



25/11/2024

Ana Antunes
Bailey Partnership (Group) Ltd.
Unit 1, Hermitage Court
Hermitage Lane
Maidstone
Kent, ME16 9NT

Dear Ana

Re: Land at Northfleet School for Girls, Gravesend

This letter is provided in relation to the proposed development at the above site, which is the subject of a planning application to Gravesham Borough Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

The aim of this letter is to summarise the results of the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment for the above site, which has been completed using the accompanying statutory Small Sites Metric (SSM) calculation tool.

This BNG assessment is informed by a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) survey, which was undertaken on 21st November 2024, by an appropriately qualified and experienced ecologist, to establish baseline information about the site's ecological characteristics.

The pre-existing site area (baseline map is provided in Appendix 1 and data is included within sheet '5. Area Habitats') consists of the following:

- *'Urban – developed land; sealed surface';*
 - i.e. existing hard standing access road and footpath
- *'Grassland – modified grassland';*
 - i.e. species-poor grassland that dominates the site
- *'Individual trees – urban trees';*
 - i.e. five no. small cherry trees (<circa 10cm DBH) in relatively poor condition, one of which will need to be removed to facilitate the proposals

This equates to an on-site baseline score of 0.6005 habitat units, as identified in sheet '8. Headline Results'.

The post-construction site area (indicative proposed layout is provided in Appendix 2 and data is included within sheet '5. Area Habitats') consists of the following:

- *'Urban - developed land; sealed surface';*
 - i.e. new classroom building and hard standing path
- *'Grassland – other neutral grassland';*
 - i.e. new species-rich, biodiverse turf from <https://wildflowerturf.co.uk/> (product code: WFT-Species-Rich-26). In order to achieve the required score, this must be used instead of standard species-poor/monoculture lawn turf, since there is

a net loss of grassland and therefore, the replacement habitat needs to represent an enhancement to offset the reduction in area

- 'Individual trees – urban trees';
 - i.e. four no. small native trees, required to offset the loss of one existing tree and to provide an enhancement

This equates to an on-site post-intervention score of 0.7031 habitat units, as identified in sheet '8. Headline Results'.

Overall, according to the calculation tool, the proposals will result in an on-site total net change of 0.1027 for habitat units, which equates to an on-site net change of 17.09% for habitat units.

This therefore satisfies the trading summary criteria as confirmed in Appendix 3 and delivers a net gain in habitat units.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or queries.

Yours sincerely

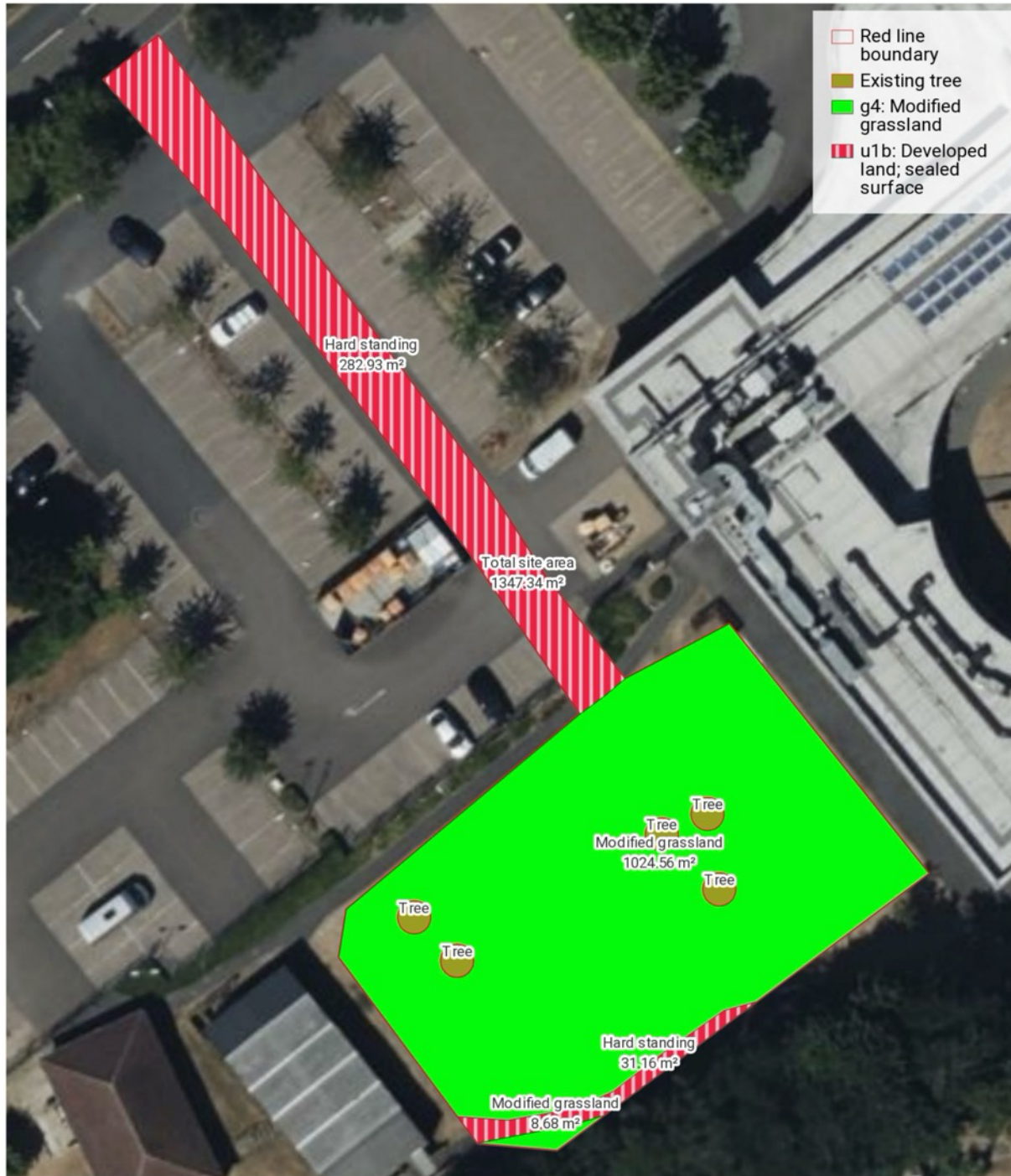


Marcus Fry BSc MSc MCIEEM
Director

1 Appendices

Appendix 1: Baseline site plan

Land at Northfleet School for Girls, Gravesend



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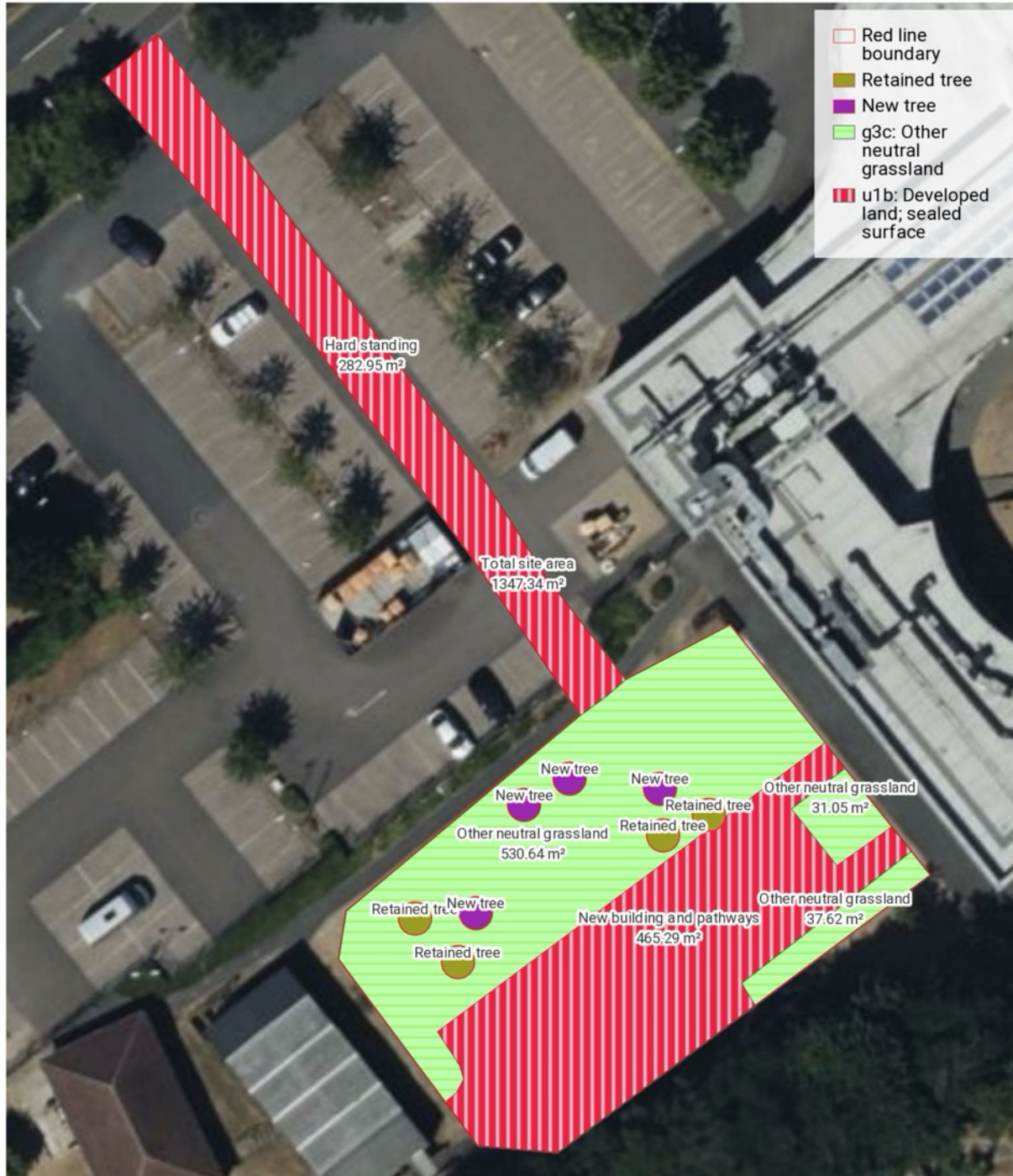
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Baseline Plan

10 m
Scale 1:400 (at A4)



Appendix 2: Proposed layout

Land at Northfleet School for Girls, Gravesend



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Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Proposed Plan

10 m
Scale 1:400 (at A4)



Appendix 3: Summary of the BNG calculation (headline results)

Site Name		Northfleet School for Girls	
Sheet Name		Headline Results	
Headline Results			
Headline		BNG Targets Met ✓	
Trading Rules		Trading Rules Satisfied ✓	
Next steps		Check for input errors/rule breaks present in the metric !	
Baseline Units	Habitat units	0.6005	
	Hedgerow units	Zero Units Baseline	
	Watercourse units	Zero Units Baseline	
Post-development Units	Habitat units	0.7031	
	Hedgerow units	0.0000	
	Watercourse units	0.0000	
Total net unit change	Habitat units	0.1027 ✓	
	Hedgerow units	0.0000	
	Watercourse units	0.0000	
Total net % change	Habitat units	17.09% ✓	
	Hedgerow units	% target not appropriate	
	Watercourse units	% target not appropriate	
Habitats units required to meet target		0.0000	
Hedgerow units required to meet target		0.0000	
Watercourse units required to meet target		0.0000	
Chart 1 - Unit change by habitat group			
			