

Landscape Strategy Objectives

- To create an attractive landscape setting for the development;
- To create an appropriate landscape structure that ensures good natural surveillance from houses across POS and footpaths for safety and security.
- To create new public open spaces which provide opportunities for formal recreation as well as informal recreation and enhanced biodiversity.
- Complementing existing valued landscape features such as trees and hedgerows, to integrate the proposed development into the surrounding landscape.
- To create strong landscape framework that creates ecological corridors through the site with opportunity to connect to Phase 3 POS along the western part of the site as an ecological corridor.
- To safeguard the local footpath which passes through the north western edge of the Site.
- To create a strong landscape framework as cohesive elements of the street scene that reinforce the street hierarchy and define character within the development.
- To soften the appearance of built development through use of buffer planting along the site boundaries where space allows and within plot frontages along the street scene.

Key design Principles

- Whilst a number of existing trees are highlighted for removal, these are identified as “Unsuitable for Retention” due to poor quality and no trees of Grade C or higher are adversely impacted by the development. Tree Root Protection Areas will be protected in accordance with recommendations of the BS5837 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction.
- Use of signature tree species and single species hedges along each street to define and provide a distinct character for different streets. Use of evergreen species to plot frontages to ensure all year round structure to the planting beds;
- Use of low maintenance plant species throughout, which also have seasonal diversity and include wildlife attracting plants e.g. for nectar, pollen and fruit.
- General planting mixes to be planted with 3-5L plants, with larger occasional feature plants to provide immediate visual impact.
- Ecological enhancements include more diverse plant structure of trees, hedgerows, native tree and shrub mixes and meadow; wildlife attracting ornamental planting where space is restricted within house plots; creation of an ecological green corridor to the north west POS with potential to continue to the west part of the site within Phase 3 to the north; sensitive fencing design to enable the free movement of hedgehogs and habitat boxes for birds and bats.

- To incorporate native tree and shrub species where appropriate, typical of the local area and of UK provenance, including flowering and fruiting species are encouraged to maximise value to wildlife and biodiversity value.
- Existing hedgerow along the north western boundary is enhanced and strengthened to form a continuous robust boundary, with opportunity to continue as an ecological corridor northwards within Phase 3 of the development.
- The central POS has an open parkland character with clear views of the formal play area. Localised planted softens the substation.
- Meadow planting and bulb planting provides colourful bursts of seasonal interest within the POS.
- Care is taken to great robust useable public open spaces which do not create opportunities for hiding places, and are mindful of user safety. Open sight lines from residential dwellings allow for natural surveillance over the POS and pedestrian routes.