A Green Infrastructure Statement
and Biodiversity Enhancement Plan

on behalf of
Raynes Scaffolding & Groundworks

For
The Norton Tavern
High Street
Penydarren
Merthyr Tydfil
CF47 9HG

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Project Overview

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Draft	14.02.2025	Nic Aldridge	Yvette Amos
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Limitations

Little Wing Ecology (CYF) has prepared this Report for the sole use of the above-named Client or his Agents in accordance with our terms of business, under which our services were performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this Report or any other services provided by us. This Report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of Little Wing Ecology (CYF).

The assessments made assume that the site(s) and facilities will continue to be used for their current purpose without significant change. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this Report are based upon information provided by others and upon the assumption that all relevant information has been provided by those parties from whom it has been requested. Information obtained from third parties has not been independently verified by Little Wing Ecology (CYF).

CONTENTS

SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Little Wing Ecology (CYF) was commissioned to prepare a Green Infrastructure Statement (GIS) of a site known as, 'The Norton.' For the purposes of this report this will be referred to as 'the Site.'

1.2 This document contains an enhancement plan and details of enhancement features including recommended products. These enhancement features are intended to form an integral part of this development and to increase the biodiversity of the site post-development in line with current planning policy and legislation. For further details of policy and legislation, please refer to Appendix A.

1.3 The owners of 'The Norton Tavern,' are preparing a planning application for Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, the local authority, for new residential development with associated vehicle access and parking. To support the planning application, Little Wing Ecology (CYF) was commissioned to prepare a Green Infrastructure Statement. The objectives are to identify, maintain and develop a network of green corridors and infrastructure to support biodiversity and ensure they link in with the wider ecosystem.

1.4 The Norton Tavern is a traditionally built (Victorian), former public house and beer garden. The site's centre has a National Grid Reference (NGR) of SO 05944 07396 and it lies at an altitude of approximately 257m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

SECTION TWO: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE DEFINITION AND TERMINOLOGY

2.1 Green Infrastructure (GI) has been defined by the Landscape Institute in their publication, Green Infrastructure: An integrated approach to land use (2013), as *"the network of natural and semi-natural features, green spaces, rivers and lakes that intersperse and connect villages, towns and cities. Individually, these elements are GI assets, and the roles that these assets play are GI functions. When appropriately planned, designed and managed, the assets and functions have the potential to deliver a wide range of benefits – from providing sustainable transport links to mitigating and adapting the effects of climate change."*

2.2 Natural Resource Wales (NRW) defines Green Infrastructure as *"a term that's sometimes used to describe a wide range of natural and semi-natural features, spaces, rivers and lakes including parks, fields, allotments, hedgerows, roadside verges and gardens, not to mention entire ecosystems such as wetlands, waterways and mountain ranges."*

2.3 Green infrastructure is broadly analogous to 'Natural Capital', which can be defined as '…the elements of nature that produce value (directly and indirectly) to people, such as the stock of forests, rivers, land, minerals and oceans. It includes the living aspects of nature (such as fish stocks) as well as the non-living aspects (such as minerals and energy resources). Natural capital underpins all other types of capital… and is the foundation on which our economy, society and prosperity is built.' (The Natural Capital Committee 2017).

2.4 The Landscape Institute position statement "Green infrastructure: connected and multifunctional landscapes" provides the following definitions for Green Infrastructure terminology:

- **Green Infrastructure Assets:** GI assets include the natural elements which provide social, environmental, or economic benefit. They can be specific sites or broader environmental features within and between rural and urban areas. A useful approach to outlining the different types of GI asset is to classify them according to the spatial scale at which each would typically be found.

- **Connectivity:** Connectivity between different GI assets will help maximise the benefits that they generate. This connectivity can be visual or notional; however physical connections make the most

impact. This connectivity can enhance public engagement with the natural environment, improve opportunities for biodiversity migration and assist in encouraging sustainable forms of travel.

- **Green Infrastructure Functions**: GI functions are the roles that assets can play if planned, designed and managed in a way that is sensitive to, and includes provision for, natural features and systems. Each asset can perform different functions, a concept known as multifunctionality.

