

Corran Ferry Infrastructure Improvement Scheme

Landscape Planting and Maintenance Plan

Report No. 99_REP_26

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1 Introduction

The Highland Council are proposing to construct new ferry service infrastructure at the Corran Narrows under the Corran Ferry Infrastructure Improvement Scheme (CFIIS). This Landscape Planting and Maintenance Plan has been developed by HEPLA (with support from Atmos Consulting and Affric Limited) to support the planning application for the Corran Ferry Infrastructure Improvement Scheme.

Whilst the development proposal extends to both sides of the Corran Narrows of Loch Linnhe, landscaping is required only on the Nether Lochaber (east) side.

The following planting and maintenance proposals set out the minimum standards required for all structure planting proposals associated with the proposed development. This plan shall be read in conjunction with the Planting Plans, Figures 1.1 to 1.3.

Implementation of this Landscape Planting and Maintenance Plan will be overseen by the construction contractor and Environmental Clerk of Works appointed to the construction phase of the project.

The plans have been prepared in close co-operation between HEPLA and member of the CFIIS project and design team, with the intention to integrate the development with the wider landscape setting.

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Aims

The aim of this Landscape Planting and Maintenance Plan is to ensure the establishment and long-term management of the proposed native species planting which forms the setting for the proposed infrastructure works to the Nether Lochaber (east) side of the CFIIS. The proposed planting will perform an important screening function to the proposed development, limiting the extent of views from the local road network and surrounding landscape setting.

The medium term (5-10 years) objective for the planting is to establish lengths of new tree belts to integrate the development, and to reduce and filter direct views to the new infrastructure. Note, over the longer term (10-30 years), it is anticipated that some limited thinning of the new structure planting may be necessary to ensure the retained trees reach maturity and provide effective long-term softening.

2.2 Objectives

The principal objectives are as follows:

- Establish and maintain new tree planting to filter views to the site;
- Ensure the long-term presence of a backdrop of native trees to the setting of the development;
- Diversify/enhance the ecological interest and visual amenity of the site.

3 Planting Proposals

Planting to be carried out according to the Planting Plans in Figures 1.1 – 1.3. These planting proposals have been designed to integrate into the final development design, and as such planting mixes have been tailored to reflect those species characteristic of the existing setting, as far as practicable.

The Planting Plans make reference to:

- Seeding: Coastal Meadow Mix' by Scotia Seeds (see Appendix 1: Seeding Specifications); and
- Planting Mix W; Native Woodland Mix (see Appendix 2: Native Woodland Planting Mix).

Planting will be undertaken in accordance with the planting specifications outlined below.

Planting proposals have been designed to ensure there is no interference with sight lines for traffic at the road junctions. Planting activities themselves will also be undertaken to ensure no interference with driver visibility.

4 Planting Specification

4.1 General

- All workmanship will adhere to relevant British Standards and Codes of Practice (BS 4428:1989 and BS 3936: Part 1 and Part2:1992).
- Use tools and machinery suitable for use and comply with Health and Safety Regulations.
- Planting activities will be undertaken to ensure no interference with driver visibility at any time.

4.2 Planting Season

- Carry out tree and shrub planting between October and late March.
- All work to be carried out in appropriate climatic conditions while soil and materials are suitable for operations.
- Planting will occur in the first available planting season after commencement of the development (once it is certain ground will not be disturbed further) to ensure that the species are given the best opportunity to establish.

4.3 Site Preparation and Supervision

- Extent of planting areas to be verified with site supervisor/contract administrator.
- Setting out of all planting to be approved by site supervisor/contract administrator.
- All planting works to be carried out under the authorisation of the site supervisor/contract administrator.

4.4 Soil Handling

When moving topsoil within the site, or when stripping topsoil and importing to site:

- If aggressive weeds are present, obtain instructions from the supervising officer before moving topsoil.
- Select and use plant to minimise disturbance, trafficking and compaction.

- Avoid contamination by subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work.
- Keep different grades of topsoil separate from each other when handling and stockpiling.

4.5 Soil Preparation

- All weeds, rubbish, foreign materials and large stones larger are to be removed from existing topsoil.
- The Contractor is to rotavate or manually loosen compacted topsoil in planting areas to a depth of 300mm.

