

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



Form completed by:	Rebecca Sheahan-East (East Ecology)
Date:	18/07/2025
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 spruce tree is in the northwest corner. One small willow shrub near to gate

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

Within the Site:	The spruce tree is growing on made ground and will become unstable when loose material is removed to create a new retaining wall. The tree has had the top removed in the past and has regrown in an unstable shape.
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.

3. How are the retained features being protected during development (i.e. BS5837:2012)?

Boundary 3:	Cannot be retained to accommodate the building away from an underground culvert
Within the plot	Cannot be retained

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

Boundary 3	Vertical geocell or similar will be used and planted with native shrubs or edible fruiting shrubs
-------------------	---

5. What Landscaping is being planted to enhance Green Infrastructure?

Boundary 4	Vertical geocell or similar will be used and planted with native shrubs or edible fruiting shrubs
Within the plot	Garden space will be utilised for growing food plants in line with permaculture practice

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.

7. Biodiversity enhancements

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

In addition to the mitigation planting at boundary 3 and enhancement planting at boundary 4 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 new dwelling structure will have on it two bird boxes for swifts at about 5m from ground level on the north side.

The garden will contain an apiary, while the garden plants will be mainly food plants with viable pollen.

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 periclimenum*, ivy *Hedera helix* and dog rose *Rosa canina*

8. Conclusion

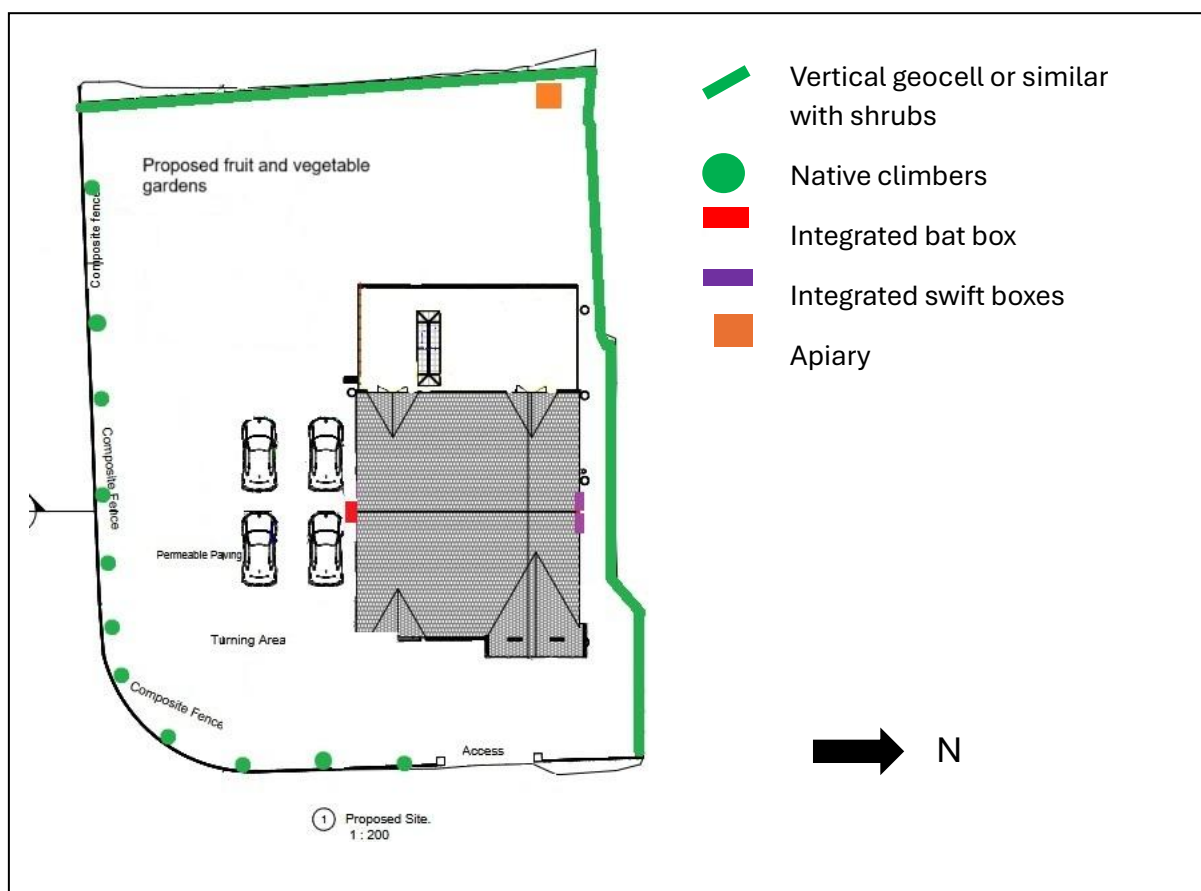
Based on the information provided above, this development will result in a Green

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.

Infrastructure Net Benefit upon completion. 9.

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



10. Site photos (as required)

 A photograph showing a large pile of rubble and debris, including bricks and stones, next to a wire fence. In the background, there are residential houses and a clear sky.	Bare ground and wire boundary fence
 A photograph showing a view of bare ground in the center and west of the plot. In the background, there is a house with a gabled roof and a hedge. The ground is covered with sparse vegetation and some debris.	Bare ground in the centre and west of the plot



East
boundary,
block wall



View
across the
plot east
to west



North
boundary
non-native
hedge



Single
spruce
tree to be
removed