

Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan

Land at Greenhill Road, Middleton Junction

Middleton, Manchester

October 2024 Rev A

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1. Introduction

1.1 Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan

- 1.1.1 This Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan (BEMP) sets out the aims, objectives and measures to be implemented to ensure the retention of the ecological functionality, and the compensation in part for loss of habitat on land at Greenhill Road, Middleton Junction, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2BB.
- 1.1.2 A site-specific approach is provided to ensure that wildlife present, or likely present in the area is supported, with the intention of increasing overall biodiversity on site.
- 1.1.3 The BEMP is a 5-year proposal and must be updated following this period.
- 1.1.4 The overall aim is to conserve and enhance habitats present or create new habitat to improve opportunities for wildlife and to ensure retention of ecological functionality of the site. This will contribute to the establishment and retention long-term of an area of green space which will form part of an ecological network in the wider landscape, supporting targets of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF2, 2018).

Report Limitations

- 1.1.5 This document includes recommendations for measures to achieve biodiversity enhancement. These recommendations do not comprise a landscape design or planting prescriptions as provided by a Landscape Architect and the ecologist has no Design Liability associated with these recommendations.

1.2 Ecological Baseline – Pre-development

- 1.2.1 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal undertaken in August 2023 (Verity Webster Ltd, 2019) details the baseline conditions at Greenhill Road.
- 1.2.2 The following habitat types are present on site:
 - Other neutral grassland g3 with tall herb (16) and scattered scrub (10)
 - Modified grassland g4
 - Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land u1a
 - Scattered trees
 - Developed land; sealed surface u1b
 - Buildings u1b5
- 1.2.3 Table 1 details the species/taxa of conservation importance considered likely to be present on site or within the local area. Mitigation for some species groups is required during proposed works on site.
- 1.2.4 This management plan will aim to retain the ecological functionality for all species groups associated with the site.



Table 1: Species/Taxa considered

Species	Mitigation required*	Retention of ecological functionality	Compensation and Enhancement
Bats	Avoidance measures integrated into external lighting design to minimise the risk of impacting commuting and foraging bats.	Retention of boundary vegetation. Minimising light pollution with an appropriate lighting plan.	Installation of bat roost boxes to enhance roosting opportunities. Creation of varied vegetated gardens will result in habitat for foraging bats.
Badger	Precautionary methods of work only	Retention of boundary vegetation. These features provide potential foraging opportunities, but badgers are not expected on site with any regularity.	NA
Hedgehog	Reasonable Avoidance Measures to be followed during works.	Retention access into gardens and across the site with provision of a hedgehog highway.	Creation of varied vegetated gardens will result in habitat for hedgehog.
Reptiles	Reasonable Avoidance Measures to be followed during works.	Retention of access into gardens. Retention of boundary vegetation.	Creation of varied vegetated gardens will result in habitat for common reptiles.
Amphibians	Reasonable Avoidance Measures to be followed during works.	Retention of access into gardens. Retention of boundary vegetation.	Creation of varied vegetated gardens will result in habitat for common toad and other common amphibians.
Birds	Avoidance mitigation /pre-work survey	Retention of boundary vegetation	Installation of bird nest boxes. Creation of varied vegetated gardens will result in habitat for nesting and foraging birds.
Invertebrates	NA	Retention of boundary vegetation.	Creation of varied vegetated gardens will result in habitat for invertebrates.



2. Biodiversity Compensation and Enhancement

2.1 Objective and Aims

2.1.2 The objective of the enhancement and maintenance plan: **To retain and enhance the site for wildlife, ensuring the ecological features created are easy to maintain.**

2.1.3 The site enhancement, compensation and maintenance measures aim to:

Enhancement of biodiversity and ecological functionality on site through:

- Retention of trees and shrubs around the site boundary where possible.
- Provision of **bird nest boxes on buildings**
- Provision of **bat roost boxes on buildings**
- Ensuring access for small mammals and other wildlife by ensuring a '**hedgehog highway**'



2.2 Habitat Retention and Creation

Retention of boundary vegetation

2.1.4 The benefits of retaining boundary vegetation across the site include:

- The function as a barrier.
- Acting as a screen and acting as a filter for noise and air pollution.
- Providing valuable habitat for wildlife and connectivity between different areas.
- Improving wellbeing by providing structural green space.

2.1.5 Trees and shrubs will be retained where possible around the site boundary, along plots 3-12.

Newly created Gardens

2.1.6 Gardens will be created with each plot on site, creating a mosaic of vegetated habitat. The planting and subsequent maintenance of the gardens cannot be managed but the spaces will likely result in a mosaic of habitat.

Provision of Bird and Bat Boxes

2.1.7 Bird and bat boxes will increase the capacity of the site to support these species groups.

2.1.8 Six bat roost boxes (1FR Schwegler Bat Tubes) will be installed. Single bat boxes will be integrated into the walls of six houses on the east elevation. These boxes can be rendered over to complement the building design.

2.1.9 A total of 12 house sparrow nest boxes will be installed. Two Vivara Pro WoodStone House Sparrow Nest Boxes will be installed under the eaves of six buildings on the east elevation. These will encourage use of the structures by house sparrow, a declining species of conservation concern.



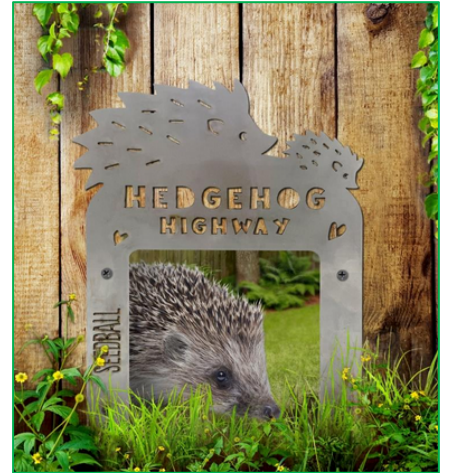
1FR Schwegler Bat Tube



Vivara Pro WoodStone House Sparrow Nest Box

Provision of the Hedgehog Highway / Amphibian Access

- 2.1.10 Holes 13cm x13cm will be created to allow access for hedgehogs, amphibians and reptiles.
- 2.1.11 Alternatively fencing around the site could be raised approximately 13cm above the ground, to allow movement of wildlife beneath.



3. Establishment and Management

3.1 Bird and Bat Box Maintenance

- 3.1.1 Bat boxes do not need to be maintained. The Schwegler bat boxes are durable and self-cleaning.
- 3.1.2 Bird boxes should be cleaned out once per year in the Autumn following bird nesting season (bird nesting season is generally March – August inclusive).

Figure 1: Proposed Enhancement Measures

