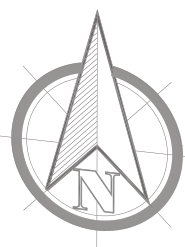
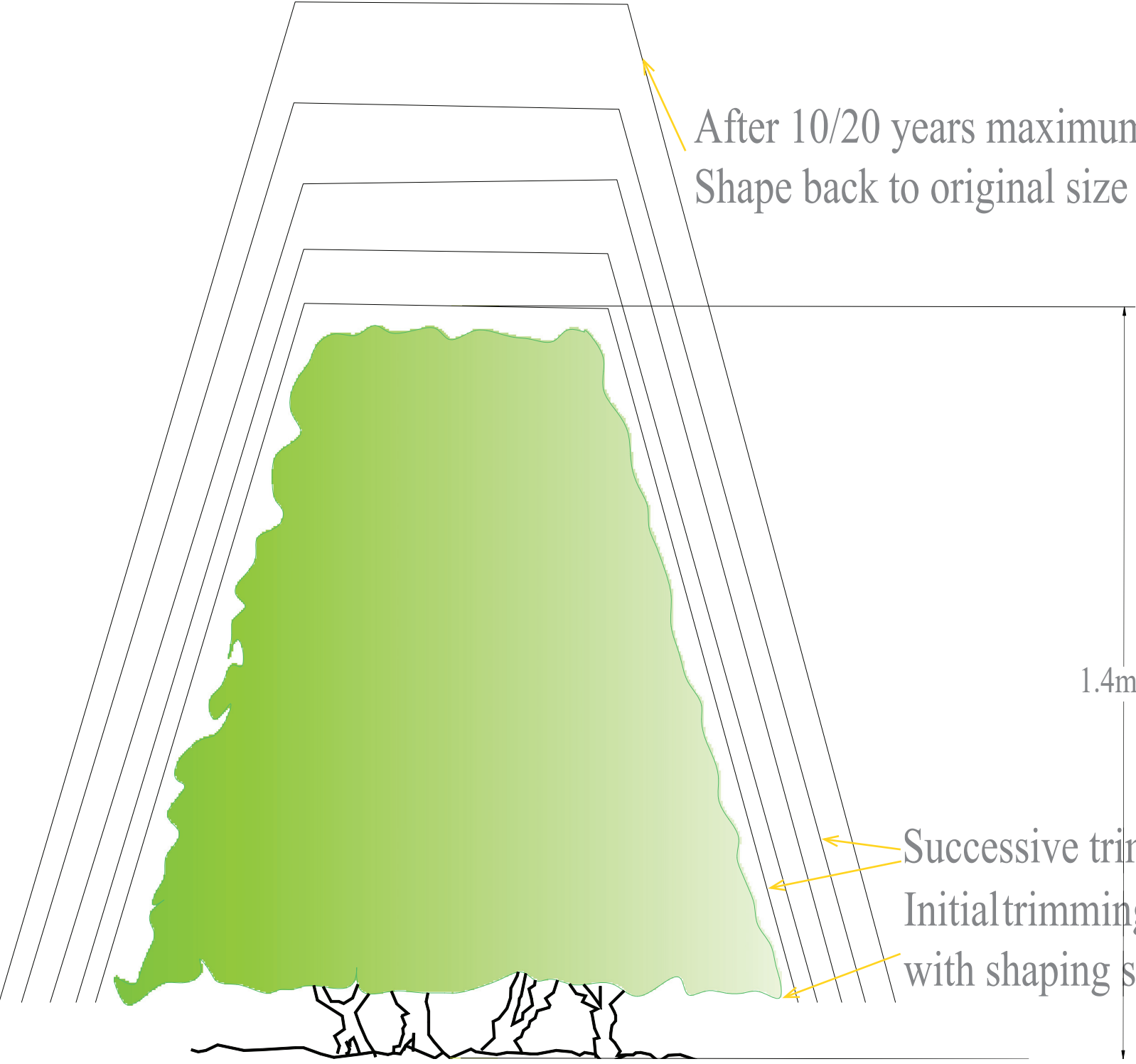


Radial Field Pattern



Restoration and infill of field boundaries to protect the visual and historical spatial pattern. Rejuvenation to maintain and increase the biodiversity and carbon sink value of the hedgerow and hedgerow trees.



Hedgerow rejuvenation and the landscape pattern

Immediate objective; to ensure the longevity of the hedgerows along the route alignment for a period of greater than 50 years. Additional objective; To generate a community led voluntary hedgerow, hedgerow trees and hedge maintenance plan which will protect and enhance the spatial pattern around the proposed route using traditional hedge laying techniques. This to promote the longevity of the hedgerows, for a period of greater than 50 years, and set out a plan to achieve this over a specified number of years.

A hedgerow conservation plan to be made for the hedgerow categories described below. Local authority, landowners/grazers to be contacted in advance of detailed plans being drawn up for each linear segment of hedgerow. No hedgerow trees to be removed unless included in the hedgerow conservation plan. Stems greater than 15 years old are unsuitable for laying.

Plant material to be propagated from existing local hedgerows to lower the possibility of introducing plant disease into the hedgerow network.

Advance planning is essential if the local indigenous plant material is to be propagated for hedgerow infill. Propagation training days to be organised for local people interested in growing on their own hedgerow infill material. Local nurseries to source propagation material with provenance in Old Kilcullen.

Hedgerows to be managed in 10-20 year cycles for regeneration and ensure thick stock proof quality. Free growth in places has led to white thorn, Crataegus monogyna appearing as mature trees. Annual trimming in other places has resulted in through gaps, hollow bottoms and die back. The management plan to set out requirements for different segments to allow the hedgerow survive long term. The traditional laying method is used for long term management of hedges.

Long continuous stretches to be completed over several years and on alternate sides, to avoid loss of habitat and visual amenity.

The laying method and style to examine the existing hedgerows and note the direction and pattern of old pleachers. Note the angle at which original pleachers were laid (e.g. 30/45 deg.). Local knowledge may also indicate whether binders were used along the top of the hedgerow in the most typical local style. Annual hedge laying training days to help with the formulation of individual plans and used to set annual targets for the entire area.

Hedgerow restoration, priority is to have voluntary participation from land owners/home owners to maintain and or regenerate traditional hedges/ hedgerows to maintain the historical landscape pattern and increase biodiversity.

Hedgerows along the alignment to be laid in the traditional manner.

Hedgerow with cultural significance marking earlier boundary pattern to be laid in the traditional manner.

Taller hedges, 140cm or greater provide the best wildlife cover. The topped A shaped hedge allows for thick low growth and reduces self shading. The aim is to generate tall thick hedges with woody outgrowth.

All hedge banks to be identified at the planning stage.

Segments of hedgerow are cultural markers indicating town land boundaries and previous divisions. These to be prioritised also for their intrinsic heritage value as well as biodiversity and visual amenity.

Where ash are dying out of the hedgerow plan ahead to have at least one large tree or mature shrub every 25m. Adding crab Malus sylvestris, will also increase the pollinator value of the hedgerows.

Project : Old Kilcullen Heritage Trail
Drawing : Landscape Hedgerows
Drawing No. OKFP01r
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