

How to reduce grounds maintenance costs.

Parks and Gardens maintenance should not be over complicated. Use clear, succinct and effective performance contracts and reap benefits.



Maintain standards. Use PBA's Ten point plan

Redesign the contract: -

- 1) Use clearly defined performance standards.
- 2) Specify requirements that are fit for purpose.
- 3) Stipulate 'open book' management planning and methodology procedures.
- 4) Specify regular & frequent maintenance operations - more cost effective than infrequent operations (grass cutting particularly!).
- 5) Build in output performance indicator reporting (OPIR) requirements.

Apply pro-active management supervision: -

- 6) Adopt random site sample techniques.
- 7) Use the 'open book' management plan and OPIR to monitor performance - compare actuals against planned programme.
- 8) In association with OPIRs use Service Certifications i.e. spray logs, delivery notes etc as evidence of performance.
- 9) Identify and have rectified, weaknesses in contractors' management plan
- 10) Do not pay for substandard work!

