

Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

Site Address:

Bridge House, Holbeach Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 6JP

Client:

Summer Casey

Assessment Date:

4th November 2025

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with the South Holland District Council. The proposal is described as:

The demolition of one of the barns and conversion into a commercial space.

BNG assessment methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: **[BNG Methodology and Legislation – 2025.](#)**

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

Version Control			
Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	0.1	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Senior Ecologist	29/10/2025
Final	1.0	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Senior Ecologist	30/10/2025
Amended	2.0	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Senior Ecologist	04/11/2025
Amended	2.1	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Senior Ecologist	06/11/2025
Amended	3.0	Jamie-Lee Anderson BSc (Hons), Senior Ecologist	02/02/2026

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Site Location and Context

A baseline habitat map is provided in **Appendix 1**, a post development habitat map in **Appendix 2**, a proposed development plan in **Appendix 3**, and headline BNG results in **Appendix 4**.

The site is centred at National Grid Reference TF 26904 24192 and has an area of approximately 0.41ha. The site is characterised by hardstanding, buildings, and modified grassland and scattered trees. The site is surrounded by agricultural land and commercial infrastructure.

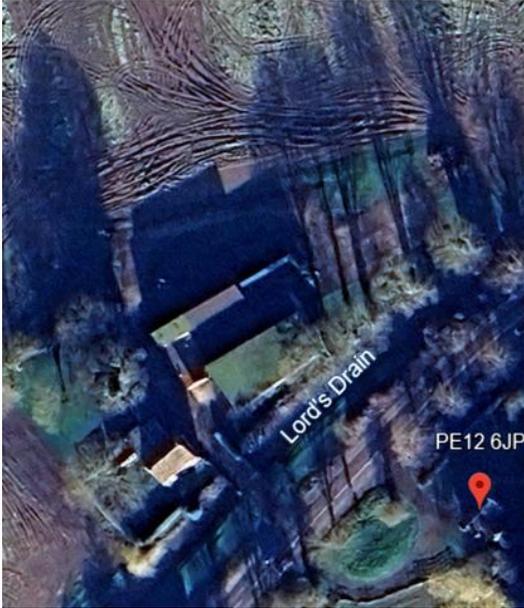
This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Statutory BNG Metric – Bridge House, PE12 6JP V3 (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025)
- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) - Bridge House, PE12 6JP v1 (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025)

Executive Summary

The development results in a net gain of 61.03% area habitat units, and trading rules have been satisfied. The proposed development is currently compliant with legislation.

Introduction

BNG Informative	
	<p>Date reflected by BNG calculations 8th October 2025</p>
<p>Habitat Degradation Statement</p>	<p>The baseline biodiversity value of the site is derived from the site as observed during the PEA field survey (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025). As evident in the screenshots of satellite imagery obtained from GoogleEarth dated 22nd April 2020 and 19th December 2024, the site does not appear to have undergone any degradation. The habitats on site, and therefore biodiversity value of the site, is not considered to have undergone degradation since 30th January 2020.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Historical imagery < 22 Apr 2020 > > </p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Historical imagery < 19 Dec 2024 > > </p>  </div> </div>
	<p>Irreplaceable Habitat Statement</p>
<p>Metric Version & Publication Date</p>	<p>Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool first published 29th November 2023 with last updates to metric tools and user guides on 23rd July 2024.</p>

BNG Target Uplift	+10%
National Character Area (NCA)	46 – The Fens
Strategic Significance	<p>South Holland District Council does not have its own standalone Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), as this specific district falls under the Greater Lincolnshire LNRS, which is currently in its early stages of planning. South Holland's climate change and biodiversity policies, such as Biodiversity Net Gain, are managed within a wider regional context.</p> <p>Regional strategy: The Greater Lincolnshire LNRS covers South Holland District, as well as other districts within the county, and is responsible for planning nature recovery across the entire region</p>
Limitations	
There were no specific limitations to the assessment.	

