

17th June 2026
Ref 2026/130-1 - BNG

Biodiversity Net Gain Exemption Statement

1. Project Summary

Site Address:

Land and Building Adjacent 5 Fernside Ave, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD5 8NR

Proposal Description: Erection of detached self-build bungalow.

2. Exemption Statement

This statement supports the planning application for the above development and confirms that the proposal qualifies for an exemption from the mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements, in accordance with the Environment Act 2021 and associated guidance.

The development qualifies for the self-build and custom-build exemption, as set out in The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024.

The proposal involves the creation of a single dwelling intended for occupation by the applicant as a self-build home, and the relevant conditions for this exemption will be met and evidenced in accordance with the guidance issued by DEFRA and Natural England.

Nevertheless, the applicant is committed to enhancing the site's ecological value and proposes the following voluntary biodiversity improvements:

- Installation of a bird and bat box to support local wildlife where recommended by the council ecologist (which can be dealt with by suitably worded condition).
- Creation of a planted private garden, increasing opportunities for pollinators and other species.
- Retention of mature planted boundaries to retain biodiversity on site.

These enhancements reflect a proactive approach to biodiversity and are consistent with the aims of the Kirklees Local Plan and national planning policy to promote sustainable development and ecological resilience.

Document prepared by

James Fearnley RIBA

Director

Bsc(Hons) March PgDipArch ARB

For & on behalf of Hill Rise Architecture Ltd.