

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT & BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

Guidance note for small developments to assist in providing the correct information.



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

A Green Infrastructure Statement describes how the green infrastructure of a site (trees, hedges, and SuDs) has been incorporated into the development proposal. *This guide is an overview of necessary information.*

Q. Why do I need a Green Infrastructure Statement?

A Green Infrastructure Statement is required on all developments following compliance with Planning Policy Wales Edition 12 (PPW 12), and the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 duty* to show that development has a net benefit to biodiversity and green infrastructure. It is not appropriate to seek this information '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, and in the case of minor development such as householder applications, PPW12 states that this should not be an onerous requirement for applicants but must demonstrate how the 'Step-wise Approach' has been applied as detailed in PPW12 section 6.4.11 – 6.4.16. To comply with the Eryri Local Development Plan (2016-2031) 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.

The enhancement measures must be shown on the submitted plans together with any specification for the same which may be indicated on the plans as annotations.

Q. How do I provide the information?

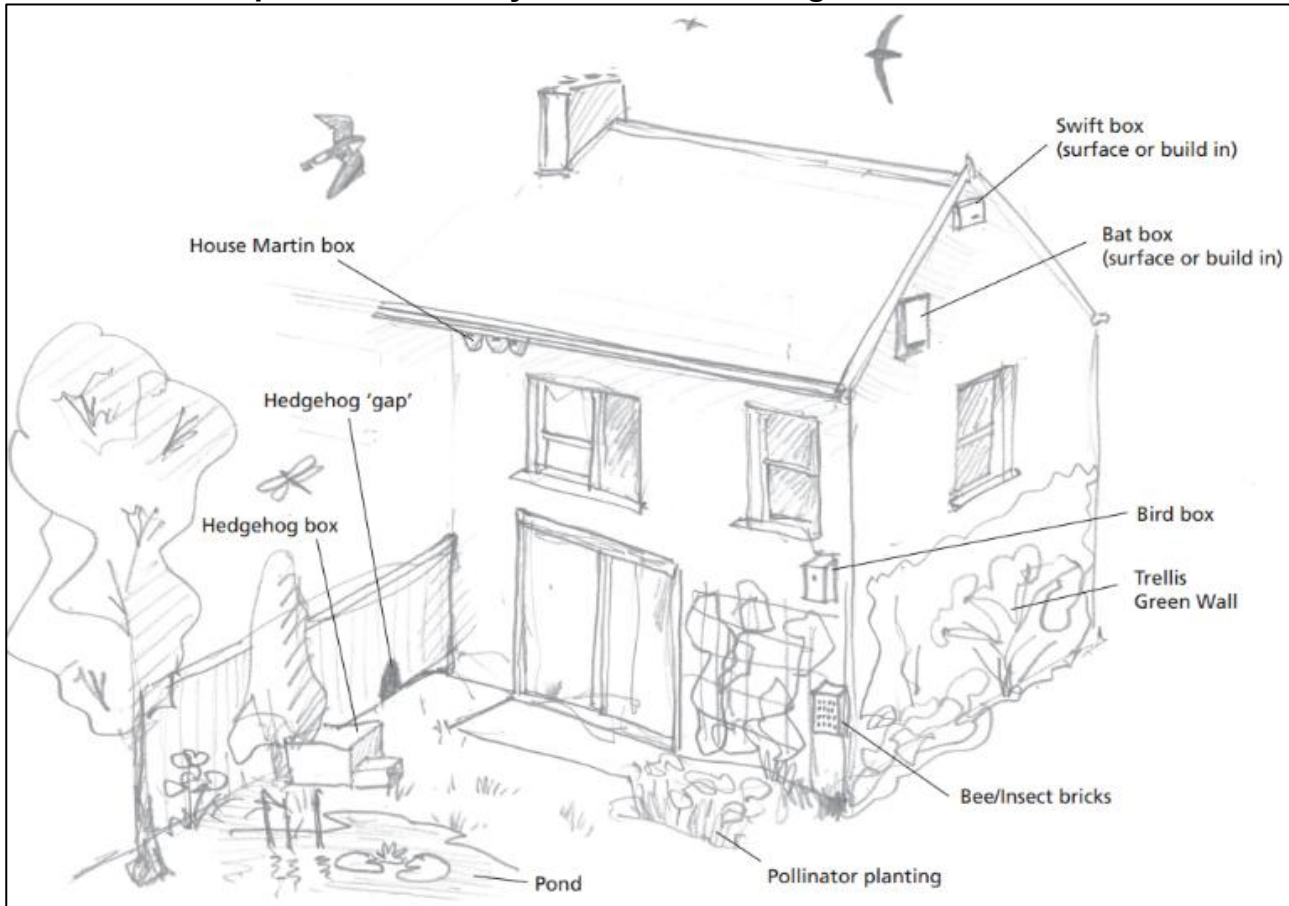
To assist in providing the information that this Authority requires, a form can be completed to provide the relevant information that relate to each step of your development. *This guide includes a 'completed' example of the actual form.*

