



BIODIVERSE
CONSULTING

GLAN LLYN

ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

FOR: LIDL GB LTD

REF: BIOC23-272 | V1.1



CLIENT	PROJECT	
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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONTEXT

This Ecological Management Plan (EMP) is informed by the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal¹ (PEA) which details the development's impacts on protected/priority species as well as habitats. This document is designed to be read in conjunction with the PEA and does not replace the recommendations made in earlier reports with regard to biodiversity enhancements and protected species avoidance and mitigation.

Chapter 6 Section 6.4.8 of Planning Policy Wales² (PPW) states:

“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 (including the third sector and communities) as small scale interventions contribute to a national scale resilience. In particular, planning authorities must demonstrate that they have sought to fulfil the duties and requirements of Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act by taking all reasonable steps to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions. This will require action to be taken at the plan level, and ideally through co-ordinated action across regions and sub-regions. Such action should facilitate the implementation of the Section 6 duty at the level of individual development proposals by setting a broad framework of opportunities for achieving a net benefit for biodiversity. The step-wise approach will help guide decision makers in securing a net benefit for biodiversity and the onus is on developers to bring forward proposals in a way which will achieve a net benefit for biodiversity demonstrating how they have used the step wise approach.”.

This document has been produced alongside a Green Infrastructure Statement³ in order to satisfy the requirements of this policy.

1.2 REPORT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this report are:

- Support the accompanying Green Infrastructure Statement for the project.
- To detail biodiversity avoidance, mitigation, enhancement and compensation measures to ensure a net benefit for biodiversity and ecosystem resilience for the project.
- To detail the methodology for habitat creation, management and monitoring.

¹ Biodiverse Consulting (2024). BioC23-272 Glan Llyn PEA V1.1

² Planning Policy Wales V12 <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2024-07/planning-policy-wales-edition-12.pdf>

³ Corscadden Associates (August 2024) Lidl: Glan Llyn Newport NP19 4TZ Green Infrastructure Statement.

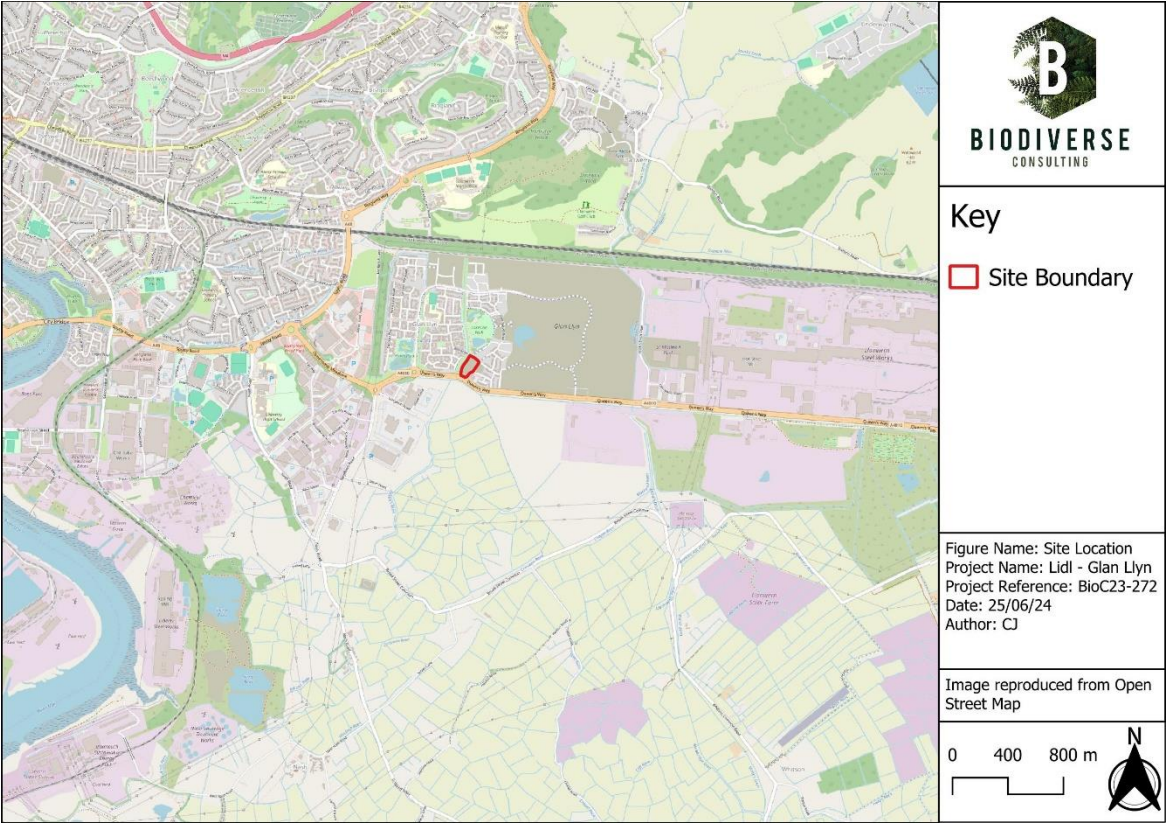


1.3 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

The Site is located near Queen's Way, Glan Llyn, Newport, NP19 4UH at an approximate central grid reference of ST 35530 86571 as illustrated in Figure 1. The Site currently consists of grassland and unvegetated ground.



FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION



1.4 HABITAT BASELINE CONDITIONS

The 1.13ha Site currently comprises grassland, scrub and loose gravel with some small temporary wet areas. The Site is located within a residential area in the town of Newport with agricultural and industrial land within the near vicinity. Detailed accounts of the UKHab habitats are provided within the accompanying PEA¹.

1.5 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The Site is proposed to be developed into mixed use commercial units and a nursery, with associated infrastructure including a hardstanding carpark and landscaping based on current plans at the date of production of this report (Drawing Number: CA-2024-GLY-03 Rev E).



2 NET BENEFIT FOR BIODIVERSITY & ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE

2.1 STEPWISE APPROACH

The project has maintained and enhanced biodiversity and aids in building resilient ecological networks through a range of recommended biodiversity enhancements that adhere to the Stepwise approach⁴. Table 1 outlines this approach with landscaping plans in Appendix A.

TABLE 1: STEPWISE APPROACH

STEPWISE APPROACH TO ECOLOGICAL FEATURES	
Avoidance	- Existing vegetation including trees and a section of hedgerow will be retained and protected by methods set out by the appointed arboriculturist. - Avoid site clearance works during the nesting bird season (March to August inclusive) unless the site is checked by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist (SQE) and active nests are confirmed to be absent no later than 48 hours before works commence. - External lighting will be designed in line with BCT guidance⁵ to reduce impacts to bats and a range of other wildlife associated with retained and off-site habitats.
Enhancement	- Onsite, existing hedgerow and tree habitat will be enhanced through appropriate management (set out within Section 5) to provide further opportunities for nature. - The linear soft landscaping area at the rear of the commercial store is not a public area and will be used for nature conservation with native planting of trees, shrubs and perennials. This will also be the location for log piles and a hibernaculum. - Bat and bird boxes will be installed on structures within the Site. - The proposed landscaping plan will provide local ecological connectivity through the planting of native species along the western

⁴ Planning Policy Wales (2023) Annex to Heads of Planning Letter Dated 11 October 2023: Addressing the Nature Emergency through the Planning System: Updated National Planning Policy for Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales
⁵ Bat Conservation Trust (2023) Guidance Note 08/23: Bats and artificial lighting in the UK



STEPWISE APPROACH TO ECOLOGICAL FEATURES	
	boundary. These habitats will provide an extension as well as buffer to semi natural habitats currently adjacent to the Site.
Mitigation	• A Construction Ecological Management Plan (CEcMP) will provide avoidance and mitigation measures for habitats and species during the construction phase of the development. • All construction activities will be programmed to daytime hours to reduce disturbance to sensitive nocturnal species, such as bats and roosting birds. • Gaps of at least 13cm x 13cm will be created within boundaries to facilitate movement of hedgehogs and other small animals through the Site.
Compensation	• The incorporation of opportunities for roosting bats and nesting birds within the development. • Landscape planting to compensate for any tree/shrub loss shall include species native to the local area alongside pollinator species to provide increased foraging opportunities in the local area. • Tree losses are to be compensated by new planting of native and ornamental trees.

2.2 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Baseline conditions of the Site are detailed within the accompanying PEA¹. This EMP is designed to support the Green Infrastructure Statement³. This document is informed by the Newport City Council’s Biodiversity Duty Forward Plan 2023 - 2025⁶.

The landscaping proposals for this Site will provide a benefit to green infrastructure within the local area through the retention and enhancement of existing habitats as well as creation of new habitats. Enhancements will focus on tree and shrub planting which will provide linear features to promote movement of fauna through the Site.

