

**LAND AT SIX BELLS ESTATE, HEOLGERRIG,
MERTHYR TYDFIL
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT 2025**



Produced for Nick Meaney

Form completed by:	Rebecca Sheahan-East (East Ecology)
Date:	01/09/2025
Address of site:	Land at corner of Six Bells Estate, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil
Grid reference:	SO035062
Description of Proposal:	Development of small plot for a single dwelling with attached annex, off street parking and gardens

1. Details of all existing green infrastructure (trees, hedges and hedgebanks) on site:

Boundary 1:	Southern boundary consists of a wire fence only
Boundary 2:	Eastern boundary consists of a wire fence only
Boundary 3:	Northern boundary is a clipped hedge of non-native species with gaps
Boundary 4:	A block retaining wall makes up the western boundary
Within the site	A mature but deformed conifer tree is in the northwest corner.

2. What green infrastructure features have already been removed from site and/or require removal to facilitate the development?

Boundary 3	The clipped hedge plants are likely to be lost as the made-ground bank and loose material is removed to create a new retaining wall.
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3. How are the retained features being protected during development (i.e. BS5837:2012)?

Boundary 3:	Cannot be retained to accommodate the building far enough away from an underground culvert
Within the plot	The large conifer tree will be retained in position.

4. What green infrastructure is being planted as mitigation for losses?

Boundary 3	Vertical geocell or similar product will be used and planted with native shrubs. Species to be planted will be; hazel <i>Coryllus avellana</i> , field maple <i>Acer campestre</i> , crab apple <i>Malus sylvestris</i> , wayfaring tree <i>Viburnum lanatana</i> , Guelder rose <i>Viburnum opulus</i> , blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> and broom <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> . Equal numbers of each plant should be used to replace and provide additional length to boundary 3. Plants will be spaced at an equivalent of 5 per meter using 2-year-old whips.
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5. What Landscaping is being planted to enhance Green Infrastructure?

Boundary 4	Vertical geocell or similar will be used and planted with native shrubs hazel <i>Coryllus avellana</i> , field maple <i>Acer campestre</i> , crab apple <i>Malus sylvestris</i> , wayfaring tree <i>Viburnum lanatana</i> , Guelder rose <i>Viburnum opulus</i> , blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> and broom <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> . Plants will be spaced at an equivalent of 5 per meter using 2-year-old whips.
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Within the plot	Garden space as marked on the plan will be utilised for growing food plants in line with permaculture practice
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6. How will the new planting be managed and/or maintained?

The shrub planting at boundaries 3 and 4 will be maintained by the new owner and occupant. They will replace any failed specimens after yr1 and maintain the shrubs as required from year 4 onwards by clipping. The climbing plants will be maintained from year 2 onwards as necessary by clipping. Clipping will take place every autumn after shrubs have completed fruiting and will continue with replacement planting as necessary for 25 years.

7. Biodiversity enhancements

These enhancements do not need to be directly attached to the proposed new construction;

In addition to the mitigation planting at boundary 3 and enhancement planting at boundary 4 using vertical geocell or similar, several other features are proposed.

The dwelling structure will have in it an integrated bat box mounted on the south facing wall at least 3m from the ground avoiding predator perches and external lighting as far as possible. The Vivara Pro UKBuild-in woodstone bat box is a suitable model



The new dwelling structure will have on it two bird boxes for swifts at about 5m from ground level on the north side.



Pro UK rendered build-in swift boxes would be a suitable model.

The garden will contain an apiary, while the garden plants will be mainly food plants with viable pollen, the proposed area is shown in the sketch plan No. 9.

Climbing plants will be planted on the fencing structures along boundary 1 and 2. These will be a native variety with viable pollen such as honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, ivy *Hedera helix* and dog rose *Rosa canina*. Climbing plants will be planted at a minimum spacing of 1 per 2m of fence line with growth supported on the fence and clipped after 2 years if necessary.

Provision will be made to allow hedgehog movement through the site and into the neighbouring property by way of a 15 x 15cm hole or gap beneath the fence at boundary at the south of the plot and the north.

they can be attached to the host dwelling or placed within the garden, but they do need to be on land within the red or blue line. The principle is that these enhancements will lead to a 'net benefit' for biodiversity.

