

CONSULTATION TEMPLATE RESPONSE FROM LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PLANNING ADVICE

DISTRICT OR BOROUGH	Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council	
APPLICATION NUMBER	24/00975/OUT	
ADDRESS	Land North East Of Old White Cottage 2 Newbold Road Desford Leicester Leicestershire LE9 9GS	
DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT	Outline application for the construction of a 3-bedroom split-level dwelling with landscaping (Self-Build) (Scale, Landscaping, Layout and Access to be considered)	
PLANNING CASE OFFICER	Sullivan Archer	
DEPARTMENT	Ecology	
PLANNING ECOLOGY OFFICER	Dean LeFeuvre	
DATE OF COMMENTS	18/02/2025	
SUMMARY RESPONSE:		
No comment		
No objection		✓
Recommend Refusal		
Holding Objection - Further information required		
SUMMARY OF ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED:		
Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Three Shires Ltd, Jan 2025) The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) report identified that no significant impacts upon protected or notable species will result of the development. There have however been some precautionary recommendations made in relation to vegetation clearance and pre-commencement checks for species such as amphibians, reptiles, breeding birds, badger and hedgehog.		
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION PROVIDED:		
N/A		
PROTECTED SPECIES FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED:		
N/A		
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG)		
FURTHER INFORMATION IS REQUIRED REGARDING:		
Incomplete or incorrect cells in the statutory metric	N/A	
Incomplete or incorrect UK Hab or condition assessment information	N/A	
Final pre-development habitat value	N/A	
How post-development BNG land will be secured for 30 years	N/A	

Description of irreplaceable habitat	N/A
Description of degradation	N/A
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN (BNG) SPECIFIC COMMENTS:	
N/A	
DATE PROVIDED ON STATUTORY METRIC ONCE REVIEWED AND AGREED (for decision notice purposes):	
ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED:	
Pre-commencement Badger Walkover Due to a combination of the sites rural context combined with onsite habitats suitable for badger sett construction, a pre-commencement badger walkover should be undertaken prior to the commencement of any works on site. The walkover should be conducted by an appropriately experienced ecologist with a report produced outlining the results of the survey to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval discharge. Biodiversity Enhancement To provide biodiversity enhancement as part of the development scheme a number of ecological measures should be provided inline with the recommendations made within the Preliminary Ecological Report completed by Three Shires Ltd. These include the provision of bat/bird boxes, amphibian/reptile refugia, native planting etc. All enhancements should be illustrated on a plan/drawing detailing the makes, models and appropriate locations to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval and discharge. Lighting Strategy Any proposed external artificial lighting should be subject to a detailed lighting strategy inline with Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) latest guidance on lighting to avoid impacts upon nocturnal wildlife such as commuting/foraging bats. The strategy should be completed with approval from an experienced bat ecologist and submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval and discharge. Construction phases should be limited to daylight working hours only and not incorporate the use of artificial lighting, this is particularly important between the months of March – October inclusive.	
ANY RECOMMENDED INFORMATIVES TO BE APPLIED:	
Breeding Birds Any removal of vegetation should be conducted outside of the nesting bird season which is considered to be between March – August inclusive. Should this not be achievable, then a pre-commencement check should be conducted no more than 24 hours prior to the proposed works. The check should be undertaken by an appropriately experienced ecologist and any active nests identified should be left undisturbed until the chicks have naturally fledged. This is likely to result in postponement of works within a certain radius of the identified nest, followed by additional monitoring checks.	
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.