

**BIODIVERSITY ACCOUNTING
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**at
Land off Beaumont Park Road
Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD4 5JT**

**JCA Ref:
21434a/ADo**

**Date of Report:
03/06/2024**



Quality Assurance

Version	Desktop Survey Completed:		Site Surveyed:		Report Completed:		Reviewed:	
	Date	Name	Date	Name	Date	Name	Date	Name
001	23/10/23	Alex Donovan	28/05/24	Alex Donovan	03/06/24	Alex Donovan	03/06/24	James Foster
							06/06/24	Adam West

This report has been prepared and provided in accordance with the *British Standard 42020: Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development 2018* and the *CIEEM's Code of Professional Conduct*.

Risk Assessment Completed	
Bio-security Procedure Completed	
Lone Worker Procedure Completed	



Executive Summary

JCA Limited was instructed by **Manbir Bains** to carry out a Biodiversity Accounting Assessment (BAA) of **Land off Beaumont Park Road, Huddersfield**, (hereafter referred to as the 'site') to inform a planning application for the construction of a residential dwelling ('the Proposed Development').

The purpose of the assessment is to determine the baseline biodiversity value of the site and to assess if there are sufficient biodiversity enhancement opportunities available within the site boundary to compensate for any residual biodiversity losses as a result of the Proposed Development.

To fulfil the brief, the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (February 2024) was used to calculate the baseline biodiversity value of all existing habitats onsite. The metric was then used to provide a comparative measure of any habitat creation and enhancements associated with the Client's Proposed Development. The resulting balance determines the extent of Biodiversity Units (BU) generated through the proposed habitats post development.

On balance of impacts and habitat retention/enhancement/creation, the report concludes that the Proposed Development will result in a **net loss** of **-0.40** habitat BU, equivalent to a **net loss** of **-77.23%**. In addition, the Proposed Development has **not satisfied** the trading rules.

As a result of the Proposed Development, a residual **net loss of habitat BU** has been generated. As such, the client should seek to undertake one or a combination of the following recommendations to achieve an overall biodiversity net gain in habitat BU and hedgerow BU:

- A. Incorporate onsite habitat creation/enhancement to compensate for habitat loss and achieve a minimum of 10% net gain whilst satisfying the Trading Rules. **0.46** habitat BU are required to achieve this. Landscaping redesign to include one or more of the following elements:
 - Decrease level of developed land; sealed surface and/or incorporate green roof structures;
 - Include habitat and hedgerow creation to the benefit of local wildlife; and/or
 - Enhance existing habitats in their condition, namely line of trees, hedgerow, woodland and the smaller grassland area.
- B. If onsite habitat creation/enhancement is not possible, then offsite habitat creation/enhancement will be required. This can be achieved by the purchase of additional land designated as a compensatory biodiversity offset site to compensate for onsite losses, reach 10% net gain, and satisfy the Trading Rules.



- C. If neither onsite nor offsite compensation is possible, statutory biodiversity credits will need to be purchased as a last resort. Guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/statutory-biodiversity-credits>.

This executive summary is intended as a summary of the assessment of the site based on information received by the client at the time of production. This executive summary should be read in conjunction with the full Report.



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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

1.1.1 JCA Limited have been instructed by **Manbir Bains** to undertake a Biodiversity Accounting Assessment (BAA) of a site located at **Land off Beaumont Park Road, Huddersfield**, (hereafter referred to as the 'site').

1.1.2 The purpose of this report is to:

- Assess the baseline biodiversity value of the site through the total sum of the habitats within the site, and their calculated biodiversity value.
- Assess if there are sufficient biodiversity enhancement and/or creation opportunities available within the site boundary to compensate for any residual biodiversity losses as a result of the Proposed Development.
- To determine the level of overall residual biodiversity gains or losses associated with the Proposed Development.

1.1.3 The site location and red line / survey area are shown in **Appendix 1**.

1.2 Terms of Reference

1.2.1 The principal source documents used to inform this BAA include:

- Acumen Designers & Architects – Site Plan (Project No. 2853, Drawing No. (SK)03).
- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (JCA Ref: 21434/ADo).

1.3 Site Description

1.3.1 The site is located at Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid Reference **SE 13137 14855**, with nearby postcode **HD4 5JT**. The site is bordered to the north by urban residential areas and sports fields, and urban residential and deciduous woodland on all other sides.