Q. What other advice is there to help me?

The following links relate to Green Infrastructure matters and Biodiversity Enhancements that can assist in providing details:

- [Eryri Local Development Plan 2016 - 2031](#)
- [ENPA Supplementary Planning Guidance 6: Nature Conservation and Biodiversity](#)
- [ENPA Advice and Guidance on Biodiversity Enhancement](#)
- [Planning Policy Wales 12 \(PPW 12\)](#)
- [Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)
- [Technical Advice Note 5 \(TAN 5\) – Nature Conservation and Planning](#)

Illustrative example of biodiversity enhancements in gardens¹



¹ PCNPA Biodiversity SPG (Page 33) <https://www.pembrokeshirecoast.wales/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Post-Cons-Bio-SPG-Eng-1.pdf>

**EXAMPLE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT AND
BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT FORM**

Form completed by:	<i>A. N Other</i>
Date:	<i>DD/MM/YYYY</i>
Address of site:	<i>1 High Street, The Town, Anyshire, XX00 0XX</i>
Grid reference:	<i>XX12341234</i>
Description of Proposal:	<i>New extension to rear of property, requiring removal of one tree and translocation of hedge to facilitate new driveway.</i>

1. Details of all existing green infrastructure on site:

Boundary 1:	<i>Privet hedge</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>Boarded fence</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>Non-native hedge</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>N/A Wall</i>
Front Garden:	<i>2 no. trees (Apple and cherry)</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>5 no. trees (Apple, Oak, Oak, Birch and Rowan)</i>
Other:	<i>Scattered shrubs in front and rear garden</i>

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

Boundary 1:	<i>None</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>N/A -Fence</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>3 metre section removed for new access – Already removed.</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>N/A - Wall</i>
Front Garden:	<i>None</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>1 no. Oak - Requires removal</i>
Other:	<i>2 no. shrubs - Require removal in rear garden</i>

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

Boundary 1:	<i>2 metre buffer zone from base of hedge using heras fencing (see below).</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>N/A</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>2 metre buffer zone from base of hedge using heras fencing (See below).</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>N/A</i>
Front Garden:	<i>Majority of garden fenced off during development with heras fencing</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>Garden fenced off during development with heras fencing</i>
Other:	<i>See attached BS5837 Tree Report</i>

4. What green infrastructure is being planted as mitigation for losses?

Boundary 1:	<i>N/A</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>N/A</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>Translocated hedge in sections either side of new entrance</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>N/A</i>
Front Garden:	<i>N/A</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>3 no. trees (Oak, Hazel, Willow)</i>
Other:	<i>or: See attached Landscape Plan</i>

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

Boundary 1:	<i>N/A</i>
Boundary 2:	<i>N/A</i>
Boundary 3:	<i>Translocated hedgebank in sections either side of new entrance</i>
Boundary 4:	<i>N/A</i>
Front Garden:	<i>N/A</i>
Rear Garden:	<i>3 no. trees (Oak, Hazel, Willow)</i>
Other:	<i>or: See attached Landscape Plan</i>

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

<p><i>3 no. trees planted for every tree removed.</i></p> <p><i>Trees will be planted in areas previously cleared of all weeds, grass, and vegetation.</i></p> <p><i>The trees are to be of 'Selected Standard' size, 10-12 cm girth, 2.75-3.0 metres tall, bare-root or root-balled and healthy and vigorous.</i></p> <p><i>Trees will be planted in planting holes 1.2m x 1.2m x 900mm deep, with the topsoil mixed with a minimum of 20 litres of suitable tree planting compost and replaced carefully around the roots and lightly compacted every 150mm layer.</i></p> <p><i>Trees will be supported with a treated timber stake and rubber ties</i></p> <p><i>Planting to be undertaken in first planting season following the implementation of the development.</i></p> <p><i>Plants/trees/shrubs will be watered as necessary during periods of dry weather.</i></p> <p><i>Any failures will be replaced on a like-for-like basis in the next available planting season.</i></p> <p><i>Native hedges will have 6 plants per metre in two staggered rows about 25cm apart (or 40-60cm apart in each row).</i></p>
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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:

