

LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATION

CRETE NURSERY, DAPPERS LANE, ANGMERING, WEST
SUSSEX.



HORSESHOE GROUP, HORSESHOE FARM, BROOMHILL, WIMBORNE, DORSET,
BH21 7AR.

FOR USE IN CONJUNCTION WITH,
SOUTHERN LANDSCAPE DESIGN CO.
HORSESHOE PROJECTS LTD





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1. INTRODUCTION.

Horseshoe Group has compiled this specification to ensure the installation is carried out to the desired standard in order to achieve the long term aims for the immediate and surrounding landscape.

The specification should be used in conjunction with the following, also the implementation of the scheme should include the co-ordination of

- Landscape Architect's drawings and schedules.
- Structural, civil and services installations, including
- Drainage and surface water retention tanks.
- Topographical survey
- Arboricultural Development Statement
- Any other Consultants' relevant information.
- NHBC.
- British Standards.

2. OBJECTIVES.

To provide a quality soft landscaped scheme, including soils. Using best workmanship practices in accordance with all aspects of this specification.

3. TENDERS.

Tenders must be consistent with the requirements of the drawings and this specification, but the Contractor may include alternatives within the Tender. Such alternatives must be clearly and separately identified in the Tender submission, including the consequences of all proposed substitutions. Samples and information where applicable for review and acceptance.

The Tender must include costs in relation to defect and maintenance in accordance with the contract as well as cost associated with the works required, including but not restricted to health and safety, welfare, risk & method statements.

4. SITE SURVEY.

Visit and carry out a survey of the site including existing and proposed landscape features to ensure familiarity for the site, surrounding area and any inherent considerations that may be required. Including but not restricted to access, parking, site working hours

5. DURATION.

The program of the works will be in accordance with the site construction works with the show unit /sales area being small portion of the site an earlier stage.

6. SUSTAINABLE SOURCES.

Wherever possible, materials, components, products, etc are to be obtained from manufacturers and or suppliers who have implemented an environmental management system based on recognized industry procedures.

Do not order materials before confirmation of acceptability of supporting documentation.

7. SOILS & GROWING MEDIA.

7.1 GRADING & DECOMPACTING SUBSOIL.

Grade to smooth flowing contours to achieve specified finished levels of topsoil.

De-compact sub soil as necessary.

Record and gain approval before top-soiling.

7.2 PREPARATION OF UNDISTURBED TOPSOIL.

In accordance with BS 4428

Grading and cultivation. To suit contours and required levels.

Hard ground. Break up thoroughly.

Clearing. Remove visible roots and large stones with a diameter greater than 75 mm.

Areas covered with turf or thick sward. Cultivate to full depth of topsoil.

Weed control. At appropriate times treat with a suitable, non-residual herbicide.

7.3 EXISTING SITE TOPSOIL TO BE RETAINED.

Topsoil: Ex-site topsoil. The turf and greenery if it exists should be ripped off and stored separately from the remaining excavated topsoil.

This topsoil should remain isolated from all building materials.

To be spread and leveled on site as agreed and planned.

Do not raise soil level within root spread of trees that are to be protected and retained.

7.4IMPORTED TOPSOIL & SUBSOIL TO BS 3882.

7.4.1 - IMPORTED SUBSOIL.

Subsoil. Prior to topsoil application all building debris should be removed.

All topsoil and subsoil that is to be imported and considered for use is to be approved and if required sampled and analyzed in accordance with the specification by the nominated consultant.

To provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.

7.4.2 - IMPORTED TOPSOIL FOR GRASS TURFING/ SEEDING.

All topsoil and subsoil that is to be imported and considered for use is to be approved and if required sampled and analyzed in accordance with the specification by the nominated consultant.

To provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.

7.4.3 - IMPORTED TOPSOIL FOR TREE PIT / HEDGE & PLANTING BEDS

All topsoil and subsoil that is to be imported and considered for use is to be approved and if required sampled and analyzed in accordance with the specification by the nominated consultant.

To provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.

7.4.4 - IMPORTED TOPSOIL FOR MEADOW AREAS

All topsoil and subsoil that is to be imported and considered for use is to be approved and if required sampled and analyzed in accordance with the specification by the nominated consultant.

To provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.

7.5 CONTAMINATION

Do not mix topsoil with subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work. Oil, fuel, cement or other substances harmful to plant growth, other grades of topsoil. Keep multiple handling to a minimum. Wherever possible use topsoil immediately after stripping. Handle topsoil in the driest condition possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall or when it is wetter than the plastic limit as defined by BS 3882.

Weed growth on this soil should be sprayed with regular applications of herbicide. The above also applies to any top soil, subsoil, sand or compost or any other planting material to be imported.

7.6 TOPSOIL STORAGE HEAPS.

Store in a location to be agreed

Height (maximum) 4m. Do not place any other material on top of storage heaps. Do not allow construction plant to pass over storage heaps.

Prevent compaction and contamination by fencing and covering as appropriate.

7.7 HANDLING, SPREADING & CULTIVATION OF TOPSOIL

Plant: Select and use plant to minimize disturbance, trafficking and compaction.

Multiple handling: Keep to a minimum. Use or stockpile topsoil immediately after stripping.

Wet conditions: Handle topsoil in the driest condition possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall or when it is wetter than the plastic limit less 3%, to BS 1377-2.

Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate visible crumbs wherever possible.

No cultivation whatsoever by machinery of any kind to take place, under the canopies of existing trees.

7.8 FINISHED LEVELS OF TOPSOIL AFTER SETTLEMENT

Above adjoining paving or kerbs: 30 mm.

Below dpc of adjoining buildings: Not less than 150 mm.

Shrub areas: Higher than adjoining grass areas by 30mm.

7.9 SOIL DEPTHS

Trees pits, 400 mm topsoil over 400mm of quarried sand.

Shrubs, 300 mm topsoil.

Hedges, 300 mm topsoil over 200mm quarried sand.

Amenity grass/ meadow, 150mm topsoil.

Native transplants, 300 mm subsoil.

Within root spread of existing trees, unchanged

8. TREE, SHRUB, HERBACEOUS, PERENNIAL & BULB PLANTING.

8.1 CONDITIONS

Soil for cultivating and planting: Moist, friable and (excepting aquatic/ marginal planting) not waterlogged. Avoid frozen or snow-covered soil.

Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.

8.2 TIMES OF YEAR FOR PLANTING

Root-balled or bare root deciduous trees and shrubs. Late November to late March.

Container grown trees and shrubs. At any time if ground and weather conditions are favorable.

Bulbs, corms and tubers: September/ October in the next available season.

8.3 WATERING

Apply evenly and without washing out plants or soil.

As necessary to establishment and continued thriving of planting.

Supply by the main contractor.

Water Restrictions, if water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation do not carry out seeding until instructed. If seeding has already been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

8.4 PLANT/ TREE SUBSTITUTION

Will not be accepted without approval.

8.5 BRITISH STANDARDS:

All stock to the following British Standards.

Bulbs and Tubers	BS 3936-9:1998
Shrubs	BS 3936-1:1992
Roses	BS 3936-2:1990
Trees	BS 3936-1:1992
Trees, Extra Heavy Standards	BS 4043:1987
Tree protection	BS 5837:2005
	BS 5837:1999

8.6 PROTECTION OF EXISTING GRASS

Protect areas affected by planting operations using boards/ tarpaulins.

Do not place directly on grass. Excavated or imported material:

8.7 HERBICIDE.

Locations, areas of new tree and shrub planting.

General, prevent weeds from seeding and perennial weeds from becoming established, by applying a suitable non-residual herbicide, delay cultivation as recommended by the manufacturer.

Weed Control, as above and hand weeding as appropriate.

8.8 FERTILIZER.

Locations: Shrub beds and tree pits

Manufacturer, Enmag at the rate of 17 grams per square metre.

Application, spread evenly.
Timing, immediately before cultivation.

8.9 CULTIVATION

Compacted topsoil, break up to full depth.
Loosen, aerate and break up soil into particles of 2-8mm.
Depth, top 150mm of planting beds.
Timing, within a few days before planting.
Weather and ground conditions, suitably dry.
Surface, Leave regular and even.
Levels, as required.
Undesirable material brought to the surface, remove
Including weeds, roots, stones and clods larger than 50mm. In any dimension, tufts of grass and foreign matter.
Soil within root spread of trees and shrubs to be retained, do not dig or cultivate.

