

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	
APPLICATION NUMBER	25/00015/FUL	
ADDRESS	Forest View Sibson Road Sheepy Parva Atherstone Leicestershire CV9 3RE	
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Installation of above ground solar photovoltaic array (non-ground penetrating weighted tubs)	
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Sophie Iliffe	
DEPARTMENT	Ecology	
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Michael McCoy	
DATE OF COMMENTS	26/06/2025	
SUMMARY RESPONSE:		
No comment		
No objection		
Recommend Refusal		
Holding Objection - Further information required		
Condition recommended		✓
Informative recommended		✓
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:		
Revised BNG Metric (Goodwin, June 2025)		
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:		
- We have reviewed the above document as well as 'Proposed Layout Plans, Elevations, Block, Site Location Plan, Drg No. 4177-01 Rev G' (Drawing Room Architects Ltd, 2025). - We find the documents acceptable. - As there are medium distinctive habitats being created, a habitat management and monitoring plan (HMMP) condition is required to secure the land for 30 years. - As there is a pond located nearby, a GCN working method statement is required.		
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SPECIFIC COMMENTS:		
- Habitats = +0.0556BU (+21.30%) - No irreplaceable habitats - No Habitat degradation - Agree on baseline habitat - Based on the current plans, the 10% Biodiversity Net Gain will be met through on-site creation.		

FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:
N/A
AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED:
N/A
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
- The development shall not commence until a 30 year Habitat Monitoring and Management Plan (HMMP), prepared in accordance with an approved Biodiversity Gain Plan, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The approved HMMP shall be strictly adhered to and implemented in full for its duration and shall contain the following: a) Description and evaluation of the features to be managed; b) Ecological trends and constraints on site that may influence management; c) Aims, objectives and targets for management - links with local and national species and habitat action plans; d) Description of the management operations necessary to achieving aims and objectives; e) Preparation of a works schedule, including annual works schedule; f) Details and a timetable of the monitoring needed to measure the effectiveness of management; g) Details of the persons responsible for the implementation and monitoring; h) mechanisms of adaptive management to account for necessary changes in work schedule to achieve the required targets; and i) Details of methodology and frequency of monitoring reports to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority to assess biodiversity gain (To enhance biodiversity, and in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) - All materials associated with the carrying out of the development hereby approved shall be stored off the ground (for example on pallets) throughout the course of the development, including prior to the commencement of development, and all spoil/waste materials shall be removed from the site at the end of each working day, or stored in a skip.
RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
Great Crested Newts, a species fully protected by law, are known to breed in a pond within 200m of the proposed development, with several potential GCN ponds nearby, therefore there is a small possibility that a newt, or small numbers of newts could be present on the site. The applicant should therefore exercise due care during implementation of the proposed development, ensuring that all contractors are aware of the possibility of finding great crested newts, and stored materials are carefully removed by hand. Work should cease if a great crested newt is found, and advice from a licensed ecologist should be sought.
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.

