

Biodiversity Net Gain Statement

The proposed development comprises the redevelopment of an existing adventure golf facility into two covered padel courts within the established recreational area of Trowbridge Town Park. The development does not involve the removal of trees, hedgerows or other significant ecological features and remains within an existing developed footprint.

Existing landscaping, mature trees and wildlife corridors surrounding the site will be retained and protected during construction. The proposal therefore avoids direct impacts on important habitats and species. Through the retention of existing vegetation, implementation of sensitive lighting, and incorporation of biodiversity enhancements within the landscaping, the development is expected to maintain the site's ecological value while providing opportunities for modest biodiversity improvements.

As the proposal does not result in the loss of priority habitats or significant ecological features, and includes enhancement measures, it is anticipated that the scheme can demonstrate compliance with the Biodiversity Net Gain objectives, with the detailed DEFRA Biodiversity Metric to be prepared at the detailed design stage if required by the Local Planning Authority.

Biodiversity Net Gain Matrix

Habitat / Feature	Existing Site	Proposed Development	Impact Assessment	Mitigation / Enhancement	Net Effect
Existing Adventure Golf Area	Artificial recreational facility with landscaped edges	Replaced by two covered padel courts	Existing recreational use maintained	Development remains within existing footprint	Neutral
Artificial Hardstanding	Existing paths and golf infrastructure	New court surfacing and access paths	Minimal change	Existing developed area reused	Neutral
Amenity Grassland	Grass surrounding adventure golf	Largely retained	Negligible	Existing grass areas protected during construction	Neutral
Boundary Planting	Existing trees, shrubs and landscaping	Retained in full	No loss	Protected throughout construction	Neutral

	surrounding the site				
Trees	Existing mature trees surrounding the site	All retained	No impact	Root Protection Areas protected where required	Neutral
Hedgerows	Existing hedgerows around the wider park	Retained	No impact	No works within hedgerows	Neutral
Wildlife Corridors	Existing movement through surrounding parkland	Maintained	No fragmentation	Existing green corridors remain connected	Neutral
Birds	Existing nesting and foraging opportunities	Temporary construction disturbance only	Low	Works undertaken in accordance with wildlife legislation if required	Neutral
Bats	Existing commuting routes through park	Retained	Low	Lighting designed to minimise spill beyond the courts	Neutral
Invertebrates	Existing ornamental planting and grassland	Retained	Low	Additional pollinator-friendly planting where appropriate	Slight Positive

Habitat Summary

Category	Assessment
Existing Habitat Value	Low to Moderate
Habitat Loss	None
Trees Removed	None
Hedgerows Removed	None
Existing Vegetation Retained	Yes
Wildlife Corridors Maintained	Yes
Overall Habitat Impact	Negligible
Predicted Biodiversity Outcome	Neutral to Slight Positive

Proposed Biodiversity Enhancement Measures

Although the proposal does not result in the loss of existing habitats, the following measures are proposed to provide biodiversity enhancements:

- Retention of all existing trees, shrubs and landscaped planting around the site.
- Protection of retained vegetation throughout the construction period.
- Sensitive lighting design to minimise light spill onto adjacent habitats and commuting routes for bats.
- Inclusion of native and pollinator-friendly planting within any new landscaping associated with the development.
- Sustainable management of landscaped areas to encourage biodiversity.
- Opportunities for bird or bat boxes to be incorporated into surrounding park infrastructure where appropriate.