

## Ecological Enhancement Plan

<b>For:</b>	Z & D Properties
<b>Site</b>	Whitcliffe Hotel, Prospect Road, Cleckheaton, BD19 3HD
<b>Report Date:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023
<b>Report Reference:</b>	SQ-1426



<b>Client:</b>	Z & D Properties
<b>Site Name:</b>	Whitcliffe Hotel, Prospect Road, Cleckheaton, BD19 3HD
<b>Report:</b>	Ecological Enhancement Plan
<b>Planning Application:</b>	2015/62/90020/E- Condition 16
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Issue:	Revision:	Stage:	Date:	Prepared by:	Approved by:
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Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this report and its contents in view of potential ecological constraints to development or the likely presence or absence of species it must only be viewed as a snapshot in time and therefore not be viewed as definitive. Due to external factors, such as seasonality, weather etc. having the potential to affect survey results no liability can be assumed for omissions or changes that may or may not occur after the date this report was produced.



## 1 Introduction and Background to the Site

1.1 Estrada Ecology Ltd was commissioned by Z&D Properties to prepare an Ecological Enhancement Plan to satisfy planning condition 16 relating to application number 2015/62/90020/E, Kirklees Council.

1.2 Planning condition 16:

*A Biodiversity Mitigation and Enhancement Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before works to construct the foundations of any dwelling commence. Thereafter the development shall be carried out in complete accordance with the approved details.*

**Reason:** *In the interests of promoting biodiversity interest within and beyond the site and in accordance with Chapter 11 of the National Planning Policy Framework.*

1.3 The aim of the strategy is to focus attention on sustainable ecological management, maintenance, and enhancement of the wildlife value of the site. The plan has been produced in accordance with Chapter 11 of British Standards 42020.



Figure 1: The Proposed Site Plan



No Author



## 2 Biodiversity Enhancements

### 2.1 Bats

2.1.1 To enhance roosting opportunities for bats, it is proposed that seven Habibat bat boxes are integrated into the southern and western aspects of the proposed plots at a minimum height of four metres.

2.1.2 The boxes should be implemented at a height of at least 4 metres high. The flight path to the boxes should not have any light overspill in the vicinity which could deter bats from using the boxes. No vegetation should be allowed to grow that could impede the flight line to the integrated boxes.

