

Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments, One Horton Heath

Ecology and Mitigation & Management Plan (EMMP)

Final

1841/Version: V1.0

Client: Eastleigh Borough Council (One Horton Heath Team)

Date: 24 June 2026

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Report prepared for:

Eastleigh Borough Council (One Horton Heath Team)

Main contributors:

Ellie Brine BSc (Hons)

ACIEEM

Tessa Pepler BSc (Hons) MSc MCIEEM

Principal Ecologist

Reviewed by:

Tessa Pepler BSc (Hons) MSc MCIEEM

Principal Ecologist

Issued by:

Ellie Brine BSc (Hons)

ACIEEM

Green Tree House, 11 St Margaret's St, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1DA
T: 01225 723652 E: info@johnsassociates.co.uk | W: www.johnsassociates.co.uk

DOCUMENT REVISIONS

Version	Details	Date
1.0 Final	Final EMMP issued to Client for review	24 June 2026

Third party disclaimer

Any disclosure of this report to a third party is subject to this disclaimer. The report was prepared by Johns Associates at the instruction of, and for use by, our client named on the front of the report. It does not in any way constitute advice to any third party who is able to access it by any means. Johns Associates excludes to the fullest extent lawfully permitted all liability whatsoever for any loss or damage howsoever arising from reliance on the contents of this report. We do not however exclude our liability (if any) for personal injury or death resulting from our negligence, for fraud or any other matter in relation to which we cannot legally exclude liability.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Summary of Proposals.....	1
1.3	Purpose of this Report.....	1
1.4	Personnel.....	3
1.5	Site Description and Location	4
1.6	Legislation and Policy.....	4
2	RISK ASSESSMENT OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES	9
3	DETAILS OF THE EXTENT AND LOCATION OF IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL FEATURES	10
4	IDENTIFICATION OF 'BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION ZONES'	13
5	DETAILS OF BIOSECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, INNS CONTROL AND METHODS FOR PREVENTING SPREAD OF INNS	13
5.1	Biosecurity	13
5.1.1	INNS Legislation	13
5.1.2	Approach to Biosecurity.....	13
5.1.3	Preventing the Spread of INNS	14
6	REQUIREMENTS FOR UPDATED ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS TO INFORM MITIGATION MEASURES AND THE TIMETABLE FOR EACH SURVEY	14
7	DELIVERY OF BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN	17
7.1.1	Habitat Distinctiveness	17
7.2	Post-development	18
7.2.1	On-Site Habitats.....	18
7.2.2	Headline Results.....	18
7.2.3	Compensation and Enhancement Measures.....	18
8	AVOIDANCE, MITIGATION AND COMPENSTION MEASURES	21
8.1	Mitigation Rationale	21
9	TIMINGS OF ECOLOGICAL SUPERVISON	27
10	EMMP SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS	27
11	IMPLEMENTATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES	30
13	REFERENCES	32
	APPENDIX A – LEGISLATION AND PLANNING POLICY	

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

Johns Associates Ltd was commissioned by the One Horton Heath Team at Eastleigh Borough Council to produce an Ecological Mitigation and Management Plan of the Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments site at One Horton Heath, Eastleigh, in support of a planning application for the site. The site is located at post code SO50 7QB (central Ordnance Survey (OS) grid reference SU 49117 16956) and is hereafter referred to as the 'Site'.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

The Primary School Sports Facilities & Allotments Site, One Horton Heath (OHH), is a Reserved Matters Application (RMA) for the site included within the Outline Planning Permission (OPP) which was granted in October 2025 (Planning ref no. O/20/89498).

This Reserved Matters submission principally comprises of the detailed design of the 3FE Primary School Sports Facilities & Allotments, together with the following:

- Associated green infrastructure;
- Allotments, ecological, landscape and sustainable drainage works;
- Key infrastructure and utilities, including the provision of vehicular and pedestrian access, footpaths, and cycle paths.

This EMMP is required under planning condition 64 and accords with the over-arching Ecological Mitigation and Management Strategy (Johns Associates Ltd, September 2024) produced for the wider One Horton Heath Outline Planning Application (OPA). Construction phase elements and requirements will be implemented through the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) which is required under OPP Planning Condition 12.

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The objective of the EMMP is to protect features of ecological importance during site clearance and construction in accordance with paragraph 174 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), July 2021 and Policies DM1 and DM11 of the Local Plan (Schedule of Main Modifications) May 2021. The EMMP provides the detailed measures for managing impacts to biodiversity throughout each phase of the construction. The EMMP is based upon the Ecological Mitigation and Management Strategy as approved by Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC). Implementation and responsibilities are addressed in Section 13.

The EMMP has been informed by historic surveys conducted within the OPP Site. This EMMP is informed by following supporting documents:

- The EMMS for the OPA (Johns Associates, September 2024).
- Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments Ecological Impact Assessment, Johns Associates, December 2025.
- GCN licence ref 2022-62944-EPS-MIT ('Chalcroft Farm GCN licence').
- One Horton Heath GCN Masterplan Document Updated 17 July 2023, Johns Associates.
- Bat licence 2021-5226-EPS-MIT 1 Chalcroft Farm - Common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle and brown long-eared bat days roosts.

- Bat licence 2022-62958-EPS-MIT-1 Chalcroft Farm – Brown long-eared maternity roost and maternity satellite roost, brown long-eared day roosts, common pipistrelle day roosts and soprano pipistrelle day roosts.
- Bat Mitigation Strategy (Johns Associates, 2019).

This EMMP provides the details relevant to the discharge of the following OPP OHH Planning Conditions:

Planning Condition 17

"No development shall commence on a phase until it has either been confirmed that there are no invasive non-native species on that phase or a detailed method statement for either the removal or the long-term management/control of any invasive non-native species on the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The method statement shall include proposed measures that will be used to prevent the spread of invasive species during any operations e.g. mowing, strimming or soil movement. It shall also contain measures to ensure that any soils brought to the site are free of the seeds/root/stem of any invasive plant covered under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended. Development shall proceed in accordance with the approved method statement.

Reason: to prevent the spread of invasive non-native species. Without it, avoidable damage could be caused to the nature conservation value of the site and for compliance with Policy DM11 of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan."

Planning Condition 63

"The development shall fully comply with the measures, details and recommendations of the Johns Associates One Horton Heath Ecological Mitigation and Management Strategy (EMMS) Version 1 dated September 2022. Any departure from implementation of this document shall be fully agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority beforehand.

Reason: To protect features of ecological importance during site clearance and construction in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Policies DM1 and DM11 of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan."

Planning Condition 64

"Each Reserved Matters application shall be accompanied by a detailed Ecological Mitigation and Management Plan (EMMP) relating to that phase of development. No development shall commence (including vegetation clearance and groundworks) until an EMMP covering all the proposed development within that phase has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Each EMMP shall be based on the approved Ecological Mitigation and Management Strategy (EMMS) and the recommendations in Chapter 10 and Appendix 10.12 of the submitted Environmental Statement and on the revised Green Infrastructure Parameter Plan (dated 25.05.2021). They shall be based on up-to-date ecological survey information and detail the avoidance and mitigation measures to be carried out on-site and off-site, together with a timetable for implementation. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details. Each EMMP shall include the following:

- Detailed risk assessment of potentially damaging site clearance and construction activities;*
- Details of the extent and location of important ecological features (habitats, including watercourses, ponds, all hedgerows and trees, and species including great crested newt, bats, dormice, otter, reptiles and barn owl) and related green infrastructure and proposed avoidance and mitigation measures, shown on appropriate scale maps and plans;*
- Identification of 'biodiversity protection zones' within which no construction related activities will take place (including protection zones for SINCs, woodland, hedgerows, ponds and watercourses);*

- d) Details of the requirements for updated ecological surveys to inform mitigation measures and the timetable for each survey;
- e) Include a Biodiversity Net Gain Plan based on current DEFRA advice;
- f) Identify where Protected Species Licences will be required to enable the proposed development to proceed lawfully;
- g) Detailed practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practises) to avoid or reduce impacts during site clearance and construction including the location and timing of sensitive works to avoid harm to important biodiversity features (may be provided as a set of method statements)
- h) The times during construction when specialist ecologists need to be present on site to oversee works. The approved EMMP shall be adhered to and implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure that ecological management measures are appropriately devised and implemented effectively so that the overall conservation objectives of the development (including Biodiversity Net Gain) are achieved and maintained over the lifetime of the development, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Policies DM1 and DM11 of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan."

Planning Condition 69

"Site clearance and construction works that could result in harm or disturbance to species listed on Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2017 (as amended) or their breeding sites or resting places, shall not in any circumstances commence unless the local planning authority has been provided with either: a) a licence issued by [the relevant licensing body] pursuant to Regulation 55 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 authorising the specified activity/development to go ahead; b) written confirmation from Natural England or qualified ecologist that the operation does not require such a licence. The works must be undertaken strictly in accordance with the methods, conditions and limitations of the licence granted.

Reason: To ensure there are no adverse effects to the populations of legally protected species for compliance with Policy DM11 of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan."

Planning Condition 70

"A permanent appropriately qualified Ecological Clerk of Works shall be employed for the lifetime of the development who shall be responsible for the overseeing and compliance with all conditions of this permission relating to biodiversity, sustainable drainage, water quality, landscaping, construction, piling, trees, protected species, invasive species, bird hazards, soils and management.

Reason: in the interests of ecology, water quality and sustainable development and to meet the requirements of Policy DM11 of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016- 2036 and the Habitats Regulations."

PERSONNEL

This EMMP was compiled by Ellie Brine BSc (Hons) ACIEEM, a Consultant Ecologist at Johns Associates who has both worked and studied within the Environmental Sector since 2015. Ellie holds a First-Class degree in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science, is an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (ACIEEM) and is proficient in botanical identification, holding a FISC Level 4.

This EMMP was reviewed by Tessa Pepler BSc (Hons) MSc MCIEEM, a Principal Ecologist and Ecology Team Leader at Johns Associates who has worked as an ecological consultant since 2005. Tessa has a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Studies and an MSc in Ecology and Management of the Natural Environment. Tessa is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (MCIEEM) and holds a Natural England Class 1 survey licence

for bats (2019-40584-CLS-CLS-1), great crested newt (2015-18828-CLS-CLS), and dormice (2016-20745-CLS-CLS). Tessa is proficient in botanical identification and is certified FISC Level 3.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Site is located to the west of the village of Horton Heath in Hampshire and measures approximately 5.43 ha. Fir Tree Lane is located to the north of the Site. An area of woodland is located to the northeast and a watercourse runs east to west to the north. Residential dwellings are located to the east, while a solar farm is located to the west. The wider landscape consists of a matrix of agricultural fields, hedgerows, woodland patches, bodies of water and urban settlements.

The wider landscape consists of a matrix of agricultural fields, hedgerows, woodland patches, bodies of water and urban settlements. A plan showing the location and context of the Site is provided as Figure 1.

Figure 2 provides the location of the Site within the OPP red line boundary. Figure 3 provides the 2025 baseline UKHab Habitat Plan and Figure 4 provides the post-development UKHab Habitat Plan.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

The legislation and national and local planning policies which are relevant to this EMMP and protected species within the Site are provided in Appendix A to this report

Figure 1: Site Location Red Line Boundary Plan and Context of Site



Figure 2: Primary School, Sports Facilities and Allotments Location (blue line boundary) within OPP Location

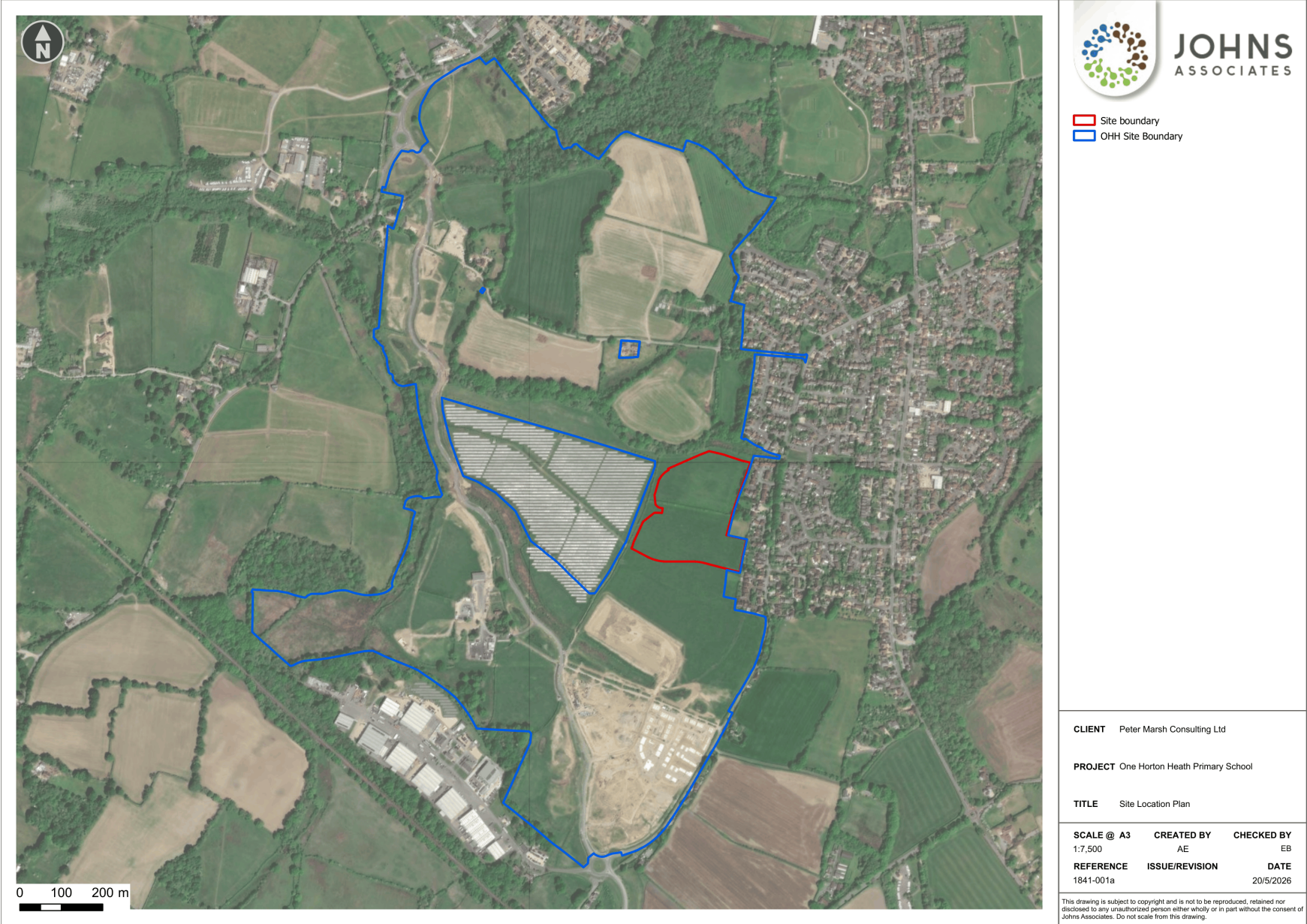
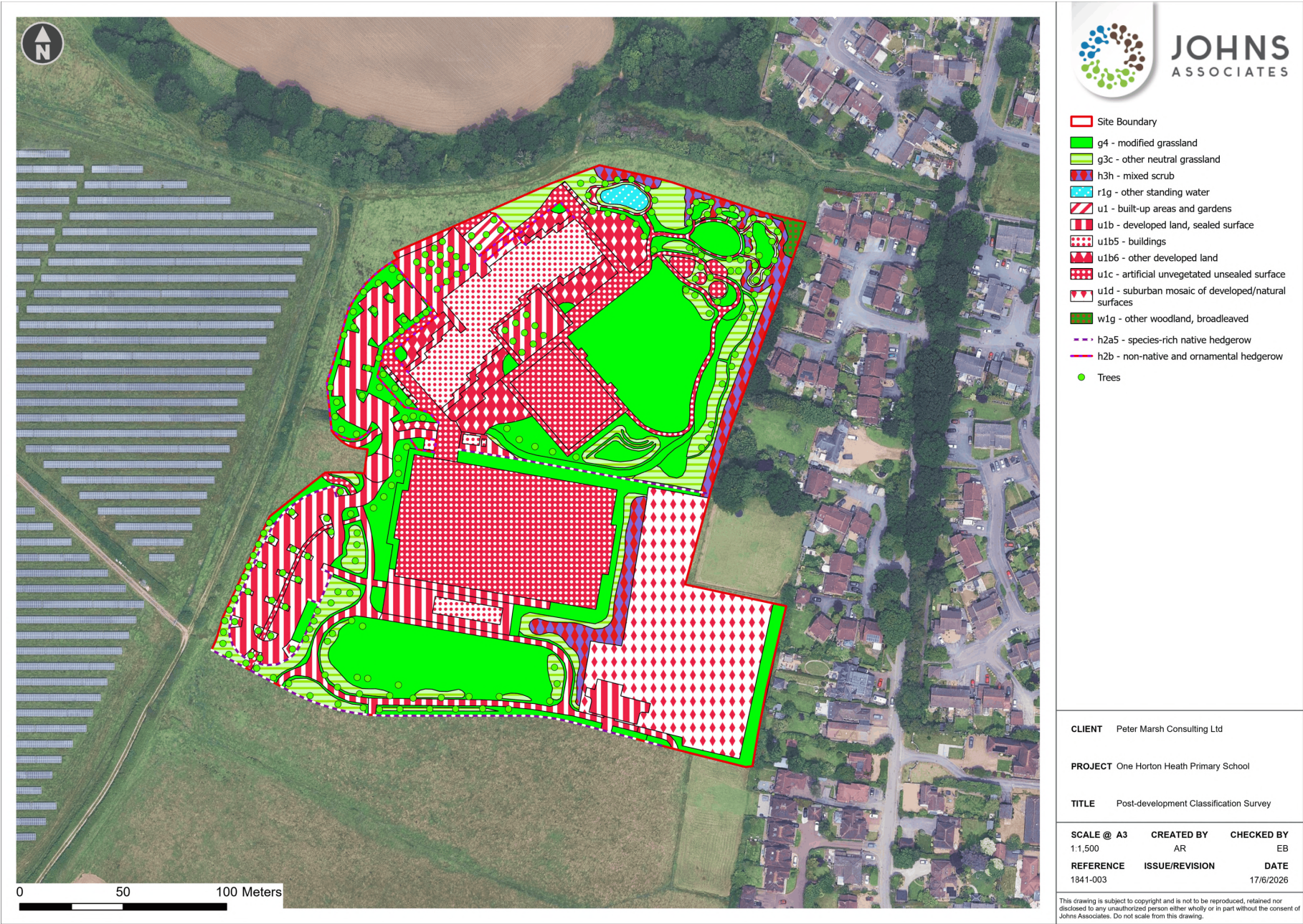


