



BREDBURY BATTERY STORAGE, STOCKPORT

**Soft Landscape Design and Implementation Pursuant to
Condition 16 (Planning Ref: DC/082085)**

Pivoted Power LLP (an EDF Renewables Company)

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Appendix 2: Landscape Proposals: Proposed Amended Compound Layout



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

This Soft Landscape Design and Implementation Strategy has been prepared by SLR to discharge Condition 16 of Planning Application Ref DC/082085 by Pivoted Power LLP (an EDF Renewables company) (referred to as Pivot Power) for the installation of a battery energy storage facility and associated infrastructure together with landscaping and biodiversity enhancements on land At Bredbury Substation, Stockport Road West, Bredbury, Stockport, SK6 2BP.

The consented development comprises a battery storage facility with associated elements and structures. Hedge planting around the compound, together with further planting within the land to the south is proposed to reduce the potential visibility of the proposed development and help to integrate it with the local landscape.

This report is also prepared to support a section 73 application for an amended scheme layout. The planting plan is the same for consented and proposed layouts.

Condition 16 states:

“Notwithstanding the approved plans, no development shall take place until a detailed planting scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme shall detail the size, species and spacing of planting and a timetable for implementation.”

The Site lies approximately 0.1 km to the east and 0.25km to the west of the River Goyt. It is accessed from the junction of Stockport Road West with Welkin Road.

The Site (~1.6 ha) is located to the northern end of a field and has been used for grazing. Residential development along Stockport Road West lies approximately 30m to the north of the existing access road.

The underground cable route runs from the Site north-east corner, following the route of the access route travelling east and then south, connecting with the adjacent National Grid substation. Numerous underground services are routed through the land surrounding the Site.

The Soft Landscape Design and Implementation Strategy has been produced to demonstrate mitigation of the visual and landscape of the development and to enhance the ecological value of the site in accordance with policies CS8, SIE-1 and SIE-3 of the Stockport Core Strategy DPD and the National Planning Policy Framework.

1.2 Soft Landscape Strategy Objectives

The objectives of the Soft Landscape Strategy are to set out how the Proposed Development would positively manage landscape habitats, species and functionality of the Site and deliver the following:

- enhance biodiversity by introducing native woodland and understorey / scrub, and native hedges;
- provide a degree of visual screening for the residents of properties along Stockport Road West to the north of the site and the cycle way / bridlepath to the south; and
- ensure positive management to help retain landscape character through the implementation and maintenance of new planting.

Sections 3 to 6 identify how the Proposed Development would achieve these key objectives.



1.3 Structure of the Soft Landscape Implementation Strategy.

The Soft Landscape Implementation Strategy is structured as follows:

- Section 1: sets out the introduction and structure of the report, describes the Site, provides an overview of the ecological value, habitats and species present and summarises the character of the Site and its surroundings.
- Section 2: details the development proposals.
- Section 3: summarises the management objectives.
- Section 4: details the anticipated management work.
- Section 5: provides a management programme for the Site.
- Section 6: summarises the roles, responsibilities and monitoring programme.

1.4 Associated Documents

This Soft Landscape Implementation Strategy has been informed with reference to the following reports and drawings:

- Bredbury Substation Battery Storage Facility: Planning and Design and Access Statement, Pivot Power (undated);
- Landscape and Visual Appraisal, SLR Consulting Ltd July 2021; and
- Ecological Appraisal Update Report; SLR Consulting Ltd. October 2023

1.5 Summary of Baseline conditions

1.5.1 The Site and its Context

The Site largely comprises grassland to the west of Bredbury Substation. The condition of the Site has changed since the submission of the planning application. At the time of the planning application the Site was predominately hard standing with some naturalised scrub and grassland. This hardstanding was being used as a construction compound associated with works taking place at National Grid's Bredbury Substation. However, the hardstanding areas have now been restored to comprise grassland comparable with the adjacent field. The field to the south of the proposed battery storage facility, where some of the planting proposals are located, comprises grassland surrounded by with timber post and rail fencing. This grassland has been used for grazing in the past, but based on a site visit in 2023, this grazing use appears to have ceased at present.

