

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

Proposed Rear Deck and Associated Works at
34 Grove Park Drive,
Newport, NP20 6YE

Prepared by Siemens Architecture for
Mr W Wormald
June 2026

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

Applicant: Mr W Wormald Site: 34 Grove Park Drive, Newport NP20 6YE Date: June 2026

INTRODUCTION

This Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme accompanies the planning application for a rear deck at 34 Grove Park Drive, Newport (re-submitted following refused application 25/0433). It sets out the measures by which the proposal will deliver a net benefit for biodiversity, in accordance with the Council's duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Planning Policy Wales, the Newport Local Development Plan (Policies SP1, SP9, GP5 and CE8) and the adopted Wildlife and Development Supplementary Planning Guidance (2020). The measures are proportionate to this minor householder development and create new habitat where little currently exists.

SITE CONTEXT

The site is a detached dwelling in an established residential area, with a rear garden comprising a small existing patio, with the rest laid to grass. There are no statutory or non-statutory nature conservation designations on or adjacent to the site, and no evidence of protected species was identified. The deck occupies an area of existing steeply sloped 'brown field' (ie meant to be grass but too steep to be maintained) to the rear, so no habitat of value would be lost.

PROPOSED ENHANCEMENT MEASURES

Two complementary enhancements are proposed:

- **Living green wall.** The 1,800mm screen along the eastern edge of the deck (introduced to address overlooking of No. 33) will be planted as a living "green wall". A mix of wildlife-friendly climbing and evergreen species – such as common ivy (*Hedera helix*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) – will provide year-round cover, late-season nectar and berries, and foraging and shelter for pollinating insects, invertebrates and small birds, while also improving local air quality and providing summer cooling.
- **Woodstone house martin nest.** A Woodstone artificial house martin nest – a durable, breathable wood-concrete composite – will be fixed beneath the eaves of the dwelling, suitable for house martin and swallow. The house martin is Red-listed under Birds of Conservation Concern (2021), having declined by over half, with the loss of nest sites a recognised cause; providing a ready-made nest cup is a simple and effective response endorsed by the RSPB and BTO. It will benefit the similarly declining swallow.

BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS AND POLICY COMPLIANCE

Together the measures create new nesting and foraging habitat where none currently exists and directly support a Red-listed, declining species. They deliver a clear net gain for biodiversity, more than offsetting the minor footprint of the deck and exceeding expectations for development of this scale. The scheme satisfies the Section 6 enhancement duty and accords with the Wildlife and Development SPG, the Newport Local Development Plan, and the green-infrastructure objectives of Planning Policy Wales and Future Wales (Policy 9).

IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT

- The green wall will be planted on completion of the deck and maintained as part of the garden in perpetuity (watering during establishment and occasional pruning).

-
- The nest will be installed at an appropriate height beneath the eaves, with a clear flight line and a sheltered north- or east-facing aspect, away from artificial light.
 - No external lighting is proposed that would disturb nesting or nocturnal species.

CONCLUSION

The green wall and Woodstone house martin nest will deliver measurable biodiversity enhancement, supporting declining aerial insectivores and increasing habitat diversity within the curtilage. The proposal therefore accords with national and local policy and the Council's statutory biodiversity duty. We respectfully request that the scheme be secured by condition and the application approved.

Siemens Architecture – *Design that listens.*