or malicious damage, or clearly unauthorised use of the site areas
- flytipping
- graffiti

1.2 PROGRAMMING AND SITE ATTENDANCE

PROGRAMME OF WORKS: A programme of maintenance works will be compiled at the commencement of the contract.

MEETINGS: Progress meeting will be held with the client at regular intervals.

2.0 CLEANING

2.1 LITTER CLEARANCE: Collect and remove to the Contractor's tip all windblown litter off grassed areas, planting beds, footpaths, paved areas. Litter includes twigs, branches, leaves, bottles, stones, bricks, paper, cans, plastic cups and other like material, but excluding fly-tipping.

FREQUENCY OF LITTER PICKING: Litter will be collected at each scheduled visit during the growing season whilst carrying out other works on site and once per month during the winter period – November to March..

Litter picking includes hand sweeping on footpaths, paved areas etc.

LITTER PROBLEMS: Any persistent litter problems, fly-tipping etc will be reported to the client without delay.

BARK MULCH: All bark mulch litter is to be swept up and returned to the adjacent bed as necessary at each litter collection.

3.0 MAINTENANCE OF GRASS AREAS

3.1 INSPECTION OF GRASS AREAS AND LITTER PICKING: Grass areas will be inspected on each occasion before commencing grass cutting operations and shall remove and dispose of all litter, stones and other debris which may cause personal injury, or damage to buildings, machinery or equipment and installations.

- 3.2 COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS:** Once grass cutting has commenced on an area, the whole areas shall be cut and completed without delay.
- 3.3 GRASS CUTTING MACHINES:** Grass cutting machines shall be appropriate for the size of area being maintained and the standards of finish specified. Inaccessible margins, isolated rough areas of any size, corners, bases of hedges and the like shall be cut by suitable machines or by hand at the same time as the main area of grass.
Cutters of all mowers shall be sharp, properly set and shall cut the sward evenly and cleanly.
- 3.4 REMOVAL OF ARISINGS:** All arisings from grass cutting scattered over roads, paths and planting beds should be swept up, collected and disposed of at the Contractor's tip on the same day mowing is undertaken.
- 3.5 OBSTRUCTIONS:** All growth around obstructions in grassed areas and grass overhanging edges of planting beds, bases of trees, lampposts, bollards, fence lines and the like shall be cut on each occasion that the grass is cut.
- 3.6 GRASS EDGES:** Where grass abuts horizontal hard surfaces the grass edge shall be trimmed back to the edge of the hard surface without forming a channel wherever the overgrowth of grass exceeds 100mm, using an appropriate grass edge cutter, cutting to smooth curves and straight lines as appropriate.
- 3.7 REFORMING GRASS EDGES:** Additionally re-form the edges by half mooning abutting paths, around tree bases and adjacent planting beds with a suitable edging tool to straight lines or smooth curves as appropriate. This type of edging to be carried out once a year.
- 3.8 GRASS AREAS AROUND TREES:** An area of 600mm diameter around all trees is to be kept free of weeds and grass in amenity grass areas and where specified for young trees or trees undergoing remedial treatment.
- 3.9 AMENITY GRASS TYPE A:** as indicated on the Contract Drawings. The grass shall be maintained to the following heights:

PERIOD	MAXIMUM HEIGHT not to	MINIMUM HEIGHT not to be
ALL YEAR	exceed 50mm	less than 25mm

The grass shall be cut to produce an even, regular and free from ribbing. **Arisings shall be removed for the first two cuts and spread evenly across the surface thereafter.**

- 3.10 WILDFLOWER GRASSED AREAS:** as indicated on the Contract Drawings. These areas shall be cut once per year in the autumn period and all arisings collected and removed off site.
- 4.0 MAINTENANCE OF PLANTING BEDS**
- 4.1 PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL:** Any indications of pest or disease control treatment is required shall be reported to the client.
- 4.2 REFIRMING:** Ensure all shrubs remain firmly bedded in the ground after strong winds, frost and other disturbances. Refirm by treading around the base. Any 'collars' formed at the base of the shrubs shall be broken up and then backfilled with topsoil.
- 4.3 MALICIOUS DAMAGE:** If shrubs or other plants have been removed or damaged maliciously, the client will be informed accordingly. No replacements shall be undertaken until the client has been informed and a sum agreed for repair and a written instruction issued.
- 4.4 WEEDING PLANTING BEDS:** All planting beds are to be hand-weeded and spot weeding at monthly intervals during the growing season.

Details of the proposed herbicides will be submitted to the client and approval obtained prior to using.

HANDWEEDING

Hand weeding means removing all weeds, including roots, by hand hoeing, digging or forking, taking care not to remove more than a minimum quantity of soil, causing minimum disturbance to mulched surfaces and bulbs and leaving the areas in a neat, raked, clean condition. Areas to be handweeded are well established areas of ground cover, evergreen plant material or mulched beds.

SPOT WEEDING

Spot weeding means treating Nettles, Docks, Brambles, Willowherb, Thistles, Ragworts, Dandelions, Plantains and any other weed indicated for removal by the client with an appropriate herbicide.

- 4.5 MAINTAINING MULCHED PLANTING BEDS:** During weeding and maintenance operations do not incorporate mulch into underlying soil.

Each autumn rake over the mulch to provide a neat and tidy appearance.

- 4.6 PLANTING BED EDGES:** On one occasion per year the soil at the edges of planting beds shall be reduced to 50mm below the adjacent hard or grass surface. The resulting soil shall be evenly spread over the planting bed.

Care shall be taken to ensure that the bed edges against grass areas are well defined unless otherwise directed by the client.

- 4.7 PRUNING SHRUBS AND GROUNDCOVER:** All pruning is to be carried out in accordance with the correct horticultural practice for the type of shrub. Vary the amount and nature of the pruning, trimming and shaping according to the species, stage of growth, season and required visual effect. Allow for pruning twice a year, and trimming of vigorous species as necessary.

In all cases dead, diseased and damaged material shall be removed.

Where necessary remove growth encroaching onto footpaths, roads, hard areas, grassed areas, signs, lights, sightlines and other features.

Where directed prune back dominant species which are choking or overrunning neighbouring shrubs.

DISEASES: The SO shall be notified of any pest or disease outbreaks. If cutting out diseased material all implements shall be sterilised between shrubs to prevent spreading the pathogen.

ARISINGS: All arisings from pruning shall be removed from site.

PRUNING EQUIPMENT: The Contractor shall use only two bladed secateurs, petrol hedge trimmers, all cut ends shall be left with a clean finish.

6.0 TREE MAINTENANCE

Care is to be taken not to damage any trees whilst mowing.

- 6.1 PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL:** Report to the client any indications that pest or disease control treatment is required.

- 6.2 STAKED TREES:** Check tree stakes for firmness, vertical position and signs of rot and damage. Refirm, replace or remove as required. Tree stakes to be supplied by the Contractor at his sole cost to be suitable for the size of the tree to be staked, fully tannalised, round, peeled and pointed at one end.

- 6.3 MALICIOUS DAMAGE:** When trees have been removed or damaged maliciously we will inform the client immediately.

- 6.4 REFIRMING:** Ensure that all trees remain firmly bedded in the ground after strong winds, frost and other disturbances. Refirm by treading around the base. Any 'collars' forming at the base of the trees shall be broken up and then backfilled with topsoil.

- 6.5 PRUNING IMMATURE TREES** as follows:

- Remove dead or damaged branches and cut back any ragged edges of wounded bark back to healthy tissue. Coat wounds larger than 75mm with fungicidal sealant.
 - Remove side growths beneath the crowns and any suckering growth from tree base. All cuts to be pared back flush to the stem, trunk or scar tissue.
- Pruning shall be undertaken once per year during mid/late Spring.

- 6.6 EXISTING TREES.** No provision has been made to inspect or maintain existing trees.