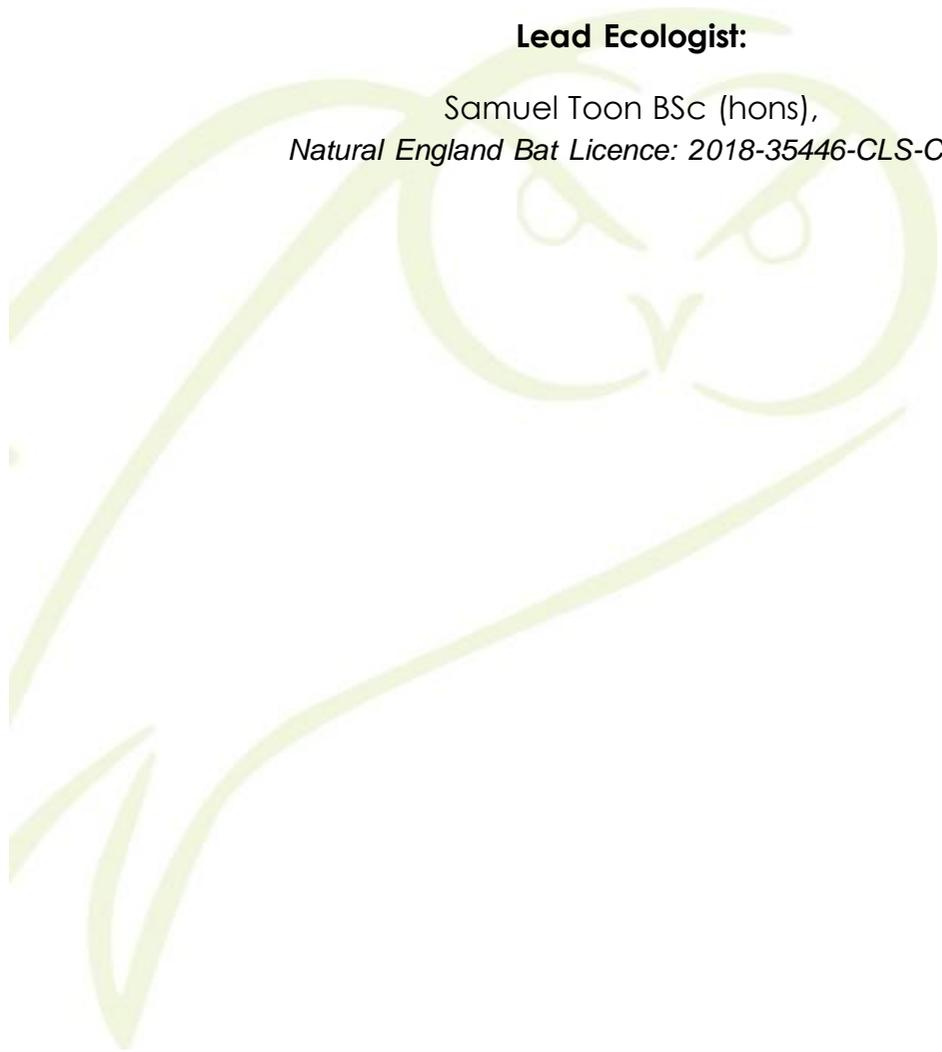


| Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) Survey Report |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>For:</b>  | Kufic Architects              |
| <b>Site:</b>   | Healey Lane, Batley, WF17 7SU |
| <b>Report Date:</b>                                  | 28th June 2024                |
| <b>Report Reference:</b>                             | SQ-1978                       |

