

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

At

Former District Council Offices, Berneslai
Close, Barnsley, S70 2HL



Address	Former District Council Offices, Berneslai Close, Barnsley, S70 2HL		
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Report Date	12 July 2017	Quality Checked	Gina Anderson
Scope of Report	Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey		

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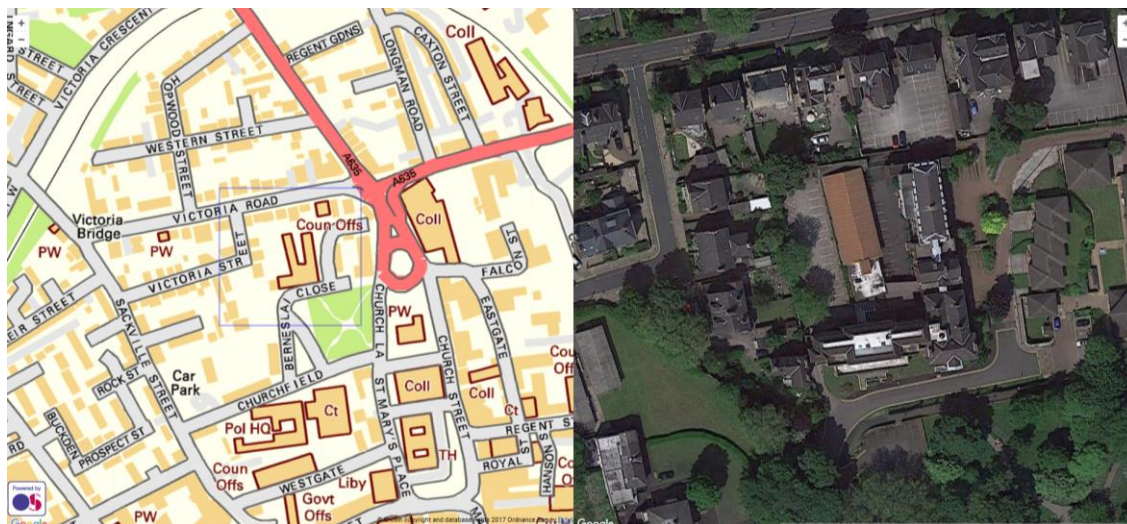
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Executive Summary

An Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey was carried out on the site of former District Council offices at Berneslai Close, Barnsley. The majority of the site area is occupied by a complex of buildings of variable age, structure and design. There are also areas of ornamental shrub planting, with trees, and amenity grassland. All habitats and species recorded are locally common and widespread. In accordance with recognised criteria the ecological value of the site is considered to be low. There are features of the existing buildings at roof level which show bat roost potential, and so further dedicated surveys for bats are recommended. There is potential habitat for common bird species, and the legislation pertaining to nesting birds will need to be taken into account during development works. Recommendations have been made to ensure that provision for local wildlife is included in the development plans

1.0 Introduction

Environmental Services were commissioned by McCarthy & Stone Retirement Lifestyles Ltd, to undertake an Extended Phase One Habitat Survey; the survey is required in relation to a planning application at Former District Council Offices, Berneslai Close, Barnsley, S70 2HL the site is centred at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference SE 342 067.



OS. Licence No.100043218

1.1 Site Description

A drawing of the development area is included within Appendix I and comprises a complex of office buildings within grounds containing hard standing for car parking, and perimeter ornamental shrub planting, trees and amenity grassland. Land adjacent to the site is mainly residential, with a park to the south containing amenity grassland and trees.

1.2 Scope of Survey

We have been instructed to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey; this is not a survey for the purposes of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Variation of Schedule 9 or Schedule 9) (England and Wales) Order which came into force on 6 April 2010 or National Vegetation Classification. This report has been produced with reference to current guidelines for preliminary ecological appraisal (CIEEM, 2012) and in accordance with BS42020:2013: Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development.

It is understood that the site will be developed for residential homes/older living apartments.

The scope of the report is to assess the site and map all habitats present, in addition to this make recommendations based upon the findings of the survey in relation to European Protected or Notable Species and any Phase 2 survey work required satisfying planning requirements.

1.3 **Limitations**

All of the species that occur in each habitat would not necessarily be detectable during survey work carried out at any given time of the year, since different species are apparent during different seasons. Phase 1 habitat surveys can be undertaken at any time of the year; however, the optimum time of year for these surveys to be undertaken is between April and September (inclusive).

This survey was undertaken within this optimum period, and is therefore considered to provide a robust assessment of the habitats and species present within the site.

A limitation of the survey is that there was restricted access to the centre of the site, which could not be closely surveyed.

