

NGED Primary Substation, Alexandra Docks, Newport

Green Infrastructure Statement

Burroughs

61271

April 2026



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S0 – Work in progress

S1 – For coordination

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Description
ABP	Associated British Ports
GI	Green Infrastructure
NCC	Newport City Council
NGED	National Grid Electricity Distribution
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation
SINC	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SLA	Special Landscape Areas
SPA	Special Protection Areas
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 TACP (UK) Ltd has been commissioned by Burroughs on behalf of their client National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED) to provide environmental support, surveys and assessment for the development of a new National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED) Primary Substation (referred to hereafter as the 'Scheme') at Alexandra Docks).
- 1.1.2 TACP's scope includes the preparation of a Green Infrastructure (GI) Statement.

1.2 Purpose

- 1.2.1 A GI Statement describes how the landscape and biodiversity elements of the Scheme have been incorporated into its design.
- 1.2.2 A GI Statement is required on all developments in accordance with PPW12, the Environmental (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 to show that development has a net benefit to biodiversity and green infrastructure. This information is not appropriate to seek 'retrospectively' by way of a condition and must be provided as part of the planning application process.
- 1.2.3 This GI Statement is a simple statement proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed and will describe how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal.

1.3 Site Description

Existing Features

- 1.3.1 Alexandra Docks is situated in the city of Newport (and within the Newport City Council administrative boundary) along the western edge of the River Usk. The Dock was an essential part of Newport's economy for its ability to connect South Wales trading routes and its shipping capacity. Today, the Dock is owned by Associated British Ports (ABP) and is still in use for exporting goods abroad.
- 1.3.2 The Scheme currently comprises the 'North Quay Substation' brick structure as well as scattered corrugated metal sheds, office cabins and corrugated office containers. It contains areas dominated by native shrubs, some ground vegetation and some scattered trees along the southern and western boundaries. Alongside this, there is some ruderal vegetation with bare ground areas providing a variety of wildlife habitats for species of bat, reptile and invertebrates.
- 1.3.3 The Scheme is surrounded by several environmental designations including the River Usk SSSI (approx. 20m east), Gwent Levels - St Brides SSSI (approx. 1.35km southwest), the Severn Estuary SSSI/SPA/SAC/ Ramsar Site (Approx. 1.6km south), Marshall's SINC (Approx. 229m east), Monkey Island SINC (approx. 1.4km northeast), Solutia Site SINC (approx. 1.8km east), Gaer Pond SINC (approx. 1.95km west), Afon Ebbw River SINC (approx. 1km west), and small patches of ancient semi-natural woodland and restored ancient woodland within 1.9km and to the west of the Scheme. All these sites of landscape or ecological significance are particularly susceptible to local and ecological change.

- 1.3.4 The Scheme sits in an 200m stretch of hardstanding and industrial/ commercial buildings between Alexandra Docks and the River Usk.

1.4 How the development fits into the wider landscape

- 1.4.1 Alexandra Docks forms a vital part of the wider green infrastructure network of the surrounding area. The Scheme seeks to enhance the existing landscape features whilst maintaining existing ecological corridors. The area seeks to retain the existing vegetation and enhance boundary hedgerow and grass swards to support wildlife movement and promote habitat connectivity across the Scheme and surrounding landscape.

