

Landscape Framework Strategy

01. Introduction

The current drawing provides the thinking behind the strategy for the first phase of the Sheriffhall South East site, allowing for a replication of the principles for the future development parcels.

02. Site context

Currently, the site is an agricultural field with blocks of established woodland of varying quality and interest, both from a visual and an ecological perspective. The development site is located to the south of the Edinburgh Bypass (A720) near the Sheriffhall roundabout, Gilmerton road and Melville gate road provide the southern boundary to the site. The development layout aims to avoid the established woodland blocks of quality, whilst providing opportunities for enhancement of the ecological value of the site.

03. Constraints

Various constraints have informed the proposals, including the overhead powerlines and other existing/ proposed services, the wetness at key locations and relation to the wider context.

04. SuDS Integration and proposed woodland cover

The location of the SuDS basin allows the opportunity to provide compensatory woodland cover and a bridge between the main existing woodland blocks. This area is also the main entrance of wildlife into the site, below Melville gate Road. the SuDS integration landscape is divided between Wet native woodland planting and native woodland planting, based on the site conditions. This area also provides an amenity grass area for informal

The woodland planting in wet areas is based on a high proportion of Alder, with grey willow towards the periphery. The dryer areas of this location are planted with Oak and birch with Goat willow, Hawthorn and Hazel towards the edges.

05. Gilmerton Road Interface

The main interface along Gilmerton road is based on selective screening and allowing key views onto the frontage of the development units which aim to be of

This is achieved with the planting of mixed native hedging which will be maintained to 1m in height and follows the line of the existing wall. This provides opportunities for tree planting on both sides of the hedge of various species of trees which provide more or less visual permeability (Oak - less permeable, Birch - more permeable) to allow key views and framing the development units.

This interface also considers glare from headlights from within the development out onto the road and this is mitigated by integration of low fencing at key locations, within the hedge planting to provide a year-round visual barrier to any interference.

06. Development Landscape

The inner development landscape provides a more formal language along the main access roads (2m wide grass verge and ornamental hedge) which frames the roadway and aids with wayfinding. This also allows for screening and physical separation of the roads with the informal use outdoor areas of the site.

Species of trees provide vertical elements which help to soften the massing of the built units and ornamental planting helps frame key views and provides soft integration with the main cycle/footways.

Local provenance of soft materials is key to allow for a lower carbon footprint and ensure plants and trees are fully adapted to local conditions and allow thriving.

The species selected are all native or naturalised to allow for an integrated and ecologically sound landscape.

07. Existing elements

Existing established woodland will be retained in line with the tree survey to BS 5837:2012 - Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations. As part of the wider ongoing maintenance of similar woodland parcels owned by the client, the maintenance and managements of the woodland will be taken on.

	Date		Description		Initials
P01	19.11.21		Issued for Appro	oval	HL
P02	24.11.21	N	linor changes due to upo layout around SuDS		HL
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