2.0 **Legislation, Policy and Conservation Status**

2.1 **Planning and Biodiversity**

Local Authorities have a requirement to consider biodiversity under the following European legislation:

- Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006);
- The Habitats Directive (EC directive 92/43/EEC);
- Environmental Impact Assessment (85/337/EEC as amended by directive 09/31/EC);
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (2001/42/EC);
- The Environment Act (1995).

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (the NERC Act) places a legal duty on public bodies, including planning authorities, to 'have regard' to the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their normal functions, which includes consideration of planning applications.

In compliance with Section 41 of the NERC Act, the Secretary of State has published a list of species and habitats considered to be of principal importance for conserving biodiversity in England under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. This is known as the England Biodiversity Priority (EBP) list, previously referred to as Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP), of which there are 56 habitats and 941 species (Natural England, 2014). The EBP list is used to guide planning authorities in implementing their duty under the NERC Act. In addition, the Hen Harrier has also been included on the list because without continued conservation action it is unlikely that the Hen Harrier population will increase from its current very low levels in England. In 2007, the UK Biodiversity Partnership published a new list of priority UK species and habitats. This contains 1149 species and 67 habitats covering terrestrial, freshwater and marine

biodiversity. The UK BAP list of priority species and habitats is an important reference source and will be the focus for conservation action across the UK. It has been used to draw up the species and habitats of principal importance in England under S41 of the NERC Act as described above.

Local BAP lists are complementary to the UK BAP list, targeted at species or habitats of concern within a county. UK BAP and Local BAP species and habitats are a material consideration in the planning process.

Local Authorities must also have regard for the following national planning policies:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DCLG, 2012);
- ODPM Circular 06/2005 (Defra Circular 01/2005);

2.2 Legalisation and Local Policy Documents

Relevant legislation (as amended) and policy documents that have been consulted are detailed below:

- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended);
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010;
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000;
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006;
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992;
- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997;
- UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework;
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF);

2.3 Species Legislation

2.3.1 Bats

All species of bat and their breeding sites or resting places (roosts) are protected under Schedule 2 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and Section 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence for anyone to:

- deliberately capture, injure or kill bats;
- damage or destroy a breeding or resting place;
- obstruct access to their resting or sheltering places;
- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead bats, or parts of them;
- intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat while it's in a structure or place of shelter or protection.

(Natural England, 2017)

A roost is protected whether or not bats are present and any activity or works affecting a roost, even when bats are absent, is likely to be subject to the relevant licence procedure with Natural England.

2.3.2 Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius*)

The Water Vole has historically received limited protection through inclusion on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). On the 6th April 2008 legal protection of this species was extended as such it is now an offence to:

- intentionally capture, kill or injure water voles;
- damage, destroy or block access to their places of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care);
- disturb them in a place of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care);
- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead water voles or parts of them (not water voles bred in captivity).

(Natural England, 2017)

2.3.3 Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

Otters are currently increasing in number and distribution after a prolonged period of decline. They receive protection under both the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Otters and their resting places are fully protected, it is an offence to:

- capture, kill, disturb or injure otters (on purpose or by not taking enough care);
- damage or destroy a breeding or resting place (deliberately or by not taking enough care);
- obstruct access to their resting or sheltering places (deliberately or by not taking enough care);
- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead otters, or parts of otters.

(Natural England, 2017)

2.3.4 Great Crested Newts (*Triturus cristatus*)

Great Crested Newts (GCNs) are protected under Schedule 2 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and Sections 9(1) and 9(4) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

The above makes it an offence to:

- capture, kill, disturb or injure great crested newts deliberately;
- damage or destroy a breeding or resting place;
- obstruct access to their resting or sheltering places (deliberately or by not taking enough care);

- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead newts, or parts of them;
- take great crested newt eggs.

(Natural England, 2017)

The legislation applies to all stages of the life cycle including eggs, larvae and juveniles.

2.3.5 Hazel Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*)

Dormice are fully protected under UK and European legislation in England including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Taken together, these legislative instruments make it illegal to:

- deliberately capture, injure or kill hazel dormice;
- damage or destroy a dormouse resting place or breeding site;
- deliberately or recklessly disturb a hazel dormouse while it's in a structure or place of shelter or protection;
- block access to structures or places of shelter or protection;
- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead hazel dormice, or parts of hazel dormice.

(Natural England, 2017)

2.3.6 Birds

In the UK, the provisions of the Birds Directive are implemented through the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010](#). All wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected making it an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or take wild birds;
- intentionally take, damage or destroy a wild bird's nest while it's being used or built;
- intentionally take or destroy a wild bird's egg;
- possess, control or transport live or dead wild birds, or parts of them, or their eggs;
- sell wild birds or put them on display for sale;
- use prohibited methods to kill or take wild birds.

Additionally there are 'schedule 1' birds, for example Barn Owl, which have extra legal protection making it illegal to:

- disturb them while they're nesting, building a nest, in or near a nest that contains their young;
- disturb their dependent young.