Figure 1: Alexandra Docks Site connection to the wider landscape



2 RELEVANT PLANNING POLICIES

2.1 Planning Policy Wales (PPW)

- 2.1.1 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) first published in 2018, was updated in February 2024 to Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12). PPW represents the overarching document for National Planning Policy in Wales and supports the Spatial Plan for Wales as set out in Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 influences the way new developments are planned; it demands that development and use of land contribute to improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.
- 2.1.2 PPW supports the commitment as set out in the Well-being of the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to the achievement of sustainable development through appropriate planning. Identifying four overarching objectives – cultural, social, economic and environmental to be pursued in mutually supportive ways through the planning system.
- 2.1.3 The Future Wales Outcomes of specific relevance in relation to sustainability, the natural environment, landscape and visual issues are,
- 2.1.4 **9 ...in places that sustainably manage their natural resources and reduce pollution.** 'The environmental, social and cultural value of our resources will be managed, maintained and enhanced, while economic benefits will be utilised sustainably and appropriately by promoting nature-based solutions and a circular economy.'
- 2.1.5 **10 ...places with biodiverse, resilient and connected ecosystems.** 'The planning system will ensure wildlife is able to thrive in healthy, diverse habitats, both in urban and rural areas, recognising and valuing the multiple benefits to people and nature.'
- 2.1.6 PPW (Edition 12) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government with the primary objective, '...to ensure that the planning system contributes towards the delivery of sustainable development and improves the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales as required by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other key legislation and resultant duties such as the Socio-economic Duty.'
- 2.1.7 Of relevance in relation to landscape and visual issues are the environmental objectives as set out in Section 6: Distinctive and Natural Places, specifically looking at:
- 2.1.8 Long term and chronic decline in biodiversity and habitat loss
- 2.1.9 Adaptation to the effects of climate change, and;
- 2.1.10 Recognising and addressing the factors influencing landscape change
- 2.1.11 It recognises that, 'The special and unique characteristics and intrinsic qualities of the natural and built environment must be protected in their own right, for historic, scenic, aesthetic and nature conservation reasons. These give places their unique identity and distinctiveness and provide for cultural experiences and healthy lifestyles.'

- 2.1.12 **Section 6.1: Recognising the Special Characteristics of Places: The Historic Environment;** ‘...preserve the special interest of sites on the register of historic parks and gardens.’
- 2.1.13 **Section 6.2: Green Infrastructure;** notes that, ‘The components of green infrastructure, by improving the resilience of ecosystems, can result in positive benefits to well-being including flood management, water purification, improved air quality, reduced noise pollution and local climate moderation, climate change mitigation and food production.’ and that, ‘The quality of the built environment should be enhanced by integrating green infrastructure into development through appropriate site selection and use of creative design.’
- 2.1.14 **Section 6.3: Landscape;** ‘ensuring that the value of all landscapes for their distinctive character and special qualities is protected;’
- 2.1.15 **Section 6.4: Biodiversity and Ecological Networks;** ‘...secure the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystem resilience and resilient ecological networks by improving diversity, extent, condition, and connectivity’, and, ‘A proactive and creative approach towards facilitating the delivery of biodiversity and ecosystem resilience outcomes must be taken by all those participating in the planning process.’
- 2.1.16 These principles then form the basis for Regional Planning and Local planning and delivery in the form of Strategic Development Plans, and Local Development plans put in place by the relevant local authority and providing specific detail and implementation of policy in the proposed development’s locality.

2.2 Newport City Council (NCC) Local Development Plan

- 2.2.1 The Newport City Council Local Development Plan (LDP) 2011-2026 was adopted on 27th January 2015, to become the adopted development plan for the City Council’s administrative boundary, currently the Newport City Council are revising the LDP to cover a period from 2021-2036 based upon the 2011-2026 Plan.
- 2.2.2 The Newport City Council LDP Vision: Newport will be act as:
- ‘A Gateway to Wales, Newport will be a centre of regeneration that celebrates its culture and heritage, while being a focus for varied economic growth that will strengthen its contribution to the region. It will be a place that people recognise as a lively, dynamic, growing City, with communities living in harmony in a unique natural environment.’*
- 2.2.3 Relevant Key Objectives:
- Objective 1: Sustainable Use of Land.
 - Objective 6: Conservation of Natural Environment.
 - Objective 7: Community Facilities and Infrastructure
- 2.2.4 Relevant Key Policies:
- Strategic Policy 1: Sustainability
 - Strategic Policy 2: Health
 - Strategic Policy 3: Flood Risk
 - Strategic Policy 4: Water Resources
 - Strategic Policy 8: Special Landscape Areas

- Strategic Policy 9: Conservation of the Natural, Historic and Built Environment
- Strategic Policy 17: Employment Land
- General Development Principles 1: Climate Change
- General Development Principles 2: General Amenity
- General Development Principles 3: Service Infrastructure
- General Development Principles 4: Highways and Accessibility
- General Development Principles 5: Natural Environment
- General Development Principles 6: Quality of Design
- General Development Principles 7: Environmental Protection and Public Health
- Environment (CE)2: Waterfront Development
- Environment (CE)9: Coastal Zone
- Employment Policy 2: Newport Docks
- Employment Policy 3: Alternative use of Employment Land
- Transport Strategic Policy 4: Parking
- Transport Strategic Policy 5: Walking and Cycling
- Waste Policy 3: Provision for Waste Management Facilities in Development
- Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning
- Technical Advice Note 14: Coastal Planning
- Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk
- Technical Advice Note 18: Transport

