

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	25/00465/FUL
ADDRESS	Barwell Methodist Church 25 Chapel Street Barwell Leicester Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Erection of timber building to provide early years places for the day nursery and part retrospective change of use of Church building from Class F1 to Class E.
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Ashleigh Gade
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Michael McCoy
DATE OF COMMENTS	02/07/2025
SUMMARY RESPONSE:	
No comment	
No objection	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
Condition recommended	
Informative recommended	
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:	
- SSM BNG Metric (Billingsley, 2025) - Baseline Habitat Plan (DJOGS Limited, 2025) - BIA Post Development Habitat Map (DJOGS Limited, 2025)	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:	
- We have reviewed the above documents. - The only query we would like clarified is the introduced shrub present at the south boundary. - All habitat within the red line boundary should be recorded even if it is being retained.	
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SPECIFIC COMMENTS:	
- Habitats = +0.0026BU (+2.01%) - No habitat degradation - No irreplaceable habitat	

• Further information on baseline habitat is required. All habitats within the red line boundary must be included in the BNG metric. • While the current post-development plans show that the 10% is not achieved, this post-development plan can be amended at the BNG condition stage. If 10% is not achievable this will need to be compensated through off-site creation or the purchase of biodiversity credits/habitat banks. • It is also worth noting that the post-development includes planting of trees, however, tree planting has not been shown I the 'BIA Post Development Habitat Map' • It I also worth noting that in the statutory SSM user guide, that individual trees cannot be planted in 'vegetated garden'.
FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:
• Updated BNG metric with all habitats present in red line boundary including introduced shrub.
AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED:
• N/A
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
• N/A
RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
• N/A
RECOMMENDED SECTION 106 REQUIREMENT (standard clause, contribution amount, trigger for payment)
• N/A
DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS ONLY: (Please confirm which condition(s) is/are being discharged)
• N/A

Note for applicants: Please be aware that this specialist advice is provided to the Local Planning Authority through a Service Level Agreement between the Local Planning Authority and Leicestershire County Council.

If you have any queries about this advice, please correspond directly with the Planning Officer assigned to the planning application or discharge of condition application. We are unable to respond directly to applicant enquiries regarding the advice that we have provided as part of this service.

The following legislation is used to assist in the assessment of planning applications:

Legislation source	Reference
National Planning Policy Framework	Paragraphs relevant to biodiversity, biodiversity net gain, ecological connectivity and protected species
Environment Act 2021	Mandatory Net Gain Biodiversity Duty Local Nature Recovery Strategy
District or Borough Local Plan and supporting SPD's	Local Plan policy
ODPM circular 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	Requirement for species survey work and mitigation recommendations to be carried out prior to the determination of a planning application. Paras. 98 and 99
NERC Act 2006	Biodiversity Duty (see also Environment Act 2021) Section 41, habitats and species of Principal Importance (previously BAP)

Various International, European and National laws in relation to the protection of species and habitats	International and national site protection: Ramsar sites (from Ramsar Convention), Habitat and Birds Directives (Natura 2000 sites include SAC's and SPA's), SSSI's, National Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves. Habitats and Species protection: Habitat and Species Regulations (protected sites and species). Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended including special Schedule 1), Natural England Standing Advice. Badger Act.
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