**Lead Ecologist:**

Samuel Toon BSc (hons),  
*Natural England Bat Licence: 2018-35446-CLS-CLS*



|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Client:</b>               | Kufic Architects   |
| <b>Site Name:</b>            | Healey Lane, Batley, WF17 7SU  |
| <b>Grid Reference:</b>       | SE 23305 24049   |
| <b>Report:</b>               | Preliminary Ecological Appraisal   |
| <b>Date of Survey:</b>       | 26th June 2024   |
| <b>Surveying Ecologists:</b> | Samuel Toon BSc (hons), Natural England Bat Licence: 2018-35446- CLS-CLS |

| <b>Issue:</b> | <b>Revision:</b> | <b>Stage:</b> | <b>Date:</b>               | <b>Prepared by:</b>                      | <b>Approved by:</b>                               |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| -             | -                | Draft         | 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 | Sam Toon BSc (hons), Estrada Ecology Ltd | Natasha Estrada MRes, MCIEEM, Estrada Ecology Ltd |
| 1             | 1                | Final         | 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 | Sam Toon BSc (hons), Estrada Ecology Ltd | Natasha Estrada MRes, MCIEEM, Estrada Ecology Ltd |



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The contents of this report have been produced with consideration of current best practice guidance, and in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's (CIEEM) Code of Professional Conduct.

This report should not be submitted as part of a planning application without any accompanying species-specific reports which may have been recommended herein.

Data within this report is valid for a maximum of eighteen months from the date of the survey. After this period, an updated site visit will be required to determine a new ecological baseline.

## **Site Summary**

The site, encompassing 0.3 hectares, is characterised primarily by its developed land sealed surface, specifically designed for vehicular parking and user pathways. This primary habitat presents hard standing areas extensively throughout, which offer negligible value under its prevailing condition. The area is thoroughly integrated with man-made structures, enhancing its designation as developed land of low ecological value.

Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface was recorded within the site which presented a recent transition from a previously vegetated habitat, identified distinctly in the most recent 2023 survey conducted by Estrada Ecology as bramble scrub. This area, now covered with wood chippings over an impermeable membrane, reflects recent human intervention, moving away from its former natural state, indicative of ongoing changes within the site.

## **Findings**

No suitable habitats for breeding birds were recorded within the site.

No suitable habitats for European hedgehogs were recorded within the site. No further survey effort is recommended.

Buildings are present on site, with a moderate suitability for bat roosts. Recommendations regarding these habitats are given in the conclusion of this report.



No suitable habitats for badgers were recorded within the site. No further survey effort is recommended.

No suitable habitats for reptiles were recorded within the site. No further survey effort is recommended.

No suitable habitats for amphibians were found within the site. No further survey effort is recommended.

No suitable habitats for riparian mammals were recorded within the site. No further survey effort is recommended.

No species listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 were recorded within the site. No species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were recorded within the site.



## Contents:

1. Introduction and Background to the Site
2. Protected Species Legislation
3. Survey Methodology
4. Ecological Constraints
5. Survey Results
6. Conclusions
7. Biodiversity

Enhancements

Appendices and

References

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 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 to conduct a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the land at Healey Lane, Batley, WF17 7SU.

1.2 The site consists of developed land sealed surface, built linear features and artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface.

1.3 It is understood that the site is proposed for redevelopment, subject to the necessary conditions.

### **1.4 Report Objectives**

- Present the findings of the ecological survey.
- Assess the potential of existing on-site habitats to support protected or notable species.
- Evaluate any likely ecological impacts on protected and notable species or habitats because of the proposed development.
- Provide recommendations for any further species-specific survey and mitigation measures that may be required; and
- Provide habitat enhancement recommendations in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2023).

### **1.5 Site Location and Wider Area**

1.5.1 The survey site's central OS grid reference is SE 23305 24049.

1.5.2 The wider site is comprised of residential and commercial properties on all elevations, with small pockets of open vegetated areas to the north and south.



**Figure 1:** The survey site within its wider setting.



## 2 Protected Species Legislation

2.1 Relevant legislation includes the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Species Amendment (EU Exit) Regulations which came into force on 31 December 2020.

2.2 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act came into force on 1 Oct 2006. Section 41 (S41) of the Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. The list has been drawn up in consultation with Natural England, as required by the Act. The S41 list is used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies, including local and regional authorities, in implementing their duty under section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in England, when conducting their normal functions.

