Green Infrastructure Statement

Project: Colliers Arms, Chapel Street, Ponciau, LL14 1SE

Planning Application Reference: P/2024/1585



Green Infrastructure at Existing Site
The current site includes a garden area with planted borders, a grassed lawn, and various shrubs. There are no significant water bodies or wetland features within the site boundaries.

Impact of the Proposal
The proposed extension will be constructed over the footprint of a previously built extension, an area that currently contributes minimally to local biodiversity. Consequently, the proposed development will not have a detrimental impact on the site's biodiversity. (Refer to the below image of the construction area for further details.)



Enhancements and Mitigation Measures:

To comply with the Green Infrastructure and Net Biodiversity Benefit requirements, the following measures will be implemented:

Planting of Native Species:
While the garden already benefits from abundant planting, additional planting will be introduced along the southern border. To ensure no adverse impact on neighbouring properties, this planting will consist of low-level shrubbery, carefully selected to remain below the height of the existing 2m fence.

Preservation of Existing Features:
The existing planting along the north-east border will remain unchanged. This area already contributes significantly to biodiversity, and further alterations would necessitate the removal of established vegetation, which could be counterproductive.



Existing North East border, cannot be improved without removing existing planting that already contributes to biodiversity.



Existing North East border, cannot be improved without removing existing planting that already contributes to biodiversity.

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Existing Southern border that can be improved.

Enhancements and Mitigation Measures

Planting of Native Species:
While the garden already benefits from abundant planting, additional planting will be introduced along the southern border. To ensure no adverse impact on neighbouring properties, this planting will consist of low-level shrubbery, carefully selected to remain below the height of the existing 2m fence. Species to include:

- **Lavandula angustifolia** (Lavender) – for pollinators and low-maintenance aromatic planting.
- **Euonymus fortunei** (Wintercreeper) – an evergreen option providing year-round interest.
- **Cornus sanguinea 'Midwinter Fire'** (Dogwood) – for seasonal colour and biodiversity.
- **Spiraea japonica** (Japanese Spiraea) – a compact, flowering shrub that attracts pollinators.
- **Hebe albicans** (Shrubby Veronica) – a hardy, low-growing option that thrives in local conditions.

Installation of Bird Box
A bird box will be installed to support local bird populations. The box will be placed on the eastern (rear wall) wall, positioned high and out of direct sunlight to minimise predation. This location will also reduce competition between birds as only a single box will be installed.

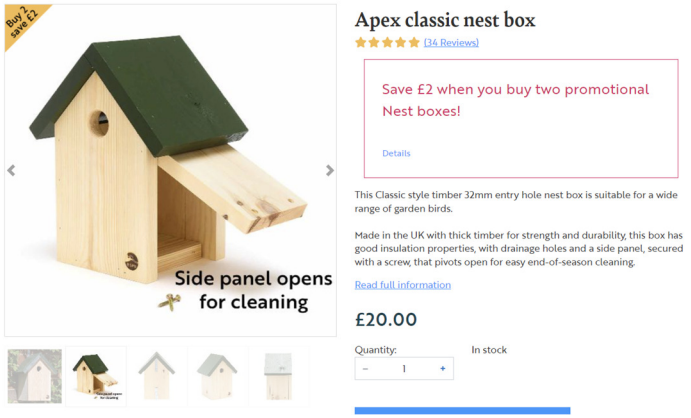
Key considerations for placement include:

- Ensuring a clear flight path in and out of the box.
- Proximity to trees and shrubs to allow parent birds to perch and survey the area before entering the box.

The precise location of the bird box is marked on the elevation drawing below. A sample bird box design is illustrated below.



Proposed Rear Elevation 1:100 - View C



Proposed bird box type.

Installation of a Bug Hotel

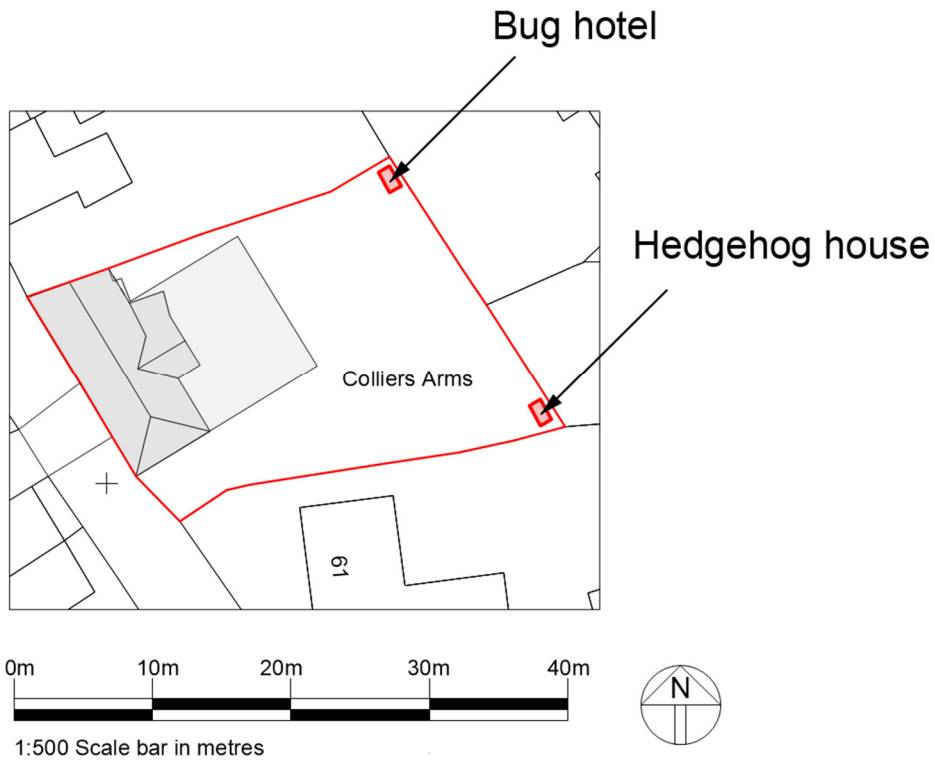
To enhance the biodiversity of the site and support local insect populations, a bug hotel will be installed within the garden. This will provide shelter and breeding spaces for beneficial insects, including pollinators such as bees and butterflies, as well as other species that contribute to the ecosystem.

