



**Chilterns
National
Landscape**



**River Chess
Smarter Water
Catchment**

Invitation to Tender: Landscape Connections

Location: Hockley Farm

Works: Hedge planting, hedge coppicing and fencing

Issued: 21st August 2026

Site Plan



Schedule of works

Hedge planting

Total length required = 328m

- The hedge planting should be at a density of 6 plants per metre planted in a staggered double row 40cm apart, using 45-60 cm 2 year-old whips of UK provenance.
- A herbicide should be applied on a 1.5m strip before the end of the growing season.
- The centre of the new hedge should be no closer than 1.2m from any fence.
- All whips should be staked and protected with a spiral guard.
- Every 50m a whip should be put into a tree guard with a stake with a view to becoming a standard tree.
- Up to failures should be replaced in the following planting season (up to 20%).
- Species should not be planted in single-species blocks.
- The planting mix should be at least 60% Hawthorn with a max of 5% of the following additional species: Field maple (max. 10% as is a tree!), Hazel (doesn't establish well in dry conditions), Dog rose, (don't plant more than 1 together), Hornbeam, Wayfaring tree, Purging Buckthorn, Guelder rose, Spindle, Crab apple, Wild plum (great for early season flowers and pollen).

Fencing & gates

Total length required = 428m + 1 gate

The stock fence should be stakes (min 4" diameter) dug to at least 55cm at max 4m intervals with sheep net stapled at the top, 3rd, 5th and bottom strands and two strands of wire above. Strainers will be installed at each end of the run and dug-in to a minimum depth of 90cm. Stock net and/or wire will be tensioned. The fence should be no closer than 1.2m, on average, from the centre of the hedge.

The gate should be a 12ft metal gate with wooden gate posts.

Objectives and restrictions

- Vehicle movements will be kept to a minimum. Access routes will be agreed with the project manager before work.
- All staff will be suitably qualified and experienced for the work undertaken and will wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Appropriate signs will be installed by the contractor to warn of work in progress.
- Work must be carried out in suitable weather conditions to minimise ground disturbance, and before the end of December 2024.

Proposal

Tenders for each task will be evaluated on the basis of the following details:

- An understanding of the project brief.
- A detailed breakdown of costs for delivering the project (including materials and daily rates/costing model and any other specific costs) according to the schedule of works.

- How the work will be carried out (a range of options are encouraged to be included).
- Machinery that will be used to carry out the work.
- How ground conditions will be protected.
- An estimation of when the work will take place and how long it will take to complete.
- Arrangements for the length and nature of warranties on works.
- Details of your insurance.
- Organisational and individual skills, knowledge and experience.

Please provide full contact details of the lead contact.

Submission

For a site visit or questions please contact: **Harriet Bennett**, Landowner and Farming Engagement Adviser (Chilterns Conservation Board).

hbennett@chilterns.org.uk

07946 629708

Tenders should be submitted by 10.00 on Monday 21st September 2026 to Harriet Bennett (details above).

References from previous clients may be requested during the assessment process.