The surrounding context is predominantly an urban landscape with residential properties to the north and industrial uses in the immediate vicinity. Within the wider landscape lies the Woodbank Memorial Park to the south and Vernon Park to the west.

1.5.2 Landscape Designations

The site is not within or close to any designations for valued landscapes at a national or local level, such as National Landscapes (formerly Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) or National Parks. The site is within the Liverpool, Manchester and West Yorkshire Green Belt. The Green Belt Boundary within the Stockport Unitary Development Plan Review (saved polices) lies to the south of residential properties along Stockport Road West and Annable Road. The site, with the exception a cable corridor easement, does not adjoin the Green Belt Boundary. Like the substation to the east of the site, it is assumed that the Proposed Development would lie within the Green Belt and the boundary would not alter.



1.5.3 Landscape Character

The Site, where the planting proposals are located, comprises an area of grassland, with part of this land formerly used as areas of hardstanding which have been restored following the completion of National Grid works at Bredbury Substation. Pasture also lies to the north of the site, separating it from the residential properties on Stockport Road West and Annable Road. There are number of mature and established trees within the areas of pasture, although not within the Site, particularly to the north/north-east where they are positioned on a low ridge between the site and the properties on Stockport Road West/Annable Road.

Bredbury National Grid substation is located immediately to the east of the site, which together with associated pylons and overhead lines, is a prominent local feature. Pear New Mill lies to the south of the site and forms a distinctive local landmark, as part of a series of old mill buildings. Pear New Mill has been divided into multiple spaces, comprising office space, leisure uses and retail units. A number of commercial uses lie to the north of Pear New Mill, including several buildings, hard standing and car parks.

The natural topography of the site is broadly flat, positioned at approximately 50m AOD. The River Goyt is located to the south of the site, beyond Pear New Mill (also extending to the south-east and south-west).

A notable feature in the vicinity of the site, routed around the pasture to the south, is the relatively recently constructed cycle way / bridlepath. This provides a link between Stockport Road West to the west of the site and the southern edge of Lower Bredbury to the east. East of Pear New Mill, the route is located close to the River Goyt and a new footbridge provides a connection with Woodbank Memorial Park.

1.5.3.1 District Landscape Character

The site is classified as lying within the Goyt Valley LCA in the Stockport Landscape Capacity Assessment and Landscape Sensitivity Study (August 2018). The Landscape and Visual Appraisal for the Proposed Development identified the Site is heavily influenced by urban fringe elements and forms part of a transitional, area between the urban edge of Stockport (Lower Bredbury and Portwood) and the rural landscape to the east.



2.0 Scheme Description

2.1 Development Proposals

The Consented and the Proposed Amended Development which cover the same Site footprint both include:

- battery compound comprising energy blocks with associated cooling systems; transformers; inverters; spares container; 33kV switchgear kiosk; control room kiosk; earthing and auxiliary transformers; and LV board. All units would be positioned on concrete slab foundations;
- acoustic fencing;
- security fencing and site security gate;
- point of connection cable corridor;
- private wire cable corridor;
- landscape planting and perimeter hedge planting;
- CCTV cameras and masts; and
- access track from National Grid service road and permeable stone site surfacing around site track and concrete slab foundations.

2.2 Landscape

The Proposed Development has introduced a number of landscape elements to help contain and integrate the Proposed Development into the wider landscape. The soft landscape proposals are illustrated on Figure 405.064963.00001.001 for the consented scheme and 405.064963.00001.002 for the proposed amended scheme. Both plans are appended to this report. As noted above the landscape proposals are the same for both compound layouts but two plans are included for completeness.

