ADAMS FOOD SITE,
LEEK

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STATEMENT

Prepared by
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for

ADAMS FOOD INGREDIENTS

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LANDSCAPE STRATEGY FOR ADAMS FOOD SITE, LEEK

A Landscape Strategy for Adams Food Site, Leek has been prepared by ACD Landscape Architects, following an assessment of the existing trees on site and provision of constraints and opportunities information to inform the layout. It is intended that this document sets out the type of treatment and quality of the proposed landscape.

Overview:

The site will have a strong boundary treatment shortening the visual range of any potential visual impacts. Focal points have been created with ornamental tree specimens and seating to provide informal amenity areas for the employees. The new planting and hedgerows is for the most part low maintenance and hardy. Where possible, existing trees and vegetation have been retained and strengthened with additional boundary tree and hedgerow planting. Areas of grassland have been created to provide amenity areas. Swathes of wildflower planting will enhance biodiversity.

Existing trees and vegetation:

ACD carried out a tree and vegetation survey in February 2010 to identify the main constraints and trees and vegetation suitable for retention within the site. ACD also used an existing tree report and an aerial mapping site for further background information on the quality and quantity of existing vegetation and trees.

Trees of high quality have been considered as constraints to development and every attempt has been made to incorporate them into the proposed development design. Where this has not been realistically possible due to conflicting constraints on the site, mitigation planting is proposed.

Existing trees within the site boundary and inside the site are to be retained and enhanced with replacement planting. There is to be further tree planting, where possible, to mitigate any other possible losses.

Landscape Design Statement:

The proposed layout will be safe and secure for site users and will promote pedestrian permeability, whilst strengthening and creating a visual barrier to surrounding local residents.

Planting around the car parking areas is robust with a variety of foliage texture and flowering colour, providing year round interest. Hedgerows and planting areas will separate pedestrians from motor vehicles, whilst allowing easy access to all site areas.

All proposed trees have been carefully sited to ensure that there is no conflict with service requirements to ensure the long term amenity. All of the trees within public realm areas have been specified at a larger planting size to increase their immediate visual amenity.

The design intention is to provide a high quality landscape associated with the proposed industrial development. This includes providing an increase to the biodiversity of the site. The introduction of varieties of key tree, shrub and grass species will provide an attractive, high quality setting to the new development. The planting palette has been derived from the Natural History Museum's research 'The postcode plant database;' this will ensure that the proposed planting complements the local area and will be suited to locally prevailing climatic conditions. This has been augmented with decorative shrub planting which will provide added interest and biodiversity. Species will be kept low growing to aid the passive surveillance within the site.

Furniture has been proposed to create areas of amenity for site users. The Ollerton curved bench, in outward facing tree seat configuration finished in black colour coating manufactured by Marshalls will be placed around the trunks of feature trees. Site users will then be able to use the landscape during breaks in work for eating and passive recreation.

The site boundary has had existing species retained where possible and been strengthened with a new mixed native species hedgerow. There has also been extensive additional standard tree specimen planting in an avenue continuing the adjacent existing theme and to provide a strong visual barrier.

Amenity Spaces:

Large areas of amenity grassland are proposed to allow maximum use of the space. Within this, groups of trees have been proposed to create informal shaded areas and further visual barriers. Large areas of mixed species wildflower planting will provide an excellent enhancement to the sites biodiversity. An area of wetland tolerant wildflower grassland is planted within the location of a possible future attenuation pond. This will minimise the need for possible future maintenance and repair.

Feature trees have been located to provide points of legibility within the site and focal points for short range views.

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