

<b>Ecology Team Consultation Response</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	01.07.2025
<b>Planning Ref:</b>	4/24/2430/001
<b>Description:</b>	Outline application for residential development of 27 dwellings with details of new access from Egremont Road and all other matters reserved.

**Final decision is on hold until a reptile survey has been undertaken in line with recommendations set out in Section 6 of the Preliminary Ecological Report by Rigby Jerram Ecological Consultants (2024), with the council accepting the report.**

### **Suggested Planning Conditions**

#### ***Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)***

A CEMP should be produced to detail the procedures for protecting the environment during construction to address the following points (but not limited to):

- Pollution prevention control
- Dust mitigation
- Impaction of habitats, such as woodland
- Species protection during construction (see below)
- A sensitive lighting scheme for bats and other wildlife

#### ***Ecological Supervision***

In order avoid committing a wildlife offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the applicant must employ an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) for the initial clearance works. The ECoW will ensure the avoidance and protection of breeding birds, small mammals, herptiles (if any) and ensure the works adhere to the procedures set out in the CEMP.

#### ***Breeding Birds***

To mitigate disturbance effects vegetation clearance should take place outside of the breeding bird season (which runs March to August, inclusive). Where this timing is not possible the area should be checked prior to removal buy a suitably experienced ecologist and if active nests found, vegetation left untouched and buffered until all birds have fledged.

### ***Small Mammals***

All development work should be carried out with care to avoid these small mammals such as hedgehogs. Contractors should be briefed about the potential presence of hedgehogs and works should be supervised during initial clearance of the site to avoid injury to any disturbed individuals.

### ***Bats***

A bats-specific lighting scheme will be designed during construction and operation to minimise light impact. This should be in line with the guidance note for Bats and Artificial Lighting (Bat Conservation Trust, 2023) which will in turn aid other wildlife.

### ***Biodiversity Net Gain***

No development hereby permitted shall commence until:

- a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority demonstrating a 10% net gain,
- b) the planning authority has approved the plan in writing,
- c) the onsite habitat provision is accompanied by a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (to include a section for the offsite provision) in place for 30 years as the gains here constitute 'Significant On-site Gains', this monitoring plan is to be accepted by the council and,
- d) the off-site provision is secured through a Section 106 for a period of 30 years, and is approved by the council in writing,
- e) monitoring results are to be programmed to be submitted to the council. These should include evidence demonstrating how BNG is progressing towards achieving its objectives, evidence of arrangements and any rectifying measures needed. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans.