



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE BROCHURE

Who We Are

We are a Landscape Architecture team working within a multi-disciplinary practice, consisting of Landscape Architects, Ecologists and Arboriculturists. We are located in St Helens, in the centre of the northern powerhouse. We have a sister Landscape Design practice, Philip Cave Associates, located in Clerkenwell, London. Together, we have a wealth of experience and skills in delivering a range of challenging projects.

Ascerta Landscapes core business is identifying key landscape and ecological features such that they can be managed to benefit our clients within the legislative frameworks that exist within the UK and beyond. We will always strive to work with our clients and educate them on the commercial opportunities and advantages that come with prudent landscape & biodiversity management.

Our Landscape Architecture team can help you deliver your project through the Design, Planning and Management stages.



Chris Neilson
CMLI MLA BA(Dual Hons)
Senior Landscape Architect



Mike Steer
Pg Dip BA
Landscape Architect



Gosia Soltan
MSc EngLA
Principal Landscape Architect



Nikoletta Dudas
MA BSc
Landscape Architect

Our Services

We deliver a range of services to our clients. These include:

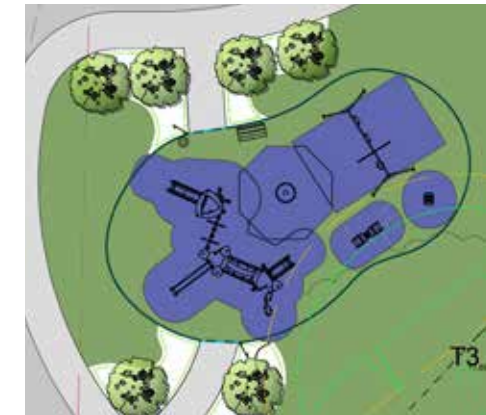
- Landscape Layouts
- Planting Plans
- Landscape Architect site visits
- Boundary Treatment Plans
- Illustrative Landscape Masterplans
- Sketch Design Booklets
- Landscape Design
- Construction Details & Section Elevations
- Landscape and Ecological Management Plans (LEMPs)
- Landscape and Visual Impact Appraisals (LVAs)
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIAs)
- Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)
- Landscape General Arrangements
- Landscape Setting Out Plans
- NBS Landscape Specification
- Inspections / Audits of Landscape Works
- Contract Administration
- CDM Designer responsibilities



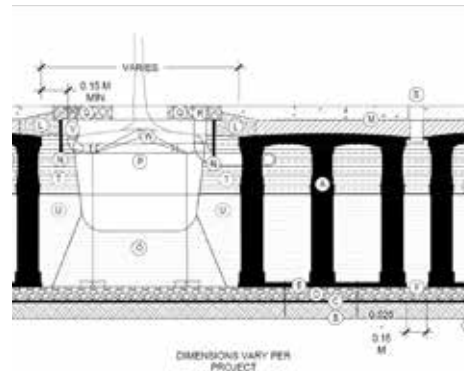
Landscape Layouts



Planting Plans



Play Area Design



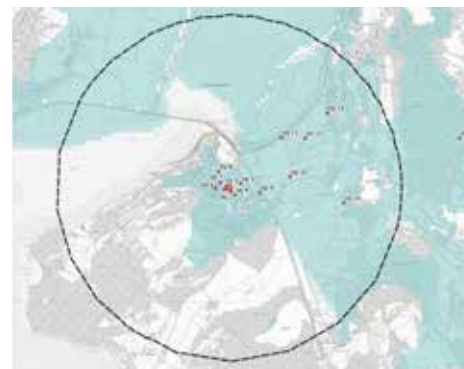
Typical Details



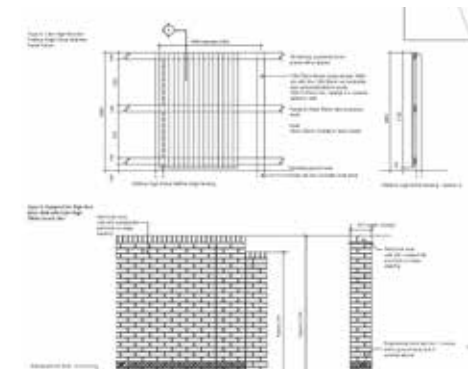
Landscape Ecological Management Plans



LVAs and LVIAs



Zones of Theoretical Visibility



Construction Drawings



Inspections / Audits

Why Choose Us?

