

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

COUNTY, DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
APPLICATION NUMBER	25/01230/OUT
ADDRESS	Land South Of Main Street Carlton Nuneaton Leicestershire
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Outline planning permission for a the erection of a single self-build dwelling (All matters reserved except access)
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Sullivan Archer
DEPARTMENT	Ecology
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Richard Kelly
DATE OF COMMENTS	23 February 2026
ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:	
• Application Form • Site Location Plan • Existing Site Plan • Proposed Site Plan: 1350.SM.25.004 • Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (JM Ecology, November 2025)	
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 Appraisal completed by JM Ecology in November 2025 has been submitted with the application which is accepted and briefly outlined below. • A Construction and Environmental Management Plan (Biodiversity) will be required to protect the following habitats and species during construction: hedgerows and trees. A series of precautionary working methods for: amphibians, reptiles, badgers, badger and hedgehogs. As suitable habitat is present on site and in the wider landscape. Please see recommended Conditions. • Birds – No evidence of nesting birds were observed during the survey. The trees and hedgerows do provide nesting habitat, and any vegetation clearance should take place outside the bird nesting season. Please see recommended Informatives.	

- **Bats** – The adjacent habitats provide foraging and commuting routes for bats. Artificial lighting may lead to an increase in disturbance to bat foraging and commuting routes therefore, it is recommended a low impact lighting strategy will be adopted for the site following best practice guidelines outlined in Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night (ILP, 2023).
- **Biodiversity Enhancements** – The ecology report is recommending a series of enhancements which should be included within a landscape enhancement plan condition. These include:
 - Native tree and shrub planting of local provenance to provide compensation for the new access.
 - A range of plants included in the landscaping to provide for pollinating insects.
 - One general use integrated bird box.
 - One integrated bat box.
 - It is also recommended that any new close board fencing installed which may fragment the landscape for hedgehog should include a 13cm x 13cm hole at the base to allow for hedgehog migration through the site. Please see recommended Conditions.
- **BNG Specific Comments**
 - The application is exempt from biodiversity net gain as it is a self-build and custom build development.

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:

- **CEMP: Biodiversity** - 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. practical measures and sensitive working practices to avoid or reduce impacts during construction on amphibians, reptiles, badgers, badger and hedgehogs
 - C. timing of works to avoid harm to nesting birds
 - D. responsible persons for overseeing sensitive works
 - E. use of protective fencing where required to safeguard hedges and trees
- The approved CEMP shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the LPA.
- **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 bird box and one integrated bat box 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 (*Crataegus monogyna*), plus any one or more of the following: field maple (*Acer campestre*), dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Any enhancement measures need to be shown on all relevant submitted plans. All works are to proceed strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:
• Nesting Birds - Nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); therefore, building demolition and significant alteration or vegetation clearance should take place outside the breeding season (March to August inclusive) unless carefully checked beforehand by a suitably qualified person.

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.

