

Landscape Specification & Management Plan

Green Infrastructure Statement

For

Planning Application for
Proposed single storey rear extension
at 2 Ridgeway Hill,
Newport
NP20 5DG

Prepared By

Brennan Architectural Design

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1. Introduction

This Green Infrastructure Statement accompanies a planning application for the proposed single storey rear extension to a semi-detached residential property at 2 Ridgeway Hill, Newport, NP20 5DG.

The purpose of this statement is to demonstrate that the proposal has considered Green Infrastructure (GI) principles in accordance with national and local planning policy. Given the small-scale nature of the development within a residential curtilage, the statement outlines proportionate measures to ensure that existing green infrastructure is preserved and, where feasible, enhanced.

2. Policy Context

The proposal has been assessed against relevant national and local planning policy, including:

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)

Planning Policy Wales emphasises the importance of green infrastructure as a multi-functional network that supports biodiversity, climate resilience, health, and well-being. It requires development to maintain and enhance green infrastructure assets where proportionate to the scale and nature of development.

Future Wales 2040

Future Wales promotes sustainable placemaking and supports development that contributes positively to environmental resilience and local distinctiveness.

Newport Local Development Plan (2011–2026)

Relevant policies include:

- SP5 – Countryside, Landscape and Green Infrastructure
- DM13 – Green Infrastructure
- SP3 – Environment and Climate Change

The proposal has been designed to comply with the above policies, ensuring no adverse impact on existing green infrastructure and providing opportunities for proportionate enhancement.

3. Existing Site Conditions

The application site comprises a semi-detached residential property within an established suburban area. The rear of the property consists of a private garden area, which includes a mix of hardstanding and managed garden space.

The proposed extension is located to the rear of the dwelling, partially occupying an area of existing patio and maintained garden space. There are:

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- Limited areas of soft landscaping within the footprint of the proposal
- No trees or hedgerows affected by the development
- No known ecological features or habitats of significance within the development area
- No designated ecological sites within or immediately adjacent to the site

The garden space is typical of a residential curtilage and is of low ecological value, being regularly maintained and managed.

4. Green Infrastructure Strategy

Given the nature and scale of the development, the Green Infrastructure approach focuses on:

- Avoidance of ecological harm
 - Retention of existing garden areas where possible
 - Maintaining the overall balance of built and permeable surfaces
 - Identifying proportionate opportunities for biodiversity enhancement
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4.1 Retention of Existing Green Infrastructure

- The development is confined to a small portion of the rear garden and existing hardstanding.
- No trees, hedgerows, or significant vegetation will be removed.
- The majority of the garden area will be retained for continued use and planting.
- The proposal does not impact any ecological corridors or wider green infrastructure networks.

The proposal therefore maintains the overall green infrastructure function of the residential curtilage.

4.2 Proportionate Enhancement Measures

Although the site is of limited ecological value, opportunities for minor enhancements may include:

- Retention and potential improvement of existing garden planting
- Use of permeable materials where practicable
- Installation of bird boxes or bat roosting features on the building or within the garden
- Opportunities for small-scale planting of pollinator-friendly species

These measures would provide modest biodiversity benefits in line with national policy objectives.

5. Biodiversity and Ecology

The proposal does not result in:

- Significant loss of habitat
- Removal of mature vegetation
- Impact on designated ecological sites
- Fragmentation of ecological networks

Given the limited ecological value of the affected area, the development is considered to have a negligible impact on biodiversity.

Any minor enhancements incorporated would provide a small net benefit relative to the existing baseline condition.

6. Long-Term Management

The site will continue to be managed as a private residential property.

Any biodiversity features introduced as part of the development would require minimal maintenance and would be managed by the occupants as part of normal garden upkeep.

Given the scale and nature of the proposal, no formal management plan is required.

7. Conclusion

This Green Infrastructure Statement demonstrates that the proposed single storey rear extension at 2 Ridgeway Hill, Newport:

- Is located within an established residential garden with limited existing GI value
- Results in minimal loss of permeable garden space
- Avoids ecological harm
- Retains the majority of the garden for ongoing green infrastructure function
- Provides small-scale, proportionate opportunities for enhancement
- Complies with national and local planning policy

The proposal is therefore considered acceptable in Green Infrastructure terms.