THE QUEEN'S AWARDS FOR ENTERPRISE: INNOVATION 2016

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Project Scope:	Briefing Note – Reptile
Project Title:	Royston, York Way Site
Our Reference:	GC.207731.17
Client:	Kiafield Properties
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Date:	*May 2017*

1. Introduction

A reptile survey was competed in April 2015 which confirmed that reptiles were absent from site, the purpose of this briefing note is to illustrate that the site conditions are similar and to support the findings of the 2015 reptile survey that the site remains unsuitable and therefore discharge planning approval condition 18.

2. Observations

Photographs from 2015 and 2017 have been provided for comparison.

2015









Photos from March 2015.

May 2017






Since the 2015 Ecology survey we have carried out regular ground maintenance operations on the Royston Gateway site consisting of Autumn Flail mowing to reduce ground cover to a

minimum followed by Late Winter / Early Spring spraying with Glyphosate and Companion Gold wetter.

The last dates of ground maintenance at the Royston site are listed below for the season 2016 and 2017.

April 9th 2016 site sprayed off with Glyphosate.

November 6th 2016 site flail topped.

The site was cut in March 2017 and was treated with glyphosate. The warm weather coupled with the recent rains has resulted in a burst of growth in the on-site vegetation. Although we don't have photographs at this time it could be assumed that it looked similar to that in 2015.

3. Opinions & Recommendations

We appreciate that there are known reptile populations along the A505 beyond the site limits, however based on the above site records we are of the opinion that it is unlikely that reptiles have migrated into the site and therefore unnecessary to undertake another Full reptile survey at this stage.

The enabling works are due to begin in August 2017 and as a precautionary measure it is recommended that these works are completed under ECoW with the following measures are adopted:

- A suitable receptor site has been identified (Annex 1) and checked by Ground Control as a suitable location for the translocation of any discovered reptiles.
- All operatives to be briefed out on reptiles toolbox talk
- Any areas proposed for site cabins or storage of materials, where vegetation removal is not considered necessary shall be subject to inspection by an ecologist immediately prior to installation.
- Prior to the removal of the fly tipping and de-vegetation works an ecologist will undertake a destructive search to confirm the presence / absence of any reptiles.
- Reptile matts to be left out during the summer months and checked on a daily basis during the initial stages of the enabling works.
- Tree arising's from the initial stage of de-vegetation works will be utilised to create log piles and hibernacula in the receptor area ,

- Directional strimming shall be carried out, reducing the sward height to no lower than 100mm, with vegetation cutting commencing from the furthest part of the site boundary and moving toward the site boundary,
- Cut vegetation shall be raked and removed from the area to prevent arisings from creating refuges for reptiles,
- Once areas have been made unsuitable for reptiles they shall be maintained in this condition, until works commence, to deter reptiles from returning,
- Full photographic records and reports will be carried out and submitted to the LPA if required.

On the basis of these findings and recommended approach it is our opinion that this briefing note along with the historic survey provides sufficient detail to discharge the outstanding planning condition.

Appendix 1 – Site Map

