

MEMORANDUM

To: Andrew Hodgson
From: Darren Frost
Ref: P0416-M-001a
Date: 21st April 2015

Wenny Road, Chatteris, Ecology Survey: Results Summary and Further Actions Required

Badger

No signs of Badger or Badger setts found during the surveys.
No further actions required except maintain watching brief during other on-going ecology surveys.
Generic precautionary measures during construction.
Habitat enhancement opportunity to meet NPPF requirements for Biodiversity.

Barn Owl

No signs of roosting or nesting Barn Owl found during the surveys.
No further actions required, maintain watching brief during other on-going ecology surveys.
Generic precautionary measures during construction.
Habitat enhancement opportunity to meet NPPF requirements for Biodiversity.

Stage 1 Bat Inspection

No signs of roosting bats found during the surveys, however 14 of the trees surveyed were considered to contain features suitable to support roosting bats and were therefore classed as Category 1/1* trees.
Further actions include: Stage 2 Bat Activity required, involving emergence and re-entry surveys of the trees at most risk of being affected by development and an transect survey of the whole area to investigate the usage of the development site by foraging bats.
The results of the activity surveys will inform the need for further actions.

Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) Assessment and Great Crested Newt (GCN) Survey

HSI assessment was carried out on four ponds within or adjacent to the development. The results indicated that three of the ponds were categorised as 'poor' suitability for breeding GCN. Pond no. 3 located adjacent to the development site boundary was categorised as 'average' suitability for breeding GCN. No amphibians, including GCN were found during the netting of the ponds (Nos. 1, 2 and 4), access to pond No.3 for netting was not possible.

Further actions include:

GCN presence/absence surveys of accessible ponds, there are on-going for the 3 accessible ponds, no signs of GCN yet but still 2 surveys to be carried out. The results of the surveys will inform the need for further actions.

Consider requesting access to the pond(s) bordering the northern boundary of the site, at least to take eDNA samples (i.e. one visit rather than 4-6)

Water Vole

No signs of Water Vole found during the surveys.
No further actions required, maintain watching brief during other on-going ecology surveys.
Generic precautionary measures during construction.
Habitat enhancement opportunity to meet NPPF requirements for Biodiversity.

Breeding Birds

Surveys on-going. Results indicate district level of importance from breeding bird assemblage, there are Local and National BAP species and Species of Principal Importance (NERC ACT 2006) S41, breeding at the site.
Generic precautionary measures during construction required to avoid contravention of law pertaining to nesting birds.
The results of the remaining surveys will inform the need for further actions.

Habitat loss mitigation requirements necessary to address presence of Local and National BAP species and Species of Principal Importance. Habitat enhancement opportunity to meet NPPF requirements for Biodiversity.

Reptiles

Surveys commenced no reptiles found yet. The results of the surveys will inform the need for further actions.

Invertebrates and Botany

Surveys commenced no results yet. The results of the surveys will inform the need for further actions.