General

The various species and sizes of trees and shrubs incorporated in the proposed mitigation design will be arranged in such a way that they create natural woodland characteristics typical of a locality or form a designed landscape feature. The planting would be based on native species that have an established presence within the local area.

Young stock is generally easier to establish and will therefore be predominant in mixes, with a smaller proportion of woodland mixes (typically 5-10%) comprising feathered trees. An increased percentage of feathered trees will be used for initial effect in specific locations, for example in close proximity to visual receptors where early screening is required and at locations where there is a need to help integrate structures into the landscape.

Deciduous and Mixed Woodland

Proposed deciduous and mixed woodland planting would comprise of a mix of sizes of plants such as feathered trees, whips and transplants to create a multi-layered woodland that would be dominated by native deciduous trees, with oak/ash as the principal climax community. The areas are intended to mature as multi-layered woodland with a mix of native species, including evergreen species to assist with year round screening in mixed woodlands. Species mixes proposed in the Environmental Statement (ES) (refer to Chapter 13: Landscape) generally reflect locally occurring native vegetation and will include typical species such as oak, birch, alder, aspen, wych elm, holly, Scots pine and rowan.

The proposed woodland planting is intended to resemble naturally occurring planting, featuring clumps and glades. Areas towards the edges of woodlands areas will be planted with predominantly native trees and shrubs but with a high percentage of small trees, shrubs and climbers, but no large trees.

Individual Trees

Groups of individual trees and tree lines will comprise standard trees in informal or formal groupings to reflect the character of existing parkland landscapes and provide screening or filtration of views of the proposed scheme. Typical species to be used for groups of trees and tree lines include Scots pine, birch, oak and wych elm.

Riparian Woodland

Riparian woodland would be planted adjacent to watercourses and SuDS features and in other areas across flood plains. It would comprise a mix of sizes of plants such as feathered trees, whips and transplants using wetland species such as willow, birch and alder.

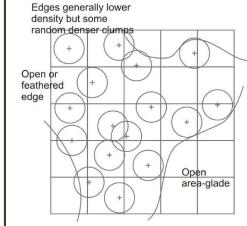
Scrub

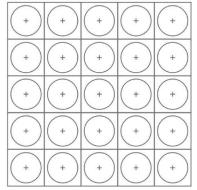
These areas are intended to mature as a mix of native shrubs such as hawthorn, blackthorn, willow, holly and juniper. The scrub planting is intended to resemble naturally occurring planting, with a dense, low to medium height canopy featuring clumps and glades, with species mixes reflecting locally occurring native vegetation.

Upland Heath Planting

Upland heath is a sub-shrub community extensive in the east-central Highlands and normally occurs in free-draining moist soils between 200m and 600m altitude. It would be established in the northern sections of the proposed scheme, where it would be held in check by the climatic conditions in the absence of burning and grazing, unless natural succession to scrub and woodland is desirable. Species would include heather, blaeberry and juniper.

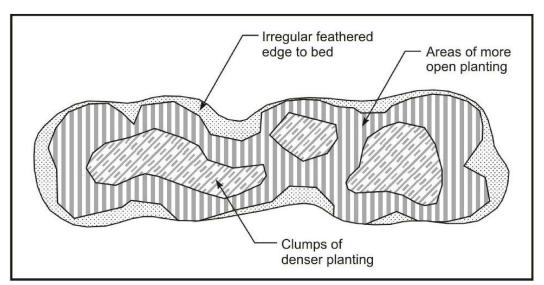
Semi-natural woodland Traditional planting layout





Planting in a regular grid like this is not acceptable

Typical woodland planting areas (not to scale) showing denser planting concentrated towards the centre with more widely (but still varied) spacing feathering out to the edge. Open glades, of varying size, can be created in any of these areas. Plants to be positioned at random centres, including approximately 3% of the mix planted in small groups in the same planting pit or positioned very close together. Only small groups of the same species type to be planted in the same pit.



The pattern can be repeated across the plot, inverted or mirrored as appropriate to create naturalistic open glades and areas of denser planting.

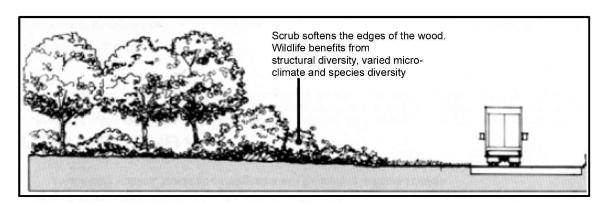


Illustration of the typical structure of scrub and tree groups used to soften abrupt edges of woodland planting. (DMRB Vol 10 Section 1 Part 2 HA 56/92)

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JACOBS 95 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 7HZ, UK. Tel: +44(0)141 243 8000 www.jacobs.com									

Figure 13.7





Drawing title

Environmental Statement Typical Planting Structure

Drawing Status	FINAL	DO NOT SCALE		
Scale	NTS @ A3			
Jacobs No.	B2140005			
BIM No.				
Drawing number	Figure 13.7		Rev 0	

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