

Ecological Impact Assessment

Chippenham Pit Stop

August 2026

Ecology | Green Space | Community | GIS

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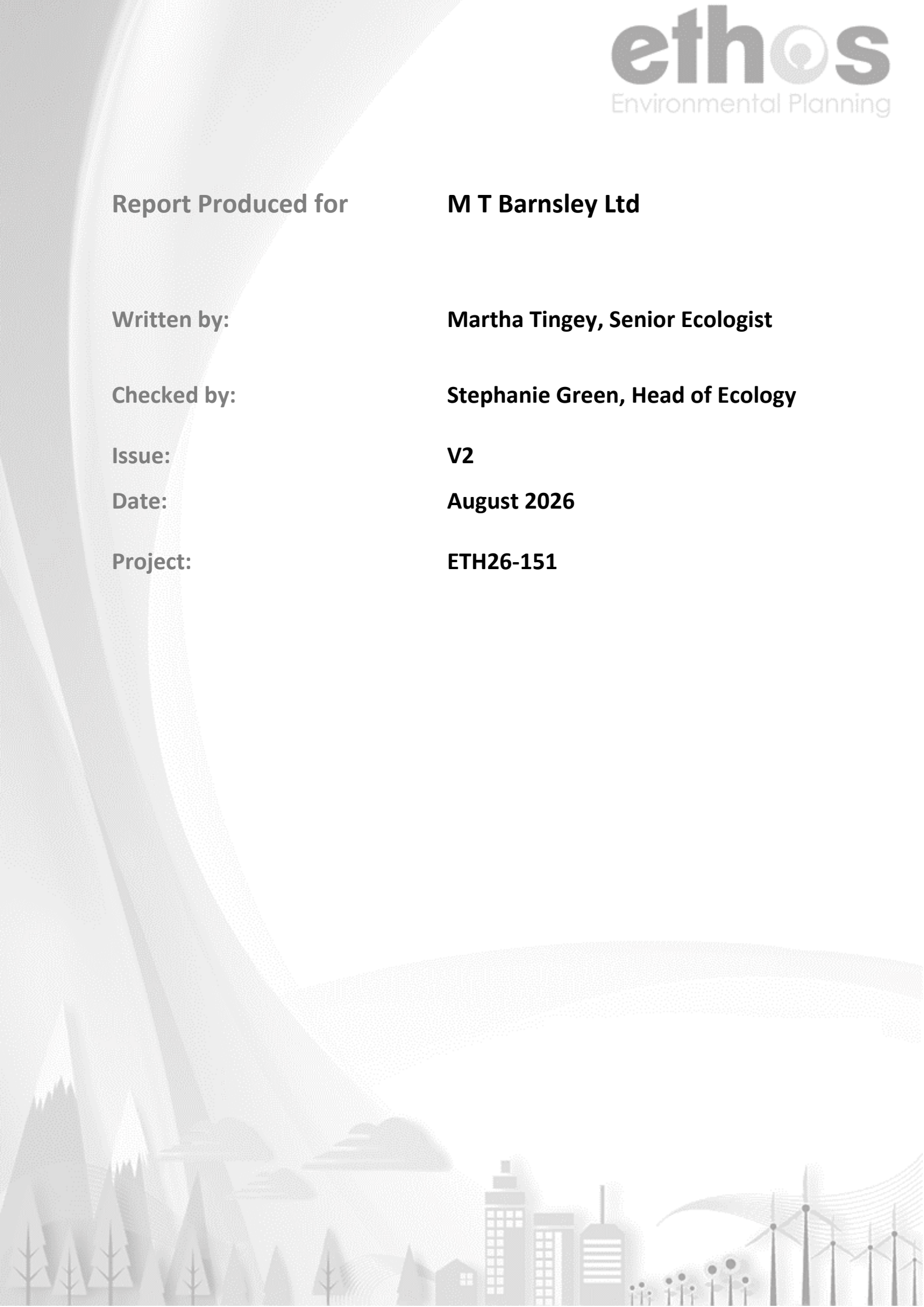
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SUMMARY

Purpose of the Report	This Report has been produced by Ethos Environmental Planning on behalf of M T Barnsley Ltd. It provides an assessment of the likely ecological effects associated with the proposed lorry parking of an area of land known as 'Chippenham Pit Stop'.
Description of the scheme	The development proposals for the site include plans for 20 lorry bays and additional developed land; sealed surface. A section of landscape planting around the western and southern boundaries of the site is to be implemented.
Methodology	A desk study and UK Habitat Classification survey were undertaken for the site in April and May 2026. Detailed surveys for bats and badger were undertaken in 2026.
Baseline Ecological Conditions	• The site comprises ruderal/ephemeral and native hedgerow with trees associated with a bank or ditch. • Nine species of bat were recorded on site; common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, Nathusius's pipistrelle, serotine, noctule, brown long-eared bat, Natterer's bat as well as unidentified <i>Myotis</i> species and pipistrelle species. Low numbers of Annex II species greater horseshoe bat were identified on site. • An active badger sett was recorded offsite within 30m of the development. • The boundary hedgerow (H1) was assessed as suitable habitat for invertebrates and birds.
Key impacts and mitigation	The proposals have been designed to retain key important ecological features, namely the offsite woodland copse west of the site and the southern boundary hedgerow. The retention of boundary habitats and proposed landscape planting will maintain commuting habitat for greater horseshoe bats and other nocturnal species, and protect the offsite badger sett. Mitigation measures are described to ensure compliance with protected species legislation for hedgehog, badger, bats and birds, details of which could be provided within a Construction Environmental Management Plan, secured through planning condition.
Conclusion	Assuming the implementation of effective mitigation measures, as set out in this report, no significant adverse ecological effects are predicted. The proposed development is therefore in accordance with relevant national and local planning policies in relation to nature conservation and relevant wildlife legislation.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) report has been prepared by Ethos Environmental Planning (Ethos) on behalf of M T Barnsley Ltd. The EclA was written by Martha Tingey BSc (Hons), Senior Ecologist and reviewed by Stephanie Green MSc BSc (Hons) MCIEEM. The details and experience of the authors and field survey team are provided in Appendix 2.
- 1.2 This report is an interim EclA report. An addendum report will be provided once all ecological surveys have been completed, comprising summer and autumn bat surveys.
- 1.3 During the initial site visit for the UKHab survey it was evident that the site had been cleared. A desk study of aerial photography and communication with the client was undertaken and it was established that the site clearance works were undertaken in September 2025. For the purposes of this report the habitats at the time of survey are what is reflected in this report. In terms of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), the habitats will be retrospective to pre-clearance works (Ethos, 2026).
- 1.4 The report provides the results of an EclA in relation to the proposed development of Chippenham Pit Stop (Central Grid Reference ST 92441 79323), hereafter referred to as 'the site' and shown in Figure 1. The site is located in north of Chippenham and Draycot Cerne, south of the M4.
- 1.5 The site comprises 0.35 hectares and includes ruderal/ephemeral and native hedgerow.



