

## Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

**Survey site:**

Philips High School, Higher Lane, Whitefield, Manchester M45 7PH

**Client:**

Oliver Gadsby

**Survey date:**

12<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Project:**

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with the Bury Metropolitan Borough Council. The proposal is described as:

The construction of a 3D football pitch

[Unsubmitted]

PEA survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: [PEA Methodology and Legislation - 2024.](#)

| Site Location and Context                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                  |              |                 |             |            |
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| <p>The survey site is centred on National Grid Reference SD 80160 05493 and has an area of approximately 0.49ha.</p> <p>The site comprises a section of a large playing field and a small section of hardstanding footpath within a secondary school in Whitefield, north of Manchester. Aerial imagery shows the local landscape to have an urban character, though the school borders a golf course to the south. Waterbodies can be found nearby, such as numerous ponds within the bordering Whitefield golf course. Such features likely enhance the area of a variety of species including amphibians and birds.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                  |              |                 |             |            |
| Survey Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                  |              |                 |             |            |
| The site survey was undertaken by Anneke Greenman BSc (Hons) MSc, Consultant, an ecologist with three years of experience, accredited on a level 2 bat license to undertake level 1 activities. Details available upon request.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                  |              |                 |             |            |
| Date of survey                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Temperature (°C) | Humidity (%) | Cloud Cover (%) | Wind (km/h) | Rain       |
| 12/11/2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 14               | 94           | 80              | 5           | Light rain |
| Executive Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                  |              |                 |             |            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precautionary working measures needed for Badger, Hedgehogs, Common amphibians and Reptiles.</li> <li>BNG needed to support planning application.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                  |              |                 |             |            |
| Survey limitations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                  |              |                 |             |            |
| <p>It should be noted that whilst every effort has been made to describe the baseline conditions within the survey area, and evaluate these features, this report does not provide a complete characterisation of the site. This assessment provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species being present. This is based on suitability of the habitats on the site and in the wider landscape, the ecology and biology of species as currently understood, and the known distribution of species as recovered during the searches of historical biological records.</p> <p>A biological records data search has not been undertaken. However, given the location of the site, the nature of the habitats present and the assessed suitability of the site for protected or notable species, it is not anticipated that the purchase of biological records data will add any significant weight or alter the conclusions and recommendations outlined in this report.</p> <p>This survey was conducted outside of the optimal vegetation growing season. This was not considered to be a significant limitation on this site due to the simple nature of the habitats present.</p> |                  |              |                 |             |            |

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| Ecological Survey Factor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Detailed using desk study and site survey (carried out under good weather conditions). Any specific limitations noted within relevant section. This table may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Conclusion, Impact or Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Habitats and plants (see habitat map in appendix 1, location plan in appendix 2, proposal plan in appendix 3 and photos in appendix 4).<br>Botanical species are described with reference to the DAFOR scale (D = Dominant; A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional, R = Rare). |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Summary of Survey Findings<br><br>(UKHab codes used)                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>The site does not contain any habitats listed as a habitat of principal importance under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006). Habitats within the site are common and widespread and have low ecological value. Notable habitats are present within 2km.</p> <p><b>On-site habitat descriptions</b></p> <p><u><b>u1b</b></u> – Developed land/sealed surface<br/>One section of sealed surface habitat was present on site, designated as a paved footpath.</p> <p><u><b>g4</b></u> – Modified grassland<br/>One section of modified grassland habitat was present on site, comprising the majority of the site. This is currently designated as a playing field and stretches out of the red line boundary to mark the boundary of the school and Whitefield golf course. Species here were limited but included: perennial rye (D), white clover (O), ribwort plantain (O), and dandelion sp. (O). Sward height was short, maintained by a regular mowing schedule.</p> <p>This habitat was subject to a condition assessment using the grassland habitat type: low distinctiveness habitat condition sheet. The results are detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. There were not 6-8 vascular plant species present.</li> <li>B. Sward height was not varied</li> <li>C. Scrub accounts for less than 20% of area</li> <li>D. Physical damage less than 5%</li> <li>E. Cover of bare ground between 5 -10%</li> <li>F. Cover of bracken less than 20%</li> <li>G. Absence of invasive plant species.</li> </ul> <p>It is considered that the grassland is classified as <b>poor</b> condition.</p> <p><b>Local notable habitats</b></p> |

