

Knowle Lane,
Meltham

Landscape and Ecological Management Plan

November 2020

Report reference	1124
Revision	1
Prepared by	Toby Fisher
Approved by	Andrew Westgarth
Issue date	Rev 1. 16 th November 2020

This report is valid for a period of 12 months from the earliest issue date.

Contents

1	Introduction and Background.....	4
1.2	Personnel	4
2	Purpose and Conservation Objectives	6
2.1	Purpose	6
2.2	Conservation Objectives	6
3	Review of Site Potential and Constraints	7
3.1	Source of Baseline Information	7
3.2	Protected Sites	7
3.3	Habitats	7
3.4	Amphibians.....	7
3.5	Birds	7
3.6	Bats	7
3.7	Hedgehog.....	7
3.8	Reptiles	7
3.9	Badger and Other Fauna	8
4	Detailed Design and Working Methods	9
4.1	Extent and Location of Proposals	9
4.2	Description and Evaluation of Features to be Managed	9
4.3	Ecological Trends and Constraints	9
4.4	Aims and Objectives of Management	9
4.5	Appropriate Management Options and Prescriptions	9
4.6	Bird and Bat Box Provision	9
5	Type of Materials	10
6	Monitoring and Remedial Measures	11
6.1	Monitoring.....	11
6.2	Remedial Measures	11
7	Timetable for Implementation.....	12
8	Persons Responsible.....	13
	Appendix 1. Landscape and Ecological Management Plan Drawing.....	14

1 Introduction and Background

1.1.1.1 This report presents a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) in relation to a consented development at Knowle Lane, Meltham, Holmfirth, HD9 4HL. The site is centred at approximate grid reference TA05672905 (see Figures 1 and 2).

1.1.1.2 Planning permission (application number. 2019/62/92957/W) was granted on 7th January 2020 by Kirklees Council for the following development at the site:

- Demolition of existing children's play gym/out of school club and erection of children's play gym (D2), children's private Day nursery (D1) and cafe (A3) and formation of 68 car parking spaces and associated landscaping at: Land at Knowle Lane, Meltham, Holmfirth, HD9 4HL.

1.1.1.3 Condition 9 of planning permission 2019/62/92957/W states:

- 9. A landscape and ecological management plan (LEMP) shall be submitted to, and be approved in writing by, the local planning authority before any part of the development is first brought into use. The content of the LEMP shall include the following:
 - a. Description and evaluation of features to be managed.
 - b. Ecological trends and constraints on site that might influence management.
 - c. Aims and objectives of management.
 - d. Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.
 - e. Prescriptions for management actions.
 - f. Preparation of a work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a five-year period).
 - g. Details of the body or organization responsible for implementation of the plan.
 - h. Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.
- The LEMP shall also include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which the long-term implementation of the plan will be secured by the developer with the management body(ies) responsible for its delivery. The plan shall also set out (where the results from monitoring show that conservation aims and objectives of the LEMP are not being met) how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved scheme. The approved plan shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

1.2 Personnel

1.2.1.1 This LEMP has been prepared by Toby Fisher MCIEEM CEnv; a suitably qualified ecologist with over 18 years' experience of ecological consultancy in the UK.

Figure 1. Site location outlined in red (aerial imagery dated 2019)



Figure 2. Site Location circled in red



© Crown copyright and database rights (2019) OS licence no. 100060036.

2 Purpose and Conservation Objectives

2.1 *Purpose*

- 2.1.1.1 The purpose of the LEMP is to achieve the Conservation Objectives set out below and to ensure that ecological impacts are avoided / minimised during the construction and operation phases of the development.

2.2 *Conservation Objectives*

- 2.2.1.1 The Conservation Objectives are listed as follows:

1. Enhance the availability of bat roosting opportunities at the site.
2. Enhance the availability of bird nesting opportunities at the site.

3 Review of Site Potential and Constraints

3.1 *Source of Baseline Information*

3.1.1.1 Baseline information is taken from the following ecological reports which supported the planning application:

- Quants Environmental Ltd. (2019). Knowle Lane Industrial Estate, Meltham, Huddersfield. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Revised Version. July 2019.
- Quants Environmental Ltd. (2019). Knowle Lane Industrial Estate, Meltham, Huddersfield. Bat Survey Report. Revised Version. July 2019.

3.2 *Protected Sites*

3.2.1.1 Honley Woods Local Wildlife Site (LWS) lies immediately adjacent to the east of the development site.

3.3 *Habitats*

3.3.1.1 The site is dominated by bare earth and buildings with small areas of ornamental planting and tall ruderal vegetation. No invasive weeds listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) have been recorded within the site; rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* is present outside the site's eastern boundary but the development is not anticipated to result in the spread of this species.