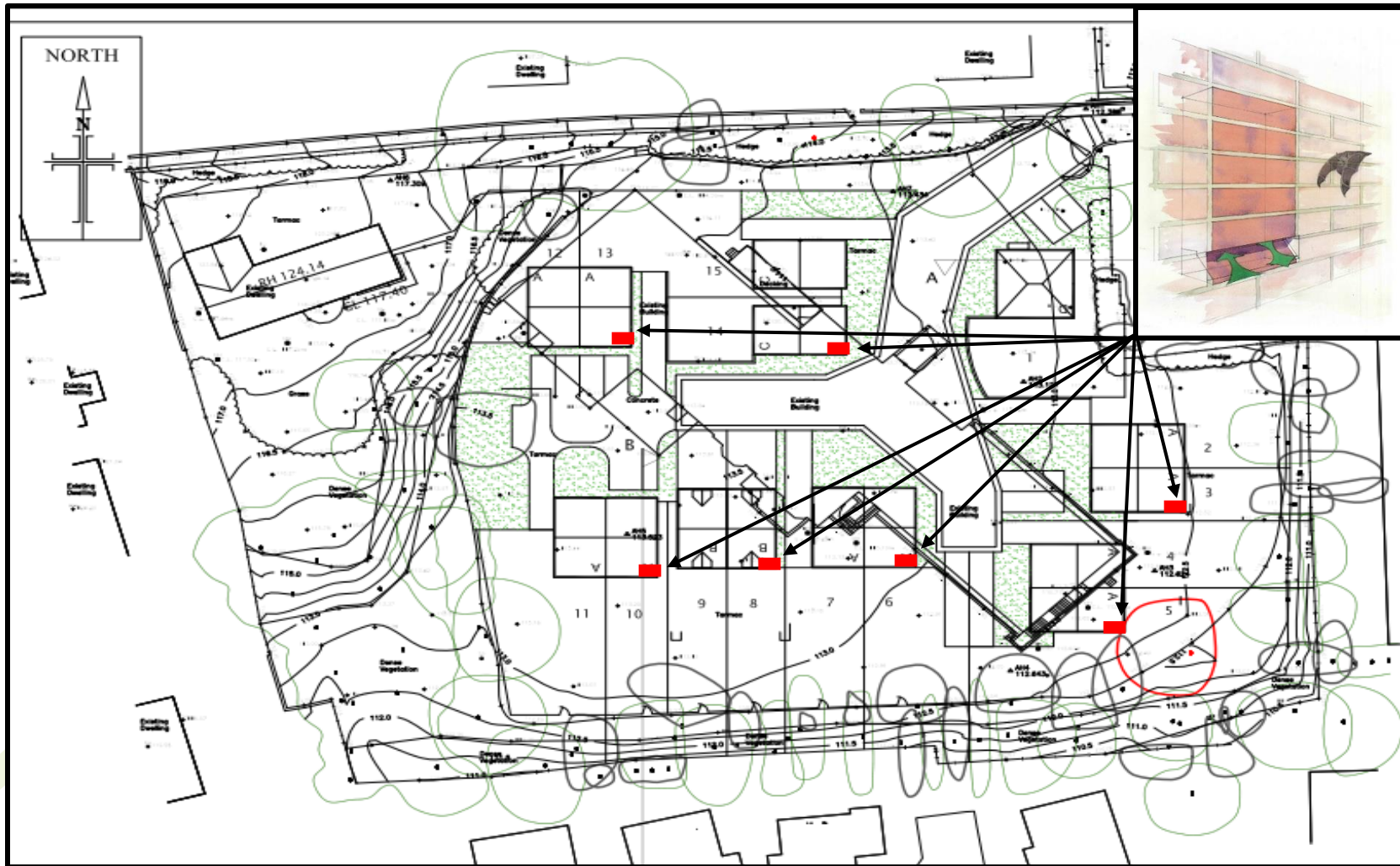
2.1.3 The seven bat boxes should be integrated as follows:

- One box on the southern elevation of plots 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, and 14.

2.1.4 The boxes should not be subject to any artificial light splay and located so vegetation cannot encroach on the opening. Openings directly above windows should be avoided so as not to impact on the end user.



**Figure 2:** Proposed Positions of Bat Provisions



## 2.2 House Sparrow

2.2.1 To enhance nesting provision within the site for breeding birds, it is recommended that enhancements for breeding birds are incorporated within the scheme design.

2.2.2 House sparrow populations have been reported to have declined 71% between 1977 and 2008, with substantial declines in both rural and urban environments.

