

GMEU

Summary

There are no ecological issues associated with this development. I know this site well walking past it on a regular basis.

Wildlife

The site is a car park in an urban location, with no significant areas of vegetated habitat near by. I am satisfied that there are no wildlife issues such as nesting birds and that no precautionary working measures are required. No further information is 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 site currently has negligible ecological value limited to ephemeral vegetation around the boundaries of the car park. The proposed development indicates soft landscaping will be provided.

I accept that the development is exempt from 10% BNG under the de minimis rule.

I recommend the tree planting utilises native species, such as silver birch, which is in keeping with existing landscaping in the adjacent council car park. I recommend starling boxes on the new build as I am aware that starling congregate in this area.

No bat boxes are required as I accept this is low value location for bats.

David Dutton

Ecologist

Planning and Transportation

Planning and Transportation

Place