



1No Acer ginnala

- 17No Vinca minor 'La Grave'
- 63No Santolina rosmarinifolia 'Primrose Gem'
- 7No Carex pendula
- 39No Vinca minor 'La Grave'
- 45No Festuca glauca 'Elijah Blue'
- 7No Sedum spectabile 'Brilliant'

1No Acer ginnala

wildflower/grass mix



Landscape Design Guide

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out the key design considerations which need to be addressed in the design and implementation of landscape schemes for small scale non-contentious developments, where proposals are in line with current use allocations.

Planning applications are considered minor where the number of residential units is less than 10 or non-residential developments of less than 0.5ha in area or where less than 1000m² of floor space is to be created.

Design Context

Landscape proposals should meet the requirements of current planning policies for Landscape. The primary aim is to conserve the existing landscape features on site and to enhance them through the provision of new landscape features and planting. A well designed landscape scheme can provide the following benefits:

- Integrate the development with its surroundings in a sympathetic manner and be appropriate to the character of the area, contributing to local identity
- Enhance the setting of the development, and/or provide screening to lessen possible visual, noise or other impacts
- Add to the market value of the site or individual plot
- Create a quality environment in which to live, work or play
- Support pollinator friendly planting practices and enhance biodiversity.

Design Considerations: The Basics

The main design considerations for Landscape provision on development sites are universal and apply regardless of the proposed use of the site. These are as follows:

- **Landscape character** – an understanding of the existing character can help to integrate the development within its surroundings
- **Existing vegetation** – The retention of existing vegetation can help to provide maturity to a new scheme and also help with integration
- **Species selection and site layout** – The site layout needs to plan spatially for all elements of the development and its use, including making space for landscape treatments. Species should be selected to suit the space available, to ensure that trees/ shrubs do not become a nuisance in the future or require continual extensive pruning.
- **Biodiversity** – Species selection should include where appropriate, the use of native species and species to encourage Bees & Butterflies
- **Pollinator friendly practices** – Species selection should incorporate where possible, the use of pollinator friendly plant species (refer to species list). You can support Bees and other pollinating insects through the following pollinator friendly practices
- Growing a range of pollinator friendly plants to flower throughout the year
- Avoiding the use of pesticides
- Avoid the use of double flowered or multi-flowered plants
- **Secure By design /boundary treatments** – Secure by design principles can be employed to help ensure natural surveillance and the planning of planting and boundary treatments to assist with crime reduction
- **Sustainable urban drainage schemes (SUDS)** – Landscaping has a role to play in SUDS, even on small scale developments the use of planted ditches, swales and rain gardens can mitigate surface run-off. The use of rainwater harvesting and grey water systems can also be used to irrigate landscape areas
- **Maintenance and management** – It is important that the maintenance and management of a designed landscape is considered at the time of planning and, ensuring that the planned maintenance is affordable and that the benefits of the scheme can be sustained in the long-term.

Residential developments:

Detailed design considerations

South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide provides detailed guidance on all aspects of design in relation to residential developments.

The guidance is structured based on Building for Life Assessment Criteria. Whilst a Building for Life Assessment is not a requirement for residential

developments of less than 10 dwellings, the criteria and guidance provide excellent design & technical guidance for smaller developments.

The table below lists those sections of South Yorkshire Residential Design Guidance with particular relevance to Landscape Design for residential developments.

Ref	Title
A	Assessment and appraisal
A2.3	Inclusive public realm
A2.5	Safer places
A3.2	Character
A3.4	Landscape habitat & green infrastructure
N	Neighbourhoods
N2	Character
N3.4	Microclimate
N4	Green infrastructure, vegetation & habitat
N4.1	Existing landscape features, vegetation & habitat
N4.2	The landscape framework
N6.2	Topography
N6.3	Views
S	Streets
S1.6	Character & variation
S1.7	Spatial enclosure
S1.8	Defining the public and private realms
S1.9	Creating a sense of integration
S2.7	Street trees & other planting
B	Plots, blocks & buildings
B1.5	Density
B2.4	Relationship of the building to the public realm
B2.5	Private & shared private & outdoor space
B3.6	Materials & colour
4	Technical standards
4A	Amenity, internal space standards, safety & security
4G	Street trees
4L	Management

Non-residential developments: Detailed design considerations

Structural landscaping

The objective is to provide screening to site boundaries and create an attractive setting for the development. The emphasis is on addressing any potential negative views from neighbours/ publicly accessible areas and enhancing the existing amenity & street scene.

