

# PART D

## Local Biodiversity Checklists

Revised September 2017. Based on Association of Local Government Ecologists Validation Checklist 2007

Please complete the final column in tables 1- 3 below and the conclusion with declaration and **SUBMIT A COPY WITH YOUR APPLICATION.** If the application involves a development proposal which is likely to affect any Species, Habitats or Sites listed below, you may need to provide appropriate surveys, assessments and recommendations in support of an application. Exceptions to when a survey and assessment may not be required are also explained below.

**TABLE 1**

**Local requirement for biodiversity: Protected species, habitats and sites where a survey and assessment may be required**

Key features affected by development	Species potentially affected										Does the development affect biodiversity?
	Bats	Barn owls	Breeding birds	Gt. Created Newts	Otters	Hazel Dormice	Water Vole	Badger	Reptiles	Amphibians	
<p><b>Built environment</b></p> <p>Proposals for the modification or demolition of buildings and structures (especially those with roof voids and gable apexes) affecting the following*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all agricultural buildings (e.g. farmhouses and barns) particularly of traditional brick, stone or weatherboard construction and/or with exposed wooden beams greater than 20cm thick;</li> <li>all buildings in close proximity to woodland, water or ecologically productive habitats that connect with woodland or water;</li> <li>buildings with previously unconverted pitched roofs, or with weatherboards, or with hanging tiles</li> <li>listed buildings</li> <li>major underground or fortified structures (e.g. ice houses, tunnels, air raid shelters, pill boxes)</li> <li>all bridge structures, especially over semi-natural habitat</li> </ul>	•	•	•								NO
<p>Proposals involving artificial lighting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Churches</li> <li>Listed Buildings</li> <li>Sports facilities</li> <li>Landscaping schemes</li> </ul>	•	•	•								NO
<p><b>Habitats</b></p> <p>Proposals affecting woodland, field hedgerows, trees (especially ancient), parkland or orchards, particularly if connected to woodland or wetland</p>	•		•			•		•		•	NO
<p>Proposals affecting gravel pits, quarries or natural cliff outcrops with caves, or crevices, natural or man-made</p>	•		•						•		NO

Proposals on or adjacent to water bodies	•		•	•	•		•		•	•	NO
Major proposals within 250m of a pond or minor proposals within 25m of a pond with GCN			•								NO
Proposals affecting semi-natural grasslands or heathlands			•					•			NO
Proposals affecting brownfield sites, allotments and railway land			•	•			•	•	•		NO
Proposed development affecting any feature known to support <u>protected species</u> **	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	NO

### Major developments sites

\*If in doubt as to whether ecological information is required, interior (roof space) and exterior photographs of the building may be required

\*\*Confirmed by data searches or other information made available to the Applicant or Local Planning Authority

**TABLE 2**  
Sites recognised for their biodiversity importance

Sites	Status*							Does the development affect biodiversity?
	international (RAMSAR, SPA SAC)	National (SSSI)	Local Nature Reserve	Local Wildlife Site	Other Nature Reserve	Hedgerow Regs	Other Priority Habitat	
Proposals on or adjacent to a Statutory designated site	•	•	•		•	•	•	NO
Proposals on or adjacent to a non-statutory designated site				•	•	•	•	NO

\* a full list of Priority Habitats (Habitats of Principal Importance for Biodiversity under S.41 of the NERC Act 2006) is given in the ALGE document checklist.

**TABLE 3**  
Local requirement for geodiversity sites and features: Criteria and indicative thresholds (trigger list) for when a survey and assessment is required

Proposals for development that may trigger a Geodiversity Survey and Assessment	Key sites which an impact assessment may be required						Does the development affect geodiversity?
	Quarries and pits	Inland outcrops	Road / rail / canal cuttings	Underground mines	Fossil sites	Geo-morphological features	
Impact on internationally designated site	•	•	•	•	•	•	NO
Impact on nationally designated site	•	•	•	•	•	•	NO
Impact on Regionally and locally designated sites	•	•	•	•	•	•	NO

The above Tables are a guide as to what biodiversity or geodiversity is important and the types of development that may affect it. Surveys and recommendations are only required if biodiversity is likely to be present and affected by proposals.

**Surveys and assessments are unlikely to be required by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) where:**

1. Following consultation by the applicant at the pre-application stage, the LPA or its advisors are of the opinion that surveys or assessments are not required.
2. It is clear from the nature of the site that locally significant ecological or geological interest is likely to be absent, or that the proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact.

In any event and irrespective of any advice or requirements of the LPA, protected species remain legally protected and if discovered during the course of any works, these must cease and expert guidance sought as to how to proceed. Opportunities for enhancing biodiversity are to be encouraged in any ecological report irrespective of outcome.

**Biodiversity information and advice can be obtained from:**

**Hertfordshire Ecology (HE)**

Environmental Resource Planning, Hertfordshire  
County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford,  
SG13 8DN  
01992 555220  
[ecology@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ecology@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

**Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT)**

Grebe House, St Michael's Street, St Albans,  
Herts AL3 4SN  
01727 858901  
<http://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/>

**CONCLUSIONS**

**Has HE or HMWT been contacted for advice on this matter?**

Y/N      NO

**Is biodiversity / geodiversity interest known to be present and likely to be affected by the proposals?**

Y/N      No

**If Y, has a survey and recommendations been submitted with this application?**

Y/N

**Site Address:**      4 LETCHWORTH CLOSE, WATFORD, WD19 6YF

**Details of person responsible for completing the checklist:**

**Name**      EDWARD SEAMAN

**Relationship to proposal**

e.g. applicant, agent, ecological consultant

AGENT

**Declaration:**      09/11/2023

Being familiar with the proposed development and the site in question, the information supplied is correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Signed**



**Date**      09/11/2023