1.4 Details of Proposed Development

1.4.1 The development proposed at the site is the construction of a residential dwelling.



2. Biodiversity Accounting in Context

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 Biodiversity is complex and so it is impossible to measure in its entirety. Therefore metrics, which incorporate measures of different biodiversity attributes, are used to provide surrogate measures of overall biodiversity. This report uses the 'Statutory Biodiversity Metric', which was designed by DEFRA (2024) to define the biodiversity impacts and compensation requirements associated with development proposals. The metric works by providing a comparative measure of each habitat onsite in biodiversity units (BU) by multiplying its area (hectares), distinctiveness (habitat type) and current condition (quality). The relative impacts (habitat loss) of the development, taking into account any additional onsite habitat creation or enhancement, can then be calculated to determine if a measurable biodiversity net gain will be achieved onsite. If a measurable net gain is unable to be achieved onsite, then the process of biodiversity offsetting must be undertaken.
- 2.1.2 Biodiversity offsets are conservation activities designed to deliver biodiversity benefits in compensation for residual losses, in a measurable way. Biodiversity offsetting is distinguished from other forms of compensation by the requirement for measurable outcomes. This is achieved by quantifying net biodiversity impacts caused by development; using the same metric to assess direct and indirect negative impacts to habitats and the value of any onsite compensation, to set the framework of offsite compensation (offset) requirements and the biodiversity net gain generated by these offsets. Biodiversity offsetting ensures that offsite compensation proposed is both proportionate to the development concerned and that a measurable net gain for biodiversity can be achieved.
- 2.1.3 Biodiversity offsetting, like other forms of compensation, is the last step of the mitigation hierarchy (first avoid, then reduce, and finally, compensate) and is applied as a last resort to otherwise policy-compliant development proposals. 'Offsetting' – i.e. creating or restoring new wildlife habitat in a measurable way and in a different place to where it was lost.
- 2.1.4 In addition to providing a mechanism for quantifiable compensation and net gain, biodiversity offsets provide reliable biodiversity outcomes as they are long-term (30 years), monitored and enforceable with adaptable management plans for optimised success.

2.2 Biodiversity Net Gain Principles



2.2.1 Biodiversity Net Gain: Good Practice Principles for Development published by CIEEM et. al (2016) states that delivering biodiversity net gain goes beyond balancing relative gains and losses. It also involves doing everything to avoid biodiversity losses in the first instance. The application of the DEFRA metric detailed in this report supports developments to adopt this approach by:

- a) Providing a habitat balance sheet which can be used to identify those habitats with the greatest value and subsequently those with the greatest impacts if lost;
- b) Supporting and incentivising the mitigation hierarchy by quantifying the benefits of avoiding and mitigating impacts on high value features;
- c) Promoting the value of biodiversity enhancements and demonstrating the potential for additionality on retained habitats;
- d) Providing a balance of losses, enhancements or onsite compensation to determine if a measure net gain contribution can be achieved;
- e) Providing transparent, robust and credible evidence to help inform the best possible site options for biodiversity; and,
- f) Ensuring that any residual offsite compensation required (e.g. through biodiversity offsetting) is proportionate to the impacts and can secure a measurable net gain contribution for biodiversity overall.

2.3 Biodiversity Offsetting Standards

2.3.1 Good practice standards for biodiversity offsetting are set out by the Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme (BBOP, 2012). These standards inform the approach for selection and development of suitable offset sites and projects. Of these standards, the following provide the most relevant UK framework for the preliminary offset site search:

- The proposed offset site should be identified as suitable for the creation and/or enhancement of a target habitat within the vicinity of where the impact occurs;
- The site must be available and managed for a minimum specified term (typically 30 years).
- The landowner must agree to an enforceable delivery mechanism to secure the long-term management.



- The site must be available for monitoring to ensure appropriate management is being undertaken and to report biodiversity progress back to the local planning authority.

2.3.2 Further standards, with regards to offset site surveys and ensuring that appropriate target habitats and units can be achieved, will form part of the detailed site search that will precede the preliminary site search.

2.3.3 In addition to biodiversity net gains achieved onsite, offsite enhancements can also achieve positive outcomes for nature in the local area.



3. Policy and Legislation

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Planning guidelines, international commitments, legislation and planning policies relevant to the protection, conservation and enhancement of nature conservation interests are detailed below.

