

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	25/00964/FUL
ADDRESS	The Larches Hinckley Road Nailstone Nuneaton Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Erection of two dwellings
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Joseph Fleetwood HBBC
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Karley Khan
DATE OF COMMENTS	30 April 2026
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:	
• Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (prepared by Arbtech, dated 06/03/2026) • BNG Metric (dated 17/02/2026)	
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:	
No comment	
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:	
Upon review of the above ecology documents as well as the Landscaping Proposal (ref: TL-A0-003, Rev B) and Application Form, we require some additional information/clarification in order to assess the likely impact of the development on ecology and biodiversity. Details of further information required in order to determine this application are detailed below: <i>Ecology Report;</i> • The BNG report makes reference to a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) report, such that we request this report be made available for review. Holding objection for PEA report, and any other relevant ecological information, to be submitted. <i>Survey Date;</i> • The habitat assessment undertaken to inform the BNG was completed outside of the optimal period for assessing grassland habitat. As this Information forms the baseline for the BNG, BNG Gain Plan and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) we require the condition assessment to be accurate. Therefore, an update condition assessment of the grassland will need to be undertaken during the optimal period. We require the condition	

assessment to be undertaken during the optimal period, with updated condition assessment sheets and quadrat data provided. <i>Redline Boundary;</i> - The redline boundary within the BNG report differs from the boundary as shown on the Landscaping Proposal plan. The BNG plan shows the redline extending beyond the Landscaping Proposal plan, such that it includes additional grassland area and would encompass the boundary hedgerow(s). As such, the BNG report and metric may be incorrect and we have a holding objection for clarification on the redline boundary and for the report(s)/metric to be updated accordingly if required. <i>Retained Trees;</i> - The proposed plans and the BNG also indicate the existing trees will be retained. However these also show this tree within an area of developed land; sealed surface. As such, we request clarification as to whether this tree will be retained and for this to be updated at the Gain Plan stage.
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
TBC
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
TBC
IN THE CASE OF DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS ONLY:
(Please confirm which condition(s) is/are being discharged)
N/A

PRE-DEVELOPMENT HABITAT BASELINE FOR BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG)	
THIS IS THE MINIMUM NATIONAL ESSENTIAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS (PPG paragraph 11) AND MUST BE SATISFIED PRIOR TO DETERMINATION:	
Confirmation that development is subject to statutory biodiversity gain condition	Y
Pre-development Habitat Plan of existing onsite habitat (to scale)	Y
Pre-development Habitat Value (on date of application or earlier)	Y
Completed Metric Calculation Tool	Y
Statement of Habitat Degradation where present (with dates and details)	Y
Reason for proposing an earlier date if applicable (ie. degradation)	N/A
Description of Irreplaceable Habitat where present	Y
SMALL SITES METRIC ONLY: "Competent person" information (ie. qualifications, skills, experience)	N/A
BNG METRIC INFORMATION missing or incorrect:	
Incomplete or incorrect cells are shown in metric (eg. habitat quantity, type or condition, strategic significance)	Y

POST DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FOR BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG)
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PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT ESSENTIAL INFORMATION PRIOR TO DETERMINATION. Post-development information is indicative only ; final proposals must be confirmed at Biodiversity Gain Plan statutory condition stage.	
ON-SITE SIGNIFICANT* BNG is proposed (If Y, please see later table)	TBC
OFF-SITE APPLICANT-OWNED BNG is proposed (ie. Land shown on plan within the “blue line” boundary and inserted in “offsite” tab of statutory metric)	TBC
PLEASE NOTE: Where applicant-owned off-site or significant on-site BNG proposals are present, these should be secured and monitored for 30 years. The determining authority is responsible for monitoring for compliance.	
OFF-SITE PURCHASE** of BNG	
BNG units purchase from a third party to achieve 10% BNG uplift	TBC
Statutory biodiversity credits	TBC
PLEASE NOTE**: Where purchased BNG units are proposed, any purchased units from the national register are secured and monitored for 30 years by conservation covenant, separately from this planning application process.	

POST DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS: *TYPE OF SIGNIFICANT ON-SITE HABITAT PROPOSED: (using the current government definition ¹)		
SIGNIFICANCE AS DEFINED IN PPG	POST DEVELOPMENT HABITAT TYPE PROPOSED	NUMBER OF UNITS
Medium or High Distinctiveness		
Large number of units at Low Distinctiveness		
Significant increase in Distinctiveness, Condition or Area		

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

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/make-on-site-biodiversity-gains-as-a-developer#significant-on-site-enhancements>

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.

