

Weston Airport Landscape Architecture Report

The proposed landscape design emphasises and complements the existing green infrastructure network, and creates opportunities for new connections within and around the car park site.





Green Infrastructure Connecting green space

Wider Context

A well considered and interlinked green network can significantly contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain. The landscape proposal for the car park at Weston Airport strives to demonstrate the protection of Green Infrastructure in the adjacent area. Weston Airport is located on the urban fringe corridor (no.6) as seen on SDCC's GI strategy on page 2 and is considered as a secondary GI link (L1). As a result, the landscape plan includes objectives to protect existing on site GI assets and provides for connection to existing GI corridors. The landscape plan takes Chapter 4, Policy GI1, GI1 Objective 4, GI2 Objective 4 and Section 12.4.2 of the Development Plan into consideration.

Site specific

The Green Infrastructure strategy focuses on enhancing existing elements by proposing planting strategies that contribute to the creation of green links between existing protected hedgerow boundaries. Biodiversity net gain contributes towards nature recovery by enhancing existing or creating new habitat. The landscape design focuses on connecting habitats in which species can thrive.

The landscape plan aims to demonstrate at a minimum, protect any existing GI assets and enhance same. The plan proposes to retain the existing hedgerows and creates additional green stepping stones through tree planting that connect to the existing hedgerow to the north east of the car park. As stated in the preliminary environmental report, no protected plant species were identified on site and through the desk study. A record of Hairy St. John's-wort was identified from desk records at four locations, 1.28 km north west. This plant protected under the Flora Protection Order. Despite, no signs of Hairy St John's-wort were recorded within the site.



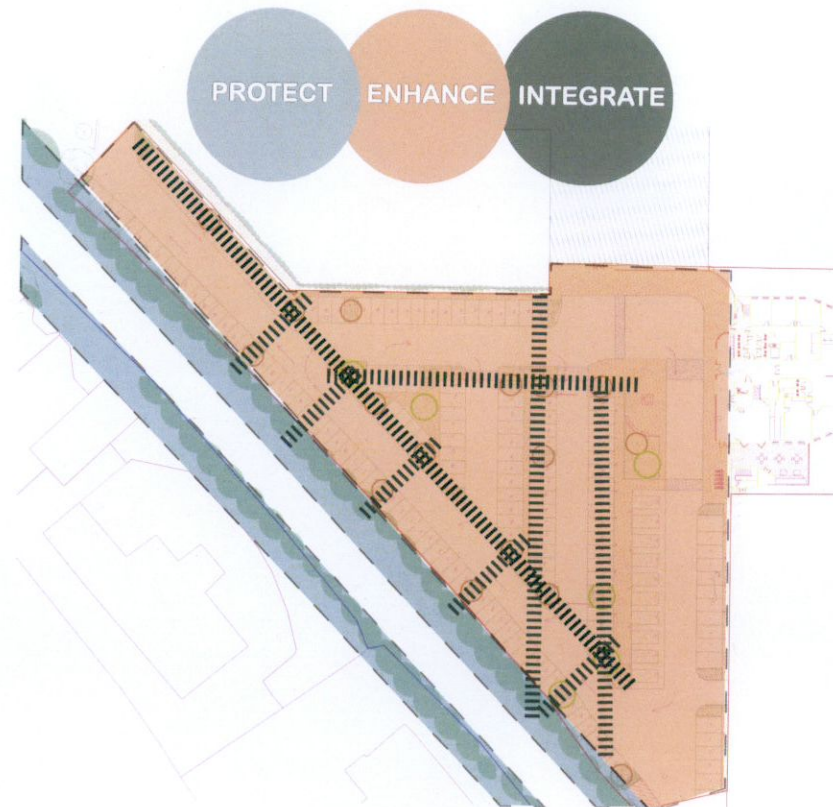
Landscape Principles Proposal and Policy