2.3 The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework was developed in response to the Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020. Its five strategic goals and twenty biodiversity targets supersede the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

### 2.4 Environment and Biodiversity

2.4.1 Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2023), local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance the natural environment when determining planning applications. Local planning authorities also have an obligation

to seek opportunities to further enhance the conservation status of Species and Principal Habitats.

2.4.2 Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England (JNCC, 2009) are covered under section 41 of the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006). Species and habitats listed within Section 41 need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions, such as assessing planning applications.

2.4.3 Development proposals submitted after 12th February 2024, with some exceptions, will be expected to achieve a minimum of 10% net gain in site biodiversity value under The Environment Act 2021 (Commencement No. 8 and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2024.

## 2.5 Wildlife

2.5.1 European Protected Species, such as bats (all species) and great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*), are afforded protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as well as under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000. It is an offence to:

- Deliberately or recklessly capture, injure, or kill any wild animal of a European protected species.
- Deliberately or recklessly disturb any such animal.
- Damage or destroy their breeding site or resting place.
- Keep, transport, or offer for sale / exchange any live or dead animal, or any part of, or anything from these species.

2.5.2 Disturbance of European Protected Species constitutes any activity which is likely to:

- To impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young; or, in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; and
- To significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

## 2.6 UK Legislation

2.6.1 **Breeding birds** (all species) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird and to take, damage or destroy the nest (whilst being built or in use) or eggs. Schedule 1 species are afforded protection from disturbance at or near nest sites, including



reckless disturbance under the Countryside Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

2.6.2 **Reptiles** (common species of adder, grass snake, common lizard, and slow worm) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure and trade these animals.

2.6.3 **Amphibians** (smooth newt, palmate newt, common frog, and common toad) are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The sale, barter, exchange, transporting for sale and advertising to sell or to buy are an offence.

2.6.4 **Badgers** are protected by the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence: to wilfully, or attempt, to kill, capture, ill-treat or injure any badger; to obstruct, destroy or damage a badger sett or to disturb a badger whilst within its sett; to sell or offer for sale a live badger, or have possession or control of a live badger; and marking a badger or attaching any ring, tag, or other marking device to a badger.

2.6.5 **Otters** are a European Protected Species (EPS) and are also fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is against the law to capture, kill, disturb or injure otters (on purpose or by not taking enough care); damage or destroy a breeding or resting place (deliberately or by not taking enough care); obstruct access to their resting or sheltering places.

(deliberately or by not taking enough care); and possess, sell, control or transport live or dead otters, or parts of otters.

2.6.6 **Water voles** are fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and are a priority conservation species. It is against the law to:

- Intentionally capture, kill, or injure water voles.
- Damage, destroy or block access to their places of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care).
- Disturb them in a place of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care); and
- Possess, sell, control or transport live or dead water voles or parts of them (not water voles bred in captivity).

### 3 Survey Methodology

#### 3.1 Desktop Survey

3.1.1 A biological data records search was commissioned from West Yorkshire Ecology Services and West Yorkshire Bat Group for a 2 km radius from the central grid reference.



3.1.2 Further inspection, using colour 1:25,000 OS base maps ([www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk)), MAGIC ([www.magic.defra.gov.uk](http://www.magic.defra.gov.uk)), aerial photographs from Google Earth ([www.maps.google.co.uk](http://www.maps.google.co.uk)), was also undertaken to provide additional context and identify any features of potential importance for nature conservation in the wider countryside.

3.1.3 Furthermore, consultation with MAGIC was undertaken to ascertain any European Protected Species Mitigation Licenses granted within a 2 km radius from grid.

3.1.4 Natural England's Geoportal: England-wide data for great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*) (GCN) was analysed for any records within a 2 km radius from grid. The dataset contains eDNA pond surveys for district level licensing (England). When available for the location, the Risk Zones for GCN are considered for the site.

