

### Summary

There are no ecological issues associated with this development.

### Proximity to West Pennine Moors SSSI

I am satisfied that it is very unlikely that there will be any effects to the West Pennine Moors SSSI, located approximately 250m to the west. The shipping container is already in place and screened from the SSSI by existing buildings.

### Wildlife Issues

The application is for retention of an existing container. Retention would have no effect on protected, priority or other wildlife. No further information or measures are required.

### Contributing to and Enhancing the Natural Environment & Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

Section 187 of the NPPF 2024 states that the planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. 10% BNG is mandatory under Schedule 7A of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021).

The container is already in place, located on to hardstanding around about 2020. The site had no ecological value prior to installation and negligible ecological value now. There are no wildlife issues.

I am satisfied that the development is exempt from mandatory biodiversity net gain under the de minimis rule as the site had no value prior to installation and in any event would appear to have been granted temporary permission, prior to BNG becoming mandatory.

Technically some form of enhancement could be required, but given the scale of the development and lack of any ecological value associated prior to installation, I am satisfied that no measures are necessarily required. If the LPA would however wish to apply measures, one bird box would suffice.

### Ecologist

Planning and Transportation

Place