



LAND AT SHELLEY WOODHOUSE

OS REF: SE 21903 10861

**CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN (CEMP)**

Ref No: 260910/CEMP

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1. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. Kirklees Council have granted outline planning permission for the construction of a residential dwelling at Shelley Woodhouse.

1.2. Condition 9 requires a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to be provided. The condition is as follows:

'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. '

1.3. The purpose of a CEMP is to;

- Provide effective, site-specific procedures and mitigation measures to monitor and control environmental impacts throughout the construction phase of the project.
- Ensure that construction activities, so far as is practical, do not adversely impact amenity, traffic or the environment in the surrounding area.

1.4. A CEMP ensures that environmental impacts identified during previously performed environmental studies (e.g. an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)) or during the scoping phase, will be properly managed and that controls will be put in place to reduce the impacts of the development on the natural and human environment during construction.

1.5. This CEMP has been drawn up in line with condition 9 of the outline planning permission granted by Kirklees Council with all applicable inclusions detailed.

2. BACKGROUND/POTENTIAL IMPACTS.

2.1. A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was undertaken by Futures Ecology Ltd. on 4th July 2025.

2.2. This report outlined a few ecological interests on or close to the site. These ecological risks include the following:

- There is potential for construction works to impact foraging and commuting bats.
- There is potential for the proposed works to impact amphibians including great crested newts as well as small mammals and reptiles.
- There is the potential for the works to impact nesting birds during the nesting season, which falls between March and September.
- At the nearest point, the West Yorkshire Habitat Network (WYHN) is located 65m south of the Site boundary. Indirect impacts may arise from accidental habitat damage, a pollution event, dust deposition, noise pollution, and lighting.

3. CEMP PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

Precautions specific to the ecological risks identified on site.

3.1. Foraging and Commuting Bats.

Increased lighting during construction has potential to disturb foraging and commuting bats. Therefore, any permanent lighting associated with the development works will be downlit and directed away from vegetated habitats. This will protect foraging and commuting corridors for bats.

3.2. Amphibians, Reptiles and Small Mammals.

3.2.1. There is low potential for amphibians, including great crested newts, reptiles and small mammals to be present on site and therefore harmed / killed by the construction works. All personnel working on the site will be briefed on the potential presence of these species on the site. Relevant toolbox talks have been appended to this document.

3.2.2. Site clearance will be undertaken between April and October to avoid hibernation season.

3.2.3. Clearance of the site will be carried out under supervision of an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW).

3.2.4. All tools, equipment and materials will be stored above ground on pallets.

3.2.5. All vegetation on site will initially be cut down to a height of 150mm above ground using hand tools and the arisings collected up and stored away from construction works, ready to create habitat pile(s) post-development. These works will be carried out with care with all site personnel being vigilant for reptiles, amphibians and small mammals.

3.2.6. The site will then be left for a period of at least twenty-four hours to allow any amphibians, reptiles or small mammals to safely move off the site.

3.2.7. Prior to ground level clearance, the ECoW will perform a hand search. Any reptiles or common amphibians identified will be relocated carefully off site by the

ECoW, before clearance to ground level commences. If a great crested newt is identified at any point, works will stop immediately and licencing will be required.

3.2.8. Throughout the entirety of the development, all materials and equipment will continue to be stored above ground, and all on-site personnel will remain vigilant for amphibian, reptile and small mammal species.

3.2.9. In the unlikely event that any amphibian, reptile or small mammal species are identified whilst no ECoW is on site, site personnel will allow the individual to move themselves before they proceed in that area. If multiple or hibernating individuals are identified, Whitcher Wildlife Ltd must be contacted for further advice. Photographic information and a record of the sighting must be kept on site.

3.2.10. In the unlikely event that any great crested newts are identified, works must cease, and Whitcher Wildlife must be contacted for advice.

3.3. Nesting Birds.

Vegetation clearance will, as far as is feasible, be completed outside the nesting bird season, which extends from March to August. Any vegetation clearance within the nesting season will be immediately preceded by a nesting bird survey by a suitably experienced ecologist. Any active nests found will be left undisturbed until the young have fledged.

3.4. West Yorkshire Habitat Network.

No potential pollutants or impacts will be directed towards the WYHN.

General Precautions.

3.1. Existing access roads will be used by all traffic entering or leaving the site.

3.2. All plant in use on the site will carry spill kits in case of any emergency leakages and there will be standard procedures in place to promptly deal with any issues that may arise.

3.3. All plant brought onto the site will be cleaned prior to delivery to minimise the chances of contamination being brought onto the site, in particular materials contaminated with alien invasive plant species and their seeds.

3.4. Periodic walk over inspections will be undertaken to check for any additional alien invasive plant species. In the unlikely event that any are found, measures will be taken to ensure their immediate eradication. Where necessary, a procedure for that eradication will be agreed with the ecologists.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES.