4.6 Soil Spreading

- Imported topsoil specifications should be to BS 3882:2015, grade: General Purpose Grade.
- Imported soil will be inspected on arrival to ensure topsoil is not contaminated with weeds, subsoil, rubbish or other materials which may be hazardous to plant growth.
- Remove temporary surfacing before spreading topsoil.
- Grade subsoil to smooth flowing contours. Excavate locally as necessary for areas of thicker topsoil for planting and tree pits.
- Spread over prepared subsoil in layers not exceeding 150mm and gently firm each layer before spreading the next.
- Planting beds and areas for hedges will receive a depth of 450 mm, turf lawn areas 150 mm and wildflower seeded areas will be left as subsoil.

4.7 Planting Stock

- Planting stock to be undamaged, sturdy, healthy, vigorous, of good shape and without elongated shoots.
- Planting stock will undergo 'firming up' ready for planting, if required.
- Stock should be free from pests, diseases, discolouration, weeds and physiological disorders, with balanced root and branch systems, root system and condition in accordance with the relevant parts of the National Plant Specification¹.
- Prior to planting, stock should be protected from desiccating winds and the root plugs kept moist.

4.8 Planting and Watering

- Planted will be undertaken according to the specified density in Planting Plans in Figures 1.1 – 1.3.
- Root dip to all bare root stock.
- Backfill imported topsoil mix in accordance with BS3882 to include spent mushroom compost at a rate of 2 litres per transplant and 10 litres per feathered tree and Enmag slow-release fertiliser at 75g/m.
- All woodland planting to be pit planted with individual tubex rabbit guards.
- All feathered trees to be supported by short stakes with spiral rabbit guards.
- On completion, all plants to be well watered to full depth of topsoil.

¹ Horticultural Trades Association (HTA), National Plant Specification (NPS)

- Continue to water through the growing season to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all planting.

4.9 Tree Supports/Protection

- All trees and shrubs to be planted shall be protected with a Tubex Standard Shelter, 60cm high, nested in 5's (80-120mm diameter). Supporting stakes to be hand split chestnut (or similar), approximately 90mm high.

4.10 Fencing

- All planting areas are to be surrounded by a post and wire stock-proof fence with access stiles at 500m intervals.

5 Routine Maintenance – Tree Planting

The proposed native woodland belts and coastal grassland proposed will be maintained in the long term and for a minimum of 15 years to ensure a positive contribution in terms of landscape quality and conservation value in the long term. Maintenance has been outlined to accord with requirements of BS 7370.

5.1 Tree Thinning

Over the longer term (circa 10 years after planting), it is anticipated that some limited thinning of the new tree planting may be necessary to ensure the retained trees reach maturity and provide effective long-term softening.

This will be achieved by:

- Planted native trees will be carefully planted to avoid overhead power lines and will be allowed to mature to form a well-defined backdrop to the proposed development.
- Retaining mature trees for as long as it is safe to do so.
- Selective thinning and felling in order to allow the establishment of new trees, shrubs and ground flora, promoting a healthy population and to maintain the desired species balance.
- Thinning and selective felling will be carefully controlled to retain desirable species of the best quality.

5.2 Watering

- The condition of new planting shall be monitored, and during periods of high transpiration, irrigation shall be carried out as necessary. Water as necessary during these periods to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all planting.

5.3 Fertiliser Application

- Where deficiency symptoms indicate, fertiliser will be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- In areas of tree and shrub planting, top dress the rooting area in late March or early April with a suitable compound fertiliser and lightly work into top layer of soil at a rate recommended by the manufacturer.

5.4 Removal of Litter

The site shall be managed for litter and other debris through a regular programme of monitoring, collection and disposal.

5.5 Tree/Shrub Shelters

- Loose and defective Tubex shelters should be periodically inspected and adjusted, re-fixed or replaced to original specification and to prevent chafing.

5.6 Tree Inspection – Staked Trees

- All staked feathered trees shall be inspected periodically throughout the maintenance programme and any dead, diseased or damaged branches shall be pruned back to the main stem or suitable side shoot.
- All stakes and ties shall be inspected at the beginning and end of each growing season and stakes/ties adjusted or replaced as required to correct any looseness, constriction or abrasion.
- Where the support of a stake is no longer required, the stake and tie shall be completely removed (not sawn off at ground level).
- Any trees which have died or have suffered serious physical damage such that they no longer provide any useful landscape function, shall be removed and the ground reinstated.
- Any tree, which still requires support at the end of the third growing season shall have the stake, reduced to a height of 750mm and be re-secured. Any tree, which has failed to establish satisfactorily by the end of the fifth growing season, shall be removed from site and replaced during the next planting season.

5.7 Formative Pruning

- Pruning to be carried out in accordance with good horticultural and arboricultural practice, including advice given in British Standard BS 7370 - Part 4: 1993 'Recommendations for maintenance of Soft Landscape'.
- Pruning operations should remove dead, dying and diseased wood, and be performed to retain the natural form of the plant as far as is practicable. Each specimen to be thinned, trimmed and shaped appropriately to the species, location, season, and stage of growth leaving a well-balanced natural appearance.
- Pruning should keep roads, pavements, access tracks, fences and areas of hard standing free from obstruction.
- When removing branches, do not to tear or damage the stem or bark. Keep wounds as small as possible and cut cleanly back to sound wood. Cut to be made above and sloping away from an outward facing healthy bud, angled so that water will not collect on cut area. Large branches should not be pruned flush, nor leaving a stub, but using the branch bark ridge or branch collar as a pruning guide.
- Pruning to be carried out using tools which are appropriate to the task, and which are in a well-maintained condition, such as clean sharp secateurs, hand saws and other approved tools.
- Notice should be given if disease or infection is found. Growth retardants, fungicides and pruning sealants not to be used unless instructed.

5.8 Weed Control

- Weed control to be undertaken to manage weeds in all planting beds, including the areas within and around the tubex tree and shrubs guards, and a minimum 1m buffer.
- Regular weeding of all planted areas will occur during the growing season until planting is suitably established.
- Weeds should be physically removed by hand from April to October, ensuring the removal of weeds entirely, including roots. The minimum quantity of soil should be removed, and the surface returned to a neat, clean condition.
- Pernicious weeds to be spot treated with herbicide if necessary, avoiding damage to, or herbicide drift on to planted individuals.

5.9 Replacement Planting

- All dead and dying plants shall be replaced 1, 2 and 3 years post planting.
- Replacement planting will be undertaken in November/December.
- Replacement planting shall comply in every respect with the original specification.

6 Routine Maintenance - Coastal Wildflower Grassland

The following recommendations are guidance for the maintenance of areas seeded with coastal wildflower grassland.

6.1 Management of sites sown in autumn (late August-late October)

No management will be required until the following Spring (1 April at the earliest). When the average vegetation height exceeds 100 mm, cut with a strimmer to a height of 75 mm, repeating the process whenever growth exceeds 200 mm. The object of this first cut is to reduce competition from annual weeds, to encourage tillering of sown grasses and to provide conditions favourable for the growth and development of sown forbs. Remove cut material from the site to prevent stifling the growth of young flower plants.

6.2 Management of sites sown in early spring (late March-early May)

Cut with a strimmer to a height of 75 mm or lower when the average vegetation height exceeds 100 mm. The object of this first cut is to reduce competition from annual weeds and to encourage the growth of sown species. The first cut will be needed about 6 weeks after sowing. Do not cut after mid-May, even though the vegetation exceeds 100 mm. Allow the annuals to flower and cut in late August, removing cut material. When regrowth exceeds 100 mm, cut again, removing cut material. Make final cut in late October to a height of 75 mm. On the majority of sites 1 cut may be all that is required.

6.3 Management in the years after sowing

Cutting once a year may be all that is required to maintain an attractive sward. Cutting should be done with a strimmer. Ideally, the cut material should be removed, but where this is not possible the cut material will eventually decay, provided it does not form a thick mulch. Cutting is best from mid-September to late October.

6.4 Wildflower Grassland Cutting – General Points

- Remove litter, rubbish and debris from areas before mowing.

- The finish should be neat and even, without surface rutting, compaction or damage to grass, with well-defined edges.
- Neatly trim around any large obstructions. Sweep clear and remove any arisings from the grass cutting, from adjoining hard areas or pathways.
- Do not use mowing machinery closer than 100mm to tree stems.
- During periods when ground conditions are so wet as to prevent grass cutting without causing damage to the surface or producing divots, operations shall cease and shall recommence only when ground and weather conditions are suitable.
- It may be necessary to spot treat with selective herbicide for to deal with pernicious perennial weeds such as Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Rosebay willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium*, Thistle and Horsetail.
- Across wildflower coastal grassland, there will be an annual clearance of any woody species that start to encroach including ivy, ash *Fraxinus sp.* and Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Appendix 1: Seeding Specifications

