

November 2024

Green Infrastructure Statement

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Ty'n y cwm lane,
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Pontardawe,
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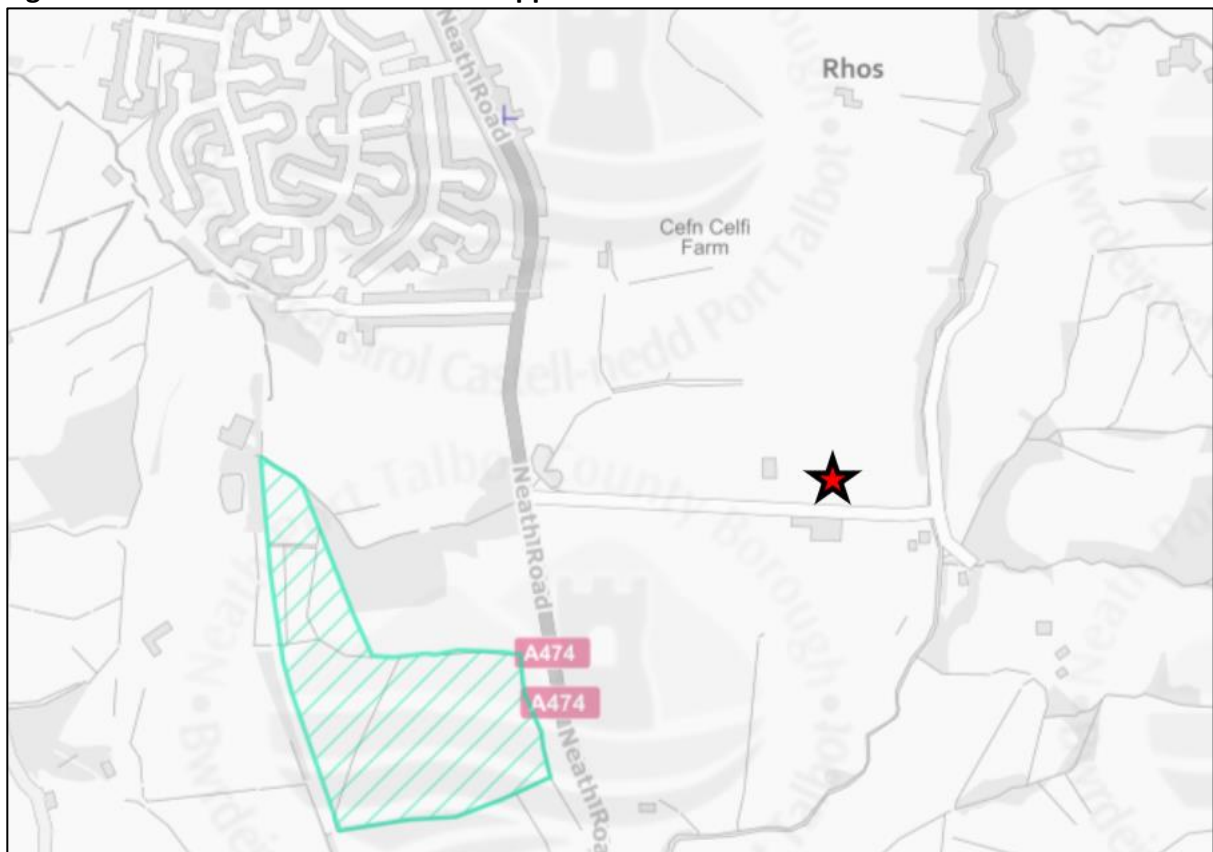
1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Green Infrastructure Statement (GIS) has been prepared to support the Reserved Matters application pursuant to outline planning permission p2021/1245 for a rural enterprise dwelling and garage at Ty'n Y Cwym Farm, Rhos.

2 The Site

- 2.1 The site comprises of an open field, located off Ty'n y Cwm Lane. It is immediately to the east of an existing mixed-use yard and proposed sheep building at Ty'n Y Cwm Farm. It is located in open countryside and within a designated Green Wedge and also in a Mineral Safeguarding Zone.
- 2.2 The land surrounding the site is predominantly agricultural with large expanses of pasture land divided by hedgerows.
- 2.3 The nearest SSSI is at Fforest Goch Bog, approximately 560m from the application site, on the western side of the A494 Neath Road. There are no SACs within 1km of the application site.