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|                                      | <p>Patches of priority designated deciduous woodland are present within close proximity to site. The closest is located approximately 180m southwest, adjacent to the boundary of Phillip's high school with Whitefield golf course. Further priority habitats are present within 2km of the site, including lowland fens (1.3km west).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>              | <p><b>On-site habitats</b></p> <p>The proposed development will result in the loss of approximately 0.49ha of modified grassland. This is likely to have a minimal impact on biodiversity due to the low ecological value of these habitats, however will still result in a net loss of biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Notable habitats</b></p> <p>No direct impacts to any notable habitats will occur as a result of the proposed development. However, due to the proximity of the site to priority designated deciduous woodland (180m southwest), indirect effects (e.g. pollution, dust, litter, surface run off, etc.) could occur during construction.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Recommendations</i>               | <p><b>On-site habitats</b></p> <p>Retained trees should be protected in line with the measures outlined in the British Standard "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction to Construction - Recommendations" (BS 5837) (2012).</p> <p><b>Notable habitats</b></p> <p>Best practice measures to minimise the possibility of pollution affecting the nearby priority designated deciduous woodland southwest of the site must be implemented during construction. A Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) may be required for this.</p> <p><b>Biodiversity net gain</b></p> <p>The Environment Act (2021) requires all developments (excluding exemptions) to deliver a 10% net gain in biodiversity. Therefore, the planning application must be accompanied by a landscaping/habitat creation and enhancement strategy, biodiversity net gain calculations and a habitat management and monitoring plan to ensure the proposed development delivers a 10% net gain.</p> |
| <b>Locality and Designated Sites</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i>    | <p><b>On-site designations</b></p> <p>The site is not subject to any designation.</p> <p><b>Statutory designated sites (within 2km)</b></p> <p>There are four statutory sites within 2km of the site, as detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapelfield LNR (local nature reserve), 1.2km northwest. Designated for aquatic floral diversity.</li> <li>• Springwater Park LNR, 1.2km north. Designated as part of a green corridor and recreational space.</li> <li>• Philip's Park LNR, 0.9km south. Designated to protect its wildlife-rich mosaic of woodland, grassland, streams, and wetlands while providing accessible green space for nature education and recreation.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mere Clough LNR, 1km southeast. Mere Clough LNR is designated to protect and conserve its ancient, lowland mixed-deciduous woodland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Statutory designated sites (within 10km)</b><br/>No national network sites (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) are located within 10km.</p> <p><b>Non-statutory designated sites</b><br/>The presence of non-statutory designated sites within 2km of the site cannot be established without data from Greater Manchester Local Record Centre (GMLRC).</p> |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>              | <p><b>On-site designations</b><br/>No impacts foreseen.</p> <p><b>Statutory and non-statutory designated sites</b><br/>No impacts to designated sites are anticipated due to the small scale and distance of the proposed development from such sites (where known) as well as the urban location of the site with surrounding physical barriers.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <i>Recommendations</i>               | <p><b>On-site designations</b><br/>None required.</p> <p><b>Statutory and non-statutory designated sites</b><br/>None required.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Invasive / Non-native species</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i>    | No problematic invasive and non-native species recorded on site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>              | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <i>Recommendations</i>               | No further surveys but remain vigilant.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Invertebrates</b>                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i>    | The habitats present on-site, including modified grassland likely provide common invertebrates with opportunities to forage and shelter. The site contains no further notable habitats which may provide niches for specialised or protected invertebrates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