OUR APPROACH TO DESIGN

Our designs are relevant, practical and in keeping with the environment to enhance and better the quality of life for all.

COST

We are highly competitive and will provide a quotation for all works swiftly for our clients. We provide best value for our clients and will break down our costs to ensure the client is aware of each section of work.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

From ongoing improvement internally with regular continuing professional development (CPD) for all staff and modernizing of company technology we are able to demonstrate that not only are our designs are fresh and innovative, but our organisational principals are too.

COMMUNICATION

Through each stage of a project, regular updates will be provided to the client to inform them of progress through all means of communications. If a design or site issue occurs, we will act quickly to make the client aware of the problem and come up with a solution.

RELIABILITY

We are resilient and always deliver on time, within budget and to an exceptionally high standard. We are always available to talk to our clients with any questions or concerns they may have.

EVIDENCE

Nothing states that you provide a great service more than clients coming back over and over again.

We're a fun and happy organisation to work with and would love to speak to you regarding any project that you might have in mind.



The slide features a dark navy blue background. On the left and right sides, there are decorative elements consisting of overlapping rectangular bars in a medium blue and a lighter sky blue color, tilted at an angle. In the center, the text "CASE STUDIES" is displayed in a white, sans-serif, all-caps font.

CASE STUDIES

RESIDENTIAL & MIXED USE



Location: Dolwen Road, Old Colwyn, Wales

Client: Castle Green Homes Ltd

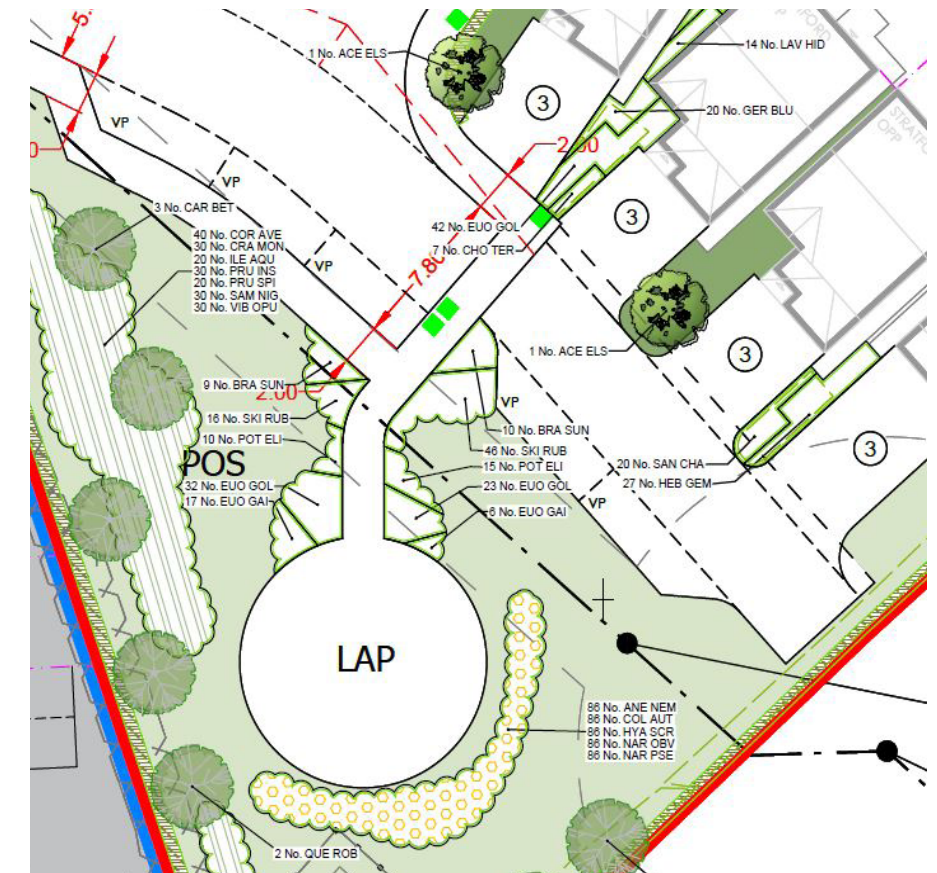
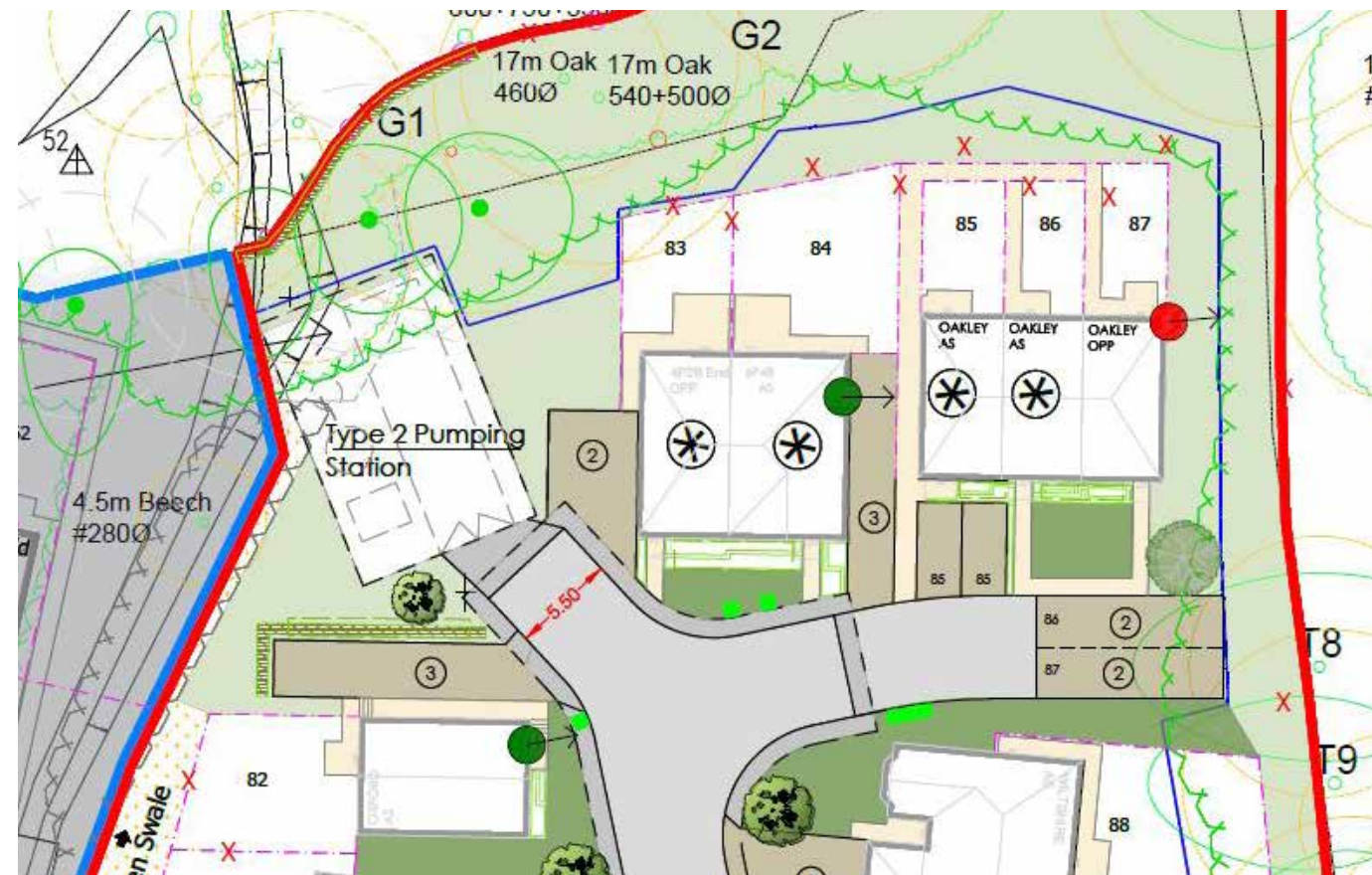
Status: Completed 2023

Services: Landscape Layout, Planting Plan, Tree Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Arboricultural Method Statement, and Bird and Bat Box Plan.