- **Multifunctionality:** Understanding multifunctionality is central to the GI approach to land use planning. Where land performs a range of functions it affords a far greater range of social, environmental and economic benefits than might otherwise be delivered. Ecosystem services underpinning the multiple functions that GI assets perform is the concept of ecosystem services. Health and wellbeing depend on the range of services provided by 6 ecosystems and their constituent parts: water, soils, nutrients and organisms. These services include:

    - **Support:** necessary for all other ecosystem services, e.g. soil formation and photosynthesis; — provision: food, fibre, fuel;
    - **Regulation:** air quality, climate control, erosion control; and,
    - **Culture:** non-material benefits for people, including aesthetic qualities and recreational experiences.

- **GI approach**: "GI approaches to land-use planning promote the widest range of functions which can be performed by the same asset, unlocking the greatest number of benefits. Such an approach enables us to demand more from the land in a sustainable way; by helping to identify when it can provide multiple benefits and to manage the many, often conflicting, pressures for housing, industry, transport, energy, agriculture, nature conservation, recreation and aesthetics. It also highlights where it is important to retain single or limited land use functions."

SECTION THREE: ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1 A desktop assessment was conducted by Little Wing Ecology (CYF) with the aid of current site photography, satellite imagery and online resources such as Magic Map[1]. The site is accessed via a main service road (High Street) and occupies an irregular plot, measuring ≈38m by ≈24m at its widest point. Habitats in the immediate vicinity of the building are mixed.

3.2 Development works had begun prior to the first ecological survey visit. The grounds had been cleared and levelled, resulting in 95% of the site being presented as bare ground. Consequently, establishing the baseline ecology for the site was restricted to that available during the desktop study and conversations with the contractors.

3.3 The ecological condition of the site prior to the start of the development has been identified through dialogue with the client. The information present herein gives a broad overview of the Site circa 2023. Using this available evidence, it is likely that most of the former beer garden would have represented a species poor amenity grassland but may have subsequently been encroached by succession vegetation, dominated by bramble.

3.4 Species-poor amenity grasslands are characterized by low plant diversity, often dominated by a few grass species such as Common Bent (Agrostis capillaris), Smooth Meadow-grass (Poa pratensis), Perennial Ryegrass (Lolium perenne), Yorkshire Fog (Holcus lanatus), and Annual Meadow-grass (Poa annua). These grasslands typically exhibit a uniform appearance, lacking the structural diversity and vibrant wildflower displays found in more species-rich habitats. These areas often lack the diversity of plant life. Frequent mowing, fertilization, and other intensive management practices can further contribute to the decline of plant diversity in these areas.

[1] https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx

3.5 Dense bramble thickets in the UK provide valuable habitat for a diverse range of wildlife. They offer shelter, nesting sites, and food sources for a variety of species, including birds such as song thrushes and blackbirds, mammals like hedgehogs and small rodents, and numerous invertebrates, such as butterflies, bees, and spiders. In addition to the scrub, mature ash trees are present at the northern corner of the site and remains of smaller shrubs such as hazel was recorded along the north-eastern boundary. Planning Policy Wales (12) emphasises the importance of high-quality replacement planting and securing a net gain in biodiversity. In order to achieve this, it is proposed to replace trees at a ratio of 3-to-1 with native trees/shrubs. This will be achieved with the introduction of a native, species-rich hedgerow at the boundaries of the site to include a species-rich, herbaceous, under-canopy seed mix. One standard specimen of sessile oak to be included in the landscape plans. Sessile oak is a keystone species in many European ecosystems, providing habitat and food for a wide variety of organisms. It supports a diverse range of lichens, mosses, fungi, and invertebrates, which in turn provide food and shelter for birds, mammals, and other animals.

3.6 The following native trees and shrubs are suitable for hedging and barrier planting and collectively should represent 98% of the overall composition of a new hedge: hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) dominates the list, accounting for 50% of the species, followed by blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) at 25%. Other significant contributors include field maple (Acer campestre) at 15%, while dogrose (Rosa canina), buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica), holly (Ilex aquifolium), wild privet (Ligustrum vulgare), dogwood (Cormus sanguinea), elder (Sambucus nigra), Hazel (Corylus avellana), and various honeysuckle (Lonicera sp.) species comprise the remaining 18%."

