

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT SCHEME REPORT



Q. What is a Green Infrastructure (GI) Statement?

A Green Infrastructure Statement describes how the green infrastructure of a site (trees, hedges, and SuDS etc.) has been incorporated into the development proposal.

Q. Why do I need a Green Infrastructure Statement?

A Green Infrastructure Statement is required on all developments, following Planning Policy Wales - PPW12 and the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 duty*, to show that development has a **net benefit** to biodiversity and green infrastructure. This information is not appropriate to seek 'retrospectively' by way of a condition and must be provided as part of the planning application process.

Q. What detail is required in the Green Infrastructure Statement?

A Green Infrastructure Statement is to be proportionate to the scale and nature of the development. In the case of minor development such as householder applications, PPW12 states that this should not be an onerous requirement for applicants.

Q. What is a Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme?

To comply with Policy 1 of the BBNP Local Development Plan (2013) and Section 6 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*, the Authority requires that proposed developments include details of biodiversity enhancement measures.

These don't need to be costly or large in scale, and could include bird boxes, insect boxes and the planting of native shrubs or flowers suitable for bees and other pollinations in the garden.

Q. How do I provide the information?

To assist in providing the information that this authority requires, the following form can be completed to provide the specific Green Infrastructure details that relate to each step of your proposed development.

Form completed by:	PAUL THOMAS
Date:	08.05.25
Address of site:	21, CHAPEL BANKS, GEORGETOWN, MERTHYR TYDFIL, CF48 1BP
Grid reference:	304230, 206764
Description of Proposal:	PROPOSED TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION, SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION WITH ALTERATIONS

1. Details of all existing green infrastructure on site:

Boundary 1:	STONE WALL
Boundary 2:	STONE WALL & TIMBER FENCE
Boundary 3:	TIMBER FENCE
Boundary 4:	TIMBER FENCE
Front Garden:	SCRUB
Rear Garden:	SCRUB
Other:	SIDE GARDEN...SCRUB

2. What green infrastructure features (trees, hedges, hedge banks) have already been removed from site and/or require removal to facilitate the development?

Boundary 1:	NONE
Boundary 2:	NONE
Boundary 3:	NONE
Boundary 4:	NONE
Front Garden:	NONE
Rear Garden:	NONE
Other:	NONE

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

Boundary 1:	N/A
Boundary 2:	N/A
Boundary 3:	N/A
Boundary 4:	N/A
Front Garden:	N/A
Rear Garden:	N/A
Other:	N/A

4. What Green Infrastructure is being planted as mitigation for losses?

Boundary 1:	NO LOSSES
Boundary 2:	NO LOSSES
Boundary 3:	NO LOSSES
Boundary 4:	NO LOSSES

Front Garden:	NO LOSSES
Rear Garden:	NO LOSSES
Other:	NO LOSSES

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

Boundary 1:	NONE
Boundary 2:	BUG HOTEL, WILD FLOWER AREA
Boundary 3:	NONE
Boundary 4:	HEDGEHOG GATE...OPEN ACCCESS
Front Garden:	GRASSED LAWN
Rear Garden:	NONE
Other:	NONE

6. How will the new planting be managed or maintained?

- Planting of 10 sq m of native wildflower to be undertaken in first planting season November to March 2025-2026 following the implementation of the development. To be placed at the extreme eastern north eastern boundary.
Native wild flowers will be watered as necessary during periods of dry weather.
Native marginal plants around margins and wildflower meadow.
Any losses of the enhancement features within a 5 year period must be replaced.
For new planting maintenance will be undertaken at regular intervals during the growing season April to September during the 5 year establishment phase. Any dead or dying plants will be replaced the following planting season [November to March] each year of the 5 year establishment phase.
Emorsgate EM2F Standard General Purpose Wild Flowers
Species – Yarrow, common knapweed, wild carrot, lady's bedstraw, field scabious, oxeye daisy, musk mallow, ribwort plantain, salad burnett, cowslip, meadow buttercup, yellow rattle, baller campion.
Management of these enhancements will be carried out by the householder for the long-term (in perpetuity).

<https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/wild-flower-only-mixtures/standard-general-purpose-wild-flowers>

EM2F Standard General Purpose Wild Flowers

Description

This wild flower mixture contains species that are characteristic of traditional meadows and grassland across a wide range of soil types.

This mixture is compliant with the following Environmental Stewardship options:

- Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI): AHL1 Pollen and nectar flower mix*
- Countryside Stewardship (CSS): AB1 Nectar flower mix*

Ground Preparation

When sowing wild flower seed directly into existing grass the site must be carefully chosen and the ground preparation must be good. Select grassland on poor to moderately fertile soil with a fine sward structure and few perennial weeds or vigorous grasses. Unless yellow rattle is already established in the sward, results can often be improved by adding yellow rattle seed at up to 1g/m² to this mix.

Prepare the ground for sowing in late summer by cutting and/or grazing very hard and create gaps either with harrows or by raking (aiming to create around 50% bare soil). Control any perennial weeds such as docks or thistles.

Sowing

Best sown in the autumn or in the spring. Bulk up the seed with an inert carrier such as sand to make distribution easier. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. Rolling is not usually necessary.

100% wild flower mixtures are best sown into existing grass or combined with a suitable grass seed mix. If they are sown without grass onto bare soil, the spaces left between the flowers will be filled by grasses and other weeds.

First Year Management

After sowing continue mowing or grazing as needed, aiming to keep the grass short (30-50mm). Continue mowing/grazing through winter and early spring as needed. Stop mowing/grazing in April and leave until July/August at which time you can manage the sowing as you would established grassland as described below.

With the exception of yellow rattle most of the sown meadow species are perennial and will be slow to germinate, grow and flower, particularly against the competition from established grasses.

Management Once Established

Established grassland can be managed in a number of ways which, in association with soil fertility, will determine its character. The best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management based around a main summer hay cut in combination with autumn, and possibly spring, mowing or grazing.

Meadow grassland should not be cut or grazed from spring through to late July/August to give sown species an opportunity to flower.

After flowering in July or August take a 'hay cut': cut back with a scythe, petrol trimmer or tractor mower to c 50mm. Leave the 'hay' to dry and shed seed for 1-7 days then remove from site. Mow or graze the re-growth through to late autumn/winter to circa 50mm and again in spring if needed.

7. Biodiversity enhancements

- Bird box placed at boundary western elevation at a min 3m from ground level.
- Bat box upon new southern gable at a min 3m from ground level.
- Bug hotel placed to the extreme western boundary wall.
- Hedgehogs will have access in the open front.

Installation of enhancements must be completed before completion of works.
Management of these enhancements will be carried out by the householder for the long-term (in perpetuity).

The 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 the enhancements should lead to a 'net benefit' for biodiversity.

The following biodiversity enhancements have also been added:

Type	Location	Info
BUG HOTEL	AT EXTREME WESTERN BOUNDRY WALL	PLAN 02
BIRD NESTING BOX	AT EASTERN ELEVATION	PLAN 01 & 02
WILDFLOWER 10 SQ M	AT EXTREME WESTERN BOUNDRY	PLAN 02
BAT BOX	AT SOUTHERN NEW GABLE WALL	PLAN 01 & 02
HEDGEHOG	ACCESS THROUGH OPEN FRONT	[PLAN 02]

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8. Conclusion

Based on the information provided above, this development will result in a **Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Net Benefits** upon completion.

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

REFER TO PLAN 01 & 02



10. Site photos (as required)



Bug Hotel Vivaro
Pro Woodstone
Insect Block



Bat box Schwegler 1FR
Integrated Bat Box



Bird box
Woodstone Estella
Sparrow Nest Box