Project Description:

Ascerta showcased their expertise in Landscape Architecture, Ecology, and Arboriculture. Our team adeptly navigated challenging topography to create a large Public Open Space.

Our design catered for 21 houses with private gardens, accessible public pathways, parking solutions, and attractive residential and public planting that included both internal structure planting and informal perimeter planting. Bird and bat boxes were thoughtfully integrated. Merging the Landscape Layout and Planting Plan with ecological and arboricultural considerations transformed the site into a balanced, sustainable habitat with proposed and retained landscape features.



Location: Meliden Road, Rhuddlan

Client: Castle Green

Status: Completed 2014

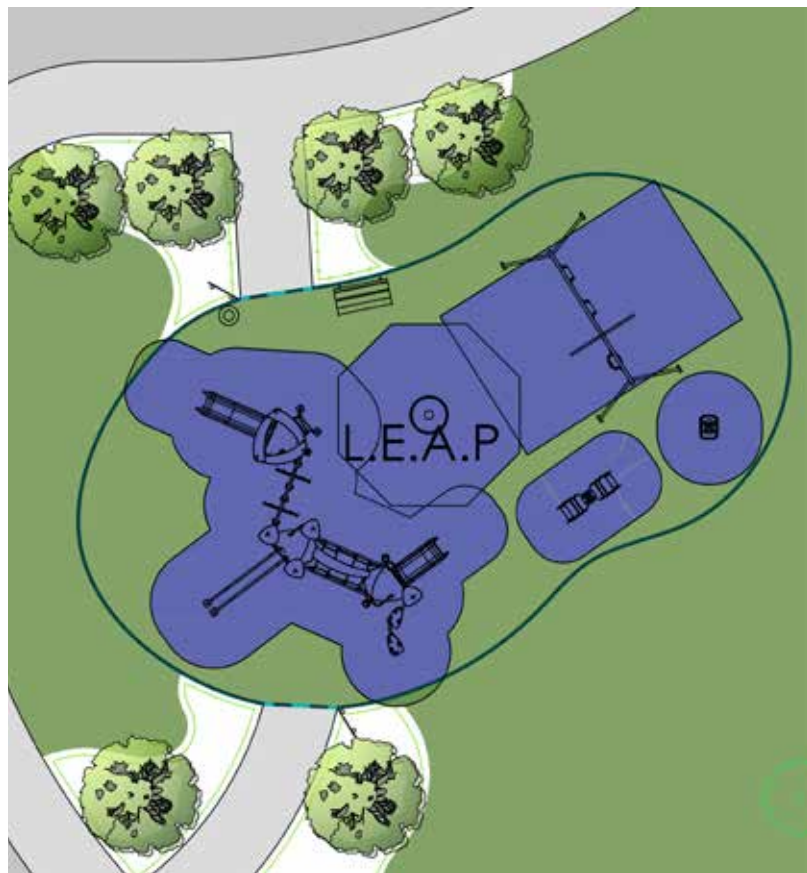
Services: Landscape Layout, Planting Plan, Play Area Design Detail, and a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA).

Project Description:

Meliden Road in Rhuddlan saw Ascerta's Landscape Architects expertly develop a Local Equipped Play Area (LEAP) and the surrounding public open space. Integrating design with the construction of 99 houses, our services provided well-planned access, parking solutions, and a combination of residential and public planting. Street trees and other green elements were thoughtfully woven in, enhancing the site's aesthetics and fostering a sense of community and nature.