| Foreseen Impacts           | None foreseen.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                    |                                                                                             |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |
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| Recommendations            | <p>No further surveys.</p> <p><b>Suggested biodiversity enhancements</b></p> <p>The incorporation of bee bricks (e.g. Ibstock BeeHabitat or similar alternative brand) into the fabric of the new buildings would provide sheltering opportunities for pollinators. These should be installed 0.5m above ground level on a south-facing elevation with no obscuring vegetation. The site could be further enhanced via the provision of native wildflowers or wildflower turf, which would provide foraging opportunities for invertebrates.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                    |                                                                                             |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |
| Bats                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                    |                                                                                             |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |
| Summary of Survey Findings | <p><b>EPSL data</b></p> <p>A search of the magic.gov.uk database for granted EPSLs within a 2km radius of the site has been completed. Displaced bats from licensed sites &lt;2km away from the survey site will find alternative habitat either within the mitigation measures implemented as part of the licence or will relocate to other known roosts sites in close proximity to the licensed site. There are two EPSLs within a 2km radius of site as detailed below:</p> <table><tr><th>EPSL reference</th><th>Bat species affected</th><th>Distance from site</th><th>Impacts allowed by licence</th></tr><tr><td>2015-16549-EPS-MIT</td><td>Common Pipistrelle</td><td>Within 2km</td><td>Destruction of a resting place</td></tr><tr><td>EPSM2009-1596</td><td>Common Pipistrelle</td><td>Within 2km</td><td>Destruction of a resting place, destruction of a breeding place, affects to breeding place.</td></tr></table> <p>There are no Special Areas of Conservation designated for bats within 10km of the site.</p> <p><b>Foraging and commuting habitat</b></p> <p>Habitats recorded on site are assessed to provide foraging and commuting opportunities for bats in the form of modified grassland. These habitats are likely to provide micro-climatic conditions that support invertebrates that will in turn provide foraging opportunities for local bat populations. Most notably, the strip of woodland outside of the red line boundary but bordering the Phillip’s high school boundary with Whitefield golf course is mature and extends beyond the site, adding to the continuity of vegetated linear features present in the wider landscape. Bats are well known to utilise linear features to aid navigation whilst travelling between foraging resources and roost sites.</p> <p><b>Roosting habitat</b></p> <p>No buildings and trees to be impacted by the proposed development. Therefore, there is no impact to bat roosting habitat.</p> |                    |                                                                                             | EPSL reference | Bat species affected | Distance from site | Impacts allowed by licence | 2015-16549-EPS-MIT | Common Pipistrelle | Within 2km | Destruction of a resting place | EPSM2009-1596 | Common Pipistrelle | Within 2km | Destruction of a resting place, destruction of a breeding place, affects to breeding place. |
| EPSL reference             | Bat species affected                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Distance from site | Impacts allowed by licence                                                                  |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |
| 2015-16549-EPS-MIT         | Common Pipistrelle                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Within 2km         | Destruction of a resting place                                                              |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |
| EPSM2009-1596              | Common Pipistrelle                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Within 2km         | Destruction of a resting place, destruction of a breeding place, affects to breeding place. |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |
| Birds                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                    |                                                                                             |                |                      |                    |                            |                    |                    |            |                                |               |                    |            |                                                                                             |

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| <p><i>Summary of Survey Findings</i></p> | <p><b>Trees and vegetation</b><br/>No suitable habitat present on site for nesting birds.</p> <p><b>Barn owls</b><br/>The site does not appear to provide any suitable nesting sites for barn owls.</p> <p><b>Overwintering birds</b><br/>Due to the small size of the site and the extent and type of the habitats recorded, the site not considered suitable to support a significant assemblage of protected and/or notable birds.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p><i>Foreseen Impacts</i></p>           | <p><b>Buildings/trees</b><br/>No impacts are anticipated on nesting birds as a result of the proposed development.</p> <p><b>Barn owls</b><br/>None foreseen.</p> <p><b>Overwintering birds</b><br/>None foreseen.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><i>Recommendations</i></p>            | <p><b>Buildings/trees</b><br/>Precautions should be taken with machinery and noise levels when working close to any retained nests so as not to disturb any nearby nesting birds during construction works. At least a 3-5m buffer should be created between any machinery and active nests until the young have fledged.</p> <p><b>Barn owls</b><br/>None required.</p> <p><b>Overwintering birds</b><br/>None required.</p> <p><b>Suggested biodiversity enhancements</b><br/>The installation of a minimum of two bird boxes on mature trees around the site boundaries or on retained buildings will provide additional nesting habitat for birds e.g.<br/>Schwegler No 17 Swift Nest Box (buildings)<br/>Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace (buildings)<br/>Schwegler 1B Nest Boxes (trees)<br/>Schwegler 2H Robin Boxes (trees)</p> |

