



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Project Construction of a Single Storey Rear Extension

Address: 23 Furzeland Drive
Bryncoch
Neath

Date: 26th January 2025

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 Single Storey Rear Extension at 23 Furzeland Drive.

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 built-up residential area within the village of Bryncoch. The property is located within a row of similar detached dormer bungalow type properties all fronting Furzeland Drive and all with similar front and rear gardens.

The property is traditionally built with rendered masonry walls and a tiled covered pitched roof. There is currently a single storey garage with a flat roof to the south elevation which shares a boundary with the neighbouring property . *(Refer to Architectural Drawings)*.

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, hedgerows and Gardens. There are numerous large areas of mature scrub woodland to the East and West.

The application site interior comprises a small paved area to the front, and a modest rear garden. The garden, laid mainly to lawn does benefit from some established shrubs, bushes and plants which will **remain unaffected** by the proposed works.

Existing street lighting is present along Furzeland Drive. There is also a PIR security light mounted on the rear elevation which illuminates the patio and garden area. These arrangements are to remain.

STEP WISE APPROACH - STEP B: AVOID

The proposed extension build would **not reduce the current amount of green infrastructure**
No green amenity space will be taken up, lost or removed.

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 we feel the additional planting of native species shrubs and plants in raised beds and verges within the existing garden landscape will be in keeping with the proportion of the development and will enhance the current ecological features.

The extension will be built to match the existing dwelling with rendered masonry walls and a new flat roof. *(Refer to Architectural Drawings)*.

No additional lighting is proposed within the garden area, therefore minimal impact beyond the limited localised issues within the current garden and neighbouring areas.

STEP WISE APPROACH – STEPS D: MITIGATE

No green infrastructure or amenity space will be lost to provide the extension. Steps D is not applicable in this case.

STEP WISE APPROACH – STEP E: COMPENSATE

No mitigation measures are needed with no compensation 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. These will be located within the rear garden in small, raised beds and verges. These 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>)	Fruit trees
Common snowdrop (<i>Alanthus nivalis</i>)	Wild privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>)
Prunus avium wild & edible cherries	English ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>)
Sedum (<i>Hylotelephium spectabile</i>)	Common holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>)
Common knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>)	Common mallow (<i>Malva sylvestris</i>)
Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)	Crab apple (<i>Malus sylvestris</i>)
Hemp Agrimony (<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>)	Heather (<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>)
Field scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>)	Bell heather (<i>Erica cinerea</i>)

It is also proposed to install a bird box (Woodstone House Sparrow Nest Box) on the existing South West 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.