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Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

Survey site:

1A West St, Worsbrough, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 5PG

Client:

Tom Agus

Survey date:

10th November 2025

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The proposal is described as:
Demolition of dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling.

BNG assessment methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: **[BNG Methodology and Legislation – 2025.](#)**

The results and recommendations contained within this report are valid for 18 months. An updated site visit and BNG assessment may be required if the report is to be used any longer than 18 months after completion.

Version Control			
Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	0.1	Harry Brindle, BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	10/11/2025
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Site Location and Context

A baseline habitat map is provided in **Appendix 1**, a post development habitat map in **Appendix 2**, a proposed development plan in **Appendix 3**, headline BNG results in **Appendix 4**, and condition assessments in **Appendix 5**.

The survey site is centred on National Grid Reference SE 36141 03804 and has an area of approximately 0.11ha.

The site comprises a garage and garden area, located within the grounds of a dwelling to the north of the site. The site is located within the village of Worsbrough, 3km south of the town of Barnsley. The site is bound by dwellings to the north-west, Station Road to the north-east, Edmunds Road to the south-east and an area of grassland to the south-west. The wider landscape comprises a mosaic, with significant areas of urban development to the north, and the Dearne Valley Wetlands SSSI and Worsborough Country Park LNR to the south, details of which are provided further in this report.

The underlying geology for the site comprises mudstone, siltstone and sandstone (Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation) which is overlaid by slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils, typical habitats of which include seasonally wet pastures and woodlands.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- ❖ Statutory BNG Metric - 1A West St, South Yorkshire, S70 5PG – v2 (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2026)
- ❖ Proposed Plan (White Agus, 2025)
- ❖ Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) - 1A West St, South Yorkshire, S70 5PG – v2 (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2026)



Executive Summary

The current landscaping proposal generates a net gain of area-based habitat units (+26.58%) and a net gain in linear based units (55.78%). As such, the proposed development is compliant with current legislation (Environment Act 2021) and planning policies (National Planning Policy Framework, 2025) as a minimum biodiversity net gain of +10% was achieved for both area- and linear-based habitat units.

All trading conditions have been satisfied.

A Biodiversity Gain Plan (BGP) and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) must be produced for the site. This should include recommendations for the implementation, management and monitoring of the site for at least 30 years to ensure that biodiversity net gain is delivered.

Introduction

BNG Informative	
	<p>Date reflected by BNG calculations 24th October 2025</p>
<p>Habitat Degradation Statement</p>	<p>The baseline biodiversity value of the site is derived from the site as observed during the PEA field survey (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025). As evident in the screenshots of satellite imagery obtained from GoogleEarth dated April 2020 and June 2023, the site does not appear to have undergone any degradation. The habitats on site, and therefore biodiversity value of the site, is not considered to have undergone degradation since 30th January 2020.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>
<p>Irreplaceable Habitat Statement</p>	<p>No irreplaceable habitats as listed under the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations (2024) are currently present nor were present before 30th January 2020.</p>

Metric Version & Publication Date	Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool first published 29 th November 2023 with last updates to metric tools and user guides on 3 rd July 2025.
BNG Target Uplift	+10%
National Character Area (NCA)	38 - Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield
Strategic Significance	<p>South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) is the Responsible Authority for preparing the South Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), which will cover Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, and Sheffield.</p> <p>At present, the South Yorkshire LNRS is in draft preparation, being developed collaboratively by SYMCA, the South Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership (LNP), and the Wildlife Trust for Sheffield & Rotherham.</p> <p>Until the LNRS is adopted, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council advises applicants to determine strategic significance for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessments using its Local Plan policies, Green Infrastructure Strategy, and ecological evidence base.</p>
Limitations	
There were no specific limitations to the assessment.	

