

BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST

The purpose of the biodiversity checklist is to decide the presence of protected habitats and species within or in close proximity to the application site. All of these protected habitats and species are afforded varying levels of protection under the following pieces of European and Statutory legislation.

The Habitat Regulations (as amended), 1994

The Wildlife & Countryside Act (as amended), 1981

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010

The council has a duty to protect and conserve biodiversity in all of its functions. The biodiversity checklist will identify those important habitats and species that need to be protected and conserved from a series of questions and answers. This will quicken the planning application process by allowing the council to assess whether further information is required and request this information. If the information provided is not adequate, the applicant is advised that the application may not be successful.

Internationally important sites:

- Is the development within 2km of a Special Area for Conservation (SAC)?
YES NO

If yes, written ecological reports will be required, although this may not be necessary where the applicant is able to provide pre-application correspondence from Natural England (NE), which confirms that they are satisfied that the proposed development will not have a detrimental impact on any SAC or SPA site.

Nationally important sites.

- Does the proposed development affect, or is it within 500 metres, of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?
YES NO

If yes, you will need to consider whether the proposed development could result in damage to the wildlife value of the site and you should consult with Natural England to clarify.

It may be necessary to submit supporting information, from Natural England and/or in the form of a written report, showing that the proposal will not impact on the SSSI. You should submit copies of any correspondence with your planning application.

County Wildlife Sites.

- Does the proposed development affect, or is it adjacent to, a county Wildlife Site (WS)?
YES NO

If yes, you will need to consider whether the proposed development could result in damage to the wildlife value of the site. It may be necessary to submit supporting information, in the form of a written report, showing that the proposal will not impact on the WS.

If impacts are identified, it will be necessary to submit written information on how the impacts will be mitigated. Consult with the Hertfordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) and submit copies of any correspondence with your planning application.

(HBRC, Environment, Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford. SG13 8DN. 01992 555220)

Buildings.

Does the proposed development include the demolition, modification, or conversion of buildings and structures of the following types and structures?

- All agricultural buildings (farm houses and barns), particularly of traditional brick or stone with exposed wooden beams. **YES NO**
- Proposals for the demolition or removal of buildings and structures, especially those with roof voids and gable ends or tile/slate roofs, regardless of location. **YES NO**
- All buildings with weather boarding and/or hanging tiles that are within 200m of woodland and/or water. **YES NO**
- Pre-1960 detached buildings and structures within 200m of woodland and/or water. **YES NO**
- Pre-1914 buildings within 400m of woodland and/or water. **YES NO**
- All Listed Buildings. **YES NO**
- Any works to tunnels, culverts, kilns, ice-houses, chalk mines, and cellars with access to the outside. **YES NO**
- Any works to bridge structures, aqueducts and viaducts, particularly those over water. **YES NO**
- Any proposals for the exterior lighting of churches and Listed Buildings or the floodlighting of green space and ménages, within 50 metres of woodland, rivers, lakes, hedgerows and lines of trees, particularly if they connect with woodland and waterbodies. **YES NO**

Habitats.

- Is the development proposal in a setting with any of the following features: mature woodland, hedgerows, trees, scrub, grassland, rivers, lakes, marshes, ponds and ditches? **YES NO**
- Does the development involve the felling of any trees, particularly mature trees with hollows, cracks, crevices and loose bark? **YES NO**
- Does the development involve the removal of a traditional orchard, scrub, lines of trees, hedgerows and shrubs? **YES NO**
- Does the development affect, or is it within, 100 metres of a river, stream, ditch, canal, lake or pond? **YES NO**
- Does the development affect, or is it within, 100 metres of a quarry, gravel or clay pit? **YES NO**

- Does the development affect, or is it within, 100 metres of allotments or railway land? **YES NO**
- Does the development affect, or is it adjacent to, an area of rough grassland, scrub or derelict land? **YES NO**
- Does the development site contain any piles of wood, rubble, woodchip, compost or manure heaps? **YES NO**

Site Address:.....

Details of person responsible for completing the checklist.

Name:.....

Relationship to proposal:.....
e.g. applicant, agent, ecological consultant.

Date:.....

Please return it to the Local Planning Authority with your Planning / Estate Management application.