4.1. The site manager will be appointed to take full responsibility for the procedures on the site. This will include the timings of the works and highlighted precautionary procedures to ensure this document is complied with.

4.2. They will also be responsible for due diligence with respect to site cleanliness, avoidance of contamination and prompt detection of alien invasive plant species.

4.3. Whitcher Wildlife ecologists will provide further advice on the protected species and carry out further surveys and Ecological Clerk of Works roles, where required.

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Toolbox Talk: Amphibians

The four most common amphibian species in Great Britain include the smooth newt, palmate newt, common frog and common toad. There are also three other species, the great crested newt, natterjack toad and pool frog which are afforded a higher level of protection as they are European Protected Species (EPS).

General precautions to avoid impact on common amphibians where works are deemed to be low risk:

(Always refer to site-specific reports for additional recommendations)

- Where possible, vegetation clearance should be carried out to a minimum of 150mm in height.
- Care should be taken when lifting materials and they should not be dragged across the ground.
- Amphibians should be allowed to move away from the site of their own accord.
- If it is necessary to move an amphibian, they should be placed into a similar habitat. They should only be released into water if found in water.

Legislation:

The four common amphibians listed above are protected only by Section 9(5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This section prohibits sale, barter, exchange, transporting for sale and advertising to sell or to buy.

The common toad is also listed as a Species of Principal Importance in the UK.

Habitat:

Amphibians predominantly live on land but breed in ponds and other areas of standing water. The aquatic requirements for each species vary slightly although the presence of one species does not rule out the potential presence of the other species. When not in their ponds amphibians require a variety of refugia for shelter and can therefore be found under log piles, in rubble, under tree roots or within areas of scrub or rough grassland. Amphibians hibernate, spending the winter in burrows or under refugia protected from the cold and predators.

Identification – Common Frog:

Common frogs have smooth skin with a distinctive patch behind their eyes. They are predominantly green or brown with black patches, although their colour can vary to orange, red or black.



Identification – Common Toad:

Common toads have rough warty skin with two distinctive lumps behind the eyes. When disturbed they have a tendency to remain still and when moving they crawl rather than hopping.



Identification – Smooth Newt:

Smooth newts can grow to around 10cm in length. They are usually brown in colour, often with visible black spots on the upper body. Their belly is pale orange with black spots fading away to the sides. The males have a wavy crest running from head to tail, although this can sometimes only be visible in water.



Identification – Palmate Newt:

Palmate newts are very similar to smooth newts but are usually smaller, to around 9cm. Their throat is usually pink and unspotted. The males often have webbed back feet and a fine filament at the end of the tail during the breeding season.



Toolbox Talk: Great Crested Newts

The great crested newt population has suffered a major decline in Britain over the last century. Development has caused a loss of ponds and terrestrial habitat and fragmented populations and lack of pond management has led the conditions to become unsuitable.

General precautions to avoid impact on GCN where works are deemed to be low risk:

(Always refer to site-specific reports for additional recommendations)

- All on-site personnel should be briefed on how to identify a great crested newt.
- Vegetation clearance carried out to a minimum of 150mm in height.
- No refugia or habitat piles should be disturbed.
- All equipment should be removed from the site overnight or stored above ground on pallets.
- No materials or equipment should be dragged across the ground.

Habitat:

Great crested newts live predominantly on land but breed in ponds between March and June. They use refugia including stones, logs and cracks or crevices that provide a moist and cool environment. They emerge at night to forage. During the winter months great crested newts hibernate deep down away from frost.

When disturbed in terrestrial habitats newts will usually be very sluggish and will take time to move away.

Legislation:

The great crested newt is listed on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, modified by the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000. It is also listed on Annex II and Annex IV of The Conservation (Natural Habitats & C) Regulations 1994. It is therefore an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take a great crested newt.
- Possess or control any live or dead specimen or anything derived from a great crested newt.
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection by a great crested newt.
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for that purpose.
- Deliberately take or destroy the eggs of a great crested newt.
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a great crested newt.



Identification - Great Crested Newts:

Great crested newts are dark, nearly black in colour with a speckled belly, distinctly orange in colour and with orange stripes across their toes. Great crested newts can grow up to 15cm in length.



Identification - Smooth and Palmate Newts:

Smooth newts are predominantly lighter in colour although their colour may vary from sandy coloured to very dark. Smooth newts also have a speckled orange belly but the orange colour fades to pale. Palmate newts are similar to smooth newts but with a pinker belly and webbed feet.



If a great crested newt is identified at any point, stop works immediately and contact Whitcher Wildlife at info@whitcher-wildlife.co.uk or 07947828137.

