

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	25/00517/LBC
ADDRESS	4 Old Hall Barns Markfield Road Groby Leicester Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Changes to the doors on the front elevation, new openings created to the side and rear elevations. New internal stud work on the ground floor and skylights added to the roof and the rear.
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Sophie Iliffe
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Richard Kelly
DATE OF COMMENTS	23/06/2025
SUMMARY RESPONSE:	
No comment	
No objection	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
Condition recommended	
Informative recommended	
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:	
• Application Form • Design Access and Heritage Statement • Existing and Proposed Elevations	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:	
• The site is situated on the edge of Groby adjacent to the A50. The application site itself is surrounded by large mature trees, shrubs and grasslands connecting to other areas of woodland and allotments providing suitable foraging and commuting habitats for bats. • The proposed works include breaking into the existing roof void impacting on tiles and flashing. Bats are particularly associated with the roof structures of buildings including gables, eaves, soffits and flashing, but may also be present in crevices such as stone, brickwork or cavity walls providing potential access and suitability for roosting bats. • Therefore, considering the nature of the works and suitability of the surrounding habitat a Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) is required to assess the condition of the building.	

- The application site is also situated in a swift alert area where known populations of swifts are recorded breeding. The PRA should also scope in nesting birds, notably swifts. There is a holding objection until this is supplied. - The ODPM Regulations require protected species surveys to be submitted prior to determination of a planning application. It is also essential that the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development is established before the planning permission is granted. Reference: Paragraph 99 of ODPM Circular 06/2005 (Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System). Therefore, any further surveys recommended within the report would need to be carried out prior to determination.
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SPECIFIC COMMENTS:
N/A
FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:
PRA and scope in nesting birds.
AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED:
N/A
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:
N/A
RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
N/A
RECOMMENDED SECTION 106 REQUIREMENT (standard clause, contribution amount, trigger for payment)
N/A
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.

