Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Biodiversity gain plan

Submit a biodiversity gain plan to show how your development will achieve biodiversity net gain.

When to use this form

A biodiversity gain plan shows how a development will achieve 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG). Submit this form to your local planning authority after they approve your planning application.

Unless your development is exempt, you cannot start the development until the LPA approves your biodiversity gain plan and biodiversity metric calculation tool.

1. Submission details

1.1 Date

For example, 3/11/2023

13/05/2026

1.2 Planning application reference number

H16-0854-25

1.3 Local planning authority (LPA)

South Holland District Council

1.4 Development site address

If the site does not have an address, enter the OS grid reference.

Castle Sports Complex, 37 Albion Street, Spalding, PE11 2AJ

1.5 Describe the development

Tell us about the proposed development and any changes of use (250 words).

The proposed development comprises the demolition of the existing swimming pool building and construction of a two-storey extension with basement level to the Castle Sports Complex. The development will provide upgraded indoor leisure and health facilities, including swimming pools, plant areas, and changing facilities. Associated works include reconfiguration of existing facilities, installation of a 3G artificial turf pitch, informal outdoor recreation and play areas, a running trail, garden, outdoor splash pad, additional car parking, and landscaping enhancements.

2. Developer details

2.1 Applicant name

Mark Humphreys

2.2 Company name

South Holland District Council

2.3 Address

Priory Road, Spalding PE11 2XE

2.4 Email address

mark.humphreys@e-lindsey.gov.uk

2.5 Telephone number

07468 358628

2.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

2.7 Signature

M Humphreys

2.8 Date

11 June 2026

3. Responsible person details

Tell us about who is responsible for completing the biodiversity gain plan. For example, a consultancy ecologist or planning agent.

3.1 Name

Aimee McManus

3.2 Company name

Estrada Ecology Ltd

3.3 Address

Units 8 & 9, Evans Business Centre, Flexspace, Nobel Way, Dinnington, Sheffield, S25 3QB

3.4 Email address

aimee@estradaecology.co.uk

3.5 Telephone number

01909 807177

3.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

3.7 Signature

A. McManus

3.8 Date

13/05/2026

4. Biodiversity net gain strategy

4.1 Is the relevant date for the pre-development biodiversity value the same date as the planning application?

☒ Yes
☐ No

4.2 If no, what earlier date did you agree with the LPA?

4.3 How have you met the guidance on 'what counts towards your BNG'?

Find out what you can count towards a development's BNG

Net gain delivered through on-site and off-site habitats.

4.4 How will you avoid or minimise impacts to habitats?

Tell us about the steps you've taken on site, including to avoid or minimise the impact on irreplaceable habitats.

Impacts to habitats have been minimised through retention of existing trees, hedgerows, and vegetation where practicable, both on-site and off-site. Additional biodiversity enhancements will be provided through native planting, landscaping, and additional tree planting.

4.5 Did you use your local nature recovery strategy to inform the strategic significance of habitats?

This includes other specified strategies if you do not have a local nature recovery strategy.

☒ Yes
☐ No

4.6 How will you achieve the target net gain percentage?

☐ On-site

☐ Off-site
☒ Both

4.7 Are any of your on-site enhancements considered 'significant'?
Find out what counts as a significant on-site enhancement.
☒ Yes
☐ No

4.8 If yes, tell us about the significant on-site enhancements
Include the appropriate planning condition or how you've secured the habitat.

Creation of Mixed Scrub and Individual Trees which are classified as a medium-distinctiveness habitat. A HMMP will secure these enhancements.

4.9 How many off-site biodiversity units do you need to meet 10% net gain?

1.98 area habitat units

4.10 Explain why you're using off-site biodiversity units
Only answer this question if you're planning to use off-site biodiversity units (250 words).

Due to the nature and operational requirements of the sports and leisure complex, opportunities for on-site habitat creation are constrained by the need for built infrastructure. The scheme has sought to retain habitats where possible, but the development still results in a minor deficit in on-site area habitat units.

4.11 Explain why you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits
Only answer this question if you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits (250 words).