The following seed mix, 'Coastal Meadow Mix' by Scotia Seeds, is specified on the planting plans, Figures 1.1 – 1.3

- 80% grasses:
 - *Agrostis capillaris* - Common Bent
 - *Alopecurus pratensis* - Meadow Foxtail
 - *Cynosurus cristatus* - Crested Dog's Tail
 - *Festuca rubra commutata* - Chewings Fescue
 - *Poa pratensis* - Smooth-stalked Meadow Grass

- 20% wild flowers:
 - *Anthyllis vulneraria* - Kidney Vetch
 - *Armeria maritima* - Thrift
 - *Campanula glomerata* - Clustered Bellflower
 - *Centaurea nigra* - Common Knapweed
 - *Cochlearia danicus* - Scurvy Grass
 - *Echium vulgare* - Vipers Bugloss
 - *Galium verum* - Ladys Bedstraw
 - *Helianthemum nummularium* - Rock Rose
 - *Hypochaeris radicata* - Cats Ear
 - *Ligusticum scoticum* - Scots Lovage
 - *Lotus corniculatus* - Birdsfoot Trefoil
 - *Papaver rhoeas* - Corn Poppy
 - *Plantago maritima* - Sea Plantain
 - *Primula veris* - Cowslip
 - *Rhinanthus minor* - Yellow Rattle
 - *Scorzoneroide autumnalis* - Autumn Hawkbit
 - *Silene dioica* - Red Champion
 - *Silene latifolia* - White Champion
 - *Silene uniflora* - Sea Champion
 - *Solidago virgaurea* - Golden Rod
 - *Tripleurospermum maritimum* - Sea Mayweed

Sowing rate: 3g/m².

Appendix 2: Native Woodland Planting Mix

The following planting mix and stock sizes are specified on the planting plans, Figures 1. 1 – 1.3.

Native Woodland Mix:

Plants will be planted in groups of 5 - 7 plants of the same species:

- 10 % *Betula pendula* (silver birch) 60-80 cm 1+1 BR
- 10 % *Corylus avellana* (hazel) 40-60 cm 1+1 BR
- 10 % *Crataegus monogyna* (hawthorn) 40-60 cm 1+1 BR
- 5 % *Ilex aquifolium* (holly) 30 - 40 cm CG
- 5 % *Pinus sylvestris* (scots pine) 20 - 40 cm CG
- 10 % *Prunus avium* (Gean) 60-80 cm 1+1 BR
- 20 % *Quercus robur* (oak) 40-60 cm 1+1 BR
- 20 % *Sorbus aucuparia* (rowan) 40-60 cm 1+1 BR

Planting areas are to be overplanted with feathered trees as indicated:

Feathered whips 125-175 cm:

- 25 % No. *Betula pendula*
- 25 % *Pinus Sylvestris* (2 l pot 40-60 cm)
- 25 % *Quercus robur*



LEGEND

Existing trees as defined in the Tree Survey, to be retained.

Planting Mix W: native woodland mix.

Feathered Trees.

Stock/Rabbit Proof Fencing: All planting areas to be surrounded by a post and wire stock-proof fence with access stiles at 500m intervals.

Seeding: Scotia Seeds, Coastal Meadow Mix

80% Grasses:

Agrostis capillaris
Alcepinus pratensis
Cynosurus cristatus
Festuca rubra commutata
Poa pratensis

20% Wild Flowers:

Antirrhinum vulgare
Armeria maritima
Campanula glomerata
Centauria nigra
Cochlearia danica
Echium vulgare
Galium verum
Helianthemum nummularium
Hypochaeris radicata
Ligusticum scoticum
Lotus corniculatus
Papaver rhoeas
Plantago maritima
Primula veris
Rhinanthus minor
Scorzonera autumnalis
Silene dioica
Silene latifolia
Silene uniflora
Solidago virgaurea
Tripleurospermum maritimum

Common Bent
Meadow Foxtail
Crested Dog's Tail
Crownings Fescue
Smooth-stalked Meadow Grass

Kidney Vetch
Thrift
Clustered Bellflower
Common Knapsweed
Scurvy Grass
Vipers Bugloss
Lady's Bedstraw
Rock Rose
Cate Ears
Scots Lavender
Birdfoot Trefoil
Corn Poppy
Sea Plantain
Cowslip
Yellow Rattle
Autumn Hawkbit
Red Campion
White Campion
Sea Campion
Golden Rod
Sea Mayweed

Sowing rate 3g/m²

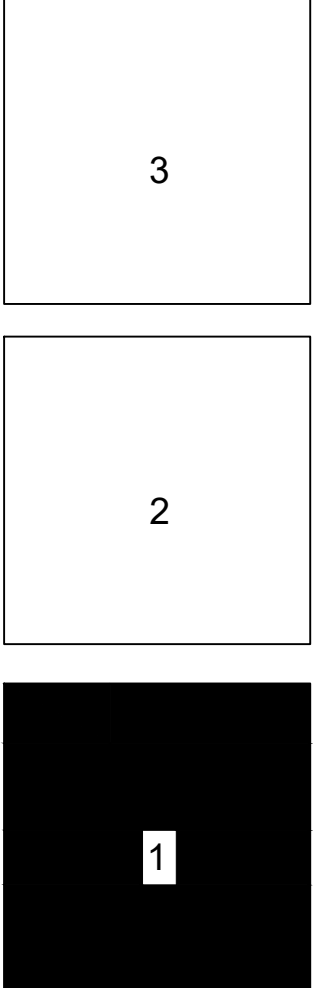
PLANTING SCHEDULE MIX 'W'
- native woodland mix

TRANSPLANTS	%	W1	W2	Total
Betula pendula	20	56	7	63
Corylus avellana	10	28	5	33
Crataegus monogyna	10	28	5	33
Ilex aquifolium	5	14	3	17
Pinus sylvestris	5	14	3	17
Prunus avium	10	28	5	33
Quercus robur	20	56	5	63
Sorbus aucuparia	20	56	7	63
FEATHERED WHIPS				
Betula pendula	25	9	3	12
Pinus sylvestris	25	9	3	12
Quercus robur	25	9	4	13
Sorbus aucuparia	25	8	3	11
TOTAL		315	53	368

GENERAL PLANTING NOTES:

1. EXTENT OF PLANTING AREAS TO BE VERIFIED WITH CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR (CA)
2. SETTING OUT OF ALL PLANTING TO BE APPROVED BY CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR (CA)
3. PLANTING OF TO BE CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO THE PLANTING PLAN
4. ALL PLANTING WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE CA ONLY.
5. ALL WOODLAND PLANTING TO BE PIT PLANTED WITH INDIVIDUAL TUBEX RABBIT GUARDS.
6. ALL FEATHERED TREES TO BE SUPPORTED BY SHORT STAKES WITH SPIRAL RABBIT GUARDS.

SHEET LAYOUT



NOTES - PLANTING SPECIFICATION

1.0 GENERAL

All workmanship to relevant British Standards and Codes of Practice. All landscape operations to BS 4428:1989 and stock as defined in BS 3936:Part 1 and Part 2:1992. All work to be carried out in appropriate climatic conditions while soil and materials are suitable for operations. Use tools and machinery suitable for use and comply with Health and Safety Regulations. The Landscape Contractor must follow good husbandry practice and allow for keeping all new planting areas well watered during the defects liability/maintenance period of the contract.

2.0 PREPARATION

The Contractor is to rotavate or manually cultivate compacted topsoil in planting areas to a depth of 300mm. All weeds, rubbish, foreign materials and stones larger than 50mm are to be removed from existing topsoil. Existing topsoil to be retained on site.

3.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Carry out the works while soil and weather conditions are suitable for the relevant operations. Carry out tree and shrub planting between October and late March.

4.0 TREES/PLANTING GENERALLY

Planting stock to be undamaged, sturdy, healthy, vigorous, of good shape and without elongated shoots. Stock should be free from pests, diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders, with balanced root and branch systems, root system and condition in accordance with the relevant parts of the National Plant Specification. True to name. Prior to planting, stock should be protected from desiccating winds and the root plugs kept moist.

5.0 PLANTING WORKS

All plants to be supplied in the condition and planted according to the specified density. All planting to be carried out under the authorisation of the supervising officer only and include:

- Root dip to all bare root stock
- Backfill imported topsoil mix in accordance with BS3882 to include spent mushroom compost at a rate of 2 litres per transplant and 10 litres per feathered tree and Enmag slow release fertiliser at 75g/m².

- Minimum dimensions of tree pits for all feathered, standard and extra heavy standard trees 1500x1500x1000mm (refer to planting detail sheets Figure 4 and Figure 5)

- On completion all plants to be well watered to full depth of topsoil. Continue to water through the growing season to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all planting.

