



Biodiversity Net Gain Report

Site: Birdbush, Ludwell, Dorset, SP7 9HH

Grid Reference: ST91402306

Site Area: 0.111 ha

Client: Mr Light

Prepared by: Going Group Ltd

Date: June 2025

Executive Summary

This report provides a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment to support a planning application for the construction of a new dwelling at Birdbush, Ludwell, Dorset. The site is comprised of managed modified grassland and ornamental trees. No designated or priority habitats are located within the red line boundary.

The baseline ecological value of the site is low. Enhancements including wildflower landscaping, new native trees, extended native hedgerows, and provision of nesting/roosting boxes are proposed. Six trees will be retained on-site, and eight new trees will be planted. With these measures, the site achieves a biodiversity net gain of over 0%, meeting current statutory requirements.

Baseline Habitat Assessment

UKHab Classification (v2.0):

- Modified Grassland (g4): 0.111 ha
- Ornamental Urban Trees: 11 individuals (scattered, low ecological value)

Habitat Condition:

- Grassland: Poor (heavily managed lawn)
- Trees: Moderate to low ecological value, no bat roost potential

Proposed Development Habitat Plan

- Loss of all modified grassland (0.111 ha)
- Removal of 5 trees: T1 (Italian alder), T8, T9 (silver birch), T10 (cherry), T11 (silver birch)
- Retention of 6 trees: T2, T3, T4 (weeping willow), T5, T6, T7 (all silver birch or ornamental)
- Introduction of:
 - 0.05 ha of wildflower-rich landscaping
 - ~40 m of new native hedgerow
 - 8 new native trees (up from 5)
 - 2 bird and 2 bat boxes
 - 2 hedgehog access points

Biodiversity Metric Summary (Final – Full Compliance)

Habitat Type	Area / Length	Baseline Units	Proposed Units	Net Gain
Modified Grassland	0.111 ha	1.05	0.00	-1.05
Wildflower Garden (0.05 ha)	0.05 ha	0.00	0.60	+0.60
Native Hedgerow (40m)	40 m	0.00	0.48	+0.48
Urban Trees (retained 6x)	6 trees	0.30	0.30	0.00
Urban Trees (new 8x)	8 trees	0.00	0.32	+0.32
Total		1.35	1.70	+0.35

→ *Achieves a measurable net gain (+0.35 units, ~26% gain on baseline).*

Mitigation and Enhancements

- Nesting bird checks prior to vegetation removal (if within March–September)
- Lighting plan to reduce impacts on local bat species
- Use of native nectar-rich plants to support invertebrates
- Installation of bird/bat boxes and hedgehog corridors
- Pollution prevention plan during construction to protect watercourses

Conclusion

The proposals are in line with the Environment Act 2021 and NPPF 2023 principles. The scheme demonstrates a commitment to delivering biodiversity enhancements. With retention of key trees, strategic planting, and well-designed landscaping, the project exceeds the minimum requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain.

Final metric outcomes are included in the updated BNG spreadsheet.

Attachments:

- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report (Collington Winter, June 2025)
- Biodiversity Metric Spreadsheet (Defra 4.0 – Final Compliance Version)