The landscape proposals are consistent with those included in the planning application for the Consented Development.:

Approximately 0.07 ha of Native tree and shrub planting would comprise staggered rows, with approximately 1.5m between plants. The details of the proposed species are provided in Section 4 and Figures 405.064963.00001.001 and 002. A mix of relatively small trees and shrubs are proposed due to the buried services that cross the site (see Table 1). The plants would comprise 40-60cm bare rooted transplants or cell grown plants. All proposed tree and shrub planting will be individually protected either by 0.6m high translucent plastic guards supported by a single stout cane or, in the case of a bushier species, a 0.6m high shrub shelter and softwood timber stakes. Bare ground within the areas to be planted with trees and shrubs following the construction phase would be seeded with a hedgerow mix, such as Emorsgate Seeds hedgerow mixture (EH1) or similar. Timber post and wire stockproof fences would be constructed around the areas to be planted to provide protection from grazing. The native tree and shrub planting comprises four discrete beds of planting between the battery storage facility and the multi user path to the south. This planting would improve the setting of the multi user path and would help to restrict views of the Proposed Development.

Approximately 250 linear metres of proposed native mixed hedgerows would be planted and managed to improve the biodiversity of site, including opportunities for nesting and foraging habitat for wildlife, as well as local character and visual amenity value. The proposed hedgerow would comprise the species set out in Table 2, with approximately 6 plants per metre in double staggered rows based on a spacing of approximately 30cm between plants



and approximately 45cm between rows. The plants would comprise 40-60cm bare rooted transplants or cell grown plants. All proposed hedgerow plants will be individually protected either by 0.6m height translucent plastic spiral guards supported by a single stout cane or, in the case of the bushier species, a 0.6m high shrub shelter and softwood timber stakes. Bare ground within the areas to be planted with hedgerows following the construction phase would be seed with a hedgerow mix, such as Emorsgate Seeds hedgerow mixture (EH1). Where the hedgerows adjoin agricultural land, timber post and wire stockproof fences would be constructed to provide protection from grazing.

The native hedgerow is located around the perimeter of the battery compound where not restricted by the location of service routes. The hedge will be positioned outside the perimeter security and acoustic fencing.



3.0 Management Objectives and Implementation

3.1 Management objectives

The management objectives for the key habitats species and functionality of the Site are as follows:

- 1 Proposed native tree/shrub woodland mix – to be managed to provide ecological habitats for foraging and enhance the connectivity of natural habitats both within the Site and to the wider area.
- 2 Proposed native mixed hedgerows– to be managed to improve the connectivity of the hedgerow network around the Site and thus nesting and foraging habitat for wildlife, as well as local character and visual amenity value.

3.2 Timetable for Implementation

It is anticipated the construction of the Proposed Development will commence in January 2024. All clearance work and excavations shall take place under the appropriate conditions and supervision.

All planting works/the implementation of the landscape proposals shall be undertaken in the first available planting season following the construction phase. It is anticipated that the areas to be planted would be cleared and seeded in Autumn 2024 and the tree and shrub planting would be undertaken between November 2024 and March 2025.

3.3 Required Work

This Section outlines the required work to help ensure the objectives detailed in Section 3 can be achieved. Works would take place in accordance with the Landscape and Plan and based on relevant planting and seeding guidance.

Prior to any work being undertaken the location and depth of buried services in the vicinity of the planting proposals shall be identified and marked appropriately.

A detailed Landscape Plan has been prepared and is supported by a planting schedule. All planting shall be carried out in accordance with the National Plant Specification 'Handling and Establishing Landscape Plants'. All plants and planting operations shall comply with the requirements and recommendations of all current relevant British Standard specification including:

- BS 8545: 2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations
- BS 3936-1:1992. Nursery stock. Specification for trees and shrubs
- BS 3882: 2015 Specification for topsoil and requirements for use (incorporating Corrigendum No.1)
- BS 4428:1989. Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces) (AMD 6784)
- BS 5837: 2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations

All planting specified shall use existing good quality site won topsoil and/or imported 'AS DUG' topsoil from an approved source, clean/inert horticultural ameliorants from sustainable sources. Screened material shall not be accepted.



