

Appendix 5-3

Landscape Plan

Planting Details

Existing Planting: The site has little tree cover at present. There is patchy scrub vegetation covering part of the boundary fences on the north and east of the site. This consists mainly of briars, small numbers of Hawthorn bushes, and other herbaceous vegetation such as Nettle. The western boundary runs adjacent to a car park area. This is a steep bank that on visual inspection consists of fill that was likely to have been used to level the neighbouring car park. Herbaceous vegetation and Buddleia bushes are starting to colonise this bank. There is a patch of grassland to the north of the existing yard. There is also a small grassy area with some Buddleia bushes on the southern boundary.

Design Notes: This landscape plan aims to better utilise the green space around the proposed development to maximise its biodiversity potential and screen the site. The proposals involve:

- Planting the northern boundary with a native hedge in agreement with the local authority. A hedge will also be planted on the southern boundary as well.
- Planting a native shelterbelt on the western boundary. This will involve excavating two trenches and planting pits and backfilling them with screened topsoil.
- Creating a wildflower meadow to the front of the site (southern boundary). A strip of meadow will also be created along the northern boundary.
- Creating a filter drain / swale at the base of the slope on the western boundary where runoff will be collected in the site drainage network. Soil to cover this filter drain / swale to be to a depth of 100mm - this should consist of a free draining soil mix.

The landscape design was developed in accordance with the GNI 'Landscaping for Biodiversity Guidelines for Gas Network Ireland Sites'.

Wildflower Meadow Notes:
The ground preparation and seeding; the finished areas to be raked evenly and any large stones above 50mm diameter or other protruding objects be removed from the meadow areas. This should allow suitable machinery to cut and lift the meadow each year. Seed to be sown at 5g/m² on all areas (total area 230m²). The seed mix will be a grass seed mix only with wildflowers allowed to colonise naturally.

Grasses (100%): Common Bent; Crested Dogtail; Slender-creeping Red-fescue; Smaller Cat's-tail; Smooth-stalked Meadowgrass

After Care / Maintenance Notes: The meadows will be managed as either shortcut meadow or hay meadow - this is to be agreed by GNI and the contractor. For meadow management guidelines please refer to Section 7.3 of the GNI 'Landscaping for Biodiversity Guidelines for Gas Network Ireland Sites'.

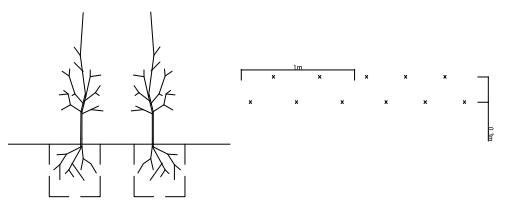
Tree Planting Notes:
All tree planting to take place in the first bare root planting season (Nov-March) after completion of site works.

The ground for the tree planting areas (hedges and shelterbelts) should be made up with good quality topsoil (for any imported topsoil this should be screened and sourced from an approved site that is free of invasive species such as Japanese knotweed). Prepare the plants by: pruning back any damaged roots to healthy growth; placing roots of waiting plants in water whilst planting.

All native trees to be of Irish provenance and origin only.

Hedges:
Hedging trees to be planted in a double staggered row @ 5 trees / m.
Total length of the 2 hedges proposed: 30m (15m each)

Species	Size	Qty
Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	60-90cm B/R	100
Corylus avellana (Hazel)	60-90cm B/R	20
Euonymus europaeus (Spindle)	60-90cm B/R	10
Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	20-30cm B/R	5
Prunus spinosa (Blackthorn)	60-90cm B/R	10
Viburnum opulus (Guelder Rose)	60-90cm B/R	5



Planting Details (cont'd)

Shelterbelt:

Species	Size	Qty
Quercus robur (Oak)	60-90cm B/R	2
Betula pendula (Birch)	60-90cm B/R	10
Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	30-40cm B/R	5
Sorbus aucuparia (Rowan)	60-90cm B/R	7
Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	60-90cm B/R	5
Corylus avellana (Hazel)	60-90cm B/R	5
Euonymus europaeus (Spindle)	60-90cm B/R	5
Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	20-30cm B/R	5
Viburnum opulus (Guelder Rose)	60-90cm B/R	5

Trees to be planted in two rows along the main length. Prior to planting trenches should be dug along the rows and backfilled with good quality topsoil. Trenches should be 60cm deep and 60cm width or otherwise agreed with the engineer.

Trees to be planted at 2m centres on each row with 1m between the rows.

Individual trees at the entrance not in the rows should be pit planted with good quality topsoil used to backfill the holes. Pits to be 60cm dia. x 60 cm depth.

The planting of native trees and hedging fits in with Section 7.1 and 7.2 of the GNI 'Landscaping for Biodiversity Guidelines for Gas Network Ireland Sites'.



Legend

- SITE BOUNDARY RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT
- PROPOSED LEVELS
- WILDFLOWER HAY MEADOW
- HEDGEROW
- STONE CHIPPINGS
- STONE CHIPPED PATHS. STONE TO BE SIMILAR AS INTERNAL STONE CHIPPED AREAS
- ROAD (ashpalt)
- CONCRETE AREA

*In accordance with Section 7.1.2 of the GNI 'Landscaping for Biodiversity Guidelines for Gas Network Ireland Sites' on tree & hedge planting set backs for underground gas pipelines.

For details on all site infrastructure, hard landscaping (e.g. stone chippings, fencing, etc.) and the bioswale construction details please refer to the engineers plans.

EIAR PURPOSES ONLY

DATE	REVISION	BY	CHKD.	APPR.
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