Figure 1 Site location

- 1.6 The site is proposed for development of 20 new lorry bays.
- 1.7 The aims of this EcIA report are to:
- provide an assessment of the likely effects of the proposed development on ecological features on site;
 - identify the measures required to mitigate impacts on site biodiversity;
 - identify opportunities to deliver ecological enhancements and measurable gains for biodiversity as part of the development proposals; and
 - to enable the Local Planning Authority to assess whether the proposals comply with relevant planning policy or legislation.
- 1.8 This report has been produced following the approach set out in CIEEM's 'Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing' (CIEEM, 2017).

2 POLICY AND LEGISLATION

2.1 National Policy

- 2.1.1 The **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)** (published Dec 2024) sets out national planning policy, including policies of relevance to conserving and enhancing the natural environment. Policies of relevance to the proposed development (parts of paragraphs 187, 192, 193 and 198) are provided in Appendix 1.

2.2 Local Policy

- 2.2.1 The Wiltshire Core Strategy Development Plan Document ('the plan') was formally adopted on 20 January 2015. The plan provides a positive and flexible overarching planning policy framework for Wiltshire for the period up to 2026. Relevant policies from the Local Plan are listed below and provided in detail within Appendix 1:

- Policy 88: Biodiversity and Geodiversity.
- Policy 89: Biodiversity Net Gain.

2.3 Relevant Legislation

- 2.3.1 The following pieces of legislation have been considered within this assessment with an explanation of their relevance provided in Table 1.

Table 1 Relevant legislation

Legislation	Relevance
The Habitats Directive (together with the Birds Directive) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. It is built around two pillars: the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and the strict system of species protection. All in all, the Directive protects over 1,000 animals and plant species and over 200 "habitat types" (e.g. special types of forests, meadows, wetlands, etc.), which are of European importance. The Habitats Directive and parts of the Birds Directive are transposed into legislation by The Conservation of Species and Habitat Regulations 2017 (as amended) .	Presence of foraging and commuting bats on site, including low numbers of Annex II species greater horseshoe bat.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended, including by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000), which provides legislative protection for certain species. The Act also prohibits the spread of invasive plant species, as well as providing the mechanism for the designation and protection of Sites of Special Scientific Interest.	Potential presence of breeding birds on site within the boundary hedgerow.
Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 as amended by the Hunting Act 2004 .	Presence of an active badger sett offsite.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (the NERC Act) places a duty on all public authorities, including local planning authorities, to consider biodiversity in their work. Local	Potential presence of hedgehog on site.

Legislation	Relevance
planning authorities are to ensure that there is no net loss of biodiversity on a site, no net loss in habitat connectivity and aims to enhance biodiversity.	Enhancements for biodiversity

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of Assessment

3.1.1 This assessment has been undertaken following the approach set out in the '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland, 1.3*' (CIEEM, 2018). The assessment has considered 'Important Ecological Features' that are present within the 'Zone of Influence' of the project. Important Ecological Features for this project comprise¹:

- Designated nature conservation sites;
- Habitats and Species of Principal Importance for the Conservation of Biodiversity in England;
- Legally protected species; and
- Red Listed or rare species (based on Red Data Book lists, Birds of Conservation Concern and species considered to be nationally rare / scarce).

3.1.2 The Zone of Influence (Zoi) is the area over which the project could have an influence on ecological features. The Zoi is likely to vary for different features. However, in general terms the Zoi for this development proposal is considered to comprise the land within the red line boundary as well as immediate adjacent habitat features. It also includes designated nature conservation sites in the surrounding area.

3.1.3 The scope of the assessment was informed by an 'ecological walkover and desktop assessment' undertaken in April and May 2026. The purpose of this was to identify the habitats on site, their potential for protected species and to establish the scope of surveys that would be required to inform a future planning application at the site.

3.1.4 The overall assessment has been informed by guidelines provided in CIEEM (2017) Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing.

3.2 Background Data Search

3.2.1 A background data search was received from Wiltshire and Swindon Environmental Records Centre (WSBRC) in April 2026. The search area included records of non-statutory designated sites and protected and notable species within 1km of the proposed development site.

3.2.2 An additional search for statutory designated sites within 1km of the development site and granted European Protected Species (EPS) licences within 1km of the site boundary was undertaken using publicly available information (DEFRA Magic map).

¹ Box 14 in CIEEM's ECiA Guidelines (2018)

3.3 UK Habitat Classification Survey

- 3.3.1 A UKHab survey was undertaken on 16th April 2026. The survey incorporated detailed assessment of the land within the development boundary, including a description and mapping of all key features and habitat types. The survey was carried out to identify the range of habitats within the site and the predominant and notable species of flora. This survey was informed by the UKHab classification Version 2 (UKHab Ltd., 2023).
- 3.3.2 Further details of UK habitat quadrat methodology are provided in Appendix 2.

3.4 NERC S. 41 Mammals

- 3.4.1 The survey included an assessment of the habitats on site for their potential to support NERC Section 41 species such as hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), polecat (*Mustela putorius*), harvest mouse (*Micromys minutus*) and brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*). This included a search for nests, runs, latrines, paw prints, and live specimens.

3.5 Badger

- 3.5.1 The survey for badger (*Meles meles*) included a search of the development site and surrounding habitats (up to 30metres where feasible) for any evidence including setts, foraging signs (snuffle holes), runs and latrines.
- 3.5.2 Targeted survey methodology for badger is provided in Appendix 2.

3.6 Hazel Dormouse

- 3.6.1 The survey included an assessment of the potential of the site for hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*), focusing on the connectivity and suitability of the habitat on site.

3.7 Riparian Mammals

- 3.7.1 The survey included an assessment of the site to support riparian mammals such as otter (*Lutra lutra*) and water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*). This included an assessment of the riparian habitats on site or within the wider environment to support these species.

3.8 Bats

- 3.8.1 The methodology for the bat survey has been informed by the *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines 4th Edition* (Collins, 2023).
- 3.8.2 Targeted surveys for bats were undertaken as set out in Table 2, with further details of survey methodology provided in Appendix 2.

Table 2 Surveys undertaken for bats

Survey	Description	Date Undertaken
Assessment of habitat suitability	Habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support foraging and commuting bats.	April 16 th 2026
Ground Level Tree Assessment (GLTA)	Potential roosting features on trees were identified and classified in line with guidance (BCT, 2023).	April 16 th 2026 July 1 st 2026
Automated/ static surveys	One static detector was deployed on the southern boundary of the site in May. Additionally, static surveys are scheduled in July and September to cover the summer and autumn seasons. These survey results will be included in an addendum report.	May 20 th – May 26 th

3.9 Birds

- 3.9.1 The bird survey included an assessment of the habitats on site for their potential to support protected and notable species of bird as well as their potential to support breeding birds.

3.10 Reptiles

- 3.10.1 The potential presence of reptiles on site was assessed considering the habitats present (availability of refugia and basking areas) and suitability of surrounding environment. The assessment of habitats was informed by the *Herpetofauna Workers Manual* (Gent and Gibson, 2003). Where possible, attempts to confirm reptile presence on site were made following *Froglife Advice Sheet 10 – Surveying for Reptiles* through direct observation in reptile “hotspots” and checking of any existing refugia.