The LVIA assessment undertaken identified the potential change in the composition and structure of the existing landscape and the degree of visual change resulting from this development. The LVIA report recommended mitigation and enhancement measures based on the landscape and visual effects assessed, these recommendations were then considered during the design stage of both the housing estate and the wider setting which helped decide on the overall look and feel of the development.

PARKS AND PLAY





Location: Erith Quarry, Bexley (London)

Client: Joint venture between developer Anderson and housing association L&Q

Status: Final phase due to be completed 2024

Services: Landscape Masterplanning, Landscape Layout, Planting Plan, Play Area & Public open space design.

Project Description:

Developing the masterplan and design of almost 900 new homes; a primary school; and associated open space and landscaping including a dedicated ecology area with pond.

Erith Quarry development is 'designed as an integrated, accessible, and ecologically driven scheme at all scales, from the individual home to the wider green network'.

A play corridor and ecology corridor provide a series of transitional spaces between strategic landscape areas and public open spaces.

The proposal delivers diverse, generous, and attractive green open spaces. These have been carefully positioned to follow the unique sloped nature of the site, provide a variety of activities for the residents and visitors and create an accessible and inclusive environment.

Public and private realm have been carefully designed to create attractive, engaging, and sustainable outdoor spaces with excellent place making qualities.



MASTERPLANNING

PLANNING - LVA & LVIA's



Location: Hainbury, Ilchester

Client: Patrick Young

Status: Completed 2023

Services: Landscape and Visual Impact Appraisal, Landscape Masterplanning

Project Description:

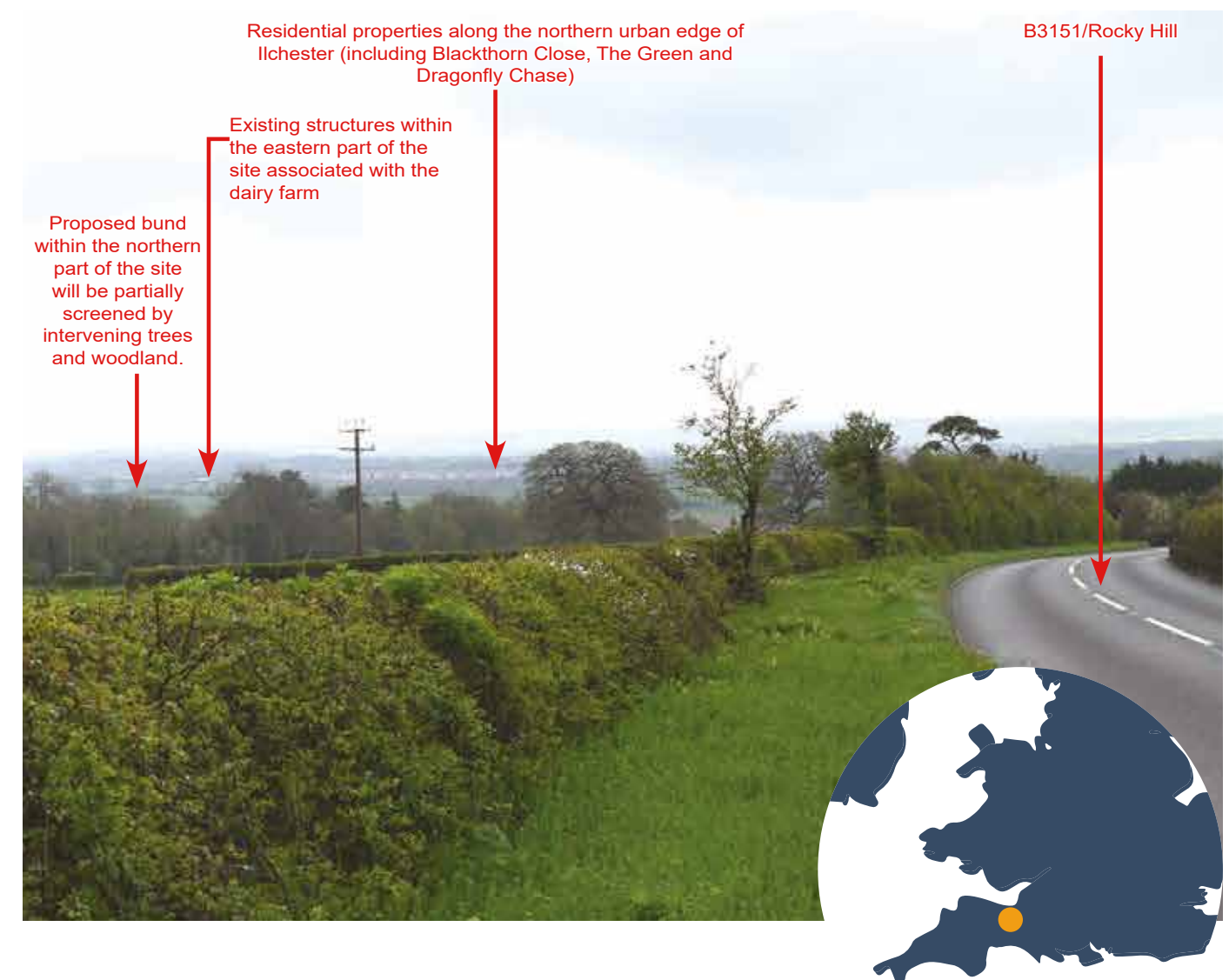
Mixed-use residential development proposals at the urban edge of Hainbury including provision for a large nature park and earthworks. The project was delivered by Ascerta and Philip Cave, providing both a landscape and visual impact appraisal and landscape masterplanning of the nature park.

