

# Ecological Mitigation Enhancement and Management Plan

**Survey site:** Broom Close, Barnsley, S70 3EG

**Client:** John Wade

**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Project:**

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The proposal is described as: *The construction of three terraced dormer bungalows.*

**Planning Application Number:**

2024/0451.

## Introduction

This Ecological Mitigation, Enhancement and Management Plan (EMEMP) has been prepared for John Wade (the client) to outline measures to be implemented construction works at 9 Broom Close, Kendray, Barnsley, S70 3EG (the site).

The purpose of this plan is to ensure the protection and mitigation of ecological receptors, adhere to best practices and industry standards, and provide adequate supervision by licensed professionals. The EMEMP also outlines the management frameworks required for the planning and implementation of construction activities that comply with legislation and the environmental commitments.

The below table provides the wider ecological context of the site and details any associated planning conditions.

Site Context and Landscape History	
A detailed description and history of the site is provided in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. (Arbtech, 2024).	
Planning Conditions	
<i>Condition</i>	4. The development shall not commence until a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (the HMMP) prepared in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. <b>Please refer to the separate HMMP report created for the site, which satisfies this condition.</b>
<i>Condition</i>	13. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following additional biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures. The measures listed below shall be implemented in full, prior to first occupation of the site, and full details including photographic evidence provided to the Local Planning Authority; the features shall thereafter be permanently retained. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated bat roosting boxes and integrated swift boxes to be installed in suitable locations within each new dwelling on site; and</li> <li>• Hedgehog highways to be installed in all boundary fencing. In addition, all gaps will be signposted to prevent residents from blocking gaps.</li> </ul> Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality and in accordance with Local Plan Policy BIO1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity.

The below table describes the ecological baseline conditions on site.

<b>Ecological Background Information</b> <b>Detailed using desk study and site survey.</b>
<p>A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was undertaken of the site on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2024 by Arbtech Consulting Limited. A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) report followed on from this. An Arboricultural report and Impact Assessment to BS 5837:2012 was undertaken by AWA Tree Consultant in October 2024. A subsequent Arboricultural Method Statement was then undertaken (AWA Tree Consultants, 2024).</p> <p>Habitats identified at the site include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modified grassland</li><li>• Bramble scrub</li><li>• Species-rich native hedgerow</li><li>• Other native hedgerow</li></ul> <p>This does not include habitats identified outside of the development boundary, in the wider site landscape.</p> <p>Value for protected species on the site includes the following-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Bats</b> – No bat roosting habitats were identified on site. Trees on site had no potential roosting features which may provide opportunities for roosting. However, the site offers opportunities for foraging and commuting bats in the form of hedgerows and trees.</li><li>• <b>Birds</b> – The habitats on-site including hedgerows and scrub all offer suitable nesting and nest-building opportunities for birds. Furthermore, the grassland offers suitable foraging opportunities.</li><li>• <b>Hedgehogs</b> – The grassland on site provides suitable foraging and commuting habitat for hedgehogs. The scrub and hedgerow offer hibernation and refuge opportunities for hedgehogs.</li></ul>

The following tables detail the proposed mitigation, habitat creation and biodiversity enhancement measures for the development as well as management requirements to ensure the longevity of these measures. as detailed in the PEA. These include further details of the habitats on site and the impacts of the development upon them and will be read in conjunction with this document.

## **Scope**

This EMEMP outlines construction and ecological measures for the following works:

*For the clearance of the site and the subsequent erection of three terraced dormer bungalows.*

## **Aims and Objectives**

This report aims to identify key stakeholder requirements, ensure compliance by all stakeholders with all relevant legislation, to provide ecological and biodiversity enhancement measures for the site and include a management strategy in order to achieve long-term success and improvements.