- Wherever possible existing vegetation should be retained and supplemented with new planting
- Native species should be used where appropriate to enhance local biodiversity and contain a mixture of deciduous and evergreen species to maintain visual interest across the seasons
- Typically a structural landscape buffer will be 2 to 5m wide and can comprise either a combination of existing retained vegetation and proposed planting or all new planting where there is no existing vegetation on site
- The planting proposals should be respectful of the existing species composition on site and should be mindful of the proximity of neighbours and be designed to avoid the potential for future nuisance

- Boundary treatments should be of a character and scale to suit the location. In some locations, there may be a design precedent for either no boundary treatment at all or a particular type of boundary treatment.

Plot landscaping

The objective is to create an attractive setting for the development, through a well laid out scheme of tree and shrub planting and grassed areas with species selected of suitable size from the approved species list.

- Consideration should be given to creating attractive plot entrances and to the treatment of roadside boundaries, internal access roads and internal boundaries with other plots where these exist
- The use of shrub planting/hedges with trees is effective and can be used to minimise the visual impact of car parking areas
- Use pollinator friendly planting practices and enhance biodiversity
- Consideration of secure by design principles
- Where space allows provision of seating areas, for staff/visitors should be considered.



Appendix A: Approved species list

Tree Planting	PF
Species	
<i>Acer Campestre</i>	x
<i>Betula pendula</i>	
<i>Betula Ermanii</i>	
<i>Carpinus betulus 'Frans fontaine'</i>	
<i>Malus species</i>	x
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	
<i>Prunus species</i>	x
<i>Pyrus 'Chanticleer'</i>	x
<i>Quercus patraea</i>	
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	x
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	x
<i>Sorbus aria 'Lutescens'</i>	
<i>Tillia species</i>	x

Climbers	PF
Species	
<i>Clematis cultivars</i>	x
<i>Jasminum cultivars</i>	x
<i>Lonicera periclymenum & cultivars</i>	x
<i>Hydrangea petiolaris & Cultivars</i>	x
<i>Hedera colchica</i>	x
<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	x

Native hedgerow/thicket mix	PF
Species	
<i>Acer Campestre</i>	x
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	x
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	x
<i>hedera helix</i>	x
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	x
<i>ligustrum vulgare</i>	x
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	x
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	x
<i>Rosa Canina</i>	x

Plant species marked with a 'x' in the **PF** column are Pollinator Friendly plants.

Herbaceous/Grasses	PF
Species	
<i>Achillea cultivars</i>	x
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	x
<i>Anemone cultivars</i>	x
<i>Aquilegia species</i>	x
<i>Artemisia arbotanum 'Powis Castle'</i>	
<i>Bergenia cordifolia & cultivars</i>	x
<i>Calamagrostis 'Karl Foerster'</i>	
<i>Carex oshmensis 'Evergold'</i>	
<i>Coreopsis cultivars</i>	x
<i>Dahlia species</i>	x
<i>Delphinium cultivars</i>	x
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	x
<i>Echinacea white swan</i>	x
<i>Echinops cultivars</i>	x
<i>Eryngium species</i>	x
<i>Erysimum species</i>	x
<i>Euphorbia cultivars</i>	x
<i>Fuschia cultivars</i>	x
<i>Festuca glauca</i>	
<i>Geranium species</i>	x
<i>Hosta 'Blue Wedgewood'</i>	
<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	
<i>Heuchera spp</i>	
<i>Iris 'Wisley white'</i>	
<i>Lamium maculatum 'white nancy'</i>	
<i>Lavandula 'Hidcote' & cultivars</i>	x
<i>Lavatera 'Barnsley'</i>	x
<i>Linaria purpurea</i>	x
<i>Luzula sylvatica 'Marginata'</i>	
<i>Miscanthus sinensis 'Gracillimus'</i>	
<i>Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens'</i>	
<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	x
<i>Persicaria species</i>	x
<i>Rudbeckia species</i>	x
<i>Salvia nemerosa</i>	x
<i>Salvia 'mainacht'</i>	x
<i>Sedum spectabile & cultivars</i>	x
<i>Stachys byzantina</i>	x
<i>Stipa gigantea</i>	
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	
<i>Thymus cultivars</i>	x
<i>Uncia rubra</i>	
<i>Verbena cultivars</i>	x
<i>Verbascum cultivars</i>	x

