

Tree Replanting and Maintenance Scheme

Project title Trebanos WwTW
Job number 275281
File reference B16421-102503-ZZ-ZZ-FN-CA-EI6401

For Planning
Prepared by Owen Lloyd
Date 08 July 2024
Subject Tree Replanting and Maintenance Scheme Technical Note

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APPROVAL OF FULL PLANNING PERMISSION

Arup and Morgan Sindall have been commissioned by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) to undertake the design of upgrade works to Trebanos Wastewater Treatment Works to ensure compliance with the key future Asset Management Plan 8 (AMP8) drivers of Quality, Growth and Maintenance. A sub-component of this proposed development is an upgrade to the Existing Outfall, and it is in this area of the works that this Tree Replanting and Maintenance Scheme shall focus.

The proposed development to this part of the site includes a new outfall pipe, flap valve, safety grill, headwall, provision of handrail and a gate and associated development including ground works, such as excavation of bank and re-profiling of slopes, re-positioning of boulders, all in connection with Trebanos Wastewater Treatment Work.

Approval of Full Planning Permission was granted by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, as the Local Planning Authority, on the 9th of February 2024 for the development of the above proposal in accordance with the planning application and plans submitted, application no. P2024/0060. This permission was granted subject to compliance with the Time Conditions, Pre-Commencement Conditions, Action Conditions and Regulatory Conditions outlined in said Approval document. Furthermore, it is Pre-commencement Condition 5 and the criteria it sets out that that this Tree Replanting and Maintenance Scheme Technical Note and corresponding documents seek to comply with.

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CONDITON 5

No development or site clearance shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority a scheme of tree replanting. The scheme shall include.

- Indications of all existing trees to be removed because of the development and achieve a minimum ratio of at least three new trees for every one lost,
- Information on the species, size and location proposed for the replacement trees,
- Ground preparation,
- Planting and post planting maintenance details.

This information should be in accordance with the British Standards 3936:1992 and 8545:2014 and current best practice. All tree planting comprised in the approved details of landscaping shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding seasons following the first use of the approved development or the completion of the development, whichever is the sooner; and any trees which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species.

Proposed Tree Removal

ArbTS - Arboricultural Technician Services Ltd, on behalf of DCWW, produced an Arboricultural Report that comprised of Tree Survey Data, a Tree Constraints Plan, an Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) and a Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement. The AIA ranked trees quality according to BS5837:2012 category definitions and was used to provide guidance on the suitability of trees for removal should they need to be to facilitate construction.

- A – High – Most desirable for retention,
- B – Moderate – Desirable for retention,
- C – Low – Optimal for retention,
- U – Poor – Unsuitable for retention,

It was determined that to allow for the construction of the proposed development the following three trees are to be removed.

- Tree T4 – Fraxinus excelsior (Ash) – Low quality (C category),
- Tree T8 – Fraxinus excelsior (Ash) – Low quality (C category),
- Tree Group G15 – Fraxinus excelsior (Ash) – Small group of small ash – Low quality (C category),

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Figure 1 Tree Constraints Plan Snapshot: Reference – APEM Landscape Plan - LD.TRBNS.

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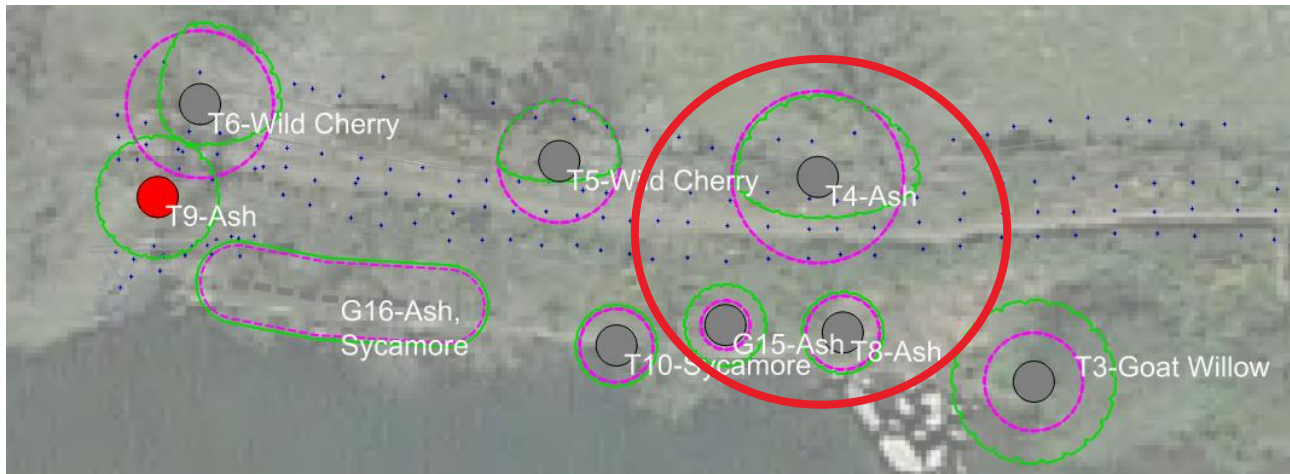


Figure 2 Trees for removal: Reference – APEM Landscape Plan - LD. TRBNS.



