

Landscape - Masterplan

Green Infrastructure

A structured approach to green infrastructure has been integrated into the site layout, encompassing different typologies for public and private areas and integrating the natural woodland surroundings into the development. Strategically placed street tree planting has been indicated site wide whilst landscape buffers have been introduced to integrate the development into its wider setting and create a network of green corridors improving the ecology and visual appeal of the site.

Street Tree Planting

Small ornamental trees chosen for their seasonal interest and appropriateness to the site will be planted along the streets to soften the development and reinforce a network of green corridors between the two existing SINC's. Street tree planting will feature predominantly native species or native cultivars to provide the best opportunities to support native insect and bird populations, as well as being more suited to the natural landscape character.

Boundary Tree Planting

The surrounding woodland will be integrated into the site through tree and woodland understorey planting, softening the edges of the development and mimicking the natural woodland edge ecotone. Rich wildflower meadows and rough grassland paired with a central public open space will provide residents with amenity space that will relieve pressure on the SINC's. The SuDs basin to the south will be designed to support a small wetland habitat, with wet meadow seed mixes used to reinforce the naturalistic appearance of the basins. SuDs basins will also provide a space for imaginative play opportunities during drier months where the basin will act as natural play slopes.

Bund and Woodland Planting

An acoustic fence will be erected atop a created bund to mitigate noise from the A3 motorway to the west of the development. Dense tree and whip planting on either side of the acoustic fence will help to screen the fence and enhance noise mitigation; this will also create a wildlife corridor that will connect the SINC's.

Front Garden Treatments

A series of formal hedges have been proposed along garden frontages where possible to define plot boundaries, with the opportunity to provide defensive and ornamental planting within front gardens for seasonal interest. The hedges heights will vary subject to visibility splay requirements, these should be kept neat and formal

Public Greenspace

Green areas within the public realm will be planted with ornamental and native planting and wildflower seed mixesto increase biodiversity and provide year round interest. Areas betweenfront gardens, parking bays and verges will be planted with shrub planting mix, groundcover planting, bulb planting or wildflower meadow mix as appropriate with complementary tree planting. This will help to screen parking areas and soften boundary treatments whilst reinforcing green corridors and creating visual interest year round.



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Central Public Open Space

Inspired by a woodland glade and introducing the surrounding landscape into the centre of the development, the central public open space will feature clusters of large specimen trees with ornamental wildflower mixes.

Perimeter tree and hedgerow planting will create a sense of enclosure that will open up to the naturalistic landscape with organic pathways, landforms, and a play space that informally extends outside the boundaries of the LEAP area, encouraging children to play in imaginative ways through landforms, sensory planting, and natural play equipment such as logs and boulders.

Fruit trees will further encourage a connection to nature and aid in teaching children about where their food comes from whilst encouraging wildlife into space.

The organic pathways and use of grass within the play area hides the rigid square boundary resulting from the 20m LEAP buffer zone. The organic and natural elements to the central green space will contrast the formal layout of the proposed development whilst timber play equipment and loose bark chippings reinforce the natural aesthetic of the POS, providing a safe and varied environment for play.

