

Green Infrastructure Statement

For

Proposed Residential Development, Pen Yr Alltwen, Rhos

Prepared By



On Behalf of

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INTRODUCTION

The design for the Pen Yr Alltwen development has used a holistic approach, incorporating ecological enhancements and green space. The design was informed by the updated National Planning Policy for Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales.

Specifically, the development proposals and landscape philosophy follow the Stepwise Approach set out in paragraph 6.4.21:

- 1) **Avoid** – The initial layout of the site was designed to avoid damage to existing GI assets wherever possible (refer to page 3 for details).
- 2) **Minimise** – The site layout was then developed and refined further, to minimise habitat loss, avoiding root protection areas and prioritising space for green corridors.
- 3) **Mitigate** – Potential damage to on-site GI assets was mitigated with the development of arboricultural and ecological survey documents, which identify and assess the assets.
- 4) **Compensate** – New native trees, and understorey planting were specified to compensate any loss of existing habitat. (refer to page 4 for details).

EXISTING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

Existing Trees

Existing trees define the site's northern and eastern boundaries. The majority of trees are categorised as C – low quality and value. There are also a number of category B – moderate quality and value trees.

Species predominantly comprise Oak, Birch, Holly, Sycamore and Holly.

Existing trees will be protected during construction, in accordance with BS5837:2012.

Existing Hedgerows

Existing hedgerows follow the northern and eastern boundaries.

Species predominantly comprise Hazel, Beech, Bracken, Holly and Hawthorn.

Existing hedgerows will be protected during construction, in accordance with BS5837:2012.

Existing Improved Grassland

The entirety of the internal site comprises improved grassland of low ecological value.

Existing Scrub

There is a small section of existing scrub on the western boundary, species predominantly comprise Bramble with some Ash, Oak and Willow.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LOSSES

3 no. existing trees will be removed from the northern boundary to accommodate the proposed access.

A short section of the northern boundary hedgerow will be removed to accommodate the proposed access.

Significant portions of the improved grassland will be removed to accommodate proposed buildings and associated hard surfacing.

PROPOSED GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

New street tree planting – New trees will define the access road and give the landscape scheme structure and provide a strong arboricultural character.

New Native tree Planting – New trees will strengthen existing green corridors and improve biodiversity

Native Hedgerow Enhancement Planting – Existing hedgerows will be strengthened with native infill planting to enhance the existing green links around the site.

On-plot landscaping – A mixture of native shrubs, perennials and plants for pollinators will be used in the landscape beds across the site, to provide year-round interest and biodiversity enhancement.

SUMMARY

The majority of GI assets are retained. Potential damage to retained trees and hedgerows will be avoided by following the guidance of BS5837:2012.

Habitat losses are compensated with new tree, hedgerow and on-plot landscape planting, resulting in a bio-diversity net gain across the site.