PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, CWM ROAD, LLANDUDNO, CONWY

Green Infrastructure Statement March 2025

Tirlunbarr Associates Chartered Landscape Architecture

OFFICE: Tan y Berllan,

Llanbedr y Cennin,

CONWY.

LL32 8UY.

T:01492 650333

www.tirlunbarr.com

Contents		
1.0	Introduction	3
2.0	Green Infrastructure definition	4
3.0	Scheme Proposals	6
4.0	Green Infrastructure Approach	8
5.0	Summary	13

Issue	Author	Reviewed	Date	Status
Draft v1	JB	PW	13.11.24	DRAFT
Issued v1	JB	PW	19.11.24	Approved
Draft v2	JB	PW	12.03.25	DRAFT
Issued v3	JB	PW	14.03.25	Final

APPENDICES (At the rear of the document)

FIGURES

- 1.0 Site Location Plan
- 2.0 Proposed Site Plan Ainsley Gommon Architects Site Layout Option 5 C1054 014 Rev K
- 3.0 Drainage scheme (provisional) Waterco-Datrys Drawing ref 24168/SK501 Rev 4
- 4.0 Soft Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Proposals Tirlunbarr Drawing Soft Landscape Proposals Drawing Ref 16/024/PP/01 Rev V3 Issued dated 14.03.25

This report has been prepared by Tirlunbarr Associates on behalf of First Choice Housing and Grŵp Cynefin in connection with a proposed residential development on land at Cwm Road Llandudno, and takes into account their particular instruction and requirements. It is not intended for and should not be relied on by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

©Tirlunbarr 2025

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Tirlunbarr Associates Chartered Landscape Architects were originally appointed in October 2024 to prepare a Green Infrastructure Statement* (* the Statement) to accompany a Planning Application for a proposed Housing Development of 29 dwellings on Land at Cwm Road Llandudno, Conwy County, LL30 1HB on behalf of Grŵp Cynefin as Social Housing Landlords and First Choice Housing as specialist providers of accommodation for people with disabilities, veterans and additional complex needs.
- 1.2 The preparation of this Statement follows the production of detailed Site Layout Proposals which have entailed collaborative input on behalf of the Client from Ainsley Gommon Architects as the project Architects, Waterco-Datrys Civil Engineering as Project Engineers and Drainage Designers.
- 1.3 Further input into the site proposal has been provided by:
 - o Cadnant Planning.
- 1.4 The design proposals have been under development since late 2023 and refined through a series of team workshops, and consultation and this document responds to the legislative need for a Green Infrastructure Statement to be provided as part of Planning Applications.
- 1.5 In October 2023 the preparation of a Green Infrastructure Statement to accompany all development submitted for Planning Consent was made a legal requirement by Julie James Minister for Climate Change (Welsh Government) via a letter dated 11.10.23 which provided an immediate update of Chapter 6 of National Planning Policy Wales (PPW11) 'Addressing the Nature Emergency through the Planning System'.
- 1.6 The Policy Change aims to shape strategic Local Authority Policy and decision making 'to maximise contribution to the protection and provision of Green Infrastructure assets and networks as a spatial resource to meet societies wider social and economic objectives, and needs of local communities' and will be achieved via the production of a Green Infrastructure Assessment by local authorities.
- 1.7 The Assessment at county level will seek to demonstrate Net Biodiversity Benefit and enhancement and longer-term management at each step of design development, and strengthen Protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) and increase protection of Trees and Woodland including promoting new planting as part of any development proposal.
- To contribute to a local Green Infrastructure Assessment, the requirement to produce a Green Infrastructure Statement forms part of the Chapter 6 update, as a way to demonstrate both positive multi-functional outcomes, and to demonstrate how the intended Stepwise Design Approach of the Policy update has been applied within any submitted project proposals via the Planning Application Process.
- 1.9 The final Policy requirements were issued in February 2024 Wales 12 (PPW12 -Ref 6.4.16) which requires that "all development must deliver a proportionate net biodiversity and ecosystem resilience from the baseline state through a proactive process to secure enhancement through the design and implementation of the development".
- 1.10 This Green Infrastructure Statement is intended to accompany a Planning Application for the residential development at Cwm Road, Llandudno, LL30 1HB.

2.0 Green Infrastructure definition

- 2.1 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 provides the context basis for the delivery of multi-functional green infrastructure which can make a significant contribution to the sustainable management of natural resources and protection maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystem resilience through improved connectivity enabling them to better recover resist and adapt to pressure.
- 2.2 Within Chapter 6 (para 6.2.1) of Planning Policy Wales (PPW 12) Green Infrastructure is defined as;

"the network of natural and semi natural features, green spaces, rivers and lakes that intersperse and connect places".