3.11 Amphibians

- 3.11.1 Surveys for GCN were informed by the *Great Crested Newt Conservation Handbook*, Froglife 2001.
- 3.11.2 The site was examined for suitable waterbodies and for breeding terrestrial habitat. Terrestrial habitats providing sufficiently structured vegetation in which amphibians may forage or hibernate over winter were also surveyed for.
- 3.11.3 In addition to the on-site assessment, *Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines* (English Nature, 2001) recommend that a desktop analysis of ponds within 500m of the site be undertaken, to identify any potential breeding ponds which may require further survey. Ponds within 500m of the site were mapped on GIS with an OS OpenData base map at 1:10,000 resolution.

3.12 Invertebrates

- 3.12.1 Due to the many invertebrate taxonomic groups that exist, the often-large differences in invertebrate diversity between habitats and the many survey techniques available, invertebrate surveys are highly specific to individual sites. Therefore, an assessment of the site's potential for invertebrates was undertaken, including the need for targeted surveys, as recommended in *Considering Invertebrates in Preliminary Ecological Appraisals* (Jukes, 2021).

3.13 Limitations

- 3.13.1 Ethos were commissioned in spring 2026 to undertake the targeted bat surveys. Due to the timing of planning submission, a full season of survey data has not been gathered in relation to bats. Static monitoring is proposed for July and September 2026; these results will be provided as an addendum to this EclA. As the boundary habitats are proposed to be retained and buffered from impacts of development, and these are the most valuable habitats for bats on site, the lack of summer and autumn bat data is not considered to be a significant limitation to the assessment.

3.14 Evaluation of Ecological Features

- 3.14.1 In line with CIEEMs guidelines on EclA, this assessment has focused on relevant Important Ecological Features. The scale of importance of these features has been determined based on available contextual information, which for this project are considered only to include:
- **International** – of international importance and protected through international legislation;
 - **National** – of importance in England and protected through national legislation;
 - **County** – of importance to the county (Wiltshire) but not sufficiently important to warrant 'National' scale of importance; and
 - **Local** – of importance to the local area (Chippenham), but not sufficiently important to warrant County scale of importance.
- 3.14.2 Potential impacts on Important Ecological Features are identified and assessed; likely significant effects are those likely to result in a change to the conservation status of a habitat or species population or undermine/support nature conservation policy. Mitigation measures have been devised following the mitigation hierarchy; appropriate mechanisms for securing mitigation measures have been identified.

3.15 Personnel

- 3.15.1 The surveyors on site have been detailed in Appendix 2.

4 BASELINE ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

4.1 Designated Sites

Statutory designated sites

- 4.1.1 One statutory designated site, namely Staunton St Quintin Quarry and Motorway Cutting Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) was identified within 2km of the site (Figure 2). This site is of geological importance due to offering offers a rare, continuous, and clear exposure of fossil-rich cornbrash, making it a crucial reference site for Middle Jurassic stratigraphy. As this site is designated for geological reasons, it is outside of the scope of this EclA and is not considered further in this assessment.



Figure 2 Statutory designated sites

Non-statutory designated sites

- 4.1.2 The data search did not identify any non-statutory designated sites within 1km of the site.

Priority habitats

- 4.1.3 No priority habitats were identified on site. Within 1km of the site there is one type of priority habitat, namely deciduous woodland (Figure 3).

- 4.1.4 The closest priority habitat is the deciduous woodland which is 530 m north of the site. This is separated from the site by the M4 Motorway which acts as an ecological barrier. Impacts on priority habitats are scoped out of the assessment and are not considered further.



Figure 3 Priority habitats

4.2 Habitats

- 4.2.1 The site consists of a section of land bordered by woodland to the west, Chippenham Pit Stop to the north and east of the site and agricultural land to the south. As stated above in Section 1.3, the site has been recently cleared, and the habitats below are based on habitat at the time of survey in April 2026. Habitats have been addressed differently in relation to BNG (Ethos, 2026).

UKHab survey

- 4.2.2 Figure 4 shows the key habitats using the UK habitat classifications. The key features described within this section are:

- Sparsley vegetated land - Ruderal or ephemeral (A2); and
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface (A1).

4.2.3 Hedgerows described within this section are:

- Native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch (H1).



Figure 4 UKHab results

Ruderal / ephemeral (A2)

- 4.2.4 As mentioned, the site has been cleared prior to the UKHabs survey. Based on the vegetation structure on site being short and patchy with ruderal indicators such as garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolate*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) and creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), the area has been classified as ruderal/ ephemeral.
- 4.2.5 Other species found on site included, water drop hemlock (*Oenanthe crocata*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) lords and ladies (*Arum maculatum*), ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and cleavers (*Galium aparine*).



Photo 1 South of field facing north



Photo 2 Southern boundary



Photo 3 West, facing eastern area of the site



Photo 4 Eastern boundary

Developed land; sealed surface

- 4.2.6 There is an existing access road that will be used as access to the site. This will be retained as an access road for the development. This habitat has negligible value for biodiversity and is not considered further in this assessment.



Photo 5 Access route into the site

Table 3 Hedgerows on site

Hedge Number	Hedgerow Type	Description	Photo
H1	Native hedgerow with trees associated with bank or ditch	Hedgerow along the southern boundary of the site. Species present included, alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>), hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>), ash and hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>).	

4.2.7 Native hedgerows are habitats of principal importance in England and are assessed to be of **Local importance** for nature conservation. Impacts on hedgerows are considered further in this assessment.

4.3 NERC S. 41 Mammals

4.3.1 There were five records of hedgehog within 1km of the site dated between 2006 and 2023. The majority of these records were associated with the residential area west and south of the site with the closest record 700m from the site near Whitelands Farm. There is one record of harvest mouse record, 500 m north of the site. There were no records of other NERC S.41 mammals brown hare and polecat.

4.3.2 The habitats on site including ruderal and ephemeral vegetation and native hedgerow, which are suitable for foraging hedgehog and provide opportunities for refuge. As hedgehog are likely present in the surrounding landscape and will commute between foraging habitats, it is possible that hedgehog will be using the site. The surrounding landscape does have higher suitability for hedgehog and it is unlikely that the proposed development site is of significance to the local population. Hedgehog have therefore been considered further on a precautionary basis.

4.3.3 The habitats on site are unsuitable for other NERC S.41 mammals. There are no areas of tall sward grassland suitable for harvest mouse. There is woodland for polecat offsite to the west of the site boundary, however this parcel of woodland is isolated from other parcels of woodland in the wider landscape. Impacts on these species have been scoped out due to unsuitable habitat.

4.4 Badger

Data search

4.4.1 The data search identified nine records of badger from 2013 to 2016 within 1km of the site. The closest record is 500m north of the site and dated 2014 and the most recent records were of a badger in 2016 over 1.9 km west of the site. The records of badger were in agricultural areas.

Habitats

- 4.4.2 The ruderal/ ephemeral vegetation and hedgerow along the southern boundary of the site provide suitable foraging and commuting habitat for badger. In addition, the offsite woodland copse to the west would provide suitable habitat.