Biodiversity enhancements will increase habitat suitability of the Site for a range of priority species identified within the Biodiversity Duty Forward Plan 2023 - 2025, including:

⁶ Newport City Council (2023) Biodiversity Duty Forward Plan 2023 - 2025. Available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Leisure-and-Tourism/Countryside/Newport-City-Council-Biodiversity-Duty-Forward-Plan-2023-2025.pdf>



- Provision of bat and bird boxes will provide greater opportunity for roosting bats and roosting/nesting birds.
- Native tree and shrub planting onsite will enhance existing commuting features for bats.
- Soft landscaping area at rear of store will be used for nature conservation through the planting of native trees, shrubs and perennials as well as addition of nesting boxes, log piles and hibernaculum to provide suitable habitat for birds, hedgehog and common toad.
- Landscaping in the carpark will include pollinator species to increase foraging opportunities for multiple species.

Creation and enhancement of habitats within the Site will provide ecological connectivity within the local area by extending and providing a buffer to the adjacent semi-natural habitats to the West.

Improvements to ecosystem resilience for the project are summarised within Table 2 below which follows the DECCA framework⁷.

TABLE 2: DECCA FRAMEWORK

DECCA FRAMEWORK	
Diversity	• Genetic and species diversity increased through habitat creation, enhancement and management to promote a greater diversity and number of fauna and flora species using the Site. • Structural diversity of the habitats will be maintained through habitat enhancement and management with the aim to maintain ecological niches within existing and created habitats.
Extent	• The extent of tree and hedgerow habitats within the Site will be increased through the planting and management of native and ornamental trees/shrubs.
Condition	• Habitat condition will be improved through habitat enhancement and management which will include invasive species management and reduction of disturbance to boundary habitats.
Connectivity	• Connectivity within the Site will be increased through creation and enhancement of linear boundary habitats. • Connectivity in the wider landscape will be improved through structural planting on the western boundary that will provide a buffer and increase in extent of habitats to adjacent existing off-site habitat.

⁷ Natural Resources Wales (March 2021) Terrestrial and freshwater Resilient Ecological Networks: a guide for practitioners in Wales



DECCA FRAMEWORK	
Aspects of Ecosystem Resilience	• Adaptability of the local ecosystem to disturbance will be maintained through an increase in connectivity on the western boundary that will allow for movement away from disturbance in the local area. • Recovery of ecosystems will be improved through an increase in the diversity of habitats providing new homes for nature within the local area.

3 HABITAT RETENTION

The following section details habitat retention methods and considerations for the habitats proposed to be retained on Site. These methods are designed to guide the protection and retention of habitats, in conjunction with methodologies used by contractors undertaking habitat creation.

3.1 URBAN TREES & SHRUBS

Urban Trees and hedgerow will be retained within the Site (see landscaping plans in Appendix A). This retained habitat will be managed as per Appendix B once construction is complete.

Considerations:

- Some short-term indirect disturbance will be unavoidable.

Retention Methodology:

- Retained trees and shrubs will be marked out appropriately. A suitable buffer zone will be set out for retained trees using heras fencing to provide additional protection during construction.
- Ground protection measures will be used in these areas.
- Use of plant on the retained habitat buffer zones will be reduced/restricted to minimise soil disturbance/compaction.
- No materials or plant will be stored within the retained habitat buffer zones.



4 HABITAT CREATION

The following section details onsite habitat creation methods and considerations for ecologically valuable habitats on Site⁸. These methods are designed to guide the creation of habitats in conjunction with methodologies used by contractors undertaking habitat creation.

4.1 URBAN TREES

Urban Trees will be planted throughout the Site.

Recommended species: Minimum 70% of trees will be local native species (taking into account the requirement to plant trees that will be appropriate for anticipated changes in climate⁹).

Considerations:

- Trees will adapt to natural conditions. Additional watering will only be required during a particularly long dry spell or if trees are planted out of the tree planting season (October to March inclusive).
- Up to 10% of street trees will not establish and therefore supplementary planting over the following five years will be required.

Creation Methodology:

- Extra heavy standard trees will be planted within the optimal tree planting season (October to March inclusive).
- Suitable wooden stakes will be used to support the trees with biodegradable tree guards used to protect the trees.
- Weeds will be controlled around the base of the trees by applying organic or slate mulch (10cm depth in a 50cm buffer around trees). To be applied early summer until trees are successfully established (minimum 3 years).
- Some trees will be planted within structural tree pits.

4.2 SCRUB

Habitat should aim to meet the definition of 'Mixed Scrub' in line with the UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) methods¹⁰. Scrub will be less than 5m tall with occasional tall trees present and have a continuous cover (over 90%). Scrub habitat will be created on Site along the western boundary (see map in Appendix A).

⁸ Ornamental planting within the Site has been excluded from this section although they will provide some limited value such as pollinator resources.