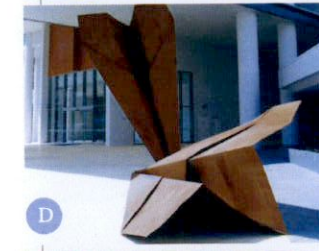
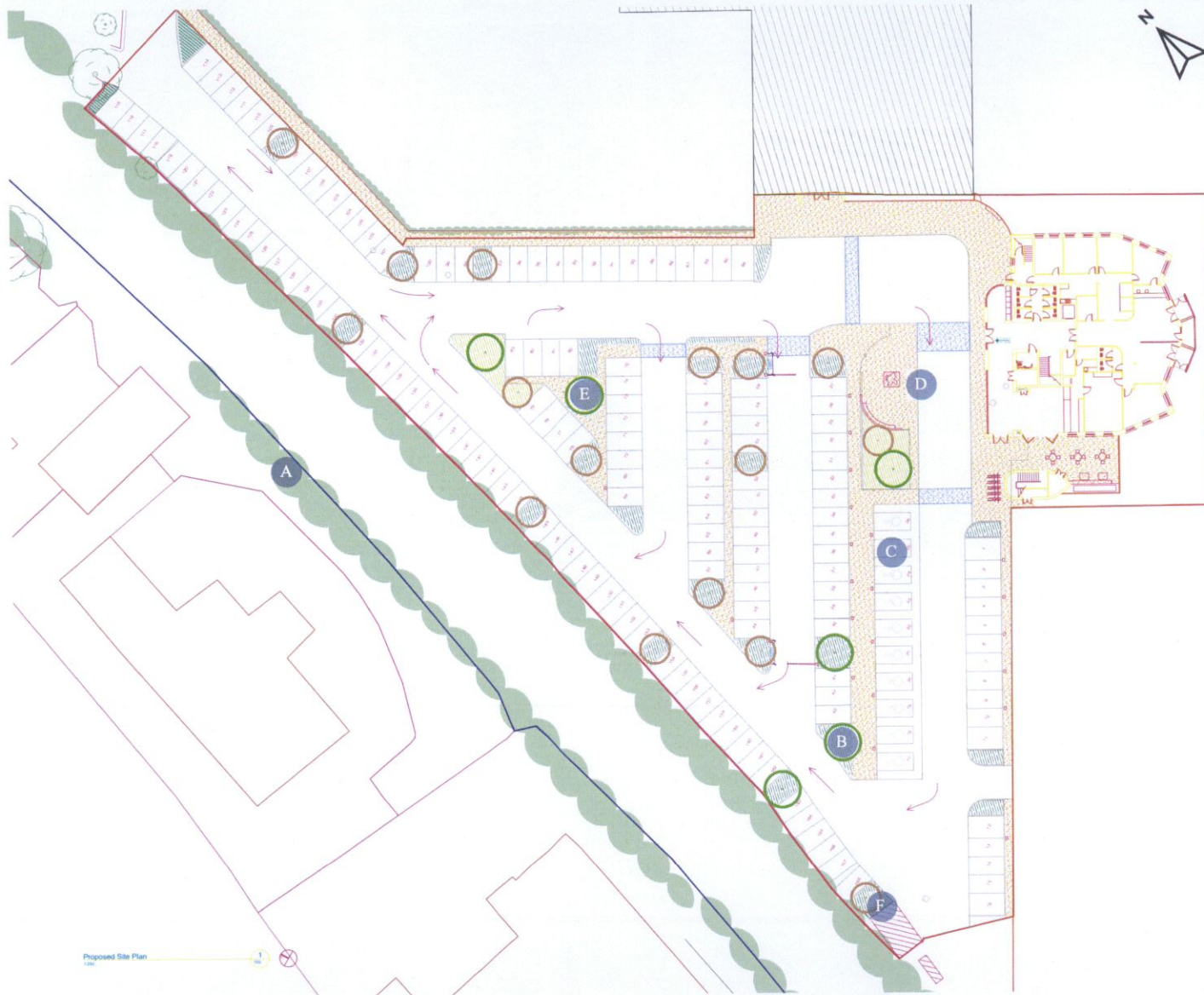
As stated by the Irish Aviation Authority, the compliance with national regulations or practices, such as environmental and animal protection regulations, is emphasised to ensure that a Wildlife Hazard Management Plan does not conflict with the objectives of preservation of biodiversity and reduction of environmental impact of the environmental impact of air transportation (National Bird and Wildlife Hazard Committee, 2021). The most important legislation underpinning biodiversity and nature conservation in Ireland is the Wildlife Act, 1976 the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 and the European Union (Natural Habitats) Regulations, SI 94/1997.