Figure 1: Location of SSSI in relation to application site

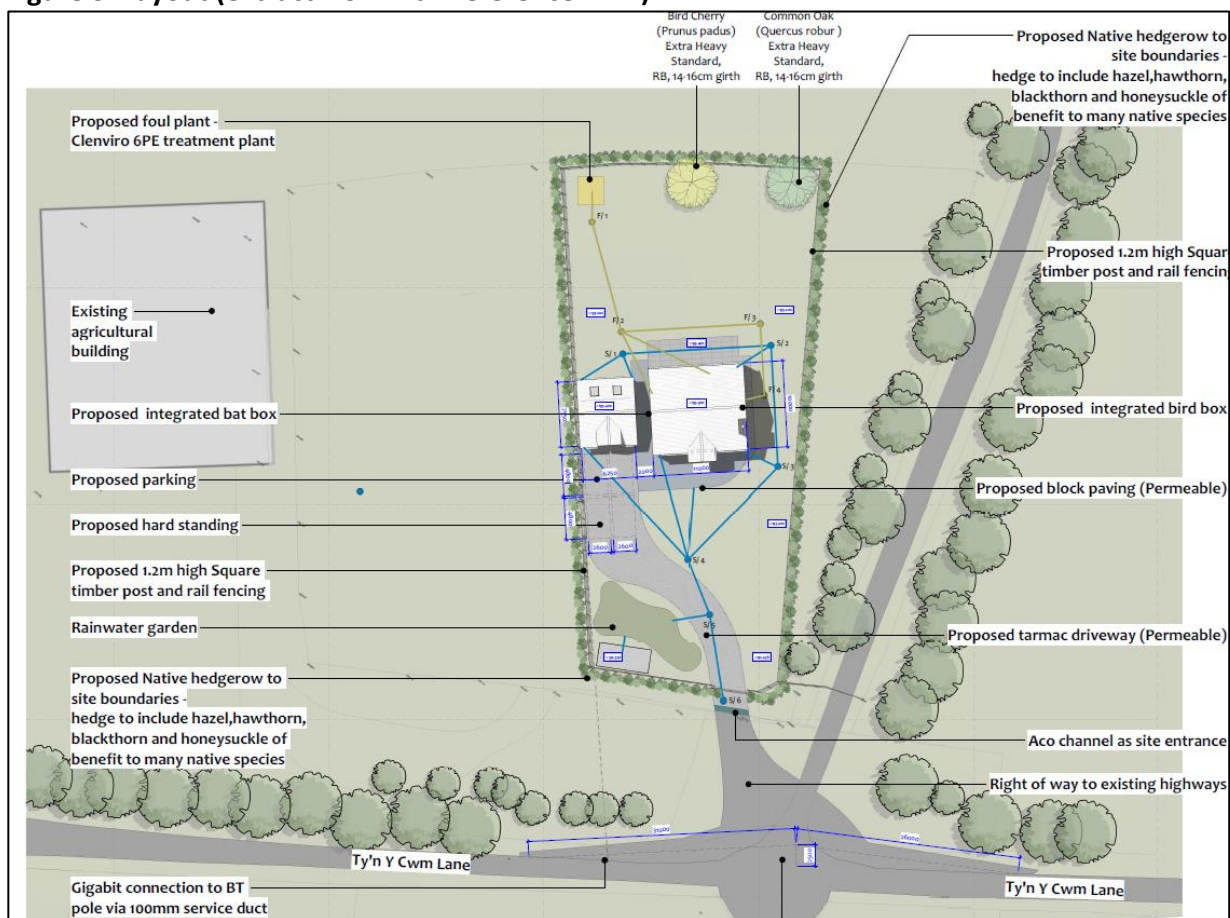


3 Description of the Development

- 3.1 Outline Planning Permission has been granted for the construction of a rural enterprise dwelling with garage. The current application seeks approval of the Reserved Matters relating to layout, scale, appearance and landscaping. The Image below (Figure 2) shows how the proposed dwelling will appear.
- 3.2 Figure 3 shows the proposed layout which includes the proposed Green Infrastructure enhancements.

