

Dakota, Pentwyn, Baglan Road, Baglan, Port Talbot SA12 8AH
Green Infrastructure Statement

In support of the attached planning application the Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared in relation to the scale and nature of the proposed extension. It introduces natural elements into the scheme.

Surrounding Area Description

The property is surrounded by Residential Properties

The Scheme

The proposed scheme is a single storey side extension approximately 27m² with a flat roof covering containing two glazed lanterns. The rain water will discharge into one 250 litre water butt 54cm L x 54cmW x 111cm high.

The Site

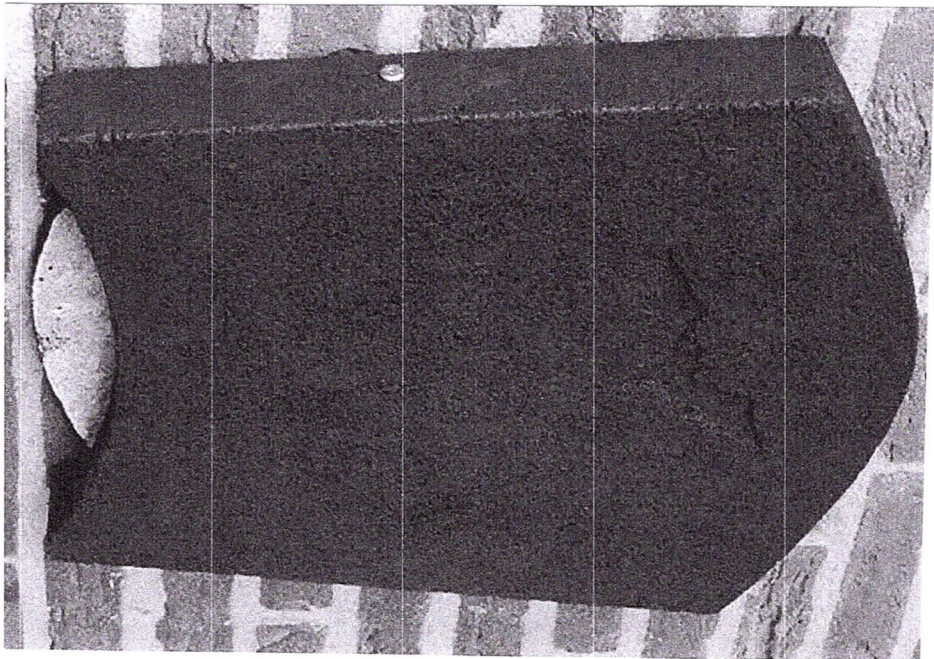
The existing established rear garden approx. 13 x 14m has a grassed area to the rear. The garden is enclosed.

The plot has large patio areas constructed of permeable paving to the front sides and rear. 3 nr Plant boxes will be placed in the rear garden area.

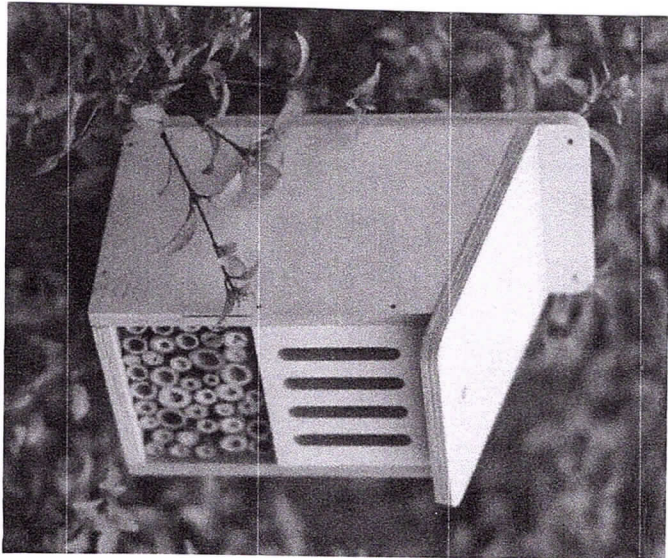
Ecological Enhancement Measures

The rear garden will contain a bug box all as detailed. A Bat Box and Bird Box are placed on the Proposed Elevations as shown on drawings 007 and 008 attached.