3.2 National Policy and Guidance

3.2.1 Specific habitats and species of relevance to the site receive legal protection in the United Kingdom under various pieces of policy and legislation, including:

- The **Environment Act 2021** mandates that all planning applications will be required to demonstrate how a development will enhance biodiversity and protect habitats from November 2023. This is to be achieved through a measurable 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), in association with development through the use of the most up to date Defra Metric (currently Statutory Biodiversity Metric);
- **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**, as revised 2021) sets out how planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment through amongst other things, ensuring BNG through development and protect ecological important sites and networks;
- The **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (CHSR) 2017 (as amended)** (retained in UK law by **CHSR (Amendment) (EU Exit) 2019**) details the regulations for the protection of European Protected Habitat and Species. Such European Protected Species (EPS) of animals (**Schedule 2**) and plants (**Schedule 5**) include all species of bats, great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*, dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius*, and European otter *Lutra lutra*, amongst others;
- The **Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended)** covers the legislation for endangered species in England and the framework for the designation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs);
- The **Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000** reinforces the wildlife legislation listed in the WCA and places a duty of government departments to consider biodiversity, and provides governmental department powers for the protection and maintenance of SSSIs;
- The **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006** places a duty upon local authorities to promote and enhance biodiversity in all their functions. Specifically, habitats and species of principal importance



to the conservation of biodiversity in regards to the planning process;

- The **Hedgerow Regulations 1997** provides protection by prohibiting the destruction or damage to important countryside hedges; and
- The **Protection of Badgers Act 1992** includes the protected of badgers under the act and that it is unlawful to wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat badgers or attempt to do so.

3.2.2 Where relevant, this appraisal takes account of the legislative protection afforded to specific habitats and species.

3.3 Regional Policy and Guidance

3.3.1 Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for Kirklees Council

3.3.2 The BAP for Kirklees (Kirklees Council, n.d) concentrates on species and habitats that had national action plans produced or are of local conservation concern. These include blanket bog, scrubland, reedbed, brown long-eared bats *Plecotus auratus*, otter and brown hare *Lepus europaeus* (**Appendix 5**).

3.4 Local Policy and Guidance

3.4.1 Kirklees Local Plan 2013 - 2031 (Kirklees Council, 2019)

3.4.2 Kirklees Local Plan 2013 - 2031 sets out the council's policies and proposals for land use within the district to 2031. Policy LP30 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity of the Plan is therefore relevant to the Proposed Development.

3.4.3 Policy LP30: Biodiversity and Geodiversity states that proposals the council will support proposals that seek to protect and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity of Kirklees, including the range of international, national and locally designated wildlife and geological sites, Habitats and Species of Principal Importance and the Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network. that protect and enhance features of ecological and geological interest and provide net gains in biodiversity will be supported.

Proposals will be required to:

- i. result in no significant loss or harm to biodiversity in Kirklees through avoidance, adequate mitigation or, as a last resort, compensatory measures secured through the establishment of a legally binding agreement;
- ii. minimise impact on biodiversity and provide net biodiversity gains through



good design by incorporating biodiversity enhancements and habitat creation where opportunities exist;

- iii. safeguard and enhance the function and connectivity of the Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network at a local and wider landscape-scale unless the loss of the site and its functional role within the network can be fully maintained or compensated for in the long term;
- iv. establish additional ecological links to the Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network where opportunities exist; and
- v. incorporate biodiversity enhancement measures to reflect the priority habitats and species identified for the relevant Kirklees Biodiversity Opportunity Zone.



4. Methodology

4.1 Background

4.1.1 Biodiversity accounting of existing and post-development habitats and linear features onsite was carried out using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculator Tool, following guidance set out in the metric user guide (DEFRA 2024). The process for data collation and analysis associated with the assessment is detailed in Sections 4.2 – 4.3 below.

4.2 Baseline Data

4.2.1 A baseline analysis of the existing habitats onsite was carried out from the information gathered during the site's ecological assessment visit carried out by Alex Donovan (Graduate Ecologist, JCA Limited) on 28/05/24.

4.2.2 To undertake the Statutory Biodiversity Metric calculations, the following information was recorded for each habitat parcel and/or linear feature:

- Habitat type;
- Area/Length (ha/km);
- Habitat condition;
- Strategic significance; and
- Whether that habitat will be lost, retained, enhanced, succeeded and/or created, and at what scale.

4.2.3 The habitat map for the site was digitised and interpreted using QGIS Version 3.32.3-Lima to calculate habitat area.

4.3 Impact Assessment

4.3.1 The existing baseline habitat plan for the site was overlain with the Proposed Landscape Plan (Dwg number: (SK)03) of the Proposed Development using GIS software to provide an area (Ha) of temporary and permanent habitat loss.

4.3.2 The area of any retained/enhanced or created habitats proposed as part of the development was also mapped to provide an area (Ha) (or length (Km) for linear features) of the onsite compensation proposals being provided. An estimate of



future condition, time until establishment and the likelihood of success was then calculated using landscaping data provided by the client and professional judgement.