6.0 TREE SUPPORTS/PROTECTION

All trees and shrubs to be planted outwith the main planting beds shall be protected with a Tubex 'Standard Shelter 60cm high, nested in 5's (80-120mm diameter).

Supporting stakes to be hand split chestnut, 50mm high. Refer to planting detail sheets Figure 4 and Figure 5 for details of staking to Feathered, Standard and Extra Heavy Standard Trees.

7.0 MAINTENANCE

The completion period for all soft landscape areas shall be 12 months from practical completion. The contractor shall be responsible during this time for undertaking with due care, in accordance with BS 4428 all operations required to ensure the establishment and maintenance of healthy vigorous plants, including as necessary:

- General attendance to plant
- Watering as necessary to maintain a healthy stock
- Weeding of all planted areas on a monthly basis.

Implementation of the landscape works shall be in accordance with the development programme presented for the site. Soft landscape proposals will be implemented in the first available planting season after commencement of the development to ensure that the species are given the best opportunity to establish.

7.0 SOILING SPECIFICATION NOTES

GRAVING OF SUBSOIL

Grade subsoil to smooth flowing contours. Excavate locally as necessary for areas of thicker topsoil for planting and tree pits.

LOOSEN SUBSOIL

Loosen subsoil with a single line ripper, driven to 450mm deep at 1m centres in two directions obliquely to any slopes when the ground conditions are reasonably dry.

INSPECTION OF IMPORTED TOPSOIL: The supervising officer will inspect a sample load of not less than 5cu m before making further deliveries to site. Retain for comparison with subsequent loads.

CONTAMINATION: Unless specified otherwise: Do not use topsoil contaminated with subsoil, rubbish or other materials that are:

- Corrosive, explosive or flammable
- Hazardous to human or animal life
- Detrimental to healthy plant growth in areas to receive topsoil. do not use subsoil contaminated with the above materials. Inform the supervising officer if any evidence or symptoms of soil contamination are discovered on the site, or in topsoil to be imported.

HANDLING TOPSOIL: When moving topsoil within the site, or when stripping topsoil and importing to site:

- If aggressive weeds are present, obtain instructions from the Supervising Officer before moving topsoil. Select and use plant to minimise disturbance, trafficking and compaction.
- Avoid contamination by subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work. Keep different grades of topsoil separate from each other when handling and stockpiling. Inform CA where depth of topsoil is difficult to determine.
- Minimise multiple handling of topsoil. Use topsoil immediately after stripping wherever possible. Handle topsoil in the driest condition reasonably possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall or when it is wetter than the plastic limit as defined by BS 3882, Annex N2.

SPREADING TOPSOIL

Remove temporary roads or surfacing before spreading topsoil.

Spread over prepared subsoil in layers not exceeding 150mm and gently firm each layer before spreading the next. Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate visible crumbs wherever possible. Planting beds and areas for hedges will receive a depth of 450 mm, turf lawn areas 150 mm and wildflower seeded areas will be left as subsoil.

PREPARE SURFACE OF subsoil/subgrade immediately before spreading topsoil by removing stones with the largest dimension exceeding 75mm. Also remove arisings, contaminants and debris.

IMPORTED TOPSOIL FOR Planting, Turfing and General Landscape Areas

Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work. To BS 3882:2015, grade: General Purpose Grade

TOPSOIL TESTING: Topsoil Stored on site and any imported topsoil provided as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil on site, brought in from an approved source and to the approval of Contract Administrator, will be tested to ensure it meets the requirements of BS 3882:2015. A declaration of analysis will be provided detailing each of the relevant parameters given in BS3882:2015, Clause 6, Table 1. A test report will also be provided to advise on additional fertilizers or soil ameliorants required to bring topsoil up to an acceptable fertility level for the successful establishment of planting including shrubs and trees. These shall be incorporated into the stored/imported topsoil at the time of spreading. NB Any topsoil containing couch grass will not be acceptable. Furthermore, imported topsoil should be substantially free from stones, weeds and excessive vegetable matter.

8.0 FENCING:

All planting areas to be surrounded by a post and wire stock-proof fence with access stiles at 500m intervals.



