

BikePark Wales Enviornmental Statement Vol.2: Appendices and Figures

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Chapter 5: Assessment of Alternatives

March 2019

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Author	LH/HA	
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APPENDICES:

N/A

FIGURES

FIGURES	TITLE
5.1	Site Option 1
5.2	Site Option 2
5.3	Site Option 3
5.4	Masterplan Revision A
5.5	Masterplan Revision B
5.6	Masterplan Revision C
5.7	Proposed Final Masterplan





Plan 1: Location Plan





General

The landscape presented on this plan has been designed to respond to the existing landform and context. It will not only provide an attractive and appropriate setting to the existing and proposed facilities but will enhance the wider environment.

Extensive beds of native trees and shrubs of local provenance are proposed throughout the development area and beyond to provide screening from distant views and to create an attractive woodland setting for the existing and proposed facilities. The planting will also provide a buffer zone in key areas around the site which will enhance visual integration and ensure protection of areas adjacent to the site.

The landscape described on this drawing will be specified in detail on a subsequent Detailed Landscape Proposals drawing and associated documents.

Buildings, play area and roads

The proposed hire building has been located where it will, from a distance, appear to be part of the existing Bike Park Wales building. Its impact on views will thus be negligible. The office has also been located to form part of the same group. The location of the toilet block has been chosen to be close to proposed camping pods, motorhomes and play area as well as proposed parking. Being at the edge of woodland, it is also well screened. The play area is located where it will be accessible from the main terrace without crossing a road. It will also be safely accessible from motorhomes, car parks and camping pods.

The forms, colours, finishes and materials of the proposed buildings have been designed and selected to complement the existing building and to harmonise with their setting. Similarly, play structures will be predominantly constructed from natural timber, rope and stone and the surfacing of the play area will be in sand, gravel or chipped bark.

Proposed footpaths, roads and parking will in general be finished in self-binding stone from a local source to match the existing surfacing. Where gradient dictates, concrete or plastic cellular systems (such as Grasscrete or Truckpave) will be installed in discrete sections to stabilise the surface whilst allowing grass and other plants to grow and soften the appearance of the road.

Where it is necessary to cross a road, footpaths and bike trails will be clearly marked by large stones and a constriction in the road carriageway.

Camping pods and lodges

The location of pods and lodges has been selected to reduce any visual impact on surrounding areas. Their arrangement within the existing woodland has been guided by the arboricultural report in order to avoid the oldest and most valuable trees. In order to avoid removal of other trees and shrubs, the precise location of camping pods and lodges will be agreed at the time of installation between the contractor and landscape architect or arboriculturalist. In a similar way, the exact route of footpaths will be carefully threaded through the existing trees and shrubs to retain as much cover as possible. Standard and feathered trees will be planted within more open areas of the woodland to enhance screening and ensure a diverse canopy structure.

The woodland block will be further reinforced with beds of trees and shrubs around the edges to reduce visibility within the site and screen views from further afield.

Tree protection

Trees will be retained wherever possible and root protection zones established around significant trees by temporary fencing (to BS3837 2012) prior to the commencement of clearance and construction. Where paths are proposed within the root zone of significant trees earmarked for retention, no-dig construction will be carried out using a plastic-cell base-layer (such as Cellweb, Geocell, Hycell or similar). Other features proposed within tree root zones will be constructed with minimum foundation size in order to restrict excavation and thus help avoid damage to trees.

Parking

In order to maximise the retention of trees within the site, parking has been proposed beyond the existing woodland. A series of wide bunds will be constructed between parking bays to reduce the visual impact of vehicles and to visually integrate the parking into its hillside setting. Narrower ridges are proposed within the bays between the lines of parking. The bunds and ridges will be extensively planted with feathered and standard trees of species such as birch, alder, cherry, rowan and oak that flourish locally. Tree and shrub beds will also be established along the bunds and ridges to further enhance screening and expand the area of native mixed woodland across the hillsides.

In time, the tree and shrub planting will almost completely screen views of the proposed and existing development from Pentrebach and the slopes above it on the opposite side of the Taff valley.

Ecological enhancement

In addition to the proposed tree and shrub planting, a range of further ecological enhancements are proposed.

