

# Green Infrastructure Statement

For

## Proposed Residential Development – Bedwlwyn Road, Ystrad Mynach

Prepared By



On Behalf of

## Wales & West Housing

December 2025

## CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

THE SITE

EXISTING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LOSSES

PROPOSED GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

The design for the Bedwlwyn Road development has used a holistic approach, incorporating biodiversity enhancements and retaining existing GI wherever possible. 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 as follows:

**Avoid** - avoid damage to biodiversity in its widest sense (i.e. the variety of species and habitats and their abundance) and ecosystem functioning.

**Minimise** - applicants, in discussion with planning authorities, must seek to minimise the initial impact on biodiversity and ecosystems by:

ensuring that retained habitats continue to be well connected to adjacent habitats to provide connectivity for key species and ensuring that the favourable conservation status of local species populations is maintained

retaining existing features, develop a management plan for their future care

using proven innovative/creative solutions (where required) to minimise damage and maintain existing biodiversity features and ecosystems in tandem with robust monitoring and rectification strategies.

**Mitigate** - Where, after measures to minimise impact, biodiversity and ecosystems could still be damaged, or lost through residual impacts, the proposed development should mitigate that damage. Mitigation measures must be put in place to limit the negative effects of a development.

**Compensate** - where like for like mitigation measures are not possible, particularly in respect of restoration measures, it may be necessary to consider on site compensation measures.

The layout of the site has been carefully developed by Chamberlain Moss King, in consultation with PHG, Treescene, Ecological Services Ltd and Tirlun Design Associates, to **avoid** damage to biodiversity wherever possible. The orientation and siting of proposals were largely dictated by the existing streetscene and surrounding built form. (refer to page 3 for details).

Following production of arboricultural and ecological surveys, the site layout was then developed and refined further, to retain existing trees. (Refer to landscape specification & management plan for long-term management details)

Due to a lack of existing GI, there are no significant losses that require **mitigation**.

While no specific **compensation** is required, detailed soft landscape proposals have been produced for the site to enhance overall biodiversity. (refer to page 4 for details).

## PREVIOUS STUDIES

This document is to be read in conjunction with the following drawings and documents

1. Arboricultural survey drawings and documents prepared by Treescene (2025)
  2. Bat Scoping Survey, prepared by Ecological Services Ltd (2025)
-

## THE SITE

The development site comprises a rectangular 0.13-hectare area, currently occupied by the former palace cinema and Nursey Rhymes Day Nursey terraced buildings. The rear yard, bounded by concrete block walls, comprises hard standing with some scattered scrub.



Image 1 – The Site



Image 2 – View Looking South West from the Lane to the Rear of the Site

## EXISTING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

### Existing Trees

There are two category B trees (moderate quality & value). One located in the eastern corner of the site. The other is located outside the site boundary on Bedwlwyn Road.

### Existing Hedgerows

None present

### Green Corridors

The site is located in the centre of Ystrad Mynach and is surrounded by existing roads and built form. There are no green corridors and no opportunities to connect to the wider GI network.

### Stepping Stones

None present

### Soils

The main site area is predominantly taken up by the existing building and hard standing, soil resources available for reuse in landscape areas are likely to be limited.

### Public Open Space

None present

### Grassland

None present

---

### Scrub

A small area bramble scrub with some tall ruderal vegetation. Species include *Arrhenatherum elatius*, *Calystegia sepium*, *Sisymbrium officinale*, *Buddleja davidi*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Urtica dioica*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Chamaenerion angustifolium* and *Lapsana communis*.

## GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LOSSES

The existing scrub will be removed to accommodate new hard and soft landscaping

## PROPOSED GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

**Proposed Trees** – 2 no. new fastigate trees.

**Proposed Wildflower Habitat** – wetland wildflower proposed as part of the SUDs strategy for the development

**Proposed On-plot planting and SUDs features** – A diverse mix of native shrub, grass, ferns and perennial species spread across the development.

## SUMMARY

The site does not contain any significant GI. The only GI asset of note is the existing category B tree in the eastern corner which will be retained.

There are no existing links to the wider GI network and no opportunities to create new ones.

The landscape proposals for the site will significantly improve the biodiversity and landscape value of the site.

---