

## **METHOD STATEMENT – PROTECTION OF REPTILES**

### **INFORMATION FOR CONTRACTORS**

#### **MARTINS GREEN, BERDEN.**

#### **IN RELATION TO APPLICATION NUMBER: UTT/23/0150/HHF**

The following method statement outlines the procedures for protecting reptiles during the demolition and construction of new Domestic Outbuildings in accordance with the above Planning Application.

#### **Method Statement / Protection Mitigation Strategy.**

##### **1. Site Survey**

A site survey will be conducted to determine the presence of any reptiles on the site. This will include identifying any species living in the surrounding area which are known to occur in open fields and rural environments.

##### **2. Habitat**

The habitats of any identified reptiles will be surveyed and recorded. This information will be used to design an appropriate reptile protection plan.

##### **3. Site Preparation**

Before any demolition work commences, appropriate signage will be erected to alert any workers of the presence of reptiles on the site. Any operatives involved in the project will be briefed on the importance of protecting reptiles and will be asked to report any sightings.

##### **4. Capture and Relocation**

Any reptiles found on the site will be safely captured and relocated to our Orchid which is situated at the rear of our property and forms part of. This will be carried out in accordance with best practice guidelines for reptile handling.

We have also formed suitable log pile and grass cutting areas where the reptiles will be safe from disturbance.

##### **5. Risk Assessment**

Once the site has been cleared of reptiles, a risk assessment will be carried out to identify any potential risks to reptiles during the demolition and construction process.

##### **6. Protective Measures**

Protective measures will be put in place to minimize the risk of harm to any reptiles that may return to the site.

We have formed artificial habitats such as log stacks, grass cutting piles and compost heaps. Our property also has plentiful of wild areas in our Orchid where reptiles can be safely relocated if found.

If Reptiles are observed in the working area our operatives will be under strict instructions to Stop Work and inform Laura and James Free (Owners/Project Managers) to enable them to be safely relocated prior to recommencement of works.

Temporary barriers can also be considered to stop Reptiles returning to the area.

## 7. Monitoring

Regular monitoring of the site will be carried out during the construction phase to ensure that protective measures are working as intended. Any issues will be addressed promptly to minimize the risk of harm to reptiles.

## 8. Post-Construction Monitoring

Once construction work is complete, post-construction monitoring will be carried out to assess the success of protective measures and the impact of the construction on the local reptile population.

In conclusion, the above method statement outlines the procedures that will be followed during the demolition and construction process to protect reptiles and their habitation. All measures will be taken in accordance with best practice guidelines for reptile management to ensure their protection.

## 9. Reptile Protection Timetable

Date	Activity	Details
Before the start of the onsite vegetation management process.	Enhancement of new habitat areas onsite and identify existing locations in the orchid situated within the property boundary of Martins Green	Toolbox talk: creation of brash piles, locate ditches and existing wild brash spots for Reptile relocation.
Toolbox talk	Onsite vegetation management	Ensure there are long grass habitats in the Orchid area to provide natural protection for Reptiles. Any vegetation nearby demolition works to be carefully cut. Use cuttings from grass cuts to add to brash piles.
Once vegetation is cut	Demolition	Demolition and work within designated area avoiding natural areas.
Post-works	Monitoring and management	Detailed surveys and post completion management of vegetation and ensure Reptile habitats are intact.