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Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Survey site:

Copthall Farm, 1 Breakspear Rd S, Ickenham, Uxbridge UB10 8HB

Client:

Wreyland Rural Planning

Survey date:

29th October 2025

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application. The proposal is described as: "Self-Build Rural Workers Dwelling."

PEA survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: **PEA Methodology and Legislation - 2024.**

The survey results and recommendations contained within this report are valid for 18 months. An updated site visit may be required if the report is to be used any longer than 18 months after completion.

Site Location and Context

The survey site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 06870 86647 and has an area of approximately 0.052ha. The site comprises one mobile home (B1), shed (B2), vegetated garden, and native hedgerow. It is situated on the outskirts of the town of Ickenham, in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The site is surrounded by farmland to the north, west, and south, with housing to the east. The wider landscape is predominantly comprised of arable farmland and grazing pasture, housing with gardens, commercial buildings, woodlands, recreational grounds, and lakes.

The site lies on the London Clay Formation which comprises bioturbated or poorly laminated, blue-grey, or grey-brown, slightly calcareous, silty to very silty clay, clayey silt and sometimes silt, with some layers of sandy clay. The site also lies on Soilscape 18 described as 'slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils'. This soil has impeded drainage, moderate fertility, and is commonly found on seasonally wet pastures and woodlands.

Site History

A PEA was carried by Arbtech (September 2021) out on the same site and the encompassing field to the north. No further surveys or reporting was recommended.

Survey Details

The site survey was undertaken by Consultant Ecologist Oliver Bevilacqua, BSc (Hons), MSc – Accredited Agent on Natural England Class Level 2 Bat Licence Number: 2019-41480-CLS, Level 1 GCN Licence (2022-10923-CL08-GCN).

Date of survey	Temperature (°C)	Humidity (%)	Cloud Cover (%)	Wind (km/h)	Rain
29/10/2025	11	83	100	13	Light rain

Executive Summary

Habitats and flora

- Adjacent trees should be protected in line with the measures outlined in the British Standard "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction to Construction - Recommendations" (BS 5837) (2012).
- Best practice measures to minimise the possibility of indirect effects on the onsite and adjacent native hedgerows. A Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) may be required for this.
- The project is unlikely to trigger the requirement for a biodiversity net gain assessment as it falls under the self-build exemption.

Bats

- A low impact lighting strategy will be adopted for the site during post-development which outlines the areas of the site that will be retained as dark corridors.

Other protected species
➢ A precautionary working method must be implemented for nesting birds, reptiles, amphibians, badgers, and hedgehogs during construction, as detailed in the associated sections.
Survey limitations
It should be noted that whilst every effort has been made to describe the baseline conditions within the survey area, and evaluate these features, this report does not provide a complete characterisation of the site. This assessment provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species being present. This is based on suitability of the habitats on the site and in the wider landscape, the ecology and biology of species as currently understood, and the known distribution of species as recovered during the searches of historical biological records. A biological records data search has not been undertaken. However, given the location of the site, the nature of the habitats present and the assessed suitability of the site for protected or notable species, it is not anticipated that the purchase of biological records data will add any significant weight or alter the conclusions and recommendations outlined in this report. The survey was conducted outside the optimal botanical identification period of April-September; therefore, it is possible that the botanical list may not account every species present. As the habitats present onsite are common and widespread, and extensively managed, it is unlikely that habitats were mis-identified and a large number of species unrepresented in the botanical list.

Ecological Survey Factor	**Detailed using desk study and site survey (conducted under fair weather conditions). Any specific limitations noted within relevant section. This table may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or**

Conclusion, Impact or Recommendations	**comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.**
Habitats and plants (see habitat map in appendix 1, location plan in appendix 2, proposal plan in appendix 3 and photos in appendix 4). Botanical species are described with reference to the DAFOR scale (D = Dominant; A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional, R = Rare).	
Summary of Survey Findings	The site contains native hedgerow which is listed as a habitat of principal importance under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006), Annex I habitats of the Habitats Directive, and other priority habitats identified within the Biodiversity Action Plan. The site also lies adjacent to woodland which could be of value to local wildlife populations (as detailed in subsequent sections of this table). Other habitats within the site are common and widespread and have lower ecological value. Further notable habitats are present within 2km. The following habitats are recorded on and directly adjacent to the site: • **U1b5** – Buildings • **U1c** - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface • **U1 828** – Modified grassland • **H2a** – Native hedgerow A description of each habitat type is provided below and illustrated on the plan in **Appendix 1**. **u1b5** – Buildings There are two temporary buildings onsite, the mobile home (B1) and shed (B2). These buildings will be discussed in more detail within the bat section. **u1c** - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface The east half of the site is comprised of a gravel driveway.