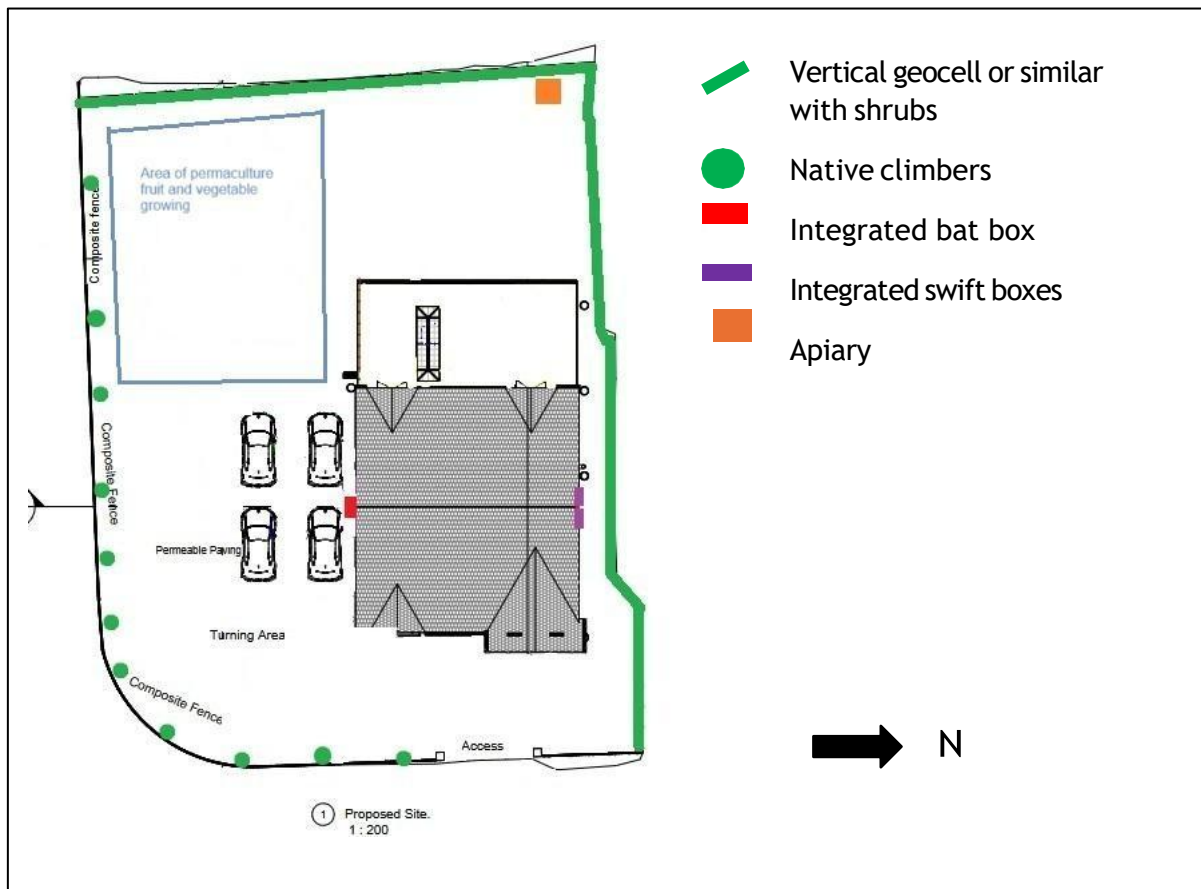
8. Conclusion

Based on the information provided above, this development will result in a Green Infrastructure Net Benefit upon completion.

The site in its current state is sparsely covered by vegetation. Replacing this with vegetable and fruit crops will provide a far greater quantity and diversity of pollinating plants on the site.

Providing the vertical geocell planting will provide a greater area of shrubs than currently present and also provide a greater diversity of pollen bearing plants. The length of the proposed planting will be at least 2 times that which is present.

9. Sketch plan (Insert plan showing the features of the development site):



10. Site photos (as required)



Ephemeral
short
perennial
vegetation
rewilded



Non-native
intact hedge
to north
boundary



Block wall
making up
the West
Boundary.



North
boundary
non-native
hedge