

STONEY WOOD QUARTER

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

JUNE 2026

Stoney Wood Quarter Landscape Strategy

The Stoney Wood Quarter landscape strategy aims to transform and significantly enhance the environment on the site, remediating an area that currently functions as a car storage yard with extensive hard-standing.

Landscaping and tree planting are integral to the street-based architecture of the Proposed Development, with a network of tree-lined green streets creating a distinctive setting and ensuring the long-term enjoyment and identity of the neighbourhood.



Summary

- 01 Landscape vision principles & plan
- 02 Zone and character areas
- 03 Inclusive access and site levels
- 04 Tree retention
- 05 Tree and planting mix
- 06 Hard landscaping
- 07 Ecology
- 08 Green Roofs
- 09 Long-term stewardship and delivery
- 10 Conclusion



01 Landscape vision and principles

Maximising Landscaping of the Streets



- Creating a strong and coherent design language throughout the streets which maximise the landscaping opportunities
- Developing a language of streets which allow different zones and uses across the Site

Enhancing Ecology, Biodiversity and Urban Greening



- A strong focus on biodiversity and ecological planting to create green infrastructure
- Respecting and managing the interface with the existing woodland
- Using suitable planting at the stream/ ditch edge and riparian zone
- Preserving and enhancing existing ecologies

Implementing Sustainable Drainage Systems



- Make use of the on-site topography to explore water movements through the site
- Promote flood resistant planting and drainage design
- Use green and blue roofs to further enhance on site drainage and water management

Promoting Residents Well-being



- Allowing access to the site for the wider community
- Promoting residents well being via contact with nature
- Using landscape to create a social hub for the community and social interaction between residents

01 Landscape plan



The landscaping strategy for Stoney Wood Quarter will deliver low-maintenance green infrastructure that supports placemaking, biodiversity and a relationship between private and public spaces across a series of distinct zones.

The framework and zones are deliberately simple: a clear arrival space at The Fairway, planted pedestrian streets, widened pocket parks and a quieter woodland/riparian edge to the north. Each space has a distinct role. The Welcome Square gives address. The Play Street supports everyday movement and natural play. The Woodland Street draws the Stoney Wood woodland into the Quarter. Pocket parks create small moments of pause.

The planting strategy supports these zones and establishes resilient palettes that provide year-round structure, ecological value and visual interest across both shaded and sunlit microclimates. Along the woodland edge, planting will include native understorey species and ferns; in the south-facing spaces, drought-tolerant perennials, trees and rain gardens; and on the pedestrian streets, avenue trees with evergreen defensible planting.

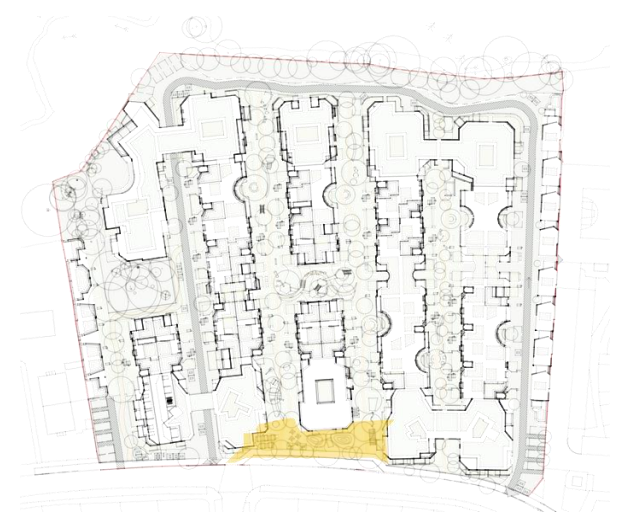
A key component of the strategy is long-term care. A three-year establishment period and a 30-year Landscape and Ecological Management Plan will be adopted, including pruning, watering and canopy inspections. Planting will prioritise native or adapted species, low-mulch regimes and minimal irrigation once established.

Over the following pages each zone will be outlined before the specifics of the soft and hard landscaping and the LEMP are detailed.

