<u>22 – 23 Church Street, Whitehaven</u>

Planning Application ref TA/2024/330

Replacement of existing timber windows with UPVC

Biodiversity Net Gain – Exemption

With regard to the requirements of the planning regulations in respect of Biodiversity – net gain, we consider that this proposal is exempt as it is below the threshold to which the requirements apply. We refer to paragraph 17 of schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act, and the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024.

Specifically, the proposals will not impact more than 25m2 of on-site habitat, i.e. the De Minimis Exemption.

In practical terms, the current development has little or no existing habitat for wildlife and the replacement of timber windows with UPVC will make no alteration at all to the ability of the building to support wildlife.

June 2024