"Components of Green Infrastructure can function at a range of difference scales; from trees and woodland to entire ecosystems such as wetlands and rivers to parks, fields and gardens at the local scale and street trees, hedgerows, roadside verges and green roofs/walls at the microscale"

2.3 Paragraph 6.2.3 of PPW12 cites the importance and benefit of Green Infrastructure whereby;

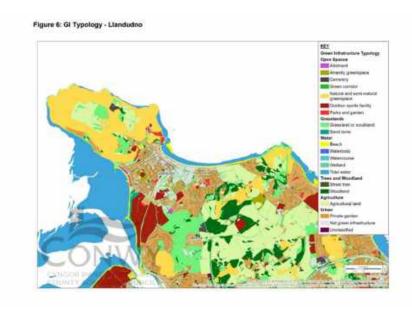
"The components of Green Infrastructure, by improving the resilience of ecosystems, can result in positive benefits to well-being including flood management, water purification improved air quality reduced noise pollution and local climate moderation, climate change mitigation and food production. These benefits are important in urban environments where they can facilitate health and well – being related benefits of open space, clean air and improved tranquility for example, as well as creating a sense of place and improved social cohesion. In addition, green infrastructure has a role in protecting local distinctiveness providing economic befits and social and community opportunities."

- 2.4 Within Chapter 6 it is intended that Planning Authorities must adopt a strategic and proactive approach to green infrastructure biodiversity and ecosystem resilience by producing up to date inventories and maps of existing green infrastructure and ecological assets and networks which will underpin future development plans on a spatial basis where "further fragmentation and isolation of habitats and species is avoided wherever possible and wildlife corridoes and stepping stones forming wider ecological networks are protected maintained and enhanced".
- 2.5 These Assessments will be multi-functional across administrative boundaries, and also reference evidence provided by NRW's Area Statements and Nature Network Maps intended to assist early consideration of development proposals and inform the design and implementation of projects.
- 2.6 Conwy Councils Green Infrastructure Assessment was produced in 2023, and seeks to:

"provide the guiding principles to support the creation of a multifunctional green infrastructure (GI) network, which supports and improves health and wellbeing, the economy, nature and biodiversity, contributes to tackling climate change and crucially, meets the needs of the local population".

- 2.7 The assessment relies on existing Planning Policy Wales Edition 12 (Welsh Government 2021) Chapter 11 and National Policy which includes:
 - Future Wales The National Plan 2040 (Welsh Government 2021) Policy 9
 - The Well Being of Future Generations Act (2015)
 - Active Travel (Wales) 2015 walking accessibility
 - Building Better Places The Planning System Delivering Resilient and Brighter Futures
 Placemaking and the Covid 19 Recovery Welsh Government (2020)
 - Natural Resources Wales (NRW). 2016. The State of Natural Resources report 2016.
 Assessment of the sustainable management of natural resources.
 - National Site Network (formerly Natura 2000 network)
 - DECCA Framework NRW
 - 'Statutory SuDS Standards'

- TAN 5, TAN 12, TAN 16 of PPW12
- 2.8 Green Infrastructure Assessments will need to recognise the need for ecosystems, habitats and species to adopt to climate change and other pressures, and include identification of ways to avoid or reverse the fragmentation of habitats and improve habitat connectivity where appropriate which will be reflected in consideration of development proposals via the Planning system.
- 2.9 The role of development within any Local Authority Green Infrastructure Assessment will be two-fold:
 - To ensure that development avoids and minimises impact upon biodiversity and ecosystems.
 - Provides opportunity for enhancement within areas identified as important for the ability of species to adapt and/or to move to more suitable habitats.
- 2.10 Conwy Council have developed a set of Key Indicators for development effects upon biodiversity and green infrastructure functions which is place specific, such as key species, and habitats, opportunities for the protection, retention, restoration and recovery of nature and benefits /ecosystem services which contribute to the health and wellbeing of communities and which it is intended will be secured by conditions or obligations in addition to management plans for sites within their Conwy Green Infrastructure Assessment.
- 2.11 Conwy's BP/47 Green Infrastructure Assessment (GIA) is one of the first of such studies undertaken in Wales and it aligns with Natural Resources Wales North West Wales Area Statement. The Conwy Green Infrastructure Assessment, guides the delivery of a greener, healthier, more biodiverse, and prosperous Conwy, and sets a baseline for green infrastructure and will inform the Council's Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033, creating the basis for development briefs and requirements.



