

PLANTING SPECIFICATION

These implementation and maintenance guidelines are for planning purposes only to indicate the level of workmanship to be specified and do not constitute a detailed specification.

1. GENERAL

11. All landscape operatives will be appropriately trained, certified and qualified to undertake the tasks required. When required, the relevant certificates will be made available for inspection. All work is to be carried out in accordance with the relevant British Standards, Codes of Practice and Legislation.
12. All plants shall conform to BS 3936 and be in accordance with the National Plant Specification. Supplying nurseries shall be registered under the HTA Nursery Certification Scheme. All plants shall be packed and transported in accordance with the Code of Practice for Plant Handling as produced by CPSE.
13. Planting shall not be carried out when the ground is waterlogged, frost bound or during periods of cold drying winds. All bareroot planting stock will be kept covered until actually planted in order to minimise water-loss and prevent the roots from drying out. Tree handling, storage and planting shall be in accordance with BS 8545 Chapters 9 to10 and Annexes E to F.
14. The landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting for a period of 12 months following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.

15. A minimum intervention approach will be used in terms of weed control. In areas of transplant tree/shrub or ornamental shrub planting this is to be achieved by using mulch mats and hand-weeding. Weed killer and other chemicals will be used as little as possible on site. Spot removal of weeds will be carried out by hand removal as necessary.

2. TREE PLANTING

Ground Preparation and Tree Pit Excavation

21. Where necessary remove existing weeds by hand. Chemical removal using a glyphosate based herbicide will be avoided unless large areas need clearing – following which allow a suitable period to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.
22. Tree pits of at least 75mm diameter greater than the root system and no deeper than the rootball / container depth are to be excavated and the sides well scarified to prevent smearing. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm in any dimension shall be removed from site.
23. During excavation of the pit, the soil dug should be placed to one side separating topsoil and subsoil as far as is practical.

Tree Planting

24. Trees shall be planted as per the planting arrangement as set out on the planting plan and plant schedule.
25. The typical rooting depth for trees is 900mm. The first 300mm shall be made up of topsoil; it shall be ensured that a suitable subsoil provides the remainder of the minimum rooting depth.
26. The root system of the tree should be wetted prior to planting. The tree should be planted at the correct depth taking into account the position of the root flare and the finished level – the rootball or root stem transition should be level with the existing host soil or surface. The base of the rootball should typically sit on subsoil, for larger rootballs the subsoil will sit around the lower portion of the rootball.
27. Tree pits should be backfilled with the excavated topsoil, if the original topsoil is not available or deemed unsuitable, a multi-purpose topsoil should be used. Any subsoil excavated should be discarded and the subsoil depth (beyond 300mm deep) backfilled with a high sand content subsoil. Backfill should be added gradually, in layers of 150mm to 230mm depth, ensuring the tree is held upright. At each stage the fill should be firmed in to eliminate all air pockets under and around the root system, but with care being taken not to excessively compact the soil. The final layer should not be consolidated.
28. General-purpose slow release fertiliser (at the rate of 75g/m²) and Tree Planting and Mulching Compost at the rate of (20litres/m²) are to be incorporated into the top 150mm of topsoil during final cultivations.

- 2.9. All extra heavy standard size trees are to be double staked with 75mm dia stakes. Stakes should be driven at least 300mm into undisturbed ground before planting the tree, taking care to avoid underground services and cables etc. and should typically be one third the height of the tree stem above ground.

- 2.10. Staked trees shall be secured to stakes with suitable proprietary hessian or jute tree ties with approx. 50mm depth. A spacer is to be formed using the natural tree tie itself.
- 2.11. Immediately after planting, but before applying the below bark mulch, all trees should be saturated to field capacity.

- 2.12. Ornamental composted bark mulch will be spread to a depth of 75mm across a 0.8m dia circle around individual trees, ensuring that the root flare and base of the stem, along with any ground cover plants, are not buried.

Maintenance

- 2.13. In the autumn following planting the CA/landscape contractor will prepare a list of all trees which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the following planting season. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost.

- 2.14. The site is to be visited monthly throughout the year to undertake the following operations.

- Weed clearance: All tree pits are to be kept weed free by hand weeding. The bark mulch shall be topped up at least once annually.
- Litter clearance: All litter is to be removed from tree planting areas.
- Watering: All trees are to be watered during the growing season following any dry periods of 7 days.
- Checking trees: All tree ties and stakes are to be checked and adjusted if too loose, too tight or if chaffing is occurring. Any broken stakes are to be replaced. All guards shall be checked at least once annually, where no longer necessary or physically damaging the tree these should be removed.
- Formative pruning: Any damaged shoots/branches are to be pruned back to healthy wood. Trees are to be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice (BS 3998) to maintain healthy well-shaped specimens which are appropriately shaped for their circumstances.

