SPECIFICATION

- Applies to all sports pitches and associated landscaping operations.

1 GENERAL

1.1 Preliminaries

Health and Safety considerations are as the Bloor Homes Trade Specifications.

The following specification is in-line with the Trades Specification, however where there are specific requirements, these notes take precedence over the general guidance outlined within the Trade Specification.

The Site Manager should possess and distribute information to the relevant contractors regarding all underground services, engineering, drainage, lighting and ecological constraints and current proposed landscaping prior to external works and landscaping operations.

1.2 Soft Landscaping Considerations

All soft landscaping should be carried out by specialist landscape sub-contractor who is either British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) accredited or can demonstrate a proven track record.

Any variance from the specification stated on each landscape drawing may result in a request to replace planting, at the contractors expense.

1.3 Tendering and Implementation

Landscape Contractors are required to tender and implement as per the schedule and specification.

All landscape implementation will be audited.

The site should be found in a condition as described in the Ground Workers' Trade Specification document which includes the removal of all builder's debris and the hardcore base set for scaffolding.

2 RETENTION OF EXISTING TREES AND HEDGEROWS

Precautions must be taken to ensure that trees and hedges shown for retention remain undisturbed with roots and branches protected with robust barriers in accordance with the most current BS 5837 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction. Any tree surgery work should be in accordance with the most current BS 3998 Recommendation for Tree Work and must comply with any Conservation Area, Tree Preservation Orders or specific planning conditions where appropriate.

Reference must be made to Tree Protection Drawings.

3 PRE-PLANTING AND PRE-TURFING GROUND PREPARATION (Groundworking)

3.1 Subsoil Cultivation

Prior to any topsoiling all subsoil should be thoroughly 'ripped' to relieve compaction using suitable machinery, or by hand in confined areas or in proximity to existing tree roots to a depth of 150mm.

3.2 Imported and Stored Topsoil

Wherever possible store and re-spread existing topsoil to POS areas to encourage re-generation of localised native species.

Topsoil, all topsoiling and soil storage operations are to be carried out in accordance with the current BS 3882 Specification for Topsoil. Topsoil spreading should be carried out to the depths shown below and all topsoiled areas should be cleared of all extraneous matter such as perennial weeds, plastic, wood, metal and stones greater than 50mm in any dimension which should be removed from site to a licensing facility.

Minimum depths of topsoil after firming and of subsoil cultivation to be achieved:

Type of Soft Landscaping	Topsoil Depth	Depth of subsoil to be broken up
Grass Areas	150mm	150mm

* Remove extraneous matter within cultivated subsoil above 75mm in any dimension.

3.3 Levelling/Grading

In final grading operations finished soil levels adjacent to buildings are to be 150mm. For seeded areas the soil level should be at least 30mm above the finished surface level to allow the soil to settle.

4 GRASS

4.1 Preparation

The area to be seeded shall be cultivated to a minimum depth of 100mm, eradicating all weeds and removing these, and debris and stones over 25mm diameter, from site. The surface shall be raked to smooth flowing contours with a medium tilth and well firmed. Finished firmed soil levels for seeded areas are to be at least 10mm above adjacent paving / paths.

4.2 Amenity Grass Seeding

All grass seed is to be sown in March / April or September during calm weather conditions and not when the ground is frost bound or waterlogged.

After sowing the contractor shall lightly rake the seed into intimate contact with the soil. When newly seeded areas reach 50mm in height they should be lightly rolled and cut to a height of 47mm. All arising's shall be removed from site. Any bare patches shall be made good at this time.

4.3 Mowing

The playing surface should be regularly mown. The height of cut should be kept to a minimum of 25mm and a maximum of 37mm all year round.

5 GENERAL AFTERCARE & MAINTENANCE

The landscape contractor shall maintain all areas for a period of 12 months following practical completion to ensure successful establishment. All seeding deemed to be dead, dying or diseased within the defects period shall be replaced by the contractor at own cost.

The contractor should factor in 12 months of repeat visits, sufficient for the establishment and aftercare of all seeded areas.

All areas are to be kept litter free.

5.1 Weed Clearance and Pest Control

Only where necessary, because significant weed growth has started to establish, treat existing weeds with a non-residual based, herbicide and allow a suitable period as recommended by the manufacturer for this to take effect. Herbicide should be used strictly in accordance with the Pesticides Act 1999 (or otherwise updated/superseded legislation), according to manufacturer's instructions and only by qualified staff. Use products that are approved by the Soil Association.

5.2 Seeded Areas

Once seeding grasses are established, (typically in good growing conditions about three to four weeks after sowing), lightly roll or tread to firm and level the soil around the grass roots ready for the first cut. (Do not roll however if the ground is saturated with water).

