

Small Mammal Reasonable
Avoidance Measures Statement
(RAMS).

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Prepared for: Edgefold Homes

Springside Road
Walmersley

RE: REASONABLE AVOIDANCE MEASURES STATEMENT

Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAM's):

BACKGROUND

The following Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAM) are to be implemented in relation to reasonable avoidance measures for small mammals at land of Springside Road Walmarsley.

Background

Consultation with <https://bighedgehogmap.org/> indicates hedgehog records are present within the local areas with several live records presented within 1km of site.

Legislation and toolbox talk

A toolbox talk will be provided by the site manager in respect of Hedgehog legislation and in conjunction with published guidance. Hedgehogs are protected by British law under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, making it illegal to kill or capture them. They are listed as a Species of Principle Importance in England under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 Section 41.

The toolbox talk will always be given to all site operatives and be laminated and provided within the site office .

Methodology

The method for the removal of long grassland, shrubbery and trees / hedgerows will be that it shall be overseen by the site manager who shall supervise and record the gradual removal of these features. The site manager will be responsible for a prestart site walkover and detailed check for small mammals and the supervision of suitable feature removal. The site walkover shall examine hedges, fallen leaves, scrub and any other suitable habitat that may be used as hibernation nests.

A suitable receptor site shall be identified prior to any works being carried out and the site manager will be responsible for the actual removal of any animals from the site.

Following the removal of potential habitat that could be used by hedgehog and small mammal, protective fencing will be installed that ensures animals can't access the site. This shall require the fence to be installed to the ground level with no gaps and be sufficiently robust that animals cannot break through it.

Material storage shall discourage hedgehogs using the storage areas by the following means:

- All storage to be off ground for example the use of elevated stillages
- No tipping of rubbish and a clean site policy to be used
- All material storage to be checked daily by the site manager or appointed representative for the presence of small mammals
- Any netting brought onto site shall be stored off ground and in locked containers to avoid entanglement of animals

General avoidance measures shall consist of:

- No works would be carried out at the site between sunrise and sunset.
- Noise and vehicle movements at the site will always be kept to a minimum
- Where any trenches or other excavations are to be left open overnight, these would be fitted with mammal ramps or would have the sides battered to form a slope to allow animals to escape
- A tidy works area would be maintained during construction and any hazardous substances would be fenced off to remove any animal hazards from the site

Monitoring

- The site shall be monitored at regular intervals by the site manager to record compliance or otherwise with this RAM's.