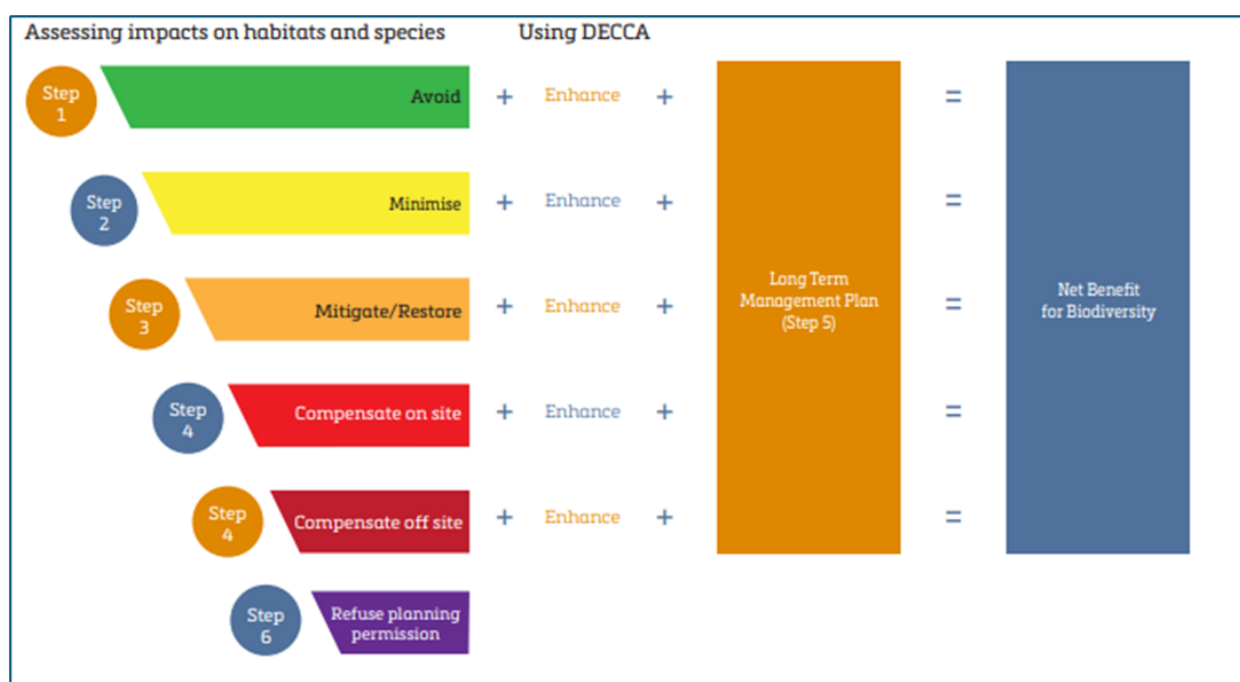
Figure 2: The Proposal



Figure 3: Layout (extract from Plan reference A1.2)

4 Planning Policy Wales

- 4.1 As per Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12, February 2024 a Green Infrastructure Statement is required to demonstrate how a step-wise approach has been considered in maintaining and enhancing biodiversity for the proposals. The statement should be proportionate to the scale and nature of the proposed development.
- 4.2 Figure 4 below sets out the summary of the stepwise approach as set out in the Chapter 6 of PPW.

Figure 4: Summary of the Step-Wise Approach

5 Proposed Ecological Enhancement

- 5.1 The proposal will avoid any impact on existing habitats and species and will seek to enhance biodiversity through introducing green infrastructure features in terms of additional landscaping and integrated bat and bird boxes into the dwelling itself.
- 5.2 In terms of landscaping, native hedge planting is proposed to all boundaries of the site to encourage linkages with adjacent green infrastructure features and to provide foraging opportunities. The hedge is to comprise hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn and honeysuckle. Further details are submitted in the Landscape Planting and Maintenance document which accompanies this application.
- 5.3 Two native species of tree (bird cherry and oak) are also proposed to the northern boundary.
- 5.4 On the dwelling, it is proposed to install a Schwegler 1Fr Bat Tube bat box to the western elevation and an integrated bird box to the eastern elevation (Schweglar No.17 pour martinets). Images of these features are shown below.

Figure 5: Bat and Bird boxes

10. Integrated Bat Box • Schweglar Schwegler 1FR Bat Tube (wildcare.co.uk)	
11. Integrated Bird Box • Schweglar Nichoïr Schwegler No.17 pour martinets (wildcare.co.uk)	

6 Implementation

- 6.1 The bird and bat boxes will be installed during construction of the dwelling and the hedging and trees within the first planting season following its completion.