Ornamental Shrub /Herbaceous	PF
Species	
<i>Aucuba Japonica</i>	
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Pupurea nana'	
<i>Brachyglottis</i> 'sunshine'	x
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	x
<i>Ceanothus</i> 'Blue mound'	
<i>Choisya ternata</i> 'Sundance'	
<i>Choisya</i> 'Aztec Pearl'	
<i>Cornus alba</i> 'Spaethii'	x
<i>Cornus stolonifolia</i> 'Flaviramea'	
<i>Cytisus x kewensis</i>	
<i>Cotinus coggyria</i> & cultivars	
<i>Escallonia</i> 'apple blossom'	x
<i>Elaeagnus</i> varieties	x
<i>Fatsia japonica</i>	x
<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i> 'Lynwood Gold'	
<i>Grisolina littoralis</i>	
<i>Hebe</i> 'red edge'	x
<i>Hebe pinguifolia</i> 'pagei'	x
<i>Hebe</i> 'Green globe'	x
<i>Helleborous nigra</i>	x
<i>Hydrangea</i> cultivars	x
<i>Hypericum calycinum</i>	
<i>Juniperus squamata</i> 'Blue Star'	
<i>Lonicera</i> varieties & culitvars	x
<i>Lonicera</i> 'Baggasen's Gold'	
<i>Mahonia</i> 'Charity'	x
<i>Olearia haastii</i>	x
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	
<i>Philadelphus</i> 'Manteau d'Hermine'	x
<i>Phormium tenax</i> & cultivars	
<i>Photinia</i> 'red robin'	
<i>Pieris japonica</i>	x
<i>Pinus mugo</i> 'Mops'	
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> 'Cherry Brandy' &	x
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> & cultivars	x
<i>Pyracnatha</i> species	x
<i>Rosa</i> - ground cover varieties	x
<i>Sarcococca hookeriana</i>	
<i>Skimmia japonica</i>	x
<i>Spiraea japonica</i> ''Firelight'	x

Contd.	PF
<i>Spiraea nipponica</i> 'Snowmound'	
<i>Spirea bumalda</i> 'Anthony waterer'	
<i>Spirea japonica</i> cultivars	x
<i>Spirea Bumalda</i> 'Anthony Waterer'	
<i>Spirea Japonica</i> cultivars	
<i>Viburnum tinus</i> 'Eve Price'	
<i>Viburnum x davidii</i>	
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	x
<i>Vinca minor</i> cultivars	

Bulbs	PF
Species	
<i>Anemone</i>	x
<i>Allium</i>	x
<i>Camassia</i>	
<i>Crocus</i> spp	x
<i>Chionodoxa</i>	x
<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	x
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	
<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	
<i>Hyacinthoides</i>	
<i>Iris</i>	x
<i>Narcissus</i>	



Appendix B: Specification

Ground Preparation

Subsoil

During excavation and site strip, take care to stockpile topsoil and subsoil separately, in order to avoid contamination. Decompact subsoil areas to min 300mm to ensure free drainage prior to topsoiling.

Topsoil

Where possible existing topsoil should be re-used where suitable, soil analysis can be carried out in compliance with BS3882 to check for nutrient deficiencies and contaminants. Imported topsoil can be brought on to site to make up any required deficiency on site.

Imported topsoil must comply with BS3882

Specification for topsoil and requirements for use: Spread topsoil to planting areas to 450mm depth and seeded areas to 150mm depth.

Tree pits

Generally tree pits to be formed and prepared in accordance with BS 4043 recommendations for transplanting rootballed trees. Excavate to form tree pits to the following sizes:

1.2x1.2m by 0.9m deep to advanced nursery stock (18-20cm)

0.9 x0.9m by 0.75m deep to heavy standard trees (12-14, 14-16, 16-18cm)

For all trees break up bases of tree pits to 150mm depth. Backfill tree pits with mixture 2 parts topsoil from stockpile and 1 part green waste compost to PAS100. If soil analysis concludes that existing topsoil is unsuitable for tree planting, import free-draining sandy loam topsoil to BS 3882 for use as tree pit backfill.

Planting areas for shrubs/hedgerows

Excavate/fill existing topsoil/subsoil to required depth to form planting bed. Spread and tip topsoil in 3 layers of 150mm deep lightly firming each layer. Incorporate 50mm depth of well rotted

compost to PAS100 throughout the topsoil. Cultivate to a depth of 450mm including general grading. Fine grade and remove any stone, debris brought to the surface greater than 25 mm in size.

Seeding

Excavate/fill existing topsoil/subsoil to required depth to form seed bed. Spread and tip topsoil in 1 layer 150mm deep lightly firming each layer. Seeded areas to be cultivated to a depth of 150mm including general grading. Fine grading and remove any stone, debris brought to the surface greater than 25 mm in size.

Planting Works

Trees

To be planted in accordance with semi mature tree planting specification below and BS 4043 Recommendations for transplanting rootball trees. Trees to be suitably staked or guyed underground and fitted with an irrigation pipe.

All works to existing trees to be carried out with the approval of Rotherham Council arboriculturist and in accordance with BS 3998, tree work recommendations and BS 5837 trees, in relation to design, demolition and construction - recommendations.

Specification for tree planting

All tree/s shall be vigorous, healthy, undamaged, and have an evenly well balanced crown and an upright and persistent leader. The trees should have a well-prepared root-ball system.

Semi-mature trees

5.0 to 6.5m in height. Minimum 25 cm stem circumference measured at 1m above ground level. 1.8m clear stem height; (distance from ground level to the lowest branch). The trees should have a well-prepared root-ball system. The supply and planting of such trees is a specialist market and it is advised that a suitably experienced contractor be employed.

Advanced nursery stock

5.0 to 6.5m in height. Minimum 18-20cm stem circumference measured at 1m above ground level. 1.8m clear stem height; (distance from ground level to the lowest branch). The trees should have a well-prepared root-ball system. The supply and planting of such trees is a specialist market and it is advised that a suitably experienced contractor be employed.

Heavy standard trees

3.5 to 4.25 m in height, min 12-14cm min stem circumference measured at 1m above ground level. 1.8m clear stem height; (distance from ground level to the lowest branch).

Multi-stem trees

3 to 3.5 metres in height. Multistem container grown.

Shrubs

Shrubs to be planted in pits, large enough to accommodate roots when fully spread. Planting pits to be backfilled with a mixture of excavated topsoil and slow release fertiliser. Plants to be well watered in.

Seeding/turfing

Grass seed to be sown within prepared areas, using a suitable grass seed mix, sowing rate.

Typical sowing rate between 25-35g/m². Areas to be turfed to be raked to fine tilth, turf laid with staggered joints, working from boards to protect turf during laying. Turf areas to be left free from all traffic for min of 2 weeks and watered regularly to avoid drying out. Wildflower seed from suitable supplier sown at a rate of 1-3g/m² onto scratch cultivated ground and harrowed in to lightly bury.

Bulb planting

To be supplied firm, entire, not dried out or shrivelled, free from pests, diseases and fungus. Remove from packaging immediately, store as necessary in a well ventilated, dark, covered, rodent proof container, away from exhausts and fruit at 18-21°C. Bulbs to be planted to depths equal to approx twice the height of the bulb/ corm/ tuber. Base to be in contact with bottom of hole.

Backfill with finely broken excavated soil, lightly firmed to existing ground level. Bulbs in existing grassed areas: Set out each species in turn to required densities to achieve even cover and provide succession of flowering. Planting: Neatly remove a plug of turf and replace after planting.

Implementation programme

Planting works to be carried out during November – March, bulb planting in August /September and seeding during April-October. All works to existing vegetation/trees to be undertaken outside bird breeding season (generally taken to run from March to August inclusive).

Maintenance

Trees/Shrubs

- Removal of litter and debris from planting areas.
- Firm up plants loosened by frost or wind.
- During dry periods water as required.
- Use of suitable herbicides applied in accordance with manufacturer's instruction to keep planted areas weed free, number of visits per month dependent on seasonal conditions.
- Hand weed as necessary.
- Annually top dress with slow release fertiliser applied to shrub areas the first spring after planting.
- Prune hedges to encourage healthy and bushy growth creating a neat and tidy form.
- Beat up to replace failed plants and trees. Assessments to be carried out in September and replacements planted before the end of December the same season. For a period of 5 years following completion.

Grass/lawns

- Areas to be maintained at a height not exceeding 75mm, number of visits per month dependent on seasonal conditions. Bulb areas not to be mown until leaves have died.
- Spring turf fertiliser to be applied to seeded areas. Remove invasive weed growth from wildflower meadow areas, regularly. Flail mow/strim to 50mm height in the autumn and remove arisings.

Appendix C: Additional information

The following Rotherham Council landscape related documents can help with understanding the landscape context of the borough and the Council's aspirations for the town centre, places to live and work:

Landscape Character Assessment

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/corestrategyexamination/downloads/file/440/leb29_landscape_character_assessment_and_landscape_capacity_study_2010

Local Biodiversity Action Plan

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/corestrategyexamination/downloads/file/432/leb26_rotherham_biodiversity_action_plan_2004

South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/corestrategyexamination/downloads/file/371/leb12_south_yorkshire_residential_design_guide_2011

Better Places to Work in South Yorkshire

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/corestrategyexamination/downloads/file/372/leb13_better_places_to_work_in_south_yorkshire_2003

The Yorkshire & Humber Green Infrastructure Project

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/corestrategyexamination/downloads/file/359/leb05a_yorkshire_and_the_humber_green_infrastructure_mapping_project_methodology http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/corestrategyexamination/downloads/file/360/leb05b_yorkshire_and_the_humber_green_infrastructure_mapping_project_corridor_descriptions

The following professional bodies have also produced helpful guidance:

Secured by Design

<http://www.securedbydesign.com>