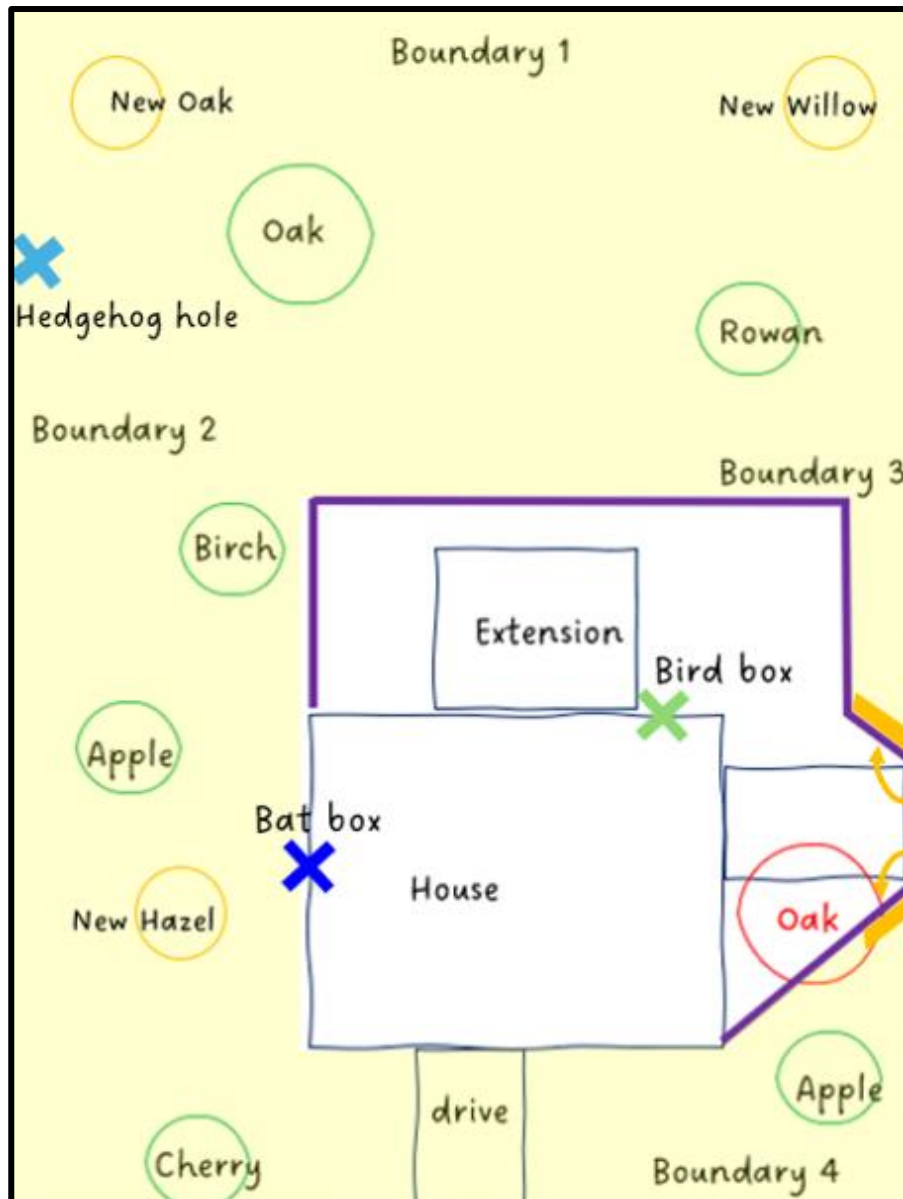
Type	Location	Info
Bat box	Side of house (gable 4m metres) from ground level	West Facing
Hedgehog hole	In fence along Boundary 2	Agreed with neighbour
Bird Box	Back of house – under eaves	North Facing

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 (showing the approximate plan of the features of the development site):

- Retained trees (Green circle)
- Removed tree (Red circle)
- New trees (Orange circle)
- Protective fencing (Purple line)
- Bat box – (Blue cross)
- Bird box (Green cross)
- Hedgehog hole in fence (Blue cross)
- Hedge section translocation (Orange arrows)



10. Site photos (examples)²

Existing

Cherry - Front Garden



Boundary 1 - Privet hedge



Proposed

Bat box - proposed



² Bat box image – BCT Website <https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/bat-boxes/external-ready-made-bat-boxes-integrated-bat-boxes> (<https://www.greenwoodsecohabitats.co.uk/bats-boxes>)