

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	24/01161/FUL
ADDRESS	Manor Farm 2 Carlton Road Barton In The Beans Nuneaton Leicestershire CV13 0DE
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Conversion of two agricultural outbuildings to form two dwellinghouses
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Matt Jedruch
DEPARTMENT	
Ecology	
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Kirsten Hunter
DATE OF COMMENTS	24/02/2025
SUMMARY RESPONSE:	
No comment	
No objection	
Recommend Refusal	
Holding Objection - Further information required	✓
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:	
• Updated Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Ref WCL/MLPEA/281114U; and • Small Site Metric Calculation Tool (Biodiversity Metric 4.0)	
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:	
• The previous ecology comments issued 28th January 2025 requested a more complete Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) which encompasses the entirety of the red line boundary with the BNG metric updated accordingly. • An update BNG Metric has been provided as requested with an apparent substantial net gain. However, I query the created and retained habitat of 'modified grassland' as the PEA states that proposed habitat will actually comprise gardens. This change to the baseline habitat typology will result in a much lower BNG score and the possible need for offsite compensation. As such, clarification is sought on the habitat proposed and BNG metric updated accordingly. • No information on baseline habitats has been provided in terms of habitat typologies within the PEA (e.g. UKHab plan). Details of the habitat present within the red line boundary is requested including pre- and post-development habitat maps. • I request clarification as to why the habitats in the metric have been assigned a higher strategic significance.	

- While the update PEA states that it encompasses the entire proposed site and site maps have been updated, no habitat information has been provided or methodologies/assessments for other protected species which could be utilising the wider site, as previously requested. As this information is still outstanding, the PEA does not yet meet the requirements of CIEEM guidelines. - Indication of degradation of habitats on Site should be stated and accounted for in the metric if degradation has occurred.	
PROTECTED SPECIES FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:	
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG)	
FURTHER INFORMATION IS REQUIRED REGARDING:	
Incomplete or incorrect cells in the statutory metric	X
Incomplete or incorrect UK Hab or condition assessment information	N/A
Final pre-development habitat value	X
How post-development BNG land will be secured for 30 years	X
Description of irreplaceable habitat	X
Description of degradation	X
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SPECIFIC COMMENTS:	
See above	
DATE PROVIDED ON STATUTORY METRIC ONCE REVIEWED AND AGREED (for decision notice purposes):	
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:	
N/A	
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:	
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.