Toolbox Talk: Hedgehog

The hedgehog was once common and widespread throughout the UK but suffered a major decline in the 1900s due to habitat loss. They are still found throughout the UK but are more common in the south and east, meaning they are rare in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

General precautions to avoid impact on hedgehogs:

- Leave wild corners and avoid clearing entire areas of vegetation and hibernacula.
- Create access gaps in fences of around 13x13cm to allow passage through gardens and other sites.
- Piles of debris and vegetation should not be burnt unless fully dismantled immediately prior.
- Use of herbicides should be avoided where possible.
- If waterbodies or pits are present, ramps can be installed to allow a safe escape.
- Hedgehog crossing signs can be used in areas where hedgehogs are common to raise awareness to the general public.
- If a hedgehog is identified at any point, it should be allowed to move away from the area unharmed.

Habitat:

Hedgehogs feed on a variety of small creatures including insects, worms, snails, mice, frogs and snakes. They root through hedges and undergrowth and make pig-like grunts whilst they forage. Hedgehogs nest all year round and produce different nests for daytime resting, breeding and hibernation. Hedgehogs often hibernate from October/November through to February/March depending on the weather. They can still be seen out and about throughout Winter though as they may move to other nest sites. They tend to hibernate under dense dead leaves and vegetation and may seek shelter beneath piles of garden debris.

Legislation:

The hedgehog is considered an endangered species, but it benefits only from general protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They are listed under Schedule 6 of the Act which makes it illegal to kill, trap or capture wild hedgehogs, with certain methods listed. They are also listed under the Wild Mammals Protection Act (1996), which prohibits cruel treatment of hedgehogs and they are a species of 'principal importance' under the NERC Act, which is meant to confer a 'duty of responsibility to public bodies'.

However, none of these deal with the issues that are a threat to the hedgehog. The main threat is the increasing loss of habitat, the increasing traffic on our roads and the use of herbicides, in particular those used to kill garden slugs.

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Identification:

The hedgehog is a small, spiny mammal around 20cm long with a long snout. Their back and sides are covered in 1-inch spines, but are absent from the face, chest, belly, throat and legs, which are covered with coarse, grey-brown fur instead. There are no other similar native species in the UK.

Hedgehogs are nocturnal and therefore most often seen at night. They roam the countryside but often venture into more urban areas and gardens. They can travel up to three miles in one night whilst foraging.



When alarmed, the hedgehog often curls up into a ball, with only the spiny back showing.



If a hedgehog appears to be sick or injured, stop works and contact Whitcher Wildlife at info@whitcher-wildlife.co.uk or 07947828137.

Toolbox Talk: Reptiles

There are four common reptile species in Great Britain, the grass snake, adder, slow worm and common lizard. There are also two much rarer species, the sand lizard and smooth snake which are afforded a higher level of protection as they are European Protected Species.

General precautions to avoid impact on reptiles where works are deemed to be low risk:

(Always refer to site-specific reports for additional recommendations)

- All on-site personnel should be briefed on how to identify common reptile species.
- Vegetation clearance carried out to a minimum of 150mm in height.
- No refugia or habitat piles should be disturbed.
- All equipment should be removed from the site overnight or stored above ground on pallets.

Legislation:

Reptiles are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They received greater protection following reviews of the schedules published in 1988 and 1991. This means they are protected against intentional or recklessly killing and injuring and against sale or transporting for sale.

Habitat:

Maintaining the right body temperature is vital to reptiles' survival. In the morning, they find a warm basking site to heat up their bodies and then later they may move back into the shade so as not to overheat. Hence, reptiles require a habitat that provides a range of suitable refugia for shelter such as dense vegetation, rubble or log piles, or crevices and open areas for basking such as bare ground, rocks or railway ballast shoulders. During hot summers reptiles may be found in damper, cooler sites. Reptiles hibernate, spending the winter in burrows or under logs protected from the cold and predators. When disturbed in their natural habitat reptiles will usually move away quickly.

Identification – Grass Snake:

The grass snake can be up to 120cm long. It is generally dark green in colour but may occasionally appear grey with vertical black bars and spots that run along its sides. There is usually a yellow marking around the neck.



Identification – Adder:

The adder is the only native species that is venomous, but it is rarely harmful to humans. Adult adders are generally up to 66cm long. Back ground colouration is a light shade of grey or brown with a black zigzag marking along the length of the back.



Identification – Slow Worm:

Slow worms grow to around 45cm in length. The males and females display a marked difference in colour when fully grown with the females often displaying a dark vertebral stripe. Their colouring varies from light brown, dark brown, grey, bronze to brick red and they can display occasional markings on the flanks.



Identification – Common Lizard:

Common lizards grow to around 16cm. They are grey-brown to dark brown, often with a darker streak that may run the entire length of the spine. A continuous dark band bordered by light yellow or white spots is often seen on either side of the body. The underside of the males is egg yolk yellow to orange spotted with black. Females are yellowish grey.



If multiple or hibernating reptiles are identified, stop works immediately and contact Whitcher Wildlife at info@whitcher-wildlife.co.uk or 07947828137.