Survey results

- 4.4.3 A survey for badger was conducted on 16th April 2026; see Figure 5 for results. Two mammal holes (H1 and H2) were found to the northwest of the site; both were well-used and of suitable size for badger. A further mammal hole (H3) which was assessed to be well-used was found to the south of H1 and H2.
- 4.4.4 Closer to the site boundary from H3, three mammal holes were found, these were all smaller in size and likely rabbit. A group of mammal holes were found on the bank to the south of this location, again these were smaller in size and likely rabbit.
- 4.4.5 To the south of the site there were found to be scattered mammal holes along the boundary. The majority of these appeared too small to be badger and were attributed to rabbit.



Figure 5 Mammal holes identified on site. Camera traps deployed shown via green arrow



Photo 6 H1



Photo 7 H2



Photo 8 H3



Photo 9 Holes south of the potential badger sett



Photo 10 Area of mammal holes within the adjacent woodland



Photo 11 Badger emerging from H1 or H2



Photo 12 Badger seen foraging near mammal hole

Camera trap monitoring

- 4.4.6 Two cameras were set up on 20th May, with camera 1 positioned near H3 and camera 2 positioned near H1 and H2 (Figure 5).
- 4.4.7 Camera 1 identified some badger activity as a badger was seen inspecting and foraging in proximity to the mammal holes, as shown in Photo 12.
- 4.4.8 Camera 2 identified a badger emerging from one of the mammal holes (H1 and H2) on 23rd May, as shown in Photo 11.

Assessment

- 4.4.9 Due to the infrequent usage of the holes north west of the site boundary, with a single emergence of badger across the survey period, the sett is determined as likely to be an infrequently used outlier sett.
- 4.4.10 Badgers are not a species of principal importance in England and impacts are only considered further in relation to legal obligations under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

4.5 Hazel Dormouse

- 4.5.1 No records of hazel dormouse were returned in the data search, and no granted EPS licence records were identified within 1km of the site.
- 4.5.2 The southern boundary hedgerow on site provides some suitable habitat for dormouse and is connected to the offsite woodland, however this woodland is isolated from any other woodland parcels, and it is separated by roads such as the M4 motorway north of the site. Furthermore, no woodland or hedgerows surrounding the site is scheduled for clearance.

- 4.5.3 It is considered unlikely that hazel dormouse habitat will be affected by the proposed works and, as such, impacts on dormouse are not considered further in this assessment.

4.6 Riparian Mammals

- 4.6.1 The data search recovered a single record of otter in 2003. This record was approximately 800m southeast of the site and does not appear to be associated with any particular waterbody. There were no records of water vole identified by the data search.
- 4.6.2 There are no riparian habitats on site. The closest waterbodies are south of the site, being a flowing stream located 56m south of the site at its closest point. This connects to a drainage feature within the farm complex south west of the site and eventually flows into Hardenhuish brook approximately 1.23km from the site and the River Avon, approximately 1.88km from the site. It is assessed as unlikely that otter/ water vole would utilise the site for commuting as there are no riparian habitats north or east of the site to provide connectivity for these species to move through the landscape.
- 4.6.3 The main habitats on site are ruderal/ephemeral and native hedgerow. These habitats may be used for commuting by otter and water vole but are not of particular importance to them.
- 4.6.4 Due to the distance between the site and riparian habitats as well as the unsuitability of habitats on site to support riparian mammals, impacts on riparian mammals have been scoped out of this assessment.

4.7 Bats

Data search

- 4.7.1 The data search returned nine records of bats within 1km of the site from 2015. The species returned include common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) (CP), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*) (SP), Nathusius's pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*) (NP), serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*) (SER), noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*) (NOC), brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) (BLE), greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) (RFER), Natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*) as well as unidentified *Myotis* species and pipistrelle species.

- 4.7.2 There were no records of granted EPS licences within 1km of the site.

Habitats

- 4.7.3 The main habitat on site is ruderal/ephemeral. This habitat may be used by bats for foraging as it can support a range of insects for bats to feed on, however the habitat showed signs of recent clearance which is likely to reduce its suitability for

invertebrates as it does not contain a range of notable plant species of value to invertebrate species.

- 4.7.4 The key habitat identified on site for bats was the hedgerow with trees along the southern boundary of the site (H1). This hedgerow may function as an ecological corridor for bats as it connects the woodland copse west of the site to hedgerows and lines of trees to the east.
- 4.7.5 The woodland copse to the west of the site and the stream to the south also provide valuable habitat for bats in the local area.

Ground Level Tree Assessment

- 4.7.6 Trees were assessed for bat roosting suitability and all trees surveyed were assessed to contain negligible potential.

Static monitoring results

- 4.7.7 One static detector was deployed within H1 on the southern boundary of the site. A summary of the results for May is summarised below:
- 3772 calls were recorded across the survey period, with nine species recorded. This comprised common pipistrelle, greater horseshoe bat, Leisler's bat, Myotis species, Nathusius' pipistrelle, noctule, long-eared bat, serotine and soprano pipistrelle.
 - CP accounted for 89.4% of records, NOC 7.9%, NP 1.3%, and SP 1.2%.
 - A single greater horseshoe bat, Leisler's bat, Myotis spp, and long-eared bat species call were recorded.
- 4.7.8 Detailed survey results are set out in Appendix 3.

Assessment of importance for nature conservation

- 4.7.9 The static monitoring survey identified a relatively common assemblage of bats on site, with common pipistrelle being the most frequently recorded species. A single greater horseshoe bat was recorded, and the site is therefore not assessed to be of particular importance for this Annex II species. Overall, the assemblage of bats is assessed to be of **Local importance** for nature conservation.
- 4.7.10 An updated assessment will be made when summer and autumn bat surveys have been completed.

4.8 Birds

Data search

- 4.8.1 The data search returned 61 records of birds within 1km of the site from 2008 to 2022. There was a total of 31 species identified. These species were primarily farmland and woodland birds, as well as species associated with watercourses that were recorded in the areas around the River Avon.
- 4.8.2 The data search returned three records of barn owl. These appear to be sightings as not category of breeding with detailed in the returned data. Given that the site has been recently cleared contains a short sward, the area is unsuitable for barn owl foraging and no buildings or suitable trees are present on site, barn owl is scoped out of the assessment.
- 4.8.3 Species associated with the habitats on site include dunnoek (*Prunella modularis*), wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), greenfinch (*Chloris chloris*), house martin (*Delichon urbicum*) and woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*).

Habitats

- 4.8.4 The hedgerow with trees (H1) along the southern boundary of the site contains the most valuable habitat for birds, likely to support a common and widespread assemblage of birds during the breeding season and for foraging activities.
- 4.8.5 Overall, the site is assessed as likely to support a common and widespread assemblage of bird species only and therefore birds are only considered further on a precautionary basis during vegetation clearance.

