Ysgol GG Tregeles - New School Block

Long Term Management Plan

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Revision notes

Rev	Description	Date	By
P01	Issued for Information.	20/04/26	GC
P02	Section 3.4 updated.	25/06/26	GC

1.0 Introduction

1.0.1 This Landscape Management and Maintenance Plan outlines the strategies and procedures for the upkeep and preservation of the landscape scheme for Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tregeles in Skewen.

1.0.2 The purpose of this document is to provide a maintenance, management and monitoring plan for a 5 year period, from the first beneficial use of the scheme, with key objectives for the long term management. After this period, this document can be used as a basis to help inform any long-term maintenance and management strategies for this area.

1.0.3 The document should be read in conjunction with the specification, schedules, and drawings submitted with the planning application. For details of the location and extent of the areas described in this report, please refer to the following plans and documents:

- YGGT-ASL-XX-XX-D-L-00901 General Arrangement
- YGGT-ASL-XX-XX-D-L-00903 Soft Landscape.

2.0 General soft landscaping maintenance

2.1 Timing of visits for maintenance

2.1.0 Maintenance operations will be scheduled based on weather conditions and carried out as necessary by the Contractor or as directed by the CA. While the CA may instruct the Contractor to perform operations at any time during the Maintenance Period, it is the sole responsibility of the Contractor to arrange the operations appropriately to keep weed growth in check, ensure adequate watering, maintain a well-groomed appearance, and achieve the intended establishment of the plantings.

2.2 Mowing regimes

2.2.1 The grassed areas should be mown and strimmed. While there are no public space grass areas with gradients exceeding 1:3, caution should still be exercised when mowing on softer gradients.

2.2.2 The amenity grass mowing regime applies to all grass areas:

- Areas should be kept short for a tidy appearance. They should be cut once a week or fortnight during the growing season to a height of 30 mm and all cuttings should be removed from site.
- During autumn-winter, areas should be cut once every three weeks and during spring-summer, they should be cut once a week or as required to maintain a height of 50 mm. All cuttings should be removed from site.

2.3 Watering

2.3.1 Watering should be carried out to bring the soil to an optimum moisture content appropriate for the specific work at hand, ensuring it reaches field capacity.

2.3.2 Water all trees if there has been no rain for 10 consecutive days during the establishment period.

2.3.3 The Contractor should water the plants during dry periods with sufficient quantities to ensure thorough penetration of the rooting zone.

2.3.4 The Contractor should provide all necessary hoses, fittings, sprays, etc., to implement watering as required until Practical Completion.

2.3.5 If mains water is unavailable, fresh water delivery should be arranged through a bowser or another suitable method.

2.4 Mulching

2.4.1 The mulch depth should be reviewed annually and additional material should be applied, if necessary, to maintain a depth of 75 mm on a weed-free surface in April/May. Mulching should not be carried out after a long dry period.

2.5 Weed control

2.5.1 Maintenance visits should occur at least every four weeks between April and November to keep the hedgerows weed-free.

2.5.2 Only products listed in the current Agricultural Chemicals Approval Scheme should be used. Weed control in hedgerows should be achieved through hand weeding and/or spot treatments of glyphosate (weed killer).

2.5.3 The presence of any pernicious weeds must be immediately reported to the CA (Contract Administrator). These weeds are classified as 'Controlled Waste' and must be treated and disposed of in accordance with current regulations.

2.6 Pest and disease control

2.6.1 All pesticides/herbicides used must be authorized by the CA and approved for use in amenity horticulture, following the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (Amended 1997).

2.6.2 The control of pests should be carried out using suitable and appropriate methods as determined by the CA. A method statement must be submitted for approval in advance of treatment. Pests will be identified, eradicated and litter will be removed.

2.6.3 The Contractor must possess Recognised Certificates of Competence for the use of pesticides approved for amenity plant protection unless working under the direct supervision of a certified individual. The Contractor should provide written evidence to the CA regarding which members of their staff are certified to apply pesticides.

2.6.4 During the regular monthly site inspection, the Contractor should identify any pests or diseases and take necessary action, including the use of approved chemicals or removal of infected plants. Replacement planting should be conducted as needed.