u1 - Built-up areas and gardens [vegetated garden 828]

The west half of the site is comprised of vegetated garden. The garden contains a small species mix of common and widespread species indicative of a modified grassland. The garden is frequently mown producing a uniform sward. Five quadrat measurements are also shown below indicating neutral pH, high moisture, and low species richness.

Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR
Perennial ryegrass	*Lolium perenne*	D
Creeping buttercup	*Ranunculus repens*	A
Cock's foot	*Dactylis glomerata*	F
Mouse-ear chickweed	*Cerastium fontanum*	F
White clover	*Trifolium repens*	O
Common dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale*	R
Greater plantain	*Plantago major*	R

Dove's foot cranesbill	*Geranium molle*	R

Quadrat	pH	Moisture content	Species per m²
1	7.1	79	3
2	6.9	83	4
3	7.1	80	5
4	6.4	90	4
5	6.7	90	3
Average	6.8	84	4

h2a – Native Hedgerow

H1 is a native hedgerow along the east boundary towards the site entrance. The hedge has three native woody species, dominated by hawthorn. The hedge is approximately 2m in height and width with no gaps.

Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR
Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogyna*	D
Dogwood	*Cornus sanguinea*	O
Dog rose	*Rosa canina*	R

Condition Assessment (assessed using the 'Hedgerow' habitat type condition assessment sheet):

A1. Height >1.5 m average along length – **PASS.**
A2. Width >1.5 m average along length – **PASS.**
B1. Gap - hedge base Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length – **PASS.**
B2. Gap - hedge canopy continuity "Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m" – **PASS.**
C1. Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation ">1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:
· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and
· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least)" - **PASS.**
C2. Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground - **PASS.**
D1. Invasive and neophyte species >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and recently introduced species - **PASS.**
D2. Current damage >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities - **PASS.**
No more than 2 failures in total therefore achieves **GOOD** condition.

H2 is a native hedgerow on the south boundary comprised of two native woody species dominated by blackthorn. The hedgerow is approximately 2.5m in height and <1m in width with gaps along its length.

Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR
Blackthorn	*Prunus spinosa*	D
Field maple	*Acer campestre*	O

Condition Assessment (assessed using the 'Hedgerow' habitat type condition assessment sheet):

A1. Height >1.5 m average along length – **PASS.**
A2. Width >1.5 m average along length – **FAIL.**
B1. Gap - hedge base Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length – **PASS.**
B2. Gap - hedge canopy continuity "Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m" – **FAIL.**

	C1. Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation ">1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least)" - **PASS.** C2. Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground - **FAIL.** D1. Invasive and neophyte species >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and recently introduced species - **PASS.** D2. Current damage >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities - **PASS.** No more than 2 failures in total therefore achieves **MODERATE** condition.  **w1g** – Other broadleaved woodland [Adjacent]

	Adjacent to the south boundary is a thin strip of other broadleaved woodland forming the wider field margin. The woodland is comprised of field maple and ash, with smaller coverage of hornbeam and field elm. The understory is dominated by bare ground. There is a lack of species and age diversity, with limited regeneration and deadwood present.  **g4** – modified grassland [Adjacent] Adjacent to the north boundary is a large, modified grassland with the same species list as the garden with low species richness.

Local notable habitats

A table presenting all notable and priority habitats within 2km of the site is shown below:

Habitat type	Distance of closest parcel from site	Number of parcels within 2km
Traditional orchards	10m northeast	3
Deciduous woodland	340m northeast	>30
Lowland meadows	620m northeast	1
Ancient woodland	630m west	5
Woodpasture and parkland	740m southeast	2
Lowland fens	890m southwest	2
Open mosaic	1.12km northwest	2
Chalk river	1.6km west	1

Foreseen Impacts

On-site habitats

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>The proposed development will result in the loss of . This is likely to have a minimal impact on biodiversity due to the low ecological value of these habitats.

