

Green Infrastructure Statement

Job No. 1254

Revision -

24th April 2025

Applicant

Mr & Mrs Clarkson

Site Address

4, Clos Ceagwenith, Tonna, Neath. SA11 3ER (E 276861 , N 198414)

Scope of works

Proposed works are for a raised deck to the rear of the house accessed off the ground floor lounge with steps down into the garden.

Introduction

This statement has been produced to accompany a householder planning application, its goal is to address the updated National Planning Policy for Chapter 6 of the Planning Policy, which sets out the policy for biodiversity and nature, and to look at possible green infrastructure enhancement opportunities.

The application is a minor development, and therefore the scope of the statement reflects this, contains short descriptions, and demonstrates the positive effect on the overall biodiversity and ecology within the development.

Site description

The existing property is a detached two-storey residential house, with a detached garage alongside.

To the front of the house, there is a footpath, a parking area and a lawned garden. Boundaries are defined using concrete edgings, maintaining an open feel with the street and adjoining properties.

To the rear of the house there is a raised patio area, a lawn area and a lower patio. The rear and side boundaries are defined by close-boarded fences approximately 1800mm high. The rear boundary also includes a 900mm high trellis panel and was erected when the neighbour removed a hedgerow.



The land around the house consists of four terraced areas, made up of the front garden, the path around the house, the rear patio and garden and the lower patio area.

There are no mature trees or hedgerows located within the application site.

Surrounding area description

The application site is part of a large housing development that was built sometime in the early 1990s, accessed off Neath Road, Tonna. The front gardens are open to the street with no fences or boundary walls and all have small lawned gardens.

To the south of the application site there is open countryside, consisting of fields with mature trees at the field boundaries.

To the north, east and west, there are more houses.



Google Maps Extract.

Development Impacts

There are no trees or hedgerows within the vicinity of the proposed development.

The proposed rear raised decking will be constructed above the existing patio area and, as such, avoids an impact on habitats and species.

Whilst positions of external lighting are not shown, any proposed light fitting will be wall-mounted to the decking, fixed no higher than 2.1m above finished floor level, and will use bulbs with a colour temperature of 2700K to ensure that bats are not adversely affected.



Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed

Future Wales mandates that development must contribute to a "net benefit for biodiversity", which includes maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and should not cause significant harm to habitats or species and must actively improve the natural environment.

Given the scale of the proposal, it is considered that the provision of a bird within the site will provide adequate ecological enhancement. The location of the box is indicated on the submitted drawings.

We proposed to erect a Vivara Pro Woodstone house sparrow nest box fixed at a higher level as indicated on the elevation. The boxes chosen are made from woodcrete to ensure they remain in good condition for a considerable time without the need for maintenance. The box will be fitted in accordance with the supplier guidance within 3 months if the works are completed.



Conclusion

It is considered that subject to the above, that the proposed development would maintain and / or enhance biodiversity, build resilient ecological networks and deliver net benefits for biodiversity by ensuring that any adverse environmental effects are avoided/ minimized/ mitigated, compensated for.

Signed, Gary Seymour

Dated. 24th April 2025.