Baseline

Baseline Biodiversity Value: On-Site				
Area-Based Habitats (A-1)				
Habitat	Area (ha)	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Developed Land; Sealed Surface	0.0858	Buildings.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Developed Land; Sealed Surface	0.113	Hardstanding.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Modified Grassland	0.3452	Amenity lawn on site.	Poor : passes 4 of 7 criteria including essential criterion A.	Low Strategic Significance

			Assessed using the 'Grasslands Low Distinctiveness' habitat type condition sheet.	
Bramble Scrub	0.0021	Scrub on site.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Rural Tree	Good: 0.0977	Six medium sized trees on site.	Good: passes 5 of 6 criteria. Only fails criterion A.	Medium Strategic Significance

Post-Development

Post-Development Biodiversity Value: On-Site					
Area-Based Habitats					
	Habitat	Area (ha)	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Retained (A-1)	Rural Tree	Good: 0.0977	Six medium sized trees on site.	Good: passes 5 of 6 criteria. Only fails criterion A.	Medium Strategic Significance
	Created (A-2)	Developed land; sealed surface	0.0385	Proposed offices.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.
Developed land; sealed surface		0.0159	Proposed leisure building.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Developed land; sealed surface		0.0571	Proposed padel courts.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Developed land; sealed surface		0.0371	Proposed tarmac access road.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface		0.1342	Proposed permeable parking.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Developed land; sealed surface		0.0206	Proposed block paving.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance

	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	0.0264	Proposed rubber bound bark.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
	Developed land; sealed surface	0.0102	Proposed disabled hardstanding bays.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
	Urban	0.0121	Sustainable drainage system.	Habitat condition proposed to meet ' moderate '.	Medium Strategic Significance
	Grassland	0.1557	Proposed grassland.	Habitat condition proposed to meet ' good '.	Low Strategic Significance
	Grassland	0.0294	Proposed grassland, surrounding courts.	Habitat condition proposed to meet ' poor '.	Low Strategic Significance
	Rural tree	0.3013	Proposed planting of 74 small trees.	Habitat condition proposed to meet ' moderate '.	Medium Strategic Significance
	Heathland and shrub	0.0089	Proposed mixed scrub.	Habitat condition proposed to meet ' moderate '.	Medium Strategic Significance

Change of Biodiversity Value

		Biodiversity Units		
		Area-Based	Linear-Based	Watercourse-Based
On-Site	Baseline	1.99	N/A	N/A
	Post-Development	3.20		
	Net Change	1.21		
Overall Net Change		61.03%	N/A	N/A

Results, Discussion, and Next Steps

BNG Informative	
Results and Next Steps	<p>The current landscaping proposal generates a net gain of area-based habitat units (+61.03%). As such, the proposed development is compliant with current legislation (Environment Act 2021) and planning policies (National Planning Policy Framework, 2024) as a minimum biodiversity net gain of +10% was achieved.</p> <p>All trading conditions have been satisfied.</p> <p>A Biodiversity Gain Plan (BGP) and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) must be produced for the site. This should include recommendations for the implementation, management and monitoring of the site for at least 30 years to ensure that biodiversity net gain is delivered.</p>
BNG Mitigation Hierarchy	
Avoidance	The site layout has been designed to retain all existing mature trees on the site’s southern boundary, avoiding direct impacts on these habitats.
Minimisation	Protective fencing will be installed to safeguard retained trees during works. Construction will follow a CEMP with measures to control dust, runoff and lighting, thereby reducing indirect impacts on adjacent habitats
Mitigation	Although the development requires the loss of an area of low distinctiveness modified grassland, habitat loss has been minimised by positioning-built form away from the higher-value tree lined southern edge. Buffer planting has been incorporated to reduce edge effects on retained habitats. The drainage strategy includes a sustainable drainage system, providing additional habitat and reducing hydrological impacts on retained areas.
Offset	Avoidance and minimisation have been prioritised by retaining boundary trees, maintaining a green corridor through the site, and ensuring that construction avoids root protection areas. The unavoidable loss of low distinctiveness grassland has been offset through on-site creation of grassland, tree planting and sustainable drainage system. Currently, 0.01 bramble scrub units are required to satisfy trading rules. This can either be met through the purchase of credits, or re-design of the proposed plan.

Appendix 1: Baseline Habitat Plan



Appendix 2: Post-Development Habitat Plan