8.10 PREPARATION OF PLANTING BEDS / PLANTING & MATERIALS

Do not use Peat.
Plant in random layout
Density as plant schedule.
Hedging, In regular, staggered rows. Planted in a trench 500mm deep, bottom of trench broken up to a depth of 150mm, base of trench 200mm quarried sand, backfilled with 300mm approved ameliorated topsoil.
Plant shrubs upright with best to front. Carefully return excavated soil in layers ensuring proper contact with roots or root-ball and heel well in. Finished level to be at original soil mark on shrubs and 25mm above surrounding level to allow for settlement. Plant densities to drawing specification.

8.11 PLANTING BULBS/ CORMS/ TUBERS

Depth: Top of bulb/ corm/ tuber at a depth of approximately twice its height, base in contact with bottom of hole.
Planting: Neatly remove a plug of turf and replace after planting.

8.12 SHRUB, HERBACEOUS AND BULB BACKFILLING MATERIAL

Topsoil excavated from pit and additional Ameliorant/ Conditioner as required.

8.13 CLIMBERS.

In shrub beds, plant 150mm clear of wall or fence, lightly secure branches to supports, retain canes of plants, which are too small to reach supports.

8.14 TREE PITS

As per site specific tree pit detail.
Trees 8 - 20cm girth 1000x1000x1000mm.

Trees 20- 30cm girth 2000x 2000x1500mm

Maintain horizontal bases and vertical sides with no less than minimum depth throughout.

Pit bottoms should be slightly raised center. Break up to a depth of 300 mm.

Pit sides should be Scarified.

Aeration / irrigation. Perforated plastics irrigation/ ventilation pipe, 50mm diameter in circle around root ball with plastic perforated cap set flush with surrounding level.

Backfilling. Topsoil excavated from the tree pit and mixed with Tree planting and mulching compost. As approved when imported.

8.15 STAKING & GUYING.

Support stakes and Tie trees to wires erected at 600mm and 1.2m above ground level.

Underground guying to BS 4043. Duckbill anchors or similar.

75 x 25mm softwood frames over the root ball, overall size to suit the root ball. At the maximum depth, place 4no. 100mm x 100mm x 1.2m long pre-cast reinforced concrete 'Deadman' or sound railway sleepers. Secure frame to the Deadman with 4no. lines of 7 stranded galvanized wire tightened using 4no. galvanized turn buckles placed to be easily accessible.

Trees Stakes: 6/14 Position stake close to tree on windward side and drive vertically into bottom of tree pit until stake reaches a height of say 60cm above ground level. Where deemed necessary use two stakes with cross member. Use extra ties when necessary to keep tree away from stake, and to hold firm.

Tree Stakes 14/16: As above, but always use two stakes, with cross member,
Plus, and suitable tie.

Where trees are to be planted in grass, they are to have an area of 1m diameter around the base, free of grass weeds and mulched to a depth of 50mm.

8.16 TREE PIT ROOT BARRIERS

As per the site-specific detail.

Greenleaf or Similar. Reroot 1000 or 2000 depending on depth of tree pit.

Depth of top of root barrier below finished soil level: 75 mm.

Installed with sides vertical.

Root Directors, Greenleaf or similar RD640, or RD1050.

8.17 CLEANLINESS

Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.

General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at Completion and after any maintenance operations.

9. LAWNS / MEADOWS / GRASS SEEDING / TURFING

9.1 GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

A healthy, vigorous grass sward, free from the visible effect's of pests, weeds and disease.
Appearance, a close knit continuous ground cover of even density, height and colour.

9.2 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Carry out the work while soil and weather conditions are suitable.

9.3 WATERING

Apply evenly and to avoid washing out, creating low or soft spots.

As necessary to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all seeding / turfing.

Supply by the main contractor.

Water Restrictions, if water supply is or is likely to be restricted by emergency legislation do not carry out seeding until instructed. If seeding has already been carried out, obtain instructions on watering.

