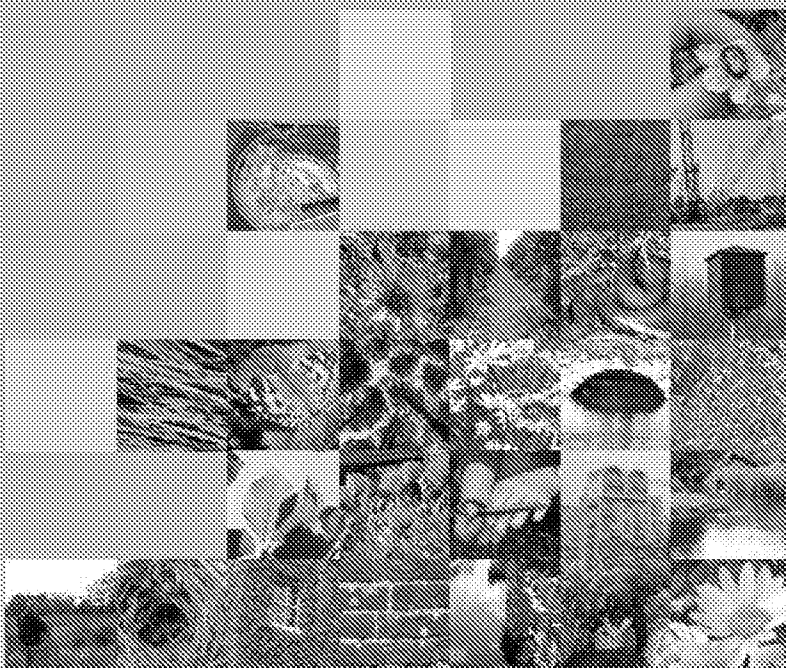




Littlehampton Leisure Centre Review of Landscape Strategy and Letter to Local Planning Authority Job No. 5113.6	The Ecology Consultancy The Old Dairy Barcombe Mills Road Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 5FF
From: Ben Kimpton To: Stephanie Evans Cc: Millie Demol, Kate Hughes, Mark Cannon	Date: V1 - 14/12/2016 V2 - 10/02/2017
Ecological Contact: The Ecology Consultancy, Ben Kimpton – Principal Ecologist [REDACTED] Local Planning Authority Contact: Chichester District Council, Stephanie Evans - Environmental Co-ordinator [REDACTED] Client Contact: Willmott Dixon, Millie Demol - Assistant Design Coordinator [REDACTED] Planning Consultant Contact: White Young Green, Kate Hughes - Town Planner [REDACTED] Arboricultural Contact: The Ecology Consultancy, Mark Cannon – Senior Arboriculturalist [REDACTED]	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This is a memorandum report to document and summarise the review of the landscape strategy for Littlehampton Leisure Centre (Planning Application LU/314/16/PL). This is in response to communication from the Local Planning Authority requesting a statement detailing what specifically will be lost in terms of habitats (*viz.* hedgerow, scrub and woodland) and how this is going to be mitigated as part of the site-wide masterplan.

Documents reviewed to inform this work are as follows:

- LDA Design (Oct 2016). *Littlehampton Leisure Centre Landscape and Public Realm – Section 73 Landscape Masterplan*. Drawing Number 5312_PL_101 REVD.
- LDA Design (24.10.16). *Littlehampton Leisure Centre Landscape Strategy*.
- LDA Design (Oct 2016). *Littlehampton Leisure Centre Landscape and Public Realm - Landscape Plan*. Drawing Number 5312_101.

- The Ecology Consultancy (25.11.2016). *Littlehampton Leisure Centre - Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement V3*. Report Ref: 5113.2
- The Ecology Consultancy (12.10.2016). *Littlehampton Leisure Centre Preliminary Ecological Appraisal V2*. Report Ref: 5113.3

2.0 ECOLOGICAL REVIEW OF LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

The calculations in Table 1 below show the habitat loss and gain from the proposed development. The pre-development baseline is taken from the Phase 1 habitat plan in the *Preliminary Ecological Appraisal*. The post-development baseline is taken from the *Landscape Masterplan* with the current 'Building Construction Impact Zone' of the *Tree Constraints Plan* superimposed.

Table 1: Habitat Loss/Gain Calculation

Habitat Type	Pre-Development Area (ha)	Post-Development Area (ha)	Area Change(ha)
Buildings and hardstanding	1.04	1.24	+0.2
Poor semi-improved grassland	0.762	0	-0.762
Woodland/scrub edge	0.55	0.62	+0.07
Semi-improved neutral grassland	0.20	0.15	-0.05
Ornamental planting	0.20	0.15	-0.05
Amenity grassland	0.14	0.78	+0.64
Bare ground	0.05	0	-0.05
Hedgerows	0.018	0.02	+0.002
TOTAL AREA	2.96	2.96	-
Individual trees planted	-	56No.	-

3.0 CONCLUSION

The proposed scheme will result in an increase in the area of building/hardstanding (+0.2ha) and amenity grassland (+0.64ha) resulting primarily in a decrease in area of poor semi-improved grassland (-0.78ha) and to a lesser degree semi-improved neutral grassland and ornamental planting (each -0.05ha). The proposed areas of amenity grassland will include 'daisy lawns' that include a number of low growing wildflowers,

making the turf more species rich than typical lawns. This will assist in off-setting the loss of semi-improved grassland types, both in terms of area and plant diversity. The loss of mixed woodland is temporary in nature and will be compensated through additional woodland planting along the east boundary of the site and as small blocks in Mewsbrook Park.



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