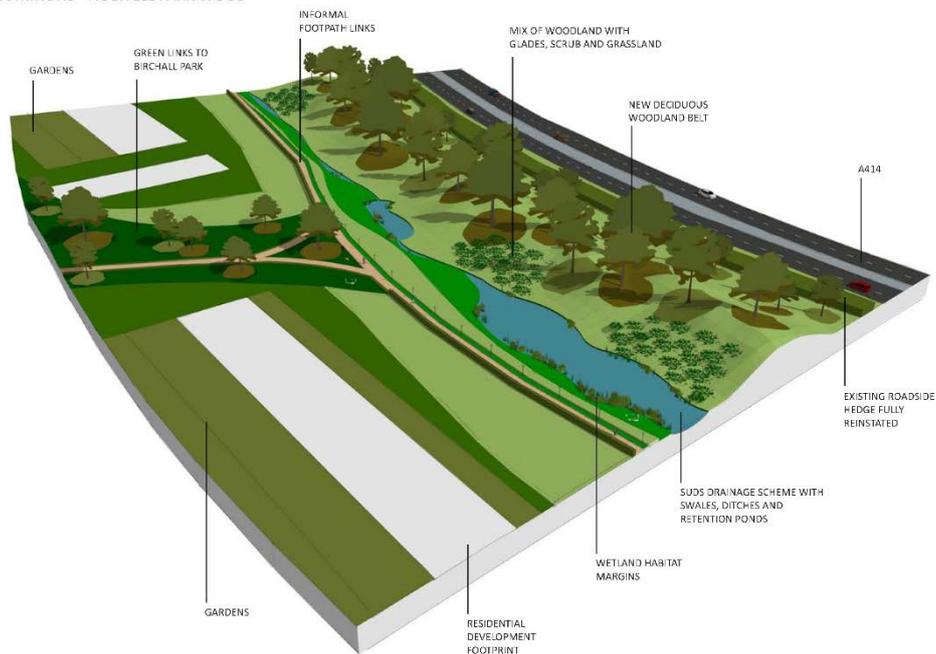


A414 CORRIDOR AND SCREENING MEASURES (to be read in conjunction with drawing DR-0005)

- A. The use of a narrow, treed bank between housing and the A414 north of Hatfield. Even during the winter months, this modest measure is sufficient to provide a substantial screen to the housing beyond. Were the screening vegetation a little wider, or the landform more substantial, it would screen development beyond and provide the impression of passing through countryside.
- B. East of Hatfield and north of Home Park, the experience of travellers using the A414 during the summer months is one of passing through countryside. Only during winter is it revealed that the route is passing a significant built element on the north side of the road (a water treatment works and travellers site), which is otherwise very largely screened by a single hedge. In locations where the hedge widens into a wooded belt of some 22 metres width, development is screened and a sense of passing through countryside prevails.
- C. Passing south of The Commons and Mill Green Golf Course, the screening effect of a wider belt of trees is maintained and acts to direct views over open countryside to the south. It is this effect that the proposed BGS landscaped buffer aims to replicate. For ease of reference, the BGS Parameter Plan in this location has been overlain. The width of the proposed buffer varies between approximately 50m and 80m, incorporating new hedging alongside the road and a woodland belt of 30m width. The proposed screening landform would be approximately 5m high. A schematic illustration of the design is provided in the BGS Green Infrastructure Strategy and reproduced below:

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE LINK 1
LINEAR PARK AND GREEN LINK TO A414
THE COMMONS - HOLWELL PARK WOOD



Further north east, beyond the southern area of BGS, the proposed large central parkland would predominate in views along the A414. Additional tree and hedge planting would be carried out within this parkland to improve its landscape structure.

Further north, beyond the parkland and leading up to the B195, a relatively small part of the BGS development would be in view behind intervening fields, woodland and new tree planting. It is intended that this discrete area forms part of a new south-easterly gateway to Welwyn Garden City and consequently that some exposure of the new garden suburb would be appropriate.