4.9 Reptiles

- 4.9.1 No records of reptiles were returned within the data search.
- 4.9.2 The site is dominated by ruderal/ephemeral of a short sward, making it unsuitable for reptiles due to lacking the structural diversity required. However, if the site is left unmanaged for a period of time, the tall sward ruderal/ephemeral or scrub can establish and may provide some suitability for reptiles. There are no significant areas of suitable reptile habitat within the vicinity of the site, as the site is surrounded by agricultural land and the existing lorry park to the north, which provides negligible potential for reptiles.
- 4.9.3 Given the habitats present at the time of survey, and lack of suitable reptile habitat close to the site, reptiles are considered likely to be absent from the site and are not considered further in this assessment.

4.10 Amphibians

Data search

- 4.10.1 The data search returned four records for great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*), one record 250m and one record 300m north of the site. The two other records were 600m southeast of the site. One record for common toad (*Bufo bufo*) was also returned 530m west of site.
- 4.10.2 There were two granted EPS licences for GCN within 1km of the site. Both related to destruction of a resting place (EPSM2011-3167 and EPSM2012-4030).

Habitats

- 4.10.3 The site contained a dry ditch within the native hedgerow (H1) along the southern boundary of the site.
- 4.10.4 The site did not contain any standing water or suitable riparian habitats to provide breeding habitat for amphibians.
- 4.10.5 The short sward of the ruderal/ephemeral habitat on site provides limited suitability terrestrial habitat for great crested newt, due to a lack of cover and hibernacula opportunities. The native hedgerow (H1) could provide some habitat for great crested newt and other amphibians. However, the hedgerow is not connected to suitable riparian habitats and is considered to not form a significant link between habitats for amphibians to disperse.

Ponds within 500m of the site

- 4.10.6 The offsite ditch south of the site was fast flowing and therefore an eDNA sample was not obtained, as the habitat was assessed as unsuitable for amphibian breeding. A HSI was conducted for ditch 1 and it scored 'below average'.
- 4.10.7 The offsite pond (P1) located west of the site was an inaccessible sustainable drainage feature and a HSI and eDNA survey could not be completed.
- 4.10.8 Overall, due to a lack of suitable amphibian breeding habitat on or within proximity to the site, as well as the low value of habitat on site for amphibians, GCN are considered likely absent from the site and are not considered further in this assessment.



Photo 6 Ditch 1



Figure 6 Ponds within 500m of the site

4.11 Invertebrates

- 4.11.1 The data search returned seven records of invertebrates including cramp-ball fungus weevil (*Platyrhinus resinosus*), small heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*), white admiral (*Limenitis Camilla*), common darter (*Sympetrum striolatum*) and brown tree ant (*Lasius brunneus*).
- 4.11.2 The habitats present on site comprise ruderal/ephemeral with associated native hedgerow. Given the site has been recently cleared the species diversity was limited,

therefore only likely to support limited assemblages of invertebrate species. The key features were assessed to be the hedgerows, which could provide a food source, shelter and nesting opportunities for invertebrates.

- 4.11.3 Overall, the site is considered unlikely to support a notable abundance or assemblage of invertebrate species, and therefore is not considered to be of particular significance for the nature conservation of invertebrates and as such, the group is not considered further in this assessment.

4.12 Invasive Species

- 4.12.1 No invasive species were returned in the data search, and none were observed on site during surveys and the UK Hab assessment.

4.13 Summary

- 4.13.1 A summary of the important ecological features on site and their scale of importance for nature conservation is shown in Table 4. This may be updated following the completion of ecological surveys.

Table 4 Important ecological features on site

Important Ecological Features	Scale of Importance
Native hedgerow with trees (H1)	Local
Bats – commuting	Local
Hedgehog	N/a - Precautionary
Birds	N/a - Precautionary
Badger	N/a – Legal protection only

5 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 5.1 The development proposals comprise the construction of 20 lorry bays and other areas of developed land; sealed surface. The proposals are shown below in Figure 5.
- 5.2 The layout of the development has been developed to minimise impacts on site ecology as follows:
- The native hedgerow with trees to the south of the site will be retained and enhanced as part of the development.
 - The development footprint is situated on the ruderal/ephemeral which is not assessed to be of importance for nature conservation.
 - The development has been designed with a buffer to the adjacent offsite woodland to protect this habitat from potential impacts. This will include mixed scrub planting to buffer the woodland from development impacts.



Figure 7 Site Plan (Drawing number 2890-P01-Rev C, Angus Meek Architects, 2026)

6 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

6.1 Hedgerows

- 6.1.1 Potential impacts during construction and the operational phases are considered in the following sections.

Construction impacts

- 6.1.2 In the absence of mitigation, potential impacts could include damage to retained hedgerows during construction and impacts of construction pollution. To avoid impacts on hedgerows, tree protection fencing will be installed, and pollution prevention controls implemented during the construction period. These measures will be set out within a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP), which can be secured by planning condition.

Operational impacts

- 6.1.3 The development proposals have been designed to retain the existing hedgerow (H1). The hedgerow will be enhanced as part of the BNG requirements for the site and will be buffered from impacts of development through mixed scrub planting.
- 6.1.4 Overall, with the implementation of mitigation as set out above, there will be **no significant effects** on native hedgerows as a result of the proposed development.

6.2 Bats

Construction impacts

- 6.2.1 Potential impacts on commuting bats could occur as a result of insensitive construction lighting, which could disturb light-sensitive species of bat. Sensitive construction lighting will be required during construction, which can be set out within the CEMP and secured by condition.
- 6.2.2 Protection of hedgerows (detailed in Section 6.1) will be required to ensure commuting habitats are retained and protected during the construction period, again this will be set out within the CEMP.

Operational impacts

- 6.2.3 Native hedgerow with trees (H1) along the southern boundary of the site is to be retained. This will enable bats continued access to an east-west commuting route, allowing movement through the wider landscape.
- 6.2.4 A sensitive lighting strategy will be required to demonstrate that retained hedgerows (boundary hedgerows and those dissecting fields) will be retained as dark corridors.

The areas of woodland to the west of the site will also require protection from lighting and must be retained as dark areas in order to provide suitable habitat for bats.

- 6.2.5 Overall, considering the retention of dark commuting corridors, it is assessed that the proposed development will likely result in a **no significant effect** on commuting and foraging bats.

6.3 Hedgehog

Construction impacts

- 6.3.1 The site has the potential to support hedgehog and in the absence of mitigation, impacts on these species could occur during site clearance, comprising injury or mortality to hedgehog foraging or resting on site. To mitigate these impacts, a pre-works check will be undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to any vegetation removal.
- 6.3.2 Good practice measures to avoid impacts on hedgehog comprise appropriate storage of materials to avoid creating refugia, protection of retained hedgehog habitat (hedgerows) and a sensitive construction lighting plan. These measures will be set out within the CEMP, which can be secured through condition.
- 6.3.3 Any deep holes or foundations left uncovered overnight should have an escape ramp (secured scaffold board), to enable any nocturnal animals that become trapped can escape.

Operational impacts

- 6.3.4 Given the retention of the majority of the site's boundary features and hedgerows of value to hedgehog, the proposed development would not be expected to have a significant adverse effect on hedgehogs.