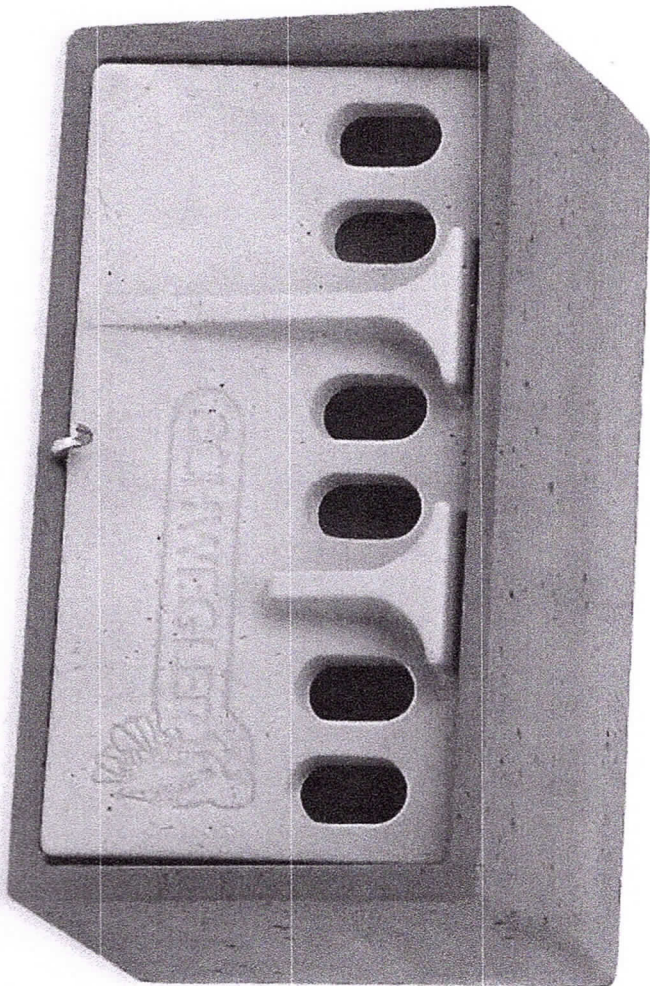
BAT BOX MARKED A ON PROPOSED ELEVATIONS



BUG BOX SITED IN REAR GARDEN



BIRD BOX MARKED B ON PROPOSED ELEVATIONS



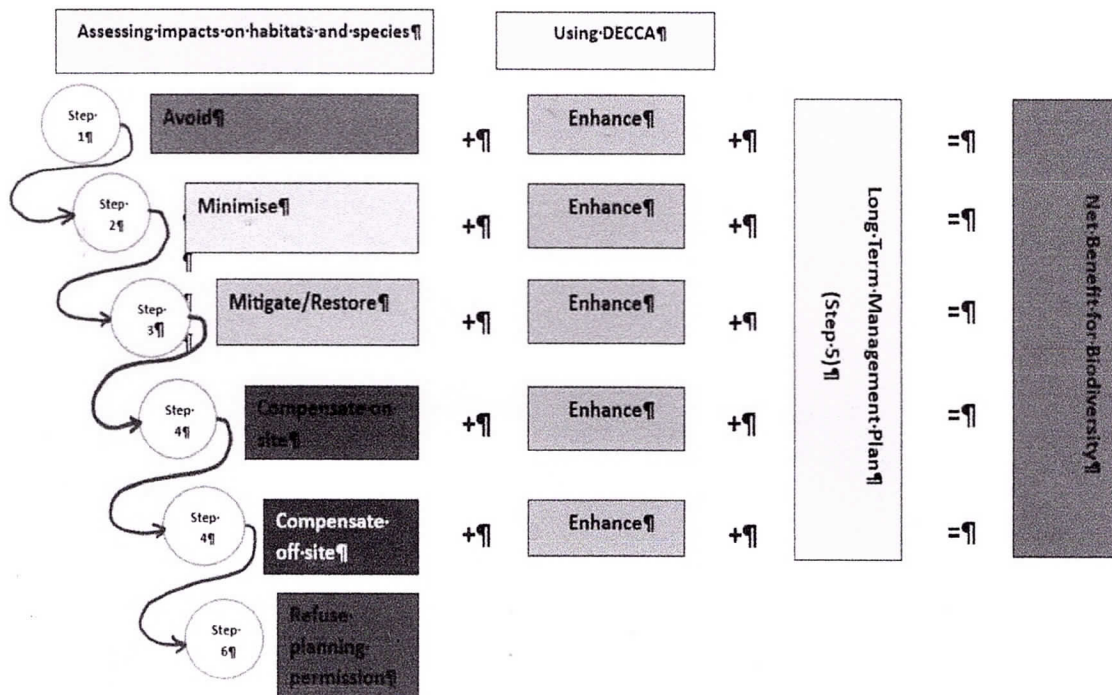
Background

On the 11th October 2023 the Welsh Government issued updated National Planning Policy for chapter 6 of 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.

