

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	24/00083/HYB
ADDRESS	Land At Burbage Fields Farm Bullfurlong Lane Burbage Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Hybrid planning application for 422 dwellings, public open space, associated infrastructure and the demolition of 65 and 65a Coventry Road, and Burbage Fields Farm and outline planning application for a residential care home and up to 11no. self-build plots (all matters reserved except for access)
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Alex Jelley
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Helen Chambers
DATE OF COMMENTS	25/03/25
SUMMARY RESPONSE:	
No comment	
No objection	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	
Condition recommended	✓
Informative recommended	
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:	
• Bat Boxes, Bird Bricks and Hedgehog Highways (Redrow Homes, 2025) • Biodiversity Net Gain Report (FPCR, 2025) • Biodiversity Net Gain PDF (FPCR, 2025) • Landscape Masterplans (PDP Associates, 2025)	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:	
• We have reviewed the changes to the proposals and have no objection to these changes overall. • It is noted that no bat boxes are displayed on the updated 'bat boxes, bird bricks and hedgehog highways' plan. It is also noted that the Ecology Mitigation/Enhancement Strategy by FPCR has not been updated following the changes. However, these aspects can be dealt with via conditions (seen below).	
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:	

Is there irreplaceable habitat present?	
Is there habitat degradation present?	
Is there applicant-owned off-site or significant onsite BNG required to be secured and monitored for 30 years?	
If significant habitat is present, please list using the PPG definitions : N/A	
Are there any remaining BNG units which need to be provided outside of applicant owned land? eg. purchased through the government register as BNG units or statutory credits (PLEASE NOTE: this is indicative only and confirmed at condition discharge stage)	
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) BASELINE PRE-DEVELOPMENT VALUE:	
Is further information required before agreement of baseline pre-development value ?	
Are there incomplete or incorrect cells in the Statutory Metric?	
Is there incomplete or incorrect habitat information (quantity, type, condition)?	
DATE PROVIDED FOR STATUTORY METRIC WHERE THIS HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND AGREED (for decision notice purposes):	N/A
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:	
- No development shall take place (including ground works or vegetation clearance) until a Construction Environment Management Plan for biodiversity (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The CEMP shall include the following details: A) Identification of potentially damaging construction activities B) identification of biodiversity protection zones C) practical measures and sensitive working practices to avoid or reduce impacts during construction D) timing of works to avoid harm to nesting birds E) responsible persons for overseeing sensitive works F) use of protective fencing where required The approved CEMP shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the LPA. - No development shall take place (including ground works or vegetation clearance) until a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The LEMP shall include the following details: A) description and evaluation of the features to be created/managed B) aims and objectives of management C) appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives D) prescriptions for management actions E) work schedule F) species/seed mixes to be planted/sown G) ongoing monitoring and remedial measures The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details. - No development shall take place until a mitigation and enhancement strategy has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. As a minimum, this should detail the reasonable avoidance measures for bats as well as enhancement measures such as integrated bird and bat boxes and native planting. Any enhancement measures need to be	

shown on all relevant submitted plans/elevations. All works are to proceed strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
- Nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); therefore all removal of trees/shrubs/hedges should take place outside the breeding season (March to August inclusive) unless carefully checked beforehand by a suitably qualified person. - This development will require a European Protected Species licence to make it lawful. You must be aware that to proceed with the development without first obtaining an EPS Licence could result in prosecution.
IN THE CASE OF DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS ONLY:
(Please confirm which condition(s) is/are being discharged)
N/A

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.