

Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme

30 Aberthaw Road, Newport, NP19 9QP

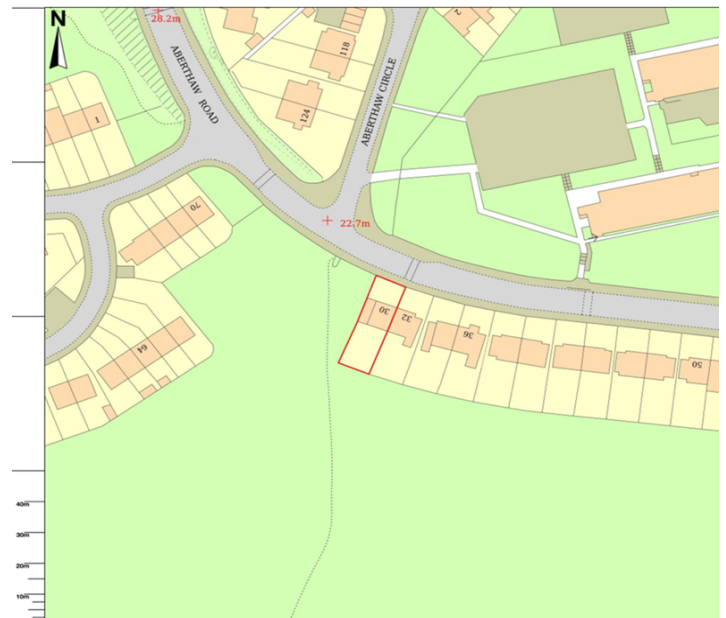
Introduction:

This report has been prepared to support the planning application 25/0356. The proposed works are to demolish an existing side extension measuring 2.8 metre wide and 3.3 metre high, and to replace with a side extension measuring 2.8 metre wide and 8.3 metre in dept.

Site Location & Development:

30 Aberthaw Road is a semi-detached property with a front driveway and side access leading down toward a garden on the back of the property. Lliswerry Park borders the property to the west and south. The site has a lean-to extension which will be demolished enabling a new extension to be built in its place.

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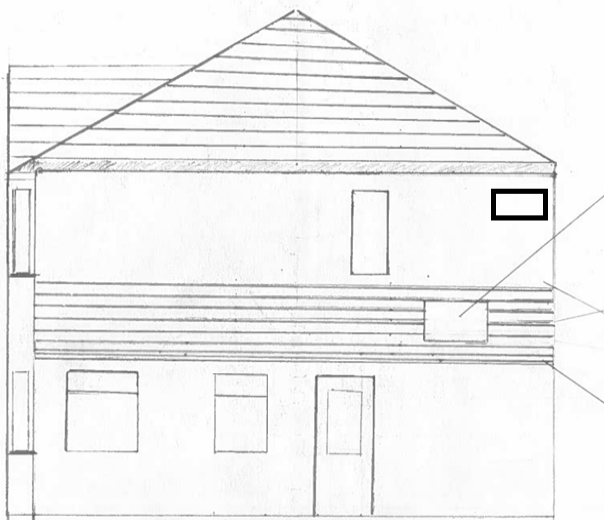
Biodiversity Enhancements:

Landscaping Areas: At the back of the property a small portion of the area will be hard paved, leaving the rest of the area to be a grassed/turfed, of which most beneficial to wildlife, are flowering species which will increase the sites value for birds, invertebrates and insects.

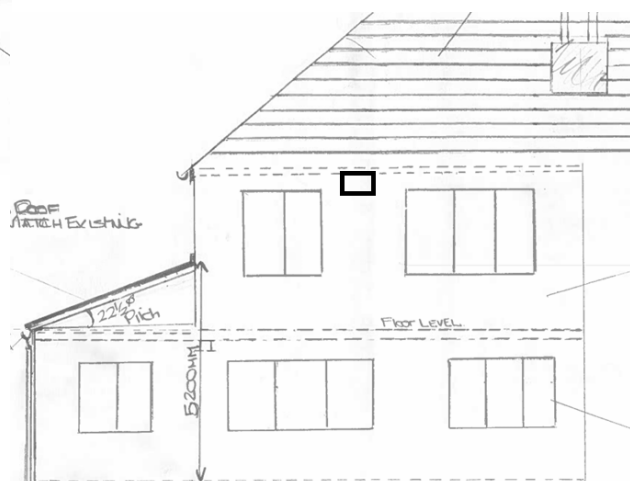
Birds: The proposed development should not have a large impact on birds in the area, however, to mitigate any impact on birds the installation of 2 externally mounted bird boxes on the west and south elevations of the property. Positioned at least 2-4 metres above the ground and 0.5 metres away from any doors, windows and vents. Post construction monitoring will continue post development to monitor the success of applied enhancement measures.

Table 3.1 Bird Box Specifications

Bird Box Specifications	Photograph
<u>Traditional Wooden Bird Nest Box (25mm and 32mm)</u> Material: FSC certified European redwood The 25mm entrance hole is suitable for the smaller tit species such as blue and coal tits whilst the 32mm entrance hole will attract a wide range of garden birds including great tits, house sparrows and nuthatches. Nest boxes also provide vital roosting spaces for birds during the cold winter months and the thick walls of these nest boxes will ensure that roosting birds stay warm. The boxes can be expected to last 5-10 years and are constructed using stainless steel staples which will not rust. These boxes can be installed on a tree or wall and should be placed two to four metres above ground. There should be a clear flight path to the entrance hole and the boxes should be placed so that the entrance is not exposed to strong sunlight or winds. Source: http://www.nhbs.com/title/181549/traditional-wooden-bird-nest-box	



(Black box) Bird nestbox position on the western and southern elevations of the property, positioned where ease of access is essential for maintenance.



Hedgehogs/Nature: Studies show that hedgehogs now prefer suburban habitats, with an increase in hard landscaped, fenced gardens and reduced plant life. We will utilise hedgehog friendly fencing creating nature a highway. By core drilling 115mm wide holes into some of the concrete gravel boards, therefore allowing hedgehogs the freedom to move between areas freely to forage for food and to potentially find a mate.



Photo of areas where 115mm core holes to be drilled for hedgehog run.

Implementation Timetable:

The biodiversity enhancement measures have an implementation timetable based upon them. This will be 6 months prior to the completion of the project. It is the responsibility of the homeowners to maintain the enhancements so that it continues to benefit biodiversity in the future.

Conclusion:

It is believed the property currently has a low ecological value and the above scheme sets out proposed actions to enhance the ecological value. Post development it is anticipated that the inclusion of the actions will increase the sites value for wildlife and long-term monitoring is proposed to ensure biodiversity enhancement has been achieved