3.4 *Amphibians*

3.4.1.1 No evidence of amphibians has been identified at the site and there are no previous records of great crested newts within 2 km of the site. No suitable breeding sites for great crested newts have been identified within 250 metres of the site. Great crested newts are not likely to occur at the site.

3.5 *Birds*

3.5.1.1 The site provides poor quality habitat for nesting birds. The adjacent trees and woodland outside the site boundaries provide good quality habitat for nesting birds.

3.6 *Bats*

3.6.1.1 A daytime inspection survey and a dusk emergence survey (both in June 2018) confirmed the likely absence of bat roosts in the buildings at the site. During the dusk survey, very low bat activity levels were recorded comprising two bat species: common pipistrelle and noctule.

3.7 *Hedgehog*

3.7.1.1 No evidence of hedgehog has been recorded at the site. The site provides poor quality habitat for hedgehog but the adjacent woodland provides good quality habitat for hedgehogs.

3.8 *Reptiles*

3.8.1.1 No evidence of reptiles has been recorded at the site and the desk study did not reveal any previous reptile records within 2 km of the site. The site provides poor quality habitat for reptiles.

3.9 ***Badger and Other Fauna***

- 3.9.1.1 No evidence of badger was recorded at the site. No other notable species such as water vole, dormouse or otter are likely to occur at the site.

4 Detailed Design and Working Methods

4.1 *Extent and Location of Proposals*

4.1.1.1 See Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) drawing at Appendix 1.

4.2 *Description and Evaluation of Features to be Managed*

4.2.1.1 There are no pre-existing features to be managed. The following features will be installed and subsequently managed at the site:

1. Bat boxes.
2. Bird boxes.

4.3 *Ecological Trends and Constraints*

4.3.1.1 The identified ecological trends or constraints on the site that might influence management are as follows:

- Requirement to locate bat boxes away from artificial lighting and vehicular traffic and close to adjacent woodland.
- Requirement to locate bird boxes away from mid-day sunlight which may cause overheating and close to adjacent woodland.

4.3.1.2 Given the above requirements, the bird and bat boxes will be installed on the east elevations of the proposed Playgym / Nursery, i.e. directly facing the adjacent woodland and shaded from mid-day sun.

4.4 *Aims and Objectives of Management*

4.4.1.1 The aims and objectives of management are as follows:

- Enhance the availability of bat roosting opportunities at the site.
- Enhance the availability of bird nesting opportunities at the site

4.5 *Appropriate Management Options and Prescriptions*

4.5.1.1 The management options for achieving the aims and objectives are as follows:

- Install and subsequently maintain bat boxes at the site.
- Install and subsequently maintain bird boxes at the site.

4.5.1.2 No specific management actions are necessary, other than replacing any lost or damaged bat/bird boxes if necessary.

4.6 *Bird and Bat Box Provision*

4.6.1.1 A total of 4x bird nest boxes and 2x bat boxes will be installed at the site (all boxes will be installed as per the manufacturer's instructions):

- 2x house sparrow nesting terraces (model Vivara Pro WoodStone House Sparrow Nest Box or similar: attached to east elevations of new Playgym / Nursery at least 4 metres above ground level and not directly above a door).
- 2x 32mm hole entrance bird nest boxes (model Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box or similar: attached to east elevations of new Playgym / Nursery at least 4 metres above ground level and not directly above a door).
- Provision of 2x bat boxes (model: Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box or similar). Each box will be attached to the east elevation of new Playgym / Nursery at least 4 metres above ground level and not directly above a door).

5 Type of Materials

5.1.1.1 Bird nest boxes:

- 2x house sparrow nesting terraces (model Vivara Pro WoodStone House Sparrow Nest Box or similar: attached to east elevations of new Playgym / Nursery at least 4 metres above ground level and not directly above a door).
- 2x 32mm hole entrance bird nest boxes (model Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box or similar: attached to east elevations of new Playgym / Nursery at least 4 metres above ground level and not directly above a door).

5.1.1.2 Bat boxes.

- Provision of 2x bat boxes (model: Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box or similar). Each box will attached to the east elevation of new Playgym / Nursery at least 4 metres above ground level and not directly above a door).

6 Monitoring and Remedial Measures

6.1 *Monitoring*

- 6.1.1.1 In Year 5 after the start of construction activities, the status and condition of the bat and bird boxes will be checked by visual inspection.

6.2 *Remedial Measures*

- 6.2.1.1 If the above monitoring shows that any bird / bat boxes are missing or damaged, they will be replaced on a like-for-like basis.