## 3.2 Field Survey

3.2.1 The survey area was investigated on foot to ascertain habitats on site and the potential of those habitats to support ecological diversity. The vegetation types present within the site were assessed by experienced ecologist; Samuel Toon BSc (hons), Natural England Bat License 2018- 35446-CLS-CLS using methodology based on that described in the UK Habitat Classification User Manual Version 2.0 (2023) and CIEEM's Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (2018).

3.2.2 Habitats and features with potential to support protected and / or conservation priority faunal species, together with any field signs of such species were recorded on the field map using target notes. A search was undertaken for the following key habitats and field signs for protected or conservation priority species highlighted in Table 1.



**Table 1:** Key habitats and field signs of protected and priority species.

| Taxon                      | Indicative Habitats   | Field Signs   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Bats</b>                | Roosts - Trees, buildings, bridges caves etc.<br>Foraging areas - e.g., parkland, water bodies and streams, wetlands, woodland edge, hedgerow<br>Commuting routes - linear features (e.g., hedgerows).                          | In or on potential roost sites:<br>Droppings stuck to walls; urine spotting in roof spaces; oil from fur staining around roost entrances; feeding remains (e.g., moth wings). |
| <b>Great Crested Newts</b> | Ponds within 500m of suitable habitat within the site boundary.<br>Suitable (terrestrial) habitat includes rough grassland, scrub and woodland, log and rubble piles and other debris, animal burrows.                          | Eggs, Individuals of all life stages.<br>Egg rolled plants.   |
| <b>Reptiles</b>            | Rough grassland, log and rubble piles, compost heaps.   | Sloughed skins; eggs, individuals.  |
| <b>Birds</b>               | Trees, scrub, hedgerow, field margins, grassland.   | Nests; droppings below nest sites (especially in buildings of trees); tree holes.   |
| <b>Badgers</b>             | Found in most rural and many urban habitats.  | Excavations and tracks: sett entrances, latrines, hairs, well-worn paths; prints; snuffle holes.  |
| <b>Otter</b>               | Water bodies / water courses.   | Holt entrances; prints; latrine / spraint sites; anal jelly / smears.   |
| <b>Water Vole</b>          | Water bodies / water courses.   | Burrow entrances; prints; latrine areas; faeces; feeding stations.  |
| <b>BAP invertebrates</b>   | Each butterfly species has its own habitat requirements determined by the food plant of the caterpillar, the nectar source for the adult and the conditions needed for the caterpillar to survive and then pupate successfully. | Eggs, larva, Pupa, adult butterfly. Habitat type and presence of food plants.   |

### 3.3 Timing and Weather Conditions

3.3.1 The survey was conducted on the afternoon of 26th June 2024.

3.3.2 Weather conditions at the time of the site visit were cloudy and dry with a no wind and temperatures of 26°C.

### 3.4 Personnel

3.4.1 The survey was undertaken by experienced ecologist Samuel Toon BSc (hons) (Natural England Bat License 2018-CLS-CLS); a licensed ecologist with over nine years of ecological surveying including phase one habitat surveys.

### 3.5 Preliminary Roost Assessment

3.5.1 Where present and access could be gained, trees and buildings were subject to an external inspection to determine their suitability to support roosting bats. The external inspections were conducted in accordance with current best practice guidance (Collins, 2023).

3.5.2 Potential bat roost features and field sign evidence of use of the site by bats include the presence of droppings, stain, or grease marks, feeding remains, or the observations of the bats themselves.

3.5.3 Where present, trees, buildings and the quality of on-site habitats were then categorised based on the classification criteria in 'Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists' (Collins, 2023). Classification criteria is presented below:

- **Negligible:** No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.
- **Low:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically at any time of the year. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and / or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats.
- **Moderate:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions, and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status.
- **High:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions, and surrounding habitat. These structures have the potential to support high conservation status roosts (e.g., maternity, or classic cool / stable hibernation site).



## 4 Ecological Constraints

4.1 It should be noted that this ecological appraisal provides baseline ecological data at the time of survey only and does not include flora or fauna which may be present at different times of the year.