©Conwy Council BP/47 Green Infrastructure Assessment

2.12 The Statement for the proposed development at Cwm Road therefore seeks to adopt the above aims of PPW12 Chapter 6 Green Infrastructure Assessment and reflects the Green Infrastructure Assessment produced by the Council.

3.0 Scheme Proposals

3.1 The proposed scheme is for a residential development of 100% affordable homes to meet unmet demand for affordable homes in Conwy including specialist provision for residents with complex additional needs, veterans and disabled residents on vacant land adjacent to Ty Hapus at Cwm Road Llandudno `as the location map below indicates. NGR: SH784 816 Postcode: LL30 1HB



Fig .1. Site Location Source Bing Maps Ordnance Survey ©2024 Microsoft

- 3.2 The total site area extends to approximately 0.49 hectares and currently comprises a former and now derelict Multi Use Games Area of vacant land formerly used for external recreational area comprising hard-standing and ruderal grassland.
- 3.3 The MUGA was formerly of the adjacent Ty Hapus communal centre and with no direct access to the surrounding highways, the site is bordered by existing residential development centrally located within Llandudno and its urban extent.
- 3.4 The Proposed Site Layout (Figure 2 below) has been developed by Ainsley Gommon Architects with input from a wide range of disciplines namely, Highways, Landscape, Drainage, Traffic, and Energy Consultants with the built content and final layout of the proposal subject to the requirements of the clients Grŵp Cynefin and First Choice Housing.
- 3.5 The development layout includes 29no. affordable tenure dwellings as two storey accommodation as a mix of apartments, terraced and semi-detached houses and bungalows including specific accommodation as listed below.
 - · three 2-person 1-bed accessible apartments;
 - one 3-person 2-bed walk up apartments;
 - · five 4-person 2-bed houses;
 - two 5-person 3-bed houses;
 - · six 2-person 1-bed common access assisted living apartments; and
 - 10 2-person 1-bed walk up general needs apartments.
- The development includes a single access road from Cwm Road into the site and a cul de sac with access to a rear internal and central housing area with parking.
- 3.7 The site lies within a C1 Flood Zone 3 and therefore a Flood Consequence Assessment has been undertaken and is provided under separate cover.



Fig .2. Proposed Site Layout

3.8 The proposed drainage design includes;

Surface water – creation of Rain Gardens

Foul Water – generated by the development will be directed into the existing Network



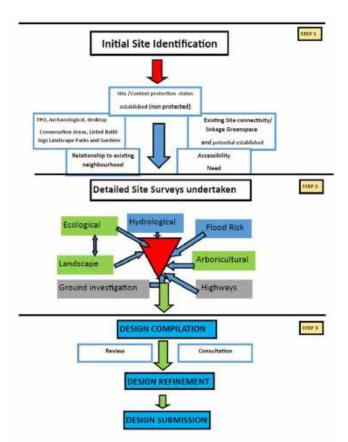
Fig .3. Site context Aerial Source Bing Maps © Microsoft 2024

3.9 Full details of the proposal are contained within the Planning Statement provided separately.

4.0 Green Infrastructure Approach and Statement

STEP ONE- SITE FEASIBILITY REVIEW

- 4.1 In order to progress to a detailed design for both a Pre App and subsequent Planning Application for housing on the proposed site the clients (Grŵp Cynefin and First Choice Housing) undertook in house studies and engaged consultants at an initial stage to identify or rule out the possibility of development being achieved on the land and to identify its potential for further detailed design.
- 4.2 This entailed background desktop study to ascertain the landscape status with regard to any Statutory and Local designations and any legislative protection such as Flood Risk, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) Conservation Areas, Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Tree Protection Orders (TPO's), Contaminated Land, Restrictive covenants, Agricultural Land Quality, Restrictive Easements, or Mining interests for example.
- 4.3 Following this initial review the site was confirmed as NOT BEING SUBJECT TO ANY STATUTORY or NON STATUTORY PROTECTION other than being within the Conwy and Creuddyn Historic Landscape Area and therefore considered suitable for further review and input towards the creation of a proposed layout in the form of the following:



STEP TWO - DETAILED SURVEY AND DRAFT PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT

4.4 Following initial sketch plans, the proposed detailed site design was commenced in Autumn 2023 when Architectural Consultants (Ainsley Gommon Architects Ltd.) were appointed and together with Grŵp Cynefin and First Choice Housing to develop initial site proposals for a capacity and feasibility review and thereafter, if possible, a schematic layout for preliminary comment and refinement with input from all engaged disciplines.