The planting season for all bare root plants shall be 1st November to 31st March. Container-grown plants may be planted at any time during favourable weather and soil conditions with appropriate watering conditions thereafter.

Areas where grass seeding is to be undertaken are to be sprayed with a suitable non-residual herbicide a minimum of two weeks prior to cultivation. Grass seeding shall be undertaken in spring or autumn and during appropriate climatic conditions and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

All soil shall be cultivated to a minimum depth of 150 mm, remove stones and clay balls larger than 50 mm in any dimension, roots, tufts of grass, rubbish and debris. Soil shall be further cultivated to a depth of 50 mm and rolled to produce a firm bed. Finished levels to be 25 mm above adjacent levels and graded evenly to marry with surrounding levels. Soil shall be raked to a fine tilth with final surface to be level, even and without localised humps and depressions.

3.4 Planting

Proposed native trees, scrub, hedgerow and ground flora have been selected based on the site visits and ecological surveys.

Planting would be sourced from a local provenance wherever possible and is listed in tables under specific headings below. All new planting would be protected using transparent rabbit spirals or shelters supported by bamboo canes or timber stakes and stock proof fencing.

3.4.1 Proposed Native Tree and Understorey Woodland Beds

Native tree / understorey / scrub planting is proposed around the edge of the multi user path to the south of the Proposed Development. New planting would reinforce the path edge, provide an element of visual screening and increase biodiversity.

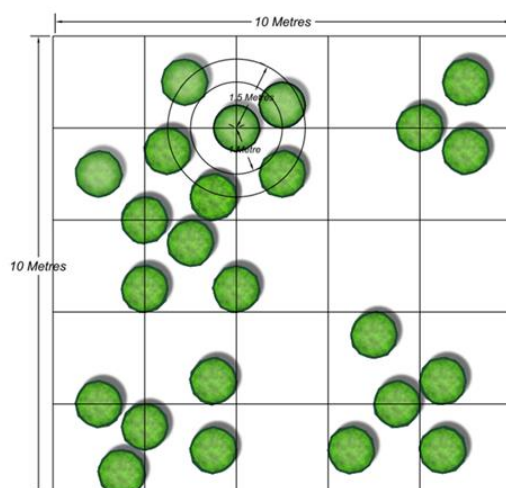
Native trees/ scrub planting would be planted as described in 'Creating New Native Woodlands¹' to reflect a 'naturalistic' appearance and create a more diverse habitat. This irregular planting matrix is illustrated in Plate 1 below. Planting would be carried out in single species groups of 5-12 number, at 1-1.5m intervals with gaps between the groups with shrub species concentrated at edges. This would be consistent with an average spacing of 1.5 metre centres.

Planting would be bare rooted 1+1 transplants that are 40 – 60cm tall. Holly would comprise container grown stock in 3 litre pots.

¹ Creating New Native Woodlands, Bulletin 12, John Rodwell and Gordon Patterson, The Forest Authority / Forestry Commission



Plate 1: Planting Matrix



The details of the proposed species are provided Table 1 below.

Table 1: Native Woodland and Understorey Mix

| Latin Name | Common Name | Number | Specification | Size | Density | % Mix |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------|---|---------|---------|-------|
| <i>Cornus sanguinea</i> | Dogwood | 31 No. | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 10 |
| <i>Corylus avellana</i> | Hazel | 92 No. | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 30 |
| <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | Hawthorn | 46 No. | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 15 |
| <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> | Holly | 16 No. | Leader with Laterals: C | 3 ltr | 1.5Ctr | 5 |
| <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> | Privet | 16 No. | 0/1: Cutting: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 5 |
| <i>Prunus spinosa</i> | Blackthorn | 46 No. | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 15 |
| <i>Rosa canina</i> | Dog rose | 16 No. | Branched: 3 brks: C | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 5 |
| <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | Elder | 31 No. | 1+0: Seedling: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 10 |
| <i>Viburnum opulus</i> | Guelder rose | 16 No. | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 1.5Ctr | 5 |

3.4.1.1 Proposed Native Hedgerow

A new native hedgerow would be introduced to the perimeter of the Site. The hedge is continuous as far as possible due to the location of underground service routes. The hedgerow would create seasonal interest and high wildlife value with species providing a



source of food for birds, insects and small mammals. Planting listed in Table 2 below would typically be bare rooted 1+1 transplants that are 40 – 60cm tall.