(Natural England, 2017)

2.3.7 **Reptiles**

Adders, slow worms, grass snakes and common lizards are protected against killing and injuring under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This legislation makes it illegal to intentionally kill or injure a common reptile. As a result, reptiles must be removed from areas of development and relocated onto suitable release sites before any site works can commence.

Smooth snakes and sand lizards are also protected under schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) making them European Protected Species. This makes it illegal to carry out the following activities:

- Deliberately or recklessly disturb, capture or kill these animals;
- Deliberately or recklessly take or destroy eggs of these animals;
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of such a wild animal; or
- Keep, transport, sell or exchange, or offer for sale or exchange, any live or dead animal, or any part of, or anything derived from such a wild animal.

(Natural England, 2017)

2.3.8 **Badgers (*Meles meles*)**

Badgers and their setts are fully protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. This Act makes it an offence, *inter alia*, to:

- intentionally capture, kill or injure a badger;
- damage, destroy or block access to their setts;
- disturb badgers in setts;
- treat a badger cruelly;
- deliberately send or intentionally allow a dog into a sett;
- bait or dig for badgers.

Additionally you're breaking the law if you:

- have or sell a badger, or offer a live badger for sale;
- have or possess a dead badger or parts of a badger (if you got it illegally);
- mark or attach a marking device to a badger.

Where planning permission has been granted, Natural England may issue a licence to interfere with setts for development purposes. However, licences are only usually issued for works between July and November, a period when badgers are unlikely to have dependent young below ground.

(Natural England, 2017)

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Data Search

Records of protected species and non-statutory wildlife sites within a 1km radius of the application site were requested from the Barnsley Biological Records Centre (BBRC).

Locations of statutory designated sites were accessed via the government 'MAGIC' website (www.magic.gov.uk).

3.2 Extended Phase 1 Habitat Site Survey

To fulfil the brief, an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was conducted following the methodology of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) *Handbook for Phase I Habitat Survey - A Technique for Environmental Audit* (2010). Extended Phase I Habitat Survey is a standard technique for obtaining baseline ecological information for large areas of land in which the main vegetation types present within the survey area are mapped using a standard set of habitat categories. The aim is to provide records of habitats that are of significant ecological value.

Additional Target Notes

Additional target notes were made where applicable to record:

- Key habitat features.
- Ecological features not covered in sufficient detail in the Phase 1 Methodology.
- Important habitats too small to be mapped and to identify dominant species.
- Other features of ecological interest.

3.3 Protected Fauna and Flora Species

Potential signs/suitable habitats for the presence of European and Domestic protected species were recorded.

3.4 Ecological Value and Impact Assessment

Guidelines for ecological value and impact assessment within Volume 11 Section 2 of the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) (Department for Transport, 2009) have been used to place the ecological value of the site in context and assess the likely impacts of the proposed development.

The DMRB is considered by the author to offer a more workable methodology than other assessment methods currently available and is applicable to development situations other than roads and bridges.

Criteria used to assign value and assess likely impacts are provided in Appendix II.

4.0 Results: Desktop Survey

4.1 Data search

Biological records data was searched for and requested over a 1km radius from the Barnsley Biological Records Centre (BBRC) (see Appendix IV).

4.1.1 Summary of Protected Species Recorded within a 1km Radius

Species	Scientific Name	Grid Ref (SE)	Source	Date
Noctule Bat	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	3406-3407	BBRC	1990-1992
Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentoni</i>	3407	BBRC	1990-1992
Common Pipistelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	3306-3407	BBRC	1989-1998

Table 1: Summary of Protected Species Desktop Records

4.1.2 Statutory Designated Nature Conservation Sites

Designated site information drawn from the Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside site www.magic.com confirmed designated sites within the 2km search radius.



The following sites were found within the 2km search radius:

Local Nature Reserves:

1. Dearne Valley Park

In addition, from the information provided by the Records Provider, the following Sites of Nature Conservation Importance were identified:

1. Old Mill Lane

5.0 Results: Field Survey - Plants and Habitats

5.1 Field Survey

The site was surveyed on 1st June 2017 by Mr Keith Stevenson BSc CBiol MRSB CIEEM. All habitats were recorded and described in terms of dominant and characteristic plant species using Phase 1 Habitat Survey methodology (JNCC, 2010). A fauna and flora species list was compiled (see Appendix III).

The site was searched for field signs of badgers such as runs, latrines and feeding signs and assessed in terms of its suitability for other notable or protected species including bats, otter, water vole, reptiles, amphibians and birds. In addition observations were made to identify any primary EBP and Local BAP species or habitats of local, regional and national importance.

Weather conditions during the survey were dry and bright with occasional cloud. Ambient day time temperatures for the day were approximately 19°C.

5.2 Plants and Habitats

Refer to Appendix I for Habitat Map and Appendix III for comprehensive species list and Target Notes.

The following habitats were recorded during the survey:

5.2.1 **A3.1 Scattered Trees Broadleaved**

Trees are distributed at the perimeter of the site, amongst ornamental shrub planting. On the western side of the site there are two mature ash trees and self-set seedlings of Norway maple, horse chestnut and ash. On the eastern side of the site there are semi-mature to mature trees of Norway maple, ornamental birch and maple, and self-set seedlings of Norway maple. The semi-mature and mature trees are of amenity value and are of ecological value supporting nesting birds.

5.2.2 **J1.2 Amenity Grassland**

At the southern perimeter of the site there is closely mown amenity grassland consisting of perennial rye-grass, daisy, dandelion and ribwort plantain. Amenity grassland contains common and widespread species, and is of little ecological value.

5.2.3 J1.4 Ornamental Shrub Planting

At the perimeter of the site are areas of ornamental shrub planting, including hypericum, rose, cherry laurel, buddleia, philadelphus, cotoneaster, pyracantha and mahonia. There are occasional planted trees (see above). Self-set shrubs and herbs colonising the planted areas include elder, bramble, holly, ivy, cleavers, barren brome, common nettle, great willowherb and creeping buttercup. Ornamental shrub planting contains a number of non-native species of limited ecological value. It does, however, provide cover and nesting habitat for birds.

5.2.4 J2.4 Fence

There are 2m high wooden and metal fences along the northern boundary of the site. These fences are of negligible ecological value.

5.2.5 J2.5 Wall

There is a 1-1.5m high brick wall along the western boundary of the site. Elsewhere near the perimeter there are brick retaining walls, up to 1m in height, around areas of ornamental planting. All walls are of negligible ecological value.

5.2.6 J3.6 Buildings

A complex of buildings of variable age, structure and design. The oldest building appears to be nineteenth century construction, while later extensions appear to be of early and late twentieth century construction. The buildings range from one to four storeys, are generally brick sided, and have variously pitched and flat roofs with either slate or clay tiles. However, some of the buildings have walls and roofs built with other pre-fabricated materials, including glass and corrugated metal. Towards the southern end of the site there are linking structures between the main buildings. The main buildings have been target noted (see Appendix III). The buildings are generally in a good state of repair. However, at roof level some of the buildings show gaps under and between tiles, or lifted lead flashing, where bats could potentially roost.

5.2.7 J4 Bare Ground/Hard Standing

There are tarmacadam and concrete surfaced car parking areas on the western side of the site and in the centre; the car park on the western side was in use at the time of the survey. On the eastern side of the site are areas of block paving. Bare ground/hard standing is of negligible ecological value.

5.2.7 Adjacent Habitat

Berneslai Close runs along the southern side of the site, and opposite is parkland with amenity grassland and trees. Adjacent to the site on the western and eastern sides are residential properties, with residential and commercial properties to the north.

6.0 Results: Field Survey - Fauna

6.1 Bats

There are thirty two desk based records of bats within 1km of site. The development site itself is considered to be of moderate value for foraging and of low bat roost potential. This is based upon information gathered during the survey effort. At the perimeter of the site the ornamental shrub planting and trees provide foraging habitat for bats. None of the trees were recorded as containing holes or crevices suitable for roosting bats. The buildings on the site were generally in a good state of repair. However, in places at roof level it was observed that there were gaps beneath and between tiles, and also under lifted lead flashing. Bats could enter such gaps in order to roost.

Therefore if development proposals impact on the roof structure of the existing buildings further dedicated bat surveys will be required in line with current guidelines (Hundt L 2012).

6.2 Water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) and Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

There are no records of Water vole within 1km of the site and no records of Otter. There was no habitat on the site considered suitable to sustain the species and no evidence of their presence was observed. No further survey effort is recommended.

6.3 Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

There are no records of Great Crested Newts within the 1km search area. The site is generally considered to be of low value for the species and using the Ordnance Survey based map provided by Barnsley Biological Records Centre, no ponds are located within 500m of the site. Therefore, no further survey effort is required.

6.4 Hazel Dormouse

There are no records of Hazel Dormouse within 1km of the site. The development area is considered to be of low suitability for dormice and no further survey effort is recommended.

6.5 Birds

No specially protected Schedule 1 birds or potential breeding habitat were recorded during the Phase 1 Habitat Survey and no further survey effort is recommended.

However, the site does contain dense ornamental shrub planting with trees that are suitable for nesting birds. It is therefore recommended that vegetation removal should be undertaken outside the bird breeding season, (March to September inclusive). If works are to be undertaken within these timings then the area should first be inspected by a suitably qualified ecologist immediately prior to any works being undertaken. If nests are found to be present then these areas are to be left until the eggs have hatched and the young have fledged (Normally 4 – 6 week's dependent

on species). This will ensure that there is no major impact on breeding birds which may occupy any of these features.

6.6 Reptiles

From the desk based study no reptile records were noted within the 1km search radius. The development area is considered to be of low suitability for reptiles and no further survey effort is recommended.

6.7 Badger (*Meles meles*)

Biological records indicate no observations of badgers within 1km of the site. No evidence of use of the site by badgers was recorded during the field survey and no further survey effort is required.

6.8 Other fauna

No other fauna was observed during the survey.

6.9 Connectivity to statutory and non-statutory designated sites

The proposed development does not pose any threat to connectivity of statutory and non-statutory sites in the region.

7.0 Ecological Value and Impact Assessment

The following section puts the value of the surveyed site into context and uses DMRB (DoT, 2008) criteria for assessing value and the potential magnitude of impact from the development proposals.

7.1 Ecological value

No EBP species were recorded during the Phase 1 Habitat Survey. Site habitats identified and species recorded are of low to moderate importance in the wider ecological landscape. The site being affected by the development therefore is considered to be low in its potential to support protected, EBP, Local BAP and red data species and sensitive development may improve the site from this perspective.

Using DMRB criteria (Appendix II) the site is considered to be of low ecological value.

7.2 Impact Assessment

The proposed development will have a major magnitude of impact upon the site and its ecological features.

Therefore, using DMRB criteria, the significance of a major impact upon a site of low ecological value is categorised as slight or moderate.

Considering the size of the site and the nature of the habitats involved the proposed development is considered to pose a moderate impact on local biodiversity and this should be offset by biodiversity enhancement associated with landscaping and inclusion of bat and bird boxes within the development design.

8.0 Recommendations & Conclusion

The Phase One Habitat Survey was undertaken by an experienced ecologist and the following recommendations are made:-

- 8.1** Due to the presence of features suitable to support roosting bats within the buildings on site, the buildings have been classed as having Low Bat Roost Potential (LBRP). Therefore, a minimum of one dusk/dawn surveys of these buildings is to take place in line with current guidelines (Hundt, 2012). Surveys will be undertaken by suitably qualified ecologists and carried out in suitable weather conditions between the months of May and September (inclusive).
- 8.2** Due to the presence of common bird species and potential nesting habitat it is recommended that vegetation removal be undertaken outside the bird breeding season, (March to September inclusive). If works are to be undertaken within these timings then the area is to be inspected by a suitably qualified ecologist immediately prior to any works being undertaken. If nests are found to be present then these areas are to be left until the eggs have hatched and the young have fledged (Normally 4 – 6 week's dependent on species). This will ensure that there is no major impact on breeding birds which may occupy any of these features.
- 8.3** Existing trees and shrubs that can be retained in the new development are to be managed for the benefit of local wildlife. Bat and bird boxes are to be installed on suitable retained trees. Assistance will be engaged from an ecologist in the management of retained trees and shrubs, and in the design and location of bird/bat boxes.
- 8.4** Bat and bird boxes will be included within the new building design, and wild flower seed mix (suitably sourced for the area) and native trees and shrubs used to landscape areas surrounding the buildings. Assistance will be engaged from an ecologist in the design and location of bird/bat boxes.

No further survey effort is considered necessary unless changes are made to the development area to be affected over and above those indicated within this report.

9.0 References

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3rd Edition of the Bat Conservation Trust, "Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists, Good Practice Guidelines" (Collins 2016)

Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) (2006). *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the United Kingdom*. Available at: http://www.cieem.net/data/files/Resource_Library/Technical_Guidance_Series/EcIA_Guidelines/TGSEcIA-EcIA_Guidelines-Terrestrial_Freshwater_Coastal.pdf.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) (2010). *Handbook for Phase I Habitat Survey - A Technique for Environmental Audit*. JNCC: Peterborough.

Natural England (2014). *Habitats and Species of Principal Importance in England*. Available at: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

Stace, C. (2010). *The New Flora of the British Isles* (3rd Edition). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Websites for access to Full Legislation and Policy Text:

Birds Directive:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended):

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/1927/contents/made>

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents>

Habitats Directive:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm

National Planning Policy Framework:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2116950.pdf>

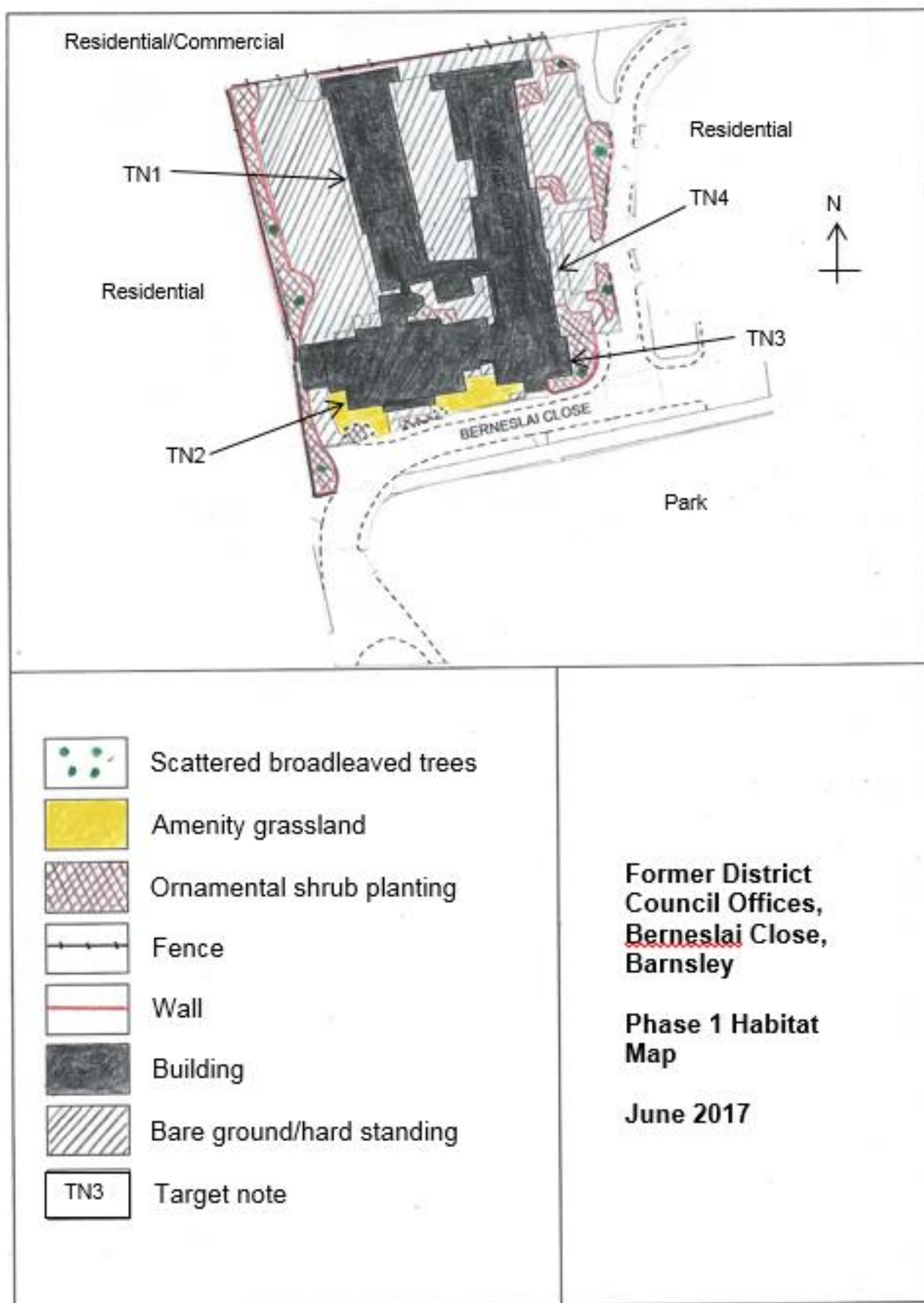
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework:
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6189>.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended):
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69>

Appendix I

Phase 1 Habitat Map



Appendix II

DMRB Assessment Criteria

Table 1. Environmental Value (Sensitivity) and Typical Descriptors

Value (sensitivity)	Typical descriptors
Very High	Very high importance and rarity, international scale and very limited potential for substitution.
High	High importance and rarity, national scale, and limited potential for substitution.
Medium	High or medium importance and rarity, regional scale, limited potential for substitution.
Low (or Lower)	Low or medium importance and rarity, local scale.
Negligible	Very low importance and rarity, local scale.

Table 2. Magnitude of Impact and Typical Descriptors

Magnitude of impact	Typical criteria descriptors
Major	Loss of resource and/or quality and integrity of resource; severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements (Adverse).
	Large scale or major improvement of resource quality; extensive restoration or enhancement; major improvement of attribute quality (Beneficial).
Moderate	Loss of resource, but not adversely affecting the integrity; partial loss of/damage to key characteristics, features or elements (Adverse).
	Benefit to, or addition of, key characteristics, features or elements; improvement of attribute quality (Beneficial).
Minor	Some measurable change in attributes, quality or vulnerability; minor loss of, or alteration to, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements (Adverse).
	Minor benefit to, or addition of, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements; some beneficial impact on attribute or a reduced risk of negative impact occurring (Beneficial).
Negligible	Very minor loss or detrimental alteration to one or more characteristics, features or elements (Adverse).
	Very minor benefit to or positive addition of one or more characteristics, features or elements (Beneficial).
No change	No loss or alteration of characteristics, features or elements; no observable impact in either direction.

