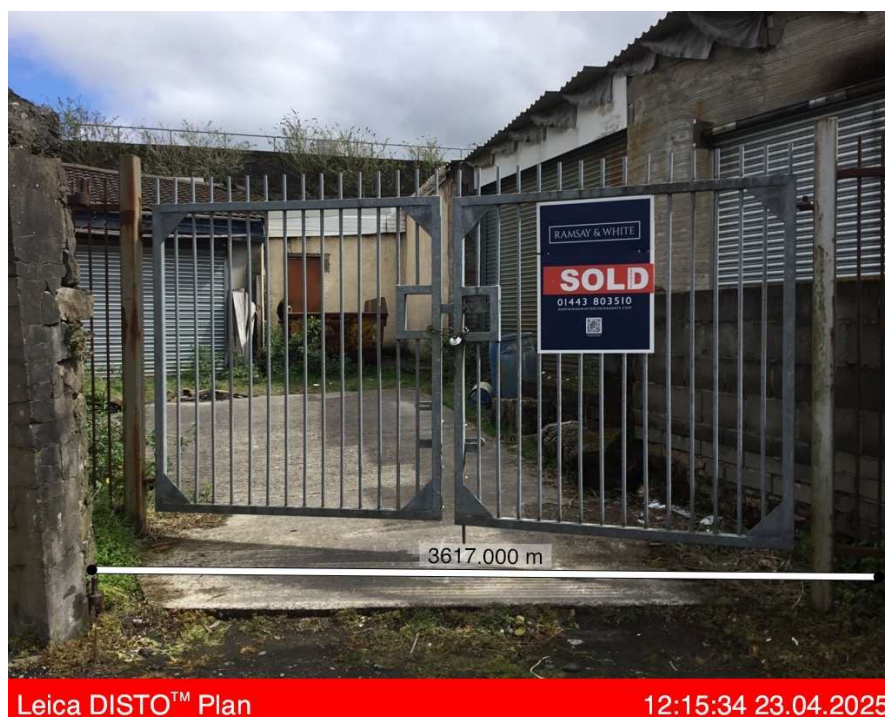




Q. What is a Green Infrastructure (GI) Statement?

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:	Philip Harris
Date:	28/06/2026
Address of site:	Old Saw Mill, Court Street, Merthyr Tydfil. CF47 8DU
Grid reference:	

Description of Proposal:	New startup units
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1. Details of all existing green infrastructure on site:

Court Street Elev	<i>Ivy and a buddleia</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>None</i>
Front Garden:	
Rear Garden:	
Other:	

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

Court Street Elev	<i>Ivy and a buddleia</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>None</i>
Front Garden:	<i>None</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>None</i>
Other:	<i>None</i>

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

Boundary 1:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>None</i>
Front Garden:	<i>None</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>None</i>
Other:	<i>None</i>

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

Boundary 1:	<i>None</i>
South-east facing wall	<i>Wild Honeysuckle (Lonicera periclymenum)</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>None</i>
Front Garden:	<i>None</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>None</i>
Other:	<i>None</i>

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

Boundary 1:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>None</i>

Boundary 3:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>None</i>
Front Garden:	<i>None</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>None</i>
Other:	<i>None</i>

The following will be planted :

Wild Honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*)

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

Annual maintenance

- Prune after flowering (late summer to early autumn).
 - Remove dead, damaged, or diseased stems.
 - Thin out crowded growth to improve airflow.
 - Shorten excessively long shoots to keep the plant within its allotted space.
 - Avoid removing too much older wood in one year if the plant is mature.
- Winter tidy-up (optional)
 - Remove any weak or crossing stems.
 - Tie in new shoots to supports if growing on a fence, arch, or pergola.

Every few years

If the plant becomes woody or flowers less:

- Carry out a renovation prune by removing up to one-third of the oldest stems at the base over 2–3 years.
- This encourages vigorous new flowering shoots without shocking the plant.

Feeding and watering

- Water during prolonged dry spells for the first couple of years after planting. Established plants are usually drought tolerant.
- Apply a 5–8 cm layer of compost or well-rotted manure around the base each spring, keeping it away from the stems.
- Additional fertiliser is rarely needed unless growth is poor.

Keeping it healthy

Watch for:

- Aphids, especially on new shoots.
- Powdery mildew during hot, dry weather.
- Dead or congested growth, which can encourage fungal diseases.

Good airflow and avoiding prolonged drought help reduce problems.

Controlling spread

Wild honeysuckle isn't usually invasive in the UK, but it can:

- Climb into nearby shrubs and trees.
- Weave through gutters, fences, or roofs if left unchecked.

An annual trim is usually enough to keep it under control.

With this routine, a healthy wild honeysuckle can remain attractive and flower well for decades, often becoming an excellent source of nectar for bees, moths, and other pollinators.

7. Biodiversity enhancements

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
Elisa Bat Box Elisa Bat Box NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	North Eastern Elevation	The bat boxes will be positioned at a height of no less than 3.5m from the ground. No external lighting will be placed on this elevation
A Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace or the following https://www.nhbs.com/sparrow-terrace-nest-box	North Eastern Elevation	There will be no external lighting fitted to the elevation where the Ecology enhancement are fitted.

Where there are more detailed biodiversity enhancements proposed, there is a separate form available to use. (see associated guidance document).

8. Conclusion

As the current site has little green infrastructure that will be impacted by the work. The proposed work is felt to enhance the green infrastructure with the addition of bird and bat boxes.

The responsibility for Long term maintenance of the Ecology enhancements will be the responsibility of the Householder.

Long Term Maintenance Bat Box

- Elisa Bat Box is designed to provide bats with a safe and comfortable environment accommodating summer roosting. Made of long lasting and thermally stable wood concrete, suitable as a summer roost for bats.

Maintenance Guidelines:

1. Inspect once a year
 - Check the box in late autumn or winter, when bats are least likely to be breeding.
 - Look for loose screws, warped wood, cracks, or signs that the box is coming away from its mounting.
2. Avoid disturbing bats
 - Never open or inspect the box if bats are present, especially during the maternity season (typically May to August in the UK).
 - In many countries, including the UK, bats and their roosts are legally protected.
3. Do not clean the inside routinely
 - Bat droppings (guano) usually fall out naturally or accumulate harmlessly.
 - Most bat boxes do not require internal cleaning.
 - Only clean if the manufacturer's instructions specifically recommend it and you are certain the box is unoccupied.
4. Maintain the exterior
 - Tighten fixings if necessary.
 - Replace damaged mounting straps or brackets.
 - If the wood has deteriorated significantly, replace the box rather than trying to repair heavily rotted sections.
5. Do not use chemicals
 - Avoid wood preservatives, paints, varnishes, insecticides, or cleaning chemicals inside or near the roost.
 - If the exterior needs treatment, only use products specifically approved by the manufacturer and only when the box is unoccupied.
6. Keep the entrance clear
 - Trim branches or vegetation that block the entrance, while maintaining a suitable flight path for bats.
 - Ensure spiders' webs or nests from other animals aren't obstructing access.
7. Monitor from a distance
 - Watch around dusk during summer to see whether bats are using the box.
 - Avoid shining bright lights directly at the entrance.

If the box is damaged

- Replace it if it has large cracks, leaks water, or no longer provides a stable roosting space.
- Ideally, install the replacement as close as possible to the original location before removing the old box (where legally permitted).

Long Term Maintenance Bird Box

To properly maintain a A Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace or the following <https://www.nhbs.com/sparrow-terrace-nest-box> in the UK, follow these guidelines:

- **Frequency:** Clean the nest box once a year, ideally in autumn (September–October), after the breeding season. This prevents parasite build-up and prepares the box for winter roosting.
- **Avoid disturbing** the box during nesting season (March–August), as house sparrows may reuse the same box multiple times.

Cleaning Steps

Open the access panel:

The Woodstone design typically features a small door or removable panel for easy access

Remove old nesting material:

Wear gloves and use a small stick or brush to gently remove the used nest.

Disinfect the box (if needed):

Use boiling water to kill parasites. Avoid using chemicals or detergents, as they can leave harmful residues.

Dry thoroughly:

Ensure the box is fully dry before reassembling it.

The management and maintenance of the wildlife boxes (bat and bird) will be in perpetuity.

Please see attached drawing and elevations alongside this document.