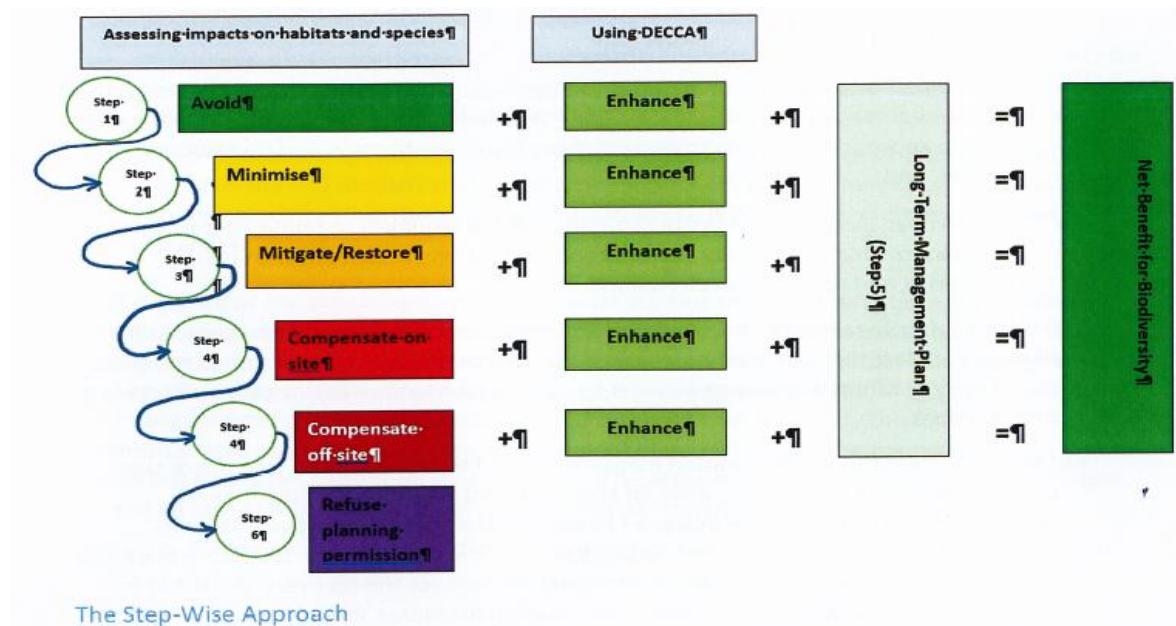


APPENDIX E

Green Infrastructure Statement

1.1 The dilemma facing the applicant is that the site was purchased from a third party in its current form i.e. a level platform created and covered in rolled hardcore surface presumably with all previous vegetation removed. It is therefore impossible to provide any evidence of its previous condition, and the site currently has limited ecological credentials. Nevertheless, there is an opportunity to improve the credentials by concentrating on the northeastern corner of the application site.

1.2 The Green Infrastructure Statement.



Note: A stepwise approach has been undertaken to assess and secure net benefits for biodiversity via this proposed new development. Firstly, considering avoidance, minimising impact and then enhancement and long-term management on site. During this particular assessment off-site compensation measures were not considered to be needed and would, however, only be considered as a last resort.

PPW Ed 12 requires the submission of a 'green infrastructure statement' as part of most planning applications. This advice came into effect on 18 October 2023 and incorporated into PPW 12.

The changes in policy include the submission of a 'proportionate' green infrastructure statement; the need to consider biodiversity net gain, enhancement and long-term management at each step; promoting new planting as part of development based on 'securing the right tree in the right place.'

It is contended that the County Council's network of green infrastructure both new and existing is preserved and enhanced.

This Green Infrastructure Statement is supported by Drawing 03a which is considered appropriate and proportionate to the scale and type of development involved. This statement refers to the concept of the 'stepwise approach' to assessing impacts upon habitats and species (avoid – minimise – mitigate/restore – compensation – enhancement).

Modest Expansion Consideration:

In line with the stepwise approach 'avoidance and minimisation' have been the first considerations. As such the proposal ensures minimal disturbance to the surrounding environment. Consideration will be given to the potential impact on local ecosystems, water usage, and waste management.

The overall intention is to continue and enhance their Section 6 duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity as part of new development proposals. The development should be used as an opportunity to improve the diversity of the site.

Proposed Enhancements / Biodiversity Net Benefits.

Drawing 03a includes a Landscaping Schedule and details of species to be planted in the northeastern corner to compliment the natural species covering the steeply sloping land along the northern boundary . The level portion of land will be used as private garden for the family.

Drawing 05 details the provision of bat and bird boxes on the external elevations of the proposed day/utility room. External lighting will be limited to low intensity downward facing lighting units. There will be no high-level illumination or halogen lighting which will discourage bats and there will be no external lighting on the south elevation near where the bat box will be located. All external lighting will include a motion sensor and a one-minute timer to avoid them being left on continually

The proposal is considered to comply with the broad principles set out in the new policy advice, as the following biodiversity net gains / ecological and landscaping enhancements are proposed:

The proposal seeks to mitigate and remove any waste materials and debris improving the visual appearance proposing a landscaping enhancement and details a scheme and schedule illustrated on Drawing 03a. All existing boundary trees and hedges will be retained.

The site is not located within a Green Wedge/Belt, Special Landscape Area or other protected status and the proposal avoids any designated or protected sites, and therefore any damage to biodiversity or ecosystems.

The proposal biodiversity enhancements, which includes the proposed landscaping and native planting, but also the incorporation of bird and bat boxes within the overall development.

A sustainable drainage system forms an integral part of the development with foul water drainage disposed via the public sewer connection at the front of the site A sustainable urban drainage system will be installed to deal with surface water.

This Green Infrastructure Assessment aligns with the County Council's commitment to sustainable development by integrating green infrastructure into the proposed scheme, the

development aims to contribute positively to the local environment while providing a sustainable development in this countryside location. Given time, the proposed infrastructure plan will result in a significant net gain in biodiversity.