

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	26/00274/FUL
ADDRESS	Hinckley Sea Cadet Corps Wharf Yard Hinckley Leicestershire LE10 0NQ
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Single storey extension and replacement of existing shipping containers with a new storage building and shower block.
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Sophie Iliffe
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Richard Kelly
DATE OF COMMENTS	11 September 2026
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:	
• Application Form • Existing Site Plan: 25/115 02a • Proposed Site Plan 25/115 04d • Existing Buildings 25/115 03	
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:	
No comment	
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:	
There has been a review of applicant submitted information (revised Proposed Site Plan) and Leicestershire County Council ecology advice, of which there are still holding objections as reiterated below. • The proposed works consist of the replacement of the existing storage containers with a new storage building and single-storey extension. • The application site is situated between the Hinckley Sailing Centre and Ashby dela Zouch Canal which have numerous recent records of water vole. The proposed works will take place within 7m of the bank on the canal side and 5m of the bank of the Sailing centre. Construction has the potential to encroach within 5m of these water bodies therefore a water vole survey will be required. The survey should also include any mitigation required to ensure water voles are not harmed during construction.	

- **There is a holding objection until further water vole surveys have been completed.**
- 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.

