

area;

- ii) the potential to improve biodiversity in and around the area;
- iii) the potential to improve public access to and through the area; and
- iv) the provision and improvement of suitable recreational facilities.

B) Any new development that meets the above criteria, particularly in areas deficient in Green Chains, will be required to provide new areas of habitat and amenity space, linking into existing Green Chains.

DEVELOPMENT IN GREEN EDGE LOCATIONS

6.24 Development in 'green edge' locations whether it is the Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land, Green Chains or other green spaces will have a wider visual impact on the surrounding areas due to its openness. In these locations it will be important to assimilate development into the wider open context to reduce impacts. This will normally be met by ensuring landscaping margins to boundaries are of a depth relative to the scale and impact of the development, taking account of the importance of the open space designation.

6.25 Landscape margins should be provided within the development site. Landscaping should incorporate native and pollen or nectar bearing species of an appropriate size, planted and maintained in accordance with current British Standards. All new development proposals in 'green edge' locations will be expected to incorporate sustainable design and layout measures, including techniques that enhance biodiversity.

Policy DMEI 6: Development in Green Edge Locations

New development adjacent to the Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land, Green Chains, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, Nature Reserves, countryside, green spaces or the Blue Ribbon Network should incorporate proposals to assimilate development into the surrounding area by the use of extensive peripheral landscaping to site boundaries.

BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

6.26 Policies EM1 and EM7 in Hillingdon's Local Plan Part 1 aim to protect the Council's strategic nature conservation sites which include SSSI's, Sites of Metropolitan or Borough Grade 1 and 2 Importance and a National Nature