Bat boxes will be installed in established woodland to significantly increase the number of bat roosting opportunities. The specification, location and number will be guided by the project ecologist. Similarly, bird boxes will be installed to increase the range of nesting opportunities for a broader range of bird species.

Any large diameter timber (>75mm) produced during clearance works will be retained on site and stacked. Timber habitat structures for reptiles, amphibians and other smaller fauna will be constructed using this material and located in line with the ecologist's recommendations.

Timber piles will also be constructed to provide substrates for a wide variety of fungi. In order to maximise the number of potential habitats, and thus the number of species, piles will be located in a variety of situations such as damp, dry, deep shade, partial shade or partially buried in soil. Piles will also vary source tree species and in diameter of timber.

Dead or dying trees that have been assessed by an arboriculturalist and found to be too dangerous for retention in their current form will, where possible, be left standing by the removal of any branches judged likely to fall and cause injury or damage. Dead or dying trees away from trafficked areas will be allowed to decay naturally and fallen branches and trunks allowed to remain where they drop.

Leaf litter collected from the terrace, parking and other heavily trafficked areas as part of general maintenance, will be collected into large piles and allowed to decompose to further expand the range of habitats for fungi and fauna. Other leaf litter will not be collected.

Maintenance

The approach to maintenance described above will be laid out in a landscape maintenance programme to accompany the detailed landscape proposals. The programme will outline works to ensure the swift establishment of trees and shrubs. This will include provision for like-for-like replacement of failures within the first five years after planting.

The programme will also describe an ongoing 5 year cycle of maintenance that will ensure the success of the landscape proposals into the long term.

Where grassland is proposed for retention, a mowing regime will be described in a meadow management programme designed to maximise habitat quality.

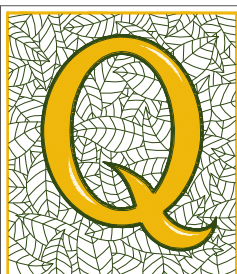
KEY

- | | |
|---|---|
|  | Significant trees to be retained (approximate position) |
|  | Woodland/shrubs to be retained (approximate extent) |
|  | Significant trees to be removed (approximate position) |
|  | Proposed native standard and feathered tree planting |
|  | Proposed native tree and shrub mass planting |
|  | Proposed fencing |
|  | Proposed gabion wall with coursed stonework fill |
|  | Proposed topsoil bund |
|  | Proposed circulation |
|  | Proposed building |
|  | Existing parking |
|  | Proposed/amended parking or road edge |
|  | Proposed/amended path/track edge |
|  | Proposed overflow parking |
|  | Proposed timber picnic tables |
|  | Boulders |
|  | Other proposed features |
|  | Habitat pile |

SCALE



Scale 1:500 printed at A1



**PETER QUINN
ASSOCIATES**
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Project title:
Bike Parks Wales, Abercarnail

Drawing title:
BPW Landscape Masterplan

Client:
Bike Parks Wales

Date:
6th November 2018

Revisions:
Rev A: 8th November 2018 -
arboricultural information updated and
pods and lodges re-located.

Drawing number:
18/461/01 A

BIKE PARK WALES: LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

- KEY**
- Significant trees to be retained (approximate position)
 - Woodland/shrubs to be retained (approximate extent)
 - Significant trees to be removed (approximate position)
 - Proposed native standard and feathered tree planting
 - Trees proposed as part of earlier application
 - Proposed native tree and shrub mass planting
 - Native tree and shrub mass planting proposed as part of earlier application
 - Proposed fencing
 - Proposed gabion wall with coursed stonework fill
 - Proposed topsoil bund
 - Proposed circulation
 - Existing retained building
 - Proposed building
 - Building proposed as part of earlier application
 - Existing parking
 - Proposed/amended parking or road edge
 - Proposed/amended path/track edge
 - Proposed overflow parking
 - Proposed timber picnic tables
 - Boulders
 - Other proposed features
 - Habitat structure/timber pile
 - Current area of development (approximate extent)
 - Site area (approximate)
 - Area of application P/18/0335 (approximate extent)

NOTES ON THE LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS

The landscape shown on this masterplan has been designed to create a high quality amenity space that maximises habitat quality.