3. NATIVE HEDGE TRANSPLANTS

Ground Preparation

- 3.1. Where necessary existing weeds will be treated with a glyphosate-based herbicide and a suitable period allowed to elapse, as recommended by the manufacturer, for the herbicide to take effect.
- 3.2. All extraneous matter such as plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm diameter will be removed from site to a registered waste disposal facility.

Planting

- 3.3. The planting arrangement shall be as set out in the plant schedule on the relevant planting plan.

- 3.4. Bare-root hedge plants shall be notch planted in a double staggered row at the rate of 7 plants per linear metre (using L- shaped notches) using spades of a design suitable for this purpose. The notches must be vertical and deep enough for the roots to hang freely, with the transplant being planted so that the root collar is exactly level with the ground surface. The notch must then be closed and the soil will be well firmed round the roots in line with the guidelines as set out in BS 4428 (1989).

- 3.5. All bare-root hedge planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm clear plastic spiral guards, supported with 0.9m 12/14lb canes as advised by the manufacturer.

- 3.6. All container-grown shrubs will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm plastic shrub shelters, supported with 0.9m x 32 mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer.

Maintenance during first growing season

- 3.7. All dead, dying or diseased hedge plants will be replaced with plants of similar size and species. If the failure of the plant is due to disease and the disease is considered likely to re-occur then an alternative species may be used as replacement if agreed with the LPA.

- 3.8. The planting area will be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period using approved herbicides in April, June and August.

4. NATIVE SCRUB PLANTING

Ground Preparation

- 4.1. Cut existing rough grass and weeds to between 20mm and 30mm and remove 300x300mm squares of turf at planting density as per planting schedule.

Planting

- 4.2. The minimum overall recommended rooting depth for shrubs is 600mm. The first 300mm shall be made up of multi-purpose topsoil; it shall be ensured that a suitable subsoil provides the remainder of the minimum rooting depth. Before receiving topsoil subsoils should be loosened using ripping equipment; this shall be done when the subsoil is dry to encourage soil shattering. All stones and other objects larger than 50 mm shall be removed from the prepared surface.

- 4.3. Scrub planting is to be as per the planting pattern as set out on the planting plan and planting schedule, with shrubs planted at even spaces into the prepared soil at the specified number per centre, with minimal disturbance to the rootball, and well firmed in. Planting should avoid man-made grids and lines, and should group species together in groups of 5-7 plants. Spread ornamental pine bark mulch to a depth of 75mm to a 900mm diameter around each planting station.

- 4.4. All bare-root planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 0.6m (for shrub species) or 1.2m (for tree species) plastic shrub/tree guards, supported with 0.9m (or 1.35m for trees) x 32mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer.

5. NATIVE WOODLAND AND TREE AND SHRUB BUFFER PLANTING

Ground Preparation

- 5.1. Cut existing rough grass and weeds to between 20mm and 30mm.

Planting

- 5.2. Shrub/tree planting within the woodland and tree and shrub buffer mix shall be notch planted (using L- shaped notches) using spades of a design suitable for this purpose. The notches must be vertical and deep enough for the roots to hang freely, with the transplant being planted so that the root collar is exactly level with the ground surface. The notch must then be closed and the soil will be well firmed round the roots in line with the guidelines as set out in BS 4428 (1989).

- 5.3. Shrub / tree planting within the woodland and tree and shrub buffer mix is to be as per the planting pattern as set out on the planting plan and planting schedule, with shrubs / trees planted at even spaces into the prepared soil at the specified number per centre, with minimal disturbance to the rootball, and well firmed in.

- 5.4. Bare root trees are to be single staked with 50mm dia stakes. Stakes are to be secured with suitable propriety hessian or jute tree ties with approx. 50mm depth. A spacer is to be formed using the natural tree tie itself.

- 5.5. All bare-root planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 0.6m (for shrub species) or 1.2m (for tree species) plastic-free shrub/tree guards (e.g. Greentech Bio-Earth Biodegradable Plastic-Free Shelter), supported with 0.9m (or 1.35m for trees) x 32mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer.

- 5.6. All container-grown planting stock will be protected from rabbit damage using approved proprietary 600mm plastic-free shrub/tree guards (e.g. Greentech Bio-Earth Biodegradable Plastic-Free Shelter), supported with 0.9m x 32mm x 32mm softwood stakes as advised by the manufacturer.

Maintenance

- 5.7. Using approved herbicides, a 900mm diameter circle centred on each planting station shall be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period. In the autumn following planting the CA will prepare a list of all plants which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the

6. WILDFLOWER MEADOWS GRASSLAND

Preparation

- 6.1. Areas of wildflower meadow to be grazed or cut hard before vigorously harrowing the existing sward. Several passes at slightly different angles may be necessary to open up new space and loosen the soil for new seeds and create 40-50% bare soil. Excess vegetation is to be removed before sowing.

