

Moray Reach Out Garden Project  
23 East Church Street, Buckie, Moray, AB56 1ET

Garden design and works information

### **Landscape**

Existing site (prior to works) – Unused garden ground with a range of self-seeded Sycamore trees, native bushes and plants. Unkept site with no paths and limited access due to rocky ground and bushes.

The design will open up the garden area creating a sloped wheelchair accessible access path down to a flat seating area half-way down the garden. The access path will be protected with a handrail to the downwards slope. Banks will be topped with ecogrid and filled with 8mm chip before being re-planted as per re-planting plan.

Discussions prior to works starting –

Dean Hope, SEPA visited the site and was satisfied that the materials being imported to site were of sound type and quantity and there were no issues requiring action.

Moray Council Environmental Health office Allan Park visited on the day after SEPA – No action required from the meeting.

### **Biodiversity/Native species**

Prior to works commencing the area has supported a pair of roosting crows, an occasional group of Jackdaws and a pair of wood pigeon. Smaller birds such as finches, and tits are occasionally seen transiting through the garden.

No butterflies present during summer months and no bat activity has been seen.

The re-planting proposed is aimed at introducing farmland / garden birds, such as finches, tits, robins, dunnoek, thrush and blackbird. In addition to this the new plants will provide an attractive habitat for tortoiseshell, peacock, speckled wood, red admiral, large, small and veined white butterflies; along with a healthy invertebrate population of beetles, weevils, worms, snails.

Supplementary feeding and habitat features such as bird boxes and bat boxes will be introduced as part of the design plan.

### **Trees**

Moray Councils conservation department was contacted prior to works starting to check if trees were in a conservation area and/or if any tree protection order were in place.

No protection orders are in place. As part of the works to the site at the start 8 self-seeded Sycamore trees were removed. 30 Sycamore remain in the Northern area of the garden.

### **Contaminated Land**

The owners are not aware of any contaminated land risks on the site.

## **Replanting**

A detailed environmental priority and people sensory planting plan from John Ferres of REAP has been provided in the supporting documentation.

Planting will include flowering fruiting trees and shrubs along with suitable wildlife beneficiary plants and herbs for the sheltered north facing slope. The aim is to provide a multi-sensory garden which helps supports trainees and staff at Moray Reach Out and local wildlife.

## **Materials used on site**

The works include the use of

- 200 tons of 6F2 (Recycled crushed aggregate) used to build up the area
- 40 tons of rock armour to ensure a stable edge along the path and seating area
- 40 tons of type 1 sub base will be used to form the bases of the paths
- For the post and rail fence all posts will be 100mm x 100mm treated and concreted into the ground at 1.2m spacing, all rails for retaining ground will be 150mm x 47mm treated timber, all handrail timber will be 100mm x 47mm. All timber will be screwed onto the posts.