Figure 3: Primary School, Sports Facilities and Allotments Baseline UKHab Habitat Plan including those within the Zone of Interest



Figure 4: Primary School, Sports Facilities and Allotments Post-Development UKHab Habitat Plan



RISK ASSESSEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The Ecological Receptors at the Site have been informed by protected species and habitat surveys conducted by Johns Associates Ltd from 2020 to 2025. Table 1 provides a summary of the ecological receptors at the Site, the legislative risk and the mitigation/avoidance measures to be implemented during the construction phase.

Table 1: Ecological Receptors, Risk and Avoidance/Mitigation Measures

Ecological Receptor	Legal Risk	Construction Risk	Avoidance/Mitigation Measures
Great Crested Newt (GCN)	Contravention of Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA), 1981, as amended and Habitat Regulations 2019	GCN present at Chalcroft Farm. GCN compensation and mitigation was covered under the GCN strategy for the Avenue Road and Lower Acre.	- The vegetation manipulation/ clearance programme to avoid harm to reptiles will also apply to avoiding harm to GCN.
Bats	Contravention of WCA 1981 and Habitat Regulations 2019 NERC Act 2006	Potential roost features on trees off-site within Tree T269, T40, T41, T49, T150, T153, T154, T155, T158, T162 and G32.	- Installation of site demarcation/tree protection fencing around retained woodland in accordance with BS5837:2012, to prevent accidental access and use of signage as necessary. - A 5-15 m construction buffer along the hedgerows.
Hazel dormouse	Contravention of WCA 1981 and Habitat Regulations 2019	Dormouse assumed present within all hedgerows. Risk of harm to dormouse or their resting place or breeding site offences being committed from the removal of 60 m of hedgerow H1.	- Non-Licensed Method Statement (NLMS) outlined in Section 8.1.2. - Two-phase cut of vegetation in Nov to March and May to September. - Ecological Clerk of Works (ECOW) to inspect vegetation prior to removal.
Nesting birds	Contravention of WCA 1981 NERC Act 2006	Risk of disturbance or harm to nesting birds from hedgerow removal and accidental damage to hedgerow and noise disturbance.	- Hedgerow clearance in September to February. - If undertaken during the nesting period, then a nesting bird check by ECoW will be required.
Reptiles	Contravention of WCA 1981 NERC Act 2006	Risk of harm to slow worm in grassland/hedgerow habitat.	- Implementation of Reptile Method Statement outlined in Section 8.1.3. - Vegetation manipulation/ clearance programme to avoid harm to reptiles. - ECoW present for vegetation clearance.
Hedgehog	NERC Act 2006	Risk of harm through 5 m hedgerow removal. Risk of harm through falling in open holes/trenches overnight.	- Vegetation manipulation/ clearance programme. - ECoW present for vegetation clearance. - Access planks left in construction trenches and holes overnight, or open holes covered.
Badgers	Protection of Badgers Act 1991	Risk of harm through falling in open holes/trenches overnight.	- Access planks left in construction trenches and holes overnight, or open holes covered.
Hedgerows	NERC Act 2006	Risk of accidental damage. Risk of dust.	- Installation of site demarcation/tree protection fencing around retained hedgerows in accordance with BS5837:2012 to prevent accidental access and use of signage as necessary. - A 5-15 m construction buffer around retained hedgerows. - Preparation of a CEMP through Condition to avoid and minimise all potential construction

			related pollution (including dust deposition).
Veteran Tree		Risk of accidental damage. Risk of dust.	- Installation of site demarcation/tree protection fencing around veteran tree (T158) in accordance with BS5837:2012 to prevent accidental access and use of signage as necessary. - Preparation of a CEMP through Condition to avoid and minimise all potential construction related pollution (including dust deposition).
Watercourse		Risk of discharge of accidental pollutants and soil/sediment from construction activities into the adjacent receiving watercourse. Risk of accidental damage to the watercourse from construction vehicle movements. Risk of debris and litter into water course.	- Installation of heras fencing along the watercourse to protect it from accidental damage. - Preparation of a CEMP through Condition to avoid and minimise all potential construction related pollution (water quality) and water quantity effects using best practice tried and tested industry methods (such as the NetRegs Guidance for Pollution Prevention Documentsⁱ and Ciria Control of water pollution from construction sites. Guidance for consultants and contractors (C532)ⁱⁱ) and a monitoring program. - A 10 m construction buffer along the watercourse. - Ecological toolbox talk and supervision of certain tasks by Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW).
River Itchen Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Area (SPA)	Contravention of Habitat Regulations 2019 NERC Act 2006	Risk of discharge of accidental pollutants and soil/sediment from construction activities into the adjacent receiving watercourse and into the River Itchen. Risk of modification of on-site hydrological regime or change in flood regime resulting in a change in flow characterisation and water quality entering the River Itchen.	- Preparation of a CEMP through Condition to avoid and minimise all potential construction related pollution (water quality) and water quantity effects using best practice tried and tested industry methods (such as the NetRegs Guidance for Pollution Prevention Documentsⁱⁱⁱ and Ciria Control of water pollution from construction sites. Guidance for consultants and contractors (C532)^{iv}) and a monitoring program. - Ecological toolbox talk and supervision of certain tasks by ECoW.
Bird Hazard – attraction of risk bird species	CAA CAP 772	See CEMP and Bird Hazard Management Plan wording.	

DETAILS OF THE EXTENT AND LOCATION OF IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL FEATURES

As part of a phased approach to construction works across the wider OPP Site, the on-site ecologist or site wide ecological consultant will plan the construction works of each RMA across all work parcels to avoid numerous treelines and hedgerows being interrupted at the same time. This will keep foraging and commuting routes open for wildlife that use the Site.

Figure 5 provides the extent and location of the boundary protective fencing that will be installed to protect the retained boundary habitats at the Site in accordance with BS5837:2012 to prevent accidental access by construction vehicles. All boundary woodland and hedgerows are considered to support common reptiles, dormouse, and nesting birds (Figure 5).

A non-licensable method statement (NLMS) for dormouse to be implemented. A two-phase cut for dormouse (November to March and May to September) and licenced dormouse worker to supervise will be required.

Figure 5: Extent and location of the boundary protective fencing (purple)



IDENTIFICATION OF 'BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION ZONES'

The following areas will be protected for wildlife and subject to access restrictions (Figure 5 provides location of fencing to protect these area):

- Watercourse.
- Hedgerows.
- Retained woodland to the north of the Site
- Veteran tree

DETAILS OF BIOSECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, INNS CONTROL AND METHODS FOR PREVENTING SPREAD OF INNS

BIOSECURITY

The Primary School, Sports Facilities and Allotments will maintain a robust approach to biosecurity, focusing on avoiding factors and situations that increase the risks of spreading diseases, parasites and invasive non-native plants and animals (INNS).

Rhododendron and laurel have also been recorded in Quobleigh Woods and Japanese knotweed has been recorded at Chalcroft Farm within the Site wide OPP area. Unmitigated vehicle movements across the OPP Site have the potential to spread these species to the The Primary School, Sports Facilities and Allotments Site.

The submitted OPP ES Chapter 10 Appendix 10.12 Landscape and Ecological Mitigation and Management Plan, proposes the avoidance and mitigation measures in relation to the control of INNS. Construction activity should not cause such species to spread and specialist contractor's may be required to control/remove such species.

Where present within and immediately adjacent to the working area, the contractor will remove the plants to ensure there is no risk of spread within the site prior to works commencing and dispose of it under an agreed procedure in accordance with relevant guidance from the Environment Agency (www.gov.uk). This needs to also be addressed through the contractors' RAMS.

Should other injurious and invasive plants or animals become suspected during works, cease work and contact the environmental manager immediately. The significance of these invasive species will be highlighted in the induction and toolbox talks.

1. INNS Legislation

Section 14(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) states that "...if any person plants or otherwise causes to grow in the wild any plant which is included in Part II of Schedule 9, he shall be guilty of an offence".

2. Approach to Biosecurity

Field equipment and materials will be stored and maintained in a separate location, split into lockable clean/dry and dirty/wet containers, with an outside yard and washdown area available for disinfection. This will ensure that INNS are not spread into The Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments from the wider OPP site areas or from off-site. The three key steps associated with Check - Clean – Dry and the guidance for Biosecurity in the Field (both on site and at any associated equipment storage depots) forms the cornerstone of the Biosecurity approach:

- Check - Check plant, equipment and clothing for living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.
- Clean - Clean and wash all plant, equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly, preferably with hot water. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the location where you found them.
- Dry - dry all plant, equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer them elsewhere.

Prior to any site work, a biodiversity risk assessment will be completed, which includes a Site inspection by an experienced INNS surveyor to identify potential species on Site, risk ratings and mitigation measures. Where specialist advice is required, this will be sought from professional external advisors and/or from other sources such as best practice guidance documents, the Defra and Non-Native Species Secretariat website, other EU/UK advisory websites and from our clients where appropriate (e.g. Environment Agency).

The outcome of the biodiversity risk assessment feeds into a project task method statement that will be used to deliver a project/site induction with the use of toolbox talks and registers of attendance. Any new members of the team (including sub-consultants and contractors) joining a project will have to complete the induction. Guidance and identification materials (e.g. of INNS) are made available as part of this induction. A biosecurity response plan is developed and procedures and any required equipment is always available on site as well as being prepared for the office/field depot.

Site work adopts a risk avoidance strategy where possible including:

- Use of advanced knowledge or walkover surveys to ground truth biodiversity risks identified as being potentially present
- Avoiding driving vehicles off road wherever possible to minimise transfer of soils/spores/seeds
- Avoiding sensitive times of the year
- Provision of the right equipment that is easy to manage
- Following defined paths
- Use of signage and barrier tapes, checklists, personal cleaning and disinfection, equipment isolation/ washing and disinfection facilities where possible, or isolation and handling at our field depot
- Confirmation of safe and appropriate disposal pathways for potentially contaminated materials, cleaning and drying (48hrs) of personal protective equipment and sampling equipment.

3. Preventing the Spread of INNS

Should INNS spread into the Site from other parts of the Site expert advice and an appropriate removal plan will be implemented to prevent further spread.

REQUIREMENTS FOR UPDATED ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS TO INFORM MITIGATION MEASURES AND THE TIMETABLE FOR EACH SURVEY

Guidance on the lifespan of ecology reports can be found in the CIEEM Advice Note, April 2019. This recommends the following:

- Less than 12 months – likely to be valid in most cases
- 12-18 months - likely to be valid in most cases with the following exceptions:

- Where a site may offer existing or new features which could be utilised by a mobile species within a short timeframe (see scenario 1 example);
 - Where a mobile species is present on site or in the wider area, and can create new features of relevance to the assessment (see scenario 2 example);
 - Where country-specific or species-specific guidance dictates otherwise.
 - Report authors should highlight where they consider it likely to be necessary to update surveys within a timeframe of less than 18 months.
- 18 months to 3 years - A professional ecologist will need to undertake a site visit and may also need to update desk study information (effectively updating the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal) and then review the validity of the report, based on the factors listed below. Some or all of the other ecological surveys may need to be updated. The professional ecologist will need to issue a clear statement, with appropriate justification, on:
 - The validity of the report;
 - Which, if any, of the surveys need to be updated; and
 - The appropriate scope, timing and methods for the update survey(s).

The likelihood of surveys needing to be updated increases with time and is greater for mobile species or in circumstances where the habitat or its management has changed significantly since the surveys were undertaken. Factors to be considered include (but are not limited to):

Whether the site supports, or may support, a mobile species which could have moved on to site, or changed its distribution within a site;

- Whether there have been significant changes to the habitats present (and/or
- the ecological conditions/functions/ecosystem functioning upon which they are dependent) since the surveys were undertaken, including through changes to site management;
- Whether the local distribution of a species in the wider area around a site has changed (or knowledge of it increased), increasing the likelihood of its presence.
- More than 3 years - The report is unlikely to still be valid and most, if not all, of the surveys are likely to need to be updated (subject to an assessment by a professional ecologist, as described above).

Table 2 below sets out when each survey was last undertaken and recommends further action if required. The rationale assumes construction works will commence in 2026/2027. Should construction works not start until 2028 re-surveys for all protected species will be required.

Table 2: Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments Ecology Survey Review

Species/ Group/ Survey Type	Dates of Previous Surveys	Date & Surveys Required	Rationale
1.Extended UKHab Survey	October 2025	One site walkover October 2026 or prior to construction works if before this date	An walkover survey in October 2026 to update information on fields signs or changes in habitat.
2. MoRPH Survey	February 2024	One site walkover October 2026 or prior to construction	An updated survey after October 2026 to update information on fields signs or changes in habitat.

		works if before this date	
3.Bat activity surveys (radio tracking, trapping)	Radio tracking summer 2020 Trapping Aug 2020 Trapping Aug 2018 Static bat surveys 2025	April 2028 if construction has not commenced.	An updated survey in April 2028 to update information on bat species using the Site.
4.Roosting bat tree surveys (tree climbing, emergence)	GLTA conducted January 2026. Selected tree climbs conducted October 2025 (out of season). Ground based assessment updated Dec 2021 Tree emergence surveys August/ September 2020 Tree climbing inspections of moderate or high potential trees Oct 2020	No	Trees are outside of the Site boundary and will be protected and retained through the development.
5.Dormouse surveys	July to October 2025 August to November 2020 July to November 2018	No	Dormouse presence assumed within hedgerows at the Site. NLMS – outlined in Section 8.1.2 of this report, will be implemented for removal of 70 m of hedgerow habitat.
6.Bird surveys	UKHab survey July 2025 April to June 2020 (breeding bird surveys)	No	No changes to site layout or management. Updated UKHab has assessed any changes and concluded that previous results remain valid.
7.Badger surveys	September 2025 September 2020 September 2019 November 2018	No	Site walkover prior to construction works to check for new signs of badger.

8.Reptile surveys	September – October 2025 September 2020 September 2018	No	Vegetation manipulation programme for reptiles prior to construction – outlined in Section 8.1.3 of this report.
-------------------	--	----	--

DELIVERY OF BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN

A Statutory BNG Metric for the Site was conducted in June 2026. The OPP OHH application was submitted prior to the delivery of 10% BNG becoming mandatory for most developments on the 12 February 2024 under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021) and therefore the aim is for the OPP OHH site wide development to reach an overall BNG.

The BNG gain/loss for each RM development application will be tracked and, if required, offset with the BNG from enhancement of the north, central and southern Green Infrastructure (GI) parcels within the Site and within off-site land outside of the red line boundary of the OPP but within the applicant's control.

The post-development landscape and ecological plans produced by Stantec informed the post-development BNG calculations.

4. Habitat Distinctiveness

Overall, the majority of the habitats within the Site boundary are of very low to medium distinctiveness (Figure 3) and this has been quantified from the Statutory Metric trading summary for each habitat type (Table 3). The wider Site has scope to provide biodiversity net gain to offset the loss in the on-site habitats.

Following the mitigation hierarchy, areas of higher distinctiveness value should be preferentially retained and development avoided within those areas to ensure that a high loss is BNG does not occur. Looking at the distinctiveness of each habitat it is possible to highlight areas for potential habitat creation and enhancement. Habitats of low – medium distinctiveness are suitable for the creation of higher value habitat or improved in terms of their overall habitat condition through the design and implementation of new and appropriate management strategies.

Table 3: Existing Habitat Type Distinctiveness

Habitat Type	Distinctiveness	Trading Rule
Habitats		
Modified grassland	Low	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required
Other neutral grassland	Medium	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required
Hedgerows		
Native hedgerow	Low	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required
Species rich native hedgerow	Medium	
Watercourses		
Other rivers and streams	High	Same habitat required

POST-DEVELOPMENT

5. On-Site Habitats

The post-development proposals for the Site comprise the construction of a 3FE Primary School to the north and sports facilities and allotments to the south. Development also includes associated roads, car parks and landscaping. Buffers of greenspace are provided along the hedgerows and boundary habitats which comprise other neutral grassland in moderate condition, woodland mixed scrub and individual tree planting. There will be a total of 204No. individual urban trees planted along roads and within public areas within the Site.

Figure 4 provides the Post-Development UKHab Habitat Plan. Condition assessments for the proposed post-development habitats are provided in the BNG Report (June 2026). The following calculations have been based upon the Landscape General Arrangement Plan, Drawing Reference OHH-ZZ-00DR-L-0000001 (Revision G) produced by Stantec.

6. Headline Results

As demonstrated in Table 4 below, the biodiversity net gain results show an overall net gain in habitats and hedgerows. The trading rules have been satisfied.

Table 4: Summary of Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment before Offsetting

Unit Type	Baseline Units	Post-development Units	Net Unit Change	% Change	Trading Rules Satisfied?
Habitat	11.95	14.3	2.35	19.71%	Yes
Hedgerow	2.26	4.76	2.51	111.12%	Yes

7. Compensation and Enhancement Measures

Table 5 below details the requirements of the compensation and enhancement measures which will be implemented in order to achieve the net gain in habitat and hedgerow BNG habitat conditions for the post-development habitats. The enhancement of habitat within the Site is significant relative to the baseline biodiversity value before development and includes:

- Habitats of medium or higher distinctiveness in the biodiversity metric.
- Enhancements to habitat condition, for example from poor or moderate to good.

Due to the 'significant enhancement' of habitats at the Site, a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) is required to be provided within the planning application or via planning condition.

Table 5: Summary of Proposed Compensation Measures

Habitat Type	Proposed Compensation or Enhancement Measure	Target Condition	Delivery Details
Grassland	Creation of modified grassland	Poor	In order to satisfy the criteria for poor condition as per the Statutory Metric, the following are achievable and must apply: - The sward height must be varied with at least 20% of the sward >7cm in height, and 20% <7cm; - No bracken or scrub encroachment should be allowed to establish; - No invasive non-native species should be present. Due to the species composition being limited to one species (Bourne Amenity, 'Rhizomatous Tall Fescue (RTF) Turf) it is not possible to achieve a condition higher than poor.
	Creation of other neutral grassland	Good	In order to satisfy the criteria for Good condition as per the Statutory Biodiversity Metric, the following are achievable and must apply: - The appearance and composition must fit the UKHab definition of other neutral grassland; - The sward height must be varied with at least 20% of the sward >7cm in height, and 20% <7cm; - No bracken or scrub encroachment should be allowed to establish; - No invasive non-native species should be present; - There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m² (not inclusive of species of sub-optimal condition). This Criterion is considered achievable due to the application of Emorsgate EM3 of which comprises 30 different species at appropriate proportions to achieve 10 species per m².
Woodland	Creation of a small area of other woodland; mixed	Poor	Please see appended Condition Assessment Sheet for Woodlands (BNG Report, Appendix B. A score of 24 will be achieved.
Heathland and Scrub	Creation of mixed scrub	Moderate	In order to achieve moderate condition, the following are achievable and must apply: - The appearance and composition must fit the UKHab definition of mixed scrub; - No invasive non-native species should be present; - The scrub should have a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and/or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat; - Clearings, glades or rides should be present within the scrub.
Lakes	Creation of non-Priority pond	Moderate	In order to achieve good condition for ponds (non-priority habitats), the following are achievable and must apply: - Good water quality with low turbidity; - Habitat of at least moderate distinctiveness surrounds the pond for at least 10m from its perimeter; - Less than 10% of the surface is covered with duckweed or filamentous algae; - The pond is not artificially connected to other waterbodies;

			- Water levels can fluctuate naturally throughout the year; - No invasive non-native animals or plants must be present; - The pond should not be artificially stocked with fish; - Emergent, submerged or floating plants (excluding duckweed) cover at least 50% of the pond area which is less than 3m deep; - The pond surface is no more than 50% shaded by trees and shrubs.
Urban	Allotments	Moderate	In order to achieve moderate condition for urban, the following are achievable and must apply: - A varied vegetation structure; - Presence of different plant species beneficial for wildlife; - Invasive plants and those to the detriment of native wildlife cover less than 5% of vegetated area.
	Rain Garden	Good	In order to achieve moderate condition for urban, the following are achievable and must apply: - A varied vegetation structure; - Presence of different plant species beneficial for wildlife; - A complete absence of invasive non-native species.
Trees	Planting of 204 small trees	Moderate	In order to achieve moderate condition, the following are achievable and must apply: - Tree species should be native; - Trees should not be unnecessarily pruned or subjected to detrimental activities; - Deadwood, cavities, ivy and loose bark should be preserved; - At least 20% of the tree canopy should oversail vegetation beneath. - Gaps in canopy of tree groups are <10% and no individual gaps being >5m wide.
Hedgerows	Creation of species-rich native hedgerow	Moderate	In order to achieve good condition, the following must apply: - The hedgerow should be >1.5m in height on average; - Canopy gaps make up <10% of total length and no gaps are >5m wide; - Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment should account for <20% of ground flora at the hedge base; - >90% of the hedgerow is free of non-native or neophyte species; - >90% of the hedgerow is free of damage from human activities

AVOIDANCE, MITIGATION AND COMPENSTION MEASURES

The practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practices) needed to avoid or reduce impacts during the Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments Site clearance and construction including the location and timing of sensitive works to avoid harm to important biodiversity features (including relevant method statements) are set out below.

MITIGATION RATIONALE

Johns Associates Ltd has undertaken a range of protected species surveys within the local area to inform Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments and the wider OPP development and the baseline is reported in full within Chapter 10 (Biodiversity) of the OPP EIA and Section 4.2 of the Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA).

All landscape and ecological maintenance work will be carried out in a manner that will avoid potential legal offences and harm to ecological receptors that may be present on site. Any potentially harmful maintenance operations are to be performed with awareness of, or take place outside, the most ecologically sensitive periods, while providing the management necessary to maintain and increase the biodiversity value of the site.

All construction and maintenance operators and contractors will make themselves aware of all ecological constraints, drainage runs and services etc prior to commencing maintenance operations. They shall maintain access to all/any manholes/drainage hatches, soakaways, etc.

The principal seasonal ecological constraints of protected species and the avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures are provided in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Ecological Avoidance, Mitigation and Compensation Measure Summary

Receptor	Constraint	Sensitive Period/ Implementation Period	Action
Hazel dormouse	Dormouse present in hedgerows, tree lines and scrub	November to March	Works Phase: NLMS - two-phase cut of 70 m hedgerow section implemented under supervision of licenced dormouse worker. Above ground vegetation clearance undertaken in winter (November to March) to 0.5 m in height.
		May to October	Works to remove tree roots and ground vegetation undertaken between May and October i.e. when the dormice are active.
Bats - loss/degradation of foraging habitat	Hedgerows	All times	The loss of foraging habitat across the site has been minimised through the retention of hedgerows with a 60 m section of H1 removed for a road and parking. Works Phase: Hedgerows will be protected with a minimum 5 m buffer and enhanced, with connectivity between habitat areas and potential roost sites maintained both across the site and the wider landscape through the measures to protect these specific habitats. A 15 m commuting buffer has been incorporated into the eastern hedgerow to compensate for the loss of foraging habitat. Occupation Phase: Lighting on hedgerows must be <0.5 Lux.

Reptiles & Amphibians	Slow worm, present on Site.	Hibernation period: November–February inclusive	Timing of works: Vegetation clearance works of modified grassland should be carried out within the active season for reptiles (March–October inclusive) to avoid the disturbance of hibernating animals which are unable to move away from the development area. No removal of suitable refuge habitat will be undertaken when overnight temperatures are consistently (for five consecutive nights) below 5°C, to remove the risk of disturbing hibernating reptiles. Pre-works phase: An ecological toolbox talk will be delivered prior to any works. Prior to the commencement of works the working footprint will be agreed and demarcated on site to include vehicle access areas, material storage, skip and materials handling areas associated with the demolition works. This working footprint will be minimised and designed with the contractor to avoid any unnecessary impacts on suitable boundary reptile habitats. Where suitable habitats are present within the agreed works area, a two phased cut of any habitat considered it be suitable for reptiles, such as tussocky grass, will be conducted to prepare the working area. The first cut will be to approximately 30 cm in order to encourage any reptiles present to move out of the area. The area will then be left to settle and a subsequent cut to 15cm will follow. A suitably qualified ecologist will lift and remove any potential reptile refugia from within the working area. The vegetation will be maintained in an unsuitable condition for the duration of works. Works phase: Should the movement of any machinery into the fenced protected boundary habitats be required, a suitably qualified ecologist will conduct an inspection first to ensure no animals are likely to be harmed. Response: If reptiles are found at any stage of the vegetation clearance works, they will be encouraged to move off of their own accord into the surrounding retained habitat. Post-construction: Two reptile hibernacula, basking areas, habitat piles, scrapes created within suitable boundary habitats and adjoining GI habitats.
Nesting birds	Potential nesting habitat present throughout site.	Nesting period: 1 st March –31 st August (inclusive)	Timing of works: No vegetation clearance within bird nesting season. Habitats requiring works during the nesting season (1st March–31st August inclusive) will be subject to a pre-works nesting bird check. Works phase: Hedgerows will be protected and retained (other than a 60 m section removed in H1). Creation of new hedgerow habitat for nesting birds. Provision of 3 no. bird nesting boxes on the mature trees located along the eastern boundary.

			Response: Measures implemented to protect any active nests likely to be affected by the works including avoidance of disturbing works to a buffer informed by the ECoW.
Hedgehog	Suitable habitat includes hedgerows and other neutral grassland	March to October	Works Phase: Two phase vegetation cut methods for amphibians and reptiles and dormouse will also protect hedgehog. Deep excavations will be covered at night or suitable mammal ladders/earth maps will be provided to allow large mammals including hedgehog to exit excavations. Planks of wood to be left in open trenches/holes overnight allow fallen hedgehog to escape. Access holes for hedgehog to be built into all closed barriers around gardens and public areas.
Badger	Potential for traversing badger	All times	Pre-Works: Precautionary survey prior to construction works to ensure any new setts are taken into account in the construction programme. Works Phase: Deep excavations will be covered at night or suitable mammal ladders/earth maps will be provided to allow large mammals including badger to exit excavations. Planks of wood to be left in open trenches/holes overnight allow fallen badger to escape.
Invertebrates	Loss of invertebrate habitat	Post-construction phase, pre-occupation	Works phase: 5No. Invertebrate and bee boxes to be installed within the Site within hedgerows. Dead wood to be retained on Site in suitable locations. Periodic scrapes, soil/gravel mounds and bee banks will be created within the GI parcel grassland habitats. Dead wood piles will be created in GI parcel treelines, woodland and grassland habitats. Forest school to have bug hotels and retain dead wood.
Invasive species No INNS species have been recorded	Himalayan balsam and JKW present in the wider OHH OPP area.	All times	Construction activity should not cause the spread of any invasive species and specialist contractors should be employed to control and deal with invasive species, where required. Should invasive species be identified on site, measures set out in Section 6 would apply and an appropriate contractor informed.
Watercourses including River Itchen SAC	Accidental pollution	All times	Preparation of a CEMP through Condition to avoid and minimise all potential construction related pollution (water quality) and water quantity effects using best practice tried and tested industry methods (such as the NetRegs Guidance for Pollution Prevention Documents^v and Ciria Control of water pollution from construction sites. Guidance for consultants and contractors (C532)^{vi}) and a monitoring program. Installation of site demarcation fencing to prevent accidental access. Ecological toolbox talk and supervision of certain tasks by Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW).
	Prevention of	All times	Full details of construction measures set out in relevant CEMP.

	sediment discharge into streams and SAC: maintenance of water quality	Early inclusion of SuDS to promote on-site attenuation of surface waters emerging from the OHH area to enable long-term high quality wetland/watercourse habitats, promoting physical habitat diversity, reconnection to the floodplain and Stage 0 headwater processes, to ensure no further downstream mobilisation of soil/riverine sediment and nutrients and to provide ecologically valuable natural filtration features within the development such as wetland areas reed beds etc that is above and beyond the net zero nutrient and sediment emission measures described in above. Control of sediment and runoff will be managed in accordance with the principles set out in the CIRIA SuDs Manual. Installation temporary sediment basins/traps/settlement ponds and/or early construction of the permeant SuDs features will be undertaken before any earthworks begin. Haul roads will be designed to minimise and control run-off including temporary surfacing and temporary drainage to intercept sediment laden run-off and wetting of surfaces during periods of dry weather. Run-off control measures to divert run-off around areas being excavated will be installed in conjunction with sediment basins/silt traps. The contractor will minimise the amount of land disturbed at any time to reduce the potential for run-off to enter water courses (phasing). The use of methods including, retaining grass and vegetation for as long as possible, in disturbed areas, controlling erosion via the use of straw bale barriers, geotextile silt fences and sediment basins (with regular clearing out of excess sediment off-site) and ensuring that the runoff from the disturbed area passes through sediment control systems before discharge will be required. De-watering operations – water pumped out of excavations generally carries a heavy sediment load and should never be discharged direct into watercourses. It should be routed first through features that will allow sediment to be filtered out and settle out. Working in or on the banks of watercourses presents a high risk of significant sediment mobilisation and challenges in intercepting it and capturing it once mobilised. The Contractor must consider the temporarily diversion of watercourses around work sites. Worked areas should be finished and vegetation established as soon as works are complete and the area/time ground is left bare and disturbed should be minimised. All discharge of water into local watercourses will be in line with
--	---	--

		relevant Environment agency licenses and permits. All sediment controls will be set out in the Contractors Construction phase plan and will be subject to weekly checks. Silt, including fine silt or other contaminated water must not be allowed to enter watercourses and ditches. The water courses in this area feed into the River Itchen, a European Special Area of Conservation for wildlife. Pollution of the watercourses could have significant environmental and ecological impact. There is a potential for significant silt and run-off from the construction works and storage areas, (which slope down towards the drainage ditches) to enter watercourse. The Principal Contractors plan their work to contain any contamination, for example, bunding, the use silt barriers/geotextile fencing or alternative effective measures to prevent this occurring. Contaminated water can arise from excavations, exposed ground, stockpiles, plant and wheel washing, concrete mixing, or other construction activities. Catch-pits or silt traps on drains will be used to remove suspended solids such as mud and silt to prevent contaminated water entering surface water drains, surface waters or ground waters, or draining onto the land. Wheel washing locations need to be identified away from watercourse. Before wheel washing takes place, checks will be carried out to ensure that sediment traps and measures to prevent run-off and the transmission of hydrocarbons/salt/invasive plant seeds are in place during cleaning. These must be checked and emptied and at regular intervals. Adequate provision for dealing with silty water is to be agreed in advance. Any planned discharges off the site will require prior approval with the appropriate authorities. All washings from cement and other cleaning processes must be contained within the site and removed via tanker or other appropriate means to prevent discharge into the local environment. All contaminated water must be removed from site and adequately treated prior to discharge under the appropriate permits and licenses. SuDs features have been implemented to prevent silt contamination. During construction of the sewers and infrastructure the likelihood of any contamination being caused is slim, however all machines are well serviced and will be fuelled via diesel station located within the
--	--	--