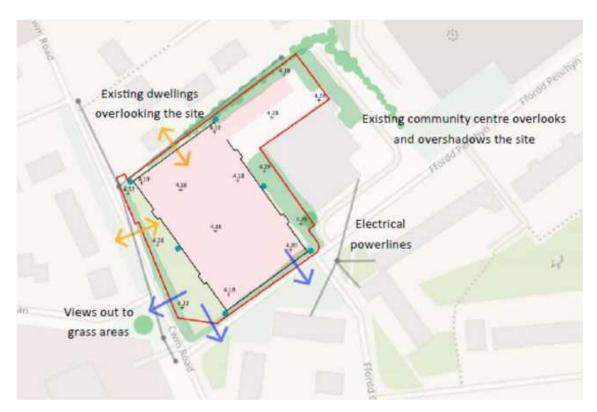


Fig 4. Site sketch development

- 4.5 The initial proposed Masterplan (Figure 5) developed in 2023 commenced with a similar site layout to the Layout forming part of this Application, with the housing extents reflecting separation distances from existing dwellings and retaining all boundary vegetation and providing a secure location and single access to the site from Cwm Road.
- 4.6 The proposed site does not contain any existing trees and hence an Arboricultural Survey was not required, and identified native boundary vegetation in the form of established shrubs and small trees located on adjacent land have all been retained where possible as part of the proposal through a considered site layout.
- 4.7 The topographical survey and engineering review confirmed the site is relatively level at around 4.4m AOD, and enclosed by existing development including the adjacent Ty Hapus Building, and bounded by Cwm Road to the west and Ffordd Penrhyn to the south east.
- 4.8 Consultation with the Local Authority Ecological Officer in June and August 2024 confirmed that a detailed Ecological Survey was not required (email Kate Surry 05.08.24) but that a Landscape/green infrastructure Plan should be submitted with a Planning Application adopting the DECCA Principles below to provide diversity, (greater) extent, condition, connectivity and adaptability.



Fig .5. Green Infrastructure Stepwise Approach - Source PPW12 February 2024

- 4.9 As documented the application site lies within a C1 Flood Zone in relation to Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15 as well as being within a Zone 3 Flood Risk Areas on NRW's Flood Risk Map which deems it to be at Flood Risk but benefitting from Flood Defence provisions.
- 4.10 A Flood Consequence Assessment FAC) has been provided by Waterco- Datrys under separate cover.
- 4.11 In accordance with TAN 15 and the latest national standards on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (Flood and Water Management Act 2010) a preliminary drainage strategy has been prepared reflecting the Site Investigation which accompanies the Application, and utilises SuDS to ensure that flood risk is not increased both on, adjacent, or downstream of the proposed site.
- 4.12 Given the urban location and developed nature of the site it has limited green infrastructure connectivity or cover at present, and the proposals within the soft landscape design has sought to observe the County Ecologists recommendations in seeking to enhance the sites potential for Biodiversity Net Gain through Native Tree and shrub planting, areas of species rich grassland and pollinator friendly shrub and perennial planting areas for amenity and Rain Garden function.
- 4.13 A Water Conservation statement has also been prepared as part of the design proposal which accompanies the Planning Application and likewise the housing design incorporates a very high level of insulation specification, Air source heat pumps, cycle storage and water consumption targets.
- 4.14 Likewise the building designs adopt Sustainable Design measures including:
 - In roof solar PV
 - Air source heat pump for heating and hot water
 - Low concrete raft foundations. Sustainable materials locally sources reducing carbon footprint mileage during construction.
 - Low air loss design minimising heat loss / energy required to heat the property
- 4.15 Linkages to the existing footpath network and travel links and surrounding urban areas of greenspace are via the existing highway network provision, and which include Llandudno Town Centre, the north and west Shore beaches, Great Orme Country Park and the National Wales Coastal Path.



Fig 6. Ordnance Survey Mapping showing footpath locations and surrounding Open Landscape - source Bing Maps Microsoft 2024

- 4.16 Soft Landscape proposals have been developed with the following aims, and after useful feedback from Conwy Councils Ecologist and the clients as end users:
 - habitat provision and linkage to adjacent areas by boundary retention and strengthening
 - native tree planting provision
 - creation of Species Rich Seeded areas
 - provision of Bird boxes and Bat Boxes within the proposed buildings
 - location of designated Hedgehog highways for connectivity.
 - visual integration of the built development into the wider landscape
 - Safety of vulnerable future occupiers
 - safety and cost of future maintenance and management
 - Inclusion of native and non-native pollinator friendly planting species

STEP 3 FINAL DESIGN

4.17 The latest Proposed Site Plan (Ainsley Gommon Architects Drawing reference: Site Layout Option 5 C1054 014 Rev K) forms the submitted proposed Site Layout, and the base drawing for the detailed landscape proposals which are both appended to this document.