## **Persons Responsible and Lines of Communication**

A Development Biodiversity Champion is selected for the construction phase of the development. The Biodiversity Champion will be someone with significant influence during construction, such as the contract, site or project manager. They are responsible for ensuring all actions outlined in the approved EMEMP are implemented. Any queries with regards to the mitigation prescriptions will be addressed to the project ecologist and communication will be retained between the Development Biodiversity Champion and project ecologist throughout the construction phase of the development where necessary to ensure the mitigation is applied and impacts to adjacent ecological receptors are effectively minimised. The project ecologist's contact details are located on the title page of this report. It is recommended that the Biodiversity Champion informs the project ecologist and designated ECoW of the commencement of construction works and provides updates where necessary. The ECoW will provide ecological expertise and guidance throughout.

<b>Ecological Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>This table includes any measure required to obtain or comply with planning permission or other consent and to comply with legislation.</b>
<b>Wildlife Protection – Precautionary Methods of Working-</b>	
<i>Birds</i>	<p>The hedgerows, scrub and trees on site provide foraging and nesting habitat for a wide range of species. The majority of the scrub will be removed. This will be compensated by the creation of an enhanced mixed scrub (please refer to the BNG (Arbtech Consulting Ltd, 2024) and the HMMP (Arbtech Consulting Ltd, 2025). Hedgerows and trees will be retained.</p> <p>The proposed development could result in the destruction or the disturbance and subsequent abandonment of active bird nests.</p> <p>Any vegetation clearance and other activities will be undertaken outside the core nesting period 1st March to 31st August. If this timeframe cannot be avoided, a nesting birds check of the vegetation (and any remaining or regrowth vegetation from earlier cuts) will be undertaken, by the project ecologist or ECoW, within 48 hours prior to the commencement of work. All active nests will need to be retained with a species-appropriate (generally 5m) buffer until the young have fledged (species specific but typically 4-6 weeks).</p> <p>A watching brief will be undertaken during clearance in case any nests were not evident during the first check.</p> <p>The buffer will need to be increased in the event of the presence of any Schedule 1 species as reckless disturbance as well of destruction of the nests of such species is an offence. Buffer zones regarding schedule 1 species are on a case by case, species by species basis and must be reflected accordingly.</p>

If schedule 1 species are identified nesting, these areas must be retained, and suitable fencing and signage installed to prevent encroachment into these areas. It is an offence to recklessly disturb adult and independent young in proximity to their nests as well as the nests themselves. Examples of appropriate installed work signs are shown in Figure 1. Signs can also be installed in regard to non-schedule 1 species, installed in full view in areas where nesting birds have been identified on the pre-work checks.



Figure 1- Work signage regarding nesting birds on the site. Source- [www.britishsafetysigns.co.uk](http://www.britishsafetysigns.co.uk)

<i>Bats</i>	Bat roosts are not expected to be directly impacted by the development but may be disturbed during commuting and foraging activities.
<i>Hedgehogs</i>	<p>The following recommendations are given in order to mitigate against potential harm to hedgehogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work zone will be checked for wildlife prior to works commencing, with any fauna encouraged to move away via their own volition or transported by gloved hand to an appropriate receptor area. This will only apply to smaller mammal species. Larger mammals such as badgers and foxes will not be transported by hand.</li> <li>• Any inadvertently injured wildlife will be taken to an appropriate local wildlife carer or vet.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any trenches dug will ideally be backfilled before contractors leave. If this is not possible, they will be covered at night or have a rough sawn plank placed in them to act as a ramp for any wildlife which may fall in. They must be checked for wildlife before backfilling.</li><li>• Security lighting must be directed away from undergrowth and vegetated site boundaries.</li><li>• Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development will be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.</li></ul> |
|--|---|

## 2.0 Biodiversity Enhancement Measures

Biodiversity enhancement and management measures	This table includes any measure required to obtain or comply with planning permission, conditions, or other consent and to comply with legislation.
Works	Specification
<b>Bat Boxes</b>	<p><b>Overview:</b></p> <p>A total of one integrated bat box will be installed on each new dwelling (three bat boxes in total). Proposed locations are shown on the plans provided in Appendix 2. Details of the bat boxes recommended for the sites are as follows:</p> <p><b>Integrated bat boxes to be integrated into the façade of new buildings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recommended integrated bat bricks will be constructed of woodcrete/ woodstone. Boxes of this construction are known to require minimal maintenance and have a lifespan of 25 years plus.</li> <li>• 3 No. Integrated Eco Bat Box with Cavity (or similar) (see <b>Figure 2</b>) will be installed into the façade of new dwellings. This bat brick type is suitable for integration into a range of building types including brick walls, timber cladding, and stone and are suitable to support a range of species including common pipistrelles <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> and soprano pipistrelles <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i> which are likely to be present in the local area.</li> <li>• The bat boxes will be positioned 3-5m above ground level facing a southwest elevation with a clear flight path to and from the entrance, away from artificial light and facing vegetated habitats.</li> </ul>



