

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

Project: Proposed 3-Storey, 4-Bedroom Detached Dwelling

Location: Land to South of 7 Test Road, Sompting, Lancing, BN15 0EG

Date: 13th August 2026

1. Site Context and Existing Habitats

The application site currently comprises a portion of garden/amenity land on the site of 7 Test Road (host dwelling).

The existing biodiversity value is considered low to moderate, primarily consisting of:

- Mainly managed amenity grassland (lawn).
- Peripheral boundary fencing and some ornamental shrubbery.
- Limited nesting or foraging opportunities for protected species.

The new dwelling would enjoy a rear garden area laid mainly to lawn with a moderate patio area.

The site would see the area of lawn bordering Arun Close to the South and Test Road to the West being retained and improved

The scheme would see the retention of any suitable existing planting and the introduction of new planting to enhance the 'soft landscaping' on the street-scene.

2. Proposed Enhancements

To achieve a measurable biodiversity enhancement, the following integrated and standalone measures will be implemented as part of the development:

Soft Landscaping & Flora

- **Native Planting:** Any new boundary hedging will utilize native species such as Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), and Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). This creates "green corridors" for local wildlife movement.
 - **Pollinator-Friendly Borders:** Garden borders will be stocked with nectar-rich plants where possible (e.g., Lavender, Buddleia, and Foxgloves) to support bees, butterflies, and other invertebrates.
 - **Fruit Trees:** The inclusion of at least two dwarf fruit trees (e.g., Apple or Pear) to provide seasonal blossom for pollinators and fruit for birds.
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3. Mitigation During Construction

To protect any existing biodiversity during the build phase, the following "Best Practice" measures will be adopted:

- **Vegetation Clearance:** Any removal of shrubs will take place outside of the bird nesting season (March to August inclusive) and will be kept to a minimum'
 - **Protection:** All construction works will be carried out so as to protect existing planting and/or landscaping features as far as possible.
 - **Lighting:** External lighting will be kept to a minimum. Any required security lighting will be PIR-activated, downward-facing, and use "warm" LED bulbs to minimize disruption to any wildlife.
 - **Excavations:** Any deep trenches left open overnight will include a ramp (such as a stout plank) to allow any animals that fall in to escape.
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4. Conclusion

The proposed measures seek to retain quality landscaping and wildlife habitat. By integrating these measures into the design of the new dwelling at 7 Test Road, the project will result in a long-term positive contribution to the local ecology of the area and local environment.
