

Green Infrastructure Assessment

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Introduction :

On the 11th October 2023 the Welsh government issued an updated National Planning Policy for chapter 6 of the Planning policy Wales.

The updated policy guidance recognises the value of green infrastructure within the built environment. In order to facilitate a quality built environment enhanced by integrated green infrastructure all planning applications must now include a green infrastructure statement.

Guidance states "A green infrastructure statement should be submitted with all planning applications. This will be proportionate to the scale and nature of the proposed development and will describe how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal. In the case of minor developments this will be a short description and should not be an onerous requirement for applicants. The green infrastructure will be an effective way of demonstrating positive multi-functional outcomes which are appropriate to the site in question"

The Proposal :

Single storey extension to the rear of the property.

Proposed Enhancement :

It is accepted that Future Wales now requires ecological enhancement, however any ecological enhancement needs to be proportionate to the proposed scheme.

Given the scale of this proposal it is considered that the provision of bird boxes on the existing rear elevation will be sufficient ecological enhancement for this project.

Proposed specifications



Swallow nesting cup (H) 15cm, (W) 27cm, (D) 9cm

Recycled LDPE back board

Resin / concrete / terracotta nest cup

Swallows will readily adopt these nest cups which are based on the size and shape of natural swallow nests. The nest is ideal for placing below eaves in properties where it provides somewhere secure for swallows to nest and means that swallows use less energy to produce their nests. The nest comprises of a moulded bowl with drainage hole, fixed to a recycled backing plate.

Enhancement implementation:

- Nesting cups will be installed on completion of work, the positioning is shown on drawing no. PT-002 associated with this document
- Piles of logs / rocks will be situated to the rear of the garden to provide protection for animals such as frogs, toads, beetles and hedgehogs
- No harmful pesticides will be used at any point in this project.

Conclusion :

We feel we meet the criteria set out in the revised National Planning policy as

- The development avoids any damage to biodiversity in the immediate vicinity.
- The proposed enhancements are proportionate to size of the project
- The ecological enhancements provided require minimal / no maintenance.
- There is a net benefit to diversity as a result of the development