

DC Admin

From: ENVU Biodiversity and Land Use
Sent: 22 April 2026 11:31
To: Kerri Simpson
Cc: Planning ContactCentre
Subject: 2026/90804 at location Barncliffe Mills, Near Bank, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8LU

Hi There,

Please see ecological commentary below:

Designations

Yew Tree Wood LWS is 0.66km south of the site

Gelder Wood LWS is 0.75km west of the site

Onsite habitats and species

The site consists of bare ground, ruderal, tall forbs, bramble scrub, mixed scrub, grassland, stone rubble, trees (including semi-mature) on the site boundaries, ornamental hedgerow, dry ditch, and a stream.

- Bats – 2no trees on the site were observed to have suitability for roosting bats. Further assessment / surveys are required to ensure minimal impact to roosting bats. This must be completed prior to determination. There is some suitability for foraging / commuting bats onsite.
- Birds – the site offers some suitability for nesting birds. Pre-works checks will be conditioned, along with precautionary measures to a CEMP.
- Otters / Water Voles / WCC – no evidence was noted by the stream. Precautionary measures will be added to a CEMP.
- Reptiles / amphibians – the site offers limited opportunities for reptiles and so no further action is required.
- Invasive species - Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed were noted to be onsite. Removal /management measures will be conditioned to ensure minimal future impact.
- Enhancements for bats, birds, hedgehogs, and biodiversity will be completed in an EDS / BEMP.

BNG

The BNG Statutory Metric (in excel format) does not appear to be available. As a result, the baseline calcs cannot be validated. No further commentary can be made until this is provided, reviewed, and commented on.

Obligations

Further assessments on the 2no trees which show potential for roosting bats required.

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:

- 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

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

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).

Ecological Design Strategy / BEMP – for invertebrates, birds, bats, hedgehogs, and biodiversity

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

Many thanks,
Katie

Ecology Team
Planning and Development Service
Place Directorate – Skills and Regeneration
PO Box 1720,
Huddersfield,
HD1 9EL