Local notable habitats
No direct impacts to any notable habitats will occur as a result of the proposed development. However, due to the proximity of the site to traditional orchard 10m northeast, indirect effects (e.g. pollution, dust, litter, surface run off, etc.) could occur during construction.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Recommendations</td><td>On-site habitats
Adjacent trees should be protected in line with the measures outlined in the British Standard "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction to Construction - Recommendations" (BS 5837) (2012).

Local notable habitats
Best practice measures to minimise the possibility of indirect effects on the native hedgerows must be implemented during construction. A Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) may be required for this.

Biodiversity net gain
The Environment Act (2021) requires all developments (excluding exemptions) to deliver a 10% net gain in biodiversity. This is mandatory for larger developments and comes into force for smaller developments on 2nd April 2024. The project is unlikely to trigger the requirement for a biodiversity net gain assessment as it falls under the self-build exemption.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Locality and Designated Sites</td></tr>
<tr><td>Summary of Survey Findings</td><td>On-site designations
The site is not subject to any designation.

Statutory designated sites (within 2km)
There are 4 statutory sites within 2km of the site, as detailed below:
<table>
<tr><th>Designated site</th><th>Distance from proposed development</th><th>Reason for designation</th></tr>
<tr><td>Frays Farm Meadows Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Frays Valley Local Nature Reserve (LNR)</td><td>900m west</td><td>Wildlife Rich Frays River home to Snipe; water vole and harvest mouse; kingcups and ragged robin; slow worm; willow; banded demoiselle</td></tr>
<tr><td>Denham Lock Wood SSSI</td><td>1.2km west</td><td>Wet woodland and wetland</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>
<table>
<tr><td>Denham Quarry Park LNR</td><td>1.5km west</td><td>Wading birds, wet meadows, and flooded quarry.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ruislip Woods SSSI</td><td>1.7km north</td><td>Ancient woodland</td></tr>
</table>

The site lies within the impact risk zone for SSSI Frays Farm Meadows, Denham Lock Wood, and Ruislip Woods. The proposed development type is not listed as a possible high risk for this designation.

Statutory designated sites (within 10km)
No national network sites (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) are located within 10km.

Non-statutory designated sites
The presence of non-statutory designated sites within 2km of the site cannot be established without data from Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Foreseen Impacts</td><td>On-site designations
No impacts foreseen.

Statutory and non-statutory designated sites
No impacts to designated sites are anticipated due to the small scale and distance of the proposed development from such sites (where known) as well as the urban location of the site with surrounding physical barriers.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Recommendations</td><td>On-site designations
None required.

Statutory and non-statutory designated sites
None required.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Invasive / Non-native species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Summary of Survey Findings</td><td>No problematic invasive and non-native species recorded on site.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Foreseen Impacts</td><td>None foreseen.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Recommendations</td><td>No further surveys but remain vigilant.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Invertebrates</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><td>Summary of Survey Findings</td><td>The habitats present on-site, including garden and native hedgerows, likely provide common invertebrates with opportunities to forage and shelter. The site contains no further notable habitats which may provide niches for specialised or protected invertebrates.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Foreseen Impacts</td><td>A small area of vegetated garden and native hedgerow will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local invertebrate populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Recommendations</td><td>No further surveys.

Suggested biodiversity enhancements
The site could be further enhanced via the provision of native wildflowers or wildflower turf, which would provide foraging opportunities for invertebrates.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Bats</td></tr>
<tr><td>Summary of Survey Findings</td><td>EPSL data and local records
A search of the magic.gov.uk database for granted EPSLs within a 2km radius of the site has been completed. Displaced bats from licensed sites <2km away from the survey site will find alternative habitat either within the mitigation measures implemented as part of the licence or will relocate to other known roosts sites in close proximity to the licensed site. There are 4 EPSLs within a 2km radius of site as detailed below:
<table>
<tr><th>EPSL reference</th><th>Bat species affected</th><th>Distance from site</th><th>Impacts allowed by licence</th></tr>
<tr><td>2019-43429-EPS-MIT</td><td>Soprano pipistrelle</td><td>1.3km northwest</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>2020-49580-EPS-NSIP1</td><td>Brown long-eared bat, soprano pipistrelle</td><td>1.4km northeast</td><td>Destruction of a breeding site and resting place</td></tr>
<tr><td>2019-44301-EPS-NSIP1</td><td>Daubenton’s</td><td>1.6km southwest</td><td>Destruction of a resting place</td></tr>
<tr><td>2020-46680-EPS-NSIP1</td><td>Brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle</td><td>1.9km southwest</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
</table>
There are no Special Areas of Conservation designated for bats within 10km of the site.

