



Complete CAD & Structural (CCS) Solutions Limited

Unit 12 Celtic Trade Park,
Bruce Rd, Fforest-fach,
Swasnea
SA5 4EP

Tel: 01792 677231

Email: sales@ccs-solutions.co.uk

Website: www.ccs-solutions.co.uk

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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

*Construction of a raised rear balcony terrace
to the rear elevation of the existing dwelling.*

8 Francis Road, Morriston, Swansea, SA6 7DY

Introduction

This Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared in support of a planning application for the construction of a raised rear balcony terrace at 8 Francis Road, Morriston.

The proposal comprises the installation of a steel-framed balcony structure with composite decking, glazed balustrades and privacy screening. The development is located wholly within the residential curtilage of an existing dwelling and does not involve any extension of the building footprint, removal of trees, hedgerows or other significant landscape features.

Existing Green Infrastructure

The application site comprises an established residential plot containing a dwelling and private rear garden. Existing green infrastructure within the site consists primarily of:

- Private garden and amenity space.
- Existing small areas of planters and soft landscaping.

No trees, hedgerows, watercourses, ponds, or other notable ecological features are present within the area affected by the proposed works.

Impact on Green Infrastructure

The proposed balcony terrace will be elevated above existing ground levels and supported on steel columns. The development occupies only a small area within the rear garden and will not result in the loss of existing green infrastructure assets.

The proposal will:

- Retain the existing rear garden and amenity space.
- Retain existing vegetation and landscaping.
- Maintain existing ecological connectivity between neighbouring gardens.
- Avoid impacts upon protected habitats, trees, hedgerows or water features.
- Preserve the permeability and functionality of the majority of the garden area.

The proposal therefore has a negligible impact on the site's existing green infrastructure resource.

Biodiversity

Given the limited scale and nature of the development, no adverse impacts upon biodiversity are anticipated.

The proposal does not involve:

- The removal of trees or hedgerows.
- Disturbance to known habitats.
- Works to watercourses or drainage features.
- Loss of green corridors or wildlife connectivity.

The development is therefore considered compliant with the biodiversity duties contained within Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Green Infrastructure Assessment

The proposal has been designed to minimise impacts on existing green infrastructure and biodiversity. Existing garden areas and vegetation will remain unchanged and continue to provide ecological and amenity benefits.

As the proposal relates solely to a raised balcony structure within an established residential curtilage, opportunities for additional green infrastructure enhancement are limited and are not considered necessary to make the development acceptable.

Conclusion

The proposed raised balcony terrace represents a minor domestic development within the curtilage of an existing dwelling. The proposal will retain all existing garden space, vegetation

and ecological connectivity, resulting in no significant adverse effects on green infrastructure or biodiversity.

The development is therefore considered to accord with the green infrastructure and biodiversity objectives of Planning Policy Wales and Swansea Council's Green Infrastructure requirements.