Baseline

Baseline Biodiversity Value: On-Site				
Area-Based Habitats (A-1)				
Habitat	Area (ha)	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Developed land; sealed surface	0.012	There is one building present within the site that comprises a garage structure, associated with the dwelling to the north of the site.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Developed land; sealed surface	0.026	Located in the western and central areas of the site are sections of hardstanding, utilised for access into the site and car parking. There is no associated vegetation and the areas of minimal ecological value.		
Vegetated garden	0.0729	Located in the eastern section of the site is a garden area, comprising an amenity lawn.		
Linear-Based Habitats (A-1)				
Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	0.0173	Located along the northern boundary of the garden is a managed, non-native ornamental hedgerow, comprising a short section of cherry laurel (<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>) to the west, transitioning into a Leyland cypress (<i>× Cuprocyparis leylandii</i>) hedge to the east.	Poor: As default in the BNG statutory metric	Low Strategic Significance

Post-Development

Post-Development Biodiversity Value: On-Site					
Area-Based Habitats					
	Habitat	Area (ha)	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Created (A-2)	Developed land; sealed surface	0.0152	Proposed buildings.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
	Developed land; sealed surface	0.0364	Proposed hardstanding for associated buildings including driveway and parking.		
	Vegetated garden	0.015	Proposed garden areas adjacent to proposed buildings.		
	Modified grassland	0.0443	An area of grassland surrounding the developments.	Moderate: Passes 5 of 7 criteria	
Linear-Based Habitats					
Retained (B-1)	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	0.0173	Retained hedgerow.	Poor: As default in the BNG statutory metric	Low Strategic Significance
Created (B-2)	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	0.01	Proposed ornamental hedgerow.		

