

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	26/00033/FUL
ADDRESS	4 Druid Street Hinckley Leicestershire LE10 1QH
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	First floor extension to provide classrooms and WC
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Joseph Fleetwood HBBC
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Richard Kelly
DATE OF COMMENTS	22 June 2026
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:	
• Application Form • Site Location Plan • Existing and Proposed Block Plan: 02-2523_00 • Existing Plans and Elevations: 03-2523 • Preliminary Roost Assessment (Arbtech, April 2026) • Bat Emergence and Re-Entry Survey (Arbtech, June 2026)	
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:	
No comment	
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:	
• A Bat Emergence and Re-Entry Survey completed by Arbtech in June 2026 has been submitted with the application following a PRA in April 2026 which is mostly accepted and outlined below. Bats • B1 was assessed as 'low' potential for roosting bats and subject to one emergence survey. Surveys undertaken on the XX found no emerging bats and no further surveys or mitigation is required. • However, the Natural England Bat License Number is requested as stated in Appendix 5, section 3. • There is a holding objection until this is received.	

• Birds – Any building modification should take place outside the bird nesting season. Please see recommended Informatives. • Biodiversity Enhancements – In accordance with the NPPF (2024) there should be a net gain for biodiversity and NERC Act 2006 a duty for public authorities to conserve and enhance biodiversity. It is therefore, recommended that 2 x swift bricks are incorporated within the development and 1 x bat box. • Please see recommended Conditions. BNG Specific • Mandatory BNG does not apply as the application meets the de minimis exemption.
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
• Bird and Bat Boxes - No development shall take place until a biodiversity enhancement scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. Enhancements shall include (but is not limited to) at least one integrated bat box and two integrated swift boxes, the make/model and their locations. Any enhancement measures need to be shown on all relevant submitted plans. All works are to proceed strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
• Nesting birds - Nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); therefore, building demolition and significant alteration or vegetation clearance should take place outside the breeding season (March to August inclusive) unless carefully checked beforehand by a suitably qualified person.

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.
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