



Vistry Group

**Land Surrounding Burloes Cottages, Newmarket Road, Royston
(Site Wide All Phases)**

**CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN
(CEMP: BIODIVERSITY)**

June 2026

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The following Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been prepared by FPCR Environment & Design Ltd. (FPCR) on behalf of Vistry Group for a Site located at Land Surrounding Burloes Cottages, Newmarket Road, Royston. This document details measures proposed to maintain the ecological value of retained habitats and to avoid potential effects to protected and/or notable species during the construction period. This document should be viewed in conjunction with the current illustrative masterplan produced by McBains Ltd (ref: ROY01-MCB-ZZ-ZZ-DR-A-0140-D5-P8_Illustrative Masterplan).
- 1.2 The application Site is dominated by intensively managed arable land. Other habitats present and/or bounding the Site include plantation broadleaved woodland, neutral semi-improved grassland, amenity grassland and hardstanding.
- 1.3 To the west the Site is bounded by broadleaved woodland and further residential development, to the north Newmarket Road and to the east and south further broadleaved woodland.
- 1.4 This CEMP has been produced to discharge Condition 12 of outline planning consent 17/00110/1 issued by North Hertfordshire District Council (NHDC).
- 1.5 Condition 12 states:

"No development shall take place (including demolition, ground works, vegetation clearance) until a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The CEMP (Biodiversity) shall include the following."

 - A) Risk assessment of potentially damaging construction activities.*
 - B) Identification of "biodiversity protection zones".*
 - C) Practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practices) to avoid or reduce impacts during construction (may be provided as a set of method statements).*
 - D) The location and timings of sensitive works to avoid harm to biodiversity features.*
 - E) The times during which construction when specialist ecologists need to be present on site to oversee works.*
 - F) Responsible persons and lines of communication.*
 - G) The role and responsibilities on site of an ecological clerk of works (ECoW) or similarly competent person.*
 - H) Use of protective fences, exclusion barriers and warning signs.*

The approved CEMP shall be complied with and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To safeguard natural assets present of the site."
- 1.6 This CEMP has been produced to cover the whole Site and all Site phases.

2.0 SITE ECOLOGICAL BASELINE AND BACKGROUND

2.1 The Site is located within the LPA boundary of NHDC.

2.2 Previous ecology survey were completed by Southern Ecological Solutions (SES) between 2015 and 2020. The results of these surveys are provided within:

- *Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey: Park Field, Newmarket Road, Royston, Hertfordshire.* SES (December 2016);
- *Phase 2 Ecological Surveys & Assessment: Park Field, Newmarket Road, Royston, Hertfordshire.* SES (December 2016);
- *Report to inform the Screening of Effects on nearby Statutory Designated Sites: Park field, Newmarket Road, Royston, Hertfordshire.* SES (December 2016); and
- *Addendum Ecology Report: Park Field, Newmarket Road, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 7NJ.* SES (July 2020).

2.3 To assist with discharging this planning condition and other planning matters relating to the Site as a whole, FPCR completed further ecological surveys in October 2023 and June to August 2024. These surveys included an:

- Updated Phase 1 Habitat survey;
- Updated ground level tree assessment survey for roosting bats within trees;
- Aerial Assessment of trees with potential roosting features (PRFs) to be removed / impacted by proposed development; and
- Updated badger survey with additional camera trap monitoring.

2.4 Results of the above surveys are detailed within Table 1.

Table 1 – Summary of Survey Results

Ecological Feature	Year	Survey Result
Badgers	2016	Single active subsidiary sett and single inactive outlier sett identified within the arable field parcel to the south-east.
	2020	Single active outlier sett identified within the arable field parcel to the south-east (previously subsidiary).
	2023	Single active outlier sett was identified within the arable field parcel to the south-east, on the border with the small in field woodland copse. Latrines furthermore identified. Single recently used latrine located along southern boundary.
Bats - Roosts	2016	Two trees identified to present features suitable to support a 'low' bat roosting potential
	2020	Seven trees identified to present features suitable to support roosting bats (6 low potential, one moderate potential).
	2023	49 trees identified to present features suitable to support roosting bats (39 PRF-I, 10 PRF-M).
	2024	Aerial assessment of trees presenting PRF-I and PRF-M which are to be removed / impacted aerially assessed (6 PRF-I and 2 PRF-M) did not identify the presence of roosting bats.
Hazel dormice	2016	Surveys did not identify the presence of hazel dormice.
Reptiles	2016	No reptile presence/absence surveys undertaken however previous reporting acknowledges the possibility of a small number of individuals possibly utilising the Site.