Seeding

- 6.2. Seeds shall be sown either in April/May or September/October during calm weather and not when the ground is frost bound or waterlogged.

- 6.3. To achieve an even sowing, bulk with an inert carrier, such as sand. Seed shall be sown in two equal sowings in transverse directions at e.g. 4g/m² for Emorsgate: EM2F General Purpose Wildflower with addition species as shown in planting schedule. After sowing the contractor shall roll in the seed to guarantee intimate contact with the soil, ensuring not to rake or cover the seed with soil.

Initial Cut

- 6.4. After sowing continue mowing or grazing as needed to keep the grass short (30- 50mm). Continue mowing/grazing through winter and early spring as needed. Stop mowing/grazing in April and leave until July/August to allow species to flower.

7. GENERAL MAINTENANCE

- 7.1. The Landscape contractor shall maintain all areas of new planting for a period of 12 months following practical completion. All stock deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at his own cost. The site is to be visited monthly throughout the year to undertake the Following operations:
- Weed clearance: All planting areas to be kept weed free by hand weeding or herbicide treatment.
 - Litter clearance: All litter is to be removed from planting beds.
 - Watering: All planted areas are to be watered for the first two years from May to September following any dry periods of 7 days.

Trees and Shrubs

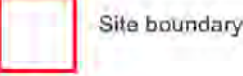
- 7.2. All trees are to be watered weekly from May to the end of September unless unnecessary due to heavy rain, to receive 20 gallons of water. All shrubs are to be watered for the first two years from May to September following any dry periods of 7 days. All tree ties and stakes are to be checked and adjusted if too loose, too tight or if chaffing is occurring. Any broken stakes are to be replaced. Any damaged shoots/branches are to be pruned back to healthy wood. Plants are to be pruned in accordance with good horticultural practice to maintain healthy, well-shaped specimens. Native shrubs - Using approved herbicides a 1m diameter circle centred on each planting station shall be kept weed free throughout the maintenance period. Stakes may be removed from Year 2 if plant is fully established and if shelter is suppressing further growth.

Hedges

- 7.3. Hedge lines shall be kept mulched until established. At the end of the Defects Liability Period / First Year's Maintenance the CA will prepare a list of all plants which are dead, dying or diseased and are to be replaced during the following planting season at the contractor's expense.

REFER TO SHEET 2 FOR PLANTING SCHEDULE

KEY



Site boundary



Existing trees to be retained to BS5837 with root protection area



Existing trees to be removed
For more details please refer to DPA dwg. no DPA-7044-01 (Eastern SANG Area Tree Survey)



Existing scrub vegetation - to be assessed on site; bramble, nettles, gorse and other invasive species to be removed. Suitable blackthorn shrubs should be retained and infilled with native shrub planting



Existing woodland to be managed (refer to Woodland Management Plan)



Understorey vegetation to be removed to facilitate pedestrian entry points into the wood, or to create more open views through the woodland. Dense stands of Rhododendron to be removed within first year with natural regeneration of woodland species. Follow up treatment to ensure full removal to be carried out in years 2 and 3 as necessary.



Existing semi-improved grassland meadow



Existing species-poor to moderately species-rich marshy grassland and rush pasture to be retained with minimal management



Proposed new native hedgerow tree



Proposed native tree



Proposed native hedgerow



Native tree and shrub buffer planting



Native woodland planting



Native scrub planting



Wildflower enhancements to existing meadow e.g. EF2 Emorsgate with supplementary inclusion of additional species - see specification for species list

FENCING/GATES (refer to P23-1666_EN-002 for details)



Existing fencing to be upgraded as required



Existing fencing along railway edge to be retained



Existing fencing to be removed to facilitate movement between SANGS.



Proposed fencing - Heavy post and rail timber fencing with stock proof fencing.

CONDITION 5 - Landscaping
Refer to P23-1666_EN_02 Detailed Hard landscape Proposals and P23-1666_EN_03 Tree Pit Details for further information

17/03/2025	D	Existing railway fencing retained
20/05/2024	C	Revised woodland footpath alignment (Sheet 2 only)
23/04/2024	B	Revised to consultee comments (Network Rail)
25/03/2024	A	Revised to LPA comments
DATE	NO	REVISION NOTE

FOR PLANNING

Detailed Soft Landscape Proposals (Sheet 2 of 2)

St Anne's SANG

CLIENT
Kingacre Estates Ltd

DATE	SCALE	TEAM	APPROVED
17/03/2025	1:750	@A1 ASK	RVF

DRAWING NUMBER
P23-1666_EN_001-02D

PEGASUS
GROUP

0 50m