**Figure 2:** Integrated Eco Bat Box with cavity suitable for a range of crevice dwelling bat species.  
 (Photo credit: <https://www.wildcare.co.uk/integrated-eco-bat-box-cavity.html>)

***Recommended management:***


The proposed bat boxes are designed to require no management or maintenance. Furthermore, preventing physical disturbance of bat boxes will increase the chances of occupation by roosting bats. However, it is recommended that the bat boxes are inspected annually for the first five years outside of the typical active season for bats (May to September inclusive) following installation. Bat boxes must be replaced if they are damaged, removed, or have fallen from their recommended location.

**Bird Boxes**

Three bird boxes are recommended to be installed on site, one per new dwelling. Integrated bird boxes are proposed for this site, this is to include integrated swift style boxes.

***Integrated bird boxes to be integrated into the façade of new buildings***

- The recommended bird boxes will be constructed of woodcrete/ woodstone. Boxes of this construction are known to have minimal maintenance and have a lifespan of 25 years plus.
- Pro UK visible build in swift boxes (or similar) (see **Figure 3**) will be installed into the façade of new buildings. This bird box type is designed to provide enhanced nesting opportunities for swifts. However, if swifts are not present, then these boxes can be used by other species, such as tits or house sparrows.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bird box will be positioned approximately 5m above ground level facing a northern elevation where they will be sheltered from prevailing wind, rain and strong sunlight.</li> <li>• A strong open flight path must be available to these boxes.</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Figure 3</b> - Pro Uk Visible build-in swift boxes- source <a href="http://www.nhbs.co.uk">www.nhbs.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Recommended Management:</b>          The proposed bird boxes are designed to require no management or maintenance. Furthermore, preventing physical disturbance of bird boxes will increase the chances of occupation by nesting birds. However, it is recommended that the bird boxes are inspected annually for the first five years outside of the typical nesting bird season (March to September inclusive) following installation. External bird boxes must be replaced if they are damaged, removed, or have fallen from their recommended location. Internal bird boxes will not be blocked or removed.</p>
<p><b>Hedgehog Highways</b></p>	<p><b>Access points</b>          Access will be continued to be provided for hedgehogs on the site. This will include the installation of hedgehog access points within the fencing around the site.</p> <p>Gaps in the fencing will be a minimum 15 x 15cm. A hedgehog highway plaque will be installed over these gaps to indicate the reasoning and to prevent these being accidentally being fixed or blocked off, as demonstrated in <b>Figure 4</b>.</p> <p>This will also include gaps between the closed board fencing between the gardens, which will provide safe movement across the site. Location of suitable gaps are noted in the map in appendix 3. This will also provide movement access for smaller fauna such as reptiles.</p>

Deadwood and brash areas created as part of the reptile mitigation plan would also benefit hedgehogs in providing hibernation opportunities.



**Figure 4-** Hedgehog highway plaque- Source- [www.Wildcare.co.uk](http://www.Wildcare.co.uk)

## **Compliance and Reporting**

The EMEMP requires stakeholders to comply fully with the pre-construction and construction-related elements of any mitigation strategies agreed with the Local Planning Authority and Natural England under any license requirements. Regular inspections and monitoring will be undertaken to ensure compliance with the plan's requirements.

