

BIODIVERSITY (GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE) STATEMENT

For:

Cwtch Farm, Coedffaldau Road, Rhiwfawr, Swansea SA9 2RL

Description of proposed Works:

The proposal is for Two-Storey Side Extension (Domestic) to be added to an existing Detached House within a smallholding. The Farmhouse is 2-storey and has an existing single storey conservatory. In previous times, the main access to the original “front” of the house has been removed, and the only access that remains is now on the elevation which would have originally been considered as the “rear” of the building.



The project will provide additional accommodation for family use – most importantly there will be a new Front Door access into a Hallway and stairs to the upper level with the remaining space comprising an open plan Kitchen/Living area, 1 Master Bedroom and a Shower room, enabling the current Kitchen to become a Utility and Boot room. Patio doors will be installed in the living area for access to a small decking area. The garden at the rear is Northeast Facing.



Proposed Ecological Enhancements:

As the property is in a rural area it is naturally biodiverse by nature of its position and has an established native hedgerow bordering adjacent farmland. These hedgerows have been left untouched in terms of trimming to give the birds a more natural habitat to feed and visit. There is a Bird Nesting box within the grounds and several bird tables too. However, the applicants are happy to create other opportunities for greater biodiversity to offset their new extension.

Within their land there are currently active Badger sets, Housemartins nesting and Bats are seen around the property along with the normal creatures that inhabit rural areas which visit their garden.

The applicant is proposing to create a reasonable sized Wildflower meadow across the far end of the lower field from the left to right boundaries which will provide Butterflies, Bees, and other pollinators with food throughout the year.

The proposal is to place a Bat box on one of the outbuildings and add a Bird Feeding Station (as in Appendix A or similar). If a Bird box is required then there is an example also shown in Appendix A.

**Birds**

As detailed above the applicant will make enhancements for birds in the form of a Bird Feeding Station, which will be positioned in a safe place close to either a tree or hedgerow so that the birds can perch prior to landing on the station to check it's safe for them to feed.

Bats

There will be a Cavity or Crevice Bat box placed on the Outbuilding which is situated at the rear left hand side of the property (as in Appendix A or similar).

Implementation Timetable

The Biodiversity Enhancement Measures shall be fully implemented within 3-6 months of the completion of the proposed works.



APPENDIX A:

Tom Chambers Select Bird Feeding Station



Create the perfect feeding, watering, and bathing station to attract a wide variety of garden birds - Height 230cm.

Includes:

- 3 section pole requiring some assembly.
- 2 double brackets with spiral finial.
- Small bracket
- Water dish
- Seed tray
- Pole diameter 25mm

This feeding station is compatible with the Tom Chambers Patio Base.

Please be aware that bird food is not included.

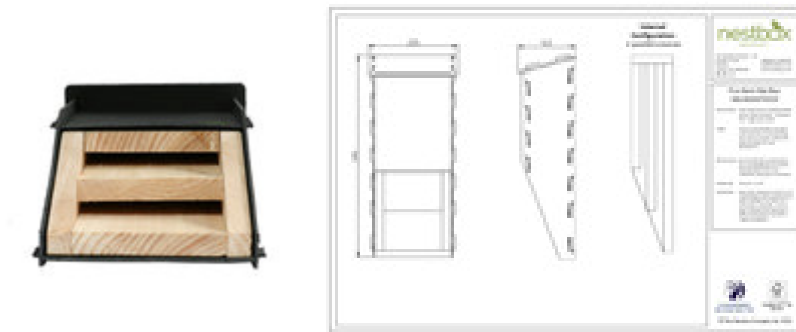
- Feed a variety of foods to a multitude of birds with this essential robust and elegant feeding station. Featuring a cool grey finish, it performs well under extremely harsh weather conditions.
- Easy to assemble, 4 Arm Complete Feeding Station which includes 4 feeders, 4 feeder hooks, seed tray & water bath. Features simple push button connections.
- This sturdy feeding station is very easy to assemble to create a perfect feeding environment for wildlife.
- When fully assembled it reaches the height of 2.28m, so making it a safe height, where the wild birds have a good vantage point and are out of reach of predators.
- Main Pole Diameter 25mm
- The feeders are constructed from a strong plastic and steel, which are ideal for novices or experienced bird feeders.
- Help to keep your wild birds healthy with some basic hygiene principles by cleaning between refilling.

