

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	24/01079/OUT
ADDRESS	Land North Of Station Road Market Bosworth Nuneaton Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Outline planning application for up to 126 dwelling (all matters reserved except access)
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Sullivan Archer
DEPARTMENT	
	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	
	Kirsten Hunter
DATE OF COMMENTS	
	6 th January 2025
SUMMARY RESPONSE:	
No comment	
No objection	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	☒
Condition recommended	
Informative recommended	
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:	
• BNG Metric; • Ecological Impact Assessment; • Site location plan; • Landscape Masterplan; • Arboricultural Impact Assessment; • BIA baseline condition visualisation; and • BIA baseline visualisation.	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:	
• The Ecological Impact Assessment gives a satisfactory evaluation of the impacts on habitats, priority and protected species and local sites. Recommendations within the EclA should be carried out to best practise guidance. • A ground level roost assessment for bats has been included within the EclA and assumption is made within the report that all trees will be retained. However, the arboricultural impact assessment has listed trees requiring removal to facilitate the works. It is not clear which trees these relate to within the EclA and whether any of these are trees with bat roost potential. I request confirmation whether any bat roost potential	

trees are proposed to be removed/impacted to facilitate the works and, should this be the case, further bat surveys should be carried out. Please note, any further bat roost surveys should be submitted prior to determination.
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) specific comments:
• Suitable details on the existing onsite baseline habitats and condition are provided within the BNG metric, BIA baseline and BIA baseline condition figures. • No indication of degradation of the existing habitat has been given however, regular management of the existing grasslands has been indicated within the EcIA. • Detailed information on existing irreplaceable habitat has been given (local wildlife site designated for veteran tree). • Indication of how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied (eg. avoidance and mitigation of harm to existing habitat) has been given in the landscape plan which shows the retaining of the veteran tree and immediate habitat. • However, no post-development habitat information has been included within the BNG metric or as post-development habitat maps. Post-development habitat information is requested to gauge at this stage whether 10% net gain is feasible with the current proposed landscape masterplan onsite or if off Site compensation will be required. If off site compensation is required, indication of how this will be achieved should be provided.
FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:
• Post-development BNG information. • Confirmation of whether bat roost potential trees will be removed/impacted.
AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED:
•
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
•
RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
•
RECOMMENDED SECTION 106 REQUIREMENT (standard clause, contribution amount, trigger for payment)
•
DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS ONLY: (Please confirm which condition(s) is/are being discharged)
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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.