			compound facilities that will have the appropriate raised blockwork surround with plastic lining to help prevent spillages. If there are spillages whilst a machine is onsite, then this can be addressed using the locally located spill kits to prevent any further contamination within the soil. There will also be the appropriate skips for waste materials etc. that will be delivered on a call-off basis to prevent over filling.
Hedgerows	Accidental damage to hedgerows	All times	Construction Phase: A minimum 5 m buffer to hedgerows in which the following specifications apply: No excavation (except SuDS, respecting RPAs) No construction related activities or activities likely to have negative effect on habitat Biodiversity Enhancement. No additional lighting >0.5lux as demonstrated by the External Lighting Report produced by RHB Partnership LLP (11 June 2026). The ecological buffer will be designed to effectively extend the existing habitats within the hedgerows and to provide a transitional habitat and structure, replicating natural hedgerow expansion/succession to increase diversity and to protect and enhance the existing habitat. Occupation Phase: All hedgerows will be managed for biodiversity in accordance with a long-term management plan, including new planting to infill gaps in hedgerows, increase in species diversity and ongoing high-quality management.
Bird Hazard Management Plan	Construction	All times	Construction phase: Control of construction drainage and earth works during the construction phase should ensure that wide areas of permanent open water do not develop which can attract geese, gulls and wading species. If necessary, bare loose soil should be compacted to reduce its suitability for bird species. The timing of all significant earthworks, particularly topsoil spreading and grading, shall be notified to the airport (Airfield Operations) in advance and scheduled, where possible, at times of lower flying activity. Grass seeding should be done in phased sections if the area to be seeded is larger than 150m² rather than all at once. Intervals between discrete blocks should ideally be in the order of 3 days. This will produce staggered germination, reducing the amount of seed available to pigeons, reducing the area affected at any one

			time and allowing better deployment of passive deterrent measures. Blocks of ground where construction work has been completed shall be reinstated or covered and re-seeded (where applicable) at the earliest opportunity. Waste control and disposal for the Site, including food waste, should be controlled to avoid the build-up of scavenging bird species such as gulls and corvids. Waste should be placed in covered skips and bins to reduce risk.
--	--	--	--

TIMINGS OF ECOLOGICAL SUPERVISION

Ecological supervision will be required for the following construction activity/operations:

- Vegetation clearance (habitat manipulation – 2 stage cutting down) of habitat with known reptile potential during active reptile period (March- October).
- Vegetation clearance of hedgerow during hibernation dormouse period (removal of hedgerow to 0.5 m November to March).
- Vegetation clearance of hedgerow during active dormouse period (removal of hedge roots/stumps, May to October).
- Clearance of vegetation with nesting bird potential during the nesting bird season (1st March to 31st August) – pre-works nesting bird check required rather than supervision.
- Confirmation of the appropriate implementation of the CEMP measures.

The Project Ecologists will be on site to provide Ecological Toolbox Talks to The Principal Contractor and its sub-contractors to ensure that this EMMP, LEMP/HMMP and relevant parts of the CEMP are fully understood and will be adhered to.

In addition, the Project Ecologists will be undertaking ongoing monitoring and reporting back to the Principal Contractor, the OHH Management Team and EBC/NE/EA during the duration of the works.

The Project Ecologists will be 'on standby' to respond to any unforeseen ecological issue that may arise during the proposed construction works.

EMMP SCHEDULE OF OPERATIONS

Table 7 outlines the principal ecological seasonal constraints and the timing of works and avoidance, mitigation and compensation measure that will be carried out at prior to and during the construction phase of Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments.

Table 7: Primary School, Sports Facilities & Allotments EMMP Schedule of Operations – all to be overseen by ECoW

Ecological Timing Constraints and Schedule of Operations													
Species/Species Group	Construction Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dormouse and hedgehog	First phase hedgerow cut of 5 m section	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
	Second phase hedgerow cut and removal of roots	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Reptiles and Amphibians	Other neutral grassland and hedgerow clearance – two phase cut	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Nesting Birds	Other neutral grassland and hedgerow clearance (unless ECoW has inspected and signed off)	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hedgerows, mixed scrub and trees	Planting (avoiding if ground frozen or waterlogged)	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Hedgerows/scrub	Thinning/cutting every 5 years	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Grassland	Cut and remove arisings with off-site disposal	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X
	Survey for undesirable species and hand pull	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X

	Seeding	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X
--	---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

IMPLEMENTATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Table 8 provides the roles and responsibilities in relation to implementation of the EMMP. Failure to comply with the avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures outlined within the EMMP could lead to offences being committed under wildlife legislation.

Table 8: Roles and Responsibilities to Implementation of EMMP

Mitigation/ Management Measure	Principal Derivation	Project Responsibility	Enforcing Body
Staff/contractors working on site should be briefed on the locations of environmentally sensitive features, and on the working practices required to safeguard these feature	Conservation (Natural Habitats and species Regulations 2017 to protect from killing, disturbance, damage, destruction, WCA, NERC Act	One Horton Heath (OHH) and appointed contractors.	Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) and NE where required.
Dormouse	Conservation (Natural Habitats and species Regulations 2017 to protect from killing, disturbance, damage, destruction, WCA	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC (in consultation with NE where required).
Bats: habitat planting connectivity, lighting	Conservation (Natural Habitats and species Regulations 2017 to protect from killing, disturbance, damage, destruction, WCA	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC (in consultation with NE where required).
Precautionary measures for reptiles	Obligation under Wildlife & Countryside Act (WCA 1981) (as amended) to protect common reptile species from inter alia, killing or injury	One Horton Heath and appointed contractors.	EBC
Nesting birds	WCA active bird nests protected from disturbance	One Horton Heath and appointed contractors.	EBC
Badger protection	Badger Act	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC
Hedgehog protection	WCA and NERC Act	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC

Watercourse and River Itchen SAC	Conservation (Natural Habitats and species Regulations 2017	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors. Water quality monitoring will be required and undertaken by specialist contractors (Hilson Moran and Johns preparing advice)).	EBC (in consultation with Environment Agency and NE where required).
Invasive species	WCA 1981	One Horton Heath and appointed contractors.	EBC (in consultation with Environment Agency where required)
Protection of buffer zones to sites and features (including hedgerows and watercourses)	EBC Local Plan	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC (in consultation with Environment Agency where required).
Bird Hazard Management Plan	International Civil Aviation Organization ICAO Annex 14, Volume 1, to the Convention on International Civil Aviation	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC (in consultation with UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
LEMP/HMMP: habitat creation and management	EBC Local plan and associated policies. Environment Act 2021.	One Horton Heath (scheme designers), landscape architects and appointed contractors.	EBC

REFERENCES

- British Standards Institution, (2013). *BS42020 Biodiversity – A code of practice for planning and development*. Available at <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-06/16%20-%20biodiversity%20-%20code%20of%20practice%20for%20planning%20and%20development%20%282013%29%20BS%20420202013.pdf>
- Collins, J. (2023). *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines*. 4th edition. Bat Conservation Trust, London.
- MAGIC Map <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>
- Mammal Society (2025) *Hazel Dormouse Conservation Handbook*. Third Edition. Ian White , Robert Wolton , Simone Bullion
- Mammal Society (2025) *Hazel Dormouse Mitigation Handbook*. David Wells, Paul Channin & Leonardo Gubert.
- NARRS, *Reptile Habitat Guide*. [Online] Available at: http://narrs.org.uk/documents/Reptile_habitat_guide.pdf
- Reason, P.F. and Wray, S. (2023). *UK Bat Mitigation Guidelines: a guide to impact assessment, mitigation and compensation for developments affecting bats*. Version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Ampfield.
- UK Government, 2015. *Reptiles: surveys and mitigation for development projects*. [Online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reptiles-protection-surveys-and-licences> The UK Habitat Classification Habitat Definitions Version 2.0, July 2023
- UK Government, 2015. *Reptiles: surveys and mitigation for development projects*. [Online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reptiles-protection-surveys-and-licences> The UK Habitat Classification Habitat Definitions Version 2.0, July 2023
- UK Government, (2021). *Environment Act 2021*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted>
- UK Government, (2019). *Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/579/contents/made>
- UK Government, (2006). *Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>
- UK Government (1990) *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. Available at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents>
- UK Government, (1981). *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69>
- UK Habitat Classification, *Habitat Definitions Version 2.0*, UKHab July 2023

APPENDIX A – LEGISLATION AND PLANNING POLICY

LEGISLATION

Many species of animal and plant receive some degree of legal protection. For the purposes of this report, legal protection refers to: species included on Annex II of the Habitats Directive 1992 (Council of European Communities, 22/07/1992) , Schedules 2 and 5 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and Schedules 1, 5 and 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) , excluding species that are only protected in relation to their sale (see Section 9[5] and 13[2]) reflecting the fact that the proposed development does not include any proposals relating to the sale of species.

Legal offences associated with species listed on Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations and Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act in England and Wales include inter alia:

- Deliberate capture, injury or killing of animals or taking or destroying their eggs;
- Deliberately disturb animals in a way that would significantly affect their local distribution or abundance, or affect their ability to survive, breed or rear young;
- Intentional or reckless disturbance of an animal in its place of shelter or protection;
- Damaging or destroying a resting place or breeding site;
- Intentionally or recklessly obstructing access to a place of shelter or protection; and
- Possess, control, transport, sell, exchange or offer for sale/exchange any live or dead animal or any part of an animal.

Relevant species listed on these Schedules that are potentially associated with this Site include bats and reptile species (e.g. slow worm). All species of bat receive full protection from all legal offences listed above. Common reptile species receive partial protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act in that they are protected from killing and injury only.

All species of wild bird are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) from killing or injury. In addition, it is an offence to take or damage/ destroy their eggs and to damage or destroy a nest whilst it is in use. Species listed on Schedule 1 (such as barn owl) receive additional protection in that it is illegal to disturb birds or their young whilst occupying, or near to, an active nest.

A number of wild plants, habitats and animals (including reptiles, hedgehog and most species of bat) are also included within Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 which lists flora, fauna and habitats considered by the Secretary of State to be of principal importance for conserving biodiversity. The publication of the "England Biodiversity List" satisfies the requirements of Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 for the conservation of biodiversity. Section 40 of the NERC Act 2006 requires public bodies, including local planning authorities, to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity in England, when carrying out their normal functions.

Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (UK Government, 1992) which makes it an offence to willfully kill, injure or take (or attempt to kill, injure or take) a badger; or to disturb badgers whilst occupying their setts.

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY

NPPE

There are numerous national and local planning policies associated with flora and fauna (also referred to as biodiversity) that need to be addressed as part of the planning process. The Government has issued its National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) February 2025, which requires impacts to biodiversity to be minimised. Paragraph 194 of the NPPF applies the same protection to Ramsar sites as that conferred by the Habitats Regulations to SACs

and SPAs, it also applies the same protection to sites identified or required as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitat sites.

To protect and enhance biodiversity plans should:

- 192a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation;
- 192b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

The NPPF requires development to apply the following principles (Paragraph 193):

- a) if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
- b) development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
- c) development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
- d) development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.

Planning authorities should follow key principles to ensure that the potential impacts of planning decisions on biodiversity conservation are considered. Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation provides guidance on the application of the law relating to planning and nature conservation and complements the NPPF.

The Natural Environment Paper

“The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature” outlines the Government’s approach and vision for nature in the UK including protecting and improving our natural environment, growing a green economy and reconnecting people and nature.

Biodiversity 2020

A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services, are the country level strategies for England and builds on the natural Environment White Paper. It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. The priorities for action include a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation, putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy, reducing environmental pressure and improving knowledge.

LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

8. Local – Eastleigh Borough Council

As well as national policy, there is relevant biodiversity policy contained within the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016-2036, adopted in April 2022.

POLICY DM11: Nature Conservation

1. The Council will work with statutory and voluntary agencies and developers, and will determine planning applications, to:
 - a. protect, conserve and enhance all:
 - i. international, national and local nature conservation designations; and
 - ii. networks of natural habitats and features, including the Local Ecological Network, Priority Biodiversity Areas and Priority Biodiversity Links, watercourses, wetland complexes, woodland trees, and trees and hedgerows important to biodiversity and local character.
 - b. assist in achieving national, county and local biodiversity targets as set out in Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs);
 - c. seek a net gain of biodiversity on all development sites (including sites for redevelopment) through the protection, enhancement and connection of existing and provision of new habitats and features of nature conservation interest compatible with the native biodiversity characteristics of the Borough, having regard to local geodiversity and soils; and
 - d. contribute to major elements of the PfSH Green Infrastructure Strategy and other strategies for the provision and enhancement of multifunctional green infrastructure including green routes, ecological networks and biodiversity enhancements (see strategic policy S9).
2. Development which is likely (either individually or in combination with other developments) to adversely affect the integrity of an international or European nature conservation site will not be permitted subject only to imperative reasons of overriding public interest and securing any necessary compensatory measures in the absence of alternative solutions. A 'project level' Habitat Regulations Assessment will be required where there are likely significant effects or uncertainty. Any mitigation measures required to ensure no adverse impact must be implemented at the appropriate time.
3. The Council will work with PfSH, Natural England, the Environment Agency and other wildlife organisations to develop and implement with developers a strategic approach to the protection and enhancement of international and European sites from the direct and indirect effects of development. Within Eastleigh Borough this will include:
 - a. implementing:
 - i. the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy (requiring contributions from residential developments within 5.6 kilometres of the Solent Special Protection Area to the Strategy); and
 - ii. the interim and any future New Forest Recreation Mitigation Strategy if required;
 - iii. or alternative agreed site specific measures to address recreational disturbance;
 - b. preserving the water quality and flows within the Itchen and Hamble, Southampton Water and Solent;

- c. protecting the River Itchen SAC, in particular the maintenance and where appropriate restoration of habitats and qualifying species to favourable conservation status (as defined by article 1 of the Habitats Directive); and
 - d. seek contributions towards measures set out in the Southern Damselfly Conservation Strategy (or other strategy) specifically to deliver biodiversity net gain.
4. Development will not be permitted if it is likely (either individually or in combination with other developments) to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) or Local Nature Reserve (LNR) as shown on the policies map (or on a more recent plan provided by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre) unless it can be demonstrated that:
- a. there are no alternative solutions;
 - b. the adverse effects are unavoidable;
 - c. measures are taken to mitigate or, as a last resort, compensate for the adverse effects;
 - d. there is an overall biodiversity net gain; and
 - e. if there are any residual adverse effects which cannot be avoided, mitigated or compensated, the benefits of the development must clearly outweigh the adverse effects on the nature conservation value of the site and any broader impacts on national and local designations.
5. Development will not be permitted if it is likely (either individually or in combination with other developments) to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on **priority habitats, protected priority species, or on the local ecological network** unless it can be demonstrated that:
- a. there are no alternative solutions;
 - b. the adverse effects are unavoidable;
 - c. measures are taken to mitigate or, as a last resort, compensate for the adverse effects;
 - d. there is an overall biodiversity net gain; and
 - e. if there are any residual adverse effects, the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the adverse effects on priority habitats, priority and protected species, and the local ecological network.
6. Development will not be permitted if it results in the loss or deterioration of **irreplaceable habitats** (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees), unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists.
7. **Buffers** free from development will be provided to designated sites to avoid/mitigate impacts, including recreational impact and impacts on edge habitats, and to maintain dark skies.
8. Development will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that:
- a. there have been thorough habitat and species **surveys**;

- b. the great crested newt strategic survey and strategy have been considered in all developments within 500m of a great crested newt pond; and
- c. the strategic bat trapping survey has been considered in all developments within the locality of a woodland or connected habitat networks.

Strategic Policy S9, Green Infrastructure

1. Through new development and other initiatives and the Borough Council will seek to achieve the provision, retention and/or enhancement of the following forms of multi-functional green infrastructure, including provision of:
 - a. landscape scale strategic links across the Borough boundary, to and between the Borough's settlements, the countryside, the coast, and the major areas of open space including the country parks (see strategic policy S12);
 - b. interlinked publicly accessible open space through new and existing development including for example formal sports facilities and informal amenity spaces and cemeteries (see policies DM32-DM34, Chapter 5 and detailed proposals in Chapter 6);
 - c. green infrastructure incorporated into all new development with multifunctional spaces connected by primary, secondary and tertiary green links;
 - d. interconnected urban green infrastructure within the fine grain of existing and new development including green, cycle ways, paths and linkages between community facilities and open spaces to link community facilities;
 - e. green stepping stones such as street trees, green roofs and walls, pocket parks and urban copses (see policy DM1, Chapter 5);
 - f. connected habitats linking the network of designated sites and existing priority habitats, taking account of the Hampshire ecological network map (see policy DM11, Chapter 5);
 - g. incorporation of historic buildings and landscapes, including historic parks and gardens within the wider Green Infrastructure to protect their setting (see policy DM12, Chapter 5); and
 - h. opportunities for local food growing including allotments, community orchards and farms (see policies DM32 to DM34, Chapter 5 and detailed proposals in Chapter 6).

9. Local Biodiversity Action Plans

EBC has a Biodiversity Strategy 2024 – 2034 – Securing our Natural Environment which outlines Priority Areas for Nature Recovery.

10. Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire is currently in consultation and is due to be published in December 2025.