Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

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29th September 2026

RESPONSE TO H08-0833-26: Proposed residential development of 92 - 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom dwellings with public open space, and access from York Gardens - Approved under H08-1256-21. Modification of Condition 5 to amend wording in relation to the Ecological Impact Assessment at Land off York Gardens, Gosberton, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

Dear Dan Allen,

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust wishes to **object** to this section 37 application, as we believe that the original wording of condition 5 for application H08-1256-21 is still appropriate.

In the cover letter, the applicant has stated that "*The current wording requires a Biodiversity Net Gain which as per the approved report by SLR this is not possible*." However, the referenced Ecological Impact Assessment by SLR dated August 2022, in reference to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), states that "*The Metric 3.1 spreadsheet supplied separately as Appendix 4 confirms that the Site has a baseline value of 8.08 biodiversity units, which shall be reduced to 5.35 biodiversity units post-development. It is proposed that the shortfall of 2.73 units shall be 'off-set' (i.e. provided on land located beyond the Site boundary) via an appropriately worded planning condition*." It is not clear from this why BNG is not possible for this development. Although on-site habitat creation to offset the deficit in units is preferred, if this is not possible a gain in BNG can still be achieved by off-site habitat creation, or purchase of BNG units. This would allow the net gain in BNG required by condition 5 of the planning permission for H08-1256-21 to be reached.

The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust hopes these comments are helpful at this stage and welcomes further discussion relating to the points covered. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or need clarification regarding the comments provided.

Yours sincerely,

Louisa Williams
Conservation Officer

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