When grass within amenity grass area and mown path areas establishes, its first cut should be at a higher setting of 50mm it should be lightly rolled. All arising's shall be removed. Any bare patches shall be made good at this time. Thereafter mow the new lawn regularly as needed, progressively reducing the mowing height over its first spring/summer to the desired height of 40mm. Watering, removal of invasive weed species and repair of all erosion and settlement with re-seeding shall be undertaken as required to establish a healthy stand of grass.

5.3 Fertiliser

Fertiliser should be distributed evenly across sports pitches. For optimal growth and recovery throughout winter the fertiliser should be spread between April to early May. Two weeks after fertilisation the pitches should be verti-drained, the soil must be drained sufficiently to maximise the fracturing and fissuring effect. Verti-draining should be in conjunction with an application of sand top dressing.

5.4 **Sports Pitches**

Works to the sports pitches should be undertaken in spring to early autumn, ground conditions should be dry.

Light rolling is to be used to create a smooth surface. Heavy rolling should be avoided. Renovation is to be carried out once the playing season has ended which should include the filling and/ or levelling of the playing surface where holes, divots or localised 'sinking' occurs, to maintain a smooth, level playing surface. Re-seeding may also need to take place in support of this.

Any remedial/ renovation works need to be carried out promptly at the end of the playing season in order to produce a healthy sward within the short time available before the start of the next playing season.

5.5 **Winter work**

For best results it is necessary to carry out maintenance work throughout the playing season. During the winter months the use of tractor mounted equipment should be limited because the ground is rarely dry enough to support a tractor without some damage to the playing surface. Heavy rolling should be avoided as this causes compaction but light rolling can be beneficial on occasion to smooth the surface and should only be done when the ground is just moist and not when wet or dry.

6 SOCKETED GOALS

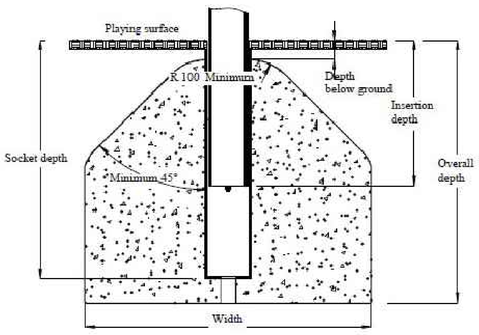
6.1 **Socketed goals** - Goalpost sockets should always be set into concrete. The recommended dimensions of the concrete foundations are shown in the socketed goal detail and in the table below. We recommend that the base is square. A square base is less likely to overturn than a circular base of the same diameter. The socketed goal detail shows a design where the post is not as deep as the full depth of the socket. The post is supported at the correct height by a pin, bar or other. This type of design is not a requirement. The post may extend to the full depth of the socket. Goalposts must always be inserted into their sockets to the correct depth. The manufacturer may fix a label to a new post to show when the post is properly inserted.

FA guidance notes -

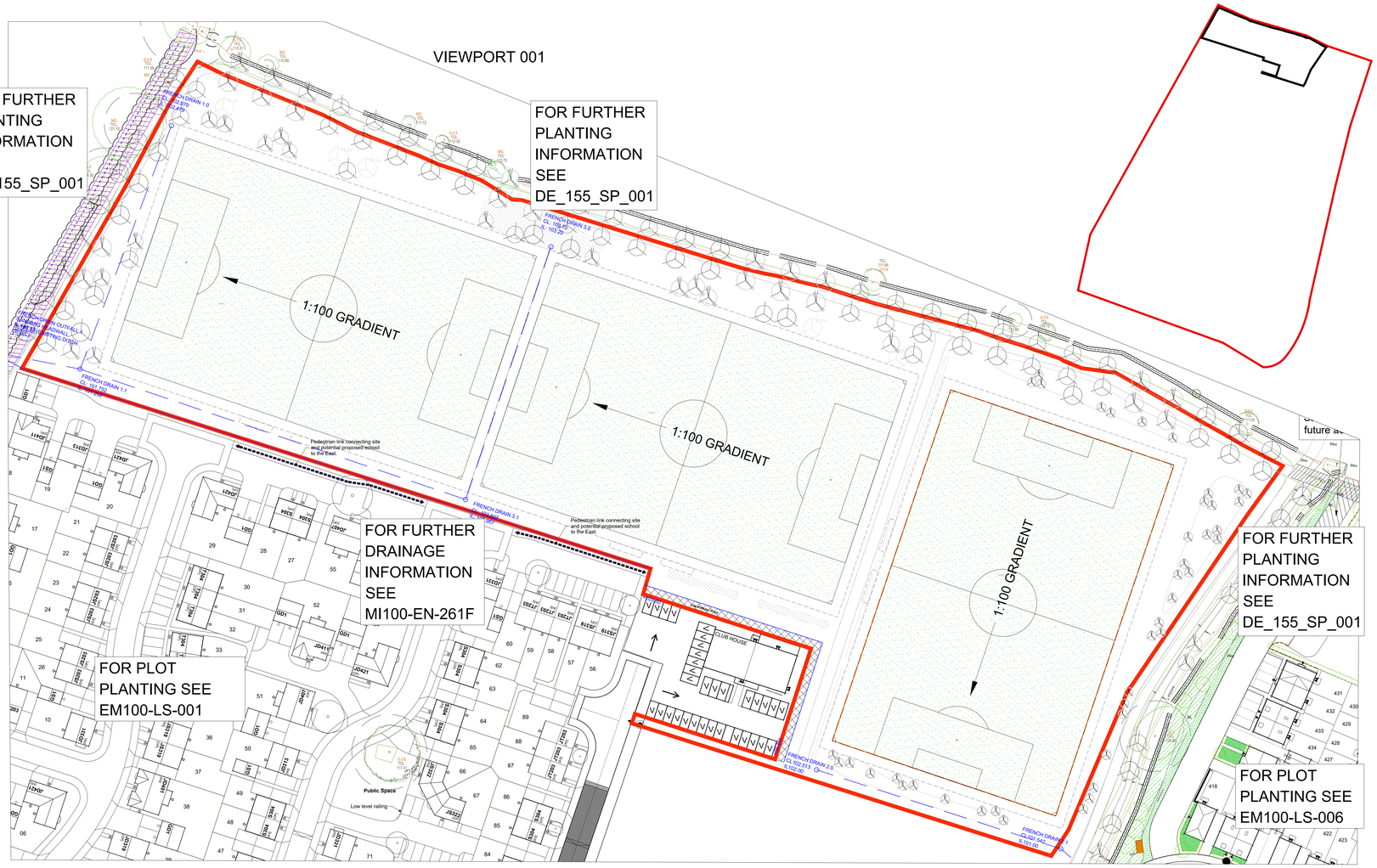
	Block size	Socket depth	Insertion depth	Overall concrete depth	Depth below ground
Goalpost	600mm square	475mm	300mm	600mm	40 to 100mm

6.2 **Concrete foundation** - The top of the concrete foundation should be at least 40 mm below the surface of the ground. This will make sure that it stays below ground even if there is some wear or shrinkage and also that it will be safely below ground when the post is not there and the grass is being maintained. The top surface of the foundation immediately around the socket is level. You need to provide this for strength. If the concrete is brought up to the socket at an angle, it is more likely to crack. The concrete should be rounded gently away from the socket and should then slope downwards at an angle of about 45°. Sloping the top of the foundation in this way makes it less likely that there will be a problem above the foundation if the ground settles or shrinks, for instance during dry weather.These recommended dimensions will make sure that the goal will be stable under all ground conditions that would allow football to be played. You should only use sockets of a smaller size if you have enough information on local ground conditions, including the bearing strength of the soil under the worst possible conditions. This will allow you to work out the correct foundation size. You must ignore how the back stanchions contribute to the stability of a socketed goal because you cannot rely on them. The back stanchions of the goal are not structural - their purpose is to support the net and to hold it in place. Sockets that you are not using should be capped or otherwise blocked off to prevent accidents involving the sockets themselves. You can fill capped sockets with sandbags with a layer of loose rags on top, to prevent soil and other rubbish from falling into them. Never clean out sockets by hand because rubbish falling into the socket behind your hand could trap your arm.

SOCKETED GOALPOST DETAIL



VIEWPORT 001



SHEET LAYOUT VIEWPORT LOCATION PLAN

NOT TO SCALE

THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH SEPERATE GROUP / SITE SPECIFIC CONSTRUCTION NOTES AND MATERIALS SPECIFICATION.

DRAWING NOTES

All tree and shrub locations and species must be taken into consideration by the project Structural Engineer to ensure that foundation design accords with the specifications set out in Chapter 4 of the NHBC Standards.

The landscape Contractor must ensure that plant material is planted in the locations shown and with NO SUBSTITUTIONS made without consulting the Group Landscape Design Department. It is the Landscape Contractor's responsibility to ensure that all underground services have been located and identified in advance of tree pit excavation so that no services are damaged or compromised by tree planting. Any changes to tree positions, species or specifications must be approved by the Group Landscape Design Department. Underground service strips are to be kept free of all plant material

Contractors must comply with all Health and Safety regulations and be aware of project/site specific information including referring to the information set out in the CDM drawings.

LEGEND

AMENITY GRASS AREAS
Wear Tolerant Turfgrass Mixture
Emorsgate EG22 sown at 25g/m²
Kept mown short to 40mm

EXISTING TREES/HEDGES
With Root Protection Area
To be retained

Revision		Date
A	Specification updated.	04.08.25
B	Specification updated.	03.09.25

Job. Normandy Way, Hinckley

Title. Sports Pitches Specification

Scale. 1:500 @A0	Drawn. GE
Date. Feb 2025	Checked. PmJ

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