3.7 The planting of species that attract night-flying insects, such as evening primrose (Oenothera biennis), goldenrod (Solidago virgaurea), honeysuckle (Lonicera periclymenum), and fleabane (Pulicaria dysenterica), is encouraged, as this will provide a valuable food source for foraging bats.

3.8 At the time of writing, site clearance has been mostly completed except for a small scrub at the northern corner of the plot. This area includes a small number of mature trees (European ash). The Site is predominantly composed of bare earth. No potential roosting features were identified within trees that remain. Due to the recent site clearance few opportunities remain for small mammals and amphibians which include a lack of foraging and shelter. However, some building materials are present on site which offer potential refugia. The most significant of these is the uPVC sheeting along the northern boundary. To mitigate risks associated with site clearance, a finger-tip search will be conducted prior to further works commencing. While great crested newts are likely absent due to poor connectivity, given their presence locally (500m) and the suitability of the off-site waterbody, a precautionary method statement for site clearance will be implemented. If protected species are encountered during work, all activities must cease, and a qualified ecologist must be consulted. Should a great crested newt be identified during the finger-tip search, an EPS license from Natural Resources Wales will be required before work can resume.

3.9 The northern boundary of the site connects directly to adjacent woodland. This provides direct connectivity to larger green spaces (amenity grassland and woodland to the north).

3.10 While the building is situated within an urban setting and is surrounded by made surfaces and artificial lighting, its eastern boundary sits approximately 15m from a green space - Whitey Park. This is a large urban park which contains grasslands, woodlands, and ponds, and provides connectivity south to the Nant Morlais and river Tâf. Even though the site is separated from this green space by a busy highway, Whitey Park offers a continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for flight paths such as lines of trees and scrub. The river Tâf provides a high-quality riparian habitat and excellent connectivity north and south.

3.11 No part of the site is within a statutory site of nature conservation interest. There are 18 statutory sites within 1km including Cwm Taf Fechan Woodlands (SSSI – being the nearest at ≈2.2km), Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys

(SSSI at 2.3km) and Nant Glais Caves (SSSI at 3.3km). Collectively these represent a mixture of high-quality potential foraging sites and potential hibernation sites. Connectivity to these sites is low.

3.12 While no statutory sites will be impacted by the proposals, the site has good connectivity east to Whitey Park, but access is bisected by a busy highway. While The Norton is impacted by artificial lighting the character of the adjacent Whitey Park is as a dark site. The combination of low light levels and available habitat at Whitey Park provides excellent foraging and commuting opportunities for bats, especially for light-sensitive species such as lesser and greater horseshoe bats, which have been recorded locally. To protect this valuable habitat, any development plans must minimize potential impacts, including light pollution.

Plate 1

Plate 2

Plate 3

Plate 4

Plate 5

Plate 6

3.13 Due to the relatively dark space offered by adjacent habitat (Whitey Park), and proximity to woodland, a bat sensitive lighting scheme is recommended and must follow advice detailed in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/23' (2023)[2]. To prevent any adverse impact upon the potential roosting, commuting and foraging habitats for bats adjacent to the site (post development), specifically on the nearby vegetation, a lighting plan is required. Lighting for the site must be functional and directional only, and kept to a minimum servicing the public areas of the proposed development (as required for safety and security). It must be achieved using baffles and screens, if necessary, to ensure no light spill on any retained or planted vegetation (including off-site vegetation - e.g., there is a potential to impact animals using the nearby habitat features).

- A sensitive lighting scheme is recommended and must be created. The sensitive lighting scheme must follow advice details in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/23' (2023) and comprise of:
- Light fixtures, filaments, light spill and artificial light must be directed away from bat roost entrances, both existing and those to be created as part of the mitigation.
- Luminaries are to be LED only, due to their sharp cut-off, lower intensity, good colour rendition and dimming capability. Luminaires must have a warm white spectrum (ideally <2700 Kelvins), reducing the blue light component and increasing the red-light component.
- Luminaries must feature peak wavelengths no higher than 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats.
- Heights of fixtures must be carefully considered to minimise light spill. Only luminaries with an upward light ratio of 0% and with good optical control must be used.
- Luminaries must always be mounted on the horizontal, i.e., no upward tilt.
- Any external security lighting must be set on motion sensors and short (15 second) timers.
- As a last resort, accessories such as baffles, hoods or louvres must also be used, and directed away from any natural features and must not encroach outside the Site boundaries, particularly the surrounding trees, hedgerows, and other vegetation in the landscape.