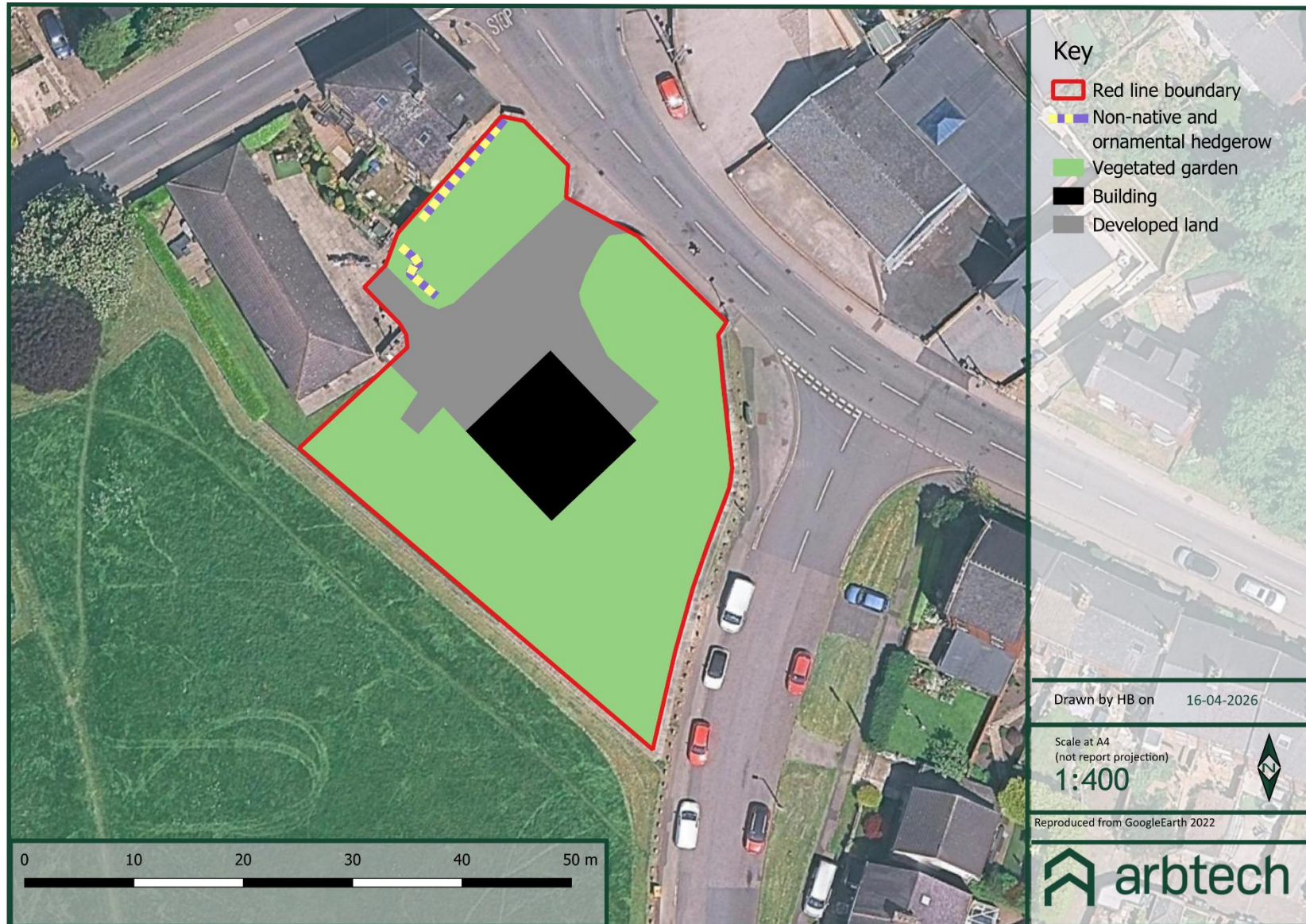
Change of Biodiversity Value

		Biodiversity Units		
		Area-Based	Linear-Based	Watercourse-Based
On-Site	Baseline	0.18 units	0.02	N/A
	Post-Development	0.22 units	0.03	N/A
	Net Change	0.04 units (+26.58%)	0.01 units (+55.78%)	N/A
Off-Site	Baseline	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Post-Development	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Net Change	N/A	N/A	N/A
Overall Net Change		0.04 units (+26.58%)	0.01 units (+55.78%)	N/A