The location of the site adjacent to the urban edge, dual carriageway and nearby Conservation Area and Public Rights of Way required substantial and well considered landscape proposals to assimilate the development within the existing landscape and establish a suitable transition from urban to rural landscape.

Findings of the landscape and visual impact appraisal ensured that potential landscape and visual effects generated by the proposals would be acceptable with regard to nearby receptors including Public Rights of Way, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.

Proposed earthworks along the dual carriageway combined with strategically located woodland blocks combined with sustainable drainage, wetlands and meadows ensured that the proposals would introduce positive change to the landscape whilst assimilating the proposed residential and commercial development at the urban edge and filtering views of the proposed built form.

Ascerta produced a standalone landscape and visual impact appraisal that is proportionate to the proposed development that considers the feasibility of the proposed development in terms of landscape and visual effects.



RETAIL & COMMERCIAL



Location: Woolwich Station Square
Client: Berkeley Homes
Status: Completed 2021
Services: Landscape Layout, Planting Plan, Tree Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment, SuDS design

Project Description:
Part of the Landscape design was to incorporate not only this project but link other multi-functional, interconnecting green spaces and other green features in the surrounding area to deliver a better quality street scene which would provide environmental benefits for the community. These included four attractive podium gardens and green roofs between four apartment blocks as part of 150 ha Royal Arsenal Riverside development by the Crossrail Station.

The communal gardens constructed acts as a green ‘lung’ centred on wisteria pergolas with sitting areas and a calming water feature. The central area is surrounded by private patios separated off by clipped hedges. At ground level are retail units with associated streetscapes of paving and trees.

A landscape management plan was also produced to ensure proper establishment of the area and also covering years 3 to 5. Long term management proposals were also considered for years 6 to 30 (the maturing phase).





Various Sites, UK Wide

Sustainable Urban Drainage
Location: Various Sites

Project Description:

