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Date: 10/04/2026

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Cwmllynfell Skate Park, Gwilym Road, Cwmllynfell, Swansea
Proposed Fence Extension with Ball-Stop Netting

1. Introduction

This Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared in support of a planning application for the proposed increase in height of the existing perimeter fencing at Cwmllynfell Skate Park.

The proposal involves the installation of ball-stop netting above the existing fence structure to improve safety within the multi-use games area.

This statement has been prepared in accordance with the principles of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and TAN 5, which seek to maintain and enhance green infrastructure networks.

2. Existing Green Infrastructure

The site is an established recreational facility located within an area of public open space. The surrounding environment includes:

- Grassland and informal recreational space
- Established trees and boundary vegetation
- Proximity to a watercourse (river corridor)
- Existing open and permeable landscape character

The current fencing is visually permeable and does not form a barrier to ecological connectivity.

3. Description of the Proposal

The proposed development comprises:

- Installation of 2.4m high ball-stop netting above the existing ~3.0m fence
- Fixing to steel extension posts mounted to the existing structure
- Works limited to selected elevations only (South and East sides)

No ground disturbance, vegetation removal, or changes to land use are proposed.

4. Assessment of Green Infrastructure Impacts

4.1 Landscape and Visual

The proposed netting is:

- Lightweight and open in nature
- Visually permeable
- Positioned above an existing structure

As such, the development will not significantly alter the character of the landscape or restrict views through the site.

4.2 Biodiversity and Ecology

The proposal will have negligible impact on biodiversity, as:

- No trees, hedgerows, or vegetation will be removed
- No habitats will be disturbed
- The netting structure does not create a barrier to wildlife movement

Given the limited and non-intrusive nature of the works, the development is considered to have no adverse ecological impact.

4.3 Water Environment

The site is located in proximity to a river corridor; however:

- The proposal involves no groundworks or drainage alterations
- There will be no increase in impermeable surfaces
- No runoff or pollution pathways will be introduced

The development will therefore have no impact on the water environment.

4.4 Multi-functionality

The proposal supports the continued and improved use of the site as a safe recreational space, contributing to:

- Community wellbeing
- Active lifestyles
- Safe use of existing green infrastructure assets

5. Green Infrastructure Enhancements

Due to the minor nature of the development, opportunities for enhancement are limited. However, the proposal will:

- Improve the usability and safety of an existing outdoor recreational space
- Support continued community engagement with the local environment

Consideration can be given to the future installation of biodiversity enhancements such as bird or bat boxes within the wider site.

6. Conclusion

The proposed development is a minor and non-intrusive intervention that will not adversely affect the existing green infrastructure network.

The works:

- Retain all existing vegetation and landscape features
- Maintain ecological connectivity
- Preserve the visual openness of the site
- Enhance the functionality of the space for community use

The proposal is therefore considered to be fully compliant with national and local green infrastructure objectives, and no adverse impacts are anticipated.