Foraging and commuting habitat
Habitats recorded on site are assessed to provide foraging and commuting opportunities for bats in the form of species-poor semi-improved grassland and hedgerows. These habitats are likely to provide micro-climatic conditions that support invertebrates that will in turn provide foraging opportunities for local bat populations. Most notably, the hedgerows and</td></tr>
</table>

	adjacent woodland on site extend beyond the site adding to the continuity of vegetated linear features present in the wider landscape. Bats are well known to use linear features to aid navigation whilst travelling between foraging resources and roost sites. The site is connected to suitable habitats such as woodland and lakes to the west via field margins. The site provides moderate foraging and commuting suitability. **Roosting habitat** There are no trees onsite, trees within the adjacent woodland were assessed for roosting potential. No potential roosting features (PRFs). There are two temporary buildings also onsite,
B1	B1 is a one-storey mobile home with corrugated roof and panelled walls located in the centre of the site. The building is well-sealed and in good condition with no PRFs. B1 has **negligible habitat value** for roosting bats. 
B2	B2 is a small timber shed located against the south boundary. The building is well-sealed and in good condition with no PRFs. B2 has **negligible habitat value** for roosting bats.

Foreseen Impacts	**Roosting habitat** No trees will be removed and therefore no impacts to roosting bats are anticipated. B1 and B2 have negligible habitat value, hence, no impacts are anticipated. **Foraging and commuting habitat** The proposed development will result in the loss of small areas of vegetated garden and native hedgerow but given their low value and the presence of more extensive areas of foraging and commuting habitat in the locality, this is likely to be inconsequential for bats. **Artificial lighting** The proposed development may lead to an increase in the amount of current lighting of surrounding habitats or the retained building without mitigation. This may disturb commuting bats.

Recommendations	**Roosting habitat** In the unlikely event that a bat or evidence of bats is discovered during the development all work must stop and a bat licensed ecologist contacted for further advice. **Foraging and commuting habitat** No further surveys are required. **Artificial lighting** A low impact lighting strategy will be adopted for the site during post-development which outlines the areas of the site that will be retained as dark corridors. Parameters can be found on the Bat Conservation Trust website: https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/ **Suggested biodiversity enhancements** The installation of one bat box at the site will provide additional roosting habitat for bats. The bat boxes will be installed onto any adjacent mature trees. They will be suitable for pipistrelles (which have been identified locally through EPSL data). Suitable bat boxes include Habibat Bat Box, Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box or similar alternative brand. Bat boxes should be positioned 3-5m above ground level facing in a south or south-westerly direction with a clear flight path to and from the entrance, away from artificial light.
Birds	
Summary of Survey Findings	**Buildings** No evidence of nesting birds was identified on or within the buildings. The buildings are deemed to provide negligible habitat value for nesting birds due to a lack of suitable nesting sites or access points. **Trees and vegetation** No bird nests were identified within the hedgerow on-site or adjacent woodland, however they both offer nesting opportunities and nest-building resources for birds. **Barn owls** The site does not appear to provide any suitable nesting sites for barn owls. **Overwintering birds**