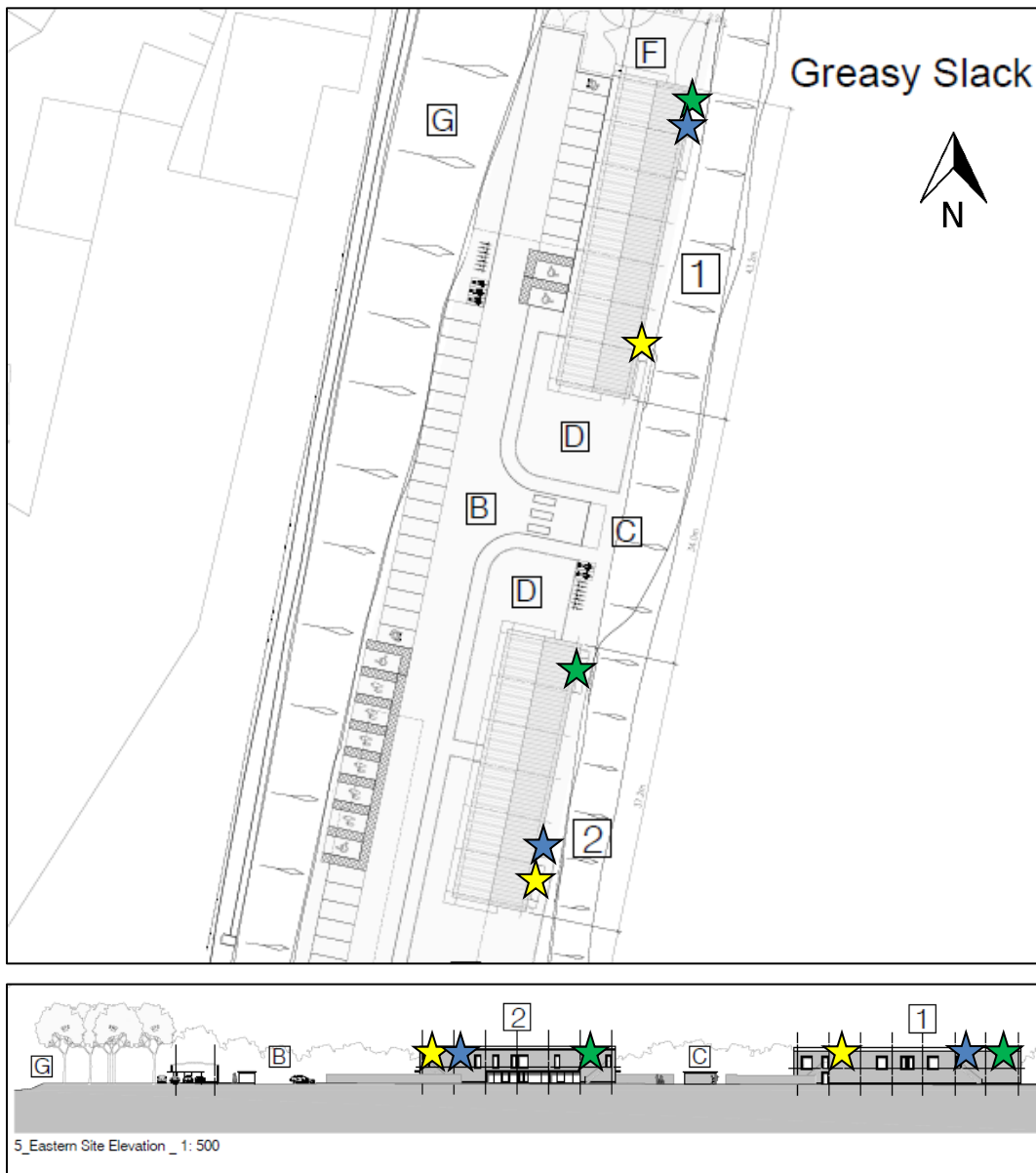
7 Timetable for Implementation

Date (indicative)	Item	Notes
Oct 2021 – Dec 2021	Install all bird boxes and bat boxes	Boxes to be attached to new buildings: • 2x house sparrow nesting terraces (model Vivara Pro WoodStone House Sparrow Nest Box. • 2x 32mm hole entrance bird nest boxes (model Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box. • 2x bat boxes (model: Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box or similar.
Oct 2026 – Dec 2026	Monitor all bat and bird boxes	Replace any lost / damaged boxes with same / similar models in same / similar positions

8 Persons Responsible

- 8.1.1.1 Towndoor Ltd will be responsible for implementing the works detailed in this Landscape and Ecological Management Plan.

Appendix 1. Landscape and Ecological Management Plan Drawing



Key:

-  House sparrow nesting terrace (model Vivara Pro WoodStone House Sparrow Nest Box)
-  32mm hole entrance bird nest box (model Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box)
-  Bat box (model: Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box)