

Green infrastructure statement with Biodiversity Enhancements

As defined by the Town and Country planning association, "Green infrastructure is a network of multi-functional green space and other green features, urban and rural, which can deliver quality of life and environmental benefits for the community". We believe that this statement refers to the impact (if any) that the proposal would have upon the occupants of the property in terms of access to green areas and its impact on the local biodiversity.

The proposed scheme looks to build a single storey extension to the rear and internal re-modelling and looks to retain two car parking spaces for beneficial use of the land. The existing amenity area to the front, rear and side of 22 Canberra Crescent, Newport, NP20 3QQ comprises a mixture of hard and soft landscaping of which the latter is much more predominant. There is an extensive mature garden to the rear.

Access to Green Areas

The building of a new single storey extension would look to alter an existing built area to the rear of the existing house. There is a grassed area for a front and rear garden and there is also plenty of planting areas around the perimeter of the property and therefore by virtue of this would only slightly reduce the amount of the amenity area that is currently afforded to the property, and as such would not likely affect the occupants of the property, nor the local biodiversity.

Therefore we believe that the impact to the occupants/users of the property and immediate neighbours would be minimal, if any.

It is also to be noted that the development site benefits from close proximity to a number of open large green areas, specifically large open green fields and tree filled areas surrounding the site, all of which have and will continue to benefit occupants of the property. The surrounding countryside is filled with agricultural fields with hedgerows, mature trees and developed agricultural buildings.

Biodiversity Enhancements

As regards to biodiversity measures, we would look to enhance the existing situation by encouraging bat roosting with the installation of a bat box to the side elevation of the proposed extension (north east elevation). This appeared to be the best solution for integrating biodiversity enhancements would act as a biodiversity corridor for bats likely to use the bat box, while street lighting exists on the main road rendering the use of the box more attractive to various bat species.

Batbox to be Greenwood's Ecohabitats ecostyrocure as shown below.

<https://www.greenwoodsecohabitats.co.uk/bats-boxes>



Furthermore the scheme retains the landscape of the existing land inclusive of stone chippings and planting, therefore encouraging this to be a suitable habitat for various invertebrates. This will also likely act as a feeding source for any roosting bats. The planting of Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) hedgerow to the side boundary will serve to enhance the Green Infrastructure. This hedge to be maintained for a period of at least 3 years post development ensures that the hedge is well established.

Maintenance of hedge -

Perform annual pruning during winter dormancy to remove dead, diseased or old stems. This will encourage new growth and enhance the appearance of the hedge. Plant in sun-exposed areas. Bare-root dogwood shrubs should be planted between autumn and spring. Ensure the soil is well rotted organic matter. Water regularly especially during the first two years after planting to promote strong root establishment. Use a balanced, slow release fertilizer in early spring, applying approximately 1 pound for every inch of the trees diameter.