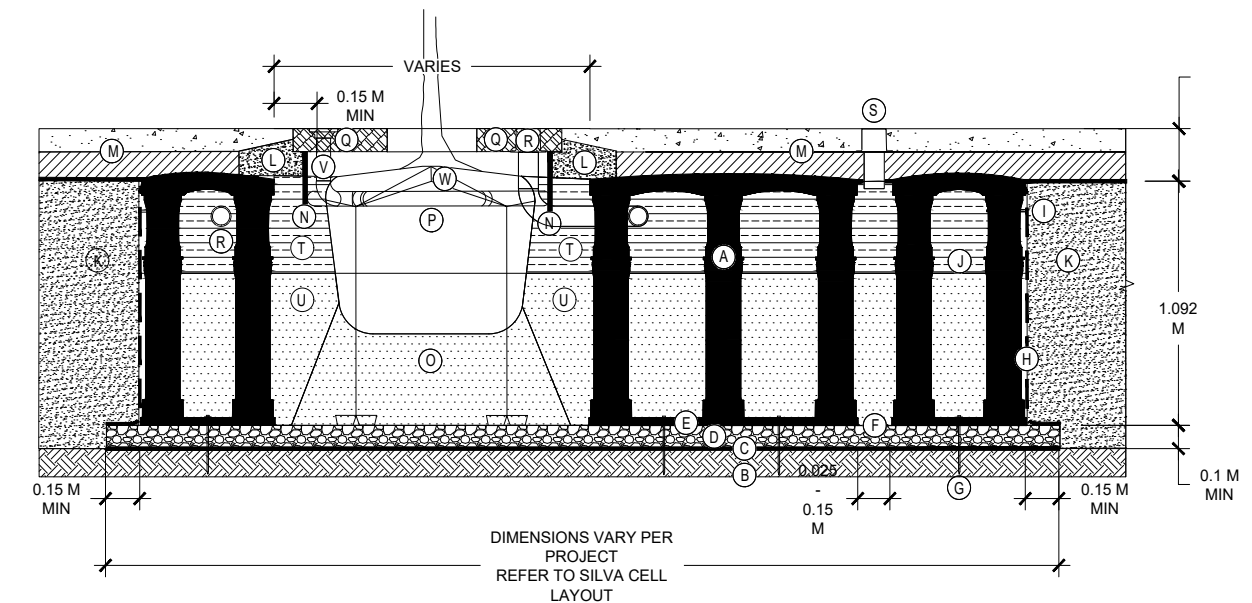
The risk of flooding in cities and towns is increases year on year, with more frequent and larger and more intense storms with significant quantities of surface water runoff. Existing network of sewers and drains are being overwhelmed and reach capacity very quickly in many areas and the issue is exacerbated by a rapidly increasing population.

Many of our clients and housing developers are increasing requesting Landscape designs that incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS). Councils are also looking for ways to reduce surface runoff and slow water flow directly into main sewer connections and as part of the planning process are insisting the use of SuDS.

Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) can help address flooding risks by managing surface water runoff in a way that mimics natural processes, slowing down the runoff rate while providing wider benefits, such as public realm improvements and nature base solutions to combat climate change.

Ascerta can provide our clients concept plans through to detailed design of a wide selection of SuDS systems which meet planning requirements. These include soakaways, ponds or wetlands that work together with hard attenuation-based products that are used within the construction of housing development sites, commercial and retail areas.

SUDS



INSPECTIONS / AUDITS



Various Sites



2.9



Number of trees (7 no. Carpinus betulus) in southern part of site (cul-de-sac) are struggling to establish and have not yet budded. These should be monitored to see if they will recover and flourish and, if not, will need to be replaced next year.

Action: Landscape Contractor

Ascerta can produce a range of inspections and audit reports for your scheme, from a one of handover report following practical completion of works, interim inspections during construction period or at end of defects period.

Landscape Inspections / Audits
Location: Various Sites

Project Description:

Landscape inspections/audits by Landscape Architects are important for the client or main contractor in making sure that the implemented landscape works have been carried out based on the agreed landscape scheme. Inspections/audits highlight any errors, issues, defects, or plant failures during the defects period that need resolving to be in line with the landscape scheme. This helps ensure that the quality of the implemented landscape scheme is high and minimises the potential for enforcement action.

Quality of plant stock, plant densities, materials used, species and compliance with the planting specification and plant schedules are considered and documented within a report. The site visit information is then detailed within an inspection report to identify defects that require resolving and quantities of plant failures that require replacing based on the agreed planting plan.

Three different types of inspections between handover and end of the 1-year defects period are possible, these being:

- Landscape Handover Inspection / Audit at Handover
- Interim Landscape Defects Inspection / Audit at 6 months
- Letter of Final Inspection/ Audit at 1 year

Our Clients that we have supported





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