02 Zone & Character Areas – The Welcome Square

Character area objectives

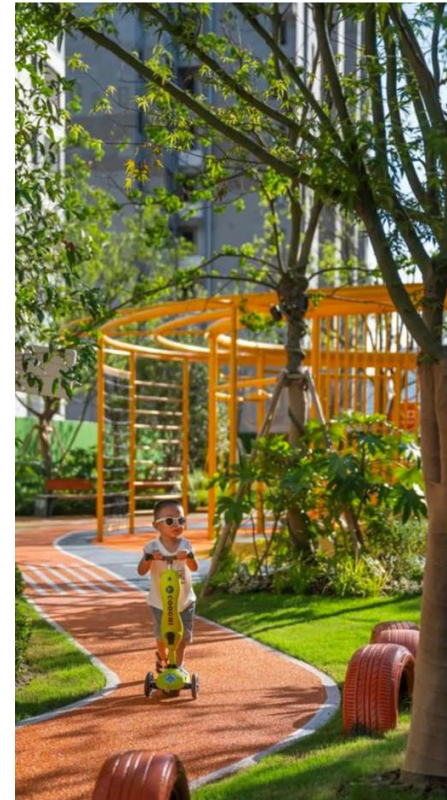
- Provides a welcoming, vibrant access point to the scheme and, by clustering community amenities around the Welcome Square, promote the community feel of the neighbourhood.
- Act as a gateway to the rest of the scheme - visual cues will signpost wayfinding to the Woodland Street, Play Street and other parts of the site.
- Use of planters and furniture will create an attractive space that signals the landscaping strategy across the rest of the scheme.
- Tables and chairs for the cafe will promote the use of the square whilst play spaces and activity areas will enliven the location.
- Planting of new trees will create an attractive frontage on The Fairway.



02 Zone & Character Areas – The Play Street

Character area objectives

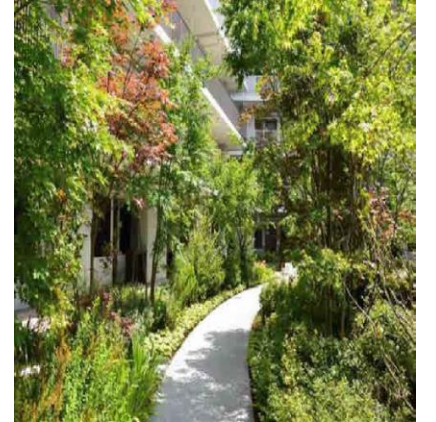
- Runs north to south, connecting the Welcome Square to the woodland edge.
- An ambulant path winds through the mixture of planting, trees and play areas.
- Play equipment is dotted throughout the street, consisting of a mixture of natural play equipment.
- Homes line the street, providing natural surveillance while being protected by planting and railings.



02 Zone & Character Areas – The Woodland Street

Character area objectives

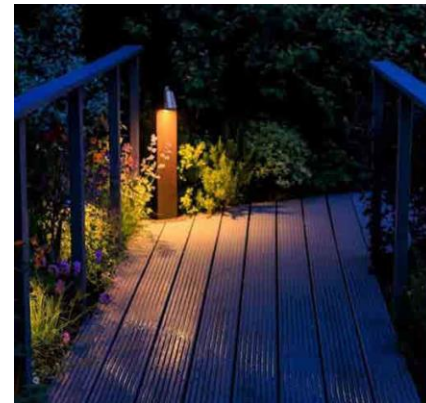
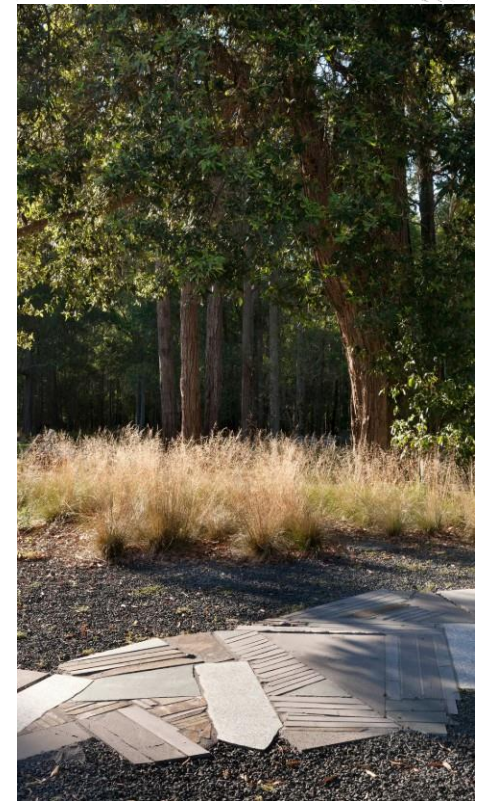
- Create an urban wood that brings the experience of the woodland directly into the new neighbourhood.
- Establish dense and layered planting close to the town houses so that homes sit within a rich natural setting.
- Use trees to form a green environment with dappled light and seasonal character.
- Provide framed views and a strong natural outlook from front doors and windows.
- Create a link to the wider woodland to support habitat continuity.
- Shape a calm, sheltered pedestrian environment where nature is the defining feature of the street.



