

Green Infrastructure Statement

Context:

The proposed development is for re-use of the quarry on land to the north of Pant-y-Phillip, Dwrbach, Scleaddua, Pembrokeshire (NGR: Easting:194811 Northing:233616). The development would entail the change of use of the quarry for the recycling of inert waste, which will include remediation works and landscaping at the previous quarry. The change of use of the quarry will provide improvements to the existing site access and insertion of associated infrastructure such as separating bunkers, wheel washing facility and weigh bridge. The proposed development has been illustrated on the accompanying plans E01, E02, P01, P03 and P04.

The site and green infrastructure:

The site is not located within or adjoining any statutory designated sites as identified in *Figure 12: Designated Sites* of the updated PPW Chapter 6. As such the site falls to be considered under the Step-Wise approach.

It is considered the development would accord with the replacement Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales and the Pembrokeshire Local Development Plan, policies:

SP 1- Sustainable Development

SP 16-The Countryside

GN.1-General Development Policy

GN.2-Sustainable Design

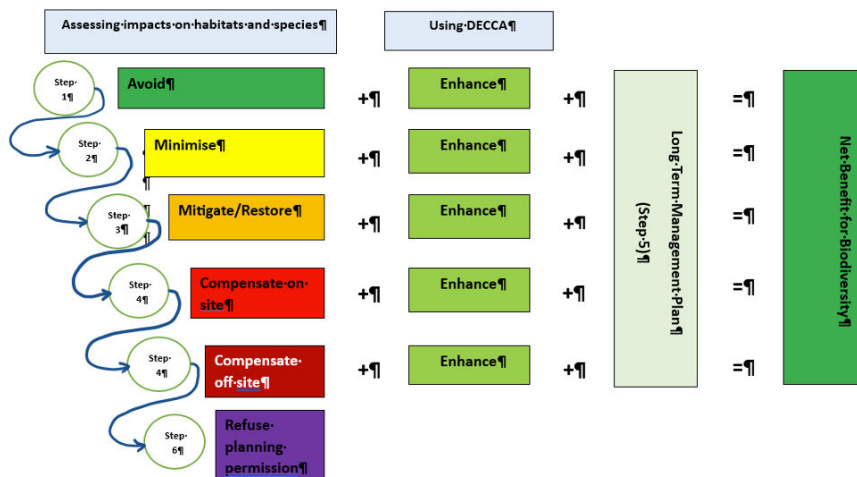
GN.37-Protection and Enhancement of Biodiversity

Baseline:

The development forms an unused quarry and comprises of an excavated rock face reaching a height of over 25 metres with rock spoils at the base. The site is then enclosed by established and mature trees to the north and south aspects with a hedgerow to the east and mature Leylandi trees to the west. An ecological assessment of the site has been undertaken by Kite Ecology. This identified the site itself comprising of bare stone and exposed quarry walls. In terms of species no protected species such as bats or badgers were recorded on site.

As the application may impact existing trees a survey of such features was undertaken in April 2026 by Christopher Hill. This advised that the row of Leylandi trees to the southwest aspect are removed based on their instability and safety grounds. These trees will be replanted with a Griselinia Littoralis hedgerow to maintain connectivity to the north and south of the site access.

Paragraph 6.4.21 of Chapter 6 of PPW discusses the *step-wise* approach to maintain and enhance biodiversity on site.



The Step-Wise Approach

Step-wise:

Avoid- Bearing (paragraph 6.4.25 of Chapter 6 PPW) in mind the ecological value of the site itself is low. As identified by the tree survey, the surrounding trees to the south west would be impacted based on safety concerns, however the other boundary landscape features and wider woodland would remain unaffected by the development.

Minimisation- Areas affected by the development form bare rock from previous quarry excavations.

Mitigation/ Restoration- The proposal is located on a previous quarry site which itself comprise of exposed stone, which has established no protected species having a presence. The proposed enhancement of a bird and bat box with the planting of a native trees, wildflower meadow seed mix to the formed buttress and hedgerows to the site access are considered proportionate in achieving a biodiversity net gain.

Compensation on site- The bird and bat box's will be erected in the southwest with the loss of Leylandi trees being replanted *Griselinia Littorallis* to provide visual screening. This will also be complimented by the planting of native trees to the created soil buttress. This feature would have two benefits as it would create an ecological enhancement feature and create biodiversity compensation, as well as providing embankment stability and visual screening. Due to the compensatory environmental features, the development would comply with paragraph 6.4.25 of Chapter 6, PPW.

The tree planting would be of a mixed native species comprising of willow, silver birch and Leylandi. These would be scattered across the buttress with the planting of each feature having a 15-metre radius separation. Intervening the planted trees would be a wildflower seed mix comprising of cowslips, lady's smock and selfheal. Once complete the buttress would cover an ecological enhancement area of over 400 square metres. In line with the above, it is considered that impacts upon the existing habitat and biodiversity opportunities would be low and the development would result in significant biodiversity enhancement.

DECCA:

Diversity- There is a variety of foliage, hedgerows, and trees throughout the wider site which provide a diverse habitat for biodiversity. This will be further enhanced by the on-site compensation as referenced above, which would compliment the biodiversity habitat.

Preseli Planning Ltd. Company Registration No. 16274835 (Wales).

Director- Llyr Evans (MRTPI). Llantood Farm, Cardigan, Pembrokeshire, SA433NU

Director- Gethin Beynon (MRTPI). Swn y Gwynt, Tavernspite, Whitland, Pembrokeshire, SA34 0NE.

Extent- None of the wider landscape features would be affected by the development and such features will be retained.

Condition- A cluster of Leylandi trees have been surveyed and based on safety concerns would be removed to the west aspect of the site as referenced by dwg P01.

Connectivity- Connectivity of the key habitat areas, will be improved by the installation of the bird/ bat box's, additional planting of the Griselinia hedgerow and native trees to the earth buttress with a wildflower seed mix.

Adaptation- The existing woodland and hedgerows beyond the application site will continue to be annually maintained in a sustainable manner.

Maintenance:

Maintenance would include annual management of existing hedgerows via flail hedgerow cutting every three years. Any failed planted trees/ hedgerows or areas of seed will be replaced on a like for like basis the following planting season. With regard to the wildflower meadow seeds, these will be left to bloom.

Conclusion:

The valuable areas of the wider land holding are avoided and will continue to be maintained. The area directly affected by the development has a low ecological value and comprises of a rock face and floor. Some trees to the west of the site have been surveyed and identified for removal. These will be compensated by the erection of bat and bird boxes, planting of hedgerows and trees with intervening wildflower meadow seed mix to the soil buttress, as part of the quarry remediation work to create a biodiversity net gain, which will be secured via the development. Considering the above, the development would accord with the Welsh Government's objective of achieving biodiversity net gain and updated Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales.