

Reviewing the Suffolk Biodiversity Validation checklist, the relevant part is in Table 1 on Page 3. This proposal is within 100 metres of a water course, pond/moat. There are exceptions where a full species survey and assessment may not be required and these are listed on Page 4 of the document. We believe the exemptions falls under Sections B and C.

Section B - there are no Protected Priority Species present following the guidance in Table 1 with reference to where minor proposals are within 100 metres of a water course, pond or moat. The proposed site that this extension is to be built on is currently an area of grass that is regularly cut very short. This would not be a habitat for great crested newts, water voles or amphibians. We have also looked on Magic Map and there are none of these species listed near this location.

Section C – the extension to the existing modern farm building would not create any impact on any Priority Species. There is no evidence in the existing modern barn of any bats, barn owls or any other breeding birds. My client is fully aware that it is a criminal offence to disturb or harm particular species should they subsequently be found or disturbed.

Based on the above assessments in Section B and C, my client believes that this application falls within the exemption of when a Full Species Survey and an assessment may not be required.