New native hedgerow planting would be introduced into a 750 mm wide cultivated trench as a double staggered row, with a spacing of approximately 500 mm between plants and approximately 500 mm between rows with single species groups of 3-5 plants. Depending on the nature of the substrate, backfill to the trench may require additional slow-release fertiliser / compost to aid establishment.

Table 2: Native Hedgerow

| Latin name | Common name | Specification | Height | Density | % Mix |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|---------|---|-------|
| <i>Corylus avellana</i> | Hazel | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 15% |
| <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | Common Hawthorn | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: B | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 40% |
| <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> | Holly | Leader with Laterals: C | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 5% |
| <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> | Wild Privet | 0/1: Cutting: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 5% |
| <i>Prunus spinosa</i> | Blackthorn | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 15% |
| <i>Rosa canina</i> | Dog rose | Branched: 3 brks: C | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 5% |
| <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | Elder | 1+0: Seedling: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 10% |
| <i>Viburnum opulus</i> | Guelder Rose | 1+1: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B | 40-60cm | 0.3Ctr Double Staggered at 0.45m offset | 5% |

3.4.2 Native Woodland and Hedge Ground Flora

Bare ground within the areas to be planted with trees, shrubs and hedging following the construction phase would be seed with a hedgerow mix, such as Emorsgate Seeds hedgerow mixture (EH1) or similar. The mix, shown below would be sown at 4g per metre squared, and used for both ecological benefits and to improve the visual interest of external spaces. EH1 is a complete mix composed of 20% native wildflowers and 80% slow growing grasses (by weight).



Table 3: Woodland and Hedge Ground Flora Mixture

| % | Latin Name | Common Name |
|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Wildflowers 20% | | |
| 0.10% | <i>Achillea millefolium</i> | Yarrow |
| 1 | <i>Alliaria petiolata</i> | Garlic mustard |
| 0.5 | <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> | Cow parsley |
| 1.5 | <i>Carex divulsa ssp divulsa</i> | Grey Sedge |
| 2 | <i>Centaurea nigra</i> | Common knapweed |
| 3 | <i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i> | Rough Chervil |
| 2 | <i>Cruciata laevipes</i> | Crosswort |
| 0.2 | Dipsacus fullorum | Wild teasel |
| 0.5 | <i>Galium album – (Galium mollugo)</i> | Hedge Bedstraw |
| 0.1 | <i>Geranium pratense</i> | Meadow cranesbill |
| 1 | <i>Geranium pyreniacum</i> | Hedge Crane's-bill |
| 0.3 | <i>Geum urbanum</i> | Wood Avens |
| 0.2 | <i>Knautia arvensis</i> | Field scabious |
| 1 | <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> | Moon daisy |
| 1 | <i>Malva moschata</i> | Musk mallow |
| 2 | <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> | Ribwort plantain |
| 3 | <i>Silene dioica</i> | Red Campion |
| 0.5 | <i>Silene flos-cuculi</i> | Ragged Robin |
| 0.1 | <i>Torilis japonica</i> | Upright hedge parsley |
| Grasses 80% | | |
| 1 | <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> | Common Bent (w) |
| 2 | <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> | Sweet Vernal-grass (w) |
| 1 | <i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i> | False Brome (w) |
| 50 | <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i> | Crested Dogstail |
| 2 | <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> | Tufted Hair-grass (w) |
| 20 | <i>Festuca rubra</i> | Red Fescue (w) |
| 4 | <i>Poa nemoralis</i> | Wood Meadow-grass |



4.0 Management Programme (work schedule)

4.1 General Management

Below is a summary of proposed maintenance and aftercare measures and an indicative management schedule for the first five years after planting. Further details are provided in a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, prepared and submitted in compliance with condition 14 of the planning permission.