4.2 An absence of species records from within a search radius does not provide confirmation that a species is absent from within the search area.

4.3 The site was considered fully surveyed during the site visit.

## 5 Survey Results

### 5.1 Field Survey Results

5.1.1 A summary of the habitats recorded during the site inspection are listed as follows:

**Table 2:** Recorded Habitats Within the Site Boundaries.

| Habitat                                  | UK HABS Codes |           |
|--|---------------|-----------|
|  | Primary       | Secondary |
| Developed Land Sealed Surface            | u1b           |           |
| Built Linear Features                    | u1b5          |           |
| Artificial unvegetated, Unsealed surface | u1c           |           |

5.1.2 A list of all species recorded on the site during the survey can be found in appendix two.

### 5.2 Developed Land Sealed Surface

5.2.1 Hard standing areas dominated the site forming car parking areas and walkways for site users. The habitat offers no intrinsic ecological value in its current state.

### 5.3 Built Linear Features

5.3.1 A complex of buildings was present within the site, comprising of stone and red brick structures. Several windows were recorded boarded on the eastern elevation, with the remaining windows intact.

5.3.2 Roofing materials varied between corrugated metal, corrugated asbestos and

slate. The slate roof recorded multiple areas of damage and lifted slates. Furthermore, the gable to the stone structure showed missing mortar along the ridge.

5.3.3 A section of the parapet on the northern boundary structure recorded a lifted stone slab which was deemed to provide suitable opportunities for bats to utilise.

5.3.4 Multiple lintels were recorded within the red brick structure, with some recording superficial damage which was deemed unsuitable for bats due to the depth of the cracks present.

5.3.5 A previous assessment (Preliminary Roost Assessment, Estrada Ecology, Report reference SQ-1040) of the complex recorded the site as having low potential for supporting bats. However, the time that has elapsed has recorded the structures as deteriorating, which has produced further features deemed suitable for bats when assessed by a licensed ecologist (2018-35446-CLS-CLS).

5.3.6 Following the renewed assessment of the complex of buildings, the site was deemed to provide a moderate suitability for supporting roosting bats. Further recommendations have been made herein.

**Figure 2:** Buildings



## 5.4 Artificial Unvegetated, Unsealed Surface

5.4.1 An area recently cleared of existing vegetation as per the survey conducted in 2023 was recorded to the northeast of the site. A previous site visit and historical photos identified this area as bramble scrub.

5.4.2 The survey conducted on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 recorded the area now devoid of vegetation, now comprising wood chippings with an impermeable membrane beneath. Basic and sparse ephemeral vegetation was recorded growing through the membrane.

5.4.3 Species recorded within this habitat include Rosebay Willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*), Field Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) and Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*).

**Figure 3:** Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface



## 5.5 Desktop Survey Results

5.5.1 Combined records were returned from West Yorkshire Ecology Services and West Yorkshire Bat Group for a 2 km radius from the central grid reference. The list of protected and notable species data records is available upon request. In summary, the following records were returned:

- One amphibian record was returned for the search radius, for great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) approximately 1326 meters from the central grid reference, dated between 2016.
- No Eurasian badger (*Meles meles*) records were returned for a 2Km radius.

- Records for European Water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*), Otter (*Lutra lutra*) and teleost species records have been discounted from further analysis due to the absence of suitable habitat on the survey site or immediately adjacent.
- No reptile records were returned for the site radius.
- Four western European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) records were returned dated between 2015 and 2023 for field observations.
- A total of ninety-nine bat records were returned by WYES and WYBG, comprising common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*), brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*), leisler (*Nyctalus leisleri*) and unconfirmed bat species, dated between 1997 and 2022.
- A full list of biological records is available upon request.