Nature conservation legislation was substantially enlarged and improved by the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 and the Birds and Natural Habitats Regulations. In July 2017, the 1976 Wildlife Act was amended with S.I. No. 166 of 2017. These Regulations amend the Second Schedule of the European Communities (Wildlife Act, 1976) (Amendment) Regulations 1986 by the addition of non-lethal means to existing lethal means of controlling certain species of wild birds mentioned in the First Schedule. The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) provides the legislative and policy framework for the conservation of nature and biodiversity in Ireland. The Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC) on the conservation of wild birds is implemented in Ireland, inter alia, under the Wildlife Act. Under the terms of the Directive, all Member States of the EU are bound to take measures to protect all wild birds and their habitats.

While the landscape proposal aims to protect, manage and enhance the existing green corridors adjacent to the car park, it has been considered that there are certain limitations when creating green links within an airport boundary. Although the site in question is segregated from the active runway by a large area of grey space, and the plant species specified should cause minimum threat to the airside zone, the landscape design sets out a number of principles as follows to minimise the attraction of birds:

1. Planting trees with no fruit, berries, nuts
2. Planting long grass where possible and keeping it maintained over as much of the airport as possible. (Maintaining the grass at 150mm to 200mm reduces the attraction to a level at which it is practicable to prevent birds from using the airport by active dispersal methods).
3. Avoid the following:
 - Create dense vegetation that may become a roost
 - Provide an abundant autumn and winter food supply in the form of fruits, nuts and berries
 - Create standing water or watercourses that attract gulls and waterfowl
 - Result in areas of short grass that provide feeding opportunities for a wide range of hazardous wildlife





- SOFT LANDSCAPE**
- TREES**
- PROPOSED NATIVE TREE - STRUCTURAL TREE
 - PROPOSED MIX NATIVE AND ORNAMENTAL TREE - SITE WIDE
 - EXISTING HEDGE TO BE RETAINED
- SOFT LANDSCAPE TREATMENTS**
- TYPE 1 LONG ORNAMENTAL GRASS
 - TYPE 2 LONG ORNAMENTAL GRASS
 - TYPE 3 BUFFER PLANTING - SCREENING
Mix of dense native evergreen (70%) and deciduous shrubs, grasses, perennials and bulbs species.
- HARD LANDSCAPE TREATMENTS**
- Proposed paving
 - Proposed pedestrian crossing
 - Bench
 - Sculpture

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|-------------------------------|----------|----|-----|------|
| PO1 | 15/12/22 | NC | BV | MG |
| Issued for review and comment | | | | |
| Rev | Date | By | Chk | Appr |

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Client
Weston Airport

Project Title
Proposed Extension & Upgrade
at Clubhouse/Terminal for
Weston Airport

Drawing Title
Landscape Plan

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Scale at A1 | Various |
| Role | Landscape Architecture |
| Subsidiary | Suitable for Planning |
| Arup Job No. | 288413-00 |
| Rev | P01 |
| Name | 288413-ARUP-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0000 5 |

Native Planting Species list

The planting palette has been designed to promote and enhance the car park space while adhering to the principles of planting within airport grounds. Note, this is a palette of selected species and not a complete species specification.

Type 1: Long Ornamental Grasses + Bulbs



Ornamental onion - Allium



Pheasant's tail grass - Anemanthele lessoniana



Sheep's Fescue agg. - Festuca ovina



Crested Hair-grass - Koeleria macrantha



Mexican feather grass - Stipa tenuissima

Type 2: Long Ornamental Grasses

Type 6: Buffer/ screening



Hazel - Corylus avellana



Hawthorn - Crataegus monogyna



Pendunculate Oak - Quercus robur



Sessile Oak - Quercus petraea



Field Maple - Acer campastre

Native structural tree

Native and ornamental tree mix

Tree Location Plan

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