	Due to the small size of the site and the extent and type of the habitats recorded, the site not considered suitable to support a significant assemblage of protected and/or notable birds.
Foreseen Impacts	**Buildings/trees** The proposed development could result in the destruction or the disturbance and subsequent abandonment of active bird nests. **Barn owls** None foreseen. **Overwintering birds** None foreseen.
Recommendations	**Buildings/trees** Any hedgerow removal should be undertaken outside the period 1st March to 31st August. If this timeframe cannot be avoided, a close inspection of the vegetation should be undertaken immediately, by a qualified ecologist, prior to the commencement of work. All active nests will need to be retained until the young have fledged. Precautions should be taken with machinery and noise levels when working close to any retained nests so as not to disturb any nearby nesting birds during construction works. At least a 5m buffer should be created between any machinery and active nests until the young have fledged. **Barn owls** None required. **Overwintering birds** None required. **Suggested biodiversity enhancements** The installation of a minimum of two bird boxes on mature trees around the site boundaries will provide additional nesting habitat for birds e.g. • Schwegler 1B Nest Boxes • Schwegler 2H Robin Boxes • Woodstone Nest Box

	• Or a similar alternative brand. Tree boxes should be positioned approximately 3m above ground level where they will be sheltered from prevailing wind, rain, and strong sunlight. Small-hole boxes are best placed approximately 1-3m above ground on an area of the tree trunk where foliage will not obscure the entrance hole.
Reptiles	
Summary of Survey Findings	**EPSL data and local records** A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for protected reptiles within 2km of the site. **Habitat suitability** Habitats recorded on site are assessed to provide foraging, commuting, basking and refuge opportunities for reptiles. The hedgerow and adjacent woodland provide elevated value for reptiles as these habitats provide a suitable structure for refuge, whilst also providing foraging and commuting opportunities. However, it is important to note that the site is dominated by frequently managed grassland, buildings, and gravel of limited value to reptiles. These habitats are suboptimal due to an absence of notable habitat structure and diversity, which significantly limits refuge, foraging, and commuting opportunities, albeit they do provide some basking opportunities when located adjacent to potential refugia. The site has good connectivity to further suitable reptile habitat in the wider landscape such as woodland and lakes via field margins. The presence of reptiles on site cannot be discounted, albeit likely limited within peripheral hedges and adjacent woodland.
Foreseen Impacts	A small area of vegetated garden and native hedgerow will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local reptile populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, site clearance could result in the death or injury of reptiles if present.
Recommendations	A precautionary working method will be implemented for widespread reptiles during construction, including the following measures: • A staged approach will be adopted for vegetation clearance, whereby the vegetation will be strimmed to 15cm and left overnight to allow any reptiles to disperse. The vegetation can then be cleared to ground level and must be maintained at this level for the duration of construction to deter reptiles from the working area. • Remaining vegetation within the works area will be maintained at a short sward (5cm) to discourage reptiles. • Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape. • Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented to minimise impacts to nearby habitats. • Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations. • In the unlikely event that a reptile is identified, works must cease and advise must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.

	Suggested biodiversity enhancements The site could be enhanced for reptiles post-development with the inclusion of log piles (created from felled materials) and planting of areas of native shrubs, to provide sheltering opportunities.
Amphibians	
Summary of Survey Findings	**EPSL and survey data (and biological records data if obtained)** A review of the MAGIC database returned one granted EPSL records for great crested newts within 2km of the site. this record EPSM2012-5295 is located 535m northeast and permits the destruction of a resting place. MAGIC database did also return evidence indicating the presence of great crested newts resulting from four historic pond surveys undertaken in 2014-2017. These records are located 690m-1.7km from site. Great crested newts exist in metapopulations and are known to use ponds and their connecting terrestrial habitat during their life cycle; great crested newts are typically found within terrestrial habitats up to 500m from breeding ponds (Langton *et al.* 2001). As such, the great crested newt metapopulation known to be present from the EPSL and historic pond surveys are not suitably connected to the site. **Aquatic habitat suitability (including ponds within 500m)** There are no ponds on the site, but a review of aerial imagery (MAGIC and OS Maps) indicates the presence of a singular pond within 500m; the pond (P1) is located ~350m northeast of the site and is connected to the site via woodland and field margins. **Terrestrial habitat suitability** The grassland provides limited opportunities for amphibians due to the short sward and low species richness, whereas the hedgerows and woodland are likely to attract larger numbers due to elevated opportunities for shelter, foraging, and commuting. Common amphibians are likely to be present in small numbers along the periphery.
Foreseen Impacts	When georeferencing the proposed development plans over scaled mapping of the site, it is noted that the development area is likely to result in the loss or significant disturbance of <0.01ha of grassland. If great crested newts are present within the P1, when completing the rapid risk assessment published by Natural England (Natural England 2015), the proposed development produces a **Green risk score**, which states: **Offence Highly Unlikely**.
Recommendations	Owing to the nature of the proposed development and the low potential for impacts to great crested newts, further surveys are considered to be disproportionate. A precautionary working method will be implemented for common amphibians during construction, including the following measures:

	• A staged approach will be adopted for vegetation clearance, whereby the vegetation will be strimmed to 15cm and left overnight to allow any amphibians to disperse. The vegetation can then be cleared to ground level and must be maintained at this level for the duration of construction to deter amphibians from the working area. • Remaining vegetation within the works area will be maintained at a short sward (5cm) to discourage amphibians. • Any rubble piles will be dismantled by hand and debris and brash will be stored on pallets or removed from the site to prevent amphibians from using these areas. • Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented to minimise impacts to nearby aquatic habitats that amphibians could use. • Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations. • If any common amphibians are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance. • In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is identified, works must cease and advise must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist. **Suggested biodiversity enhancements** The site could be enhanced for amphibians post-development through creation of amphibian hibernacula using rubble and logs from site clearance. Information on how to construct a hibernaculum can be found here: https://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/hibernaculum
Badger	
Summary of Survey Findings	No badger setts were noted on site or within a 30m radius of the site. Further, no evidence of foraging badgers was noted within the development area. However, the site was considered suitable for badger sett excavation and foraging habitat.
Foreseen Impacts	No works will be undertaken within 30m of a badger sett. A small area of vegetated garden and native hedgerow will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local badger populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, construction activities could result in the death or injury of badgers if present.

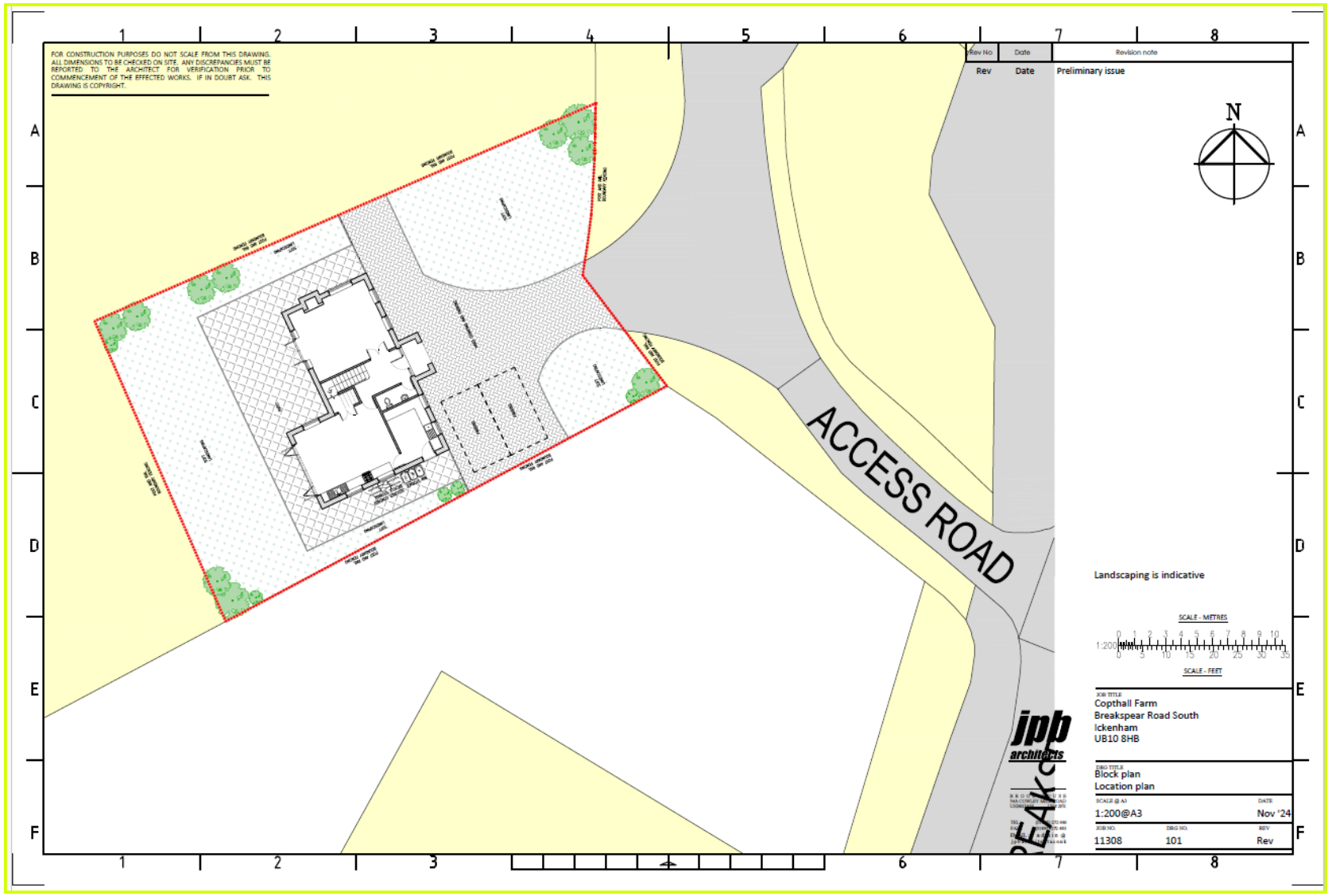
Recommendations	Owing to the nature of the proposed development and the low potential for impacts to bat roosts, further badger surveys are considered to be disproportionate. A precautionary working method will be implemented during construction, including the following measures: • A toolbox talk will be given to contractors regarding the possible presence of badgers at the site. • A pre-commencement inspection of the site will be undertaken for any new badger activity if works do not commence within three months. • Heras fencing will be erected around the working area to prevent encroachment into retained habitats where badger setts could be present including the adjacent woodland. • Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape. • The use of night-time lighting will be avoided, or sensitive lighting design will be implemented to avoid light spill on to retained habitats which badgers could use. • Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations. • In the unlikely event that a badger sett is identified, works must cease and advise must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist. **Suggested biodiversity enhancements** Planting fruit bearing native trees and shrubs to increase foraging opportunities for badgers.