5.5.2 Consultation with MAGIC returned one European Protected Species Mitigation License within a 2 km radius from grid.

**Table 3:** European Protected Species Licenses granted within the search radius.

| License Number | Date      | Location from Site | Species   | Purpose                        |
|----------------|-----------|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| EPSM2011-3454  | 2011-2012 | 1107 metres south  | Common Pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus Pipistrellus</i> ) | Destruction of a Resting Place |

5.5.3 No records for great crested newt presence were recorded within a 2 km radius from grid via consultation with Natural England's eDNA pond surveys for District Level Licensing (England).

## 5.6 Designated Sites

5.6.1 Consultation with MAGIC map returned no Statutory Designated Sites within the 2 km search radius from grid.

5.6.2 Consultation with the local records search returned no Non-Statutory Designated Sites within the 2 km search radius from grid.

## 5.7 Priority Habitats and Priority Species

5.7.1 No priority habitats were recorded within the redline site boundary.

5.7.2 One priority habitat was recorded outside the redline site boundary but within the

search radius as displayed in table 4 below.

**Table 4:** Priority Habitats outside the Site Boundary but within the Search Radius

| Habitat Type       | Habitat Description                                    |
|--------------------|--|
| Deciduous Woodland | Closest compartment being 236 meters north of the site |

5.7.3 No protected species listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were recorded within the application boundary.

5.7.4 No non-native / invasive species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were recorded within the site boundary.

## 5.8 Breeding Birds

5.8.1 No current or historic evidence of breeding birds using the site was recorded within the surveyed area. It is predicted that birds will not be affected by disturbance levels/proposed works.

5.8.2 No suitable habitats were recorded within the site in which, nesting or ground nesting birds could potentially utilise for breeding purposes. No further recommendations have been made within this report.

## 5.9 Bats

5.9.1 The buildings within the site were deemed as offering moderate potential to be used by bats for roosting, as assessed by Samuel Toon BSc (hons), Natural England Bat Licence: 2018-35446- CLS-CLS.

5.9.2 Due to the size of the features recorded, PRF-M were classified within the buildings within the site boundary as identified by a licensed ecologist.

5.9.3 The site does not constitute as likely major foraging or commuting ground, based on the habitat composition. No evidence of foraging or commuting suitability has been found within or adjacent to the site. It is predicted that bats will not be affected by disturbance levels/proposed works.

5.9.4 Recommendations regarding bats are given within the conclusion of this report.



## **5.10 Badger**

5.10.1 No presence of Eurasian badger was recorded within the site. No field-sign evidence suggesting the use of the site by Eurasian badger was recorded.

5.10.2 The site is deemed to offer negligible suitability for badgers.

5.10.3 No impacts towards Eurasian Badgers are anticipated. No further survey effort is proposed for this species.

## **5.11 European Hedgehog**

5.11.1 No evidence of western European hedgehogs was recorded for the search radius. No field-sign evidence suggesting the use of the site by hedgehogs were recorded.

5.11.2 The site is deemed to offer negligible suitability for hedgehogs.

5.11.3 No impacts towards European Hedgehogs are anticipated. No further survey effort is proposed for this species.

## **5.12 Riparian/Aquatic Mammals**

5.12.1 No field sign evidence for aquatic mammals was recorded within the site.

5.12.2 No aquatic habitat deemed suitable for use by aquatic mammals was recorded within the curtilage of the site or in the immediate environment.

5.12.3 No terrestrial habitat deemed suitable for use by aquatic mammals was recorded within the curtilage of the site or in the immediate environment.

## **5.13 Amphibians**

5.13.1 The site is deemed to offer negligible suitability for amphibians. No presence of great crested newts was detected within the site during the survey.

5.13.2 No habitats suitable for amphibians were detected within the site. No habitats suitable for amphibians were detected outside the site within a 500m radius from the central grid reference.