4.4 Habitat Creation and Enhancement

- 4.4.1 The area of any retained/enhanced or created habitats proposed onsite as part of the Proposed Development was mapped using the Proposed Landscape Plan (Dwg number: (SK)03) of the final development, to provide an area (Ha) (or length (Km) for linear features) estimate of onsite compensation provided. This includes areas of developed land, which are assigned a very low (or null) value, notably, areas of buildings and/or roads.
- 4.4.2 Condition and strategic significance for each habitat or linear feature were projected using available ecological data or professional opinion about the likely value.

4.5 Residual Effects

- 4.5.1 The residual effects of the Proposed Development scheme were calculated using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculator Tool. This subtracts the pre-development baseline values from that of the post-development values to determine the change in overall habitat value for the site, taking into account any habitat trading.
- 4.5.2 Habitat trading is where the loss of a habitat must be compensated for through the creation or restoration of areas of equivalent or greater distinctiveness value. Guidance by Defra is that the loss of high distinctiveness areas, such as Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI, NERC Act, S41), require compensation in a like-for like manner (creation or restoration of habitat of the same habitat classification as that impacted). Within the Biodiversity Metric 'trading up' (where compensation through creation of a higher distinctiveness habitat) can occur, however, 'trading down' (compensation through creation of lower distinctiveness habitats) is not permitted. Therefore, if present, despite gains in lower distinctiveness habitats, these will not reduce the net gain requirement for the development. This also applies to the different habitat features i.e. habitats, hedgerows and rivers and streams. Hedgerow creation gains will not reduce net gain requirements for either rivers and streams or habitats.
- 4.5.3 Where the resulting biodiversity balance is negative, a residual net loss of biodiversity is recorded. Where the balance is positive a residual net gain of biodiversity is recorded.



5 Statutory Biodiversity Metric

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The assessment was carried out by JCA Limited using the ecological data gathered during the site's ecological assessment survey carried out on 28/05/24.

5.2 Existing Site Value

5.2.1 The existing biodiversity value for each habitat, together with the cumulative value of all habitats is provided in **Table 1**. Existing onsite habitats can be found in **Appendix 1**.

Table 1: Baseline habitats onsite and their ecological value as categorised by the Statutory Biodiversity Metric calculator.

Biodiversity Metric Reference Number	Statutory Biodiversity Metric Habitat Type	Total Area onsite (Ha)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic Significance	Ecological Baseline Habitat Unit
1	Other neutral grassland	0.04	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	0.16
2	Other neutral grassland	0.0032	Medium	Poor	Formally identified in local strategy	0.01
3	Bramble scrub	0.0061	Medium	N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	0.02
4	Bramble scrub	0.0043	Medium	N/A	Formally identified in local strategy	0.02
5	Mixed scrub	0.0067	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	0.03
6	Developed land, sealed surface	0.003	V.Low	N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	0.00
7	Other woodland, broadleaved	0.0117	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	0.11
8	Other woodland, broadleaved	0.0129	Medium	Moderate	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	0.11
9	Other woodland, broadleaved	0.008	Medium	Poor	Formally identified in local strategy	0.04
10	Other woodland, broadleaved	0.0042	Medium	Poor	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	0.02
Total		0.10	–	–	–	0.52

5.2.2 The areas other neutral grassland (references **1** and **2**) was classified as **poor** condition. These habitats failed the following condition assessment criteria:



- Criteria C – Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens.
- Criteria D – Cover of bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* is less than 20% and cover of shrubs (including bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg.) is less than 5%.
- Criteria E – Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. **If any invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.**
- Criteria F – There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m² present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type. **This criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.**

5.2.3 The mixed scrub (reference **5**) was classified as **poor** condition. This habitat failed the following condition assessment criteria:

- Criteria A – The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range): at least 80% of scrub is native, there are at least three native woody species, no single species compromises more than 75% of the cover (except for hazel *Corylus avellana*, common juniper *Juniperus communis*, sea buckthorn *Hippophae rhamnoides* (only in its native range), or box *Buxus sempervirens*, which can be up to 100% cover).
- Criteria B – Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs, and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present.
- Criteria C – There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and species indicative of suboptimal condition make up less than 5% of ground cover.
- Criteria E - There are clearings, glades, or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.