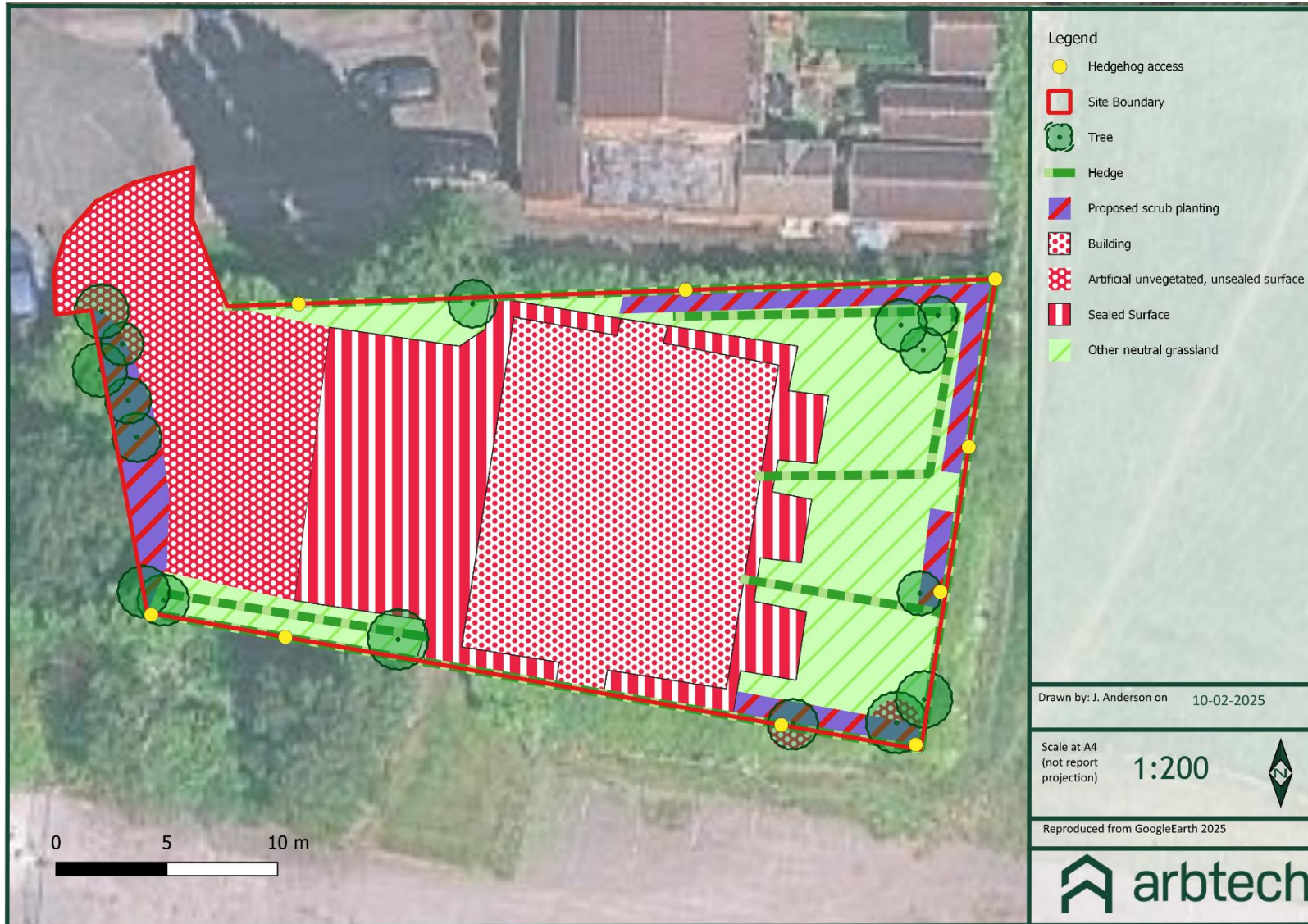
Any deviations or incidents that may affect ecological receptors will be immediately reported to the designated ecologist / Natural England. Updates to the EMEMP will be relayed to the Local Planning Authority.

The EMEMP will be periodically reviewed and updated as necessary throughout the construction phase to address changing site conditions and evolving ecological considerations.



## Appendix 2: Species specific enhancements.





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Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	0.1	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	10/02/2025
Reviewed	0.2	Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB, Senior Consultant	10/02/2025
Final	1.0	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	11/02/2025