4.1.1 Maintenance of Trees, Shrubs and Hedgerow Planting

A visual inspection of the planting would be carried out on an annual basis to check for good strong foliage and growth. Where this is not obvious soil samples may be taken to assess nutrient levels and determine specific fertiliser applications.

All planting areas would be kept weed free, and maintenance visits would be carried out as necessary to re-adjust guards and canes which have become loose, over-tight or broken. Any plants that become loose would also be re-firmed and adjusted. In year five, all tree / hedgerow planting would be checked for establishment, all guards/shelters, stakes, canes and ties that are no longer required would be removed and the general shape and requirements for formative pruning and singling out of leaders would be assessed.

Long term the proposed hedgerow would be maintained at approximately 3 m high and the section of hedge would be pruned alternately on a 2-3 year rotation in January- February, aiming to promote bushy growth while providing continued habitat and foraging opportunities for wildlife.

The level of control of rabbits and other pests including grey squirrels would also be assessed in relation any effects on the establishment of vegetation. Similarly, measures would be taken under the provisions of the Weeds Act 1959, to control injurious weeds, so that they do not spread. For all areas under the client's control, weeds would be controlled by the appropriate application of herbicides by a certified competent person, according to manufacturer's instructions and in accordance with the Environment Agency Guidelines.

The control of pests and weeds would be checked throughout the aftercare period and measures introduced where necessary. On each visit the following activities would be carried out:

- Spray around the trees and shrubs with a suitable herbicide, within a radial distance of 500mm from the stems. Application of weedkiller shall be carried out using an Arbor-guard to protect planting from spray damage. A mulch or membrane may also be used to control weed growth.
- Cut back the areas between plants to 100mm above ground level if required, in order to keep the planted areas clear of weeds and long grass.
- Re-firm planting where loosened and prune any damaged growth back to healthy wood.
- Check the security and fitting of any tree stakes, ties and guards and renew and adjust where necessary.
- Inspect and maintain stock proof fencing in good order, especially ensuring that straining wires are kept at the correct tension, posts are firmly held in the ground and all staples and fittings are securely in place.
- Supply and apply at approved rates any fertiliser, pesticide or fungicide required for the successful establishment of the planting.
- New planting shall be watered regularly and in response to weather conditions.



- If necessary, replacement planting would be undertaken as required on an annual basis during the management and maintenance period.

4.1.2 Maintenance of Ground Flora

After sowing it is preferable that these areas are kept relatively short (30-50mm) to encourage tillering. Cutting would stop in April and not recommence until July/August to allow the grasses / flowers to mature and set seed. Most of the sown wildflower species are perennial and would be slow to germinate, grow and flower, particularly against the competition from established grasses, as such maintenance in the early years would be carried out sensitively. Ultimately these areas would be cut / strimmed once a year allowing all plants to flower and seed. It may be conducive to leave arisings in-situ until the areas have become fully established as this would maximise the return of seed.

4.2 Specific Management

Table 4 below provides list of maintenance operations for each of the planting types for Year 1 to 5 of plan establishment and illustrates the anticipated frequency (on a monthly basis) that operations are required.