5.2.4 The southern area of woodland (references **7** and **8**) was classified as **moderate** condition. This habitat scored poor (1) or moderate (2) in the following criteria:



- Criteria A – Age distribution of trees
- Criteria D – Number of native tree species
- Criteria G – Woodland regeneration
- Criteria I – Vegetation and ground flora
- Criteria J – Woodland vertical structure
- Criteria K – Veteran trees
- Criteria L – Amount of deadwood

5.2.5 The northeast area of woodland (reference **9** and **10**) was classified as **poor** condition. This habitat scored poor (1) or moderate (2) in the following criteria:

- Criteria A – Age distribution of trees
- Criteria C – Invasive plant species
- Criteria D – Number of native tree species
- Criteria E – Cover of native tree and shrub species
- Criteria G – Woodland regeneration
- Criteria I – Vegetation and ground flora
- Criteria J – Woodland vertical structure
- Criteria K – Veteran trees
- Criteria L – Amount of deadwood

5.2.6 The sites lies partially within the boundary of the Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network. Habitat parcels within this area have been listed as 'Formally identified in local strategy' within the strategic significance section. The remaining parcels of woodland are connected to the wider Habitat Network, so have been listed as 'Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy' within the same section.

5.2.7 To ensure a 10% net gain in biodiversity is achieved as part of the Proposed Development the following measures can be employed:



- Habitat retention; and/or
- Habitat enhancement; and/or
- Habitat creation.



6 Proposed Development Impact Assessment

6.1 Description of the Proposed Development

- 6.1.1 The Proposed Development involves the construction of a residential dwelling.
- 6.1.2 The Proposed Development will see the removal or partial removal of all onsite habitats to facilitate the development. All remaining areas will be on private property, so have been classified as vegetated garden, as a long-term management plan cannot be implemented.

6.2 Habitats to be Retained

- 6.2.1 Any development should apply the Mitigation Hierarchy (British Standards Institution (BSI), 2013; shown below in Figure 1).
- 6.2.2 Development proposals should first seek to **avoid** impacts by retaining habitats. Second, development proposals should look to **minimise** the impact by producing plans that are designed to limit habitat disturbance, damage, and loss, thereby mitigating against any unavoidable impacts. Third, proposals should look to **restore** any damaged or degraded habitats. Then, only as a last resort should proposals **compensate** for unavoidable residual impacts to damaged or lost habitats that remain after avoidance and mitigation measures.



Figure 1: The mitigation hierarchy (BSI, 2013)



6.2.3 The Proposed Development will see the retention of a small section existing of developed land, which will be covered by the proposed development. This will have no impact to biodiversity onsite.

6.3 Habitats to be Enhanced

6.3.1 The Proposed Development will see the enhancement of no enhancement of habitats onsite.

6.4 Habitats to be Lost

6.4.1 The Proposed Development will see the loss of all habitats onsite to facilitate the development. This will see a significant loss of biodiversity value onsite, which cannot be mitigated for onsite due to the site becoming private property.

6.5 Proposed Habitat Creation

6.5.1 It is proposed that the following habitats be created as part of the Proposed Development:

- Developed land, sealed surface – the proposed development.
- Vegetated garden – all remaining area.

6.5.2 The proposed habitats onsite can be found within **Appendix 2**.

6.5.3 **Table 2** below summarises the value of all habitats that are to be created as part of the Proposed Development. In total, **+0.12** BU for habitats are to be created within the Proposed Development.

Table 2: Summary value of onsite habitat proposals.

Biodiversity Metric Reference Number	Statutory Biodiversity Metric Target Habitat Type	Total Area onsite (Ha)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	Strategic Significance	Biodiversity Unit Value
1	Developed land, sealed surface	0.0384	V.Low	N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	0.00
2	Vegetated garden	0.0616	Low	N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	0.12
	Total (area excl. trees)	0.10	–	–	–	0.12



6.6 Proposed Development Summary of Net Impacts

6.6.1 **Table 3** below summarises the BU value of the Proposed Development together with the unit value of any biodiversity impacts or onsite habitat creation/enhancement proposals.

6.6.2 This shows that on balance, the Proposed Development would result in a **net loss** of **-0.40** habitat BU, equivalent to a **net loss** of **-77.23%**.

6.6.3 The Proposed Development **does not satisfy** the Trading Rules as unit deficits have been generated across distinctive units.

Table 3: Summary of Biodiversity Metric results for habitats and hedgerows

Biodiversity Units (BU)	
Existing site habitat biodiversity value	0.52
Value of gross habitat biodiversity loss	0.52
Value of retained and proposed onsite habitat creation and enhancement	0.12
Net habitat biodiversity balance	-0.40
Habitat units required to achieve 10% net gain	0.57
Habitat unit deficit	0.46