3.14 In-line with statutory obligations and planning policy, mitigation will be required in regards net gain biodiversity and green infrastructure.

3.15 At the date of writing this report, we can surmise that; in conjunction with a sympathetic lighting scheme and the potential for landscaping (in the form of native species), the addition of enhancement features could be of benefit locally and provide a net-gain for priority and protected species.

SECTION FOUR: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT & BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT

4.1 Green Infrastructure

4.1.1 Section Four of this report presents a green infrastructure statement. This statement is proportionate to the scale and nature of the development and describes how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal. This statement provides an effective way of demonstrating positive multi-functional outcomes which are appropriate to the development site.

4.1.2 In accordance with the provision of Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (Distinctive and Natural Places) and Local Planning Policy, biodiversity enhancement measures should be incorporated into the landscaping scheme of any proposed works to maximise the ecological value of the site. The proposed scheme seeks to follow the Stepwise Approach as detailed within the updated Chapter 6 of PPW (Planning Policy Wales)

4.1.3 **Avoid:** Existing trees have been avoided wherever possible and features such as existing buildings have been incorporated rather than demolished. Trees and shrubs located within the proposed planning scheme

[2] https://www.bats.org.uk/news/2023/08/bats-and-artificial-lighting-at-night-ilp-guidance-note-update-released

for a new native hedgerow will be retained and incorporated into this feature. The most significant area of notable habitat loss is of a bramble scrub and amenity grassland which dominated the site pre-development. This was removed circa 2024.

4.1.4 **Minimise:** to prevent any adverse impact upon the potential roosting, commuting and foraging habitats for bats adjacent to the proposed unit (post development), specifically on the adjacent tree-line feature and linked gardens, a sensitive lighting scheme is recommended and where necessary should be incorporated into the plans. The lighting plan for the site is functional and directional only and kept to a minimum servicing the public areas of the proposed development (as required for safety and security). It is achieved using baffles and screens, if necessary, to ensure no light spill on any retained or planted vegetated (including off-site vegetation). The sensitive lighting scheme follows advice detailed in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/23' (2023)[3].

4.1.5 **Mitigate:** habitat creation works have been designed into the site layout to mitigate for the recorded losses in notable features. These measures include a sensitive landscape design within a small urban footprint, with the addition of native and diverse grass seed mixes for the lawn and under canopy, provision of native trees and shrubs, and structural enhancements including roosting and nesting boxes.

4.1.6 **Compensation:** on-site compensation for impacts on nesting birds and roosting bats will be delivered by way of:

- new roosting opportunities for bats,
- new nesting opportunities for birds,
- new foraging opportunities for bees (and other invertebrates),
- hedgehog holes,
- the addition of species rich seed mixes for green spaces (lawn and under-canopy), and
- the addition of three large standard specimen of native trees.

4.1.7 **Implementation and Maintenance:** The owners of The Norton will implement these plans and maintain the enhancement features in perpetuity. Should the bird box or bat box fail or become damaged they will be replaced. Likewise, the planting scheme will be implemented and maintained by the owners.

4.1.8 **Summary:** It is concluded that appropriate and proportionate mitigation/compensation is to be delivered on-site through habitat creation and enhancement.

4.1.9 The proposed ecological mitigation and enhancements fit with the DECCA Framework by;

- Increasing diversity within local ecosystems by providing new species-rich and grassland seed mixes to further improve net-gain biodiversity. This will be achieved through structural enhancements to create a range of environmental conditions which will therefore have the potential to support a different and more diverse assemblage of species compared to baseline conditions.
- Improving/maintaining connections within and between ecosystems, by creating new habitat in locations that will directly link with existing habitats of value, e.g., existing tree lines.
- Improving ecosystem resilience and adaptability to future pressures, through the planting of trees (carbon capture, shading), the management of surface water runoff (continued vegetation cover, to provide surface water interception) and the creation of greater variations in ground cover and vegetation structure capable of offering niche habitats to a wide range of flora and fauna.

