



BNG EXEMPTION STATEMENT

Proposed extension to the existing clubhouse.

at:

Thongsbridge Cricket Club
Miry Lane
Thongsbridge
Holmfirth
HD9 7RY

for:

Thongsbridge Cricket Club

job nr:

25065

date:

02 June 2026

1. Introduction

This statement has been prepared in support of the planning application for the extension to an existing clubhouse at Thongsbridge Cricket Club, Holmfirth. The purpose of this document is to demonstrate that the development is **exempt from the mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirements** under the **de minimis exemption**, in accordance with current legislation.

2. Legislative Context

Mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain is required under:

- **Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990** (as inserted by the Environment Act 2021), and
- **The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024.**

Under **Regulation 4 and Schedule 1** of the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024, development is exempt where it meets the **de minimis** criteria, specifically where:

- The development **does not impact more than 25 square metres of non-priority habitat**, and
- Does not impact **more than 5 metres of linear habitat features**, and
- Does not impact any **priority habitat**.

3. Exemption Being Claimed

This development is exempt from mandatory BNG requirements under the:

De Minimis Exemption

(as defined within the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024)

The proposal does **not result in the loss or degradation of more than 25 square metres of habitat**, nor does it affect any linear or priority habitats.

4. Site Description

The red line application site extends to approximately **877m²** and is characterised by predominantly built and hardstanding surfaces, with minimal ecological value. The site comprises:

- **117m²** – Paved surface
- **760m²** – Grassed field (to remain undisturbed)

The site is therefore largely composed of **developed surfaces**, with only a **very limited area of low-value grassland** present. There are no trees, hedgerows, watercourses, priority habitats, or notable ecological features within the site boundary.

5. Proposed Development and Habitat Impact

The proposal involves the **extension of the existing clubhouse**, to provide an 'indoor-outdoor' space that is to be located on the existing paved terrace. Key points are:

- The **proposed extension footprint is sited entirely on the existing terrace**.
- There is no additional area of hard-standing proposed.
- The **760m² grassed area will be retained in full**.
- No vegetation removal, habitat loss, or ground disturbance affecting semi-natural areas is proposed.

Importantly:

- There is **no loss of habitat**.
- There is **no impact to any linear features** (e.g. hedgerows, ditches, watercourses).
- There is **no impact to any priority habitat**.

6. De Minimis Assessment

In accordance with the **Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024**, the development qualifies for the de minimis exemption because:

- **Habitat loss = 0 m²**
- **Habitat creation = 0 m²**
- **Linear habitat loss = 0 m**
- **Priority habitat loss = 0 m²**

As such, the proposal is **well below the 25m² threshold** for habitat impact and the **5m threshold** for linear features.

7. Conclusion

The proposed development:

- Is located on a site dominated by existing built form and hardstanding,
- Does not result in the loss of any habitat,
- Retains the existing grassed area in full

The development therefore clearly meets the criteria for the **de minimis exemption** under the **Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024** and is **exempt from the requirement to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain**.

A Biodiversity Metric calculation and Biodiversity Gain Plan are therefore **not required**.

8. Supporting Evidence

The following documents have been submitted alongside this statement to evidence compliance with the exemption:

- **A general arrangement and location plan reference 25065D-01-P01:** This drawing shows the existing site plan with existing surface finishes hatched with the areas listed. The drawing also includes the location plan with the redline boundary indicated.
- **Proposed general arrangement drawing reference 25065D-03-P03:** This plan identifies the retained grass and the footprint of the proposed extension, built over the existing hard-standing terrace.

Below please see the following supporting evidence:

- **Existing site photographs** showing the dominance of hardstanding and built form.

These documents visually demonstrate that the development meets the de minimis exemption criteria.