7 Conclusion

- 7.1.1 In accordance with the NPPF, where a biodiversity impact cannot be avoided or mitigated then compensation measures must be provided. If this cannot be achieved onsite through further avoidance, mitigation or compensatory habitat creation or enhancement measures, then offsite compensation measures will be required.
- 7.1.2 The BAA identified that the Proposed Development would have a **net loss** of - **0.40** habitat BU, equivalent to a **net loss** of **-77.23%**. The Proposed Development **does not** satisfy Trading Rules.
- 7.1.3 The Proposed Development has achieved a biodiversity **net loss** in habitat BU. As such, offsite compensatory habitat creation and/or enhancements measures are required. The client should seek to undertake one or a combination of the following recommendations to achieve an overall biodiversity net gain in habitat BU and hedgerow BU:
- A. Incorporate onsite habitat creation/enhancement to compensate for habitat loss and achieve a minimum of 10% net gain whilst satisfying the Trading Rules. **0.46** habitat BU are required to achieve this. Landscaping redesign to include one or more of the following elements:
 - Decrease level of developed land; sealed surface and/or incorporate green roof structures;
 - Include habitat and hedgerow creation to the benefit of local wildlife; and/or
 - Enhance existing habitats in their condition, namely line of trees, hedgerow, woodland and the smaller grassland area.
 - B. If onsite habitat creation/enhancement is not possible, then offsite habitat creation/enhancement will be required. This can be achieved by the purchase of additional land designated as a compensatory biodiversity offset site to compensate for onsite losses, reach 10% net gain, and satisfy the Trading Rules.
 - C. If neither onsite nor offsite compensation is possible, statutory biodiversity credits will need to be purchased as a last resort. Guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/statutory-biodiversity-credits>.
- 7.1.4 Further details of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric calculations and associated condition assessments can be found within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculator Tool excel spreadsheet and the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets accompanying this report.



7.1.5 Should the Proposed Development be subject to future change, the conclusions and recommendations in this report will need to be revised. This is to be undertaken via the recalculation of the impact assessment element through the most up-to-date biodiversity metric.



8 References

Biodiversity Metric Guidance:

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Appendices

Appendix 1: UKHab Habitat Map - Baseline





Site name & address

**Land off Beaumont Park Road
Huddersfield
HD4 5JT**

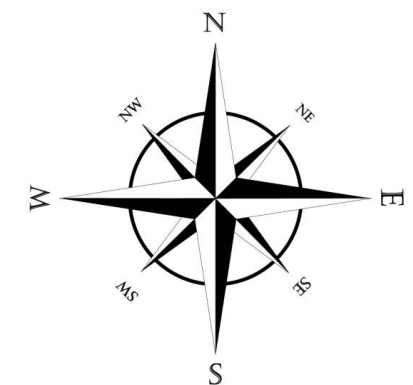
Key

-  Red Line Boundary
-  Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network

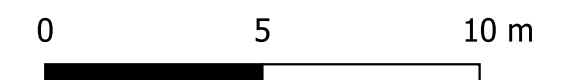
HABITATS

Habitats - Baseline

-  Bramble scrub
-  Developed land; sealed surface
-  Mixed scrub
-  Other neutral grassland
-  Other woodland; broadleaved



Scale



Site Land off Beaumont Park Road	Client Manbir Bains
Project 21434a BAA	Author ADo
Plan ref 21434a/ADo	Revision 001

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Appendix 2: UKHab Habitat Map - Proposed





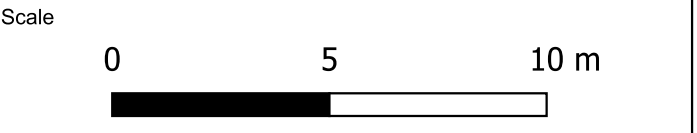
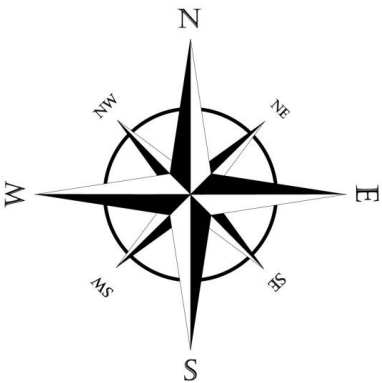
Site name & address
Land off Beaumont Park Road
Huddersfield
HD4 5JT

Key

-  Red Line Boundary
-  Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network

HABITATS

- Habitats - Proposed
-  Developed land; sealed surface
 -  Vegetated garden

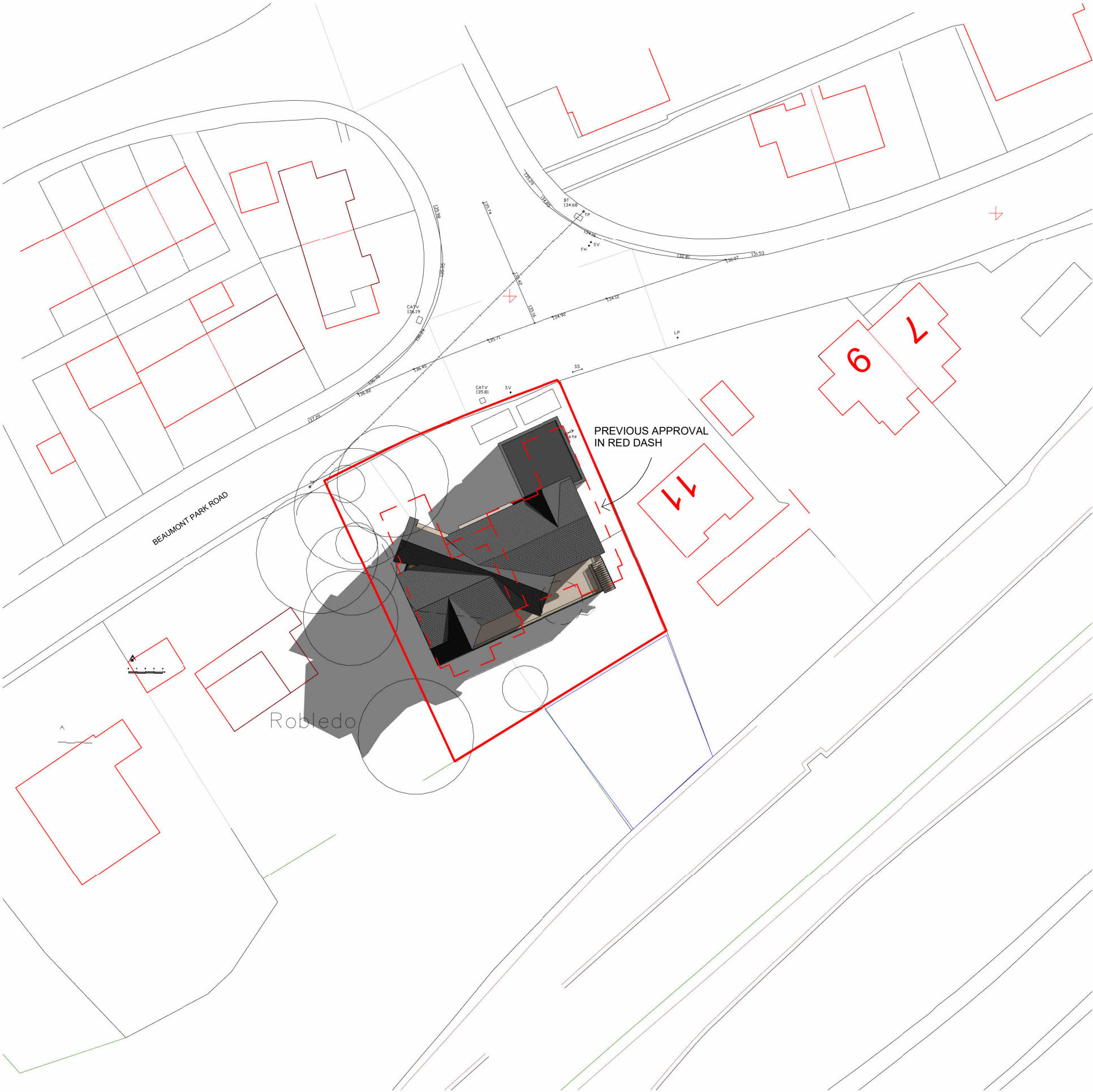


Site Land off Beaumont Park Road	Client Manbir Bains
Project 21434a BAA	Author ADo
Plan ref 21434a/ADo	Revision 001

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Appendix 3: Proposed Development Plan





Only figured dimensions should be used.

Scaled dimensions should be checked with the Architect.

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rev	description	drwn	auth
			date
DO NOT SCALE OFF THIS DRAWING			
ACUMEN Designers & Architects acumenarchitects.co.uk01484 546 000 Headrow House, Old Leeds Road, Huddersfield, Huddersfield HD1 1SG			
Client			
MR M BAINS			
Project			
LAND OFF BEAUMONT PARK RD			
Project No	Drawing No		Rev
2853	(SK)03		
Description			
SITE PLAN			
Scale	Date Drawn	Drawn By	Authorised By
1 : 500 @ A3	JUN 22	HB	JC
Purpose of Issue			
Planning	Building Regs	Tender	Construction
			Comment
			Info

Appendix 4: Good Practice Principles for Development

Taken from CIEEM (2016) Biodiversity Net Gain: Good practice principles for development.

Principal 1. Apply the Mitigation Hierarchy.

