

DC Admin

From: ENVU Biodiversity and Land Use
Sent: 19 January 2026 10:14
To: Planning ContactCentre
Subject: 2024/93326 at location Bradley Nursery, Bradley Junction Industrial Estate, Leeds Road, Bradley, Huddersfield, HD2 1UR

Please see ecological commentary below:

Designations

- Sir John Ramsden Canal Local Wildlife Site is 0.1km east of the site.
- Dalton Bank Local Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserve is 0.9km south of the site.
- Ancient, replanted woodland 'Dyon/ Screamer Woods' is located 0.6 km to the west of the site
- Huddersfield Broad Canal and the River Colne are located within 0.2 km south of the site

Onsite habitats and species

The following reports have been reviewed

- Ecological impact Assessment, Network Rail, November 2024 – actual survey took place May 2024
- Reptile PWMS, Waterman Group, October 2024
- Ecological Clerk Of Work form, November 2024 – vegetation clearance taken place: 22nd October 2024, 24th October 2024, 25th October 2024, 29th October 2024, 30th October 2024, 31st October 2024, 1st November 2024.

Habitats

- There is a line of trees bordering the east boundary of the site.

Lighting strategy and tree protection measures will be conditioned.

Bats

- Commuting pathways was noted mostly along the watercourse and woodland edge habitats, with some foraging activity also seen amongst these habitats and centrally on Site.
- All trees within the Site and wider Survey Area were assessed as being of negligible bat roost suitability.
- The building on Site has been assessed as having negligible suitability to support roosting bats.

CEMP will be conditioned with best practice guideline for bats to be added.

Birds

- The following incidental species were noted within or adjacent to the Site during the survey: buzzard *Buteo buteo*, wood pigeon *Columba palumbus*, magpie *Pica pica*, starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, swallow *Hirundo rustica*, goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*, blackbird *Turdus merula*, and crow *Corvus corone*. all may nest within woodland and scrub habitat within and adjacent to the Site.
- Habitats on Site also have the potential to support ground nesting birds although no evidence of ground nesting birds were noted during the field survey. The mosaic habitats present have the potential support species associated with brownfield sites

- Whilst the Site provides habitat suitable for breeding birds including woodland, scrub, rough grassland and habitats, it is noted that more extensive and higher quality nesting habitats are located in abundance within the wider landscape.

CEMP will be conditioned with best practice guideline for birds to be added.

Reptiles

- The habitats on Site are suitable for common reptile species. This includes the habitats indicative of open habitat mosaic habitats with structural diversity, open basking areas and places for shelter, refuge, and hibernation. There is also good connectivity for reptiles to the wider landscape via the habitat network and railway.
- A PWMS has been produced, some clearance has taken place and no reptiles were found. The PWMS is acceptable.

PWMS will be conditioned.

Invertebrates

- The Site is assessed to be of value to invertebrates at the local level only, with species recorded during the Site walkover all representing common species that have good powers of dispersal.

CEMP will be conditioned with best practice guideline for invertebrates to be added.

Suggested conditions

BNG condition for 10% net gain to be achieved, once an updated, appropriate and correct statutory BNG metric is provided.

Habitats / Species

A condition for a CEMP: Biodiversity (Construction Environment Management Plan) is advised, e.g. No works shall take place until a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The CEMP (Biodiversity) shall include the following:

- a) Summary of potentially damaging activities
- b) Identification of "biodiversity protection zones"
- c) Practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practices) to avoid or reduce impacts during construction (these may be provided as a set of method statements)
- d) The location and timing of sensitive works to avoid harm to biodiversity features.
- e) The times during construction when specialist ecologists need to be present on site to oversee works.
- f) Responsible persons and lines of communication.
- g) The role and responsibilities on site of an ecological clerk of works (ECoW) or similarly competent person.
- h) Use of protective fences, exclusion barriers and warning signs.

The approved CEMP: Biodiversity shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

The CEMP must also include the following specific plans / documents:

- Pollution Prevention Plan for the watercourses and waterbodies (using good practice guidance such as CIRIA C532)

Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with LP30 and NPPF15

PWMS – reptiles – already provided – but must be implemented

A condition for the provision of a detailed Precautionary Working Method Statement (PWMS) is advised, e.g. Prior to the commencement of development, a detailed Precautionary Working Method Statement (PWMS) in respect of reptiles and amphibians shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. In order to minimise risk and avoid harm to reptiles and amphibians, the PWMS shall include (but not be limited to) toolbox talks provided by a suitably qualified ecologist, attendance of an ECOW (Ecological Clerk of Works) as required, and careful hand search around potential reptiles and amphibians features.

In the event of encountering a reptiles or amphibians, all work must cease until the ecological clerk of works and Natural England are contacted for advice on the best way to proceed lawfully. All contractors working on site should be made aware of this advice and provided with the contact details of the ecological clerk of works.

Reason: In order that the proposals are implemented in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Lighting strategy

No works are to commence unless a detailed lighting scheme, developed in accordance with established guidance (e.g. Bat Conservation Trust and Institute of Lighting Professionals (2023) Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night), has been drafted and agreed with the council. The Sensitive Lighting Strategy will demonstrate that the proposed lighting will not impact upon ecological networks and/or sensitive features. Thereafter the agreed lighting scheme shall be implemented, subject to any variations approved in writing by the planning authority. All external lighting shall be installed strictly in accordance with the specifications and locations set out within the Lighting Strategy.

Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with Policy LP30 and NPPF15

Tree protection

A Hedgerow and Tree Protection Plan detailing measures for the protection of trees and hedgerows during the works will be submitted to and approved by the LPA prior to the commencement of works on site, including site clearance and delivery of materials.

Hedgerow and tree protection measures will include temporary fencing for the protection of hedgerows in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations. Any alternative fencing type or position not in accordance with BS 5837:2012 will be agreed in writing by the LPA prior to the start of development.

The root protection fencing will define the works exclusion zone around hedgerows and trees. Activities liable to be harmful to hedgerows and trees are prohibited within this exclusion zone, unless agreed in writing with the LPA. The approved hedgerow and tree protection measures will remain in place until the completion of development or unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA.

Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with Policy LP30 and NPPF15