Table 3. Arriving at Significance of Effect Categories

		MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT (DEGREE OF CHANGE)				
		No change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE (SENSITIVITY)	Very High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large	Very Large
	High	Neutral	Slight	Slight or Moderate	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large
	Medium	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate or Large
	Low	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Slight or Moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight

Appendix III

Species List and Target Notes

Target Note	Common Name	Latin	Comment
	Ash Norway Maple Ornamental Birch Ornamental Maple Horse Chestnut Hypericum Holly Rose Buddleia Elder Philadelphus Cherry Laurel Cotoneaster Pyracantha Mahonia Ivy Barren Brome Cleavers Green Alkanet Great Willowherb Common Nettle Creeping Buttercup	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> <i>Acer platanoides</i> <i>Betula sp.</i> <i>Acer sp.</i> <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i> <i>Hypericum sp.</i> <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> <i>Rosa sp.</i> <i>Buddleja davidii</i> <i>Sambucus nigra</i> <i>Philadelphus sp.</i> <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> <i>Cotoneaster sp.</i> <i>Pyracantha sp.</i> <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i> <i>Hedera helix</i> <i>Bromus sterilis</i> <i>Galium aparine</i> <i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i> <i>Epilobium hirsutum</i> <i>Urtica dioica</i> <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Species present in areas of ornamental shrub planting, with occasional trees. Self-set herbs and shrubs colonising the planted areas are also listed.
	Perennial Rye-grass Red Fescue Yorkshire-fog White Clover Daisy Dandelion Ribwort Plantain	<i>Lolium perenne</i> <i>Festuca rubra</i> <i>Holcus lanatus</i> <i>Trifolium repens</i> <i>Bellis perennis</i> <i>Taraxacum agg.</i> <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Species present in amenity grassland.
1			A single storey building, brick sided with large windows, and a pitched, corrugated metal roof. The building is generally in a good state of repair, with low bat roost potential.
2			A four storey building, brick sided, with a variously pitched and flat roof. The pitched roof has pantiles. The building is generally in a good state of repair, although gaps under pantiles, some of which are damaged, could be used by roosting bats.
3			An old three storey building of traditional design and construction. The sides are brick and stone, and there is a pitched roof with slate tiles. The building is in a good state of repair, with low bat potential.
4			A three storey building of modern design and construction. It has brick sides, with variously

			pitched and flat roofs, with slate tiles and lead flashing. The building is generally in a good state of repair, but on the western side lifted lead flashing and gaps beneath tiles on the roof could be used by bats for roosting.
BIRDS	Carrion Crow Blackbird Wood pigeon Blue Tit	<i>Corvus carone carone</i> <i>Turdus merula</i> <i>Columba palumbus</i> <i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Seen on the site.

Appendix IV

Background Data Search

Site Check Report Report generated on Fri May 19 2017

You selected the location: Centroid Grid Ref: SE342067

The following features have been found in your search area:

Local Nature Reserves (England) - points

Reference

1008867

Name

DEARNE VALLEY PARK

Hectares

49.34

Hyperlink

http://www.lnr.naturalengland.org.uk/special/lnr/lnr_details.asp?themeid=1008867

Local Nature Reserves (England)

Reference

1008867

Name

DEARNE VALLEY PARK

Hectares

49.34

Hyperlink

http://www.lnr.naturalengland.org.uk/special/lnr/lnr_details.asp?themeid=1008867

Nitrate Vulnerable Zones 2013 Designations (England)

Zone ID

278

Type of NVZ

Surface Water

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (England)

No Features found

Limestone Pavement Orders (England)

No Features found

Moorland Line (England)

No Features found

National Nature Reserves (England) - points

No Features found

National Nature Reserves (England)

No Features found

National Parks (England)

No Features found

Ramsar Sites (England) - points

No Features found

Ramsar Sites (England)

No Features found

Sites of Special Scientific Interest Units (England) - points

No Features found

Sites of Special Scientific Interest Units (England)

No Features found

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (England) - points

No Features found

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (England)

No Features found

Special Areas of Conservation (England) - points

No Features found

Special Areas of Conservation (England)

No Features found

Special Protection Areas (England) - points

No Features found

Special Protection Areas (England)

No Features found

Biosphere Reserves (England) - points

No Features found

Biosphere Reserves (England)

No Features found

Less Favoured Areas (England)

No Features found

Appendix V

Photographs



Plate 1: View to north from Berneslai Close of four storey building (TN2).



Plate 2: View to north east from Berneslai Close showing adjoining buildings (TN2 and TN3).



Plate 3: View to north west of building on the eastern side of the site (TN4). Ornamental shrub planting with trees in foreground.