Principal 2. Avoid losing biodiversity that cannot be offset by gains elsewhere.

Principal 3. Be inclusive and equitable.

Principal 4. Address risks.

Principal 5. Make a measurable Net Gain contribution.

Principal 6. Achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity.

Principal 7. Be additional.

Principal 8. Create a Net Gain legacy.

Principal 9. Optimise sustainability.

Principal 10. Be transparent.



Appendix 5: Kirklees Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

Habitats included within the BAP for Kirklees (Kirklees Council, n.d) are as follows;

- Scrub;
- Other semi-natural grassland (wet/rush pasture and rough grassland); and
- Riverine.

Species included within the BAP for Kirklees (Kirklees Council, n.d) are as follows;

- Water vole (*Arvicola terrestris* - recently reclassified as *Arvicola amphibious*);
- White clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*);
- Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris subsp. bensonorum/pipilans*);
- Early marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza incarnate*);
- Marsh helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*);
- Northern wood ant (*Formica lugubris*);
- Floating water plantain (*Luronium natans*); and
- Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*).



Appendix 6: Author Qualifications

Adam West, Principal Ecologist

BSc (Hons) Animal and Wildlife Management.

Adam joined JCA to lead the expanding ecology department. Having returned to education as a mature student, Adam studied Countryside Management for two years before undertaking a Bachelor's degree, for which he was awarded First Class Honours. Adam has many years' experience in ecological consultancy, working on projects ranging from individual planning applications to national infrastructure projects. Adam holds a Natural England Level 1 great crested newt survey class licence, a Natural England Level 2 bat survey class licence (and the Scottish and Welsh equivalents) and a CSCS card.

Alex Donovan, Graduate Ecologist

MBiol, BSc Biology (Industrial).

Alex joined JCA in 2023 after graduating from the University of Leeds with a First Class Honours Integrated Master's degree in Biology. As part of his degree programme, Alex spent an industrial placement year working in the Uplands Research Department of the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust, assisting on various ecological surveys and projects. Alex is a registered Trainee Bird Ringer, licensed through the BTO, and has previously conducted seasonal bat emergence and transect surveys. Alex is currently working towards a level 1 bat licence, level 1 great crested newt licence, and a barn owl survey licence.

James Foster, Assistant Ecologist

BSc (Hons) Biology.

James gained his undergraduate degree in biology in 2012 from University of Leeds. James has plenty of experience in ecology, having worked countless projects of different scales all over the north and midlands. James has 11 years of experience surveying anything from reptiles to hedgerows and holds a Great crested newt licence level 1 and is working towards his bat licence and barn owl licence.



The Information and advice which we have prepared and provided is true and has been prepared and provided in accordance with the CIEEM's Code of Professional Conduct. We confirm that the opinions expressed are our true and bona fide opinions.

Signed

.....
Alex Donovan *MBIOL BSc (Hons)*

03/06/2024

Reviewed by

.....
James Foster *BSc (Hons)*

03/06/2024

Approved by

.....
Adam West *BSc (Hons), ACIEEM*

06/06/2024



For and on behalf of **JCA Ltd**

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ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

Ecological Pre-Planning Services

- Phase 1 Habitat Surveys
- Great Crested Newt eDNA Sampling
- Protected species: Bat, Wintering and Nesting Bird, Badger, Amphibian, Otter, Water Vole, White-Clawed Crayfish, Dormice and Reptile Surveys.
- Preparation for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Invasive Species Surveys
- Code for Sustainable Homes
- Butterfly & Insect Surveys

Ecological Post-Planning Services

- Biodiversity Enhancement Plans
- Protected Species Mitigation
- Ecological Management (Bat and Bird box installation and inspection)
- Planting Schemes
- Monitoring of bird or bat boxes.

ARBORICULTURAL SERVICES

Guidance for Architects & Developers

- British Standard 5837 Surveys
- Arboricultural Implications Assessments (AIA)
- Arboricultural Method Statements (AMS)

Advice for Engineers, Loss Adjusters and Insurers

- Tree Surveys for Subsidence
- Heave Assessment
- Tree Root Identification

Advice for Local Authorities and Social Housing

- Tree Safety Surveys
- Specialist Decay Detection
- Landscape and Orchard Design

Tree Advice for the Legal Profession

- Subsidence Litigation
- Personal Injury and Accident Investigation
- Expert Witness, Planning Inquiries and Appeals

Veteran Tree Management

- Ancient Woodland Management
- Veteran Tree Management

Tree Health and Pest and Disease Management

- Pest and Disease Surveys
- Tree Health Checks
- Disease Mitigation and Control



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