

68631 – Land adjacent 7 Salmesbury Hall Close, Ramsbottom

Thank you for consulting the GMEU

The amended plans will not materially change the ecological issues associated with this development. We have no objection to the proposed amendments. Previous recommendations (see below) still apply

Ecologist
GM Ecology Unit

64778 – Land adjacent to 7 Salmesbury Hall Close, Ramsbottom

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Summary

I agreed at pre-application stage that there were unlikely to be any significant ecological issues and no ecological report was required. Issues relating to nesting birds and landscaping can be resolved via condition and/or informative.

Nesting Birds

The development will result in the loss of some trees and shrubs on the site potential bird nesting habitat. All British birds nests and eggs (with certain limited exceptions) are protected by Section 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, as amended. I recommend a condition along the following lines be applied to any permission.

No works to trees or shrubs shall occur between the 1st March and 31st August in any year unless a detailed bird nest survey by a suitably experienced ecologist has been carried out immediately prior to clearance and written confirmation provided that no active bird nests are present which has been agreed in writing by the LPA.

Contributing to and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Section 170 of the NPPF 2018 states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. Some existing trees and shrubs will be lost or cut back. The proposed site layout indicates new tree or shrub planting around the boundary, though no detail is provided. I am satisfied that this level of planting has the potential to mitigate for any losses. The details can be conditioned along the following lines.

A landscape plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA, prior to commencement of development. The content of the plan should include elements to mitigate for loss of trees shrubs and bird nesting habitat. The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Ecologist
GM Ecology Unit