4.1.10 Therefore, because of the ecological measures embedded within the proposed scheme, it is expected that there will be a demonstrable net benefit for biodiversity. The Site has been identified as being of low value, with immediate on-site impacts adequately mitigated on-site and net gain being achieved primarily through the addition of features (see Section 4). All habitats retained/created/enhanced on site, will be subject to

[3] https://www.bats.org.uk/news/2023/08/bats-and-artificial-lighting-at-night-ilp-guidance-note-update-released

domestic management, with this management plan being proportionate for this setting and maintained in perpetuity.

4.2 **Biodiversity Enhancement Plan**

4.2.1 Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities (including local councils and the National Parks), 'must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of functions; in relation to Wales, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.' This replaces the section 40 duty in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act 2006), in relation to Wales, which states that; 'All public authorities have a statutory duty to conserve biodiversity in all of their functions.'

4.2.2 Local authorities are legally required to make efforts to protect and enhance wildlife and its habitat and this is executed, in part, through the requirement of an ecological assessment for planned development sites and, therefore, we recommend the following principles of design should be followed.

4.2.3 **Bats:** To support the local bat population and increase roosting opportunities locally; post-development, the inclusion of:

- Two integrated Eco Bat box[4] (or equivalent) to be included in the southern gable of the proposed new unit.

4.2.4 **Birds:** To support the local bird population and increase nesting opportunities locally; post-development, the inclusion of:

- Two 1SP Schwegler Sparrow Terraces[5] (or equivalent) to be fitted to the northern gable of proposed new unit.

4.2.5 **Invertebrates and Botany:** To support invertebrates locally; the planting of native hedgerow[6], to include additional woody species[7], and an under-canopy seed-mix[8], to include shade tolerate grasses[9]. In addition, the inclusion of a standard sessile oak[10], a rowan[11] and a downy birch[12] at the green space near the eastern corner of the plot.

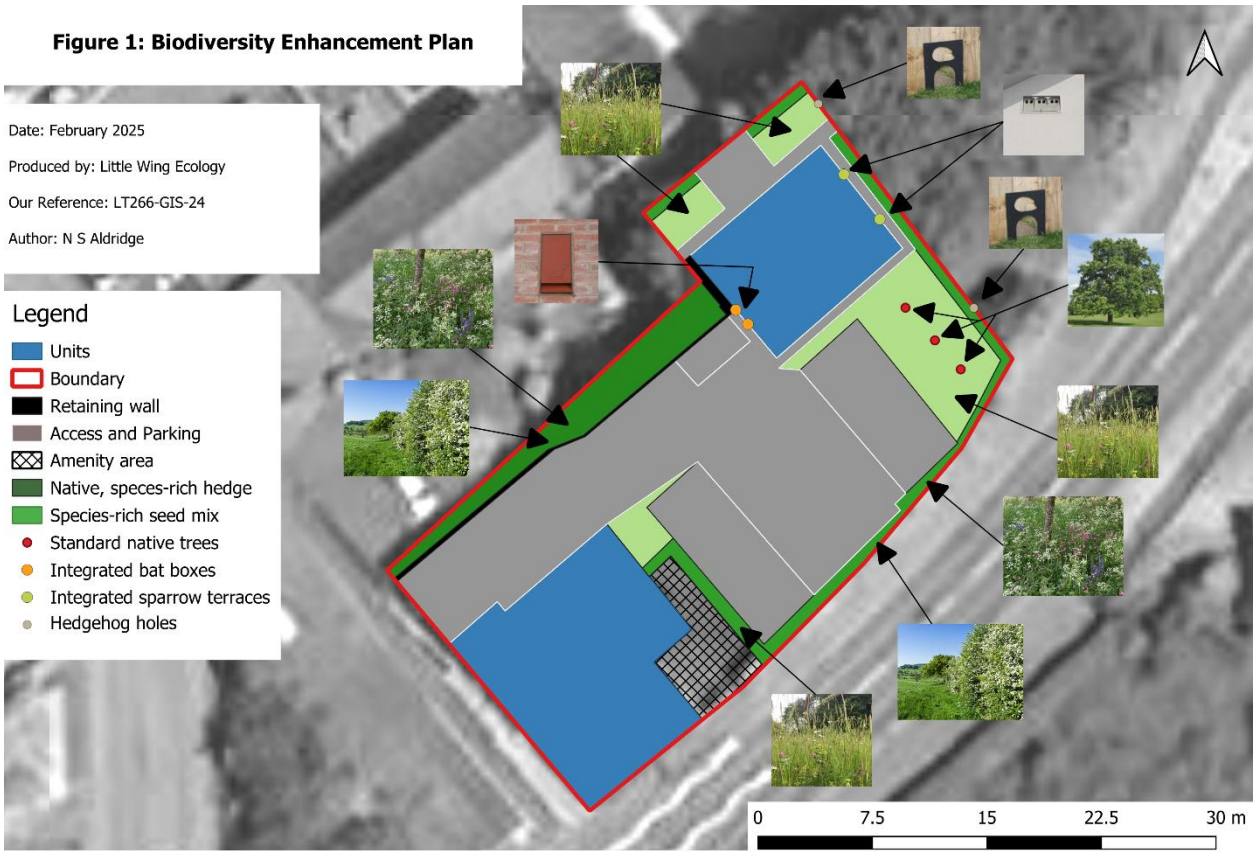
4.2.6 The inclusion of a species rich lawn mix[13] over the residential green spaces. This flowering lawn mixture contains slow growing grasses with a selection of wildflowers that respond well to regular short mowing[14]. The establishment, and ongoing maintenance of broadleaves trees is provided by The Woodland Trust[15].