- 2.5 The proposed development will result in the loss of most of the existing habitats from within the Site. These habitats include: arable land, neutral semi-improved grassland and some plantation broadleaved woodland.
- 2.6 This CEMP outlines measures to safeguard retained habitat features and appropriate working methods to minimise the risk of harm and mitigate potential adverse effects on protected or otherwise notable species.
- 2.7 Where impacts on protected species are anticipated, relevant mitigation and precautionary working methods affecting protected species and their habitats will be followed.
- 2.8 Full details of working methods and mitigation are outlined in this document and provide an indication of typical working methods for the species/species group.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT AND RELEVANT LEGISLATION

- 3.1 Tables 2 and 3 consider the retained habitats and fauna that are sensitive to construction activities and identify the potential risks to such habitat from development operations. Measures to manage these risks are discussed below in the appropriate section for the stage of development.

Table 2 – Assessment of Risk to Habitats

Habitat	Relevant Legislation / Policy	Assessment of Risk
Woodland and trees	It wasn't considered that this area of plantation broadleaved woodland met the criteria of Habitat of Principal Importance (HPI) under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.	There is a risk of: root compaction, damage to roots through pollution or incorrect storage of materials, damage to branches during Site clearance, and accidental removal of excessive areas of woodland and trees.
Grassland, arable	N/A	There is a risk of: pollution from dust, and run off during construction activities, including accidental spillages, compaction and poaching, damage through incorrect storage of materials, accidental removal of areas.

Table 3 – Assessment of Risk to Fauna

Species	Relevant Legislation / Policy	Assessment of Risk
Badger	Protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. This Act is based on the need to protect badgers from baiting and deliberate harm or injury. The Act makes it an offence to wilfully kill, injure, take possession or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so; and to intentionally or recklessly interfere with a sett. Sett interference includes disturbing badgers whilst they are occupying a sett, as well as damaging or destroying a sett or obstructing access routes. A sett is defined as: "Any structure or place that displays signs indicating current use by a badger".	There is a risk of: Killing or injuring badgers during ground works within 30m of the active outlier sett. Damaging the active outlier sett during ground works within 30m. Disturbing the active outlier sett and/or individual badgers if works are carried out without a licence and the requirements of the licence. Badgers and other mammals becoming trapped within trenches or pipe work.
Bats	Bats and their roosts are listed on the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (<i>as amended</i>) making it illegal to deliberately disturb any such animal or damage / destroy a breeding site or roosting place of any such animal. Bats are also afforded full legal protection under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (<i>as amended</i>). Under this legislation it is illegal to recklessly or intentionally kill, injure or take a species of bat or recklessly or intentionally damage or obstruct access to or destroy any place of shelter or protection or disturb any animal whilst	There is a risk of: Killing or injury or disturbance of roosting bats during removal of trees identified with feature suitable to be used as an roost site Disturbance of foraging and commuting bats, if present, for example via artificial lighting.

Species	Relevant Legislation / Policy	Assessment of Risk
	they are occupying such a place of shelter or protection. Some bat species are considered to be Species of Principal Importance (SPI) under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006, with all bat species known within the borough listed on the LBAP.	
Birds	Under the WCA 1981 (<i>as amended</i>) it is an offence to kill, injure or take a bird; take, damage or destroy a nest in use or being built; take or destroy an egg. The law covers all species of wild birds including common, pest or opportunistic species. This level of protection applies to all species of wild birds during the nesting period March – September (inclusive)..	There is a risk of: Killing and injury of birds and damage to nests during Site clearance.
Reptiles	Common lizards are partially protected under Schedule 5 (sections 9(1) and 9(5)) of the WCA 1981 (<i>as amended</i>). This legislation protects these animals from: killing and injury, from selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of the sale or publishing advertisements to buy or sell a protected species.	There is low residual risk of: Killing and injury during Site clearance.

