

TEXACO PORT TALBOT SERVICE STATION, THE PRINCESS MARGARET WAY, PORT TALBOT, SA12 7PE

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Following the recent changes to Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales a Green Infrastructure Statement is now a requirement to support all planning applications in order to obtain a determination. The statement is to be proportionate to the scale and nature of the proposed development, essentially to describe how Green Infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal.

The application site is an area of land to the north-east of the petrol filling station (PFS).

The PFS predominantly faces onto Western Avenue, adjoining on the north side the first of a row of semi-detached properties. Land use served by Western Avenue is mainly residential. The PFS is served by an access off Western Avenue and from the opposite side, off The Princess Margaret Way. Land use served by The Princess Margaret Way is mainly commercial, running as it does parallel to the seafront. The PFS sits at the apex of the two roads, facing onto the grassed roundabout, at the intersection of Western Avenue and Dalton Road with The Princess Margaret Way.

From the closer vantage it is seen more as an open car park with a small fuel forecourt on the side. As such it is considered that the application site makes a neutral contribution to the character and appearance of the local area.

The application seeks planning permission for the retention of previously installed Click & Collect lockers.

The lockers are sited against the rear wall of the single storey forecourt shop alongside lockers that already enjoy the benefit of planning permission. They are placed on existing hard surfaced paving around the perimeter of the building. They do not disturb or replace any soft landscaping.

The importance of Click & Collect facilities such as parcel lockers are recognized by Government as important and legitimate facilities that meet the needs of consumers in today's retail environment.

Parcel deliveries are a major contributor of harmful emissions, congestion, and road accidents in the UK. The key benefit of parcel lockers is that rather than driving from one home to the next, couriers cover fewer miles by delivering multiple parcels in a single trip.

The lockers are available 24/7, so parcels are always delivered first time. This means no wasted journeys or extra trips for re-deliveries.

With more and more consumers going online instead of travelling to the shops, there are more delivery vehicles on the roads than ever before. As a result, congestion and transport-related emissions have risen significantly. At the same time local councils are working hard to reach cleaner air targets and lockers help reduce CO2 emissions compared to home delivery.

Traditional home delivery involves couriers delivering individual parcels to individual households, whereas locker delivery enables couriers to deliver multiple parcels to a single location. This means couriers spend less time travelling from home to home and make their journeys more efficient. Locker deliveries also do not rely on people being in to receive their parcels. Parcels can be delivered first-time without any need for second and third delivery attempts, or trips to depots when parcels cannot be delivered. These changes alone could cut CO2 emissions significantly.

In conclusion it is considered that given the above there are no adverse impacts to biodiversity. There are benefits delivered to the environment by the reduction in CO2 emissions.