

PROPOSED DETACHED GARAGE
DAKOTA HOUSE
PENTWYN BAGLAN ROAD BAGLAN
NEATH PORT TALBOT
Green Infrastructure Statement

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

Proposal

The proposed development is a proposed detached garage

Introduction

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 assessment should be used to develop a robust approach to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity, increasing ecosystem resilience and the multiple benefits obtained from nature, and should identify key strategic opportunities where the protection, retention, restoration, creation and connection of green features and functions would deliver the most significant benefits. Outputs from the green infrastructure assessment must address:

- The identifying of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity , and historic and cultural features in which green infrastructure plays a part, which are already being safeguarded as part of multi-functioning urban and rural landscapes;
- The nature emergency identifying and demonstrating how a net benefit for biodiversity will be secured and the attributes of ecosystem resilience enhanced, making the links to other land management activity, such as local nature recovery plans, and identifying land which may be required for the protection, retention and restoration and recovery of nature (and in providing a net benefit for biodiversity). This includes recognising the value of designated sites, and natural resources such as peatlands, as part of resilient ecological networks. In urban areas, the protection and provision of green infrastructure should be considered alongside the needs of wider maintenance regimes and any role development may have in making an effective contribution. The assessments may assist in identifying how the impact of INNS and the risk of introducing or spreading INNS will be managed;
- The reduction of pollution, as far as possible, by identifying green infrastructure/nature based solutions which form part of, or complement, wider activity at a catchment scale to address pollution and improve the restoration of riverine and other habitats;
- The climate emergency by ensuring the multi-functional benefits provided by trees and woodlands are identified; for example, by increasing tree canopy cover in urban areas to ensure shading against increased temperatures, and by requiring effective natural flood management and sustainable drainage schemes. Such measures may also help maintain good air quality and appropriate soundscapes.

- The health and well-being of communities by ensuring they have accessible natural green spaces of various sizes and scales within reasonable walking and cycling distances.
- How the planning system should secure the implementation and management of green infrastructure, recognising its dynamic nature, over the long term

In support of the Planning Application for the proposed development the Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared in relation to the scale and nature of the proposed application. It introduces natural elements into the scheme.

Surrounding Area Description

The property is surrounded by Residential Properties

Ecological Enhancement Measures

Ecological Enhancement Measures have been added to the scheme.

A Bat Box and a Bird Box will be placed on the proposed dwelling. Refer to drawing 008

The roof water will be collected into a 250 Litre water butt will be re-used as follows:

The above statement has demonstrated that natural elements designed into the scheme supports the development.

Background

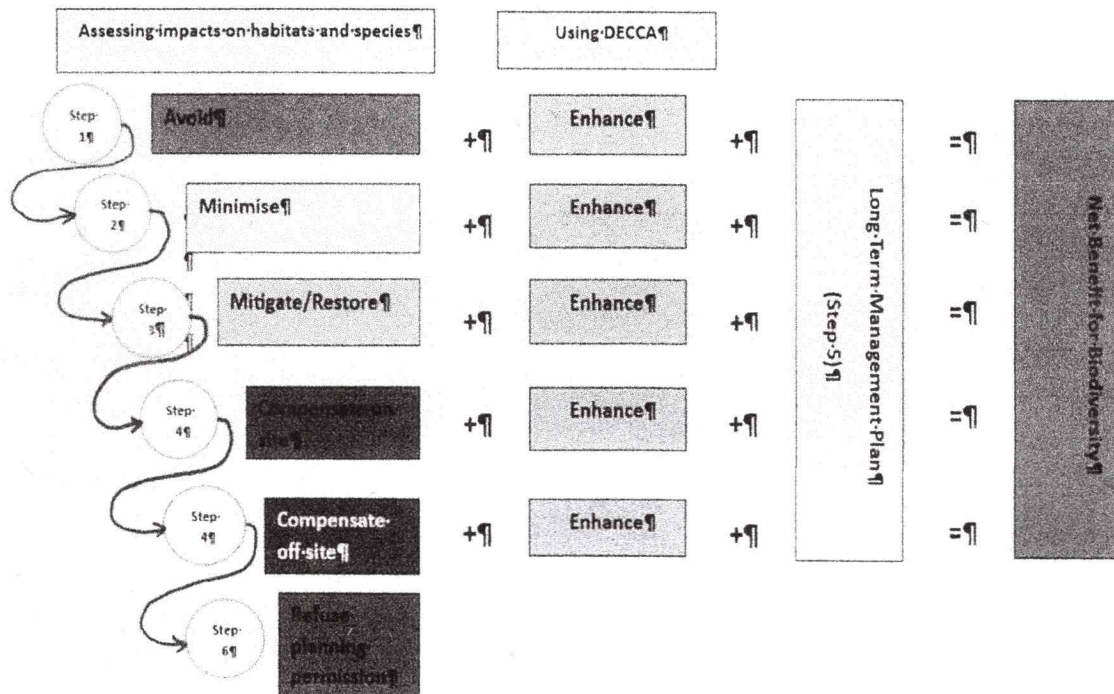
On the 11th October 2023 the Welsh Government issued updated National Planning Policy for chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales.

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 below sets out the summary of the stepwise approach as set out in the Annex to the published advice

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

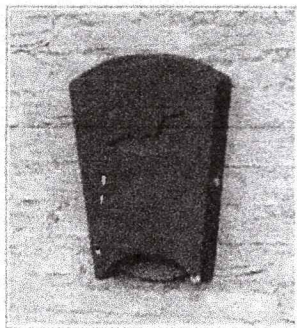
Measures will be taken to minimise light pollution to reduce any impact on nocturnal fauna such as bats and moths. Any lighting within the rear garden will be in accordance with the guidance provided

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.

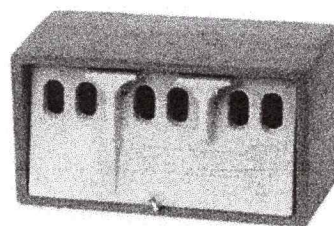
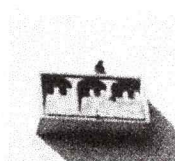
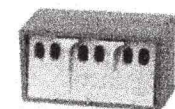
Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed

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

Attracting and sheltering birds for nesting young
Simple installation
Made from rugged long lasting material with excellent weathering properties

5.0 out of 5 stars **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