

Tom Angel  
Landscape Management Consultant

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY

NATURALISTIC PLANTING DESIGN

GARDEN & LANDSCAPE DESIGN



The nature of our green spaces is changing - from traditional, controlled horticulture to a more naturalistic, environmentally-friendly style that maximises biodiversity, along with fulfilling environmental and social benefits.

This new approach requires a new way of designing, managing, maintaining, and developing landscapes.



# Tom Angel

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## About Tom Angel

Tom is a Chartered Horticulturist, Award-Winning Garden Designer and holder of the Royal Horticultural Society's most prestigious qualification, the Master of Horticulture (RHS) award. Tom is a fully-accredited member of the Professional Garden Consultants' Association, an affiliate member of the Landscape Institute and a Certificated Surveyor of Japanese Knotweed, as well as being a former contractor himself. Tom is also branch secretary, commercial representative and former branch chairman of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture. Tom is based in Glasgow and provides consultancy and design services across the UK.

Typical customers include facilities managers, property managers, architects, landscape architects, developers, residents' associations and private clients.

Consultancy and design services are available across the UK.

## Environmental Horticulture, BNG & ESG

Environmental Horticulture is the new name for amenity horticulture. This profession is ever more focused on biodiversity, sustainability and solid environmental credentials. Modern approaches to green spaces require new ways of designing, managing, maintaining and developing landscapes. Good quality green spaces have been proven to improve physical and mental health, increase biodiversity and carbon sequestration, improve flood mitigation, lower air pollution, and reduce both noise levels and temperatures.

## Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

The Environment Act (2021) requires developers to make net biodiversity gains on new developments; the whole ethos behind the act is the creation of a circular economy oriented around the environment. Best practice horticulture can help with this – from subtle changes to flowerbed management to increase earthworm populations, through to effective green waste composting operations that both reduce costs as well as reduce landfill.

## Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

ESG criteria are a set of standards by which companies' credentials can be measured, an increasingly critical consideration of investors. Good quality, well-managed green spaces can tick boxes here – environmental horticulture can be shown to be combatting climate change, naturalistic planting can be shown to increase biodiversity, and best practice landscape maintenance delivers social, physical and health benefits to all those interacting with green spaces.



Did you know that by regularly mulching flowerbeds instead of manually or chemically controlling weeds, you can increase earthworm populations by 45% every four months? And if you use your own green waste for mulching, you save on waste costs too.



**Well-managed, quality green spaces are proven to increase property prices - not just the value of your house, but the value of your whole property portfolio.**

Source: Office for National Statistic reports (2018 & 2019)

## Landscape Management Consultancy

At the core of the services available are soft landscape appraisals, be they for one site or a portfolio of them. This is a review of exactly what is there, good and bad. Off the back of this, recommendations for how to better manage the soft landscapes are provided. With the benefit of many years of practical hands-on experience, Tom is able to provide a pragmatic way forward for even the most neglected sites, recognising commercial considerations alongside an overarching aim to help create landscapes that both look good, and provide beneficial ecosystem services to both the client and the surrounding environment.

- Soft landscape appraisals
- Bespoke grounds maintenance schedules
- Recommendations for improvements
- Working practice reports
- Invasive weed surveys



# Garden Design

Tom is a fully-qualified and award-winning garden designer, experienced at working with architects and developers to help provide the perfect finishing touch to beautiful new buildings. Whilst it can be disappointing to go back to previous projects and see exciting creations let down by poor exterior landscaping, this is not inevitable. With sensitive, horticulturally-informed garden design and imaginative planting, the soft landscaping around your valued projects can improve over time.

- Complete or partial garden designs
- Experienced working with architects
- Flexible ways of working
- Providing the perfect finishing touch to your projects

