

STATION ROAD, WOMBWELL, BARNSELEY
For Red Kite Property Management

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT'S STATEMENT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The proposed development site lies in the Dearne Valley between the residential centres of Wombwell to the south west and Darfield to the north east. The land is currently used for commercial purposes. It is bounded by Station Road (A6069) to the south and Valley Road to the east. To the north there is a further commercial premises and to the west are local leisure facilities.

2.0 LANDSCAPE PHILOSOPHY

- 2.1 The principal aims of the landscape proposals as shown on drawing 2089/1 is:
- 2.1.1 To create an earth bund and vegetative landscape screen around the northern, western and southern boundary.
 - 2.1.2 To increase the biodiversity throughout the development.
 - 2.1.3 Provide generous areas of public open space.
 - 2.1.4 Increase the variety of spaces/landscape available to the new residents and the surrounding population thereby increasing the overall amenity of all residents.
 - 2.1.5 Create a new link in the wildlife corridor from east to west across the site.

3.0 LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS

3.1 Landscape Buffer

A generous buffer around northern, western and southern boundary provides an opportunity to create a valuable wildlife corridor linking adjacent areas of landscape. Using a mix of native trees and shrubs in varying sizes; trees ranging in size from small feathered up to heavy standards and a mix of shrubs that will grow tall and those that will stay close to the ground, we will provide a new environment which will encourage a wide diversity of invertebrates, birds and small mammals. By using a variety of plant and tree sizes this will add instant effect, creating the desired buffer from the adjoining land.

3.1.1 Valley Road

Along the eastern boundary on Valley Road the same approach has been broadly adopted here, with an additional aim of visually separating the residential development from the adjoining business park. Here we propose more tree planting to create an 'informal avenue', again using a variety of tree species and sizes to add instant effect. We will introduce some more ornamental and naturalized species here to reflect the change in approach from that of the buffer. This will help to reinforce the distinction between the business and residential areas.

3.1.2 Residential Development

Within the residential development, generous provision for landscaping has been provided. Avenues of trees and individual specimen trees at road junctions and prominent positions, (under planted with shrubs) help to define the different areas, whilst softening the roads and built form. Here also a range of species will be used. Heavy (Standard) and Extra Heavy (Standard) trees will be used along the avenues, with Select Standard and Multi-stemmed specimens in smaller areas. A middle storey will be created with use of larger specimen shrubs, with species such as *Rhus typhina*, *Prunium tenax* and *Syringa vulgaris*; this will also help to create an established feel to the new landscape planting.

3.1.3 The Smaller Public Open Space

To the east of Valley Road, the smaller area will be planted with additional trees to line the new footpath link from the residential development to the existing bus stop. The grass area will incorporate a large swathe of spring bulb planting comprising a mix of early season crocuses and daffodils.

3.1.4 The Larger Public Open Space

To the west of Valley Road, the larger area of Public Open Space is again mostly given over to grass. Buffer planting along the rear of the space would provide screening to screen the existing commercial buildings. Native trees and shrubs will line the proposed footpath link creating an enclosure around the grass area and the storm water storage area. Within the storm water storage area a native grass/wildflower meadow mix is proposed. This mix is designed to withstand periods submerged in water. More spring bulbs will line the bank of the 'dry pond'. Along the water course an iris bank is proposed, using native *Iris pseudoacorus* to define the stream and promote habitats for amphibians.

3.1.5 Station Road

To the front of the both Public Open Spaces along Station Road the existing trees will be supplemented with more native tree and shrub planting, creating another line of screening for the existing houses across Station Road. This large area will form an important link in the wildlife corridor from east to west across the proposed development.