



ecosupport
PROFESSIONAL ECOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS



ECOLOGY

TREE PROTECTION FENCING

SITE PREPARATION & CLEARANCE

HABITAT MANAGEMENT & ENHANCEMENT

K4 Keppel
Daedalus Park
Daedalus Drive
Lee on the Solent
PO13 9FX

30th May 2023

Dear Knight Architectural Design,

RE: Precautionary Measures for 76 Bursledon Road

This addendum serves the purpose of supplementing the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report (Ecosupport, 2023) by providing additional ecological precautionary measures for the proposed development of the site and should be read in conjunction with this letter.

It is understood that the proposals involve the erection of a single-story extension onto the west elevation of the dwelling in addition to a extending the front of the dwelling eastwards under planning application H/23/94622.

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), undertaken on the 9th May 2023, identified the site as supporting low potential for breeding and nesting birds within the shrubs, trees, and hedgerow, commuting and foraging Badgers, and reptiles within the rear garden site boundaries, although no vegetation or suitable habitat will be impacted upon by the proposals. As such, a precautionary approach is advised using the following methodologies:

Retention of Suitable Habitat & Protective Fencing

In order to ensure there is no risk to reptiles and commuting Badgers, the bank and boundaries of the garden will be retained, and therefore no further survey work is considered necessary. These areas must be protected from damage during works. The bank and garden boundaries should be fenced using Heras fencing or similar to prevent access by machinery. Furthermore, the hedgerow along the northern site boundary will also be fenced off to prevent access to any suitable nesting bird habitat.

No vehicles will enter the retained protective fencing area and no materials will be stored within. All protective fencing must be in place prior to any construction machinery arriving on site, before any works on site get underway, and will

remain in place until all work is completed. This will minimise the level of disturbance within the suitable Badger, reptile, and nesting bird habitat areas during construction.

Breeding and Nesting Birds

Although works are expected to solely take place to the building and surrounding developed land; sealed surface, to avoid disturbance of nesting birds or damage to their nests, clearance of any shrubs, trees, or hedgerow should be undertaken outside of the bird-nesting season (typically March – August, dependant on weather). If this is not possible, the area to be cleared should be thoroughly checked by an ecologist immediately prior to clearance. If any active nests are found they should be left undisturbed with a suitable buffer of undisturbed vegetation (ca. 5 m) until nestlings have fledged.

Reptiles

During Construction

Materials must not be stored along the boundary vegetation on site and must be kept raised off of the ground (i.e stored on pallets). In addition, it is recommended that works avoid reptile hibernation period – typically October to March. Furthermore, all vegetation on site must be kept managed during the development to ensure that reptiles don't establish whilst works take place.

ECoW

As the habitats within the developable area offer limited potential for reptiles, no further survey work is necessary.

If any works are to take place on the structured grassland present around the edges of the site, ***it is recommended that a precautionary approach is adopted to any clearance works***. This would entail the grassland areas being strimmed and cleared in two phases under the supervision of an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW).

If the vegetation is higher than 15cm, the first cut will be down to a height no lower than 15 cm with cut lines from inside the site to the outer edge to encourage any reptiles into the understory of the retained boundary habitats with a second cut (the following day) taking it right down to ground level. If the grassland is shorter than 15cm then it should be cut down to ground level prior to any works taking place.

These works will be done immediately before any ground works to prevent the habitats re-growing and will be done when temperatures are above 12°C with sunshine. It is recommended the grassland is maintained to a low sward height post-clearing to prevent potential reptiles re-establishing on site prior to or during the construction works.

Badger

No Badger setts or evidence of Badger was identified during the PEA and as such no further surveys are recommended. A 'hole' was identified within the bank at the east of the site, however upon closer inspection it appeared to be an old dug out tree stump with no holes leading underground.

However, as the site does offer commuting and foraging habitat, the following precautionary method is recommended. During the construction phase, any open excavations left overnight will either be covered to prevent commuting Badgers falling in or escape ladders should be used to prevent them from becoming trapped. Any open pipework will be checked and then capped nightly.

Kind regards,

Darla Brown BSc (Hons)

Project Ecologist