Riparian animals	
Summary of Survey Findings	A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for otters or water voles within 2km of the site. The nearest watercourse to site is located 350m northeast. There are no water courses on or connected to the site. There are also no riparian habitats present on site or within an influencing distance.
Foreseen Impacts	No impacts are anticipated on riparian animals as a result of the proposed development.
Recommendations	None required.
Hazel dormouse	
Summary of Survey Findings	**EPSL data and local records** A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for hazel dormice within 2km of the site. **Habitat suitability** The site lies outside of the know current range for hazel dormice with no records of presence in the London borough of Hillingdon. As such it is considered likely that hazel dormice are absent from site.

Foreseen Impacts	None foreseen.
Recommendations	In the unlikely event that a dormouse or evidence of dormouse is identified, works must cease and advise must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.
Other e.g. hedgehog	
Summary of Survey Findings	The grassland onsite provides limited foraging and commuting opportunities for hedgehogs, with the hedgerows and adjacent woodland habitat providing shelter and improved opportunities for commuting. Hedgehogs are likely to be present with the adjacent woodland.
Foreseen Impacts	A small area of vegetated garden and native hedgerow will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local hedgehog populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, construction activities could result in the death or injury of hedgehogs if present.
Recommendations	A precautionary working method will be implemented during construction, including the following measures: • Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape. • The use of night-time lighting will be avoided, or sensitive lighting design will be implemented to avoid light spill on to retained habitats which hedgehogs could use. • Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations. • If any hedgehogs are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance. **Suggested biodiversity enhancements** The following habitat creation and enhancement opportunities could be incorporated into the proposed development which would be beneficial for hedgehogs: • Planting fruit bearing trees and species-rich grassland to increase foraging opportunities. • Creation of brash piles or installation of hedgehog houses in shady areas. • Installation of gaps under boundary fencing to enable hedgehogs to move freely through the site.

Appendix 1: Survey/Habitat map

Appendix 2: Location map

Appendix 3: Proposed plan



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