

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric
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Project details			
Planning authority:	Hertfordshire County Council		
Project name:	Priory Farm Solar Array Alternative Cable Route		
Applicant:	AXIS		
Application type:			
Planning application reference:	24/02333/FP		
Completed by:	A. Littlechild BSc (Hons)		
Date of metric completion:	03 March 2025		
Reviewer:	J. Stevens BSc (Hons)		
Calculation iteration:	V3		
Planning authority reviewer:			
Date of planning authority review:			
Target % not gain:	10%		
Irreplaceable habitat present at baseline:	No ✓		
Total site area - including irreplaceable habitat area (hectares):	1.71	Irreplaceable habitat site area (hectares):	0.00
Total off-site area - including irreplaceable habitat area (hectares):	0.33	Irreplaceable habitat area off-site (hectares):	N/A

Cell style conventions	
⚠	Attention required
▲	Input error/rules and principles not met
	Use of this cell is not appropriate
	Enter data
	Automatic lookup
	Result

On-site baseline map

Insert

On-site baseline map reference number

Off-site baseline map

Insert

Off-site baseline map reference number

On-site post intervention map

Insert

On-site post-intervention map reference number

Off-site post intervention map

Insert

Off-site post-intervention reference number

Main menu

Results

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Headline Results

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On-site baseline	Habitat units	10.27
	Hedgerow units	0.18
	Watercourse units	0.27

On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	10.27
	Hedgerow units	0.18
	Watercourse units	0.27

On-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.00	0.00%
	Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%

On-site net gain is less than target set 

On-site net gain is less than target set 

On-site net gain is less than target set 

Off-site baseline	Habitat units	0.91
	Hedgerow units	0.10
	Watercourse units	0.04

Off-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	2.28
	Hedgerow units	0.13
	Watercourse units	0.09

Off-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	1.37	149.78%
	Hedgerow units	0.02	23.34%
	Watercourse units	0.05	148.96%

Combined net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	1.37
	Hedgerow units	0.02
	Watercourse units	0.05

Spatial risk multiplier (SRM) deductions	Habitat units	0.34
	Hedgerow units	0.01
	Watercourse units	0.03

FINAL RESULTS

Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	1.03
	Hedgerow units	0.02
	Watercourse units	0.03

Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	10.00%
	Hedgerow units	10.00%
	Watercourse units	10.00%

Trading rules satisfied?	Yes 
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[illegible]

Project Name: Project Name, Sub-Project Name, Location, Date, Status, Version, D-1 OF-2000, Project Name										Project Summary	
										Project Name	Project Name
										Project Name	Project Name
										Project Name	Project Name
Building area details										Building area details	

[illegible]

Site Name: Priority Farm Road Access Alternative Cable Route Map Reference

B-1 On-Site Hedge Baseline

Overlaid / State Column

Overlaid / State Row

State Name

Hedge row summary	
Total Net Total Change	0.00
Total Net % Change	0.00%
Trailing State Value	Yes /

Building hedgerow habitats			Disturbance		Condition	Strategic significance		Registered Status to Next Trailing State		Ecological benefits		Comments					
Ref	Hedge number	Habitat type	Length (m)	Disturbance	Condition	Strategic significance	Registered Status to Next Trailing State	Ecological benefits	Length retained	Length enhanced	State retained	State enhanced	Length lost	State lost	Clear comments	Planning authority comments	Statute reference number
1	1	Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.01	High	Good	Area/compensation not in local strategy no local strategy	Not for future hedge	0.18	0.01		0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	Native hedgerow with trees in mature rural context of 100m x 200m ditch within the 100m corridor Passes A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A11, A12, A13, A14, A15, A16, A17, A18, A19, A20, A21, A22, A23, A24, A25, A26, A27, A28, A29, A30, A31, A32, A33, A34, A35, A36, A37, A38, A39, A40, A41, A42, A43, A44, A45, A46, A47, A48, A49, A50, A51, A52, A53, A54, A55, A56, A57, A58, A59, A60, A61, A62, A63, A64, A65, A66, A67, A68, A69, A70, A71, A72, A73, A74, A75, A76, A77, A78, A79, A80, A81, A82, A83, A84, A85, A86, A87, A88, A89, A90, A91, A92, A93, A94, A95, A96, A97, A98, A99, A100, A101, A102, A103, A104, A105, A106, A107, A108, A109, A110, A111, A112, A113, A114, A115, A116, A117, A118, A119, A120, A121, A122, A123, A124, A125, A126, A127, A128, A129, A130, A131, A132, A133, 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A1970, A1971, A1972, A1973, A1974, A1975, A1976, A1977, A1978, A1979, A1980, A1981, A1982, A1983, A1984, A1985, A1986, A1987, A1988, A1989, A1990, A1991, A1992, A1993, A1994, A1995, A1996, A1997, A1998, A1999, A2000, A2001, A2002, A2003, A2004, A2005, A2006, A2007, A2008, A2009, A2010, A2011, A2012, A2013, A2014, A2015, A2016, A2017, A2018, A2019, A2020, A2021, A2022, A2023, A2024, A2025, A2026, A2027, A2028, A2029, A2030, A2031, A2032, A2033, A2034, A2035, A2036, A2037, A2038, A2039, A2040, A2041, A2042, A2043, A2044, A2045, A2046, A2047, A2048, A2049, A2050, A2051, A2052, A2053, A2054, A2055, A2056, A2057, A2058, A2059, A2060, A2061, A2062, A2063, A2064, A2065, A2066, A2067, A2068, A2069, A2070, A2071, A2072, A2073, A2074, A2075, A2076, A2077, A2078, A2079, A2080, A2081, A2082, A2083, A2084, A2085, A2086, A2087, A2088, A2089, A2090, A2091, A2092, A2093, A2094, A2095, A2096, A2097, A2098, A2099, A2100, A2101, A2102, A2103, A2104, A2105, A2106, A2107, A2108, A2109, A2110, A2111, A2112, A2113, A2114, A2115, A2116, A2117, A2118, A2119, A2120, A2121, A2122, A2123, A2124, A2125, A2126, A2127, A2128, A2129, A2130, A2131, A2132, A2133, A2134, A2135, A2136, A2137, A2138, A2139, A2140, A2141, A2142, A2143, A2144, A2145, A2146, A2147, A2148, A2149, A2150, A20		

Use: Primary Farm Solar Array Alternative Cable Route - Map 3				Hedgecover summary																							
E-1 Off-Site Hedge Baseline				Valid test that changes				0.08																			
				Valid test to change				13.00%																			
				Trading Rules Enabled				Type V																			
				Conservative Hedge Baseline				Conservative Hedge Baseline																			
				Mark Value																							
Existing hedgecover exhibits																											
Ref	Hedge number	Habitat type	Length (m)	Distance/m		Condition		Strategic significance		Registered, Active or Near Trading Rules	Specialist risk realigning				Evolution of baseline		Comments										
				Distance/m	Condition	Strategic significance	Specialist risk category		Test hedgecover rate		Length reduced	Length enhanced	Units reduced	Units enhanced	Length lost	Units lost	Over comments	Planning authority comments	Habitat reference	Off-site reference							
1		Specimen-rich native hedgecover - associated with broad or mixed	0.0000	High	Good	Partially identified to local strategy	Yes	Comprehensive controls: 25% or 100% of high risk sites, but no neighbouring 25% or 100%		0.12		0.00000000	0	0.00000000	0.00	0.00											
2							Yes																				
3							Yes																				
4							Yes																				
5							Yes																				
6							Yes																				
			0.00							0.10		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00										

[illegible]

Project Name: Priority Farm Solar Array Alternative Cable C-1 On-Site WaterC ^o Baseline										Watercourse summary											
										Total Not Wet Change	0.00										
										Total Wet Change	13.99m										
										Trailing Sides Included	Yes ✓										
Notes: None																					
Existing watercourse type			Disturbance	Condition	Strategic significance	Watercourse cross-section	Riparian environment	Required Action to Meet Trailing Sides	Ecological baseline												
Ref	Watercourse type	Length (m)	Disturbance	Condition	Strategic significance	Extent of cross-section	Extent of riparian environment for both banks		Baseline watercourse value	Length retained	Length enhanced	Value retained	Value enhanced	Length Lost	Value Lost	Regulate compensation agreed for loss of VDE	User Comments	Planning authority comments	Related reference number		
1	Other ditches and drains	0.00	High	Moderate	Avoidance/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	No Disturbance	Major/High	Some habitat required =	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Ash Brook includes majority half of cable route. MESH survey previously conducted since 2015 - moderate condition. Post-development modelling showed no difference to the development as for a underground cable installation with no permanent above ground habitat changes. No watercourse cross-section and Major/High riparian environment due to high water table at boundary on southern aspect and managed field within 40m of boundary on the northern aspect (overgrown public footpath). This is for two small sections of the Ash Brook (0.00m where the brook is open and 0.00m where the brook is culverted underneath a road/road) where the cable will be drilled via MESH to a depth of 2m under the water channel - no riparian impact. The remainder of the cable route (just within this extent) is within one 10m from the Ash Brook bank-top, as the entire width within the footprint of existing public footpath along the brook. The MESH User Guide states on page 41 that established footpaths are exempt if recorded in the baseline. The Proposed cable route directly follows the public footpath when adjacent to the brook, and has been previously used in the section subject to MESH. As such is considered exempt from the watercourse MESH requirements for construction activities associated with above ground for					
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		0.00							0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						

Project Name: Priority Ports Solar Array Alternative Cable Route				Watercourse summary			
F-1 Off-Site WaterC ² Baseline				Year 100 Yr Flood		Y100	
Construction: (Check Category)				Year 100 Yr Flood		Y100	
Construction: (Check Route)				Existing Water Features		Year 1	
Notes: (None)							
Routing parameters type							
Ref	Watercourse type	Length (m)	Subcatchment	Catchment	Recharge significance	Watercourse description	Recharge significance
			Subcatchment	Catchment	Recharge significance	Watercourse description	Recharge significance
1	Channel	1000000	1000000	1000	1000000	1000000	1000000
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Project name: 2024 F-3C Air Force
Order No.: 2024-001
Project Manager: John Doe

Watercourse summary	
Water flow change	6.0%
Water flow change	10.0%
Water flow change	15.0%

Baseline habitat		Proposed habitat	Pre-treatment works												Watercourse ID/Ref	Comments								
			Changes to ditch/embankment and vegetation		Length (m)	Habitat diversification	Habitat creation	Ecological algorithms	Vegetated outlet/s	Habitat linkage outlet/s	Vegetation management	Erosion management	Spill risk outlet/s											
			Ditch/diversification management	Condition management																				
Baseline ref	Baseline habitat													Ditch/diversification management		Condition management	Ecological algorithms	Vegetated or adjacent link to vegetation	Habitat link to vegetation (m)	First diversity management	Vegetation management	Erosion management	Spill risk mitigation	Other management
1	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	1000	Ditch	Ditch	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management	Vegetation management					