4.0 RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

Principle Contractor

- 4.1 All works at all stages will be overseen and are the responsibility of Vistry Group as the Principal Contractor, and who will appoint a Site Manager. The Site manager will:
- Ensure compliance with regulations, planning conditions, environmental procedures, contractual agreements, and legal consents;
 - Arrange Site-wide monitoring as required during the development;
 - Ensure environmental and waste requirements are included on requisitions and in subcontracts and orders;
 - Ensure oil, including diesel is stored in properly bunded tanks / including use of drip trays for plant and equipment / refuelling;
 - Oversee and maintain records of the agreed programme of habitat and species protection as described in this document. This includes the continued maintenance of any protective fencing during all on-site works;
 - Monitor the Site activities to ensure that all relevant environmental and ecological legal consents, licences and exemptions are in place in advance of relevant works commencing, and that the requirements are adhered to;
 - Monitor the environmental performance of contractors and provide direction as necessary;
 - Contribute to communication on environmental matters with stakeholders and statutory bodies;
 - Monitor implementation of any corrective action required;
 - Maintain a record of this document, any other relevant ecological reports and all environmental monitoring during the construction process, which should be made available for inspection by any relevant statutory bodies as required;
 - Ensure that a suitably qualified ecologist undertakes any further on-site surveys as required;
 - Report any environmental incidents to the appointed ecologist and to statutory authorities, and
 - Ensure any required corrective ecological actions are taken in line with the relevant procedures.

Ecological Clerk of Works

- 4.2 Where necessary, the Site manager will appoint an Ecological Clerk of Works with responsibility to make sure the measures set out within this CEMP are implemented. When ecological supervision is required the Ecological Clerk of Works will provide written confirm of the works completed on completion of the work.
- 4.3 Copies of this CEMP document will be kept on-site throughout all pre-commencement and construction works.

5.0 STAGE 1 – PRE-COMMENCEMENT

- 5.1 The following details the necessary avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented prior to commencement of Site clearance and construction. Table 4 provides a timetable of implementation.

Habitats

Retained Woodland and Broadleaved Trees

- 5.2 Land within the Root Protection Areas (RPA's) of boundary woodland, woodland within the Site and retained broadleaved trees that will be retained will remain undisturbed during the works. Suitable protective fencing should be provided on the boundary of the root protection area to avoid damage to the trees over the construction period. Heras fencing will be used throughout the pre-commencement and construction stages to create and protect a buffer zone where the proposed working areas bound the retained areas of woodland and broadleaved trees. (Figure 1).

Retained Grassland

- 5.3 Heras fencing (or similar) will be used throughout the pre-commencement and construction stages to create and protect a buffer zone where the proposed working areas bound the retained grassland areas (Figure 1). Fencing will be appropriate to restrict access to such areas by construction workers/equipment, to ensure no physical damage occurs and to minimise the risk of accidental pollution events.
- 5.4 No works or storage of materials will take place within the above protection zones during the pre-commencement and construction stages, unless agreed by the project ecologist following a review of anticipated works. Furthermore, no soil stripping, excavations or any vegetation clearance is to take place (unless agreed with the project ecologist); no Site workers or vehicles are permitted, and no machinery or materials are to be stored within the protection zones.
- 5.5 Best practice working in regard to pollution prevention is detailed in Stage 2 (Construction).

Fauna

- 5.6 The following precautionary measures will be adopted to avoid any potential for harm or welfare issues for terrestrial species:
- Where possible material will be stored centrally within the Site within a fenced compound rather than at the edge, and will not be stored in the vicinity of retained habitats; and
 - Any trenches or other deep excavations will be either covered overnight or provided with a sturdy ramp or other means of escape for animals such as badgers that may fall in.

Badger

- 5.7 The update badger survey completed in 2023 identified the presence of an active outlier badger sett located within the Site. A recently used latrine was located along the southern Site boundary.
- 5.8 Whilst the sett can be retained and will not be lost to permanent development, it will be located within the 30m radius to permanent development, deep foundations and excavations.

