

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	26/00437/ADV
ADDRESS	Ratby Medical Centre 1A Desford Lane Ratby Leicester Leicestershire LE6 0LE
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Erection of a non illuminated totem sign
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Gwion Russell
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Jemma Bett
DATE OF COMMENTS	10 August 2026
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:	
Signage details – July 2026	
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:	
No comment	
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)	✓
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:	
The proposed works comprise of the erection of a non-illuminated totem sign. The site is surrounded by open space and mature hedgerows that provide habitat connectivity within the wider landscape. Given the limited scale of the proposed works, ecological surveys would not be proportionate in this instance. However, the following informative should be attached to any planning permission.	
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:	
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:	
Great Crested Newts, a species fully protected by law, are known to breed in a pond within 500m of the proposed development, with potential GCN ponds nearby, therefore there is a small possibility that a newt, or small numbers of newts could be present on the site. The applicant should therefore exercise due care during implementation of the proposed development, ensuring that all contractors are aware of the possibility of finding great crested newts, and stored materials are carefully removed by hand. Work	

should cease if a great crested newt is found, and advice from a licensed ecologist should be sought.
IN THE CASE OF 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 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.

