

**Consultation Response from KC,
Ecology Unit**

2026/91284 The Plough Barn, Birds Edge Lane, Birds Edge, Huddersfield, HD8 8XR

Formation of temporary construction access track, associated site compound, parking, materials storage and turning area to facilitate construction works approved under planning permission 2025/62/92481/E

Date Responded: 25/06/2026

Responding Officer: Z. Hanshaw

Responding Ref: 2606/74

Good afternoon,

I have reviewed the Biodiversity Net Gain Report (Estrada Ecology, June 2026) and I am satisfied with the details contained within. The report demonstrates that a >10% net gain for biodiversity will be achieved onsite through the planting of individual trees. The statutory Biodiversity Net Gain Plan condition will apply to this development. I note that the Biodiversity Net Gain Report states that these trees have already been planted. I would recommend that further information on when and how these trees were planted is provided; there are a number of tree planting schemes across the county, and these cannot be used to provide Biodiversity Net Gain.

The Biodiversity Net Gain Report states that the habitats onsite are poor condition modified grassland, vegetated garden, and developed land. These are not ecologically important habitats and are unlikely to support protected and priority species. However, some species may commute across the site, and I would therefore recommend that reasonable, good practise mitigation measures are included in a Construction Environmental Management Plan: Biodiversity which is secured as a condition of any consent.

Recommended conditions

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

Construction Environmental Management Plan for Biodiversity

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