02 Zone & Character Areas – The Woodland Fringe

Character area objectives

- Protect and reinforce the existing woodland edge and priority habitats.
- Create a soft and natural transition between the neighbourhood and the Green Belt.
- Use native planting to strengthen biodiversity and celebrate local character.
- Maintain filtered views that connect residents with nature without increasing disturbance.
- Manage lighting carefully to protect wildlife and preserve a naturally darker edge by creating a dark corridor facing the woodland.
- Establish a well defined and resilient boundary that can be effectively managed over time.
- Respect the 10m riparian buffer zone.



02 Zone & Character Areas – Pocket Parks

Character area objectives

- Create small green sanctuaries sheltered within the town houses.
- Place a single feature tree as the focus of the pocket park that defines the space and offers shade and seasonal character.
- Use a raised planter to protect the tree roots and provide integrated seating that encourages people to gather beneath it.
- Layer planting at its edges to soften the courtyard and enrich biodiversity.
- Ensure residents experience the tree and landscape from access walkways and windows so nature is always present in daily routines.
- Provide a calm place to pause, meet neighbours and enjoy a closeness to nature at the heart of the community.



02 Zone & Character Areas – Shared Access Route

Character area objectives

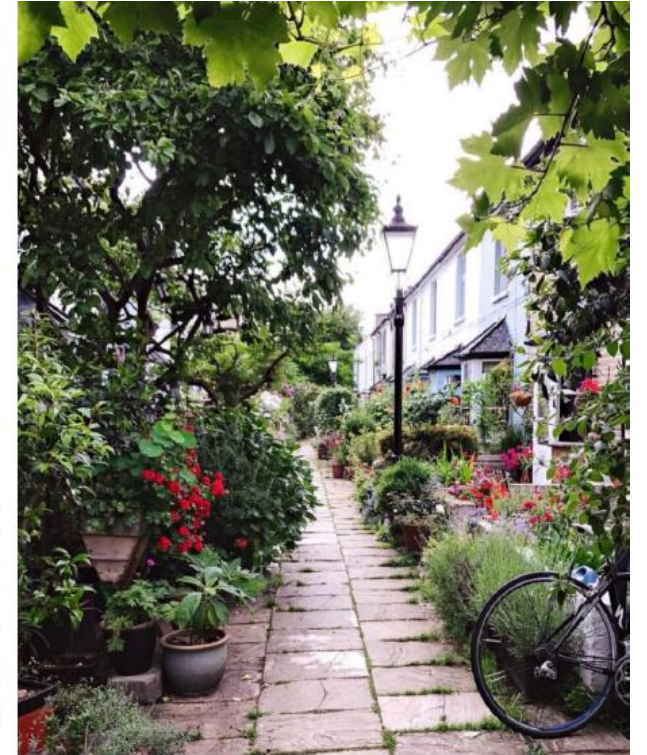
- Designed to provide safe, efficient, and inclusive access for multiple user groups — including pedestrians, cyclists, and occasional motor vehicles (such as refuse vehicles and cars belonging to blue badge holders).
- The space promotes low-speed, low-stress movement through careful geometry, material choice, and visual cues that emphasize shared use rather than vehicle dominance.
- Taking inspiration from the Dutch “Woonerf” style of shared access street, will use planting and signage to protect vulnerable road users while enabling occasional use by vehicles.
- Narrow lanes, curves, planting and furniture will create natural “psychological speed bumps.”
- Road created using grass grid to maintain the natural feel of Stoney Wood Quarter.



02 Zone & Character Areas – The Pedestrian Street

Character area objectives

- Tranquil thoroughfares that reflect the overall landscape strategies of StoneyWood Quarter while providing spaces for contemplation and neighbourly interaction.
- Retained trees on the western streets bring the woodland deep into the scheme, creating landscaped public squares.
- Lined with dwellings, the planting creates defensive space that will give the pedestrian “garden streets” a verdant, calm feeling.

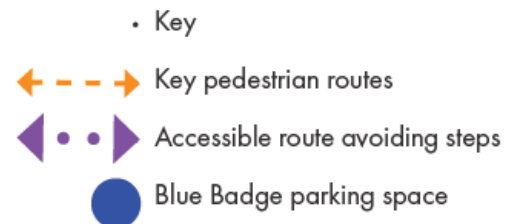


03 Inclusive access and site levels

Linking the different zones and areas together the site has been designed to ensure access across the Quarter.

The site falls naturally from south to north and the public realm uses this slope to create an inclusive, step-free sequence of streets and spaces with the landscaping used to keep routes accessible across the development

This supports wheelchair access from the site boundary to the communal entrances, squares, play spaces and woodland routes, with regular resting points, inclusive play and clear wayfinding integrated into the public realm.



04 Tree retention and planting

The tree retention strategy has focused on the highest quality trees, as established in the arboricultural assessment.

All Category A trees, all but two of the category B and a good range of category C trees will be retained in the 2 highest areas of ecological value - the northwest corner and the northern boundary.

The trees that will be removed are on the edges of these clusters or stand alone, making their removal relatively simple with little impact on the retained trees.

Retaining substantial pockets of trees, as proposed, allows protection of these areas during the build to be reasonable and achievable and ensures they are respected by residents once the neighbourhood is occupied.

Importantly 70% of the wooded area in the northwest corner of the Site is being retained.

Key:

-  Existing trees to be retained, including trees outside Red Line to be protected
-  Existing trees to be removed



04 Tree retention and planting



Key commitments:

- 71 existing trees retained
- All Category A trees retained
- All but two Category B trees retained
- 197 trees on site after new planting
- 70% of the north-west woodland retained

The proposed trees will work with the retained trees to reinforce the transition across the Site, from suburban garden at the front to wild woodland at the rear. The trees have also been used to reinforce the character of each street.

The south facing Welcome Square to the front of the scheme features more sunshine and heat tolerant species.

The Play Street has predominantly fruit trees to reinforce the bright, open character of this area. The woodland street is more heavily planted to create a wilder, biodiverse feel.

With approximately 126 new trees introduced throughout the public realm, when combined with the 71 existing trees retained on site, the scheme will provide a total of 197 trees, a 31% increase in tree numbers compared with the current baseline of 150 trees.

05 Tree planting and species strategy

Tree selection will be used to create variety with sun-tolerant arrival trees along The Fairway, fruiting species through the Play Street, a denser native character in the Woodland Street, and larger wet-tolerant or evergreen edge species towards the north

Welcome Square / The Fairway	Play Street	Woodland Street	Woodland / riparian edge
 Small-leaved lime Field maple Silver birch Hornbeam Beech Purpose: a brighter civic canopy along the southern frontage, giving filtered shade, seasonal change and a clear arrival character.	 Crab apple Wild pear Silver birch Field maple Wild cherry Purpose: flowering and fruiting trees that support a lighter, more domestic character around movement routes and play.	 Hornbeam Field maple Silver birch Yew Holly Purpose: a calmer and more enclosed planted street, using layered native and evergreen species to pull woodland character into the site.	 Black poplar Common alder Hornbeam Silver birch Purpose: edge and damp-tolerant species reinforcing the retained woodland and brook corridor, with evergreen structure along quieter margins.

05 Tree planting schedule

Species, nursery size and location of the 126 new trees introduced across the scheme.

Species	Nursery size	Qty	Location in scheme
Silver birch	Heavy–extra-heavy std, 4 semi-mature	31	Welcome square & pocket parks
Small-leaved lime	Extra-heavy std, 4 semi-mature	10	Welcome square & pocket parks
Crab apple	Heavy standard	14	Play street
Wild pear	Heavy standard	13	Play street
Field maple	Heavy–extra-heavy standard	13	Boundary & defensible edges
Hornbeam	Extra-heavy std, 2 semi-mature	13	Woodland street & welcome square
Wild cherry	Extra-heavy standard	9	Meadow / understorey
Common alder	Extra-heavy standard	7	Wetland / riparian margin
Beech	Extra-heavy std, 2 semi-mature	5	Woodland edge & welcome square
Black poplar	Extra-heavy standard	5	Wetland / riparian margin
Holly	Rootball, 1.5 m	4	Woodland edge & boundary
Yew	Rootball, 1.5 m	2	Woodland edge & boundary
Total new trees		126	Across all character areas

05 Planting palette: streets, gardens and sunny verges

These mixes are used in the play streets, pocket parks, defensible edges and sunny low-input areas. The emphasis is on robust establishment, seasonal colour and a planted domestic character.

Play / meadow grass base	Defensible thresholds	Garden / pocket colour	Low-input sunny mix
 Red fescue Common bent Sweet vernal grass Quaking grass Purpose: fine grasses providing year-round structure and a softer base to play edges, movement routes and pocket parks.	 Dogwood Guelder-rose Wood sage Primrose Purpose: resident-facing planting to soften railings and front edges while keeping threshold spaces green, manageable and legible.	 Meadow cranesbill Field scabious Oxeye daisy Harebell Purpose: flower-rich planting for play edges, pocket spaces and sunny boundary verges, bringing pollinator value and seasonal interest.	 Bird's-foot trefoil Yarrow Sheep's fescue Blue moor-grass Purpose: dry-tolerant and resilient planting suited to open sunny locations and extensive areas that need a lighter-touch maintenance regime.

05 Planting palette: woodland edge and boundaries

The woodland-edge and boundary palette supports the retained woodland, defensive boundaries and the darker, more shaded character of the northern and western edges.

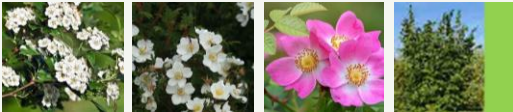
Woodland edge shrubs



Hazel
Elder
Spindle
Dogwood

Purpose: native shrub structure providing seasonal interest, berries, catkins and a managed understorey along woodland edges.

Boundary hedge structure



Hawthorn
Blackthorn
Dog-rose
Hazel

Purpose: a robust native hedge backbone, combining blossom, hips and habitat value with a strong sense of boundary definition.

Shade grass / ground layer



Wood melick
False brome
Great woodrush
Wood sage

Purpose: shade-tolerant planting for cooler routes and woodland-edge margins, helping knit groundcover beneath the retained and proposed tree canopy.

Shade flora and climbers



Common dog-violet
Wood anemone
Sweet woodruff
Honeysuckle

Purpose: low woodland flora and climbers that enrich the seasonal understorey and soften retained edges, fences and hedgerows.

05 Planting palette: pocket parks, woodland floor and riparian edge

These species support the quieter planted rooms of the scheme: pocket parks and play edges, part-shade and woodland-floor conditions, and the damp edge of the brook corridor.

Pocket park perennials



Primrose
Bloody cranesbill
Small scabious
Nettle-leaved bellflower

Purpose: seasonal colour and pollinator value around quieter seating, play and widened street spaces.

Boundary / part-shade colour



Harebell
Yarrow
Sneezewort
Lilac

Purpose: flowering interest for pocket parks and softened boundary edges, with species suited to a mix of sunny and part-shade conditions.

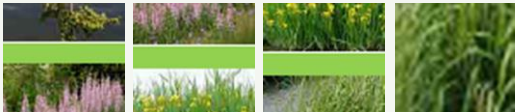
Woodland floor and climbers



Common dog-violet
Wood anemone
Sweet woodruff
Honeysuckle

Purpose: a lower woodland layer for shaded pockets and retained edges, adding spring interest and helping the woodland character read at ground level.

Riparian / damp edge



Meadowsweet
Purple loosestrife
Yellow flag iris
Pendulous sedge

Purpose: damp-ground and waterside planting that reinforces the brook corridor, supports habitat continuity and reads clearly as a distinct edge condition.

06 Hard landscaping



To minimise run off and increase biodiversity & biomass generally on the Site, hard-standing has been kept to a minimum and is typically limited to where it is needed to ensure high levels of accessibility for people who need hard level surfaces to support mobility.

Where hard-standing is used, a small sandstone set is proposed fixed into a permeable sub-base to allow absorption and to enhance the countryside feel of this edge of green belt site.

Where routes are needed for vehicles and pedestrians a concrete grass grid will be installed allowing grass and wildflowers to grow while allowing traffic to drive smoothly.

Areas of compacted gravel/ hoggin and woodchips are also proposed, especially in the wooded areas. These are natural low carbon alternatives that will enhance the rural character of the rear areas of the site.

07 Ecological enhancements



The landscape strategy has been developed with ecology in mind to create a rich mosaic of habitats that strengthen the ecological value of the site and its connection to the adjoining woodland.

Across the public realm and shared open spaces, species-rich wild-flower meadows will provide seasonal colour and valuable foraging areas for pollinators. Native hedgerows and shrub belts will define boundaries; nesting birds will be supported; and a dark corridor will be created along the woodland edge. Green roofs with wild-flower or sedum planting will add additional micro-habitats for invertebrates and increase ecological connectivity.

Climbing and fruiting species such as honeysuckle, dog rose and bramble will be introduced to provide nectar and berries, while new orchard trees will bring spring blossom and autumn fruit. Log piles, insect hotels and bee banks will encourage invertebrates, and dedicated bird and bat boxes will be incorporated within buildings to provide nesting and roosting opportunities.

The strategy also provides for the site's protected species: the dark corridor and sensitive working practices protect the bat features found in the tree assessments; the badger sett will be closed under licence and replaced by an artificial sett outside the disturbance zone; and reptiles will be translocated to receptor habitat ahead of works. Full detail is set out in the accompanying Ecology Note.

Pocket ponds and damp habitat zones will be created in sunny locations to attract amphibians, and small interpretation points will help residents understand the seasonal changes within the landscape. Simple wildlife gardening guidance and resident workshops will encourage community participation and long-term care of these habitats.

Collectively, these measures will create a network of connected green spaces that enhance biodiversity, improve ecological resilience and promote everyday contact with nature.

08 Green and Blue Roofs

As part of the landscaping strategy and reflecting a commitment to biodiversity at Stoney Wood Quarter, a combination of green and blue roofs is included across the scheme, as shown on the roof plan.

Green roofs provide a practical and site-specific strategy to enhance environmental performance and resident well-being. Planted with UK native wildflowers and fine grasses suited to dry conditions, they help to manage surface water by improving runoff quality, while also improving building insulation, lowering energy demand for heating and cooling, and creating new habitats within the built fabric.

Blue roofs supplement this by temporarily storing rainfall at roof level and releasing it at a controlled rate, attenuating peak flows and reducing discharge to the drainage network in line with the SuDS hierarchy. A biodiverse mix of native wildflowers and fine grasses over the attenuation layer ensures these roofs also contribute to habitat creation and the Urban Greening Factor.

In addition, accessible green roofs can extend the usable amenity space for residents, offering visual and recreational relief in areas where ground-level open space is limited.

Together, these measures support a more sustainable and high-quality urban environment consistent with a high quality, contemporary design.

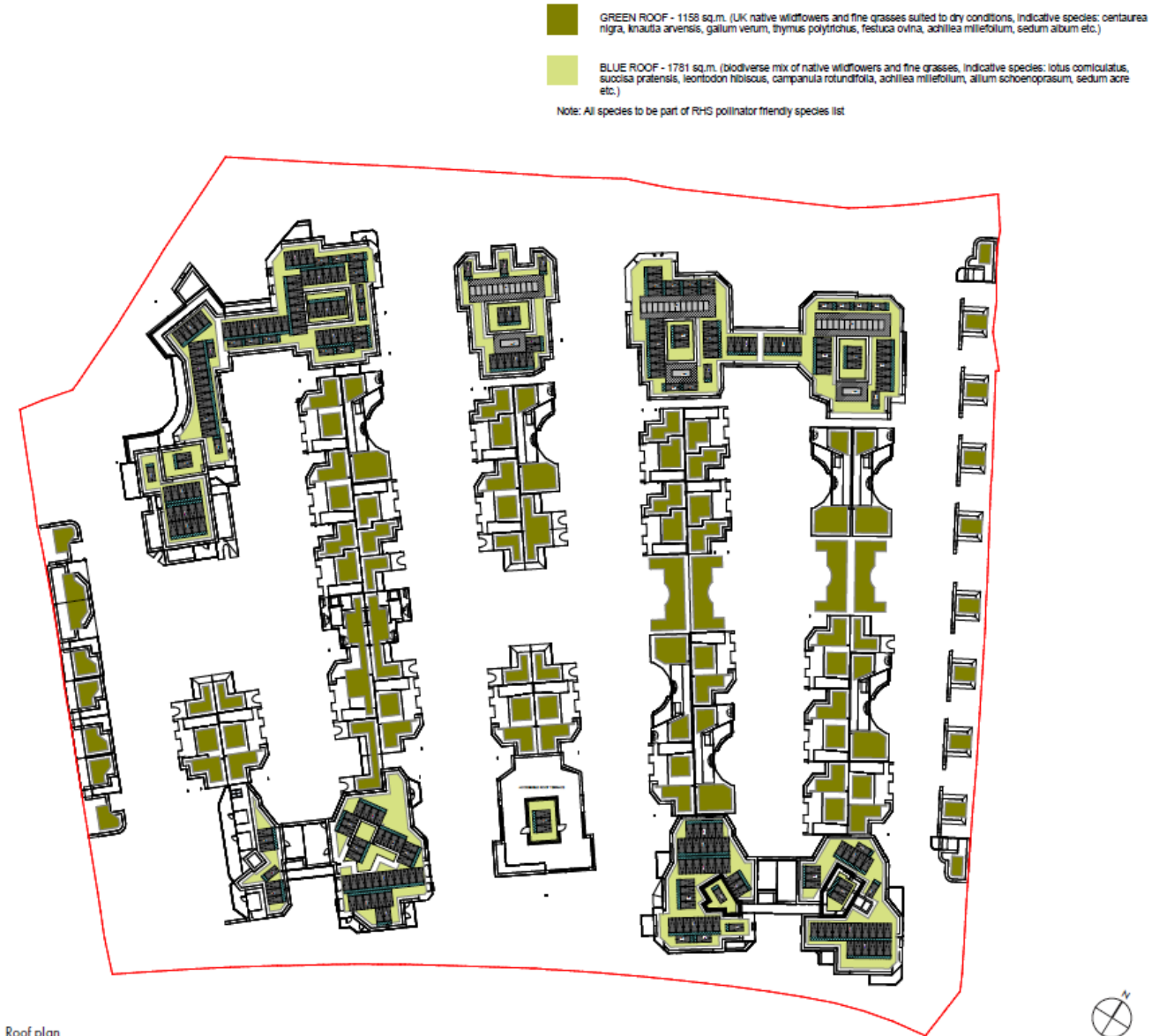
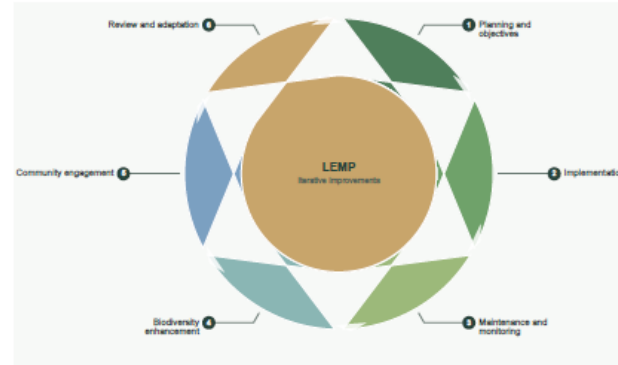


Fig 232 Roof plan

09 Long-term stewardship and delivery

LEMP

- 30 year plan covering woodland edge, dark corridor, grassland, public realm.
- Objectives: habitat condition targets, light-level thresholds, species trend lines.
- Prescriptions: mowing/coppicing cycles, planting/thinning, invasive control.
- Monitoring: bats, birds, badger, reptiles, key invertebrates, lux audits.
- Reviews: annual checks + 5-yearly formal reviews to adjust management.
- Roles/responsibilities defined (client/manager/ecologist/contractor).
- Reporting to LPA with evidence (photos, survey data, maintenance logs).
- Trigger-based adaptive management if targets are missed.



LEMP COMMITMENTS

YEARS 1-5

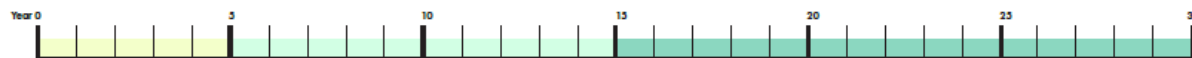
- Establishment phase: irrigation, weed control, infill planting as needed.
- Remove invasive species under supervision; prevent re-establishment.
- Understorey enrichment and hedgerow establishment to close gaps.
- Install bat/bird boxes, reptile hibernacula, log/brush piles.
- Construction handover: confirm all protections/mitigation installed.
- Monitoring: annual bats/birds/badger, reptile checks where receptor created; lux audits.
- Access management: fencing/signage to keep people/pets out of sensitive areas.
- Annual report to LPA; update prescriptions if targets not met.
- Confirm native species planted to prevent alien species invading native woodland.
- Commence woodland enhancements

YEARS 5-15

- Rotational coppicing of hazel/appropriate shrubs (7–10-yr cycle).
- Hedgerow laying/gapping-up to keep dense, stock-proof structure.
- Grasslands: late-summer hay cut; remove arisings to reduce nutrients.
- Deadwood strategy: retain standing snags where safe; renew log piles.
- Continued lux monitoring and corrective actions on the corridor.
- Periodic tree health surveys; succession planting initiated.
- 5-yearly LEMP review with data-led adjustments.
- Monitor woodland enhancements.

YEARS 15-30

- Continue coppice/hedgerow cycles to avoid uniform structure.
- Succession planting to maintain age diversity and resilience.
- Review dark corridor effectiveness; add screening/planting if gaps appear.
- Refresh wild flower seed in meadows if diversity declines.
- Long-term species trend analysis; trigger targeted habitat tweaks.
- Prepare legacy arrangements beyond Year 30.
- Maintain annual reporting and 5-year reviews to LPA.
- Dark corridor along northern boundary retained and protected from light spill.



A 30-year Landscape and Ecological Management Plan will secure the long-term health and biodiversity of the site, covering the woodland edge, dark corridor, grassland and wider public realm and zones. The plan will establish clear habitat condition targets, light level thresholds and species trend indicators to track progress over time.

Management prescriptions will include defined mowing and coppicing cycles, selective planting and thinning, and active control of invasive species to maintain ecological balance. Monitoring will focus on key ecology indicator groups — including bats, badgers, birds, reptiles and invertebrates — supported by periodic light-level audits to protect dark corridors and sensitive habitats.

Annual inspections and formal five-year reviews will assess the effectiveness of the management approach and allow for adaptive responses where targets are not being met. Roles and responsibilities will be clearly set out for the owner, managing agent, ecologist and landscape contractor, ensuring accountability and continuity.

A trigger-based adaptive management framework will allow refinement of methods where required, ensuring that habitats continue to evolve positively and biodiversity gains are maintained throughout the lifetime of the plan.

10 Conclusion

The landscape and ecological strategy for Stoney Wood Quarter is designed to create a living environment where people and nature coexist. Every element of the design — from the woodland edge and tree-lined streets to the pocket parks and courtyards — contributes to a connected green network that restores biodiversity and enhances daily life.

The Landscape and Ecological Management Plan will ensure that these spaces mature and improve over time, guided by clear long-term objectives and regular monitoring.

Together, these measures will transform an underused brownfield site into a thriving, resilient and ecologically rich neighbourhood that sets a new benchmark for sustainable suburban living.



