

Green Infrastructure Statement

For

Bancyfelin

Prepared By



On Behalf of

Sterling Construction

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INTRODUCTION

The design for the Bancyfelin development has used a holistic approach, incorporating ecological enhancements and multifunctional green space. The design was informed by the updated National Planning Policy for Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales.

Specifically, the development proposals and landscape philosophy follow the Stepwise Approach set out in paragraph 6.4.21:

- 1) **Avoid** – The initial layout of the site was designed to avoid damage to existing GI assets wherever possible (refer to page 3 for details).
- 2) **Minimise** – The site layout was then developed and refined further, to minimise habitat loss, avoiding root protection areas and prioritising space for green corridors.
- 3) **Mitigate** – Potential damage to on-site GI assets was mitigated with the development of Arboricultural survey information, setting out the quality and value of the arboricultural GI.
- 4) **Compensate** – New trees, native hedgerows and wild flower meadow were specified to compensate any loss of existing habitat. (refer to page 4 for details).

EXISTING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

Existing Trees

5 trees and 2 tree groups are located on the boundaries of the site. All Existing trees and tree groups on site are to be retained. The tree group G2, along the railway embankment to the north, is the only significant link to the wider GI network.

Trees are to be protected in accordance with BS5837:2012.

Existing Hedgerows

A small remnant hedgerow on the eastern boundary adjacent to the farm access track. The hedge is in poor condition and is predominantly bramble.

Existing Rough Grassland

The main site area is a parcel of improved rough grassland totaling approximately 6,863 square metres.

Green Infrastructure Losses:

H1, an 18-metre-long existing hedgerow on the eastern boundary will be removed to accommodate the proposed access road (refer to Pre-development Tree Survey & Assessment for details). The hedgerow is of low quality and value.

Approximately 60% of the improved grassland will be removed to accommodate the proposed road, homes and associated hard standing.

PROPOSED GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

New Tree Planting – 10 no. new trees give the landscape scheme structure and provide a strong arboricultural character.

New Native Hedgerow Planting – 40m of new native hedgerow softens the edges of the development and improves biodiversity

New Wildflower Meadow Habitat – 840m² of wildflower meadow will be created and maintained across the site, improving biodiversity and providing valuable habitat for pollinators.

New On-Plot Soft Landscaping- A mixture of shrubs, grasses and perennials provide year-round colour and interest, food for pollinators and break up the massing of hard landscaping

SUMMARY

The existing GI assets are limited to the existing trees on the site's peripheries.

The loss of the existing hedgerow and improved grassland are compensated with new tree, hedgerow, wildflower and shrub planting resulting in a bio-diversity net gain across the site.