Figure 3 Image of Trees for removal: Reference – APEM Landscape Plan - LD. TRBNS.

Replacement Trees

To achieve a minimum ratio of at least three new trees for every one lost, nine proposed trees are to be planted north of the fence line at 5m spacings and offset from pipelines and the existing flood bund. Species to include.

- English or Sessile oak (*Quercus robur* or *Q. petraea*) 14 – 16cm girth, semi-mature trees over 2m tall.
- Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) 14 – 16cm girth, semi-mature trees over 2m tall.
- Reference – APEM Landscape Plan LD. TRBNS & Arup Outfall Landscape Specification B16421-102503-ZZ-ZZ-DR-CA-MM6105.

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Ground Preparation and Planting & Maintenance Details

1.0 General

1.1 All landscape soft works are to be conducted in accordance with BS 4428: 1989 'Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces)', BS 3936:199 'Recommendations for cultivation and planting in the Advance Nursery Stock category' and BS 8545:2014 'Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape'.

1.2 Works should be conducted at the appropriate season and only in appropriate weather conditions.

2.0 Trees

2.1 Existing trees to be retained where indicated and protected during construction works via a cleft chestnut pale fence to a min height of 1.2m to BS 1722 pt 4: 1972 and to BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction'. This shall be erected at the commencement of works and maintained in situ until construction has been completed. The fencing shall be erected to an alignment that shall be agreed with the PM on site.

The following will apply:

- No work shall be permitted within the fenced enclosure.
- No oil, bitumen, cement or other bituminous or deleterious material likely to be injurious to a tree shall be kept or discharged within 10.0m of the tree boles.
- No other material shall be kept or stacked within 5.0m of tree boles.
- No tipping or storage of materials nor any concrete mixing shall be conducted within 10.0m of any tree.
- No fires shall be lit beneath or near any tree canopy.
- Notice boards telephone cables or other services shall not be attached to any part of the tree.
- Care shall be exercised when using cranes or other mechanical plant and equipment near the spread of the canopy of the trees.
- A notice shall be erected on the fence indicating this the area of the tree is a protected area and all activities associated with the works in that area shall be prohibited.
- Remedial surgery shall be conducted to all trees that area to be retained as identified by the AIA. All remedial work shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of BS3998: 2010.

2.2 Proposed trees elsewhere shall be as specified as in planting scheme above.

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2.3 The contractor is responsible for procuring an Arboriculturist to advise on the removal and disposal of diseased trees.

3.0 Soil

3.1 All imported topsoil shall comply with BS3882 and BS4428 and shall be approved by the landscape architect.

3.2 All imported topsoil to be specified as free draining 'sandy' topsoil as per specification, tested and certified by an approved soil scientist. All imported subsoil to comply with BS8601:2013 to be specified and installed to appropriate depths in accordance with DEFRA code, BS 3882 and BS 8601.

3.3 All soil, whether re-used or imported will be shown to be fit for their intended purpose via physical and chemical analysis (in accordance with BS 3882:2015 &BS 8601:2013) and an interpretive report prepared by a soil scientist. Prior to planting, percolation tests should be carried out to ensure that soils are fit for purpose and there must be no ameliorants (compost, fertiliser, etc) unless specifically required following soil analysis.

3.4 Prior to any other landscape works including topsoil spread, all areas of soft landscaping shall be cultivated / ripped to alleviate any compaction prior to topsoiling and ensure adequate drainage.

4.0 Planting

4.1 All planting operations shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant sections of BS 4428:1989 and BS8545:2014. Excavated tree pits to accommodate entire root mass. Fork sides and base thoroughly to achieve drainage and remove clay patches. All planting should be carried out during the appropriate planting period between 1st Oct and 31st of March. Outside this period all plants including trees should be sourced as containerised stock.

4.2 All trees shall be planted in top/sub soiled pits to a minimum approximate size 800mm deep, with underground guying system. Place tree in pit and backfill with approved topsoil and subsoil. Firm in layers and add water to field capacity. Supply and spread a minimum depth of 75mm bark mulch to top of tree pit. No ameliorants or compost to be included unless soil analysis demonstrates need and is specified by soil scientist.

4.3 Plant species shall be as specified in planting scheme above.

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5.0 Maintenance

5.1 All planted areas shall be subject to a minimum five-year Maintenance programme which shall include the replacement of failed plants at the time of Practical Completion and in each following year. Maintenance operations shall include Weeding and Watering, Litter Picking, Pruning / Coppicing, Top dressing with fertiliser and mulch annually, Replacing /Securing of Tree stakes, Re-seeding and Grass Cutting.

5.2 A full programme of maintenance operations shall be presented to the CA at the time of Practical Completion.