Eco Kent Bat Box

- Based on the proven and popular Kent bat box design, but with an additional weatherproof outer shell.
- Ideal for crevice roosting species such as common and soprano pipistrelles.
- 100% recycled plastic shell protects the wood creating a much longer lasting box.
- Wooden interior made from FSC Certified spruce, rough-sawn to provide good grip for the bats; sustainably grown less than 10 miles from our workshop.
- Self-cleaning, maintenance free box.

£33.30 excl. VAT £39.96 inc. VAT

This box is based on the popular and proven Kent bat box design but we've added a weatherproof, protective outer shell designed to last at least 20 years. This makes the bat box more secure and longer lasting. By protecting the wooden interior, the wood is not as exposed to the weather and will last much longer. The weatherproof outer also reduces movement in the wood which can open up cracks and joins in the box and provides a second barrier if any movement should occur. While tiny gaps in the box may not seem important, draughts and airflow can make a box much less attractive to bats as they typically look for a roosting location with minimal airflow.



The Eco Kent Bat Box is designed to provide somewhere for crevice dwelling bats to roost. The wood used is rough sawn to provide good grip for bats inside the box. The two crevices are approximately 18mm wide, the ideal width for pipistrelles. Assuming you are appropriately licensed, checking if the box is occupied is easy by shining a torch up into the crevices to see if any bats are roosting. Alternatively, you can check below the box for droppings as they will simply fall out. This also means that the box is self-cleaning and doesn't require any maintenance as droppings will not build up inside occupied boxes.

What makes our eco bat box eco? The outer shell is made from 100% recycled plastic. This is primarily made from farm waste which is gathered from farms across the UK and processed into sheets from which we manufacture the outer shell of our Eco Kent Bat Box. The wooden interior of the box is constructed from FSC Certified UK grown spruce. This is sustainably harvested and processed on a small plantation and sawmill less than 10 miles from our workshop, keeping the transport miles to a minimum.

Bat boxes can be mounted on both buildings and trees. Try to position your box as high as possible in a sheltered sunny place. Ideally, several boxes should be put up facing in different directions to provide a range of conditions. Bats need time to find and explore new homes, and it may be several years before boxes have residents – be patient! Droppings on the landing area, stains around the lower parts of the box and chittering noises from inside on warm afternoons and evenings are signs of occupation.

Please note: All bats and roosts are protected by law and you should only open a bat box to check it if you hold an appropriate licence.

Product	Eco Kent Bat Box
Product-Code	B1EKTZZZ
Materials	Recycled LDPE plastic outer: FSC Certified, UK harvested rough sawn spruce interior
Construction	Outer recycled plastic panels fitted together using integral tabbing system. Internal wooden roost crevices stapled together.

Dimensions	Overall height: 52cm, Overall width: 23cm, Overall Depth: 16cm
Crevice	18mm wide slot.
Weight	4.5kg
Fixing	3 concealed keyhole fixings at top of box

Small Bird Nest Box



- This bird box is designed to provide a comfortable home for most common garden birds.
 - Nesting box is available in three different hole sizes to allow you to select the hole size for the species you want to attract.
 - Constructed from precision cut FSC certified Exterior Grade plywood treated with water based environmentally friendly preservative.
- £17.85 excl. VAT £21.42 inc. VAT

As natural sites are becoming scarcer why not encourage birds to nest in your garden by providing them with comfortable bird box? The Small Bird Nest Box is one of our most popular boxes. It has a removable roof and incorporates ventilation and drainage. These bird nest boxes are available in three-hole sizes, 25mm, 28mm and 32mm. The 25mm hole is primarily suitable for the smallest tit species i.e. Blue Tit, Coal Tit and Marsh Tit whilst the 28mm will attract all these species but the hole is also large enough for Great Tits, Crested Tits and Tree Sparrows. The larger 32mm will attract a large range of species including Blue Tit, Coal Tit, Marsh Tit, House Sparrow, Great Tit, Nuthatch and Pied Flycatcher.

These nesting boxes for birds are constructed from precision cut FSC certified external grade plywood and have been treated with an environmentally friendly preservative which is kind to the birds but helps to ensure a long lasting dry comfortable bird nesting box.

Product	Small Bird Nest Box
Product-Code	A1SMA
Variations	Entrance hole: 25mm, 28mm, 32mm

Material	FSC Certified Exterior Grade Plywood
Construction	Panels stapled together with surface sunk staples.
Finish	Non-toxic, water-based stain and preservative
Dimensions	Overall height: 26cm, Overall width: 16cm, Overall Depth: 17cm
Weight	0.8kg
Fixing	2 holes in back panel