

DC Admin

From: ENVU Biodiversity and Land Use
Sent: 14 January 2026 15:31
To: Planning ContactCentre
Subject: 2025/93438 at location Arena Young Peoples Centre, Moorlands Road, Dewsbury, WF13 2LF

Please see ecological commentary below:

Designations

No issue

Onsite habitats and species

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal is reasonable and acceptable.

The site has suitability for GCN, badgers, reptiles, birds, and hedgehogs. Trees BT1, BT2, and BT3 have some suitability for roosting bats, and the site had suitability for foraging / commuting bats. Should the removal of the trees be part of the works further surveys / consideration would be required.

Recommendations for the species mentioned have been provided. A CEMP will be used to cover these recommendations, as well as tree protection measures for BT1-3, lighting strategy, and enhancements.

BNG

The baseline calcs are validated.

The metric and report conclude that there is a net loss of 1.24 habitat units onsite.

It is noted that 0.65 habitat units are to be created with v low – medium distinctiveness. It is noted that habitat units will be created and enhanced onsite worth 5.86 habitat units, which would be a v low and medium distinctiveness habitat. This is a significant creation of habitats onsite, and so an onsite HMMP for 30 years will be conditioned.

1.42 habitat units are required in order to meet the statutory 10% BNG requirements.

If offsite gain is required, it will need to be secured with a section 106 agreement. If a section 106 agreement is needed, we recommend the applicant provides sufficient information for the heads of terms of an agreement prior to determination of the application

In addition to the information already provided, this information would comprise:

- A plan that follows the UK Habitat Classification showing the spatial locations of the habitats represented in the enhancement and/or creation tabs of the biodiversity metric (i.e. the target habitats).
- The georeferenced spatial data used to create both above plans (in either .shp or .gpkg format) and written permission to share this data with West Yorkshire Records Centre.
- A 30-year Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP)

It is noted that a letter from the Environment Bank has been provided confirming that 1.46 Offsite Biodiversity Units from our Bolsterstone habitat bank are reserved for this application. An updated BNG metric will need to be provided on completion to confirm that BNG 10% has been achieved.

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.

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

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 for Trees BT1, BT2, and BT3

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

Ecological Design Strategy – for invertebrates, birds, bats and habitats

No development shall take place until an ecological design strategy (EDS) addressing mitigation and enhancement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

The EDS shall include the following.

- a. Purpose and nature conservation objectives for the proposed works.
- b. Review of site potential and constraints.
- c. Detailed design(s) and/or working method(s) to achieve stated objectives.
- d. Extent and location/area of proposed works on appropriate scale maps and plans.
- e. Type and source of materials to be used where appropriate, e.g. native species of local provenance.
- f. Timetable for implementation demonstrating that works are aligned with the proposed phasing of development.
- g. Persons responsible for implementing the works.

- h. Details of initial aftercare and long-term maintenance.
- i. Details for monitoring and remedial measures.
- j. Details for disposal of any wastes arising from works.

The EDS shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details, and all features shall be retained in that manner thereafter.

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

Onsite BNG – 30 year HMMP - DRAFT

The development shall not commence until a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (the HMMP), prepared in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Gain Plan and including:

- a) a non-technical summary;
- b) the roles and responsibilities of the people or organisation(s) delivering the HMMP;
- c) the planned habitat creation and enhancement works to create or improve habitat to achieve the biodiversity net gain in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Gain Plan;
- d) the management measures to maintain habitat in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Gain Plan for a period of 10 years from the completion of development; and
- e) the monitoring methodology and frequency in respect of the created or enhanced habitat to be submitted to the local planning authority, has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority. Notice in writing shall be given to the Council when the:
 - a) HMMP has been implemented; and
 - b) habitat creation and enhancement works as set out in the HMMP have been completed.

The created and/or enhanced habitat specified in the approved HMMP shall be managed and maintained in accordance with the approved HMMP. Monitoring reports shall be submitted to local planning authority in writing in accordance with the methodology and frequency specified in the approved HMMP.

We also recommend a draft biodiversity gain plan is submitted.

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

- BNG condition for 10% net gain to be achieved, with confirmation via an updated statutory metric to be provided on completion.

Many thanks, Katie

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