⁹ Forestry Commission, 2019. Managing England's Woodlands in a Climate Emergency

¹⁰ Butcher, B., Carey, P., Edmonds, R., Norton, L. and Treweek, J. (2023) The UK Habitats Classification User Manual Version 2. Available from: <http://www.ukhab.org/>



Species: Should contain a range of native species such as, but not limited to:

- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Goat Willow *Salix caprea*
- Dog Rose *Rosa canina*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*
- Guelder Rose *Viburnum opulus*
- Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris*
- Wild Privet *Ligustrum vulgare*
- Occasional trees such as Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Yew *Taxus baccata*

Required Ground Seed Mixes:

- Emorsgate EH1 Hedgerow Mixture or similar.

Considerations:

- The created scrub will not be publicly accessible.
- Individual whips will be protected using biodegradable spiral guards/tubes to prevent browsing by animals.
- Up to 30% of whips will not establish and therefore supplementary planting will be required to achieve the desired density of mixed scrub over 5 years.
- Should use locally sourced stock where possible.

Ground Preparation:

- Creating a fine tilth for a seedbed by digging or rotovating the soil then firming and raking.
- Overseed edges and spaces between shrubs with hedgerow mix as per the manufacturer's instructions.

Creation Methodology:

- Bare rooted whips 60-90cm, sourced locally wherever possible, at varying 1-3m centres in same-species groups of 3-5 plants.
- Plant in optimal planting period (October to March), avoiding waterlogged or frozen ground. Should this not be possible, then regular watering will be required to increase establishment success rates.
- Each shrub to have 0.6m circle of 75mm depth approved composted bark mulch.
- Control weeds during shrub establishment by applying organic or slate mulch (5cm depth in a 50 cm buffer around shrubs) and hand pulling unwanted species.



4.3 WILDFLOWER GRASSLAND

Habitat should aim to meet 'Other Neutral Grassland' definition in line with UKHab. Grassland should contain ryegrass cover at less than 30%, contain over 30% cover of forbs and have 9–15 species per meter square. Wildflower grassland will be created within some boundaries of the Site (see map in Appendix A).

Required Seed Mixes:

Emorsgate Mix EM2 or similar.

Considerations:

- If soil is being imported into the Site, then nutrient-poor soil will be used to create wildflower areas in order to support the establishment of the meadow.
- Fertiliser will not be used as this will increase fertility of the soil and negatively impact the wildflower meadow.

Creation Methodology:

- Create a fine tilth for a seedbed by digging or rotovating the soil then firming and raking.
- Sow seed mixture evenly by hand at 5g per square meter (or seeding rate recommended by supplier) during late summer/early autumn.

4.4 NATIVE HEDGEROW

Hedgerows are a boundary line of continuous trees or shrubs less than 5m in width made up of at least 80% native woody species. Three Native Hedgerows will be created on Site along the northern, eastern and southern boundaries (see map in Appendix A).

Recommended Species: Locally sourced, native species are recommended, including:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | • Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> |
| • Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> | • Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i> |
| • Field maple <i>Acer campestre</i> | |

Considerations:

- Established hedgerows should achieve at least 1.5m height and 1.5m width where they do not impact public footpaths and/or visuals of the Site.
- Undisturbed ground such as grassland will be present along some of the planted hedgerows.

Creation Methodology:

- Advanced nursery stock trees/shrubs or larger will be planted within optimal planting season (October to March inclusive).



- The planting area will be prepared by clearing existing vegetation along the planned length of the hedgerow to limit competition.
- Hedgerow trees/shrubs planted in double staggered rows.
- Biodegradable spiral guards will be used to protect newly planted hedgerow.
- Weeds will be controlled around the base of the new hedgerow by applying organic or slate mulch (10cm depth 50cm either side of hedge). To be applied in early summer (by May, latest) until plants are successfully established (min. 3 years).



5 MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING STRATEGY

The following section details the management and monitoring methods for the ecologically valuable habitats¹¹ proposed to be created onsite with a detailed management and monitoring schedule located in Appendix B.

5.1 RESPONSIBILITY AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

5.1.1 Annual Monitoring

It is the responsibility of Lidl GB Ltd or their appointed agent to undertake annual monitoring of the Site and implement the habitat creation, management, and monitoring of the Site for the length of the operational phase of the development as per best practice guidance.

5.1.2 Ecological Monitoring

It is the responsibility of an appointed ecological consultant to carry out ecological monitoring of the Site. The Site will be subject to a UKHAB classification survey of the retained and created habitats. This survey will be carried out by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist (SQE), starting 1 year after completion of construction works, with follow-up visits every 5 years throughout the operational phase of the development.

