

23rd January 2023

SOUTH HEYWOOD – LOCAL CENTRE AMENDMENTS ECOLOGICAL STATEMENT

Collington Winter Environmental Ltd are lead Project Ecologists on the wider South Heywood development and have conducted ecological surveys and produced relevant report for planning submission on the wider application as well as individual plots. This statement relates to the amended Parameters Plan for the increase in size of Local Centre and subsequent increase in size of SuDS area.

Extract of the changes being undertaken:



Extract from Approved Parameter Plan Rev. V



Extract from Proposed Parameters Plan Rev. X

Biodiversity Value

No net change in area is to occur based on the changes to the above Parameters Plan. The same net area of SuDS is to be provided and therefore there is no change in the biodiversity position of the scheme due to these amendments.

The SuDS features have been designed to be ecologically valuable. The ability of the SUDS features to have both wet and dry areas allows more varied habitats to form and different aquatic and marginal vegetation to colonise. The area will be sown with Emorsgate EM8 Meadow Mix for Wetland (or approved similar). This seed mix contains species suitable for seasonally wet soils and is based on the vegetation of traditional floodplain and water meadows. In addition, wetter areas will be encouraged to colonise with reeds and sedges creating varied wetland planting

suitable for wildlife. These transition habitats provide valuable habitats for invertebrates which could be present locally, as well as providing foraging opportunities for birds and bats and terrestrial mammals such as badger and hedgehog.

As part of the wider South Heywood development, a linear green corridor is to be delivered linking Pilsworth Road with the M60 motorway. The linear corridor includes broadleaved woodland, wildflower grassland, public footpaths and scrub and tall ruderal habitats. The provision of this landscape scale linear corridor provides the opportunity to create a "bigger, better, more joined up habitat" throughout the wider South Heywood development, as well as provide significant benefits for local wildlife through habitat and species enhancements. The provision of this extensive corridor goes over and above statutory requirements for the development and reflects the developer's commitment to wildlife enhancements and securing biodiversity net gain on site.

The linear corridor will have value for a range of wildlife and provide an important new commuting resource within the wider area. The corridor will link the residential and commercial phases of the wider development and also link proposed wildlife ponds and SUDS features. The proposed linear corridor will act as a connection between habitats, creating a "bridge" for wildlife commuting. It is anticipated the feature will become valuable for a variety of birds, bats, as well as terrestrial mammals such as badger and hedgehog.

The small deviation in location of areas due to the small change in parameters plan, will have no impact on the ability of the scheme to continue to provide the significant ecological benefits. The SuDS features will maintain connectivity to the linear corridor and therefore the wider landscape.

Yours sincerely



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Director // Principal Ecologist

For and on behalf of Collington Winter Environmental Ltd