6.4 Birds

Construction impacts

- 6.4.1 Precautionary measures will be required to avoid impacts on nesting birds in the form of an Ecological Clerks of Work (ECoW) if any vegetation removal is taking place in bird active season (March – August inclusive), which can be set out within the CEMP and secured by condition.

6.5 Badger

Construction impacts

- 6.5.1 An active outlier sett was identified during surveys offsite (H1 and H2) to the north-west of the site. These areas will be buffered from the development by the creation of a belt of mixed scrub. If a 30m buffer from the sett entrances to the works zone can be implemented, then impacts can be avoided. However, if works within 30m of the sett cannot be avoided, a mitigation licence from Natural England may be required to allow the works to proceed legally. This should be assessed by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist. As badger are mobile animals, the status of the sett may change over time. Therefore, a pre-construction badger survey and badger mitigation strategy are recommended to set out the status of the sett including the requirement for mitigation or licensing. These measures can be secured by condition.
- 6.5.2 As badger have been identified commuting and foraging over site, precautionary mitigation measures set out in Section 6.3. in relation to hedgehog and Section 6.2 in relation to bats and lighting will also protect badger during the construction period.

6.6 Summary

- 6.6.1 A summary of the predicted significance of any effects, as well as the proposed mitigation measures and how these may be secured are outlined in Table 5. Additional recommendations may be provided once ecological surveys have been completed fully.

Table 5 Summary of significance of effects and mitigation

Ecological Feature	Mitigation	Mechanism for securing delivery	Residual Effects
Hedgerows	- Provision of protective tree fencing and pollution prevention measures during construction - Provision of ecological buffers.	Retained habitats protected through CEMP Detailed landscape plan	No significant effects
Bats	- Retention and enhancement of boundary hedgerows. - Retention and creation of dark corridors for commuting bats.	Retained habitats protected through CEMP Habitat enhancement area management secured through LEMP Lighting strategy	No significant effect
NERC S41 – Mammals – Hedgehog	- Precautionary construction measures. - Presence of Ecological clerk of works to oversee vegetation removal.	CEMP secured by condition	N/a
Birds	Presence of Ecological Clerk of Works to oversee vegetation removal, to avoid nesting bird season, or supervision of hedgerow removal under ECoW.	CEMP secured by condition	N/a
Badger	- Provision of ecological buffer around badger sett. - Sensitive lighting design. - If any disturbance to active sett a licence from Natural England will be required.	Badger mitigation strategy secured by condition. Requirement for licence for disturbance from Natural England	N/a

6.7 Cumulative Effects

6.7.1 No developments with the potential to result in cumulative effects were identified utilising the Wiltshire Council Planning Portal.

7 ENHANCEMENTS

7.1 Habitats

- 7.1.1 Habitat enhancements in relation to the hedgerow with trees (H1) and mixed scrub planting are set out within the BNG Report (Ethos, 2026).
- 7.1.2 Any outlined measures can be secured through the requirement for a Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP), which can be secured by planning condition.

7.2 Protected Species

- 7.2.1 Five bat boxes suitable for crevice-dwelling species such as pipistrelle bats are recommended to be installed along the woodland edge boundary west of the site as well as the hedgerow with trees along the south of the site. Common pipistrelle were the most frequently recorded species on site.

8 MONITORING

- 8.1 The mitigation measures set out in Section 6 which will be supervised by an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) will be recorded as a 'site note' by the ECoW, and if required made available to the LPA.
- 8.2 Ecological enhancement provisions can be subject to a post-compliance check by a SQE who can record the results as a site note and if required be made available to the LPA.

9 CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 The proposed development has been designed in order to protect the boundary habitats and bat commuting route along the southern and western boundary through retention of existing hedgerows, mixed scrub planting and sensitive lighting design.
- 9.2 An active badger sett is located offsite to the north-west of the site. This will be retained and protected from the impact of development, either through an implemented buffer zone or if not feasible, a licence to disturb badgers will be required from Natural England for the construction phase.
- 9.3 Mitigation measures for protected species including hedgehog, badger, bats and birds have been provided, which is focused on avoiding impacts during the construction phase and the retention and enhancement of key habitat for protected species within the layout.
- 9.4 Overall, there are predicted to be no significant impacts on biodiversity as a result of the development. The development is therefore in accordance with NPPF paragraph 180, which relates to development proposals being required to be compliant with the mitigation hierarchy. The mitigation measures can be secured through an appropriate planning condition which ensures compliance with the measures set out within this EcIA, as well as the requirement for sensitive lighting and a CEMP.

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APPENDIX 1 POLICY

National Policy - NPPF

The **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)** (published Dec 2024) sets out national planning policy, including policies of relevance to conserving and enhancing the natural environment. Policies of relevance to the proposed development (parts of paragraphs 187, 192, 193 and 198) have been summarised below:

Para 187: Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan)*
- d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs;*

Para 192: To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:

- a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and*
- b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.*

Para 193: When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles, notably:

- a) if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;*
- d) development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate*

Para 198: c) limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

Local Policy

Wiltshire Local Policy

Policy 88: Biodiversity and geodiversity Protection

Development proposals will need to clearly demonstrate how the mitigation hierarchy has been sequentially applied.

Development proposals must demonstrate how they protect features of nature conservation value, both terrestrial and aquatic, and geological value as part of the design rationale. There is an expectation that such features shall be retained, sufficiently buffered, and managed favourably to maintain their ecological value, connectivity and functionality in perpetuity. Furthermore, development proposals must secure and implement measures, including appropriate compensatory measures where necessary, to ensure no net loss of biodiversity and the local biodiversity resource, and to secure the integrity of local ecological networks and provision of ecosystem services.

All development proposals shall incorporate appropriate measures to avoid and reduce disturbance of sensitive wildlife species and habitats throughout the lifetime of the development.

Any development potentially affecting a UK National Site Network site must provide avoidance measures in accordance with the strategic plans or guidance where possible, otherwise bespoke measures must be provided to demonstrate that the proposals would have no adverse effect upon the UK National Site Network. Any development that would have an adverse effect on the integrity of a European nature conservation site and where the impacts cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, will not be supported.

Local sites, priority habitat and habitats of principal importance and local ecological Networks

Development will avoid direct and indirect impacts upon local sites by maintaining sufficient buffers and ecological connectivity with the wider environment. Damage or disturbance to local sites will be unacceptable, other than in exceptional circumstances where it has been demonstrated that such impacts:

- 1. cannot reasonably be avoided;*
- 2. are reduced as far as possible;*
- 3. are outweighed by other planning considerations of overriding public interest;*
- 4. where appropriate compensation measures can be secured through planning obligations or agreements.*

Development proposals affecting local sites must make a reasonable contribution to their favourable management in the long-term.

Development proposals should avoid negative impacts upon priority habitat, habitats of principal importance, ecological networks, and wildlife corridors, instead promoting their conservation, restoration, and enhancement alongside the recovery of priority species.

Biodiversity in the built environment

In addition to features required as part of biodiversity net gain, mitigation or compensation, all proposals are required to incorporate features of biodiversity value tailored to the specific proposals, relevant local receptors and in accordance with best practice to maximise potential benefits.

