

Green Infrastructure Statement

For

Proposed Residential Development, Pen Yr Alltwen, Rhos

Prepared By



On Behalf of

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INTRODUCTION

The design for the Pen Yr Alltwen development has used a holistic approach, incorporating ecological enhancements and green space. The design was informed by the updated National Planning Policy for Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales.

Specifically, the development proposals and landscape philosophy follow the Stepwise Approach set out in paragraph 6.4.21 as follows:

Avoid - avoid damage to biodiversity in its widest sense (i.e. the variety of species and habitats and their abundance) and ecosystem functioning.

Minimise - applicants, in discussion with planning authorities, must seek to minimise the initial impact on biodiversity and ecosystems by:

ensuring that retained habitats continue to be well connected to adjacent habitats to provide connectivity for key species and ensuring that the favourable conservation status of local species populations is maintained

retaining existing features, develop a management plan for their future care

using proven innovative/creative solutions (where required) to minimise damage and maintain existing biodiversity features and ecosystems in tandem with robust monitoring and rectification strategies.

Mitigate - Where, after measures to minimise impact, biodiversity and ecosystems could still be damaged, or lost through residual impacts, the proposed development should mitigate that damage. Mitigation measures must be put in place to limit the negative effects of a development.

Compensate - where like for like mitigation measures are not possible, particularly in respect of restoration measures, it may be necessary to consider on site compensation measures.

The layout of the site has been carefully developed by Westfield Architects, in consultation with Ecological Services Ltd, Treescene Arboricultural Consultants and Tirlun Design Associates Ltd. to **avoid** damage to biodiversity wherever possible. (refer to page 3 for details).

Following production of arboricultural and ecological surveys, the site layout was then developed and refined further, to **minimise** habitat loss and retain existing trees.

While existing trees are to be retained and protected where possible, some grassland loss cannot be **mitigated**, as it will require removal to accommodate the development proposals.

To **compensate** for these losses, biodiversity enhancements will be made across the site. (refer to page 4 for details).

PREVIOUS STUDIES

This document is to be read in conjunction with the following drawings and documents

1. Tree Survey & Tree Constraints Plan produced by Treescene Arboricultural Consultants (September 2025)
2. Site Assessment Survey produced by Ecological Services Ltd (October 2025)

THE SITE

The site is located at the northern end of a wider rectangular shaped meadow which extends to the south. The meadow is located on the north west outskirts of Rhos and to the south of Pen Yr Alltwen.

The surrounding area to the east of site is the built-up residential area of Rhos, to the north and west are large detached residential dwellings located either side of Pen Yr Alltwen and to the south west is extensive areas of open countryside.

The site is wholly located within the Fferm Alltwenganol SINC



Image 1 – View looking South West from Greenland Road



Image 2 – View Looking South West from Pen Yr Alltwen



Pen Yr Altwen

Maes Y Carnel

Fferm Alltwenganol SINC

EXISTING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

Existing Trees

Existing trees define the site's northern and eastern boundaries. There are also three trees on the western boundary.

T6 & T10 are categorised as A – High Quality & Value.

T3, T4, T5, T14, T15, T16, T18, T20, T21, T24, T25, T26, T28, T29, T31 and G17 are categorised as B – moderate Quality & Value.

The remaining trees are categorised as C – Low Quality & Value.

Species predominantly comprise Oak, Birch, Holly, Sycamore and Holly.

Existing trees will be protected during construction, in accordance with BS5837:2012.

Existing Hedgerows

None present

Existing Ecotone Edge

Growing adjacent to the entrance gateway. Species include *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Alliaria petiolate*, *Geum urbanum* and *Brachypodium sylvaticum*.

Existing Scrub

The western boundary comprises Bramble scrub with some Bracken.

Existing Grassland

The majority of the centre of the site is species rich neutral semi-improved grassland. Species include *Lotus corniculatus*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Centaurea erythraea*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Taraxacum officinale* agg., *Ranunculus acris*, *Lathyrus pratensis*, *Leucanthemum vulgare*, *Jacobaea vulgaris*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Juncus conglomeratus/inflexus*, *Prunella vulgaris*, *Centaurea debeauxii*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum* and *Holcus lanatus*.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LOSSES

3 no. existing trees will be removed from the northern boundary to accommodate the proposed access.

A significant portion of the existing grassland will be removed to accommodate proposed buildings and associated hard surfacing.

PROPOSED GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

New street tree planting – New trees will define the access road and give the landscape scheme structure and provide a strong arboricultural character.

New Native tree Planting – New trees will strengthen existing green corridors and improve biodiversity

New Native Hedgerows – New native hedgerows around the site boundaries will enhance the existing green links around the site.

Wildflower Habitat – New species rich wildflower habitat located within open space on the site's peripheries.

On-plot landscaping – A mixture of native shrubs, perennials and plants for pollinators will be used in the landscape beds across the site, to provide year-round interest and biodiversity enhancement.

SUMMARY

The loss of 3 no. existing trees at the site entrance will be compensated with a minimum of 9 new native trees.

The loss of existing grassland will be compensated with new native wildflower habitat.

New native hedgerow planting on the site boundaries will strengthen links with the wider SINC.