

Site Name	Countrywide Store Watling Street Caldecote Nuneaton Warwickshire CV10 0RY	Advice Request	Ecology
Planning Ref	23/00826/FUL	Response Deadline	26 th September 2023
Planning Officer	Christopher Brown	Completed By	Dean LeFeuvre
Date of Request	6 th September 2023	Date of Issue	26 th September 2023

Stance: No objection.

Dear Chris,

I am writing in respect of ecological matters for the above application advice request regarding the proposed extension of existing storage building.

- **Site Location Plan, Existing Block Plan, Proposed Site Plan, Existing Elevations and Floor Plan Proposed Elevations and Floor Plan, Ecological Appraisal, and Revised Site Plan.**

I have also consulted Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC) for existing protected species data and designated sites within the locality, which may incur potential impacts depending on the proposals. None of which were identified.

The 'Ecological Appraisal' report dated August 2023 completed by Whitcher Wildlife Ltd is acceptable. The assessment identified that the site is of low ecological interest due to the habitats recorded and the sites' general location. The appraisal included an assessment of the sites 'biodiversity value' and recommendations for providing Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) have been made. However given that the site is <1Ha it does not meet the criteria for providing BNG until April 2024a and therefore this is not deemed necessary. I would however like to see the inclusion of general biodiversity enhancements such as those recommended within the report as follows;

- **fitting a bat box to the western face, and a swift box to the northern face of the new building, away from any direct lighting.**
- **a sensitive lighting plan be implemented, which does not subject the hedgerow to the south of the site to any more light than it currently experiences.**

The above enhancements can form a standard planning condition to any approved scheme. The applicant should take note of the reported precautionary measures relating to great crested newts.

Yours sincerely,



Dean LeFeuvre BSc (Hons) MCIEEM

Principal Ecologist

On behalf of Leicestershire County Council (Ecology Team)



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