

As discussed on site, the trees which were proposed for removal in order to facilitate the proposed training centre have already been removed. In order to off-set against this loss the applicant is proposing the following:

- The landscaping plan has been updated to incorporate additional trees. This is to both the rear of the site along the northern boundary and at the front of the site on the eastern boundary. This will be a mix of semi-mature, and standard trees all of which are native species. This is in line with the recommendations from both our Ecologist and the Councils Arboricultural Officer.
- In addition, an instant hedgerow is proposed along the northern boundary of the site. This not only provides screening to neighbouring dwellings but also opportunities for biodiversity enhancements.
- The proposed trees will take the canopy cover of 45%, well in excess of the requirement for 12% cover. This must be seen as a benefit within the overall planning balance. The Canopy Calculator has been previously submitted.
- The Ecological Assessment which accompanied the application also made a number of recommendations for enhancements:
 - This encourages the use of native species within new areas of landscaping, which is to be provided. This will hopefully provide food for insects and birds, as well as providing potential nest sites through the planting of trees and shrubs. The species proposed in the landscaping plan, are the same as those recommended within Appendix 4 of the submitted Ecological Appraisal.
 - The erection of bird nesting boxes are also recommended, whilst these will be difficult to place on the training centre building due to the proposed method of construction, there is an opportunity to erect nesting boxes on the existing fire station and within existing trees. Equally and as recommended, bat boxes can also be installed.