

Green Infrastructure Assessment

Mr A Follant
'The Paddock'
Duffryn,
Neath,
SA10 7BQ

Planning ref – -----

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 :

Proposal for two storey extension to the front / side and a first floor 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 side elevation and the implementation of a rain harvesting system on the proposed extension will be sufficient ecological enhancements for this project.

Sparrows prefer to nest in groups or colonies, so this nest box has been designed with 3 separate chambers to allow them to breed in close proximity.

This style of nest box is predominantly for house and tree sparrows, but it is not unknown for other birds to utilise them such as tits, redstarts and spotted flycatcher.

The positioning of the bird boxes is illustrated on drawing number AF-002.

Specifications :

External dimensions:

(H) 240mm, (W) 430mm, (D) 220mm



Sustainable water storage for the garden

A water butt can typically be connected to the downpipe from your roof which allows it to gather the rainwater flowing through. It works as an efficient, simple to use system that captures and stores rainwater, providing an eco-friendly way to utilize this natural resource and cut down on your water usage, this can then be used for a variety of purposes around the home and garden, such as watering house plants, garden flowers and lawns, cleaning your car and windows. There is a wide variety of water butts available one such example is shown opposite.



Enhancement implementation:

- Nesting boxes will be installed on completion of work, the positioning is shown of drawing no. AF-002 associated with this document
- Water butts will be installed on all downpipes of extension on completion of works.
- Piles of logs / rocks will be situated at various points throughout 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.
- All existing plants and hedges on site will remain.

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