9.4 SETTING OUT

In straight lines or smoothly flowing curves as shown on drawings.

9.5 CULTIVATION & GRADING.

Compacted topsoil. Break up to full depth.

Soil ameliorant/ Conditioner/ Fertilizer: Fully incorporate into topsoil to a depth of 150 mm.

Tilth. Reduce topsoil to a tilth suitable for blade grading.

Material brought to the surface: Remove stones and clay balls larger than 50 mm in any dimension, roots, tufts of grass, rubbish and debris.

Topsoil condition. Reasonably dry and workable.

Contours: Smooth and flowing, with falls for adequate drainage.

Hollows and ridges. Not permitted.

Finished levels after settlement: 25 mm above adjoining paving, kerbs, manholes etc.

9.6 FERTILIZER FOR TURFED / SEEDED AREAS.

Type: NPK 15:15:15

Manufacturer: Submit proposals.

Application. Before final cultivation and three to five days before seeding/ turfing.

9.7 TURF & SEED TYPES, SUPPLY & LAYING CONDITIONS.

Good quality lawn turf, Tillers Turf, Rolawn or approved similar.

Seed: DLF Trifolium, or equivalent quality. Selected to suit the precise location, and conditions.

Lay turf with minimum possible delay after lifting. If delay occurs, lay turf out on topsoil and keep moist.

Avoid frosty weather, waterlogged ground or particularly dry conditions.

Stacking height (maximum): 1 m.

Do not use dried out or deteriorated turf:

Laid using planks. Do not walk on prepared bed or newly laid turf.
Whole turfs to be used on edges.
Thoroughly water completed turf immediately after laying. Check that water has penetrated into the soil below.

9.8 CLEANLINESS

Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.
General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at Completion and after any maintenance operations.

10. MULCHING

10.1 Bark mulch. Free of pests, disease, fungus and weeds.
75 mm depth.

10.2 CLEANLINESS

Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces.
General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at Completion and after any maintenance operations.

BRITISH STANDARD: All work to conform to all relevant British Standards.

APPENDIX

A:

20. LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SPECIFICATION & OPERATIONS.

Horseshoe group has compiled this specification to ensure the maintenance is carried out to the desired standard in order to achieve the long term aims for the immediate and surrounding landscape.

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SHRUBS / TREES

20. 1. DURATION.

- Carry out the operations in the following clauses from completion of planting for a period of one year or for an agreed period following practical completion.
- Frequency of maintenance visits: See appendix A for detail.

20.2. FAILURES OF PLANTING

- Defects due to materials or workmanship not in accordance with the Contract: Plants/trees/ shrubs that have failed to thrive.
- Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage after completion.
- Rectification: Replace with equivalent plants/ trees/ shrubs.
- Replacements: To match size of adjacent or nearby plants of same species or match original specification, whichever is the greater.
- Timing of making good: As soon as possible and at the suitable time of year

20.3. CLEANLINESS

- Soil and arisings: Remove from hard surfaces and grassed areas
- General: Leave the works in a clean tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

20.4. PLANTING MAINTENANCE GENERALLY

- Weed control: Maintain weed free area around each tree and shrub.
- Diameter (minimum): The larger of 1m or the surface of original planting pit.
- Keep planting beds clear of weeds: Method application of a suitable selective herbicide and hand weeding.
- Planted areas: Fork over beds as necessary to keep soil loose, with gentle cambers and no hollows. Take care not to reduce depth or effect of mulch.
- Precautions: Ensure that trees and shrubs are not damaged by use of mowers, nylon filament rotary cutters and similar powered tools.
- Staking: Check condition of guys.
- Broken or missing items: Replace.
- Rubbing: Prevent.
- Damage to bark: Cut back neatly with sharp knife. Prevent further damage.
- Firming up: Gently firm loosened soil around trees/ shrubs. Straighten leaning trees/shrubs.
- Trees:
- Watering: Sufficient to maintain the health of trees.