Table :4 Monthly Management Operations - Year 1 to 5

| Monthly Management Operations | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Action | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
| Proposed Native Tree / Shrub Understorey and Ground Flora & Native Mixed Hedgerow | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hand weeding around new plants, keep bases weed free as necessary. | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Ground Flora: Rotational strimming of grass/wildflower understorey. Following sowing in spring, regularly mow to 40-60mm height throughout the first growing season to prevent weeds smothering slower growing grasses. Remove cuttings. In following years, allow grasses to grow tall, flower and set seed from May to July/August. Cut back to 40-60cm in late summer every 3 years. | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| Check tubes and stakes. | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| Application of slow-release fertiliser if appropriate. | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| Adjustments to ensure plants remain upright. | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| Pruning to remove any dead, dying or diseased wood and suckers. | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | |
| Replacement of dead or defective new planting. | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | |
| Once established, cut hedgerow in height and sides to a maximum of 2.5 m high and pruned on one side per year alternating on a 2-3 year rotation in January- February, aiming to promote bushy growth while providing continued habitat and foraging opportunities for wildlife. | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| Removal of self-sown trees (if necessary) by digging up or use of suitable herbicides. | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | |



5.0 Roles, Responsibilities and Monitoring

5.1 Roles and responsibilities

This Soft landscape strategy incorporates objectives and prescriptions for the approach to be adopted in the maintenance and management of the Consented and Proposed Amended Development.

The aim is to promote a sensitive management approach which protects and improves the landscape and visual amenity value of the Site, enhances biodiversity and is compatible with the Development.

The management and maintenance of the soft landscape planting would be undertaken by a landscape contractor appointed by EDF Renewables.

The successful contractor would be required to manage and maintain the landscape of the Development in accordance with this soft landscape strategy and the LEMP. EDF Renewables shall satisfy themselves that the appointed contractor is fit and capable of undertaking the tasks.

Details of the appointed contractor would be provided to Stockport District Council if required.

5.2 Monitoring

The Soft Landscape Strategy provides an overview of activities for 5 years following implementation of the landscape strategy on the Site. The various tasks contained within the strategy shall be reviewed and revised as deemed necessary. All areas of the strategy would be closely monitored throughout a 5-year aftercare period by a suitably competent professional so that the most appropriate management regime can be defined. This process would identify where the existing management regime requires modification to meet management objectives, both annually and in the long-term.

The number of inspections would vary according to the stage of management and maintenance.

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Years 1 and 2 | 3 Visits |
| Year 3 | 2 Visits |
| Years 4 and 5 | 1 Visit |

To ensure a holistic approach to landscape management is achieved, it is suggested that the following are appointed:

- a qualified landscape architect to carry out periodic inspections of the implemented landscape scheme to ensure the landscape objectives are achieved throughout the period of the OLEMP; and
- a licensed ecologist to monitor the wildflower grassland areas, ground flora, hedgerows and treelines and identify any remediate actions required.

All materials, workmanship, quality and operations would be in accordance with all relevant British Standards, Codes of Practice and legislation.

Annual visual inspections during years 1 to 5 shall be carried out at least twice a year (at the start and end of the growing season in March and September/October) to check for good strong foliage, and growth, and the success of habitats, so that the most suitable management regime/operations can be defined for the forthcoming year.



It is proposed that a checklist and detailed record of management operations are maintained by the operator once the aftercare period commences. It is also recommended that details of each year's aftercare, including works carried out and proposed works for the next year are compiled as an annual report. All areas of planting / vegetation shall be cleared of litter at least twice annually to keep planted areas clean and tidy. The requirement for watering shall be assessed regularly during long, dry periods (typically during the summer months) to ensure that all areas of new and existing planting are maintained in good health and vigour. Replacement planting shall be carried out in November or February/March, avoiding winter frosts. Replacement seeding shall be carried out in spring or autumn.

Maintenance operations would be adapted to reflect the increasing maturity of planting. It is envisaged that after the initial five-year period, visual inspections would be carried out once per year in late September. Annual visual inspections would be undertaken in order that operations can be adapted to respond to the needs of planting as it becomes more established, and to respond to unpredictable events, such as extreme weather, which may require additional, specific actions and to keep an up-to-date record of maintenance requirements.









**Appendix A Landscape Proposals :
Consented Compound
Layout**



**Appendix B Landscape Proposals :
Proposed Amended
Compound Layout**

