

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	
APPLICATION NUMBER	26/00045/FUL	
ADDRESS	Post Office Station Road Hinckley Leicestershire LE10 1AW	
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Conversion of existing post office to a 12 bedroom luxury HMO (House in Multiple Occupation)	
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Faizal Jasat	
DEPARTMENT	Ecology	
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Richard Kelly	
DATE OF COMMENTS	03 February 2026	
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application Form • Site Location Plan • Existing Elevations: 25-69-PT2-PL05 • Proposed Floor Plans: 25-69-PT2-PL02 • Proposed Elevations: 25-69-PT2-PL04 		
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:		
No comment		
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)		
Recommend Refusal		
Holding Objection - Further information required		✓
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal is for the conversion of the existing building into a house of multiple occupancy. • The development will require the installation of new dormers and internal alterations impacting on the existing roof void, soffits and tiles. Bats are particularly associated with the roof structures of buildings including gables, eaves, soffits and flashing, but may also be present in crevices such as stone, brickwork or cavity walls providing potential access and suitability for roosting bats. 		

- The application site is also situated within a swift alert area where swifts are known to be nesting; therefore, a Preliminary Roost Assessment for bats will be required of the building in addition to scoping in swifts.
- **There is a holding objection until this is supplied.**
- The ODPM Regulations require protected species surveys to be submitted prior to determination of a planning application. It is also essential that the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development is established before the planning permission is granted. Reference: Paragraph 99 of ODPM Circular 06/2005 (Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System). Therefore, any further surveys recommended within the report would need to be carried out prior to determination.

Note for applicants: Please be aware that this advice is provided to the Local Planning Authority through a Service Level Agreement between the Local Planning Authority and Leicestershire County Council Ecology Team. Its purpose is to discharge the legal duties of the determining authority under The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations (2000), Regulations 4.

If you have any queries about the content, 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 to the determining authority.

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.