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|                                          | <p>Woodstone Nest Box (buildings or trees)<br/>Or a similar alternative brand.</p> <p>Tree boxes should be positioned approximately 3m above ground level where they will be sheltered from prevailing wind, rain and strong sunlight. Small-hole boxes are best placed approximately 1-3m above ground on an area of the tree trunk where foliage will not obscure the entrance hole.</p> <p>Swift and sparrow boxes should be positioned at the eaves of a building and can be incorporated into the fabric of the building during construction.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Reptiles</b>                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p><i>Summary of Survey Findings</i></p> | <p><b>EPSL data</b></p> <p>A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for protected reptiles within 2km of the site.</p> <p><b>Habitat suitability</b></p> <p>The dominant habitat onsite (modified grassland) is considered unsuitable for reptiles due to the species content (common and widespread species with minimal diversity) and associated management regime, where at the time of the survey the grassland was recorded as being a relatively short sward.</p> <p>Given the management regime employed on the modified grassland, as well as the species composition, it is considered unlikely that this faunal group would be present within this habitat.</p> <p><b>Wider landscape</b></p> <p>Whilst the surrounding urban environment bordering the site to the north, east, and west of the site do not provide suitable habitat for reptiles, Whitefield golf course adjacent to the southern site boundary of Phillip's high school provides some habitat suitable for foraging and refuge for reptiles. The M60 motorway running approximately 900m south of the site provides a significant barrier to wider populations, but the presence of reptiles cannot be fully discounted.</p> |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>                  | <p>Modified grassland will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local reptile populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, site clearance could result in the death or injury of reptiles, if present.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <i>Recommendations</i>                   | <p>A precautionary working method will be implemented for widespread reptiles during construction, including the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation will be maintained at a short sward (5cm) to discourage reptiles.</li> <li>• Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape.</li> <li>• Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented to minimise impacts to nearby habitats.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.</li> <li>If any reptiles are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance.</li> <li>In the unlikely event that a reptile is identified, works must cease and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested biodiversity enhancements</b></p> <p>The site could be enhanced for reptiles post-development with the inclusion of log piles (created from felled materials) and planting of areas of native shrubs, to provide sheltering opportunities.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amphibians</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><i>Summary of Survey Findings</i></p> | <p><b>EPSL and survey data</b></p> <p>A review of the MAGIC database returned 14 granted EPSL records for great crested newts within 2km of the site. These records are all from 2016, and the closest is located approximately 820m northwest. None of the locations returning granted EPSL records are considered to have suitable connectivity to the site due to significant urban barriers including the busy A667 main road.</p> <p><b>Aquatic habitat suitability (including ponds within 500m)</b></p> <p>Great crested newts (GCN) exist in metapopulations and are known to utilise ponds and their connecting terrestrial habitat during their life cycle; great crested newts are typically found within terrestrial habitats up to 500m from breeding ponds (Langton et al. 2001).</p> <p>There are no ponds on the site, but a review of aerial imagery (MAGIC and OS Maps) indicates the presence of three ponds within 500m of the site. The first pond is located approximately 470m northwest of the site and is not considered to have terrestrial connectivity due to the barrier of main roads. The second pond is located approximately 225m southeast within Whitefield golf course. Similarly, the third pond is also located within Whitefield golf course, approximately 210m south. Both ponds are considered to be linked terrestrially to the site due to the presence of only grassland and tree lines between ponds and the site.</p> <p><b>Terrestrial habitat suitability</b></p> <p>The site provides limited suitable terrestrial habitat for amphibians given the lack of optimal habitat (i.e. scrub, rank grassland). The areas of hard standing and amenity grass offer sub-optimal habitat for terrestrial amphibians. The adjacent hedgerows and treelines within Phillips school boundary bordering the golf course may offer refuge for these species if present within Whitefield golf course, however there is limited opportunity of migration from elsewhere given the urban barriers.</p> |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>                  | <p>When georeferencing the proposed development plans over scaled mapping of the site, it is noted that the development area is likely to result in the loss or significant disturbance of 0.49ha of modified grassland. If great crested newts are present within the ponds 225m to</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

|                                          | <p>the southeast and 210m the south of the site, when completing the rapid risk assessment published by Natural England (Natural England 2015), the proposed development produces a <b>Green risk score</b>, which states: <b>Offence highly unlikely</b> (see <b>Figure 1</b> below).</p> <table><tr><th>Component</th><th>Likely effect (select one for each component; select the most harmful option if more than one is likely; lists are in order of harm, top to bottom)</th><th>Notional offence probability score</th></tr><tr><td>Great crested newt breeding pond(s)</td><td>No effect</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Land within 100m of any breeding pond(s)</td><td>No effect</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Land 100-250m from any breeding pond(s)</td><td>0.1 - 0.5 ha lost or damaged</td><td>0.1</td></tr><tr><td>Land &gt;250m from any breeding pond(s)</td><td>No effect</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Individual great crested newts</td><td>No effect</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Maximum:</td><td>0.1</td></tr><tr><td>Rapid risk assessment result:</td><td colspan="2">GREEN: OFFENCE HIGHLY UNLIKELY</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Component                          | Likely effect (select one for each component; select the most harmful option if more than one is likely; lists are in order of harm, top to bottom) | Notional offence probability score | Great crested newt breeding pond(s) | No effect | 0 | Land within 100m of any breeding pond(s) | No effect | 0 | Land 100-250m from any breeding pond(s) | 0.1 - 0.5 ha lost or damaged | 0.1 | Land >250m from any breeding pond(s) | No effect | 0 | Individual great crested newts | No effect | 0 |  | Maximum: | 0.1 | Rapid risk assessment result: | GREEN: OFFENCE HIGHLY UNLIKELY |  |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---|------------------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------------|-----------|---|--|----------|-----|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Component                                | Likely effect (select one for each component; select the most harmful option if more than one is likely; lists are in order of harm, top to bottom)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Notional offence probability score |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Great crested newt breeding pond(s)      | No effect                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0                                  |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Land within 100m of any breeding pond(s) | No effect                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0                                  |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Land 100-250m from any breeding pond(s)  | 0.1 - 0.5 ha lost or damaged                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0.1                                |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Land >250m from any breeding pond(s)     | No effect                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0                                  |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Individual great crested newts           | No effect                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0                                  |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
|                                          | Maximum:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 0.1                                |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Rapid risk assessment result:            | GREEN: OFFENCE HIGHLY UNLIKELY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Recommendations                          | <p>Owing to the nature of the proposed development and the low potential for impacts to great crested newts, further surveys are considered to be disproportionate. A precautionary working method will be implemented for common amphibians during construction, including the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vegetation immediately surrounding the development must be maintained at short sward of &lt;5cm for the duration of works to discourage amphibians from the development area.</li><li>• Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented to minimise impacts to nearby aquatic habitats that amphibians could use.</li><li>• Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.</li><li>• If any common amphibians are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance.</li><li>• In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is identified, works must cease and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.</li></ul> <p><b>Suggested biodiversity enhancements</b></p> <p>The site could be enhanced for amphibians post-development through creation of amphibian hibernacula using rubble and logs from site clearance. Information on how to construct a hibernaculum can be found here: <a href="https://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/hibernaculum">https://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/hibernaculum</a></p> |                                    |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Badger                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                    |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |
| Summary of Survey Findings               | No badger setts were noted on site or within a 30m radius of the site. The site is considered unsuitable for badgers given the lack of suitable sett excavation areas/ground. Further, there is limited suitable badger foraging habitat on site given the lack of fruiting trees/scrub. The site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |                                     |           |   |                                          |           |   |                                         |                              |     |                                      |           |   |                                |           |   |  |          |     |                               |                                |  |

