

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PRE-APPLICATION ADVICE

Please be aware that this advice is provided prior to the submission of a planning application and any associated ecological and protected species survey information.

Advice regarding likely ecological impacts has been provided in this limited context. In some circumstances, where information submitted to support a planning application identifies further ecological constraints, this advice may either change or include additional recommendations.

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	26/00181/EAS
ADDRESS	Land Adj Northwood Farm Wood Lane Higham On The Hill
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	EIA Screening Request - Erection of up to 130 dwellings
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Emma Baumber
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Michael McCoy
DATE OF COMMENTS	07/04/2026
EIS Screening Opinion ADVICE:	
• We have reviewed the 'Wood Lane, Higham-on-the-Hill – EIA Screening Opinion Request' (Savills, Mar 2026). • It is the LPA decision to determine whether an EIA is required for this application. • Regarding Biodiversity section, the scope of works provided is acceptable including an Ecological Impact Assessment. • Please also see the LCC Ecology pre-app advice provided for the Site.	

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 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
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NPPF Dec 2023	Paras 8, 180, 181, 185, 186, 187, 188
Environment Act 2021	Mandatory Net Gain Biodiversity Duty Local Nature Recovery Strategy
District or Borough Local Plan and supporting SPD's	Local Plan policy reference:
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.