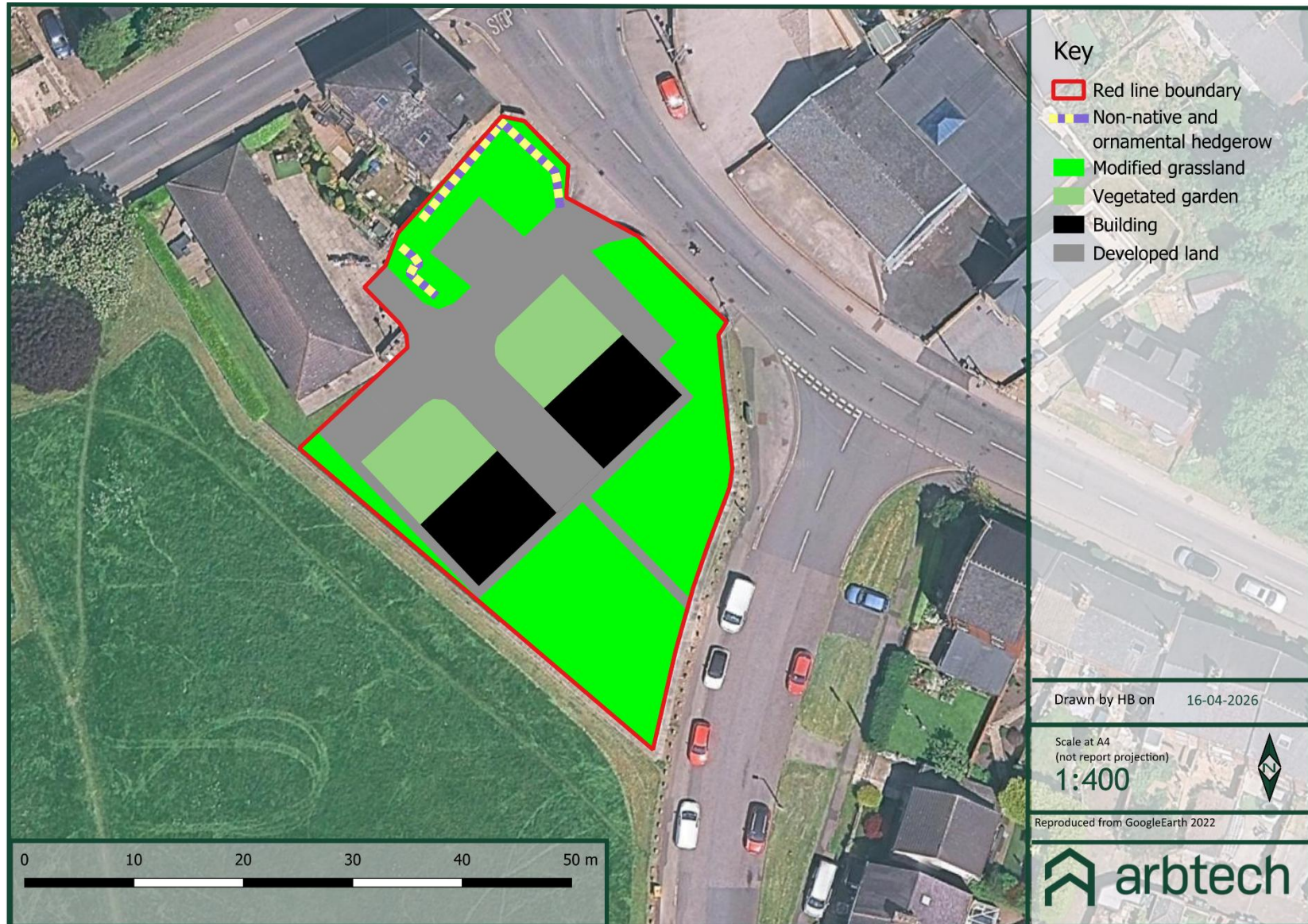
Results, Discussion, and Next Steps

BNG Informative	
Results and Next Steps	<p>The current landscaping proposal generates a net gain of area-based habitat units (+26.58%) and a net gain in linear based units (55.78%). As such, the proposed development is compliant with current legislation (Environment Act 2021) and planning policies (National Planning Policy Framework, 2025) as a minimum biodiversity net gain of +10% was achieved for both area- and linear-based habitat units.</p> <p>All trading conditions have been satisfied.</p> <p>A Biodiversity Gain Plan (BGP) and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) must be produced for the site. This should include recommendations for the implementation, management and monitoring of the site for at least 30 years to ensure that biodiversity net gain is delivered.</p>

Appendix 1: Baseline Habitat Plan



Appendix 2: Post-Development Habitat Plan



Appendix 3: Proposed Development Plan



Appendix 4: Headline BNG Results

The Defra Statutory Biodiversity Metric is provided as a separate excel spreadsheet.

FINAL RESULTS				
<p>Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</p>		<i>Area habitat units</i>		0.05
		<i>Hedgerow units</i>		0.01
		<i>Watercourse units</i>		0.00
<p>Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</p>		<i>Area habitat units</i>		26.58%
		<i>Hedgerow units</i>		55.78%
		<i>Watercourse units</i>		0.00%
<p>Trading rules satisfied?</p>		<p>Yes ✓</p>		
Unit Type	Target	Baseline Units	Units Required	Unit Deficit
<i>Area habitat units</i>	10.00%	0.18	0.19	0.00
<i>Hedgerow units</i>	10.00%	0.02	0.02	0.00
<i>Watercourse units</i>	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00

Appendix 5a: Baseline Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets

N/A for post development habitat

Appendix 5b: Post-Development Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)		
Condition Assessment Criteria	Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m ² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	yes	
B Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	
C Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	Yes	
D Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	
E Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	No	
F Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	
G There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)		
Number of criteria passed		
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved */✓
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)	
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)	yes
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)	