

**Sent:** 03 July 2025 08:14

**Subject:** 2024/93444 at location Lafarge Readymix, Lees Hall Road, Thornhill Lees, Dewsbury, WF12 9EQ

Please see ecological commentary below:

### **Designations**

No issue

### **Onsite habitats and species**

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal provided is reasonable and acceptable.

There are recommendations for amphibians (including ECoW), hedgehogs (Including ECoW), birds, and badgers (including PWMS). All of these can be covered by a CEMP, which should relate to the report and best practice guidance.

There will also be lighting scheme and tree protection plan conditions provided.

As for invasive species – an additional survey report for invasive species (rhododendron and Japanese knotweed) and a removal plan for the species should be provided prior to any works onsite.

### **BNG**

A legal version of the metric has now been provided.

The BNG metric and report are noted as reasonable and acceptable.

In the metric, it is noted that a non-significant (<0.5 biodiversity units) onsite net gain with a net gain of 0.30 of habitat units (V low – Medium distinctiveness) and 0.04 hedgerow units (medium distinctiveness habitats). This does not need to be secured for 30 years but could be secured by a simple landscaping condition, if appropriate, to ensure it is provided and maintained for an aftercare period.

***Reason: To ensure the development delivers a biodiversity net gain on site in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.***

### **Suggested conditions**

#### 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:

- Amphibians and hedgehogs - Reasonable Avoidance Measures Method Statement, including an ECoW plan
- Badgers - Protected Species Method Statement

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

#### Lighting scheme required

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 of the Kirklees Local Plan 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***

#### Invasive species

No works shall commence on-site prior to the completion of an invasive species survey and appropriate removal and / or management plan and agreed in writing with the council.

Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 lists non-native species that are considered harmful to native biodiversity and habitats in the UK. It is illegal to release, plant, or allow these species to grow in the wild.

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

Many thanks,  
Katie

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