

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	
APPLICATION NUMBER	25/01111/HOU	
ADDRESS	224 Markfield Road Groby Leicester Leicestershire LE6 0FS	
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Erection of an annexe	
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Gwion Russell	
DEPARTMENT	Ecology	
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Richard Kelly	
DATE OF COMMENTS	16 February 2026	
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:		
• Application Form • Location Plan • Elevations • Preliminary Ecological Assessment (Pear Tree Ecology, February 2026)		
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:		
No comment		
No objection (for recommended conditions or informatives- see below)		✓
Recommend Refusal		
Holding Objection - Further information required		
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:		
• A Preliminary Ecological Assessment completed by Pear Tree Ecology in February 2026 has been submitted with the application which is accepted and briefly outlined below. • The results of the survey confirmed the garden has already been cleared of vegetation and concrete footings already laid. No evidence of protected species was observed, and the site is of limited ecological value, and no further surveys are required. • Biodiversity Enhancements – In accordance with the NPPF (2024) there should be a net gain for biodiversity and NERC Act 2006 a duty for public authorities to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The report has recommended that hedgehog highways are installed in any new boundary fencing to aid their movement. Additionally, it is recommended that		

native spaces of local provenance are planted as compensation for the vegetation already removed and installation of two bee bricks. Please see recommended Conditions. BNG Specific Mandatory BNG does not apply as the application is a 'Self-build and custom build development'.
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
Landscape Enhancement Plan - No development shall take place until a biodiversity enhancement plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. Enhancements shall include (but is not limited to) 13cm x 13cm holes at the base of new close board fencing. At least one integrated bee brick with the makes/models and their locations. The biodiversity enhancement scheme shall include planting of hedgerows and trees of native species of local provenance and species to attract pollinating insects as identified in the RHS' 'Plants for Pollinators' database. Hedgerow mixes should include: 80% hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>), plus any one or more of the following: field maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>), dogwood (<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>), dog rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>) and holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>). Any enhancement measures need to be shown on all relevant submitted plans. All works are to proceed strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

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.
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