The design was created in response to the requirement for additional parking, buildings and other features associated with the expansion of facilities at Bike Park Wales.

The initial landscape proposals have evolved partly in response to adverse effects that were identified as being likely to follow development of the site. The design has been amended to avoid or reduce such effects. Certain details thus vary from those shown on other drawings that make up the proposals documents.



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Scale 1:500 printed at A1



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Project title: Bike Parks Wales, Abercanaid
Drawing title: BPW Landscape Masterplan
Client: Bike Parks Wales
Date: 6th November 2018
Revisions: Rev A: 8th November 2018 - arboricultural information updated and pods and lodges re-located. Rev B: 19th December 2018 - general amendments to features.
Drawing number: 18/461/01 B

BIKE PARK WALES: LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN



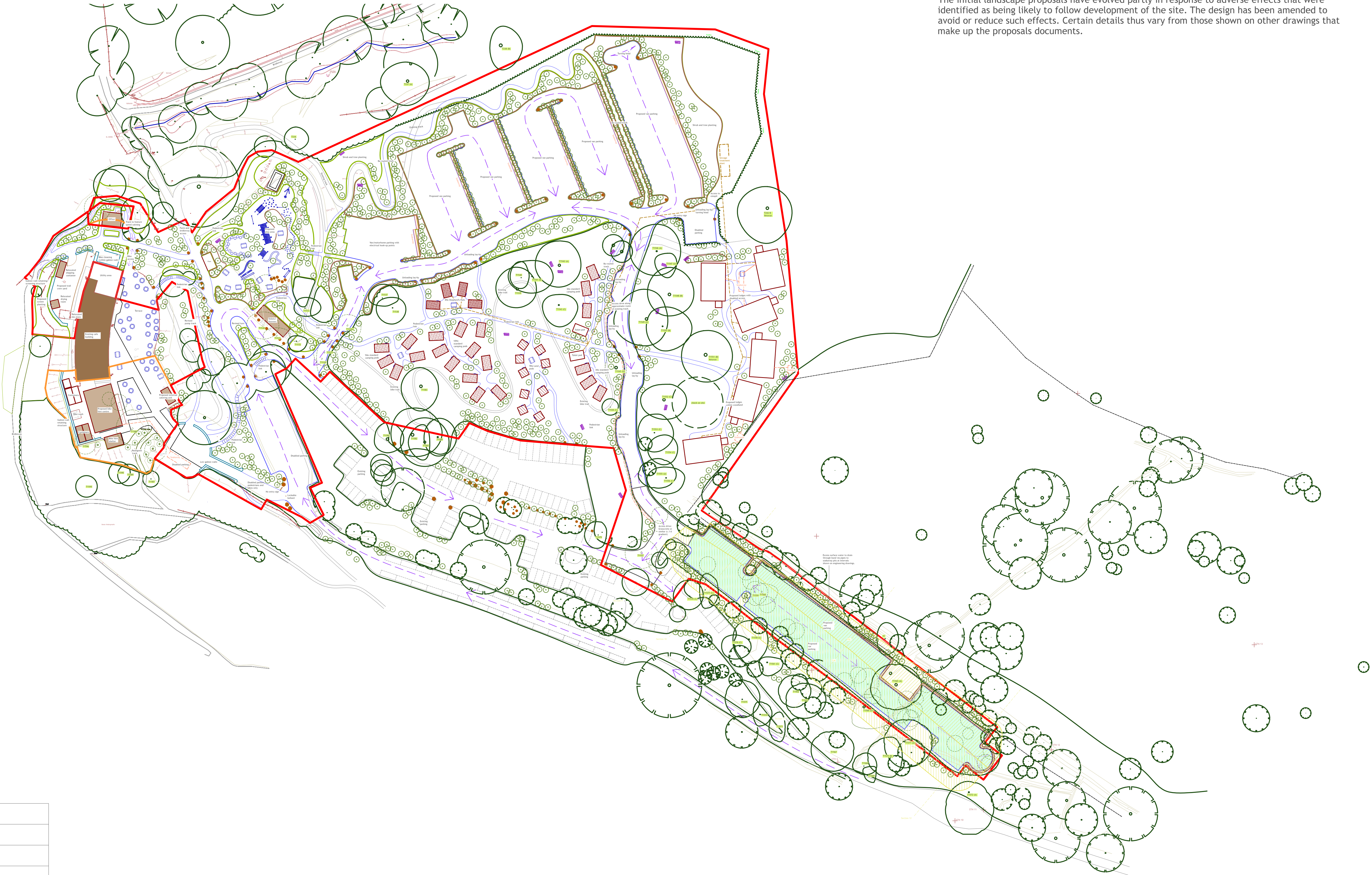
- KEY**
- Significant trees to be retained (approximate position)
 - Woodland/shrubs to be retained (approximate extent)
 - Significant trees to be removed (approximate position)
 - Proposed native standard and feathered tree planting
 - Trees proposed as part of earlier application
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 - Proposed fencing
 - Proposed gabion wall with coursed stonework fill
 - Proposed topsoil bund
 - Proposed circulation
 - Existing retained building
 - Proposed building
 - Building proposed as part of earlier application
 - Existing parking
 - Proposed/amended parking or road edge
 - Proposed/amended path/track edge
 - Proposed overflow parking
 - Proposed timber picnic tables
 - Boulders
 - Other proposed features
 - Habitat structure/timber pile
 - Current area of development (approximate extent)
 - Site area (approximate)
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The landscape shown on this masterplan has been designed to create a high quality amenity space that maximises habitat quality.

The design was created in response to the requirement for additional parking, buildings and other features associated with the expansion of facilities at Bike Park Wales.

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Project title:
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Drawing title:
BPW Landscape Masterplan

Client:
Bike Parks Wales

Date:
6th November 2018

Revisions:
Rev A: 8th November 2018 - arboricultural information updated and pods and lodges re-located.
Rev B: 19th December 2018 - general amendments to features.
Rev C: 17th January 2019 - re-design of van parking area

Drawing number:
18/461/01 C

BIKE PARK WALES: LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN



- KEY
- Existing trees and shrubs (approximate position)
 - Proposed native tree and shrub planting
 - Proposed fencing
 - Proposed gabion wall with coursed stonework fill
 - Existing retained building
 - Proposed building
 - Building proposed as part of earlier application
 - Existing parking or road
 - Proposed/amended parking or road
 - Proposed/amended footpath/track
 - Proposed timber picnic tables
 - Boulders
 - Other proposed features
 - Habitat structure/timber pile
 - Site area (approximate)
 - Raised timber walkway/decking



NOTES ON THE LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS

The landscape shown on this masterplan has been designed to create a high quality amenity space that maximises habitat quality.

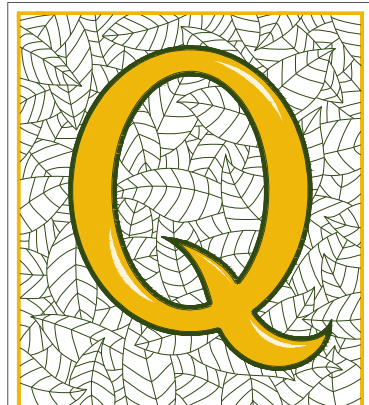
The design was created in order to fulfill the requirements for additional parking, buildings and other features associated with the expansion of facilities at Bike Park Wales.

The landscape proposals have evolved significantly, in response to adverse effects that were identified as being likely to result from the development of the site in line with the initial plans. The design presented is the result of series of refinements to layout and specification which are intended to avoid or reduce such effects.

SCALE

0 5 10 50m

Scale 1:500 printed at A1



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Project title:	Bike Parks Wales, Abercanaid
Drawing title:	BPW Landscape Masterplan
Client:	Bike Parks Wales
Date:	6th November 2018
Revisions:	Rev A: 8th November 2018 - arboricultural information updated and pods & lodges re-located. Rev B: 19th December 2018 - general amendments to features. Rev C: 17th January 2019 - re-design of van parking area Rev D: 4th March 2019 - refinement of van and overflow parking area and lodges.
Drawing number:	18/461/01 D

BIKE PARK WALES: LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN



