

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI) STATEMENT

22 Beechwood Crescent, Newport, NP19 8AB Application Ref: 26/0637 Retrospective Raised Balcony, Steps and Associated Works

1. Introduction

This Green Infrastructure (GI) Statement has been prepared in support of the retrospective planning application for a raised balcony at 22 Beechwood Crescent, Newport. The purpose of this statement is to demonstrate that the development has no adverse impact on existing green infrastructure assets and that opportunities for enhancement have been considered in accordance with Newport City Council's GI requirements.

The statement responds directly to the Countryside & Conservation Landscape Officer's request dated 28 August 2026, and is supported by:

- Existing Block Plan (1:200)
- Pre-development Block Plan (1:200)
- Before and After Photographic Record

2. Existing Green Infrastructure Context

The property comprises a typical domestic rear garden associated with a single dwelling. The existing GI features include:

- Lawn area
- Mixed ornamental shrubs along boundaries
- Timber boundary fencing
- Small domestic structures (bird coop, storage)
- Patio area

No trees or hedges have been removed as part of the development.

The Pre-development Block Plan confirms that the soft landscaping and garden layout remain unchanged before and after the balcony works.

3. Impact of the Development on GI Assets

The raised balcony is located immediately adjacent to the rear elevation of the dwelling. The following impacts have been assessed:

3.1 Soft Landscaping

- No soft landscaping has been removed.
- No planting beds have been altered.
- No trees or shrubs have been affected.

3.2 Hard Landscaping

- No increase in hardstanding has occurred.
- Existing garden layout remain unchanged.
- No boundary treatments have been altered.

3.3 Visual and Landscape Character

The balcony is modest in scale and sits within the existing domestic garden setting. Photographic evidence demonstrates:

- No change to landscape character
- No encroachment into green space
- No loss of GI features
- No visual harm to the wider landscape

4. Soft Landscaping Schedule (Existing & Proposed)

Type: Ornamental shrubs and lawn Species: Photinia, Hebe, Lavender, mixed perennials

Size/Specification: Existing mature shrubs retained

Position: Along-side and rear boundaries

Spacing/Density: Existing spacing retained

Accessories: None.

Changes Proposed: None, existing soft landscaping retained in full

To support GI enhancement, the applicant is willing to introduce additional native low-level planting (e.g., lavender, rosemary, or small native shrubs) if required by the authority.

5. Hard Landscaping Materials Schedule

Balcony Decking: Patio Slabs (consistent to the pre-development balcony), natural finish

Balustrade: Timber vertical balusters Steps:

Timber construction Patio:

Existing concrete slabs retained

Driveway: Existing concrete retained

Boundary Treatment: Timber panel fencing retained

Edging: None introduced

Enclosures: None introduced

No new hardstanding has been created as part of the development.

6. Sustainable Design Measures

Although not part of the balcony works, the property has recently installed roof-mounted solar panels under permitted development rights. These contribute positively to the sustainability of the household and align with Newport's climate and GI objectives.

The following sustainable GI principles are met:

- Native planting retained
- Habitat continuity maintained
- Renewable energy generation (solar panels)
- No increase in impermeable surfaces
- No impact on drainage or SuDS requirements

7. Summary & Conclusion

The retrospective balcony development has no adverse impact on existing green infrastructure assets. All soft landscaping, planting, and garden features have been retained, and no trees or hedges have been removed. The development does not increase hardstanding or alter drainage patterns.

The GI value of the site remains unchanged, and the addition of solar panels demonstrates a commitment to sustainable household improvements.

The submitted plans and schedules provide the clarity requested by the Landscape Officer, and the applicant respectfully requests that the GI consultation be concluded and the application proceed to determination.