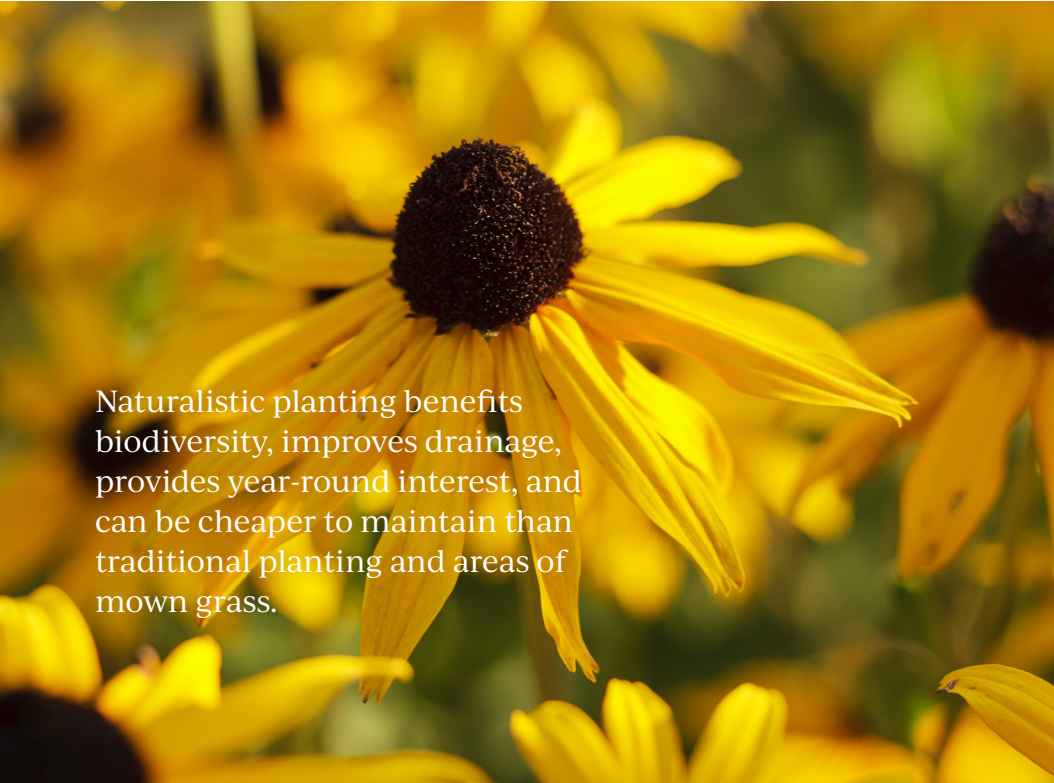
**Thoughtfully designed gardens increase property values and bring out the best in the buildings around them; most importantly, they improve as they mature.**

## Naturalistic Planting Design

Pioneered by the likes of Nigel Dunnett and James Hitchmough, the nature of our ornamental planting is changing. New, biodiverse and sustainable ways of planting have arrived, and the key issues being met are a lack of knowledge in how to design these schemes, and a lack of knowledge in how to maintain them.

The benefits of these schemes is that they are designed to mimic ecological niches, and are planted densely so that many weeds are outcompeted. Dense, naturalistic planting also helps mitigate floods and protects the soil. Whilst their maintenance is not complicated, it is entirely different to traditional grounds maintenance techniques.

- Naturalistic planting design (CAD-drawn plans)
- Bespoke maintenance specifications
- Ongoing consultancy to develop planting schemes
- Available for commercial and residential projects
- Flexible working partnerships



Naturalistic planting benefits biodiversity, improves drainage, provides year-round interest, and can be cheaper to maintain than traditional planting and areas of mown grass.

## Case Studies

### Eòlas Architects

EÒLAS ARCHITECTS

Tom worked with Eòlas on the grounds around a high value renovation of some rural buildings in the highlands. The site bordered a nationally important plant habitat, so getting the planting right was crucial. After developing a sensitive and imaginative planting scheme based on soil samples and careful site analysis, Tom assisted with providing documents for the planning application.



### South Lanarkshire Council

SLC required a soft landscape appraisal to be made of the grounds at one of their college campuses. This included reviewing the health of all planting and soft landscaping, plus a plan of action for bringing the grounds up to standard and keeping them that way.

### ZM Architects

ZMARCHITECTURE

Tom has worked on numerous projects with ZM that have included everything from advising on invasive weeds, to providing planting plans for planning applications for roof gardens, to designing and implementing planting schemes for residential clients.



### Cairngorms National Park Authority

Tom was approached with a view to advising on the maintenance of extensive sections of lowland footpath through the Speyside area, and a report was produced allowing CNPA to review their ongoing vegetation control programme.



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