As a minimum, the following are required within new proposals:

- 1. integrate integral bird nest bricks (e.g., swift bricks) at a minimum of two per dwelling;*
- 2. provision of integrated bat boxes;*
- 3. provision of overhanging eaves suitable for nesting house martins in all major development, supplemented by the provision of nest cups; and*
- 4. hedgehog highways integrated throughout the design of development (e.g., suitable gaps in all garden fences) between gardens and the wider ecological network to facilitate movement of protected species.*

Other features that should be included (but are not limited to):

- 1. provision of wildflower verges and meadows throughout the development managed to ensure their longevity (e.g., provision of suitable native seeding and topsoil provisions);*
- 2. undertake nature friendly native planting schedules throughout development (e.g., planting wildlife friendly show gardens, incorporating native hedgerows and tree planting);*
- 3. design site lighting to avoid harm and optimise nature conservation (e.g., designing in dark corridors);*
- 4. optimise the ecological value of sustainable urban drainage systems where required (e.g., through the provision of swales and pools, connected to the wider ecological network, planted with native vegetation);*
- 5. incorporate features within the public realm to facilitate nature recovery and access to nature (e.g., bat walls/lofts, swift towers, log piles, insect hotels, invertebrate/bee bricks, reptile hibernacula, green and brown roofs / walls).*

Policy 89: Biodiversity net gain

Development must achieve a minimum of 20% biodiversity net gain, or higher as stipulated in national legislation and/or policy or supplementary guidance, over the pre-development biodiversity value as measured by the latest Biodiversity Metric. Exempted development must achieve no net loss of biodiversity and should achieve appropriate net gains, aspiring to deliver at least 20% biodiversity net gain.

Biodiversity net gain must be delivered in the following hierarchical manner:

- 1. Onsite delivery: where delivered on site habitats should be functionally linked to the wider habitat network creating coherent ecological networks.*
- 2. Offsite delivery: should prioritise contributing to nearby habitat recovery and creation strategies as identified within adopted mitigation strategies, strategic wildlife corridors, Local Nature Recovery Strategy and Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.*
- 3. Offsite delivery: on an alternative suitable site, prioritising strategic delivery in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy area.*
- 4. Credits: as a last resort, and where it is agreed by the local planning authority no suitable alternatives exist, through the purchase of an appropriate amount of national biodiversity units/credits.*

Planning applications subject to mandatory biodiversity net gain must submit a Biodiversity Gain Plan at the application stage that should include:

- how the mitigation hierarchy has been adhered to;*
- justification for the baseline date and assessed value of the site prior to development, including*
- a brief synopsis of the site's historic biodiversity value and appointing strategic significance in metric;*
- pre and post-development biodiversity value of onsite habitats and created off site habitats;*
- demonstrate how net gains are achieved through onsite, offsite or purchased credits, clarifying and explaining the predicted biodiversity outcomes both qualitatively and quantitatively;*
- how a positive proportionate contribution has been made to the ecological networks and priorities as outlined within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and regional Nature Recovery Networks and for maintaining or creating local ecological networks through habitat creation, protection, enhancement, restoration and management.*

APPENDIX 2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Badger

Camera trap surveys

To aid in the classification of the sett, camera trap surveys were undertaken between 20th May and 10th June 2026. Data was analysed for any evidence of badger to aid assessment and classification of the sett. The date, times and type of behaviour were noted.

As a guide to classifying each sett the following criteria is followed:

- **Main** – normally the focal sett for a badger social group. Generally always occupied, main setts usually have several well used holes with radiating tracks, latrines and other signs of activity. The actual number of holes can vary greatly, depending on social group size and soil conditions. Several holes with large spoil heaps and obvious paths emanating from and between sett entrances.
- **Annex** – a secondary sett, close to the main sett. Will normally be connected to the sett with very obvious tracks. Annexes may not be occupied constantly, even when the main sett is very active. Normally less than 150m from main sett, comprising several holes.
- **Subsidiary** – occurring at a greater distance from the main sett, and not as clearly linked to it as an annex. These setts will clearly fall within the territory of a social group and may be seasonally used by badgers; and
- **Outlier** – less frequently used, these setts may be colonised by other species when not in use by badgers. Outliers may represent a temporary sett, or a habitation for migrating individuals, or those excluded from a social group.

The locations of camera traps are shown in Figure 8.



Figure 8 Camera trap locations

Bats

Habitat assessment

The habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support foraging and commuting bats. This assessment was also contextualized through examination of suitable habitat and features in the wider landscape and possible flight-lines across the proposed site following natural linear features such as hedgerows.

Ground level Tree Assessment (GLTA)

The methodology draws upon guidance within Collins (2023) and the Bat Tree Habitat Key (2018). The surveys were undertaken using binoculars and a high-powered torch to view features from the ground. Details on the potential roosting features were recorded as well as information to identify the specific trees.

Potential roosting features on trees were identified as any feature within a tree that could provide shelter for a roosting bat. These features result from the following three mechanisms:

- Disease and decay;
- Damage; and,
- Associations.

Tree with no potential roost features were assessed as having ‘negligible’ potential for roosting bats and no further surveys were carried out. Potential features have been categorised following the guidelines set out in table 6.2 (extract below):

Table 6.2. Guidelines for categorising the potential suitability of PRFs on a proposed development site for bats, to be applied using professional judgement.

Suitability	Description
PRF-I	PRF is only suitable for individual bats or very small numbers of bats either due to size or lack of suitable surrounding habitats.
PRF-M	PRF is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used by a maternity colony.

Automated / static surveys

Automated / static surveys were used to provide the composition of bat species present on site and were used to support the findings of the bat activity surveys. Bat surveys were undertaken between April – October with one static deployed over a five-day period each month, in line with best practice guidance relating to sites of low suitability for bats. Deployment dates are shown in Table 6.

The calls were processed and analysed using the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) Pipeline. This software provides a confidence score for each species returned and highlights rare species which are unlikely to be detected in the survey area. Results with a low confidence <50% probability were excluded from the analysis.

Table 6 Automated / static survey dates

Month	Deployment Date	Collection Date
May	20/05/2026	26/05/2026
July	01/06/2026	TBC – 6/06/2026
September	TBC	TBC

Amphibians

HSI scoring

Habitat suitability indices (HSI) were calculated for every accessible pond within the 500m buffer. The HSI was developed by Oldham *et al.* (2000) as a means of evaluating habitat quality and quantity. Ten suitability indices are assessed visually for each pond resulting in a numerical index between 0 (unsuitable) and 1 (highly suitable). As stated in ARG UK Advice Note 5 (Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the United Kingdom, 2010), “In general, ponds with high HSI scores are more likely to support great crested newts than those with low scores. However, the system is not sufficiently precise to conclude that any pond with a high score will support newts, or that any pond with a low score will not do so.”

Targeted GCN survey were carried out in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Herpetofauna Worker's Manual (Gent & Gibson, 2003) and Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature, 2001).