The survey will assess if recommendations have been delivered and are on track to reach the post intervention status originally specified. Current management strategy can then be reviewed with the management regime updated accordingly if required.

5.2 HABITAT MANAGEMENT

Retained and created habitats on Site will be managed and monitored as per Appendix B.

5.3 GENERAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The following management practices are recommended throughout the Site to protect created habitats from harmful management practices:

- Weed control will be undertaken using non-chemical interventions including mulching and hand pulling. Where deemed necessary, the spot application of eco-friendly herbicides may be used, avoiding areas containing waterbodies/courses.
- The application of fertilisers will be avoided as excessive nutrient loading will negatively alter the species composition of the habitats.

¹¹ Ornamental planting within the Site has been excluded from this section although they will provide some limited value such as pollinator resources.



- Care will always be taken when maintaining habitats to avoid damage or disturbance to protected species such as breeding birds.
- Arisings and/or cuttings created by maintenance will need to be removed and disposed of off Site or in a suitable location such as a designated compost heap.
- During Site clearance and management, wood logs (including deadwood) will be used to create wildlife refugia in a suitable location (e.g., near hedgerows and scrub planting).
- All areas are to be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species and appropriate action taken to remove if found.
- All areas to be monitored for fly-tipping, rubbish, and litter annually (both construction and post-construction phases) with appropriate action taken to remove if found.

5.4 HABITAT MANAGEMENT AIMS

5.4.1 Urban Trees

Retained and planted Urban Trees within the Site will require management to ensure they are protected and healthy.

Attributes

- The tree is a native species.
- There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by anthropogenic activities such as vandalism or herbicide use.

5.4.2 Scrub

The created scrub within the Site will require annual management in order to create areas comprising a mixture of species with no single species dominant.

Attributes

- Ensure that there are at least 3 woody species, with no one species comprising more than 75% cover.
- There must be a good age range present, comprising of seedlings, young, and mature shrubs.
- There must be an absence of invasive non-native species (as listed in Schedule 9 [WCA] 1981) and species indicative of sub-optimal condition¹² make up less than 5% of ground cover.
- The scrub will have a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and/or herbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitats.

¹² Tree of heaven *Alnus altissima*, holm oak *Quercus ilex*, Turkey oak *Quercus cerris*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, all species of snowberry *Symphoricarpos* spp., Buddleia *Buddleja* spp. and cotoneaster *Cotoneaster* spp., Spanish bluebell *Hyacinthoides hispanica* and Spanish bluebell hybrids.



5.4.3 Wildflower Grassland

The created wildflower grassland areas within the Site will require regular monitoring and annual maintenance to produce a diverse sward.

Attributes

- Sward height is varied creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds, and small mammals to live and breed.
- Cover of bare ground between 1% and 5% of total habitat area to provide an important resource to insects.
- Cover of bracken is less than 5% and cover of scrub is less than 5%.
- Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition¹³ and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage) accounts for less than 5% of total area.
- There must be an absence of non-native invasive species (as listed in Schedule 9 [WCA] 1981).

5.4.4 Hedgerows

Hedgerows retained and created within the Site will require management to ensure they are protected and healthy.