2.7 Litter removal

2.7.1 Remove litter from all areas fortnightly.

3.0 Management Objectives and Actions

3.0.1 The primary objective of the management plan is to ensure the successful establishment of the proposed planting, seeded areas of grass and wildflowers within the development. This includes all of the proposed tree planting in key locations of the site.

3.0.2 The maintenance of the following green infrastructure elements is essential for public use and visual appeal. The specific operations required, such as watering, weed control, pruning and grass mowing, are further described in this report.

3.1 Tree planting

3.1.1 Objective: The establishment of healthy, mature trees across the site connecting hard and soft landscaping.

3.1.2 Multiple species have been carefully chosen and planted in clusters or in a linear more formal alignment depending on their location on site.

3.1.3 All tree-related tasks will adhere to the guidelines outlined in BS3998:2010 Tree Work. Existing retained trees should be allowed to grow naturally, considering safety precautions.

3.1.4 The management of proposed tree planting aims to ensure successful establishment and thriving, following the plans specified in Part 1.0 of this document. Newly planted trees will be adequately watered, especially during the initial three years of the maintenance period.

3.1.5 Annual monitoring of newly planted trees and shrubs will be conducted each autumn during the first five years after planting. Ongoing maintenance, as described in this document, will be applied to ensure their establishment and tidiness. Disposal of any waste material will be done at a licensed tip or recycling facility.

3.1.6 Regularly assess the health of each tree and remove any dead, diseased, or damaged branches. This pruning should be done once or twice a year, ideally in late winter before spring growth. All pruning waste should be taken off-site.

3.1.7 The maintenance contractor will be responsible for irrigation/watering throughout the maintenance period to promote establishment, healthy growth, and vitality of the tree planting. If there is bark mulch, it should be pulled back to allow water to penetrate the entire topsoil depth. Watering tubes will be used where applicable.

3.1.8 Sufficient watering will be provided to ensure full penetration of the tree's rooting zone.

3.1.9 Trees to be kept upright, and adjustments will be made after strong winds. Staking will be applied based on tree size and specific needs, with biannual monitoring to ensure proper support.

3.1.10 Tree protection, stakes, and ties will be inspected twice a year during the establishment phase and adjusted as needed to prevent tree damage. Trees will be maintained upright, with necessary adjustments made after strong winds. The Contractor will remove all stakes and ties no earlier than year three and no later than year five, once the trees can support themselves. Any trees with underground guying will be monitored to ensure their stability.

3.1.11 Tree ties and stakes will be regularly inspected and adjusted as necessary. Once the trees are self-supporting, the stake ties can be removed as early as year three but no later than year five.

3.1.12 Trees that have been loosened by wind, frost, or ground disturbance will be securely firmed back into place.

3.1.13 Pruning will be conducted to eliminate dead, dying, or diseased wood and encourage healthy growth, following good horticultural and arboricultural practices.

3.1.14 Lower branches causing obstructions or damage to other plants will be pruned as part of formative pruning to maintain a well-balanced and healthy crown.

3.1.15 Weeding activities will be carried out during the main growth period (April to June) for three years to maintain a weed-free area around each tree with a minimum radius of 0.5 m. Weeding will be performed using appropriate safeguards such as strimming (to avoid tree damage) or chemical means with approved herbicides following manufacturer's instructions. Care will be taken to prevent harm to the trees.

3.1.16 Any wounds on the trees will be carefully trimmed back to sound tissue.

3.1.17 A 75 mm deep layer of bark mulch will be evenly spread in a circular area with a diameter of 1000 mm around each tree to prevent weed growth and retain moisture.

3.1.18 The bark mulch on all specified trees will be topped up for at least three years.

3.2 Ornamental and native shrub planting

3.2.1 Objective: To establish diverse shrub planting that is aesthetically pleasing and provides cover for wildlife.

3.2.2 The Contractor will provide irrigation during dry periods to ensure sufficient watering that fully penetrates the rooting zone.