5.13.3 No impacts towards amphibians are anticipated. No further survey effort is proposed for this species.

## **5.14 Reptiles**

5.14.1 No reptiles were recorded on site during the survey.



5.14.2 No aquatic habitat deemed suitable for use by reptiles was recorded within the curtilage of the site.

5.14.3 No terrestrial habitat deemed suitable for use by reptiles was recorded within the curtilage of the site.

5.14.4 No suitable connectivity is present in which reptiles could utilise.

5.14.5 No impacts towards reptiles are anticipated. No further survey effort is proposed for this species.

## **5.15 Other species**

5.15.1 The site does not support suitable habitat for any other protected or significant fauna, such as: barn owl, dormouse, brown hare, or white-clawed crayfish. No impacts towards these species are anticipated.

## **6 Conclusions**

### **6.1 Designated Sites**

6.1.1 No Statutory Designated Sites were recorded within the 2 km search radius.

6.1.2 No Non-Statutory Designated Site were recorded within the 2 km search radius.

6.1.3 The site is not recorded as being within any notable designated sites or impact zones.

### **6.2 Habitats and Vegetation**

6.2.1 No priority habitats were recorded within the redline boundary.

6.2.2 No trees which are on the Ancient Tree Inventory were recorded on site.

6.2.3 No protected or notable flora listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) was recorded during the survey.

6.2.4 No non-native invasive species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were recorded during the survey.

### **6.3 Breeding Birds**

6.3.1 No further recommendations are required in terms of formal mitigation for Breeding Birds.



## 6.4 Bats

6.4.1 No bats were recorded in situ. No field signs were recorded within the site.

6.4.2 A complex of buildings was located within the site. Multiple features were present that were deemed to provide suitability for roosting or serving as a place of rest.

6.4.3 The features present were deemed to provide moderate potential for supporting roosting bats. In line with current guidelines, two dusk activity surveys are required to be conducted during the bat activity season (May to August inclusive). These must be conducted in suitable weather conditions and spaced a minimum of three weeks apart.

## 6.5 European Hedgehog

6.5.1 No further recommendations are required in terms of formal mitigation for European hedgehog.

## 6.6 Amphibians

6.6.1 No further recommendations are required in terms of formal mitigation for great crested newt.

## 6.7 Badgers

6.7.1 No further surveys are required in terms of formal mitigation for Badgers.

## 6.8 Reptiles

6.8.1 No further recommendations are required in terms of formal mitigation for Reptiles.

## 6.9 Aquatic Mammals

6.9.1 No further recommendations are deemed necessary for aquatic mammals.

## 6.10 Other Species

6.10.1 No field sign evidence of species not already stated above was recorded within the site during the survey. Therefore, no further recommendations in terms of formal mitigation are required.

## 6.11 Schedule 9 Species

6.11.1 No schedule 9 species have been identified within the site during the survey. Therefore, no further action is needed with regards to invasive species. Should any schedule 9 species be identified, a suitable ecologist should be notified.



## **7 Biodiversity Enhancement**

7.1.1 In line with the National Planning Policy Framework (2023), the application should demonstrate biodiversity enhancements. Upon finalisation of plans, calculations can be compiled.

7.1.2 Due to the size of the site and location, applicable specific habitat enhancements could include Bat and bird boxes integrated into the scheme design to enhance roosting provision over the wider site.

7.1.3 A planting scheme should be implemented within the scheme to create a greenspace within the site. Plantings should comprise native species of high biodiversity value.

7.1.4 Boundary features should be kept open and allow passage for small mammals such as hedgehogs.

7.1.5 Upon completion of a finalised scheme design, should be deemed appropriate by the local authority, a retrospective Biodiversity Net Gain assessment can be completed.