2.2.5 Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG):

- SPG Trees, Woodland, Hedgerows and Development Sites
- SPG Wildlife and Development

3 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1.1 The Scheme will see the demolition of the existing buildings and electrical substation, and the construction of new infrastructure building elements such as a single storey switch room with two smaller substations 11m by 6m and a hardstanding storage area 30m by 28m to the west. Two entrances are provided, one into the substation area and the second to the storage area. An existing tree and some boundary vegetation will be retained with the introduction of further hedgerow and meadow grassland planting providing habitat protection and enhancement. This will include the creation of new habitat elements in areas subject to scrub removal at the western end of the compound to accommodate construction and visibility splays.
- 3.1.2 The Scheme currently comprises bare ground, tarmacked hardstanding, and a mixture of dense/ continuous and scattered scrub with a Silver Birch tree and some scattered Wild cherry saplings, including a short length of overmature Cherry Laurel hedging along the northeastern boundary.
- 3.1.3 A 47 linear metre length of native hedgerow planting along the northern boundary, is proposed to strengthen existing boundary vegetation. All open areas outside proposed hardstanding will be cultivated and sown with a species rich seed mix appropriate to the locality and scheme ground conditions.
- 3.1.4 Lighting design is yet to be determined but will be installed as part of the security/ operational elements of this proposed Scheme. Coordination of lighting design and ecological mitigation or recommendations should be undertaken to reduce or prevent detrimental effects on surrounding species of significance or surrounding landscape designation characteristics within the local and wider area.

Figure 2: Proposed landscape design for Alexandra Docks proposed Scheme

4 SURVEY FINDINGS AND PROTECTION PLACE: GI BASELINE

4.1 Ecological Surveys

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)

Key aspects of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) include:

- 4.1.1 **Purpose:** To identify the presence of and potential for protected species within the scheme boundary required to support species licence applications, ecological impact assessment, method statements and consents to identify and categorise main habitats and features of ecological interest present to identify the requirement for further habitat and species surveys. This was to support National Grid Electrical Distribution (NGED) securing planning permission for the construction of an electrical substation on land owned by Associated British Ports (ABP).
- 4.1.2 **Methodology:** Baseline information was gathered through desktop study and field surveys, including an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey (April 2025). The Appraisal was carried out in accordance with Guidance for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEMM,2017) and the standard Phase 1 Habitat Survey Methodology (JNCC, 2010) considering ecological value (International/European to Local), Ecosystem services and the magnitude and significance of potential impacts

Key Ecological Findings:

- 4.1.3 **Designated Sites (within 2km of Site):** The Scheme is within close proximity of a number of designated sites of significance, these include: River Usk SSSI, Gwent Levels-St Brides SSSI, Severn Estuary SSSI/SPA/SAC/Ramsar Site, Marshall's SINC, Monkey Island SINC, Solutia Site SINC, Gaer Pond SINC, Afon Ebbw River SINC, an small patches of ancient semi-natural and restored ancient woodland. These are all within 2km of the site.
- 4.1.4 **Priority Habitats (within 2km of Site):** The desktop survey revealed that the Scheme is within 2km of a number of Priority habitats, whilst these are not designated, they do hold Natural Environment Research Council status (NERC,2006). These are: Coastal grassland, Salt marsh, Intertidal mud/sand, Swamp, Standing water, Running water and Intertidal cobbles/shingle.
- 4.1.5 **Habitats:** The Scheme comprises dense/continuous scrub communities, scattered tree planting, small areas of ruderal vegetation within bare ground areas, tarmac hardstanding and several buildings and structures present.
- 4.1.6 **Bats:** Buildings present on site and in the surrounding areas provide the potential to support roosting and foraging/ commuting bats. External inspection of the buildings revealed further potential roost features.
- 4.1.7 **Reptiles:** The scrub and exposed rocks/gravel and hardstanding has the potential to support reptiles.
- 4.1.8 **Nesting Birds:** There is no evidence of nesting birds on the Scheme, many bird species are known to be recorded/ present within the wider area so potential for disturbance cannot be ruled out. The on-site trees provide limited habitat for nesting birds and therefore has potential for nesting birds.

