

Consultation Response: Kirklees Council Conservation & Design (Biodiversity)

Date	11/10/2016
Officer responding	Tom Stephenson
Application number	2016/92666
Purpose	Review of submitted ecological information, pre-determination
Location	Hardy And Hanson Ltd Summit Works, Longlands Road, Dewsbury, WF13 4AB

Assessment

I have reviewed the submitted ecological report, which indicates that the habitats on site are generally of low ecological value and that the buildings have negligible bat roost potential. I agree with the conclusion that no further survey is required.

The results of the report suggest that the proposals are unlikely to result in a significant ecological impact. However, as recommended in the report, measures are required to avoid impacts to nesting birds and badgers.

The report provided no information on ecological enhancements; therefore I have suggested a condition below to address this. If the applicant wishes to avoid this condition the information requested in the condition could be provided prior to determination.

Recommendation

I have no objection to the proposals provided impact avoidance measures are secured through conditions, and details of ecological enhancement are provided prior to the start of development works.

Suggested Condition(s)

Avoiding construction impacts

1. No removal of trees or shrubs shall take place between 1st March and 31st August inclusive, unless a competent ecologist has undertaken a careful, detailed check of the vegetation for active bird's nests immediately before the vegetation is cleared and provided written confirmation that no birds will be harmed and/or that appropriate measures can be put in place to protect any birds, their nests, eggs or young. Any such written confirmation should be submitted to the local planning authority.

Reason: to avoid harm to nesting birds, their eggs, nests or young, and avoid development works resulting in a criminal offence under section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

2. No works which include the creation of trenches or culverts or the presence of pipes shall commence until measures to protect badgers from being trapped in open excavations and/or pipe and culverts are submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The measures may include:

- a. creation of sloping escape ramps for badgers, which may be achieved by edge profiling of trenches/excavations or by using planks placed into them at the end of each working day; and
- b. open pipework greater than 150 mm outside diameter being blanked off at the end of each working day.

Reason: to avoid harm to badgers, so as to accord with the requirements of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

Design/installation for biodiversity

3. No development shall take place until an Ecological Design Strategy (EDS) addressing enhancement of the ecological value of the site and its connectivity with surrounding area has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

The EDS shall include the following.

- c. Purpose and conservation objectives for the proposed works.
- d. Review of site potential and constraints.
- e. Detailed design(s) and/or working method(s) to achieve stated objectives.
- f. Extent and location/area of proposed works on appropriate scale maps and plans.
- g. Type and source of materials to be used where appropriate, e.g. native species of local provenance.
- h. Timetable for implementation demonstrating that works are aligned with the proposed phasing of development.
- i. Persons responsible for implementing the works.
- j. Details of initial aftercare and long-term maintenance.
- k. Details for monitoring and remedial measures.
- l. Details for disposal of any wastes arising from works.

The EDS shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details and all features shall be retained in that manner thereafter.

Reason: to ensure that the development contributes to the enhancement of biodiversity and establishment of coherent ecological networks in accordance with Chapter 11 of the NPPF.

References

There are no sources in the current document.