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|                                   | is also surrounding by urban development (i.e. roads and buildings), which is sub-optimal habitat therefore reducing the likelihood of badgers being present within the surrounding area of the site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>           | No works will be undertaken within 30m of a badger sett. Modified grassland will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local badger populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, construction activities could result in the death or injury of badgers, if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Recommendations</i>            | <p>Owing to the nature of the proposed development and the low potential for impacts to badgers, further badger surveys are considered to be disproportionate. A precautionary working method will be implemented during construction, including the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape.</li> <li>The use of night-time lighting will be avoided, or sensitive lighting design will be implemented to avoid light spill on to retained habitats which badgers could use.</li> <li>Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.</li> </ul> <p>In the unlikely event that a badger sett is identified, works must cease and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.</p> <p><b>Suggested biodiversity enhancements</b><br/>Planting fruit bearing trees and species-rich grassland to increase foraging opportunities for badgers.</p> |
| <b>Riparian animals</b>           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i> | A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for otters or water voles within 2km of the site. There are no water courses on or connected to the site. There are also no riparian habitats present on site or within an influencing distance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>           | No impacts are anticipated on riparian animals as a result of the proposed development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>Recommendations</i>            | None required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Hazel dormouse</b>             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i> | <p><b>EPSL data</b><br/>A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for hazel dormice within 2km of the site.</p> <p><b>Habitat suitability</b><br/>The site lies outside of the known current range for hazel dormice and there are no suitable habitats within the development area. As such it is considered likely that hazel dormice are absent from site.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>           | No impacts are anticipated on hazel dormice as a result of the proposed development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <i>Recommendations</i>            | None foreseen.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Other e.g. hedgehog</b>        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <i>Summary of Survey Findings</i> | The modified grassland onsite provides limited foraging and commuting opportunities for hedgehogs, with woodland habitat nearby.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <i>Foreseen Impacts</i>           | Modified grassland will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local hedgehog populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, construction activities could result in the death or injury of hedgehogs, if present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Recommendations</i>            | <p>Similar to the badgers, a precautionary working method will be implemented during construction, including the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape.</li> <li>The use of night-time lighting will be avoided, or sensitive lighting design will be implemented to avoid light spill on to retained habitats which hedgehogs could use.</li> <li>Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.</li> </ul> <p>If any hedgehogs are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance.</p> <p><b>Suggested biodiversity enhancements</b></p> <p>The following habitat creation and enhancement opportunities could be incorporated into the proposed development which would be beneficial for hedgehogs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting fruit bearing trees and species-rich grassland to increase foraging opportunities.</li> <li>Creation of brash piles or installation of hedgehog houses in shady areas.</li> <li>Installation of gaps under boundary fencing to enable hedgehogs to move freely through the site.</li> </ul> |

**Appendix 1: Survey/Habitat map**



Appendix 2: Location map



Appendix 3: Proposed plan

## SITE PLAN



在研究“中国农村土地流转与农村城镇化”课题中，我们曾对“中国农村土地流转与农村城镇化”课题进行了深入研究，并取得了丰硕成果。在研究过程中，我们曾对“中国农村土地流转与农村城镇化”课题进行了深入研究，并取得了丰硕成果。在研究过程中，我们曾对“中国农村土地流转与农村城镇化”课题进行了深入研究，并取得了丰硕成果。



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**Appendix 4: Habitat Photos**

| Hardstanding                                                                      |                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Photograph                                                                        | Description                                                                                |
|  | One section of sealed surface habitat was present on site, designated as a paved footpath. |
| Modified grassland                                                                |                                                                                            |
| Photograph                                                                        | Description                                                                                |



One section of modified grassland habitat was present on site, comprising the majority of the site. This is currently designated as a playing field and stretches out of the red line boundary to mark the boundary of the school and Whitefield golf course.

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