20.5. PLANTING MAINTENANCE –FERTILIZER.

- Time of year: March or April.
- Fertilizer:
- Typical Fertilizer Content to Consist of:
 - Nitrogen (N) 3.5%
 - Phosphorous (P) 2.1%
 - Potassium (K) 3.4%
 - Organic Matter 95%
- Application: Single Annual Application, Evenly spread, carefully incorporating below any mulch materials.
- Coverage: 30g/m² to all trees and shrubs.

20.6. PLANTING MAINTENANCE – PRUNING

- General: Prune to promote healthy growth and natural shape.
- Dead, dying, diseased wood and suckers: Remove.
- Timing: Twice a year.
- Trees: Favor a single central leading shoot.
- Arisings: Remove from the site
- All clipped box headed trees to be pruned in a way to maintain the formal tree shape.

20.7. REMULCHING

- Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to remulching, applying water where necessary.
- Planting beds: Remulch as required.
- Depth (minimum): 50mm.

20.8. DISPOSAL OF ARISING

- General: Unless specified otherwise, dispose of arisings off site.

20.9. LITTER

- Collect and remove from site. Horticultural and wind-blown litter, not commercial waste.

20.10. CLEANLINESS

- Soil and arisings: Remove from hard landscaped surfaces.
- General: Leave the works in a clean, tidy condition at completion and after any maintenance operations.

20.11. BULBS AND CORMS IN GRASSED AREAS

- Before flowering: Do not cut.
- Interval between end of flowering and start of grass cutting (minimum): 5 weeks.

LAWNS AND MEADOWS

20.12. MAINTENANCE OF TURFED & WILDFLOWER AREAS

- Duration: Carry out the following operations from completion of seeding/ turfing

20.13. FAILURES OF SEEDING/TURFING

- Defective materials or workmanship: Areas that have failed to thrive.
- Exclusions: Theft or malicious damage.
- Method of making good: Re-cultivation and reseeding/ re-turfing.
- Timing of making good: Submit proposals.

20.14. MAINTAINING TURFED AREAS

- Maximum height of growth at any time: varied to suit location and condition.
- Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
- Cutting: As and when necessary to suit conditions and location
- Arisings: Remove.
- Bulb planting areas: Do not cut until bulb foliage has died down.
- Trimming: All edges.
- Arisings: Remove.
- Weed control: Substantially free of broad-leaved weeds.
- Method: Application of a suitable selective herbicide.
- Stones brought to the surface: Remove regularly.
- Size: Exceeding 25 mm in any dimension.
- Areas of settlement: Make good.
- Watering:

20.15. MAINTAINING TURFED AREAS WITH PERENNIAL WILD FLOWERS

- Preparation: Before each cut remove all litter and debris.
- Height and frequency of cut in first growing season:
- Time of first cut: after flowering of perennials have seeded.
- Height of first cut: 50 mm.
- Frequency of subsequent cutting (minimum): twice per annum spring and autumn.
- Height of growth permitted (maximum): 80mm.
- Height and frequency of cut in second growing season:
- Time of cut: October.
- Height of cut: 50mm.
- Trimming: All edges.
- Arisings: left to regenerate.
- Watering: As required.

20.16. MAINTENANCE FERTILIZER FOR TURFED AREAS EXCEPT MEADOW TURF

- March application: 15:10:10 Spring turf fertilizer at 35 g/m sq.
- September application: 5:10:10 Autumn turf fertilizer at 50 g/m sq

SHRUBS/ TREES

20.17. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PLANTING - FERTILIZER

- Time of year: March - April.
- Fertilizer:
Approved.
- Typical Fertilizer Content to Consist of:
Nitrogen (N) 5
Phosphorous (P) 18
- Potassium (K) 10
- + 8% Magnesium (Mg).
- Coverage: 70 – 140g/m² (To Manufacturers recommendation).

20.18. TREE STAKES AND TIES

- Inspection/ Maintenance times: Once per month or following periods of strong wind.
- Stakes:
- Replace loose, broken or decayed stakes to original specification.
- If longer than half of clear tree stem height, cut to this height in spring. Re-tie to tree firmly but not tightly with a single tie or as per previous tying.
- Ties: Adjust, re-fix or replace loose or defective ties, allowing for growth and to prevent chafing.
- Where chafing has occurred, reposition or replace ties to prevent further chafing.
- Removal of stakes and ties: Upon successful establishment of trees.
- Fill stake holes with lightly compacted soil.