Fig .7. Soft Landscape Proposals extract March 2025 ©Tirlunbarr Associates

- 4.18 The proposals include Establishment and Maintenance operations to ensure the proposed measures establish fully as well as monitoring responsibilities. This will include an annual review of the site and ongoing in-house Maintenance works, and whereby changes to maintenance activities may be undertaken to ensure the Net Biodiversity gain is met via establishment of the soft landscape and in the interests of the end users including replacement of any failed stock.
- 4.19 The submitted proposals seek to meet the requirements of Chapter 6 of PPW12 by ensuring avoidance and minimisation of impact upon the sites Biodiversity and Ecosystem as the Stepwise approach above demonstrates, and provides enhanced opportunity for natural linkage of habitats and strengthening of existing resources for the future through a careful and collaborative design approach from all disciplines.
- 4.20 This accords with the recommended NRW DECCA framework- by meeting their **D**iversity, **C**onnectivity, **E**xtent, **C**ondition and **A**daptability targets in meeting Ecosystem resilience and the requirement, and PPW 12 (Ref 6.4.16) that all development must deliver a proportionate net biodiversity and ecosystem resilience from the baseline state through a proactive process to secure enhancement through the design and implementation of the development.

5.0 Summary

- 5.1 A Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared for the proposed development of 29 dwellings in at Cwm Road Llandudno, in accordance with the latest requirements of Chapter 6 (PPW11) required by Welsh Government within PPW12 in February 2024.
- 5.2 This Statement reflects the recommendations of Conwy Councils Green Infrastructure Assessment in proving greater Diversity, Extent, Condition, Connectivity and Adaptability of the projects green infrastructure resource.
- 5.3 The Design Proposals and their refinement have been undertaken by experienced professionals who were able to use their experience and expertise as a team to produce a Site Layout which reflects the Chapter 6 ethos and aims as advocated in the stepwise staged approach.
- 5.4 As a result the development;
 - Has taken a stepwise approach to the development provision
 - Incorporates Flood Alleviation Measures
 - Does NOT propose development on a designated site
 - Has not involved any Pre-Site clearance
 - Delivers net benefit for Biodiversity and Ecosystem gain through a series of proposed measures for mitigation and enhancement
 - Has limited the loss of existing trees and replaced and supplemented them to increase canopy cover
 - Contributes towards climate change moderation
 - Provides sustainable energy measures
 - Provides linkage and maintenance of/to adjacent habitats and areas of nearby green infrastructure
 - Will be actively managed via a Maintenance and Establishment Plan for soft landscape proposals to achieve maturity and successful establishment of the Green Infrastructure Proposals
- 5.4 In summary habitat extents and planting material provided as part of the proposal are as follows:

	Habitat	No/Area	Notes
1	Trees (no)	21No. new	Including 2 within proposed Rain Garden
		specimen	and Aqua cell tree pits
		trees	
2	Grassland m ²	464+m²	Amenity (m²)
3	Amenity low/shrub	199m²	Pollinator friendly tree shrub and
	planting/herb areas		perennial planting
4	Native tree and shrub	34m²	Mixed native tree and shrub planting for
	Planting		strengthening of existing boundary
5	Bat Boxes	4no	
6	Bird Boxes	8no.	
6	Hedgerow	259 linear m	Native and/or pollinator based
7	Hedgehog routes (no)	22 holes	As signed hedgehog highways
8	Scented native	7no.	
	climbers		
9	Rain Garden Provision	Circa 40m²	Planted areas pollinator based.

FIGURES

FIGURES

- 1.0 Site Location Plan
- 2.0 Proposed Site Plan Ainsley Gommon Architects Site Layout Option 5 C1054 014 Rev F
- 3.0 Drainage Proposals Waterco Datrys Drainage Scheme Provisional Drawing ref 24168/SK501 Rev P4 dated 14.03.25
- 4.0 Soft Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Proposals Tirlunbarr Drawing Soft Landscape Proposals Drawing Ref 16/024/PP/01 Rev V3 Issued dated 14.03.25

FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION

