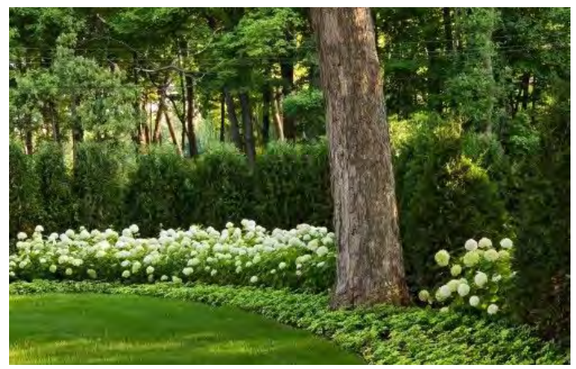
CAPTION

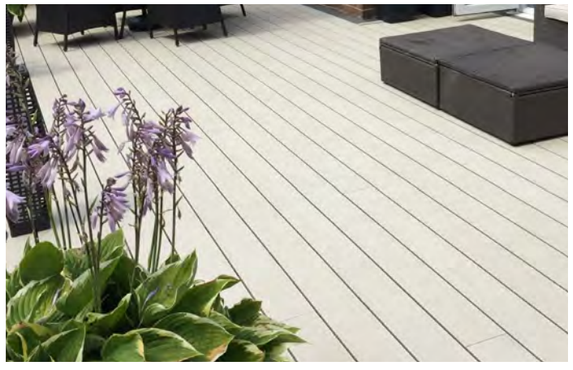
3.4 Private Residential Gardens

The private residential gardens reference the planting style of Gertrude and shrub hedging where privacy is needed. Ground floor dwellings also have access to the private gardens and all dwellings benefit from generous communal gardens. The gardens include amenity lawn and composite decking.



3.5 South Terraces

The South Terraces offer private spaces to ground floor dwellings with a south facing aspect. The spaces are bounded by a holly hedge that replaces the poor quality trees that are proposed to be removed in this area.



SOUTHERN TERRACE GARDEN

3.6 Spedan Close

The proposals retain Spedan close as a shared surface, giving priority over to pedestrian and cycle movements. To meet the proposed resident entrances the road levels will need to be lowered to allow for accessible routes. The SINC provides visual amenity across Spedan Close for neighbouring communities and an opportunity for residents to access it and become engaged with it.

SECTION THROUGH SPEDAN CLOSE AND SINC

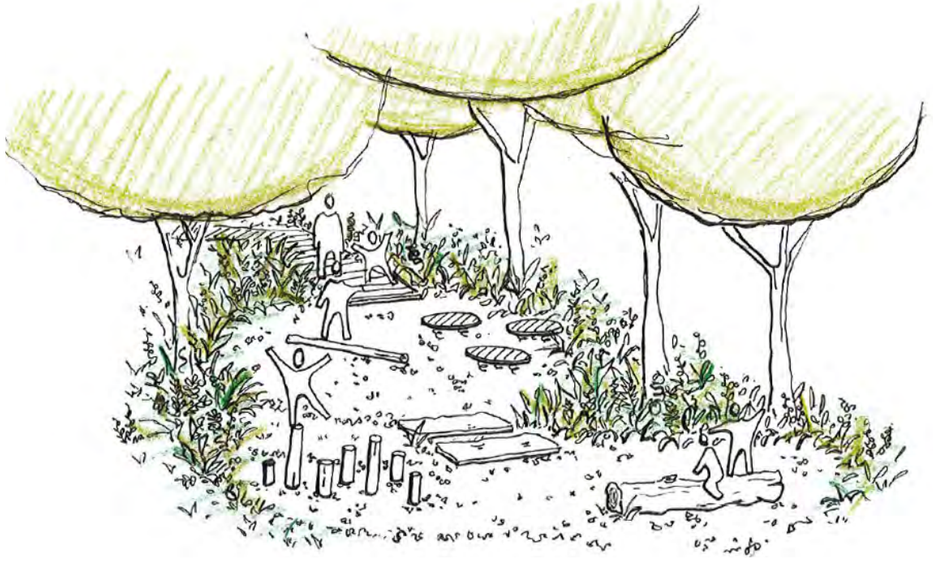
Spedan Close Views

VIEW 1 - WESTWARDS, DOWN SPEDAN CLOSE

VIEW 2 - EASTWARDS, UP SPEDAN CLOSE

3.7 Woodland Trail and SINC

The SINC is proposed to be enhanced to increase its ecological value by re-establishing an understorey layer and removing invasive or poor quality vegetation. A new woodland trail through the SINC will encourage engagement and a sense of ownership and responsibility for the area. The proposed route and play elements will use timber from the trees that are proposed to be felled on site. A woodchipped path with bug houses, log seating and play elements can all be created from the felled timber.



Woodland Aspiration

4

LANDSCAPE STRATEGIES

4.1 Biodiversity Strategy

BIODIVERSITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

KEY

- SINC
- Proposed Bat habitat (Bat Boxes)
- Proposed Insect Habitat (Bug Hotels)

ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

The woodland within the site is unmanaged has declined in quality with a dense canopy layer preventing the establishment of structure. The proposal improves the woodland and therefore provides an opportunity for restoration and enhancements. There are opportunities to enhance the site for local Priority Species as listed in the Ecology Appraisal.

Bat surveys have established that bats commute along the southern site boundary within the woodland. Installing bat boxes on retained trees will improve roosting resources for a variety of bat species, including different types of boxes. Several boxes are recommended on each tree to provide a diversity of microclimates, oriented south or east to ensure the estimated number of hours of direct sunlight required by bats is achieved. Several priority bat species occur in the local area which are known to use bat boxes at various times of the year. Please see the Ecology Appraisal for more information on typical plant species.

Providing new bird nest boxes will improve nesting opportunities for declining bird species. Bird boxes should be placed on retained trees for both general garden species and priority species which can be found in the Ecology Appraisal.

The woodland is currently unmanaged and lacking in structure due to the closed canopy restricting light to the woodland floor. There are opportunities to restore the woodland back with positive conservation management. The removal of poor tree specimens and cherry laurel would encourage an understorey to develop. Native planting will also be introduced to improve the structure and diversity of the understorey. Please see the softworks palette for more information on typical plant species.

BUG HOTELS

WOODLAND CARPET - NATIVE WOODLAND PLANTING

BAT AND BIRD BOXES

USING FELLED TREE TO MAKE FURNITURE AND HABITATS

4.2 Opening up the SINC

INVASIVE SPECIES

As previously noted, the vegetation across the site has been left to grow and spread, and so some invasive and non-native species have thrived. Within the SINC along Spedan Close there is a long expanse of invasive Cherry Laurel and Rhododendron mixed with some Holly.

The landscape proposals seek to remove and thin out the invasive vegetation to allow for enhancement to the woodland and to reveal the woodland understorey.

The proposed changes in level along Spedan Close call for an engineered solution to retain the SINC. Regrading slopes within the SINC with a soft engineering approach will create a vegetated area with new woodland understorey native species to enhance its biodiversity.

4.3 Tree Strategy

Retaining high quality trees as ‘legacy trees’

TREE STRATEGY-LEGACY TREES

New trees are interspersed within the site and cascade from the high point to the low point.

Manage existing trees leaving those of high quality.

Legacy trees form the basis of a new tree strategy for the coming generations.

PROPOSED SINC PROPOSAL FOR RETAINED TREES

Trees Retained = 26

New Trees

= 11