20.19. REFIRMING OF TREES AND SHRUBS

- Timing: After strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.
- Re-firming: Tread around the base until firmly bedded.
- Collars in soil at base of tree stems, created by tree movement: Break up by fork, avoiding damage to roots. Backfill with topsoil and re-firm.

20.20 PRUNING GENERALLY

- Pruning: In accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice.
- Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem or bark.
- Wounds: Keep as small as possible and cut cleanly back to sound wood.
- Cutting: Make cuts above and sloping away from an outward facing healthy bud, angled so that water will not collect on cut area.
- Larger branches: Prune neither flush nor leaving a stub, but using the branch bark ridge or branch collar as a pruning guide.
- Appearance: Thin, trim and shape each specimen appropriately to species, location, season, and stage of growth, leaving a well-balanced natural appearance.
- Tools: Use clean sharp secateurs, hand saws or other approved tools. Trim off ragged edges of bark or wood with a sharp knife.
- Disease or infection: Give notice if detected.
- Growth retardants, fungicide or pruning sealant: Do not use unless instructed.

20.21. FORMATIVE PRUNING OF YOUNG TREES

- Standard: Type and timing of pruning operations to suit the plant species.
- Crown prune by removing dead branches and reducing selected side branches by one third to preserve a well-balanced head and ensure the development of a single strong leader.
- Remove duplicated branches and potentially weak or tight forks. In each case cut back to live wood.

20.22. REMOVAL OF DEAD PLANT MATERIAL

- Operations: At the end of the growing season, check all shrubs and remove all dead foliage, dead wood, and broken or damaged branches and stems.

20.23. REINSTATEMENT OF SHRUB/ HERBACEOUS AREAS

- Dead and damaged plants: Remove.
- Mulch/ matting materials:
 - Carefully move to one side and dig over the soil, leaving it fit for replanting.
 - Do not disturb roots of adjacent plants.
- Replacement plants:
 - Use pits and plants to original specification or to match the size of adjacent or nearby plants of the same species, whichever is the greater.

20.24. WEED CONTROL GENERALLY

- Weed tolerance: None.
- Adjacent plants, trees and grass: Do not damage.

20.25. HAND WEEDING

- General: Remove weeds entirely, including roots.
- Disturbance: Remove the minimum quantity of soil, and disturb plants, bulbs and mulched surfaces as little as possible.
- Completion: Rake area to a neat, clean condition.
- Mulch: Reinstate to original depth.

20.26. WEED CONTROL WITH WINTER HERBICIDE

- Type: Suitable residual soil acting herbicide.
- Time of year: Unless otherwise agreed, complete before end of March.
- Timing: Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing dead weeds.

20.27. WEED CONTROL WITH SUMMER HERBICIDE

- Type: Suitable foliar acting herbicide.
- Timing: Allow recommended period for herbicide to take effect before clearing dead weeds.

20.28. SOIL AERATION

- Compacted soil surfaces:
- Prick up: To aerate the soil of root areas and break surface crust.
- Size of lumps: Reduce to crumb and level off.
- Damage: Do not damage plants and their roots.

20.29. SOIL LEVEL ADJUSTMENT

- Level of soil/ mulch at edges of beds: Reduce to 50mm below adjacent grass or hard surface.
- Arisings (if any): Spread evenly over the bed.

20.30. MAINTENANCE OF LOOSE MULCH

- Thickness (minimum): 50mm.
- Top up: As required.
- Mulch spill on adjacent areas: Remove weeds and rubbish and return to planted area.
- Weeding: Remove weeds growing on or in mulch by hand weeding.

20.31. FERTILIZING ESTABLISHED TREES AND SHRUBS

- Time of year: March - April.
- Fertilizer: Mascot Fertilizer's – Microfine Organic Range: Microfine OC2 + Wetting agent
- Typical Fertilizer Content to Consist of:
Nitrogen (N) 5
Phosphorous (P) 2
- Potassium (K) 10
- + 8% Magnesium (Mg).
- Coverage: 70g/m² (To Manufacturers recommendation).