5.9 As such:

- An update badger survey will be undertaken in order to determine the setts activity status, along with the potential for a 21-day camera trap monitoring period if activity cannot be determined from a single visit.
- The update badger survey will also entail the survey of the whole Site area, including offsite land within a 30m radius, where accessible.
- If the survey(s) do identify the presence of badgers utilising the sett, a Natural England development licence will be obtained for the identified active sett. This will stipulate all relevant mitigation for this species. Once a licence is obtained, works within the 30m exclusion zone will be completed July to November (inclusive), in accordance with the licence.
- Until a licence is obtained for the identified active sett, a 30m exclusion zone will be implemented with heras fencing or other suitable fencing. No works, storage of materials or Site compounds will be undertaken/located within this exclusion zone until a disturbance licence is obtained.
- Works within a 30m radius of an active badger sett will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Natural England licence and undertaken during July to November (inclusive).
- Upon the success of badger eviction and sett closure, the heras fencing will be repositioned in accordance with Figure 1. Small offset gaps will be maintained in the line of fencing in accordance with Figure 1 which will allow for the continuation for commuting and foraging badgers.

BatsTrees

- 5.10 Within 24 hours prior to the felling of trees identified to present PRFs to support roosting bats, a pre-fell update aerial assessment and inspection should be undertaken to assess the absence of roosting bats.
- 5.11 If a bat roost is confirmed, a Natural England Mitigation Licence will be required to facilitate any felling of the relevant tree(s).
- 5.12 If no evidence of a bat roost is noted, the tree/s will be felled in accordance with measures detailed within a Precautionary Working Method Statement for Tree Felling. This would include:
- Suitable features identified as potential roosting features will be carefully felled via soft felling methods.

Birds

- 5.13 The above ground removal of woody vegetation including trees and woodland will where possible be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season, i.e. avoiding clearance works during March to mid-September inclusive. Where this is not possible, the Site will first be checked by the Ecologist to confirm the absence of nesting birds.

- 5.14 Where nesting birds are present an exclusion zone will be set around the nest (as determined by the Ecologist and suitable for the species nesting), cordoned off with high visibility tape or mesh fencing within which no works can occur until the birds have fully fledged.
- 5.15 Any Site visit by the Ecologist will be followed up with a written summary to Vistry Group/the Principal Contractor as appropriate, outlining the results of the survey and any resulting timing restrictions or other implications for works and/or specific actions required.

Reptiles

- 5.16 To mitigate and avoid for risk of killing and/or injury to reptiles during vegetation clearance and construction, the following precautionary working methods will be undertaken:
- Clearance of suitable vegetation (arable field margins and neutral semi-improved grassland (Figure 1)) should be cleared during mid-March to October under suitable weather conditions (<9°C, little wind, no rain).
 - The above habitats will be strimmed via directional strimming to 150mm above ground towards offsite retained habitat.
 - The arisings from the above works will be chipped and thinly distributed across the Site or will be removed from Site in order to avoid creating areas of temporary sheltering habitat for reptiles.
 - If a reptile is identified during Site clearance works, works in the immediate area will cease and the reptile allowed to naturally disperse from the affected working zone.
 - Vegetation should be kept low to prevent potential recolonisation.

Other Notable Species

- 5.17 A search by an ecologist for hedgehog and harvest mouse nests prior to clearance, and in addition for leverets should be undertaken if works take place between March and September.
- 5.18 It is considered that the above Precautionary Working Method Statement for reptiles is sufficient enough for the safeguarding of any hedgehogs which may be present during Site clearance works.
- 5.19 If a hedgehog is identified during Site clearance, given the nocturnal nature of the species, works in the immediate area will cease, the area will be cordoned off and the hedgehog allowed to naturally disperse overnight from the working zone.