4.2.7 **Small Mammals:** Enhancement for hedgehogs to be provided in the form of; (x2) Eco Hedgehog Hole Plate to be fitted at the base of north-eastern boundary to mitigate against defragmentation locally[16].

4 https://www.nestbox.co.uk/products/integrated-eco-bat-box
5 https://www.nhbs.com/1sp-schwegler-sparrow-terrace
6 https://hedgelink.org.uk/hedgerows/hedgerow-biodiversity/
7 https://hedgelink.org.uk/hedgerows/hedgerow-biodiversity/
8 https://www.pitchcare.com/products/shade-hedgerow-woodland-wildflower?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA3JCvBhA8EiwA4kujZoajG-WP6tDAjs71P4QXzKHYHzOnsDjaD0cfR0j9fwOW1kwRX0LdLxoCqp8QAvD_BwE
9 https://www.pitchcare.com/products/shade-hedgerow-woodland-wildflower?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA3JCvBhA8EiwA4kujZoajG-WP6tDAjs71P4QXzKHYHzOnsDjaD0cfR0j9fwOW1kwRX0LdLxoCqp8QAvD_BwE
10 https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/p/garden-trees/oak-quercus/petraea-sessile?utm_campaign=20731047289&utm_medium=cpc&utm_source=google&utm_content=&utm_term=&utm_marketing_tactic=20731047289&utm_creative_format=&utm_source_platform=g_x&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA8Lu9BhA8EiwAag16bwJycGfDm5rQqcflzRTVAgPmF9yIL1Ywpn0ZDmt8OCfXJV0frx8qoBoCX18QAvD_BwE
11 https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/p/garden-trees/sorbus/aucuparia-mountain-ash-rowan
12 https://www.tree-shop.co.uk/product/downy-birch-betula-pubescens/
13 https://www.cumbriawildflowers.co.uk/habitats/neutralhaymeadowmix
14 https://ehq-production-europe.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/c6d1aaea252b8babca757293ab301578fe4adc59/original/1649936554/a95f81812d7c47fd385c58fa177cf60c_Grass_Management.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIA4KKNQAKIJHZMYNPA%2F20250114%2Feu-west-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250114T143626Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=367eb5fd2a8e6c0e0770cd770897de6742e59a0d1de4607fa464b1c622245b01
15 https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/advice/care/
16 https://www.nestbox.co.uk/products/eco-hedgehog-hole-plate?_pos=2&_sid=cfc475fd2&_ss=r

4.2.8 The above enhancement features and habitats will be managed and maintained for the long-term (i.e., at least 25 years).

