

Appendix 30/1: TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION

All works, nursery stock and materials will be supplied, transported, planted and maintained in accordance with the recommendations and guidance in the following British Standards and current industry best practice.

BS3936-1: Nursery Stock – Part 1: Specification for trees and shrubs

BS8545: 2014 Trees – from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations

BS3882: 2015 Specification for topsoil

SITE CLEARANCE

If present remove all litter, builders waste and stones larger than 75mm from the areas to be planted. All the above materials are to be removed from site and disposed of or recycled in an environmentally appropriate manner.

GROUND PREPARATION

All surface vegetation including the roots will be removed from the entire area of the individual tree pits.

All topsoil will be a multi purpose type and supplied, transported and spread in accordance with BS3882: 2015. During all operations the existing or imported topsoil and subsoil will be kept separate with no mixing of the two forms of soil. Except for the tree planting pits all topsoil will be a minimum depth of 450mm across the planting area and placed on a minimum depth of 300mm of de-compacted subsoil.

All topsoil will be cultivated to ensure a medium tilth. All stones, perennial weeds and debris will be collected and removed from site.

TREE PLANTING

The nine trees will be containerised or root balled, of a heavy standard type with a stem girth of 12 to 14cms measured at one metre above the root collar / ground level. Containerised trees can be planted all the year round but root balled trees will be planted during the trees dormant period between November and March.

All tree pits will be excavated to the minimum dimensions of 1000mm x 1000mm x 1000mm. The base of the pit will be loosened and de-compacted to a further depth of 200mm and the sides lightly scarified with a hand fork. All stones and debris will be collected and removed from site.

The trees are to be supported with the double stake method. All stakes are to be positioned parallel to the existing kerb line or on sloping sites following the land contour. Softwood stakes will be pressure treated with an appropriate preservative, pointed and a minimum diameter of 75mm. Prior to planting all stakes are to be driven into the ground to a minimum depth of 1200mm below the finished ground level with a remaining height above ground of 600mm.

A *GreenBlue Urban Reroot 1000 root barrier system* will be installed for any trees which are within 3 metres of any buildings, underground services, roads or parking areas. This will be installed in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

Trees will be planted to the same depth and orientation as the original growing position in the nursery. The topsoil will be backfilled and firmed by foot in layers not exceeding 150mm in depth.

The backfill soil will be mixed with an appropriate tree and shrub planting compost such as *Melcourt Topgrow planting compost* to a 2 to 1 topsoil / compost ratio. The volume of compost for each heavy standard tree will be 120 litres. *Enmag* slow release fertilizer at the rate of 120 grams per planting pit will be evenly and thoroughly mixed with the backfill soil.

During the planting a below ground watering system such as the *GreenBlue RootRain Metro* will be installed. Unless there has been recent heavy rain all trees will be adequately watered directly after planting.

The trees will be attached to the supporting stakes with reinforced rubber tree ties and solid rubber spacers positioned 30mm from the top of the stake or as appropriate for the form of the tree. To secure the position and prevent downward movement of the tie a 20mm galvanised nail will be driven through the tie and into the supporting stake.

All trees will be mulched with a pest, disease and weed free organic material such as shredded wood bark. This mulch will be a minimum depth of 100mm and will cover the entire surface area of the planting pit. The depth of the mulch will be checked one month after the planting and if settlement has occurred the mulch will be replenished to ensure a minimum depth of 100mm.

POST PLANTING MAINTENANCE

Any trees which are found to be missing, defective, dying, severely diseased, vandalised will be replaced in accordance with the original specification in the first planting season after the original or replacement planting.

Any tree related pest or disease will be identified and an appropriate treatment applied. Depending on the type and severity of the pest or disease the treatment options will include non-intervention, biological control or spraying with an appropriate pesticide by suitably qualified and experienced operators.

All trees will be watered during periods of dry weather. To avoid spillage and evaporation the water will be applied to the underground watering system using a low pressure hose. The minimum volume of water applied to each tree will be 42 litres per visit.

The entire planting pit area will be maintained in a weed free condition by hand weeding and all weeds will be removed from the site. The mulch will be replenished annually to maintain its original 100mm depth and coverage.