Attributes

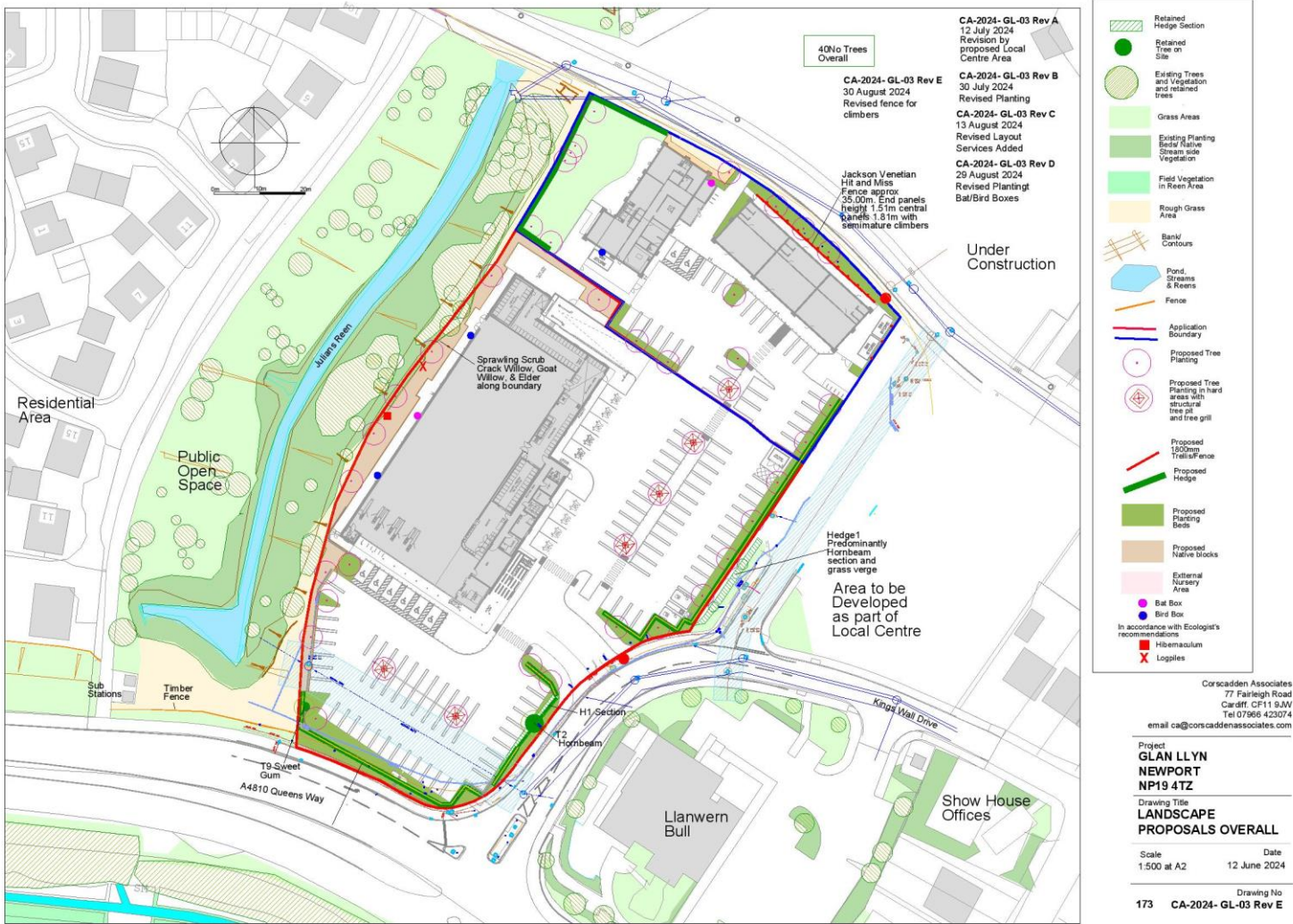
- The hedgerow is predominantly made up of native species (<80%).
- There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on hedgerow health by anthropogenic activities such as damage or herbicide use.
- There are a lack of gaps along the length of the hedgerow.
- Hedgerow is allowed to grow to a size of at least 1m wide and high where possible.

¹³ Creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, curled dock *Rumex crispus*, broad leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, greater plantain *Plantago major*, white clover *Trifolium repens* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*.



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A – LANDSCAPING PLAN





APPENDIX B – MANAGEMENT & MONITORING SCHEDULE

HABITAT	MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING SCHEDULE	
RURAL TREES	MANAGEMENT YEAR 1	ANNUAL MANAGEMENT
	N/A – no management necessary, allow trees to develop naturally.	- No management necessary, allow trees to develop naturally. - Remove tree guards at the 5-year mark and dispose of appropriately.
	MONITORING YEAR 1	ANNUAL MONITORING
	- Inspect tree guards for damage, ensuring they are upright and in sound condition annually until removed. - Inspect and replace dead or missing trees. - Habitat will be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species.	- Inspect tree guards for damage, ensuring they are upright and in sound condition annually until removed. - Inspect and replace dead or missing trees annually. - Habitat will be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species.
WILDFLOWER GRASSLAND	MANAGEMENT YEAR 1	ANNUAL MANAGEMENT
	During the first year of growth, cut to 5cm in May, with another late season cut in October which will follow a ‘hay cut’ methodology with arisings left to dry and shed seeds for 7 days before being removed from site.	- From the second year onwards, designate some areas (30%) to receive a hay cut to 5cm during August in order to produce a more varied habitat that will encourage species diversity. - Annually create areas of bare ground or ‘scrapes’ covering 1% to 5% of total habitat area. - Remove encroaching scrub and bracken.
	MONITORING YEAR 1	ANNUAL MONITORING
	Habitat will be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species.	- Habitat will be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species. - Monitor for damage, cover of bracken and scrub.