NOTES - PLANTING SPECIFICATION

1.0 GENERAL

All workmanship to relevant British Standards and Codes of Practice. All landscape operations to BS 4428:1989 and stock as defined in BS 3936 Part 1 and Part 2:1992. All work to be carried out in appropriate climatic conditions while soil and materials are suitable for operations. Use tools and machinery suitable for use and comply with Health and Safety Regulations. The Landscape Contractor must follow good husbandry practice and allow for keeping all new planting areas well watered during the defects liability/maintenance period of the contract.

2.0 PREPARATION

The Contractor is to rotavate or manually cultivate compacted topsoil in planting areas to a depth of 300mm. All weeds, rubbish, foreign materials and stones larger than 50mm are to be removed from existing topsoil. Existing topsoil to be retained on site.

3.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Planting stock to be undamaged, sturdy, healthy, vigorous, of good shape and without elongated shoots. Stock should be free from pests, diseases, discoloration, weeds and physiological disorders, with balanced root and branch systems, root system and condition in accordance with the relevant parts of the National Plant Specification. True to name. Prior to planting, stock should be protected from desiccating winds and the root plugs kept moist.

4.0 TREES/PLANTING GENERALLY

All plants to be supplied in the condition and planted according to the specified density. All planting to be carried out under the authorisation of the supervising officer only and include:

- Root dip to all bare root stock.
- Backfill imported topsoil mix in accordance with BS3882 to include spent mushroom compost at a rate of 2 litres per transplant and 10 litres per feathered tree and Enmag slow release fertiliser at 75g/m².

Minimum dimensions of tree pits for all feathered, standard and extra heavy standard trees 1500x1500x1000mm (refer to planting detail sheets Figure 4 and Figure 5)

On completion all plants to be well watered to full depth of topsoil. Continue to water through the growing season to ensure the establishment and continued thriving of all planting.

6.0 TREE SUPPORTS/PROTECTION

All trees and shrubs to be planted within the main planting beds shall be protected with a Tubex 'Standard Shelter 60cm high, nested in 5's (80-120mm diameter).

Supporting stakes to be hand split chestnut, 30mm high. Refer to planting detail sheets Figure 4 and Figure 5 for details of staking to Feathered, Standard and Extra Heavy Standard Trees.

7.0 MAINTENANCE

The completion period for all soft landscape areas shall be 12 months from practical completion. The contractor shall be responsible during this time for undertaking with due care, in accordance with BS 4428 all operations required to ensure the establishment and maintenance of healthy vigorous plants, including as necessary:

- General attendance to plant
- Watering as necessary to maintain a healthy stock
- Weeding of all planted areas on a monthly basis.

Implementation of the landscape works shall be in accordance with the development programme presented for the site. Soft landscape proposals will be implemented in the first available planting season after commencement of the development to ensure that the species are given the best opportunity to establish.

7.0 SOILING SPECIFICATION NOTES

GRADING OF SUBSOIL

Grade subsoil to smooth flowing contours. Excavate locally as necessary for areas of thicker topsoil for planting and tree pits.

LOOSEN SUBSOIL

Loosen subsoil with a single line ripper, driven to 450mm deep at 1m centres in two directions obliquely to any slopes when the ground conditions are reasonably dry.

INSPECTION OF IMPORTED TOPSOIL: The supervising officer will inspect a sample load of not less than 5cu m before making further deliveries to site. Retain for comparison with subsequent loads.

CONTAMINATION: Unless specified otherwise: Do not use topsoil contaminated with subsoil, rubbish or other materials that are:

- Corrosive, explosive or flammable
- Hazardous to human or animal life
- Detrimental to healthy plant growth in areas to receive topsoil. do not use subsoil contaminated with the above materials. Inform the supervising officer if any evidence or symptoms of soil contamination are discovered on the site, or in topsoil to be imported.

HANDLING TOPSOIL: When moving topsoil within the site, or when stripping topsoil and importing to site:

- If aggressive weeds are present, obtain instructions from the Supervising Officer before moving topsoil. Select and use plant to minimise disturbance, trafficking and compaction.
- Avoid contamination by subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work. Keep different grades of topsoil separate from each other when handling and stockpiling. Inform CA where depth of topsoil is difficult to determine.
- Minimise multiple handling of topsoil. Use topsoil immediately after stripping wherever possible. Handle topsoil in the driest condition reasonably possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall or when it is wetter than the plastic limit as defined by BS 3882, Annex N2.

SPREADING TOPSOIL

Remove temporary roads or surfacing before spreading topsoil.