- 4.1.9 **Invertebrates:** Vegetation features on-site of the Scheme are likely to support a variety of invertebrate species.
- 4.1.10 **Invasive Non-Native species (INNS):** Whilst no INNS were identified as being on-site during the PEA, several INNS have been recorded within Newport Docks such as Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed.

Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

Key aspects of the Preliminary Roost Assessment include:

- 4.1.11 **Purpose:** To identify the potential for bats to occur and determine the need for further survey works.
- 4.1.12 **Methodology:** The pre-existing information found within the PEA was assessed as part of the desktop study. The PRA followed guidance found within 'Bats Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th Edition)' along with Guidance for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEMM,2017).
- 4.1.13 Key Ecological Findings:
- 4.1.14 **Designated Sites (within 2km of Scheme):** The same designated sites seen within the PEA were found within the PRA
- 4.1.15 PRA Findings:
- Building 1 (Main Substation), Building 4 (Single story office building) both had several minor potential features identified, alongside one minor potential feature found in both Building 2 (Single story metal corrugated barn) and Building 5 (Single story shipping container). However, no evidence of bat presence was identified during the survey.
 - Building 3 (Single story shipping container) identified no roosting potential.
 - The tree lines and scrub vegetation to south/ south-east does provide foraging and commuting opportunities for bats, as well as Docks to west of Scheme. However, the built-up nature of the surrounding docks reduces overall bat suitability, causing the local habitat to be considered to have a low potential for bats.
- 4.1.16 Recommendations from PEA and PRA:
- No further surveys are recommended, although a precautionary approach should be undertaken to works.
 - Prior to commencement of internal/ external demolition works a toolbox talk by bat licenced ecologist should be given to all works contractors, explaining the ecological and legal protection as well as what to do in the unlikely event a bat is discovered during works. A hard copy of toolbox talks to be made available on-site and signed by any new contractors.
 - Prior to commencement of works, the bat licenced ecologist will carry out further inspection of buildings on-site to confirm the continued absence of bats on-site.
 - If bats are found, works should halt until advice is sought out from Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and/or on-site ecologist, a development licence is likely to be required from NRW for continued works.

- Any new lighting design should avoid lighting of habitats with the potential to support wildlife (such as vegetated habitats or buildings) and/or adjacent buildings. Suggestions for mitigating external lighting and achieving the lighting recommendations above are outlined in the best practice by the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT/ILP, 2023) and are applicable to other nocturnal species.
- Avoid removal of habitats, if possible, particularly the listed priority habitats under Section 7 of the Environmental (Wales) Act, 2016: Woodland, Semi-improved grassland, Marshy grassland, Standing water and Hedgerows.

4.1.17 Should the Scheme be awarded planning permission the following is recommended (as stated in PEA and PRA):

- Pre-work inspections will be required to determine whether reptiles are present on-site and to reduce the risk of killing or injury to individual reptiles, if evidence of reptiles and likelihood of death or injury, translocation or habitat manipulation would be required at the start of construction.
- Removal or maintenance of habitats that have the potential for breeding birds should take place outside of the bird breeding season (removal should occur between September and February inclusive). Potential clashes could occur between the removal of vegetation to avoid impact on birds and impact on reptiles. This will need to be carefully managed and planned once timings are confirmed/ known.
- Any construction excavations (if left unfilled overnight) will require covering to avoid animals becoming trapped or excavation should be fitted with scaffolding board ramps to allow safe exit for any trapped animals.
- Invasive plants should be treated and removed from Scheme if found, the removal of the plants would be of improving biodiversity benefit within the local area. Prevention should be undertaken to prevent the tracking of vehicles over or otherwise disturbing areas of invasive plant growth or areas of soil contaminated with the remains. An INNS Management Plan is recommended during construction to help prevent/ limit re-introduction of invasive species or regrowth that could spread.

5 MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT MEASURES

5.1.1 Green Infrastructure (GI) is defined by the Town and Country Planning Association as follows: "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 communities."

5.1.2 Key features: The key features of green infrastructure are that it is a network of integrated spaces and features, not just individual elements; and that it is 'multi-functional' – it provides multiple benefits simultaneously. These can be to:

- support people's mental and physical health
- encourage active travel
- cool urban areas during heat waves
- attract investment
- reduce water run-off during flash flooding
- carbon storage
- provide sustainable drainage

- 5.1.3 The extent to which green infrastructure provides these benefits depends on how it is designed and maintained, and the maturity and health of the elements (existing trees and proposed planting) that form it.

