

Green Infrastructure Assessment

Lawnside, 2 Stow Park Circle, Newport. NP20 4HE.

Removal of existing garage and adjustment to driveway with associated works. Resubmission.

The table below sets out the stepwise approach in assessing impacts of a development on biodiversity.

	Steps	Assessment	Enhancement	Long Term Management Plan	Net Benefit for Biodiversity
1.	Avoid	The removal of existing garage and adjustment to driveway width avoids damage to any biodiversity due to no increase to hard standing area.	Pollinator friendly shrubs, ornamental plants and flowers.	Garden maintenance.	YES
2.	Minimise	N/A	2/3 x Starling box	Cleaning and repairing.	YES
3.	Mitigate/Restore	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4.	Compensate on wider site	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5.	Compensate off site	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Proposed Enhancement

Given the scale of the proposal it is considered that the provision of pollinator friendly planting to the garden and Starling nest boxes will provide adequate ecological enhancement.

Enhancement	Description	Examples
Pollinator friendly planting to the garden.	The National Botanic Garden of Wales have selected their top 30 plants that will help provide food for pollinators throughout the year. Welsh Government Planting for Pollinators https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/File/809/en-GB Full list of suggested plants for pollinators on the Bee Friendly webpage. If buying plants, look out for pollinator-friendly logos on plant labels.	Snowdrop (<i>Galanthus</i>)  photo credit: Dr Natasha de Vere Heathers (<i>Erica</i> and <i>Calluna</i>)  photo credit: Dr Natasha de Vere

Starling Nest boxes to be located beneath existing eaves or mature trees.	Bird box designed with a 45mm entrance hole especially for starlings. It is suggested that the nesting boxes are placed 3m or higher above the ground, facing north or east so it doesn't get too hot or wet. It needs to be out of direct sunlight, and ideally not over a doorway, window or well-used path. Starlings nest in a loose colony, therefore several boxes should be placed in a group, a meter or so apart. After the end of each breeding season, all nestboxes should be taken down, old nesting materials removed, and the box should be scalded with boiling water to kill any parasites. Annual cleaning should only be carried out at the end of the breeding season, from late September to February. Under <u>the terms of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981</u>, if unhatched eggs are found in the box, they can only legally be removed from October to January inclusive, and they must be destroyed – it is illegal to keep them. www.wildlifetrusts.org	 www.nestbox.co.uk
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The garage removal and driveway adjustment to Lawnside, 2 Stow Park Circle accords with the stepwise approach set out in the published advice. The proposal provides an ecological enhancement proportionate to the scale of the development. The proposed enhancement are a net benefit to biodiversity as a result of the development.