

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, RYEBANK, CHORLTON: BLUE & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

The Manchester Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy sets out objectives for environmental improvements within the city in relation to key objectives for growth and development. This Statement provides an appraisal of the proposed Ryebank development against the overarching vision and the four objectives contained within the Strategy.

Strategic Vision	Appraisal
By 2025, climate-resilient well-maintained green and blue spaces remains an integral part of all neighbourhoods. The city's communities will be living healthy, fulfilled lives, enjoying access to parks and green spaces, and safe green routes for walking, cycling and exercise throughout the city. Green and blue infrastructure will be supporting Manchester's growth.	The proposed development would incorporate a significant number of green and blue infrastructure elements, which would contribute positively to this Strategic Vision, including the following: • A new pedestrian and cycle greenway running through the Site, connecting Longford Road / Ryebank Road to the south with Rye Bank Road to the north. • A series of public play spaces throughout the development, predominantly along the greenway, which would create nodes of informal activity and provide incidental recreation opportunities for residents of the new development and the wider community. • A village green in the southern part of the Site, offering an open and inviting landscape with a strong community focus, which would include a community open space (Longford Community Garden) with grow zones, a lawn, seating and an informal play area. • An informal pathway network linking with the greenway and providing direct connections to the adjacent Longford Park.

	• An ecological basin in the vicinity of Nico Ditch, comprising an attenuation basin required for drainage purposes, surrounded by soft landscaping and focused on promoting biodiversity and attracting wildlife all year round. • A community garden (Ryebank Community Garden) in the northern part of the Site, including informal play areas, orchards and grow zones. • A communal garden for the age-friendly affordable apartment building in the southern part of the Site, providing a range of seating and gardening opportunities. • A community greenspace ('the Central Community Green') located between the two terraces of houses in the northern part of the Site, including paving, informal play areas and seating, where residents could engage with neighbours and use the space for outdoor recreation and socialising. • A street and pedestrian route running through the proposed development, containing tree-planting and rain gardens to give it a green character. • Ornamental and wildlife attractive planting throughout the development
Objective	Appraisal
1 Improve the quality and function of existing green and blue infrastructure, to maximise the benefits it delivers.	The proposed development aims to retain and existing landscaping features on the Site wherever possible and provide new landscaping features also. The majority of the small dense wooded area of aspen trees in the northern part of the Site, known locally as the Aspen Grove, would be retained, enhanced and managed. Nico Ditch is to be retained and would become a key central space within the proposed development, comprising a drainage basin which would also serve as a wetland ecological feature, enclosed to the north by a short terrace. Other high value wildlife habitats on Site would also be retained wherever possible and new habitats provided also.
2 Use appropriate green and blue infrastructure as a key component	To help establish a successful new neighbourhood at Ryebank, areas of high quality amenity space would be created throughout the proposed development, including a new pedestrian and cycle 'greenway' running through

of new developments to help create successful neighbourhoods and support the City's growth.	the Site (connecting Ryebank Road and Longford Road in Chorlton to the south with Rye Bank Road in Firwood to the north), an informal pathway network, children's play spaces and retained/enhanced wildlife habitat areas. The majority of these areas would be managed and maintained by a management company and would remain accessible to the public in perpetuity. In addition, two small areas in the northern and southern part of the Site would be made available for community uses such as growing areas or community gardens.
3 Improve connectivity and accessibility to green and blue infrastructure within the City and beyond.	The proposed development would improve connectivity and accessibility to green and blue infrastructure, including through the following elements: • The creation of a new pedestrian and cycle greenway running through the Site, connecting Longford Road / Ryebank Road to the south with Rye Bank Road to the north. • The creation of an informal pathway network linking with the greenway and providing direct connections to the adjacent Longford Park.
4 Improve and promote a wider understanding and awareness of the benefits that green and blue infrastructure provides to residents, the economy and the local environment.	The green and blue infrastructure elements that would be created by the proposed development, such as the new areas of amenity / natural green space, children's play spaces and cycle and pedestrian linkages, would all improve and promote a wider understanding and awareness of the positive contribution to the health and well-being of the local community that blue and green infrastructure can make.