Table 1: Alexandra Docks Enhancements (See Appendix B for mitigation drawings)

Type	Location	Specifications
Planting Proposals	Along the northern boundary, where any scrub has been removed due to construction	Removal of hedgerow without prior planning authority agreement should not be conducted. Any grassed areas removed during construction should be replaced, with areas retained and enhanced where possible. Retention and enhancement of existing grassed areas should be conducted along eastern, southern and western areas where visibility splays restrict planting proposals. Enhancement of grassed areas should include species that aid local biodiversity and habitat retention/creation.
Existing Trees	Within the boundary vegetation of Scheme	Existing trees RPZ (following sufficient arboricultural survey) to be protected during construction, removed trees should be replaced at a minimum of 3:1 ratio.
Habitat Connectivity/ Enhancement	Within the boundary vegetation, where scrubs and trees have been removed.	Any trees or hedgerow removed should be replaced. Enhancement of existing vegetation through hedgerow planting along the boundary will promote cross-site habitat corridor opportunities and replace any scrub vegetation lost during construction.
Lighting	Within the Scheme curtilage for operational purposes	Lighting should be carefully considered and avoid habitats with the potential to support wildlife. This should also be sensitive to the surrounding landscape designations and species significance as well as existing landscape character.

6 BENEFITS AND OUTCOMES

6.1 Environmental Benefits

- Native planting schemes will attract pollinators and provide support for local wildlife
- Replacement planting in areas where scrub and trees have been removed will improve habitat connectivity and strengthen ecological networks along the proposed Scheme and beyond into neighbouring SSSIs, SINCS etc.
- Retention and enhancement of existing features, where possible, will reduce the impact of construction on existing Scheme habitats.

6.2 Social Benefits

- The Scheme will seek to reduce the environmental impact on a new infrastructure development using brownfield sites, allowing for more appropriate sites to be allocated for social infrastructure improvements (where possible).

6.3 Economic Benefits

- Increased capacity at the Scheme will contribute to a more resilient and efficient electricity network in the area and provide potential for future improved economic growth and further opportunities.

6.4 Contribution to Ecosystem Services

Table 2: Ecosystem Services

Building with Nature Standards / Themes	Principles	Alignment
Core Standards	Optimises Multifunctionality and Connectivity	Native planting to replace any removed vegetation.
	Positively Responds to the Climate Emergency	Introduction of new planting and enhancement of existing landscape features through biodiverse and climate resilient species selection.
	Maximises Environmental Net Gain	
	Champions a Context Driven Approach	
	Creates Distinctive Places	

Building with Nature Standards / Themes	Principles	Alignment
	Secures Effective Place-keeping	
Wellbeing Standards	Brings Nature Closer to People Supports Equitable and Inclusive Places	Creation of and enhancement of existing landscape features improves green network within Alexandra/ Newport Docks and makes more aesthetically pleasing.
Water Standards	Delivers Climate Resilient Water Management Brings Water Closer to People	Native planting that supports and improves water quality.
Wildlife Standards	Delivers Wildlife Enhancement Underpins Nature's Recovery	Native planting and ecological corridors support pollinators wildlife. Retention and enhancement of existing vegetation planting to retain and promote wildlife corridors.

7 MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT

7.1 Monitoring Effectiveness

7.1.1 Objectives:

- Assess ecological and social performance of the GI
- Identify maintenance needs early
- Ensure design intent and biodiversity targets are met.

7.1.2 Key Monitoring Metrics:

Table 3: Key Monitoring Categories

Category	Categories / Indicators	Monitoring Frequency	Reporting
Vegetation Health	% plant survival, canopy cover, species richness	Annual walkover (Sept / October)	Report with Photos
Water Management	Infiltration rate, runoff reduction, water quality (pH, suspended solids)	Twice annually (spring/autumn)	Conduct water testing reports of surrounding water sources to prevent contamination of surrounding landscape designations or water-based habitats.
Biodiversity	Presence of pollinators, bird usage, invertebrate diversity	Annually in summer	Report through ecological surveying and presence of pollinators during site visits
Accidental Damage	Review of any damage caused by nearby heavy goods activities or accidental damage from other port users	Annually	Review of possible damage evidence present on-site during site visits.
Climate Resilience	Drought/heat tolerance performance, storm impact	Post-extreme-weather events	Report through landscape surveying and site walkover to assess plant health and maintenance requirements.

7.1.3 Data Collection Methods:

- On-site inspections by certified landscape/ ecological specialist
- Sensors for soil moisture and water flow (optional for automation)
- Sensors for social surveillance and on-site inspections of possible antisocial activities periodically (optional for automation/automatic surveillance)

7.1.4 Reporting:

- Annual GI Performance report
- Five-year review against baseline targets with recommendations/ comments on progression.

7.2 Long-Term Management Strategies

7.2.1 Core Principles:

- Ongoing management and maintenance rather than a once-off 'install-and-forget' approach
- Ongoing management adapted in response to observed results
- Management practice to be reviewed and adapted based on performance monitoring and site observations
- Long-term stewardship/ maintenance programme aimed at maintaining high-quality landscape character and ecological function.

7.2.2 Management Elements:

- **Maintenance Plan:** A detailed planting schedule covering irrigation, pruning, weeding, litter-removal and replacement planting.
- **Monitoring Plan:** Regular assessment of planting performance, habitat conditions, and drainage functionality to inform adaptive planting.
- **Adaptive Planting:** Introduce climate-resilient species if original palette underperforms due to changing site conditions.
- **Habitat Connectivity:** Retention and enhancement of green links to surrounding landscape designation, consideration of wider ecological networks and wildlife movements.
- **Training and Handover:** Comprehensive handover from landscape contractors to the appointed management company or client's chosen management team, including care manuals, plant schedules, and maintenance specifications.

7.2.3 Funding Mechanisms for Sustainability:

- **Short-term (first 5 years):** Maintenance covered within the capital project budget and/or client's defects liability period, including contractor-led care for the establishment phase (for first 60 months)
- **Long-term (beyond 5 years):** Funded through client-backed budget and annual management allocation to support ongoing maintenance.

7.3 Programme for Implementation

Table 4: Implementation Programme

Phase	Timeframe	Key Actions	Responsibility
Pre-Completion	Months -3 to 0	Install GI; establish plantings;	Contractor
Early Aftercare	Year 1–2	Intensive maintenance; quarterly monitoring	Contractor (under defects liability)
Handover	Month 24	Formal transfer of responsibility; training; handover of manuals	Contractor → NGED
Steady-State Maintenance	Year 3–5	Biannual monitoring; annual report; adaptive planting as required	Private (NGED)
Long-Term Stewardship	Year 6+	Annual inspections; biodiversity surveys; funding reviews	Private (NGED)
Major Review	Every 5 years	Comprehensive review; re-budgeting; strategy update	Private (NGED)

7.4 Management, Aftercare Period and Responsibility

- **Initial Aftercare Period:** 12 Months (defects liability, contractor accountable for replacements and repairs)
- **Remainder of maintenance period:** Contractor responsible for ongoing maintenance
- **Transition Management:** Handover between contractor and private (NGED selected team) before formal responsibility shift
- **Long-term Responsibility:** Private (NGED selected team)
- **Lead Authority:** Private (NGED selected team)
- **Technical Support:** Ecologists, horticulturalists/landscape architects under private instruction
- **Accountability:** Annual GI report reviewed by a Green Infrastructure Steering Committee/ Group (Private)

8 CONCLUSIONS

- The proposed Scheme has been designed to integrate within the existing landscape and ecological features through the use of an existing brownfield site.
- Retention and enhancement of existing vegetation and habitats has been encouraged within the landscape design to minimise ecological disturbance and strengthen biodiversity value
- Ecological enhancement measures- such as habitat enhancement and mixed species planting- seek to contribute to improved habitat connectivity within the wider GI network
- The Scheme seeks to transform a brownfield site into a functional infrastructure Scheme that supports infrastructure improvements and wildlife through existing and enhanced habitat corridors.
- Where possible, the Scheme seeks to minimise the potential landscape and ecological impacts by enhancing the connectivity of the scheme through proposed additional boundary vegetation planting.
- The Scheme is well presented and does not entirely remove the existing landscape features characteristic of the current site. Instead it seeks to utilise the existing footprint to service a similar extent of hardstanding and built environment in the proposed Scheme.

9 REFERENCES

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APPENDICES

Appendix A

Landscape Proposal