Surveyors on Site

Table 7 Site surveyors

Ecologist	Position	Qualifications/ Licences	Experience	Role
Rachel Fayers	Principal Ecologist & Business Development Manager	BSc (Hons), ACIEEM Class 2 Bat Licence (NE) Class 1 GCN Licence (NE)	Rachel is a practised ecologist and conservationist with over 15 years' experience in the field and is a licensed bat and GCN worker. Rachel is a competent field ecologist and writes and checks a full suite of ecology reports. More recently she has also taken on a role looking at business development opportunities for Ethos whilst still keeping up with practical and reporting skills.	eDNA survey, bat static deployment in May and badger survey
Ellie Shearn	Senior Ecologist	BSc (Hons), MCIEEM Class 1 Bat Licence (NE) (2025-13062-CL17-BAT) Class 1 GCN Licence (NE) 2025-80144-SCI-CL08	Ellie is an ecologist at Ethos with five years' experience in ecological consultancy. Ellie leads a range of habitat assessments and protected species surveys including bat surveys and assessments. Ellie is proficient at authoring a range of reports and managing projects. Ellie manages that bat data analysis for Ethos.	UKHab Survey
Katie Munday	Senior Ecologist	MSc, BSc (Hons), MCIEEM Class 1 Bat Licence (NE) Class 1 Dormouse Licence (NE)	Katie has four years' experience in ecological consultancy. She undertakes a variety of field surveys and has experience carrying out Biodiversity Net Gain assessments. She has extensive customer service experience and is responsible for managing a range of projects. She is proficient at report writing and has input into several Environmental Statements.	UKHab survey
Ollie Sowler	Assistant Ecologist	BSc (Hons)	Ollie conducts bat surveys and data analysis, has two	Collection of bat static for May

Ecologist	Position	Qualifications/ Licences	Experience	Role
			years of reporting experience, and experience conducting protected species surveys. He is a qualified River Condition Assessor (RCA), and frequently undertakes UKHabitat classification for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) calculations.	and badger cameras
Kayleigh Buller	Assistant Ecologist	BA (Hons)	Kayleigh joined Ethos in 2026 as an Assistant Ecologist, supporting a range of protected species surveys, habitat assessments, data analysis and report writing. She holds an honours degree in Journalism and brings eighteen years' publishing experience, most recently with National Geographic Learning. She is currently working towards her Certificate in Conservation Management.	eDNA survey, bat static deployment in May and badger survey

APPENDIX 3 BAT SURVEY RESULTS

9.1.1 Table 8 below shows the number of bat species recorded on each day of the May static monitoring survey.

Table 8 bat species recorded per day of May static monitoring excluding common pipistrelle

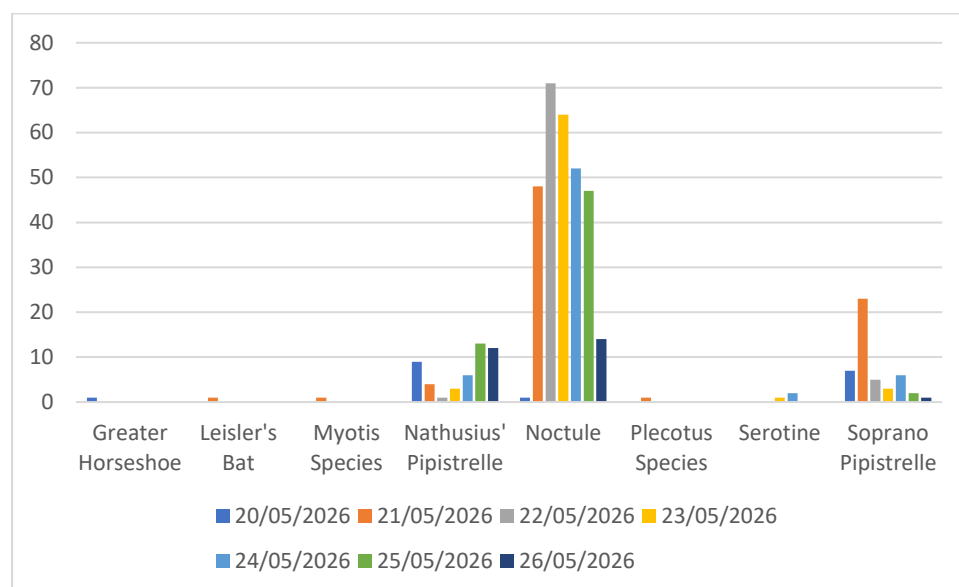


Table 9 bat species recorded per day of May static monitoring including common pipistrelle

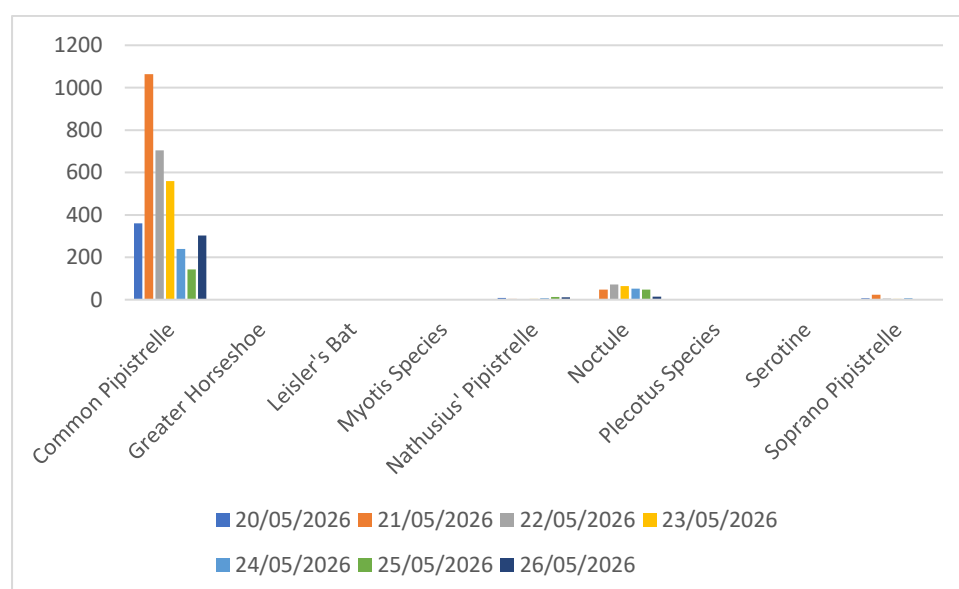


Table 6 Total bat calls

Species Name	Calls
Common Pipistrelle	3373
Greater Horseshoe	1
Leisler's Bat	1
Myotis Species	1
Nathusius' Pipistrelle	48
Noctule	297
Plecotus Species	1
Serotine	3
Soprano Pipistrelle	47
	3772

Table 7 Bat calls across the survey period

	20/05/2 026	21/05/2 026	22/05/2 026	23/05/2 026	24/05/2 026	25/05/2 026	26/05/2 026
Common Pipistrelle	360	1064	704	560	240	143	302
Greater Horseshoe	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisler's Bat	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Myotis Species	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Nathusius' Pipistrelle	9	4	1	3	6	13	12
Noctule	1	48	71	64	52	47	14
Plecotus Species	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Serotine	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
Soprano Pipistrelle	7	23	5	3	6	2	1