Plate 4: Building along eastern side of the site (TN4) viewed from west at roof level, showing lifted lead flashing and gaps between slates and brick wall, in which bats could roost.

Appendix VI

Ecology Survey Calendar

SURVEY ACTIVITY	MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BACKGROUND DATA SEARCH													
DESK STUDY													
BOTANICAL – INITIAL SURVEYS													
EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY													
BOTANICAL PHASE 2 SURVEYS													
NATIONAL VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION SURVEY – WOODLAND													
NATIONAL VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION SURVEY – GRASSLAND													
HEDGEROW SURVEY													
RIVER CORRIDOR SURVEY													
SPECIES - INITIAL SURVEYS													
INITIAL SPECIES WALKOVER SURVEY													
SPECIES PHASE 2 SURVEYS													
BADGER-SETT/ ACTIVITY SURVEY													
BAT (BAT ROOST POTENTIAL BRP)													
BAT DUSK EMERGENCE/ DAWN RE-ENTRY/ ACTIVITY SURVEYS													
BAT HIBERNATION SURVEYS													
BIRDS (BREEDING)													
BIRDS (WINTERING)													
COMMON DOREMOUSE (NUT SEARCHES)													
COMMON DOREMOUSE (NEST TUBE/ BOX SURVEYS)													
GREAT CRESTED NEWT SURVEY													
GREAT CRESTED NEWT (HABITAT SUITABILITY INDEX HSI)													
INVERTEBRATES (TERRESTRIAL)													
INVERTEBRATES (AQUATIC)													
OTTER (FIELD SIGN SEARCHES)													
REPTILE SURVEY AND TRANSLOCATION													
WHITE CLAWED CRAYFISH													
WATER VOLE (FIELD SIGN SEARCHES)													



OPTIMAL PERIOD FOR SURVEY WORK



SUB OPTIMAL PERIOD FOR SURVEY WORK



UNSUITABLE NO SURVEY

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MITIGATION ACTIVITY	MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BACKGROUND DATA SEARCH													
HABITATS / VEGETATION TRANSLOCATION	Planting and Translocation	No Mitigation for the Majority of Species									Planting and Translocation		
BADGER SETT EXCLUSION (ONLY UNDER EPS LICENCE)	Construction of Artificial Setts only							Exclusion from Setts and Destructive Search					
BAT EXCLUSION / WORKS AFFECTING BAT ROOSTS (ONLY UNDER EPS LICENCE)	Works on Maternity and Summer Roosts	Works on Maternity and Hibernation Roosts		Works on Hibernation Roosts Only				Works on Maternity and Hibernation Roosts		Works on Maternity and Summer Roosts			
BREEDING BIRDS CLEARANCE WORKS	Clearance Works	Clearance Works should be Avoided (nesting season) but may be possible under Ecological Supervision							Clearance Works				
COMMON DOREMOUSE DISPLACEMENT (ONLY UNDER EPS LICENCE)	No Clearance Works as Hibernating			Small Scale Clearance Possible		Avoid Clearance Works (breeding season)			Clearance, Translocation and Release		No Clearance as Hibernating		
GREAT CRESTED NEWT TRANSLOCATION (ONLY UNDER EPS LICENCE)	No Trapping as Hibernating			Trapping and Translocation in Ponds and on Land				Trapping and Translocation on Land only			No Trapping as Hibernating		
INVERTEBRATES (TERRESTRIAL)	Due to the Large Diversity of Invertebrates and their Varied Habitats, the Timing of Mitigation Works depends on the Species and Nature of Works being Undertaken												
OTTER (FIELD SIGN SEARCHES) (ONLY UNDER EPS LICENCE)	Mitigation can Potentially be Conducted in any Month, but is Likely to be Restricted where Otters are Breeding												
REPTILE TRANSLOCATION	Scrub Clearance only	Capture/Translocation and Scrub Clearance						Scrub Clearance only		Capture/ Translocation and Scrub Clearance		Scrub Clearance only	
WHITE CLAWED CRAYFISH (ONLY UNDER EPS LICENCE)	Avoid Disturbance (low activity)				Avoid Disturbance (breeding season)				Exclusion Works			Avoid Disturbance	
WATER VOLE DISPLACEMENT / TRANSLOCATION (ONLY UNDER LICENCE)	Avoid Works in Habitat	Trapping and Exclusion		Avoid Works (breeding season)				Trapping and Exclusion		Avoid works in Habitat			



OPTIMAL PERIOD FOR MITIGATION WORKS



SOME MITIGATION WORKS POSSIBLE



MITIGATION WORKS NOT POSSIBLE

N.B. MANY ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS ARE WEATHER DEPENDENT AND ADVERSE WEATHER COULD DELAY THE SURVEY EFFORT/ SURVEY / MITIGATION TIMINGS

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