Figure 1: Biodiversity Enhancement Plan



QGIS Development Team, <2024>. QGIS Geographic Information System. Open-Source Geospatial Foundation Project.

SECTION FIVE: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

5.1 Encountering a Protected Species During Works

5.1.1 If at any point during works a protected species is encountered on-site, it is essential that all work is to cease and that a suitably experienced ecologist is contacted for advice.

5.2 Expiration of this Report

5.2.1 This document is valid for two years. Should work not start within two years (i.e., February 2027) further survey and assessment will be necessary to qualify the results of this report and its recommendations.

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CYFYNGIADAU

Mae Little Wing Ecology (CYF) wedi paratoi'r Adroddiad hwn at ddefnydd y Cleient neu ei Asiantau uchod yn unig yn unol â'n telerau busnes, y cyflawnwyd ein gwasanaethau oddi tanynt. Ni roddir unrhyw warant arall, wedi'i mynegi neu ei hawgrymu, ynghylch y cyngor proffesiynol sydd wedi'i gynnwys yn yr Adroddiad hwn nac unrhyw wasanaethau eraill a ddarperir gennym ni. Ni all unrhyw barti arall ddibynnu ar yr Adroddiad hwn heb gytundeb ysgrifenedig penodol ymlaen llaw gan Little Wing Ecology (CYF).

Mae'r asesiadau a wnaed yn rhagdybio y bydd y safle(oedd) a'r cyfleusterau yn parhau i gael eu defnyddio i'w pwrpas presennol heb newid sylweddol. Mae'r casgliadau a'r argymhellion yn yr Adroddiad hwn yn seiliedig ar wybodaeth a ddarparwyd gan eraill ac ar y dybiaeth bod yr holl wybodaeth berthnasol wedi'i darparu gan y partïon hynny y gofynnwyd amdani. Nid yw gwybodaeth a gafwyd gan drydydd partïon wedi'i dilysu'n annibynnol gan Little Wing Ecology (CYF).

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About Us
Little Wing Ecology is a not-for-profit ecological consultancy serving the South Wales Valleys and beyond. We combine professional expertise with community impact, delivering high-quality ecological services while reinvesting in local nature and people.
We are a small ecological consultancy dedicated to providing accessible and pragmatic services that uphold the highest standards of conservation.

Our Services
Survey and Assessment Services:

- Preliminary Ecological Appraisals and Roost Assessments
- Comprehensive bat, reptile, and eDNA surveys
- European Protected Species License Applications

Planning and Implementation Support:

- Mitigation planning and Green Infrastructure Statements
- On-site development support services

Our Mission
As a Consultancy, we use our experience, expertise, and commitment to conservation to provide an accessible and pragmatic service that upholds the highest standards of environmental protection.
As a Not-for-Profit Social Enterprise, we reinvest our profits to create lasting positive change. We collaborate with valleys communities, conservation groups, local authorities, and partners to advance our three core commitments:

A. Helping Nature
We champion biodiversity recovery and resilience through:

- Habitat restoration and enhancement initiatives
- Designing built environments that work with wildlife
- Supporting long-term conservation monitoring that informs future protection efforts

B. Working with People
We believe in empowering communities through meaningful engagement with nature:

- Creating employment, training and volunteer pathways that build ecological skills and confidence
- Fostering the next generation of conservation champions
- Strengthening the connection between people and their natural environment

C. Supporting Communities
We invest in the places and people we serve:

- Reinvesting locally in nature-positive projects and community development
- Promoting environmental education that builds understanding and stewardship
- Providing expertise to support worthwhile causes and community-led initiatives

Our Vision: A thriving South Wales Valleys where nature and communities flourish together, supported by practical conservation action and shared environmental stewardship.

Adroddiad Arolwg gan

Cynhyrchwyd gan:	Little Wing Ecology (CYF) (di-elw wedi'i gyfyngu gan warant)
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