

**Whitcher Wildlife Ltd.
Ecological Consultants.**



WAKEFIELD ROAD, MAPPLEWELL, LIDL.

OS REF: SE 340 098.

**MITIGATION STRATEGY AND
BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS.**

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1. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. There are plans to develop an area of land off Wakefield Road, Mapplewell in Barnsley. The site is a former factory site and the southern part of the site is to be developed into a Lidl store.

1.2. Whitcher Wildlife Ltd carried out a protected fauna survey of the site on 2nd July 2008. Further protected fauna surveys of the site were carried out on 20th October 2009 and 12th March 2014 and an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey of the site on 15th June 2016. Whitcher Wildlife Ltd also carried out great crested newt and reptile surveys of the site between the beginning of April and the 16th May 2018.

1.3. During May 2018 an updated Preliminary Ecological Appraisal survey was carried out to update the previous Phase 1 Habitat Survey of the site and an EcIA was then prepared to include all survey results and to support the planning application for the site.

1.4. Barnsley Council have a planning condition requiring the preparation of a Mitigation and Biodiversity Enhancements document outlining specific details of the mitigation, and enhancement to be implemented on the site during the development.

1.5. Planning Condition 21:

Prior to commencement of development full details of the mitigation measures identified in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report along with the agreed Reptile Refugia, and a timetable for their implementation, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

1.6. Whitcher Wildlife Ltd were commissioned to prepare the Mitigation and Biodiversity Enhancement document for the site. This document summarises the findings from the previous surveys and outlines the specific mitigation and enhancement measures required during the development.

1.7. Additional plans showing the site layout and landscaping plan are included in the Appendices of this document.

2. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.

2.1. The site is a redundant rubber factory. During the previous surveys, carried out in 2008 and 2009, the factory buildings were still present, covering half the site. The factory buildings were demolished approximately six years ago and were not present during the surveys carried out in 2014, 2016 and 2018. The demolished buildings have left piles of rubble, which are becoming overgrown, which forms the majority of this site. Areas of scattered scrub and grassland cover the rest of the site. Great crested newt and reptile surveys were carried out during 2018 and no reptiles or great crested newts were identified during these surveys.

2.2. The area of the proposed Lidl development is mainly areas of tarmac and concrete roads and old building bases with piles of rubble from the demolished buildings. The main vegetation present is scrub along the southern and southeast sides of the site with short ephemeral vegetation beginning to grow through the rubble piles. The majority of the site is low ecological value with moderate ecological value around the southern and eastern boundaries.

2.3. The proposed development area is shown on the aerial photograph below.



3. MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT.

3.1. Habitats/Landscaping.

3.1.1. Landscaping on the site will be provided along the boundaries, linking some of the existing features and replacing areas of vegetation lost during the development. Low level planting will be included around the car parking areas of the site.

3.1.2. The landscaping will include native fruit and berry bearing species of trees and shrubs with a spiny buffer along the southern boundary and trees along the east and west boundaries and shrubs will be planted around the car park areas.

3.1.3. The landscaping will include use of numerous native shrub and tree species, including fruit and berry bearing species, suitable for use on sites of this kind. Full details of the species, size and number of plants that will be used on the site are included on the landscaping plan, a copy of which is included in the Appendices of this document.

3.2. Bats.

3.2.1. One bat box will be erected on the site to enhance the area and provide opportunities for roosting bats. An Eco Rocket Bat Box will be erected on a pole in the southeast corner of the site. This will be near to the adjacent disused railway line which is a corridor foraging and commuting bats will use. This will be a crevice box and will provide opportunities for common bat species.



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