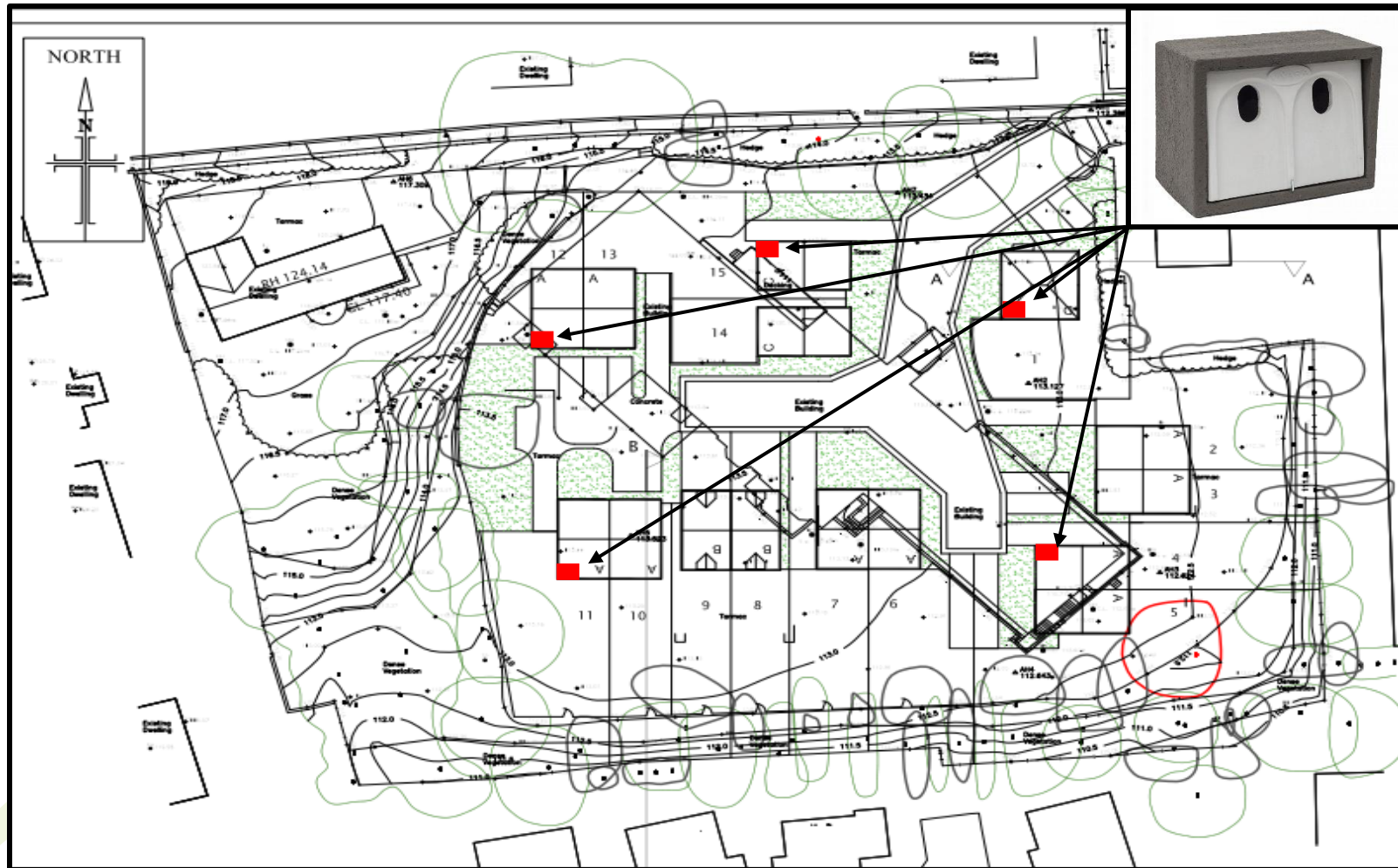
2.2.3 Five Vivara Pro Woodstone House Sparrow Nest Box is proposed to be implemented within the scheme approximately 4 meters from ground level. They should be installed away from any ledges or cables, due to the threat of predation from above or nearby which could potentially deter the species utilising the boxes.

2.2.4 It is proposed that the six boxes are installed as per the below:

- Plots 1, 4, 11, 12, and 15 on the western aspect



**Figure 3:** Proposed Positions of Bird Provisions



## 2.3 Hedgehog highways

2.3.1 Any boundary treatments will be designed to allow passage for small mammals. Any close board fencing or gravel boards along the site boundaries and in between gardens should have an arch shape, no more than 13cm wide x 13cm high in each alternate panel to provide passage for small mammals including hedgehogs between and within the site.

## 3 Conclusions and Recommendations

3.1 As a general biodiversity enhancement measure, all codes of good practice for wildlife should be undertaken whilst development is underway on the site. For example, trenches should be covered or, where left open, ramps provided for hedgehogs and other small mammals to use as a means of escape. Pest control products such as slug pellets should be avoided where feasible and the use of herbicides should be limited where practical to spot on treatments to prevent drift.

3.2 No artificial lighting should be installed within the vicinity of the proposed bat and bird boxes so as not to cause elevated levels of disturbance from light splay.

3.3 All public rights of way and other access points within the site should be clearly marked out, with signs erected to ensure any vegetated areas are protected from potential human activity, potentially limiting their condition and success.

3.4 If the recommendations outlined in this report are followed, then it is envisaged that there should be an enhancement in the overall biodiversity of the site.

3.5 All bird and bat boxes are commercially available from [www.nhbs.com](http://www.nhbs.com)

## References and Bibliography

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