HABITAT	MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING SCHEDULE	
	• Monitor for damage, cover of bracken and scrub. • Monitor bare ground cover.	• Monitor bare ground cover.
SCRUB	MANAGEMENT YEAR 1	ANNUAL MANAGEMENT
	• The edge of the scrub will be maintained through rotational cutting and mowing to create a well-developed and diverse edge habitat. • Arisings produced from scrub management will be piled up in designated areas to act as dead wood habitat and shelter.	• Once the scrub is well established, areas will be cut in rotation to create a diverse height range of plants. Cut and thin out approximately one third of the scrub once established and repeat this process with a different third every 5 years, such that the cutting cycle for each third is 15 years. • The edge of the scrub will be maintained through rotational cutting and mowing to create a well-developed and diverse edge habitat. • Cut scrub in January or February to avoid the breeding bird season and to leave berries for birds and mammals to eat during winter. • Arisings produced from scrub management will be piled up in designated areas to act as dead wood habitat and shelter.
	MONITORING YEAR 1	ANNUAL MONITORING
	• Habitat will be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species and appropriate action taken to remove if found.	• Habitat will be monitored for controlled and/or invasive species annually and appropriate action taken to remove if found. • Habitat will be monitored for natural transition of scrub into woodland (vegetation colonised by tree species and/or scrub species reaching over 5m in height). Occasional trees are considered suitable within the scrub however trees will be removed if they cover more than 5% of scrub area.



HABITAT	MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING SCHEDULE	
HEDGEROWS	MANAGEMENT YEAR 1	ANNUAL MANAGEMENT
	Weeds will be controlled around the base of the new hedgerow by applying organic mulch (10cm depth 50cm either side of hedge), this will also assist with water retention. This will be applied in early summer (by May at the latest) until plants are successfully established.	- Maintain at least a 1.5m width and height by only trimming hedgerows when they exceed these dimensions. Trim hedgerows in optimal period (January to February). - Use a rotational cutting regime to increase structural diversity of hedgerows. - Plant up gaps in hedgerow with native species when necessary. - Maintain open grassland habitat along base of hedgerow by following 'Grassland' management methodology.
	MONITORING YEAR 1	ANNUAL MONITORING
	- Inspect hedgerow height and width to maintain minimum dimensions annually. - Inspect hedgerow for gaps along length annually. - Inspect ground flora surrounding hedgerow for signs of disturbance and nutrient enrichment annually. - Inspect ground flora surrounding hedgerow for damage and invasive species annually. - Hedgerow tree health will be monitored for pests, diseases, and crown dieback. An expert will be consulted on management practices should tree health be compromised.	- Inspect hedgerow height and width to maintain minimum dimensions. - Inspect hedgerow for gaps along length. - Inspect ground flora surrounding hedgerow for signs of disturbance and nutrient enrichment. - Inspect ground flora surrounding hedgerow for damage and invasive species. - Hedgerow tree health will be monitored for pests, diseases, and crown dieback. An expert will be consulted on management practices should tree health be compromised.



APPENDIX C – BIRD AND BAT BOX SPECIFICATION

BIRD BOX SPECIFICATION	
1SP Schwegler Sparrow Terrace	Dimensions:
	• Height: 24.5cm • Width: 43cm • Depth: 20cm • Weight: 15kg
Description: This terrace provides nesting opportunities for sparrow, it may also attract tits, redstarts and spotted flycatchers. Made of wood-concrete mix, this terrace is durable, breathable and will last many decades. The terrace can be fixed on to the surface of a suitable wall or incorporated into the wall. The front panel can be removed for cleaning by turning the screw hook. Available in two colours; stone or brown.	
Placement should consider the following: • The nesting features should be positioned at a north-eastern aspect. • The nesting features should be positioned over 4m from the ground. • Nesting features should be sheltered from strong winds and heavy rain. • It is advised that nest boxes are cleaned annually with existing materials emptied if they have been used. This maintenance should take place outside of the breeding bird season to avoid disturbing an active nest.	



BAT BOX SPECIFICATION

1WQ Schwegler Summer & Winter Bat Roost or similar.	Dimensions
	• Height: 580mm • Width: 380mm • Depth: 120mm • Weight: 22kg

Description: This highly sophisticated Bat Roost is designed for the safe hibernation of bats in winter as well as for roosting, forming of colonies and raising of young during summer. The layered structure of the bat roost materials means that the 1WQ has excellent insulating properties whilst guaranteeing air convection and permeability. As with all Schwegler products, this extremely durable box will last for many decades, maintenance free.

The interior of the 1WQ provides a selection of surface textures and areas with different hanging depths making it easy for different bat species to find their ideal position throughout the year. The entrance area is also purposely designed to allow the bats good grip during their approach and entry. This is particularly important for juvenile and inexperienced bats.

This roost is suitable for typical building-inhabiting species such as Pipistrelles, Serotines, Noctules or Bechsteins.

