

## PLANNING STATEMENT

18 February 2024

### Project:

Residential development, land off Arlecdon Parks Road, Arlecdon.

### INFORMATION TO DISCHARGE CONDITION

**Control of invasive species – condition no.9 Outline approval 4/18/2504/001**

### Background

At outline planning stage a report was commissioned by Openspace to carry out an Ecological Appraisal and Hedgerow survey. The report referred to some areas of invasive species and specifically stated:

“There are small stands of Montbretia *Crocasmia x crocosmifolia* in the east of the site (TN 5 and 6). Montbretia is listed under Schedule 9 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 with respect to England and Wales. As such, it is an offence to plant or otherwise allow this species to grow in the wild.”

and went on to state,

“There is Montbretia within the survey area. The proposed works are likely to disturb areas with Montbretia and it will be necessary to ensure that this invasive species is contained and not spread to other areas in accordance with current legislation”



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A R C H I T E C T U R A L   S E R V I C E S

The extract from Openspace report below shows the two areas where Montbretia were identified. They are outside of the general residential development area of the site but are within the area identified for a attenuated drainage system so are likely to be disturbed by the groundworks.



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## Method statement

As part of the site preparation and set up phase it will be necessary to ensure that this invasive species is managed correctly and not spread on to other land because of the works.

The stands of Montbretia will be eradicated in a controlled way following legislation guidelines, so as not to spread the plant (Montbretia largely spreads by rhizomes/corms).

There are three options for dealing with the Montbretia.

1. Herbicide treatment
2. Site burial at least 2m cover
3. Removal to licenced landfill

Because of the need to excavate and reshape the area of the site concerned it is considered that onsite herbicide treatment of the Montbretia is not appropriate.

On site burial has also been considered but due to the reshaping of the area where the species is located and would be buried it would mean that it needed to be first moved and stockpiled while the ground was reshaped and a suitable excavation formed in the new levels to bury the plant. This may risk onsite spread of the plant

The conclusion is that the Montbretia plant needs to be excavated and taken away from site to a licenced tip which will be made aware of the invasive species and deal with it appropriately at the landfill site in accordance with Environment Agency guidance.

Works to remove the Montbretia will commence as soon as a safe access has been formed into the site. The plants and root system will be excavated with tracked excavators and the vehicles transporting the plants to the landfill site will have tarpaulin covers to the load area.