"6.2.6 A green infrastructure statement should be submitted with all planning applications. This will be proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed and will describe how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal. In the case of minor development this will be a short description and should not be an onerous requirement for applicants. The green infrastructure statement will be an effective way of demonstrating positive multi-functional outcomes which are appropriate to the site in question and must be used for demonstrating how the step-wise approach (Paragraph 6.4.21) has been applied."

Figure 1



- The development avoids any damage to biodiversity
- The proposal provides an ecological enhancement proportionate to the scale of the development.
- The proposed ecological enhancement will be maintenance free
- There is a net benefit to biodiversity as a result of the development

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to disturb breeding birds and therefore annual cleaning cannot be undertaken between the months of March and September inclusive. Bird nest boxes should be cleaned in October to prevent the build-up of nest parasites in the boxes whilst avoiding the risk of disturbing birds using the boxes as a roost site during the cold winter months. All nesting material and other debris should be removed from the box. Ideally, it should then be scrubbed clean with boiling water to kill any parasites (avoid using any chemicals). Once the box is clean, it should be left to dry out thoroughly. Bird boxes should be left up over winter as they can provide useful roosting sites for birds in bad weather.

Site lighting and dark corridors

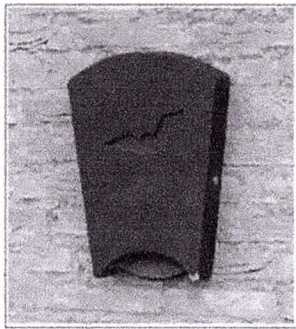
Measures will be taken to minimise light pollution to reduce any impact on nocturnal fauna such as bats and moths. Any lighting within the rear garden will be in accordance with the guidance provided

by the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT 2018). Appropriate ground facing, energy-saving lighting will be used, on timers. There will be no light spillage into landscape areas such trees and hedgerows on site will not be affected that's allowing dark corridors to be maintained for Nocturnal wildlife.

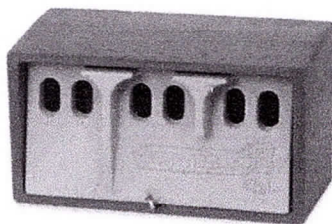
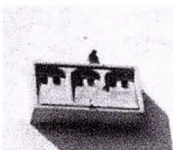
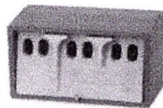
Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed

A bat and bird box will be erected on the rear of the proposed property within 1 month of the change of use been completed. This will clearly improve biodiversity and nesting opportunities.

The following bat and bird boxes will be installed:



Left: The Beaumaris Bat Box is made from 100% WoodStone which is very durable so this product has a lifetime warranty. The attractive design is suitable for crevice roosting bats and has a rough interior to provide lots of grip. Bats need to increase their body temperature before flight so prefer warm roosting spots, which is why many of our bat boxes have a black exterior to absorb heat from the sun. WoodStone isn't just strong, it also has good thermal insulation, reducing temperature fluctuations inside the box and helping to make this an ideal roost site.



Schwegler 1SP Nest Box - Sparrow Terrace - Brown

A nesting aid, especially for raising young

Simple installation

Made from tough long lasting material, with excellent insulating properties

★★★★★ (1) **feefo**

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GIA Assessment

Table 1 below sets out the stepwise approach in assessing impacts of a development on habitats and the species

	Steps	Assessment	Enhancement	Long Term Maintenance	Net Benefits
1.	Avoid	The proposed is a modest extension, The proposal avoids damage to any biodiversity and as such accords with the <i>stepwise</i> approach set out in the published advice.	Bird & Bat boxes to be provided	No maintenance required	Yes
2.	Minimise	Na	Na	Na	Na
3.	Mitigate/restore	Na	Na	Na	Na
4.	Compensate on site	Na	Na	Na	Na
5.	Compensate offsite	Na	Na	Na	Na

Table 1

Conclusion

Applying the step-by-step approach, the assessment indicates that:

- The development avoids any damage to biodiversity
- The proposal provides an ecological enhancement proportionate to the scale of the development.
- The proposed ecological enhancement will be maintenance free
- There is a net benefit to biodiversity as a result of the development