Table 4 – Timetable for Stage 1 - Pre-Commencement

Habitat or Feature	Mitigation	Recommended timing	Responsibility
Habitats			
Retained Woodland and Broadleaved Trees	Installation of fencing to crate and protect a buffer zone. Fencing shall be erected as per the specifications and to the Root protection Areas and with consideration to BS5837 <i>Trees in Relation to Construction</i> . No machinery, vehicles, or materials to enter RPAs.	All year round	Principal Contractor
Retained Grassland	Installation of fencing to crate and protect a buffer zone.	All year round	Principal Contractor
Fauna			
Badger	Update badger survey to determine sett activity status and any further setts	All year round	Ecologist at the request of the Principal Contractor
	If any setts active, mitigation licence application required to facilitate works within 30m radius of identified active outlier sett	Until licence is obtained	Principal Contractor
	Until a licence is obtained for the identified active sett, a 30m exclusion zone will be implemented using heras or other suitable fencing. No works, storage of materials or Site compounds will be undertaken/located within this exclusion zone.	Until licence is obtained	Principal Contractor with assistance from the Ecologist
	Works within the 30m radius of active badger setts will be undertaken in strict accordance with license methods (once obtained)	All year round	Principal Contractor
Bats	Pre-felling update aerial assessment of PRF trees to be removed immediately before felling.	All year round	Ecologist
	If a bat roost is confirmed, a Natural England Mitigation Licence will be applied for to facilitate any felling of the tree(s).	After update surveys	Ecologist
	If no bat roost is confirmed, the three trees will be felled in accordance with measures detailed within a Precautionary Working Method Statement for Tree Felling.		Ecologist and Principal Contractor
Nesting birds	The removal of woody vegetation to avoid the bird nesting season where possible. Any vegetation clearance within the nesting season is to be preceded by a nesting bird check by an appropriately experienced ecologist. If nesting birds are present an exclusion zone to be determined by the Ecologist must be set around the nest (suitable for the species nesting) within which no works can occur until the birds have fully fledged. Written feedback to be provided by the Ecologist to the Principal Contractor/Vistry Group following each visit.	March – mid September inclusive Late September to February	Ecologist and Principal Contractor

Habitat or Feature	Mitigation	Recommended timing	Responsibility
Reptiles	Clearance of suitable vegetation (arable field margins and neutral semi-improved grassland) should be cleared during mid-March to October under suitable weather conditions (<9°C, little wind, no rain). The above habitats will be strimmed via directional strimming to 150mm above ground towards offsite retained habitat. The arisings from the above works will be chipped and thinly distributed across the Site or will be removed from Site in order to avoid creating areas of temporary sheltering habitat for reptiles. If a reptile is identified during Site clearance works, works in the immediate area will cease and the reptile allowed to naturally disperse from the affected working zone. Vegetation should be kept low to prevent potential recolonisation	March – October in suitable weather conditions	Ecologist and Principal Contractor
Other notable species	A search by an ecologist for hedgehog and harvest mouse nests prior to clearance, and in addition for leverets should be undertaken if works take place between March and September.	March - September	Ecologist

6.0 STAGE 2 – CONSTRUCTION

- 6.1 All Site workers will be briefed on the potential ecological constraints on-site, associated legislation, and their responsibilities.
- 6.2 All workers will work with due care and attention with respect to the potential presence of protected species on Site, and any observations of such species reported immediately to the Principal Contractor with advice sought from a suitably qualified Ecologist if necessary.
- 6.3 The Principal Contractor and Site Contractors will monitor ecological issues during the course of clearance and construction.
- 6.4 A copy of this CEMP will be held at the Site office for reference.

Protection of Retained Habitats

General

- 6.5 The potential for impacts on retained habitats (woodland, broadleaved trees, grassland) outside of the immediate working areas during construction activities will be minimised through the erection and maintenance of protective fencing (Figure 1).

Woodland, Broadleaved Trees and Grassland

- 6.6 The Principal Contractor will ensure working areas in the vicinity of the retained habitats will be fenced to maintain an exclusion and buffer zone around these features during construction. The purpose of the exclusion zones is to avoid the potential for disturbance to these habitats and to ensure that vegetation remain intact. Works and/or the storage of materials will not take place within fenced areas, and no vehicle movements will be permitted within these areas.
- 6.7 The following best practice methodology will be adhered to during construction to protect habitats:
 - Cover piles of building materials such as cement, sand, and other powders; regularly inspect for spillages and locate them so they will not be washed into these habitats.
 - There should be no uncontrolled run-off of or mud from the Site.
 - Suitable provision will be made for the washing out of concrete mixing plant or ready-mix concrete lorries so that washings do not flow into any of these habitats.
 - Any environmentally hazardous material will be kept in dedicated stores, and storage tanks will have appropriate bunding to prevent run-off to the retained habitats. Fuel will be stored in double bunded fuel tanks.
 - All machinery will be regularly checked for oil leaks or similar, which, if found, must be prevented from entering either through immediate repair of the machinery or through use of a drip tray/spill kit or similar.
 - Collect any wastewater generated from Site activities in settlement tanks, screen, discharge the clean water, and dispose of remaining sludge according to environmental regulations.
 - In the event of a spillage on-site, the material should be contained (using an absorbent material such as sand or soil or commercially available booms). Sorbents will be used to soak up a spill and stop it spreading on hard surfaces. Using sorbents generates waste and this method will only be used on small spills, or where a spill has been contained to stop any further spread. All used sorbents will be disposed of at an accredited Site for disposal.

