

ECOLOGY MANAGEMENT SCHEME

Land South East of Littleworth Drove Lucks Bridge Spalding PE11 3ED

- **GREEN SPACE CREATION**

It is considered that the introduction of the hedgerows as shown on the Landscaping Plan would aid with biodiversity gain and be aesthetically pleasing. On completion of the project following the removal of machinery and tools for construction the species rich hedgerow will be planted in accordance with the approved drawing.

- **BUFFER STRIP CREATION**

Where possible a 1-2m buffer strip should be created adjacent to the hedgerow. This will boost conservation value of the site as a whole and will also protect the hedgerow.

- **BIRDS**

To compensate for minor habitat loss and to enhance ecological value within the site ecological mitigation measures such as 1 No open fronted bird nesting box and 1 No close hole bird nesting box will be installed at least 3m above ground level to each individual house type. These are to be sheltered from prevailing winds and preferably near trees or alongside the main dwelling on the fence line



Swifts should also be considered during the development. Swift bricks should be installed ideally under the roof no less than 5m above ground level. Bricks to be installed in the top course of brick work and each individual house type to have 6no. installed due to swifts being colonial species. These should not be obstructed by trees, ladders or aerials.



Photo of swift brick

- **BATS**

In support of local bat populations 2no. 1bstock bat bricks (or similar approved) to be installed into the brickwork at eaves level on each individual house type. They should now face in a northerly direction. Alternatively, bats can benefit from two or more bat tiles with could be included on the roof pitch.



Photo of bat roosting box

Precautionary working practices and enhancement measures for bats

All contractors working on site will be briefed on the legal protection afforded to bats and their places of shelter and on how to proceed if a bat is discovered during the work.

Retain adjacent trees for use by commuting/foraging bats (if applicable) and ensure minimal lighting around the new build property (normal household security lighting is acceptable).

Avoid placing external lighting that illuminates the newly installed bat boxes.

If these measures are adhered to, post construction the roosting opportunities for bats on the site will be substantially improved via these provisions of bat boxes – overall there will be a net gain for the local bat population.

Procedure to follow in the event of discovering bats on site

- If at any point during the works, bats are discovered then contractors must stop work immediately and telephone a licensed ecologist.
- The ecologist will either provide an appropriately licensed bat worker to the site or provide a member of staff who will liaise directly with Natural England. Actions will then be taken following advice given. This may include removal of bats, but only where direct written or verbal permission is gained from Natural England.
- Only when Natural England is satisfied that there is no further risk to bats will works recommence.
- Should it transpire that the operation being carried out is of more risk to bats than was originally thought, then works will be stopped until they can be supervised by an appropriately licensed bat worker.
- If a bat is found under a tile or any other aperture, works will stop immediately (as above). If the bat does not voluntarily fly out, then the aperture will be carefully covered over to protect the bat(s) from the elements, leaving a small gap for the bat to escape voluntarily. Any covering should be free from grease or other contaminants and should not be a fibreglass-based material.
- Any injured bats should be gently placed in a secure ventilated box in a cool, quiet dark place (e.g. cardboard box with a sealed lid) by the contractor for the bat's protection whilst awaiting the arrival of the licensed person.