
From: PlaceServicesEcology@essex.gov.uk
Sent: 27 May 2025 10:40
To: Planning Folder New
Cc: planning.ecology@leics.gov.uk
Subject: Ecology Responser 24/01061/OUT-H&B_27-05-2025
Attachments: Response_02595(1)(1).pdf

Please find attached our comments on the above planning application.

Regards

Charlotte Smith

Place Services, E4 Zone 3, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH
w: www.placeservices.co.uk

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	
APPLICATION NUMBER	24/01061/OUT	
ADDRESS	Land North Of Barlestone Road Newbold Verdon Leicestershire	
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Outline planning application (all matters reserved except vehicular access) for the erection of up to 240 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), retention of the existing accesses off Barlestone Road and the creation of new accesses off Barlestone Road, a cemetery and a health centre (Use Class E(e)), public open space and associated infrastructure	
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Emma Baumber	
DEPARTMENT	Ecology	
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Charlotte Smith	
DATE OF COMMENTS	27 May 2025	
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS:		
• Revised Ecological Appraisal (FPCR, March 2025) • Revised Biodiversity Metric (FPCR, March 2025) • Revised Arboricultural Assessment (FPCR, March 2025) • Revised Indicative Masterplan (Pegasus Group, March 2025) • Revised Landscape Strategy Plan (Pegasus Group, March 2025)		
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:		
No comment		☐
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)		☐
Recommend Refusal		☐
Holding Objection - Further information required:		☒
• Mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain		
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:		
• We have reviewed the revised Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (FPCR, March 2025) and the email from the ecologist (dated 25April 2025) in response to our previous comments • We are still not satisfied that that appropriate information with regard to mandatory biodiversity net gains has been supplied for the application prior to determination. The reasons for this are outlined below.		
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:		

N/A	
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:	
N/A	
IN THE CASE OF DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS ONLY:	
(Please confirm which condition(s) is/are being discharged)	
N/A	
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SECTION	
MINIMUM NATIONAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS PROVIDED (PPG paragraph 11):	
Confirmation that development is subject to biodiversity gain condition	Yes
Pre-development habitat value (on date of application or earlier)	Yes
Reason for proposing an earlier date (if applicable)	N/A
Completed metric calculation tool	Yes
Statement of habitat degradation where present (with dates and details)	N/A
Description of irreplaceable habitat where present	N/A
Plan of onsite habitat pre-development (to scale)	No
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. strategic significance, habitat quantity, type or condition)	No
SIGNIFICANT ON-SITE ENHANCEMENT REQUIRED: (using the current government definition ¹)	
med/high distinctiveness	Yes
large number of units at low distinctiveness	Yes
significant in increase in distinctiveness, condition or area	Yes
BNG ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	
We note in the email from the ecologist that they state the baseline has not altered since September 2024, however the condition assessment included within the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal only lists 23 hedgerows, whereas the revised Biodiversity Metric has 55 hedgerows. Therefore, clarification is needed on the baseline conditions of these hedgerows.	
Applicant-owned off-site or significant onsite BNG is present, to be secured and monitored for 30 years	Yes
BNG units likely need to be provided to achieve 10% BNG uplift (purchased units or statutory credits)	No
PLEASE NOTE: this is indicative only, confirmed at Biodiversity Gain Plan condition stage	

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.

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

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.