- All spillages will be reported to the Site Manager who will inform the Environment Agency in the event of a significant occurrence.
 - No unauthorised burning of any material will be carried out anywhere on-site.
- 6.8 All Contractors shall ensure adequate dust control is employed throughout works, applying the following dust control methods as appropriate:
- All areas of the Site shall be delineated on a regular basis, so that vehicles are confined as appropriate to areas that can be subjected to appropriate dust control measures.
 - All delineated areas shall be sprayed with water as and when conditions dictate.
 - Regular inspection of local highways and Site boundaries to check for dust/dirt deposits.
 - Vehicles carrying loose aggregate and workings should be sheeted at all times;
 - Speed limit of 10 mph to be observed on-site.
 - Wheel/body washing facilities shall be provided and used by any vehicles leaving the Site, which have been operating on-site.
- 6.9 To further minimise the risk of inadvertent harm to biodiversity features within the Site and its vicinities works will adhere to the following relevant Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPP):
- GPP4: Treatment and disposal of wastewater where no connection to the public foul sewer.
 - GPP13: Vehicle washing and cleaning.
 - GPP19: Vehicles: Servicing and Repairs.
 - GP 21: Pollution Incident Response Plans; and
 - GPP22: Dealing with spills.

Fauna

- 6.10 As detailed previously all Site workers will be briefed on the potential ecological constraints on-site, associated legislation, and their responsibilities. A copy of this CEMP will be held at the Site office for reference.
- 6.11 The following precautionary measures will be adopted to avoid the potential for harm to habitats or protected species generally:
- Where possible material will be stored centrally within the Site within a fenced compound;
 - All excavations left overnight will be left with one sloping end to allow any animals that may fall in to escape or will otherwise be provided with a sturdy ramp. Also, any pipes over 250mm in diameter should be capped off at night to prevent animals entering;
 - In the event that protected species are discovered during construction the Principal Contractor is to immediately contact the Ecologist for further advice.

Badgers

- 6.12 Works within a 30m radius of an active badger sett will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the natural England licence and undertaken during July to November (inclusive).

- 6.13 Due to the presence of badger within the immediate local area, the following best practice measures will be followed to ensure that any badgers that may commute or forage within the Site are not harmed during works:
- Open excavations: Any open trenches, footings, or pits left unfilled overnight must either be graded to provide a safe means of escape or fitted with a sturdy wooden plank at an angle to act as an escape ramp for any animals that may enter.
 - Pipework: All pipework with a diameter of 150mm or greater must be securely capped or sealed at the end of each working day to prevent animals from becoming trapped.
 - Timings: During the construction phase, operations shall be restricted to daylight hours in order to minimise the potential for adverse effects through disturbance to badger (and other nocturnal and crepuscular wildlife).
 - Location: Construction offices, material compounds and security buildings will be located in appropriate locations away from retained peripheral habitats in order to reduce the potential for accidental damage to habitats or interruption to potential badger runs.
 - Storage: All waste is to be appropriately stored; in particular domestic waste from construction Site welfare units that may attract badgers must be stored in heavy duty bins with lids.
 - Soil Mounds: Any soil mounds created should not be located within close proximity to the Site boundaries and should be gently sloped and compacted. Prior to any subsequent disturbance of these mounds, they should be checked for the presence of badgers.
 - Site Management: The Site Manager will be responsible for ensuring that these precautionary measures are implemented and maintained at the close of each working day until all groundworks have been completed.
- 6.14 In the event that any further active badger sett(s) is identified during construction works then the relevant legislation must be taken into consideration, with appropriate mitigation to protect the area of badger interest. This may entail the use of buffer zones, badger fencing or undertaking works under the appropriate Natural England Licencing procedures to ensure this species is not directly impacted by the proposals. Works under a badger Licence will be subject to timing constraints (works undertaken between July and November, inclusive).