Spread over prepared subsoil in layers not exceeding 150mm and gently firm each layer before spreading the next. Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate viable crumbs wherever possible. Planting beds and areas for hedges will receive a depth of 450 mm, turf lawn areas 150 mm and wildflower seeded areas will be left as subsoil.

PREPARE SURFACE OF subsoil/subgrade immediately before spreading topsoil by removing stones with the largest dimension exceeding 75mm. Also remove anisings, contaminants and debris.

IMPORTED TOPSOIL FOR Planting, Turfing and General Landscape Areas

Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work. To BS 3882:2015, grade: General Purpose Grade

TOPSOIL TESTING: Topsoil Stored on site and any imported topsoil provided as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil on site, brought in from an approved source and to the approval of Contract Administrator, will be tested to ensure it meets the requirements of BS 3882:2015. A declaration of analysis will be provided detailing each of the relevant parameters given in BS3882:2015, Clause 6, Table 1. A test report will also be provided to advise on additional fertilizers or soil ameliorants required to bring topsoil up to an acceptable fertility level for the successful establishment of planting including shrubs and trees. These shall be incorporated into the stored/imported topsoil at the time of spreading. NB Any topsoil containing couch grass will not be acceptable. Furthermore, imported topsoil should be substantially free from stones, weeds and excessive vegetable matter.

8.0 FENCING:

All planting areas to be surrounded by a post and wire stock-proof fence with access stiles at 500m intervals.

LEGEND

- Existing trees as defined in the Tree Survey, to be retained.
- Planting Mix W: native woodland mix.
- Feathered Trees.
- Stock/Rabbit Proof Fencing: All planting areas to be surrounded by a post and wire stock-proof fence with access stiles at 50m intervals.
- Seeding: Scolia Seeds, Coastal Meadow Mix

80% Grasses:

- Agrostis capillaris
- Alopecurus pratensis
- Cynosurus cristatus
- Festuca rubra commutata
- Poa pratensis

20% Wild Flowers:

- Anthyllus vulneraria
- Armeria maritima
- Campanula glomerata
- Centauria nigra
- Cochlearia danica
- Echium vulgare
- Gallium verum
- Helianthemum nummularium
- Hypochaeris radicata
- Liquidum scoticum
- Lotus corniculatus
- Plagiator rhoeas
- Plantago maritima
- Primula veris
- Rhinanthus minor
- Scorzoneroideis autumnalis
- Silene dioica
- Silene latifolia
- Silene uniflora
- Soldago virgaurea
- Tripleurospermum maritimum

Common Bent

- Meadow Foxtail
- Crested Dog's Tail
- Creeping Fescue
- Smooth-stalked Meadow Grass

Kidney Vetch

- Thrift
- Clustered Bellflower
- Common Knapweed
- Scurvy Grass
- Vipers Bugloss
- Lady's Bedstraw
- Rock Rose
- Cats Ear
- Scots Lavage
- Birdsfoot Trefoil
- Corn Poppy
- Sea Plantain
- Cowslip
- Yellow Ruttle
- Autumn Hawkbit
- Red Campion
- White Campion
- Sea Campion
- Golden Rod
- Sea Mayweed

Sowing rate 3g/m²

PLANTING SCHEDULE MIX 'W' - native woodland mix

TRANSPLANTS	%	W3	Total
Betula pendula	20	40	40
Corylus avellana	10	20	20
Crataegus monogyna	10	20	20
Ilex aquifolium	5	10	10
Pinus sylvestris	5	10	10
Prunus avium	10	20	20
Quercus robur	20	40	40
Sorbus aucuparia	20	40	40
FEATHERED WHIPS			
Betula pendula	25	5	5
Pinus sylvestris	25	5	5
Quercus robur	25	5	5
Sorbus aucuparia	25	5	5
TOTAL		220	220

GENERAL PLANTING NOTES:

- EXTENT OF PLANTING AREAS TO BE VERIFIED WITH CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR (CA)
- SETTING OUT OF ALL PLANTING TO BE APPROVED BY CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR (CA)
- PLANTING OF TO BE CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO THE PLANTING PLAN.
- ALL PLANTING WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE CA ONLY.
- ALL WOODLAND PLANTING TO BE PIT PLANTED WITH INDIVIDUAL TUBEX RABBIT GUARDS.
- ALL FEATHERED TREES TO BE SUPPORTED BY SHORT STAKES WITH SPIRAL RABBIT GUARDS.

SHEET LAYOUT

