

Subject: Hedgehog Protection Plan - 8 Sparrow Square - Planning Application H/25/98818

To: Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

From: David Cresdee - Both Creative Partnership

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Introduction:

This document outlines the comprehensive measures that will be implemented to protect hedgehogs during and after the construction of the development at 8 Sparrow Square, planning application number H/25/98818. We recognize the ecological importance of hedgehogs and are committed to adhering to legal obligations and best practices for their conservation.

Pre-Construction Measures:

1. Hedgehog Street Resources:

- We will utilize the resources provided by Hedgehog Street (a joint campaign by PTES and BHPS) to ensure the development is designed and managed in a hedgehog-friendly manner.
- Developers advice from the hedgehog street website will be followed.

Construction Phase Measures:

1. Hedgehog Highways:

- During fence and wall construction, developers will incorporate "hedgehog highways" – 13cm x 13cm gaps – to facilitate hedgehog movement between gardens and adjacent areas where appropriate.

2. Site Safety Management:

- All open holes, pits, ditches, ponds, and drains will be covered or fitted with ramps to prevent hedgehogs from becoming trapped.
- Netting will be kept off the ground or tied up to prevent entanglement. Fence netting will be kept 13cm from the ground to prevent entanglement.
- Rubbish will be contained in designated areas to prevent litter entrapment.

3. Habitat Mitigation:

- Piles of dead wood and brash will be created where necessary to compensate for the removal of any potential nesting sites.

4. Minimizing Hard Standing:

- The total area of hard standing will be minimized, with preference given to grassland and permeable "living driveways" where possible.

5. Natural Shelter:

- Existing leaf litter will be retained or relocated to designated piles, and log/brush piles will be created to provide shelter and foraging opportunities.

6. Relocation Protocol:

- If hedgehogs are discovered during construction, they will be carefully relocated by a qualified ecologist to a safe area outside the development site.

Post-Construction Measures:

1. Hedgehog-Friendly Fencing:

- We will encourage the homeowners/occupants to maintain and install hedgehog highways in their fences.

Legal Compliance:

- We acknowledge that hedgehogs are protected under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- We also acknowledge the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and that it is an offence to deliberately capture, injure or kill, or deliberately disturb European protected species (EPS), which includes hedgehogs.
- We understand that the LPA requires all necessary surveys to be completed before deciding on planning applications.

Conclusion:

We are committed to the protection of hedgehogs throughout the construction process and beyond. We believe these measures will effectively mitigate potential impacts and contribute to the conservation of this protected species.