Placement should consider the following:

- The roost features should be positioned at a southernly aspect (south-west to south-east).
- Roosting features should be positioned over a range of aspects and locations in order to provide options for bats with different microclimate conditions.
- Positions chosen should be sheltered from the wind but receive direct sunlight throughout the day.
- A clear flight path into the roost is preferable with unrestricted/uncluttered access.
- Roosts should be positioned away from artificial light sources such as streetlights or security lighting.



APPENDIX D – POLICY AND LEGISLATION

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981¹⁴, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) 2000¹⁵ and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006¹⁶, is the main legislation that protects wildlife in Great Britain and is the mechanism for defining and protecting nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The legislation makes it an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or their eggs or nests (with certain exceptions) and disturb any bird species listed under Schedule 1 to the Act, or its dependent young while it is nesting;
- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection by any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly disturb certain Schedule 5 animal species while they occupy a place used for shelter or protection; and
- Pick or uproot any wild plant listed under Schedule 8 of the Act. Schedule 9, Part II of the Act also lists many species for which it is an offence to plant, or otherwise cause to grow, in the wild. Any material containing Japanese knotweed is also identified as controlled waste under the Environmental Protection Act 1990¹⁷ and must be disposed of properly at licensed landfill according to the Environmental Protection Act (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991¹⁸.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017¹⁹ (the 'Habitat Regulations'), as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019²⁰, establish the requirements for protecting sites that are internationally important for

¹⁴ Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69>

¹⁵ The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents>

¹⁶ Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

¹⁷ The Environmental Protection Act 1990. Available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/43/contents>

¹⁸ The Environmental Protection Act (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991. Available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1991/2839/made>

¹⁹ The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Available from:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents/made>

²⁰ The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111179512/contents>



threatened habitats and species – the National Site Network – and thus the requirement for a ‘Habitat Regulations Assessment’ of plans or developments with potential to affect them.

The Habitat Regulations also establish the strict protection of some species – European Protected Species – and make it an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb certain wild animals, and to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of such an animal even if the animal is not present at the time.

Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

The NERC Act 2006¹⁶ places a duty on local planning authorities to have due regard for biodiversity and nature conservation during their operations, and thus ensures that biodiversity is a key consideration in the planning process. The Act also establishes a list of species and habitats of principal importance (‘Priority’ Species and Habitats) for the conservation of biodiversity.

The Environment (Wales) Act 2021²¹

The Environment Act 2021 provides a framework for environmental protection in the UK. It is a wide-range piece of legislation affecting many aspects of the natural environment, including biodiversity. The act sets clear targets to halt the decline in wildlife populations through a legally binding target for species abundance by 2030 and a requirement to increase species populations by 10% by 2042. The Act also establishes mandatory requirement for Biodiversity Net Gain in new developments.

Ramsar Convention

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (the ‘Ramsar Convention’²²) provides the only international mechanism for protecting internationally important wetlands; such sites are designated as Ramsar sites. It is government policy that Ramsar sites are afforded the same level of protection as sites in the National Site Network and so they are also subject to HRA.

Protection of Badgers Act 1992

Badgers receive strict protection under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992²³, which prohibits the taking, injuring, selling, possessing or killing of badgers and makes it an offence to ill-treat any badger, damage, destroy, disturb or cause a dog to enter a badger sett.

²¹ The Environment Act 2021. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted>

²² The Ramsar Convention <https://www.ramsar.org/>

²³ Protection of Badgers Act 1992. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1992/51/contents>



The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997²⁴ establishes the legal protection of important countryside hedgerows, principally ancient and species-rich hedgerows. The Hedgerow Regulations also provide arrangements for planning authorities to protect important hedgerows in the countryside by controlling their removal through a system of notification.

Biodiversity Action Plans

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) was developed to fulfil the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, to which the UK is a signatory. The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework²⁵ succeeded the UKBAP and expired in 2019, but the UKBAP priority species and habitats are retained through the NERC Act 2006. Regional and local BAPs have also been developed for species/habitats of nature conservation importance at regional and local levels.

Planning Policy Wales

Planning Policy Wales²⁶ sets out the Welsh Government's requirement for the planning system in Wales and in doing so establishes the framework within which local planning authorities can develop their own planning policies.

²⁴ The Hedgerow Regulations 1997. Available from:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1997/1160/contents/made>

²⁵ UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. Available from: <https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/587024ff-864f-4d1d-a669-f38cb448abdc>

²⁶ Planning Policy Wales 2024 (edition 12). Available from:

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2024-07/planning-policy-wales-edition-12.pdf>



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