Bats

- 6.15 Felling of trees following pre-felling aerial assessment is to be undertaken in accordance with the requirements the precautionary working measures and/or licence(s) and/or as appropriate and as directed by the Ecologist.
- 6.16 To ensure retained habitats remain suitable for bats and to avoid any impacts to potential bat flight-lines or foraging habitat created by operational light spill¹², the following methods will be implemented:
- The direct lighting of retained trees, woodland and grassland will be avoided;
 - Lighting will be directional and light spillage minimised;

¹ Stone, E.L. 2013. *Bats and lighting: Overview of current evidence and mitigation*.

² Bat Conservation Trust & Institute of Lighting Professionals 2023. Guidance Note 8: Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night. Bats and the Built Environment Series.

- All works will where possible be carried out during daylight hours.

Birds

- 6.17 The risk to nesting birds is low during construction, as suitable habitat will have been removed during Site clearance or otherwise protected within buffer zones. However, should any additional clearance works be necessary during the period March to mid-September, the relevant habitat will be checked by the Ecologist to confirm the absence of nesting birds prior to removal.
- 6.18 Where nesting birds are confirmed present works must cease in the vicinity of the nest and an exclusion zone will be set around the nest (as determined by the Ecologist and suitable for the species nesting) within which no works can occur until the birds have fully fledged.

Reptiles and Hedgehogs

- 6.19 The risk to reptiles is low during construction, as suitable habitat will have been removed during Site clearance and maintained as unsuitable or otherwise protected within buffer zones. In the event that a hedgehog or reptile is found during construction, works will cease and the hedgehog and reptile will be allowed to naturally disperse the affected area as outlined above.

Table 5: Timetable for Stage 2 – Construction

Habitat or Feature	Mitigation	Recommended timing	Responsibility
RPA's and protected buffers	Heras-style fencing is to be retained in situ, checked weekly and well maintained throughout construction. No machinery or vehicles to enter these zones or materials to be stored at any time.	All year round as appropriate for the duration of construction works.	Principal Contractor
General measures	Any observations of protected species must be reported immediately to the Principal Contractor, who will contact the Ecologist for further advice.	All year round as appropriate for the duration of construction works.	All Site staff
	Materials and chemicals will be stored centrally within the Site and raised on pallets; where necessary, protective bunds will be created to contain any spillage events. Any attenuation basin should be created as soon as possible to assist with Site run-off and drainage.		Principal Contractor
	A walkover of the Site will be undertaken weekly to confirm the absence of protected species.	All year round as appropriate for the duration of construction works.	Principal Contractor
Badgers	Works within a 30m radius of an active badger sett will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the relevant natural England licence	July to November (inclusive)	Principal Contractor
	Precautionary measures will be adopted to minimise the risk of accidental harm to badgers during construction	All year round as appropriate for the duration of construction works.	Principal Contractor
Bats	Felling of trees following undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the licence(s) and/or precautionary working measures (subject to results of pre-felling updated assessment).	In accordance with the licence requirements or precautionary working measures	Principal Contractor
	Avoid or otherwise strictly minimise lighting / light spill on to retained vegetation and buffer zones. Turn off Site lighting when the Site is not in use.	All year round as appropriate for the duration of construction works.	
Birds	The removal of vegetation (woody vegetation and open grassland) to avoid the bird nesting season (March – mid-September inclusive), where possible. Where vegetation clearance is necessary within the nesting season this must be preceded by nesting bird check by a suitably qualified ecologist. If nesting birds are present an exclusion zone to be determined by the Ecologist will be set around the nest (suitable for the species nesting), within which no works can occur until the birds have fully fledged, as determined by the Ecologist.	September to February	Ecologist and Principal Contractor
Hedgehog and Reptiles	In the event that a hedgehog or reptile is found during construction, works will cease and the reptile will be allowed to naturally disperse the affected area as described above.	All year round as appropriate for the duration of construction works.	Principal Contractor



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Key:

- Site Boundary
- Line of Protective Fencing
- Biodiversity Protection Zone (BPZ)
- Badger Sett
- 30m Badger Sett Buffer
- Trees with PRFs to be removed
- Woodland and Tree Removal
- Grassland Removal