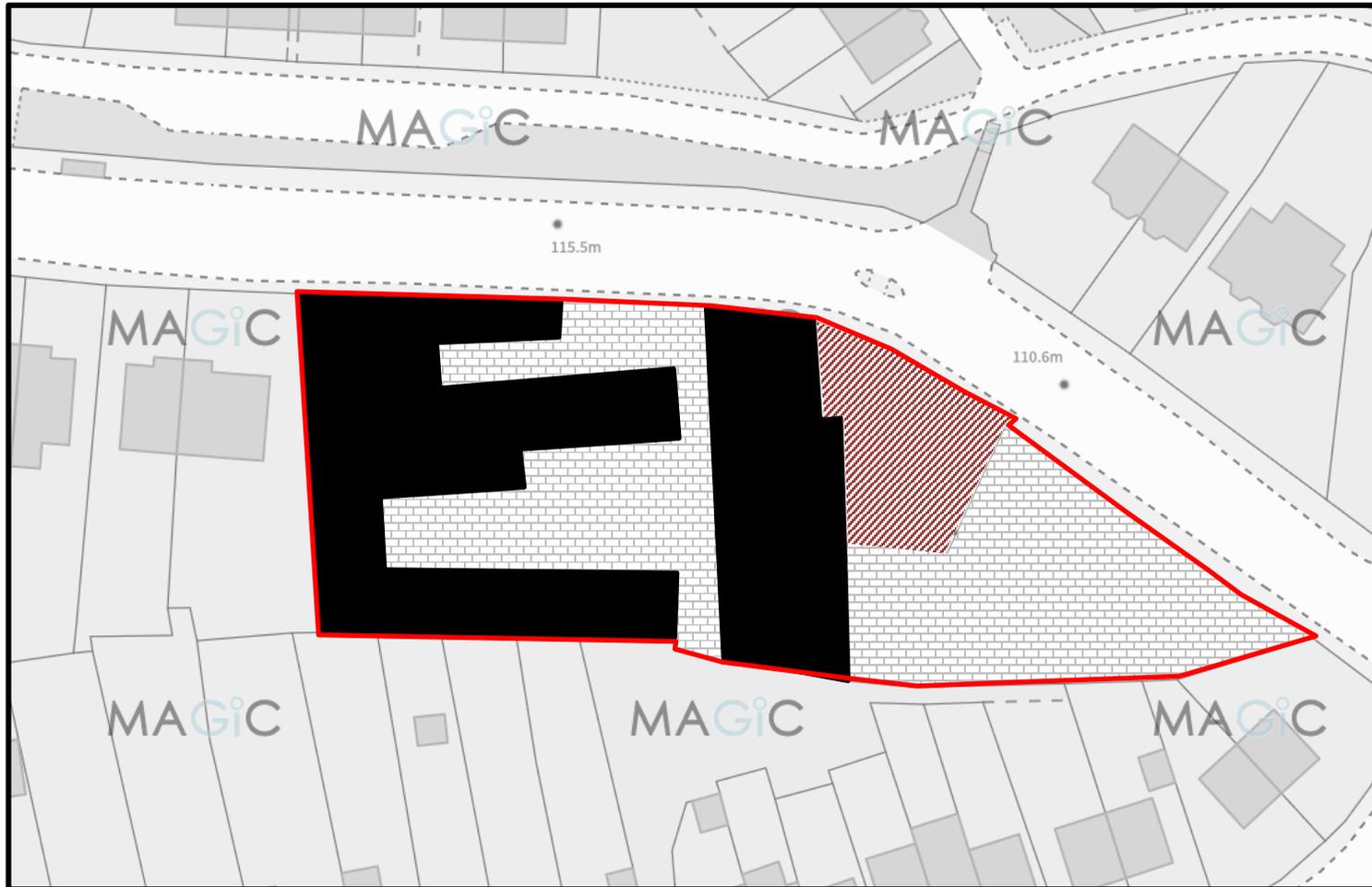


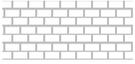
**Appendix One:** Species list (on site)

| Vernacular                | Taxon                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Flora</b>              |                                |
| <b>Field Bindweed</b>     | <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>    |
| <b>Rosebay Willowherb</b> | <i>Chamerion angustifolium</i> |
| <b>Spear Thistle</b>      | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>         |



Appendix Two: Phase One Map



| Habitat                                 | Key   |
|---|---|
| Site Boundary                           |  |
| Developed Land Sealed Surface           |  |
| Buildings                               |  |
| Artificial Unvegetated Unsealed Surface |  |

## **References**

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