3.2.3 Each plant's health will be monitored, and pruning will be carried out to remove dead, diseased, or damaged branches, water shoots and reversion growth. Spring pruning will promote bushiness and a mulch of well-rotted manure or garden compost may be applied. All pruning waste will be removed from the site.

3.2.4 Ornamental shrub beds will be kept free from debris, litter, grass, and weed growth throughout the maintenance period. Any dead weeds will be removed and disposed of at a licensed tip or recycling facility.

3.2.5 Plants that have been loosened by wind or frost will be firmed back into place.

3.2.6 A surface layer of wood bark mulch will be applied to control weed growth. A 75 mm depth of wood bark mulch will be maintained and topped up as necessary in ornamental shrub beds during the maintenance period. Mulch spillage on adjacent edgings and paving will be promptly cleared during each visit.

3.2.7 The Contractor will ensure that ornamental shrub beds and hedgerows remain free from pernicious weeds. Weeds will be controlled either manually or using herbicides, with a tolerance limit of no more than 5% coverage and a maximum height of 100 mm.

3.2.8 Scotts Enmag fertiliser will be applied each spring as a top dressing to all planting areas at a rate of 70 gms/m^2, lightly raked in. This application should occur between mid-May and August annually.

3.2.9 Annual monitoring of newly planted shrubs will be conducted by the landscape contractor each autumn during the first five years after planting to assess establishment. Any failed shrubs will be replaced. If, after 5 years the shrubs are established no further monitoring

will be required. Ongoing maintenance, as described in this document, will be applied to ensure their health and tidiness.

3.2.10 Both deciduous and evergreen varieties are introduced to various locations. A surface layer of wood bark mulch will be applied to control weed growth.

3.3 Amenity grassland

3.3.1 Objective: To provide recreational grassland areas at both central and peripheral spaces.

3.3.2 Verges, amenity areas, and open spaces will be seeded with a mix of grass seeds suitable for recreational use and will require regular mowing to maintain a maximum sward length of 75mm.

3.3.3 Grass cutting will not be performed in adverse weather conditions or excessively wet or dry ground conditions.

3.3.4 During each cut, the grass edges around trees, manholes, etc., will be trimmed while taking precautions to avoid damage to tree trunks. All clippings will be removed, and adjacent hard areas will be swept clear of cuttings and swept material will be disposed of.

3.3.5 The height of the amenity grassland will be maintained below 75 mm. Grass cutting will be performed as needed between March and the end of October, keeping the height at 40 mm. A rotary mower fitted with a steel roller will be used, and all clippings will be collected and disposed of at a licensed tip or recycling facility. Cutting will be suspended during drought periods. Before each cut, all litter and debris will be removed.

3.3.6 Broad-leaved weeds in the grassland will be controlled as required by applying suitable approved selective herbicides. Fallen leaves will be removed in autumn.

3.3.7 Failures in grass growth, including bare patches and areas that have not established, will be rectified through re-cultivation and reseeding using specified seed mixes.

3.3.8 The grassland will be watered as necessary to maintain a healthy sward until it becomes established. Any areas with extreme wear, bare patches, or wheel ruts will be restored through re-cultivation and reseeding.

3.4 Hedgerow Planting

3.4.1 Objective: To retain, enhance and sustainably manage existing hedgerows as established landscape features that provide boundary definition, ecological connectivity and habitat value for wildlife.

3.4.2 Existing hedgerows will be retained and managed to maintain their health, structure and biodiversity value.

3.4.3 Routine inspections will be undertaken to monitor the condition of the hedgerows, identifying any signs of stress, disease, dieback or physical damage. Any dead, diseased or damaged growth will be selectively removed using appropriate pruning techniques to promote healthy regeneration.

3.4.4 Weed control will be undertaken along the base of the hedgerows to reduce competition and support vigour. This will be achieved through hand weeding and/or spot application of approved herbicides, maintaining a weed-free strip where practicable. Care will be taken to avoid damage to hedgerow roots and adjacent vegetation.

3.4.5 Hedgerows will be managed under a sensitive cutting regime to balance visual amenity, safety requirements and ecological function. Trimming will generally be undertaken once annually, outside of the bird nesting season, unless additional cutting is required to maintain clearances to footpaths, roads or sightlines. Cutting will aim to retain a varied structure and avoid excessive uniformity, supporting flowering and fruiting.

3.4.6 Arisings from pruning and trimming operations will be removed from site or disposed of appropriately. In selected locations, where suitable and agreed, small quantities of arisings may be retained to provide habitat piles, contributing to site biodiversity.

3.4.7 Litter and debris within hedgerow extents will be removed as part of regular maintenance visits to maintain a tidy and safe environment.

3.4.8 Long-term management will continue to prioritise ecological value, with reduced intervention where appropriate to allow hedgerows to mature naturally, while ensuring they remain safe and fit for purpose within the site context.

3.5 Species-rich grassland

3.5.1 Objective: Species rich wildflower grassland containing similar species to those found pre-construction, to provide a biodiverse grassland resource which supports local wildlife.

3.5.2 During the first year after sowing, grasslands will be left to establish without mowing until early August. The regrowth will then be cut through to late autumn/winter to 50 mm.

3.5.3 In subsequent years, existing and proposed areas of species-rich grassland will be cut twice annually. The first cutting will occur at the end of July after flowering with grassland cut to a height of 100 mm, and the second cut will take place in September/October mowing to a height of 75 mm, depending on weather conditions. The cut material will be left on the ground for 2-3 days to allow seed dispersal and support invertebrates. All cut material will then be removed from the site or sent for composting.

3.5.4 Scrub and weed control will be carried out as necessary to prevent the establishment of persistent perennial weed species (such as broad-leave dock, ragwort and nettle) or scrub species (sucking blackthorn, bramble, tree saplings, etc). Control methods may include hand-pulling or spot treatment with suitable approved selective herbicides, depending on the affected species and appropriate timing. Weeds and scrub will not exceed 20 % coverage.

3.5.5 Worn or damaged areas of wildflower meadows will be repaired by over-seeding into prepared seedbeds using the appropriate wildflower mixture specified in the Landscape Masterplan drawing. This will be done within seasonal limitations and suitable weather and ground conditions, following best practice guidelines.

3.5.6 Monitoring of the grassland areas will be completed annually by an ecologist between May-August to ensure plants are becoming established. If low diversity of species is recorded, plug planting of grassland species will be recommended to improve diversity. If less than 5% coverage of bird's-foot trefoil is recorded along the buttery bund, seeding of this species will be recommended.

3.6 Wildflower green roof

3.6.1 Objective: To establish and maintain a species-rich wildflower green roof that provides a resilient biodiverse habitat for invertebrates while contributing to sustainable drainage and building performance.

3.6.2 A wildflower green roof will be installed by an appropriately experienced contractor on the new building block. Manufacturer recommendations will be followed in relation to irrigation provision, where required.

3.6.3 Following establishment, the green roof will be managed to maintain vegetation health, species diversity and system performance. Maintenance will reflect the extensive nature of the system and will differ from ground-level wildflower grassland, with a focus on light-touch, periodic intervention.

3.6.4 Maintenance actions:

<u>Spring maintenance actions:</u>

- Removal of undesirable species, including invasive weeds, tree seedlings or dominant ruderal species, to maintain a balanced and diverse sward.
- Inspection of vegetation cover and identification of any bare or poorly established areas for remedial action.
- Fertiliser will not be routinely applied; any application will be subject to identified deficiency and in accordance with specialist or manufacturer advice.

<u>Summer maintenance actions:</u>

- Visual inspection of vegetation condition during prolonged dry periods. Irrigation will only be undertaken where necessary to prevent failure during establishment or extended drought conditions, in accordance with manufacturer guidance.

Autumn maintenance actions:

- Vegetation will be cut back once annually, typically in late summer or early autumn, to maintain species diversity and prevent dominance of coarse species. Arisings will be left in situ for a short period to allow seed drop, then removed to prevent nutrient build-up.
- Inspection and clearance of rainwater outlets, drainage layers, inspection chambers, and any vegetation barriers to ensure free drainage.
- Check for areas of substrate erosion, compaction or settlement and reinstate where necessary.

Winter maintenance actions:

- No routine maintenance required, although access may be required if issues are identified during inspections.

3.6.5 Monitoring of the wildflower green roof will be undertaken annually between May and August to assess establishment, vegetation cover and species diversity. Where low diversity or poor establishment is identified, appropriate remedial measures will be agreed with a specialist or supplier and implemented during the following growing season.

3.7 Rain garden planting mix

3.7.1 Objective: To establish and maintain functional rain gardens that effectively manage surface water runoff while supporting robust vegetation and delivering biodiversity benefits.

3.7.2 Rain gardens will be maintained to ensure their continued hydraulic performance and planting establishment. Particular attention will be given to maintaining infiltration capacity, preventing blockages and ensuring vegetation remains healthy and well-distributed.

3.7.3 Regular inspections will be undertaken twice yearly (spring and late summer) and following significant storm events where practicable. These inspections will identify any accumulation of sediment, debris or organic matter that may restrict water infiltration or lead to prolonged ponding. Any build-up will be carefully removed by hand, ensuring minimal disturbance to the soil structure and planted areas.

3.7.4 The condition of inlets, outlets and any associated drainage features will be checked to ensure they remain free-flowing and operational. Any erosion, scouring or localised settlement will be made good, reinstating design levels where required.

3.7.5 Vegetation will be maintained to support both function and appearance. Dead, damaged or overly dominant plant material will be selectively cut back annually, typically in early spring, to allow for new growth and to maintain a varied vegetation structure. Management will focus on selective cutting and weed control to retain the intended planting character.

3.7.6 Weeds and invasive species will be controlled through manual removal or spot treatment with approved herbicides where necessary, taking care to avoid harm to retained planting and surrounding habitats.

3.7.7 Bare or poorly established areas will be replanted in accordance with the approved planting schedule to maintain full coverage and prevent erosion. Any mulch layer will be maintained where specified to reduce weed growth and retain moisture, ensuring it does not impede surface water infiltration.

3.7.8 During all maintenance operations, care will be taken to avoid compaction of the soil. Access into the rain garden will be minimised and undertaken only in suitable ground conditions.

3.7.9 Monitoring will ensure that standing water does not persist for extended periods (typically not exceeding 24–48 hours following rainfall). Where exceedance is identified, remedial measures will be implemented, which may include decompaction, sediment removal or localised regrading.

3.8 Bat boxes

3.8.0 Objective: to increase the provision of bat roost features within the site, supporting local bat populations.

3.8.1 The bat boxes selected do not require internal maintenance. The boxes will be monitored annually to ensure they are still present and suitable for use by bats. Damaged or missing boxes will be replaced. A bat licensed surveyor will inspect the boxes prior to replacement. If bats are present the boxes will be left in situ and the need for replacement reviewed.

3.9 Bird boxes

3.9.0 Objective: to maintain the provision of bird nesting features within the site, supporting local bird populations.

3.9.1 Bird boxes will be checked annually during the winter (October - Jan) and cleaned out, if necessary. Damaged or missing boxes will be replaced.

4.0 Ecology and Biodiversity

4.0.1 The primary objective of the management plan is to ensure the successful establishment of the proposed planting, seeded areas of grass and wildflowers within the development. This includes all of the proposed tree planting in key locations of the site.

4.1 Benefits & making the most of the local ecology

4.1.0 The landscape strategy has identified the following principal objectives, which will ensure a comprehensive approach to achieve the enhancement of the existing landscape and successful integration of the proposed landscape within the site.

4.1.1 Inclusion of native shrub and hedgerow species within the landscape design to provide additional resources for invertebrates.

4.1.2 Incorporation of bat and bird boxes within the fabric of the new development.

4.2 Enhancing Ecological value

4.2.0 Native and climate resilient tree planting is proposed within the site.

4.2.1 Rain gardens are introduced into the site, previously not present.

4.2.2 Ornamental and native shrub planting including pollinating species, provide an attractive external environment with additional ecological benefits.

4.3 Alignment with Wider Strategic Ecology and Remedial Action

4.3.0 Objective: To ensure that the landscape management and biodiversity measures remain aligned with wider ecological strategies and that appropriate remedial action is taken if unforeseen impacts occur.

4.3.1 Opportunities for ongoing alignment with activities beyond the site boundary will be sought throughout the management period. These include:

- Contributing to NPTC's biodiversity and Green Infrastructure strategies.
- Supporting regional habitat connectivity and species conservation programmes, such as woodland linkage, pollinator-friendly corridors and watercourse habitat restoration.

4.3.2 An adaptive management approach will be applied to respond to unforeseen impacts identified during routine monitoring. Examples of such impacts include colonisation by invasive species, unexpected habitat degradation or obstruction of wildlife corridors.

4.3.3 Appropriate remedial actions will be identified in consultation with an ecologist and may include:

- Adjustment of mowing, cutting or planting regimes.
- Replacement of failed or inappropriate species with suitable native or climate-resilient alternatives.
- Installation of additional habitat features to strengthen ecological connectivity.
- Targeted management and control of invasive species.

4.3.4 All remedial measures undertaken will be documented and incorporated into the annual reporting process (see Section 5.0), ensuring transparency and demonstrating continual improvement in biodiversity management.

4.4 Local Information - links

4.4.0 Wildlife in your Ward (gov.wales)

4.4.1 Local Places for Nature (gov.wales)

4.4.2 Biodiversity (gov.wales)

5.0 Reporting

5.0.1 An annual report of monitoring surveys will be produced by an arboriculturist (trees, shrubs and hedgerows) and ecologist (other biodiversity features) detailing the results of the survey and any additional management that may be required to achieve the objective set for each feature. It will also include a figure showing the as-built locations of all biodiversity features. This report will be provided to the management company and Council Ecologist.

5.0.2 NPTC will be responsible for appointing appropriate companies / consultants.

6.0 Establishment and Defects Liability Period

6.0.1 If any plants are found to be defective within the 12 month Defects Liability Period due to:

- failure
- poor materials
- lack of vigor
- damage from theft or vandalism

the contractor is responsible for rectifying them and maintaining the scheme as described in this document during that period. From year 2 until the completion of year 5, the responsibility for maintenance and replacement of failed plants will lie with the developer.

6.0.2 From Year 6 onwards, responsibility for the ongoing management and maintenance of all landscaped areas, including the hedgerow, shall transfer to the site owner or appointed Managing Agent. The landscaped areas shall thereafter be maintained in accordance with the principles set out in this Landscape Management Plan, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

6.0.3 From Year 6 onwards, landscape management shall be undertaken with the objective of maintaining plant health, public safety, and biodiversity value, including retention of flowering and fruiting where practicable.

6.0.4 There is no limit on the number of times plant replacement can be carried out during the Defects Liability Period in order to achieve complete plant coverage and maintain the intended scheme designed by the Landscape Architect and indicated in the plans specified in Part 1.0 Introduction.

6.0.5 The Contractor/Managing Agent must carry out all maintenance operations at a time that is suitable for wildlife and plantings.

6.0.6 All maintenance operations, including irrigation, will be dependent on weather conditions and carried out as necessary by the Contractor or as directed by the Contract Administrator (CA). While the CA may instruct the Contractor to perform operations at any time during the Maintenance Period, it is the Contractor's responsibility to ensure that the operations are arranged appropriately to ensure the proper establishment and vitality of the plantings.

6.0.7 All maintenance operations shall continue to have regard to relevant wildlife legislation, including the avoidance of works during the bird nesting season where reasonably practicable.

6.0.8 Before commencing maintenance work, the Contractor/Managing Agent must inspect all areas on each visit to ensure there are no visible hazards that could cause injury. Protective barriers and signage must be used at all times, and alternative routes should be provided if public access is affected.

6.0.9 Protective barriers and signage must be used at all times, and alternative routes should be provided if public access is affected.

6.0.10 Excavated or imported materials must not be placed directly on any surface. Any damage or disturbance to the soil structure or other features resulting from the implementation of the management plan should be addressed by reinstating them to their original condition.

6.0.11 All operations must comply with relevant legislation and current sections of Health and Safety, including:

- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Control of Pollution Act 1974
- Food and Environment Protection Act 1985
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986
- The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) 1991
- The British Standards included in Part 6 of this document.

7.0 Schedule of works frequency

7.0.1 The Contractor/Managing Agent is responsible for the following general maintenance works:

7.1 Weekly

7.1.1 Water trees weekly until rainfall occurs between June and August.

7.2 Fortnightly

7.2.1 Remove litter from all areas.

7.3 Monthly

7.3.1 Undertake weed control in all areas as specified between April and October.

7.3.2 Brush mulches monthly to ensure even coverage and top up as needed to maintain a depth of 75 mm.

7.3.3 Check the placement and effectiveness of all protective guards for trees to prevent damage by animals.

7.4 Quarterly

7.4.1 Check the securement of trees through staking at least four times a year during the establishment period and after periods of inclement weather. Re-secure trees if necessary.

7.5 Annually

7.5.1 Top up mulch to the specified depth of 75 mm.

7.5.2 Replace any dead, missing, dying or defective trees with the same species and size as specified in the original plant specification.

7.5.3 Prune dead or damaged wood after inspection by a qualified arboriculturist.

7.5.4 Inspect for invasive species and treat them with approved selective herbicide.

7.5.5 Remove any unwanted seedlings.

7.6 Every 3 years

7.6.1 Review the management plan for minor adjustments to maintenance or timing of works.

8.0 Appendix 1 - Summary of Management Works

Specific management task	Detail	Who completes task?	Timing	Management year					
				1	2	3	4	5	6 to 10
Tree and shrub planting	Monitoring of tree failures - Replace failed trees and shrubs	Landscape management contractor / ecologist	Once annually	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A
	Assessment of tree health and pruning - Prune dead, damaged or diseased branches, and those obstructing / damaging other plants. - Firm in any loose trees by foot - Any wounds to be trimmed back to sound tissue	Landscape management contractor / arborist	Up to twice annually (outside of nesting bird period)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Assessment of tree protection, stakes and ties - Straighten trees, maintain tree protection and ties	Landscape management contractor	Twice annually	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	TBC
	Removal of tree protection and stakes once trees can support themselves	Landscape management contractor	Between year 3 and year 5						
	Weed removal - Remove weeds within 0.5 m of the trunk by hand, using a strimmer or approved herbicide, avoiding damage to the tree.	Landscape management contractor	Regularly from April - June	✓	✓	✓			
	Top up bark mulch - A 75 mm layer of bark mulch to be maintained within a 1000 mm diameter of the tree.	Landscape management contractor	Annually	✓	✓	✓			
Ornamental and native shrub planting	Monitoring of shrub failures - Replace failed shrubs	Landscape management contractor / ecologist	Once annually	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	TBC

Specific management task	Detail	Who completes task?	Timing	Management year					
				1	2	3	4	5	6 to 10
	Assessment of shrub health and pruning - Prune dead, damaged or diseased branches, water shoots and reversion growth. - Firm in any loose shrubs by foot - Any wounds to be trimmed back to sound tissue	Landscape management contractor / arborist	Up to twice annually (outside of nesting bird period)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Weed control and rubbish removal - Remove weeds and rubbish by hand, using a strimmer or approved herbicide, avoiding damage to the shrubs.	Landscape management contractor	Regularly from April - June	✓	✓	✓			
	Top up bark mulch - A 75 mm layer of bark mulch to be maintained around shrubs	Landscape management contractor	Annually	✓	✓	✓			
	Apply Scotts Enmag fertiliser - Apply at a rate of 70 gms/m2 and lightly rake in.	Landscape management contractor	Annually between mid-May and August	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hedgerows	Assessment of hedgerow health and pruning - Prune dead, damaged or diseased branches - shape hedgerow	Landscape management contractor / arborist	Follow schedule for each year provided in section 4.4.3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Weed control - Remove weeds by hand, using a strimmer or approved herbicide, avoiding damage to the hedgerow.	Landscape management contractor	Regularly from April - June	✓	✓	✓			
	Rubbish removal - remove rubbish regularly	Landscape management contractor	Regularly year round	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Specific management task	Detail	Who completes task?	Timing	Management year					
				1	2	3	4	5	6 to 10
	Apply Scotts Enmag fertiliser - Apply at a rate of 5 gms/plant	Landscape management contractor	Annually between mid-May and August				✓	✓	✓
Amenity grassland	Grass cutting - Grass to be maintained below 75 mm	Landscape management contractor	Regularly between March and the end of October	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Weed control - broad-leaved weeds to be controlled using selective herbicides.	Landscape management contractor	Regularly from April - June	✓	✓	✓			
	Rubbish removal - remove rubbish regularly - remove dead leaves through the autumn	Landscape management contractor	Regularly year round	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Grass failures - re-cultivate and re-seed bare patches, wheel ruts and areas of wear.	Landscape management contractor	As needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Species-rich grassland	First year cutting - Grasslands to be maintained below 75 mm	Landscape management contractor	Regularly through the year	✓					
	Maintaining a diverse sward - Cut to 100 mm in late July - Leave arisings for 2-3 days then remove - Mow to 75 mm in September / October	Landscape management contractor	Annually		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Specific management task	Detail	Who completes task?	Timing	Management year					
				1	2	3	4	5	6 to 10
	Scrub and weed controlled to below 20% area - broad-leaved weeds to be controlled using selective herbicides. - scrub species to be removed	Landscape management contractor	Regularly throughout the year	✓	✓	✓			
	Grassland failures - re-cultivate and re-seed bare patches, wheel ruts and areas of wear.	Landscape management contractor	As needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Assessment of diversity - a survey will be completed to assess the species composition of the grassland, if low species diversity is apparent advice on ways to increase diversity will be provided.	Ecologist	Annually in summer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rain gardens	Ensure rain gardens are functional - identify and correct accumulations of sediment / organic matter - correct erosion problems - identify damage to vegetation	Landscape management contractor	Twice a year during May and August	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Maintaining a healthy rain garden - mow / trim vegetation - remove weeds and invasive vegetation	Landscape management contractor	Twice during growing season (April - October) when the ground is dry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Specific management task	Detail	Who completes task?	Timing	Management year					
				1	2	3	4	5	6 to 10
	Maintenance of plants - cut back ornamental grasses and flower stalks from previous season	Landscape management contractor	Annually by the end of April	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Failures - Replant bare areas with specified plants	Landscape management contractor	As needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

9.0 Appendix 2 – Maintenance Team Directory

Specific management areas	Subcontractor/ Specialist team name	Company address	Contact number	Name of main contact
Tree planting				
Ornamental and native shrub planting				
Amenity grassland				
Species-rich grassland				
Rain gardens				

10.0 Appendix 3 - British Standards

As well as the standards described above the soft landscape works should meet the following British Standards:

Topsoil handling, stripping and storage

- BS ISO 15799:2003 Soil quality - guidance on eco-toxicological characterization of soils and soil materials
- BS 3882:1994 Specification for topsoil
- BS 6031:1981 Code of practice for earthworks
- BS 7562-4:1992 Planning, design and installation of irrigation schemes guide to water resources
- BS 4428:1989 guide of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces) AMD 6784
- BS 3882:1994 specification for topsoil and AMD 9938.

Quality of Trees and Shrubs

- BS 3936-1:1992 Nursery stock specification for trees and shrubs
- BS 3936-5:1985 nursery stock specification for poplars and willows
- BS 3936-10:1990 nursery stock specification for ground cover plants.

Maintenance of gardens/ Landscapes

- BS 7370-3:1991 grounds maintenance recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)
- BS 3998:2010 recommendations for tree work and AMD 6549.

Horticulture

- BS EN 12579:2000 Soil improvers and growing media - sampling
- BS EN 13037:2000 Soil improvers and growing media - determination of pH.

Turf

- BS 3969:1998 Recommendations for turf for general purposes
- BS 4428:1989 Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces).