

Coleg Sir Gar, Gelli Aur Farm, Gelli Aur, Carmarthenshire SA32 8NJ

Green Infrastructure Statement

On 18 October 2023, the Minister for Climate Change announced, with immediate effect, changes to Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW). Those changes have now been incorporated into PPW12.

Paragraph 6.2.12 of PPW12 requires a green infrastructure statement (GIS) to be submitted with all planning applications. PPW states GIS should be *'proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed and will describe how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal. In the case of minor development this will be a short description and should not be an onerous requirement for applicants. The green infrastructure statement will be an effective way of demonstrating positive multi-functional outcomes which are appropriate to the site in question and must be used for demonstrating how the step-wise approach has been applied.'*

Whilst the submission of a GIS is not a validation requirement it is national planning policy.

PEDW will, therefore, expect all appeals relating to planning applications submitted on or after 18 October 2023 to be supported by a GIS.

In the absence of a GIS it will be a matter for the appointed Inspector to consider how to proceed having regard to the circumstances of each case. However, it is likely to lead to a delay in the appeal whilst a GIS explaining how green infrastructure was integrated into the planning and design of the proposed development is submitted (PPW paragraph 6.2.11). It will also be necessary to seek the view of the Local Planning Authority and possibly other parties such as NRW on the content of the GIS.

Refer to Drawing Number PA/03 the site location and block plan dated 31/10.2025 for full details of our proposed green infrastructure proposals for the proposed site at Gelli Aur Farm, which will remain and maintained annually.

Drawing PA/03 the site location and block plan dated 31/10/2025 clearly shows the location of the existing silage clamps with drainage perimeter channels to the existing Klargester silage effluent tank.

With respect to the following:-

Avoidance

The proposed location of the proposed roof covering to the existing silage clamp is within an agricultural improved field with little biodiversity value. It is unlikely that this development will result in the land-take of habitats of high value.

Reduce

At the original planning stage of the existing silage clamp, care was taken into the selection of the proposed site, and the new proposal for a roof covering has been

designed to comply with The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021.

Mitigation

Drawing Number PA/03 the site location and block plan dated 22/10/2025 indicates an area of proposed bio-diverse species of mix planting together with a detailed planting schedule, the planting to be fenced-off with stock-proof fencing to ensure its survival. Some of the excavated soil to be used as mounding into-which the planting is located. Mounding creates additional screening and improved growing conditions if laid in an uncompacted form.”

Nest boxes and possibly bat boxes are proposed as part of the proposal.

Compensate and Improve

Proposed Green Infrastructure proposals are indicated on our drawing numbered PA/03 the site location and block plan dated 22/10.2025

Applying the step-by-step approach, the assessment indicates that:

- The development avoids any damage to biodiversity
- The proposal provides an ecological enhancement proportionate to the scale of the development.
- The proposed ecological enhancement will be maintenance free
- There is a net benefit to biodiversity as a result of the development.

By providing additional planting, it will provide interconnectivity with the surrounding site and allow for habitat transfer between fields. The planting will provide variety and encourage a wider range of habitats to the field.