N/A

4.12 Do you have a habitat management and monitoring plan?
☒ Yes
☐ No

4.13 Have you used the statutory biodiversity metric tool?
☒ Yes
☐ No

4.14 Biodiversity metric calculation

Send your biodiversity metric calculation to the LPA and enter the file name.

B-SHOL2405-MST-V07 - January 2026. The_Statutory_Metric_Castle Sports Complex. NEW SQ-3974. (1) - EB Complete

4.15 Condition assessments

Send your condition assessments to the LPA and enter the file name.

Within the BNG Report and Metric user comments. B-SHOL2405-MST-V07 - January 2026. The_Statutory_Metric_Castle Sports Complex. NEW SQ-3974. (1) - EB Complete

4.16 Pre-development habitat survey report and map

Send your baseline habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

Within the BNG Report. BNG Castle Sports Centre, Spalding. January 2026. NEW SQ-3974

4.17 Post-development habitat map or landscape plan

Send your post-development habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

Within the BNG Report. BNG Castle Sports Centre, Spalding. January 2026. NEW SQ-3974

4.18 Have you included an approved habitat degradation in the baseline?

If yes, include the relevant consenting body and reference number.

☐ Yes
☒ No

Consenting body

Reference number

5. Irreplaceable habitats

5.1 Does the development impact any irreplaceable habitats?

If yes, tell us if you've submitted an approved compensation plan.

☐ Yes
☒ No

5.2 Have you submitted an approved compensation plan?

☐ Yes
☒ No

6. On-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes on-site habitat enhancements.

6.1 Survey date

For example, 3/11/2023

26th June 2025

6.2 Survey constraints

For example, access issues, weather, or seasonal constraints.

No survey constraints

6.3 Total pre-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

19.08

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.35

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

6.4 Total post-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

19.01

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.44

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

6.5 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

-0.08

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

-0.39%

Hedgerow biodiversity units

0.09

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

+25.11%

Watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

0.00%

6.6 Will you register and allocate any biodiversity units from your site to other developments?

If yes or provisionally, give details.

☐ Yes

☒ No

6.7 Give details

Tell us about the amount of biodiversity units and the development location (250 words).

7. Off-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes off-site habitat enhancements.

7.1 Tell us about the off-site habitat enhancements

Include whether you're delivering the off-site enhancements or buying biodiversity units.

Buying units

7.2 Biodiversity gain site register reference number

Dorset Habitat Bank - BGS-111024001

Kings Lynn Habitat Bank - BGS-250924001

Milton Keynes - BGS-040924004

7.3 How have you secured the off-site habitat enhancements?

Tell us about any responsible bodies and whether you've used an S106 or conservation covenant.

Environment Bank

7.4 Total baseline biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

1.05

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.04

7.5 Total biodiversity value post-intervention

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

4.11

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.06

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.14

7.6 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

3.06

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

+290.89%

Hedgerow biodiversity units

0.06

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

N/A

Watercourse biodiversity units

0.10

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

+233.87%

8. Statutory biodiversity credits

Answer this section if you need to use statutory biodiversity credits.

8.1 Do you need to use statutory biodiversity credits?

☐ Yes
☒ No

8.2 How many statutory biodiversity credits do you need?

Tell us the unit shortfall by tier, including the spatial risk multiplier. Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

A1

A2

A3

A4

A5

H

W

8.3 What evidence is there that no units are available through the market?

Send a message from at least 3 habitat providers, or a search result from online registers.

8.4 Proof of purchase

Send proof of purchase and enter the reference number.

9. Trading summary

9.1 Distinctiveness group

Tell us if you met the BNG trading rules on habitat compensation for each distinctiveness group. If you did not meet the trading rules, tell us if you agreed bespoke habitat compensation.

Check the rules on habitat compensation in the statutory biodiversity metric user guide.

Very high

Yes

High

N/A

Medium

Yes

Low

Yes

10. Sharing data (optional)

10.1 Can we share your ecological survey data with the Local Environmental Records Centre or other bodies?

☐ Yes
☒ No