Key considerations for the bug hotel:

- It will be positioned in a quiet, undisturbed part of the garden.
- It will face a sunny aspect, to maximise warmth and encourage insect habitation.
- The structure will be constructed using natural materials such as wooden logs, bamboo, and dried leaves, promoting sustainable and eco-friendly practices.

The location of the bug hotel is detailed on the site plan below.





Provision of a Hedgehog House

A hedgehog house will be placed in the garden to support the local hedgehog population, a species of conservation concern. This shelter will provide a safe space for hedgehogs to rest and hibernate, contributing to their protection and survival.

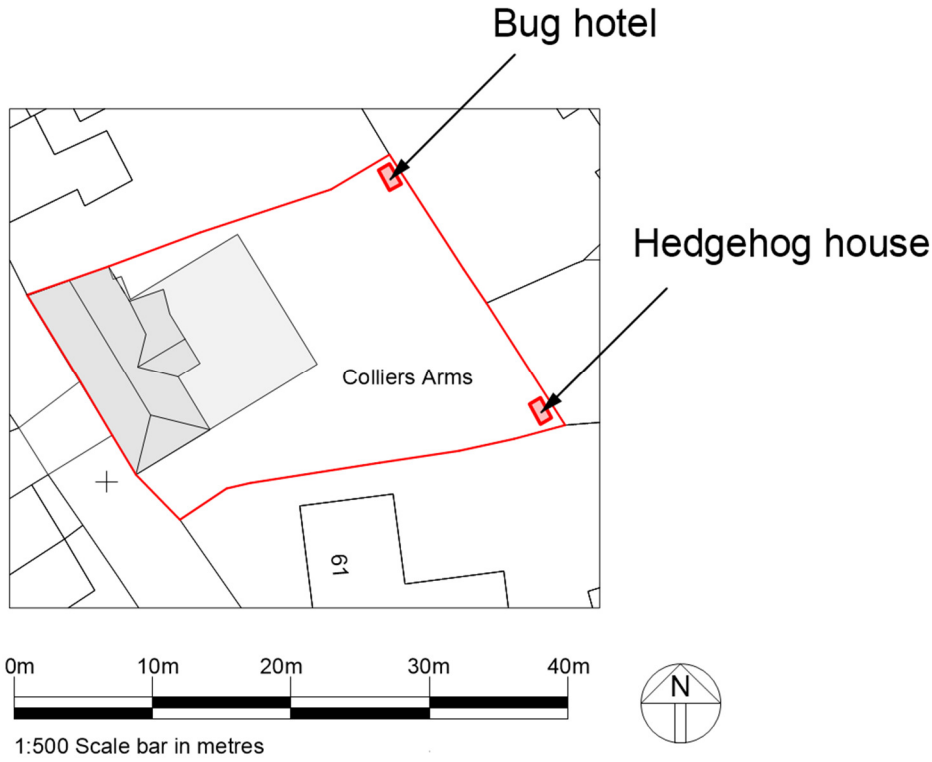
Key considerations for the hedgehog house:

- It will be placed in a shaded, sheltered area of the garden, away from busy footpaths or areas of human activity.
- Access will be facilitated by ensuring there are gaps in fencing or boundaries to allow hedgehogs to move freely into and out of the garden.

- The house will be partially covered with leaves or foliage to blend into the natural environment and provide additional insulation.

The location of the bug hotel is detailed on the site plan below.





Conclusion:
The proposed development has been designed to integrate and enhance the existing green infrastructure. By implementing the above measures, including the installation of planting, a bird box, a bug hotel, and a hedgehog house, the project aims to provide a net biodiversity

benefit and contribute to the resilience of local ecosystems. These enhancements, combined with the retention of established vegetation, ensure that the development will not only minimise its impact on the environment but also actively support local wildlife and biodiversity. This approach reflects a commitment to sustainable development and adherence to green infrastructure principles.