

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	24/01061/OUT
ADDRESS	Land North Of Barlestone Road Newbold Verdon Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Outline planning application (all matters reserved except vehicular access) for the erection of up to 240 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), retention of the existing accesses off Barlestone Road and the creation of new accesses off Barlestone Road, land safeguarded for a cemetery and a health centre (Use Class E(e)), public open space and associated infrastructure
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Emma Baumber
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Helen Chambers
DATE OF COMMENTS	17/12/24
SUMMARY RESPONSE:	
No comment	
No objection	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
Condition recommended	
Informative recommended	
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:	
• Ecological Appraisal (FPCR, 2024) • Arboricultural Assessment (FPCR, 2024) • Indicative Masterplan (Pegasus Group, 2024) • Site Location Plan (Pegasus Group, 2024) • Biodiversity Metric PDF (FPCR, 2024)	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:	
• We have reviewed the proposed plans and believe that the proposed layout is acceptable. • The evaluations and recommendations made within the Ecological Appraisal (FPCR, 2024) are appropriate, and it is considered that the biodiversity of the site has been sufficiently considered.	

We have an outstanding comment regarding the BNG assessment (see below). Once the BNG metric spreadsheet has been provided, we will have no further objections and as such we recommend the following conditions to be applied.
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SPECIFIC COMMENTS:
- It is noted that the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool has been provided as a PDF. We need to see the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool in the excel spreadsheet format to confirm the BNG baseline is acceptable. - It is noted that it is expected the proposed development will be able to achieve mandatory BNG on site.
FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:
See above comments.
AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED:
N/A
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
- The mandatory BNG condition should apply to any granted planning permission. - The development hereby approved shall be implemented in strict accordance with the measures stated in section 4.0 (Discussion, Recommendations and Conclusions) of the Ecological Appraisal report (FPCR, September 2024), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the LPA. - No development shall take place (including ground works or vegetation clearance) until a Construction Environment Management Plan for biodiversity (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The CEMP shall include the following details: A) Identification of potentially damaging construction activities B) identification of biodiversity protection zones C) practical measures and sensitive working practices to avoid or reduce impacts during construction D) timing of works to avoid harm to nesting birds E) responsible persons for overseeing sensitive works F) use of protective fencing where required The approved CEMP shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the LPA. - Prior to commencement of development, full details of a scheme for the location of bat roosting and bird nesting features to be integrated into buildings and suitable hedgehog gaps in boundary features shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter and prior to the occupation of any dwelling hereby permitted features shall be installed on the site in accordance with the approved details. Photographs of the integrated bird and bat boxes and hedgehog haps within the new dwellings should be provided in order to discharge this condition.
RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
N/A
RECOMMENDED SECTION 106 REQUIREMENT (standard clause, contribution amount, trigger for payment)
The enhancements on site are considered significant and therefore will need to be legally secured.
DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS ONLY: (Please confirm which condition(s) is/are being discharged)

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.