

Ecology Team Consultation Response	
Date:	24.06.2025
Planning Ref:	4/25/2146
Description:	18m high lattice tower on concrete base with antennas, equipment cabin, generator, and meter cabinet on concrete bases within palisade fenced compound.

Suggested Planning Condition(s)

Ecological Supervision of Works

Precautionary working measures should be adopted to minimise the risk of harm or injury to brown hare, hedgehog and herptiles. A pre-works check should be undertaken of the site by an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) and potential refuge features to ensure such species are not present ahead of works.

If vegetation clearance works are taking place during the hibernation period (October to March, inclusive) and a hibernating hedgehog is found, the hedgehog should be moved to a hibernation box placed in a safe place and lined with straw.

The on-site pile of roofing materials, off-site rubble pile and gaps between the stones in an adjacent earth bank may provide refuge for small mammals and herptiles should they be present.

Badgers

If works have not commenced within twelve months of the original assessment (by March 2026) a pre-commencement badger survey is recommended to ensure no badger setts have been built within influencing distance of the proposed development.

Breeding Birds

Vegetation clearance works should be undertaken outside of the breeding bird season, which runs from March to August (inclusive). Should works need to proceed within this timeframe, the ECoW will need to undertake a nesting bird check of all areas to be cleared and those within the near vicinity. Any active nests will be cordoned off until the chicks have fledged.

Bats - Sensitive Lighting Strategy

A Sensitive Lighting Strategy should be employed during and post construction to avoid indirect impacts of lighting on nocturnal, and crepuscular species (such as barn owl). The Guidance Note GN 08 / 23 from the Bat Conservation Trust should be used when designing the lighting strategy.

Root Protection Zones

A Root Protection Zone (RPZ) should be implemented around retained off-site trees that lie in close proximity to the site boundary in accordance with BS5837:2012 if development is likely to affect the trees, their roots and overhanging canopies. Replacement planting of trees unavoidably lost to development should be provided on site or, where this is not possible, in the local vicinity.

Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)

A CEMP must be produced as there is potential for pollution from the construction activities to enter nearby habitats during the construction of the proposed development. The CEMP must include standard, best-practice methods on how site run-off will be controlled, how site waste will be managed, how fuel and other spillages will be prevented and must include emergency procedures for any pollution accidents.

It should also have an ecology section detailing the precautionary works

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 habitat provision is accompanied by a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan 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) 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.