

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Mel Ferreira
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278

Memo number: 1
Date of previous memo: -
Date: 11/10/2024

SUBJECT: P/24/0233 | Construction of a wetland, diversion of a surface water culvert to feed wetland and landscaping | Parcel Of Land At The Incline Between Taff Glen View Highland Close Glasier Road And Ann's Close Twynyroddyn Merthyr Tydfil

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION

1. Glasier Road, Merthyr Tydfil, Preliminary Ecological Assessment *prepared by* David Clements Ecology Ltd *on behalf of* Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council. Version 1.0 Final. Dated: 19/08/2024.
2. General Arrangement and Drainage Layout Drawing No. P5001036-MTD-DR-003 P01 *prepared by* Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council. Dated: September 2024.
3. Twynyroddyn Incline Open Space. Landscape Proposals document *prepared by* Haire Landscape Consultants *on behalf of* Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council. Drawing number: 792.01. Dated: October 2024.
4. The Incline Wetland. Green Infrastructure Statement *prepared by* Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council. MTD_5001036_GIS. Dated: September 2024.

COMMENTS

- *Document 1*
 - The survey does not cover the grassland in the northern part of the development. This must be included.
 - Enhancement measures regarding bird and bat boxes should be firmed up – how many will there be, model types etc. NB the boxes must be constructed from woodstone or woodcrete for reasons of longevity. Approximate proposed locations for the boxes must be marked on a plan.
 - The Ecological Clerk of Works must be a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist. Please can this be stated within the document?
- *Document 3*
 - Given that wetland habitat is proposed, Devil's bit scabious should be included in the planting plan.
- *Document 4*
 - The GIS needs to consider ecosystem resilience by using the DECCA (Diversity, Extent, Condition, Connectivity, Adaptability) framework. A detailed LHES (see below) must be produced and cross-referenced with the GIS. A comparison between the number of species found within the PEA and the number proposed for the scheme would be useful to help to demonstrate the Net Benefit for Biodiversity. In addition, the 3:1 replacement ratio for trees must be quantified (i.e., number to be removed, number to be planted). Crucially, there are other consideration regarding the replacement specimens. Planning policy states

*“Replacement planting shall be at a ratio **equivalent to the quality, environmental and ecological importance of the tree(s) lost** and this must be preferably onsite, or immediately adjacent to the site, and at a minimum ratio of at least 3 trees of a similar type and compensatory size planted for every 1 lost.”*

NB translocation should therefore also be considered, where possible/viable.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Resolution of the issues – as outlined in the *COMMENTS* section above.
2. A detailed long-term Landscaping, Habitat & Ecology Scheme (LHES). The LHES must include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - Details of retained landscaping/habitat/green infrastructure
 - Details of new landscaping/habitat/green infrastructure
 - A planting plan (Document 3)
 - Long term (at least 25 years) maintenance and management measures for all onsite landscaping/habitat/green infrastructure (both retained and new)
 - Details of other ecological measures, e.g., bat boxes, bird boxes, hibernacula, gaps in boundaries for hedgehogs etc
 - Monitoring post-development for all onsite landscaping/habitat/green infrastructure and other ecological measures
 - Details of the funding mechanisms to meet the maintenance, management and monitoring objectives.
 - Details of the responsible person/people/organisation

The LHES is required *prior to determination* to be cross-referenced with the Green Infrastructure Statement (GIS)

3. A Wildlife Protection Plan (WPP) / Precautionary Working Method Statement (PWMS). This can be *secured via an appropriately worded pre-commencement planning condition*. Written agreement from the LPA ecologist will be required for discharge of the condition.