



Cwm Planning & Design Ltd.
(Civil, Structural & Architectural)

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Project Construction of New Residential dwelling and associated Car Port

Address: 54 Lucy Road
Skewen
SA10 6RR

Date: 1st December 2024

General Introduction:

In accordance with Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales, this Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared to support a Planning Application made to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council for the construction of a New Residential dwelling at 54 Lucy Road, Skewen.

This GIS will describe how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal following the - step-wise approach referred to in the Planning guidance and will be an effective way of demonstrating the impact of the development and how it is mitigated against.



Aerial view of application site and surrounding area

Site Description:

The application site is located in a well built up suburban area within the village of Skewen. The property is located within a row of detached and semi-detached properties all fronting Lucy Road and all with similar steeply terraced front and rear gardens.

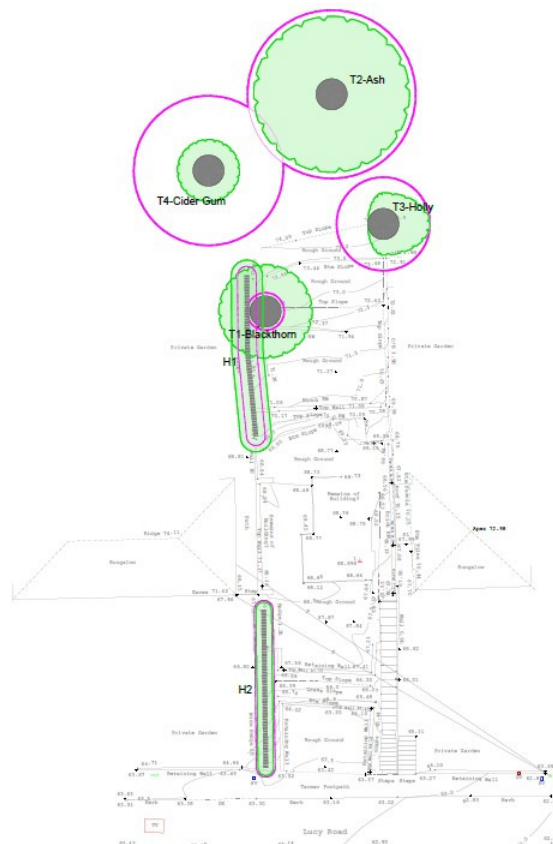
The site was formerly occupied with a single dwelling which was demolished some time ago, leaving the site vacant and overgrown.

STEP WISE APPROACH - STEP A: IDENTIFY

Existing Green Infrastructure:

The site is currently within a well-connected landscape with numerous established trees, areas of amenity grassland, and hedgerows. There is a large area of mature scrub woodland to the North which backs onto agricultural land.

The application site interior is predominantly overgrown with scrub grassland. There 2 sections of hedgerow, a holly tree and a blackthorn bush. To the rear of the plot is an Ash tree and Cider Gum Tree.
(See extract of tree survey below)



Existing street lighting is present along Lucy Road with various PIR security lights and garden lighting to most of the properties.

STEP WISE APPROACH - STEP B: AVOID

The proposed build would not affect the trees to the rear boundary. The holly bush will be removed along with blackthorn bush and the hedgerows. Approx. 75% of the scrub grassland will also be lost.

STEP WISE APPROACH – STEP C: RESPOND & DESIGN

Development Impacts / The Proposal:

Whilst there is sufficient Green Infrastructure within the immediate locality of the proposal it is important to respond to current climate requirements with the need to improve connectivity and habitability. In response to the loss of existing ecological features it is proposed to replant native species hedgerows and trees within the existing garden landscape.

STEP WISE APPROACH – STEPS D: MITIGATE

To mitigate against the loss of green infrastructure the planting will comprise native species to a ratio of 3:1 for each feature lost.

STEP WISE APPROACH – STEP E: COMPENSATE

Given the scale and current condition of the site and the proposed supplementary planting, no off site compensation measures are deemed to be required.

STEP WISE APPROACH - STEP F: ENHANCE

Proposed Green Infrastructure Measures and Bio-diversity enhancement:

To further enhance the local connectivity and green infrastructure, it is proposed to introduce a number of native species plants and shrubs in small, raised beds and verges and will include wildlife friendly species, to encourage insects and pollinators, creating additional small habitats and further improving localised connectivity.

Planting species may include: *(not limited to)*

Dog rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>)	Wild privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>)
Common snowdrop (<i>Alanthus nivalis</i>)	English ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>)
Prunus avium wild & edible cherries	Common holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)
Sedum (<i>Hylotelephium spectabile</i>)	Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>)
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Common mallow (<i>Malva sylvestris</i>)
Common knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>)	Crab apple (<i>Malus sylvestris</i>)
Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)	Heather (<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>)
Hemp Agrimony (<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>)	Bell heather (<i>Erica cinerea</i>)
Field scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>)	Fruit trees

It is also proposed to install a bat box (Shweggler 1 FR bat tube) on the North elevation at eaves level.
(Refer to CPD 002 for details)

STEP WISE APPROACH - STEP G: MAINTAIN

The planting scheme will be implemented with 1 month of beneficial completion. Regular maintenance will be carried out to ensure the planting scheme remains effective.

STEP WISE APPROACH - STEP H: MONITOR

The Planting scheme will be reviewed annually to monitor the effectiveness of each species to ensure the enhancement remains effective. Should plants die or become too overgrown they will be pruned or replaced.

Conclusion:

The local area has sufficient connectivity and green infrastructure. The provision of the supplementary planting would aim to minimize any adverse environmental effects and given the extent of work proposed it is considered the introduction of various shrubs and plants would be **proportionate to the scale of the development** and **enhance** the ecological features, creating additional nesting habitats and increase the connectivity in the local surroundings.