TREE WORK

20.32. TREE WORK GENERALLY

- Identification: Before starting work agree which trees, shrubs and hedges are to be removed or pruned.
- Standards: To BS 3998 and Health Safety Executive (HSE) 'Forestry and arboriculture safety leaflets.
- Removing branches: Cut as Arboricultural Association Leaflet 'Mature tree management'. Cut vertical branches similarly, with no more slope on the cut surface than is necessary to shed rainwater.
- Appearance: Leave trees with a well-balanced natural appearance.
- Chain saw work: Operatives must hold a Certificate of Competence.

20.33. ADDITIONAL WORK

- defective, diseased, unsafe or weak parts of trees additional to those scheduled for attention: Give notice if detected.

20.34. PREVENTION OF WOUND BLEEDING

- Standard: To BS 3998, clause 8.

20.35. CLEANING OUT AND DEADWOODING

- Remove:
- Dead, dying, or diseased wood, broken branches and stubs.
- Fungal growths.
- Rubbish, wind blown or accumulated in branch forks.
- Wires, clamps, boards and metal objects, if removable without causing further damage and not part of a support structure that is to be retained.

20.36. CUTTING AND PRUNING GENERALLY

- Tools: Appropriate, well maintained and sharp.
- Final pruning cuts:
- Chainsaws: Do not use on branches of less than 50mm diameter.
- Hand saws: Cut in one continuous operation to form a smooth cut surface.
- Anvil type secateurs: Do not use.
- Removing branches: Do not damage or tear the stem.
- Wounds: Keep as small as possible, cut cleanly back to sound wood leaving a smooth surface, and angled so that water will not collect on the cut area.
- Cutting: Cut at a fork or at the main stem to avoid stumps wherever possible.
- Large branches: Over 100mm Diameter.
- Remove in small sections and lower to ground with ropes and slings.
- Dead branches and stubs: When removing, do not cut into live wood.
- Unsafe branches: Remove epicormic shoots and potentially weak forks that could fail in adverse weather conditions.
- Disease or fungus: Give notice if detected. Do not apply fungicide or sealant unless instructed.

20.37. CROWN REDUCTION/ SHAPING

- General: Cut back selectively to lateral or sub-lateral buds or branches to retain flowing branch lines without leaving stumps.

20.38. CROWN LIFTING

- Clearances: Remove branch systems to give clearance.
- Height: As required for operational and maintenance vehicles or pedestrians.
- Removing branches: Remove whole branches back to the stem, or cut lower portions of branches back to lateral or sub-lateral buds or branches. Do not leave stumps.

20.39. CROWN THINNING

- Removing branches: Remove inward growing, crossing, rubbing, dead and damaged branches.
- Thinning: Selectively remove approximately 10% of secondary and small live branch growth evenly throughout the crown.
- Cutting: Make no cuts of more than 25mm diameter.
- Branches: Cut back to lateral or sub-lateral buds or branches without leaving stumps.
- Appearance: Leave a uniform and well-balanced structure of branches and foliage.

20.40. CUTTING TREE ROOTS

- Excavating: Use hand tools only.
- Protected area: Do not cut roots within an area which is the larger of:
 - The branch spread of the tree.
 - An area with a radius of half the tree's height, measured from the trunk.
- Outside protected area: Give notice of roots exceeding 50mm in diameter. Do not cut without approval.
- Cutting: Make clean smooth cuts with a hand saw.

- Wounds: Minimize. Avoid ragged edges.
- Finishing: Pare cut surfaces smooth with a sharp knife.
- Backfilling:
- Protection: Cover cut roots with clean sharp sand.
- Material: Backfill with original topsoil.

20.41. BARK DAMAGE

- Wounds:
- Do not attempt to stop sap bleeding.
- Bark: Remove ragged edges using a sharp knife.
- Wood: Remove splintered wood from deep wounds.
- Size: Keep wounds as small as possible.
- Liquid or flux oozing from apparently healthy bark: Give notice.

20.42. CAVITIES IN TREES

- Investigation: Remove rubbish and rotten wood. Probe the cavity to find the extent of Water filled cavities: Do not drain.
- Sound wood inside cavities: Do not remove.