

Land off Hornby Street, Rochdale
Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme

2023

Rev.A



RACHEL
HACKING
ECOLOGY

Client Triangle Architects Ltd

Project Title Land off Hornby Street, Rochdale

Project Reference RHE.3995

Project Leader Megan Johnson

Contact Details megan@rachelhackingecology.co.uk

	Name	Position	Date
Author	Megan Johnson	Junior Ecologist	05/12/2023
Reviewer	Dr Rachel Hacking	Principal Ecologist	12/12/2023
Revision	Megan Johnson	Junior Ecologist	19/12/2023



**RACHEL
HACKING
ECOLOGY**

The Stables
Paradise Wharf
Ducie Street
Manchester
M1 2JN

0161 465 8971

www.rachelhackingecology.co.uk

mail@rachelhackingecology.co.uk



**RACHEL
HACKING
ECOLOGY**

Background

Rachel Hacking Ecology Ltd. was commissioned in 2023 by Triangle Architects Ltd. to provide a Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme at Land off Hornby Street, Rochdale. The proposed development site comprises a small, rectangular piece of amenity grassland. During the planning process, biodiversity will need to be considered and, following the Biodiversity Net Gain principle, development sites should be left in a better state for biodiversity than before.

Following correspondence between Ryan Killeen (Principal Planning Officer at Rochdale Borough Council) and Rachel Hacking in November 2023, it was decided that a proportionate approach would be to provide a biodiversity enhancement scheme for the development, rather than assess the proposals through a Metric. This ensures that biodiversity is retained on site rather than off-set to another piece of land.

This document shows the biodiversity improvements that will be delivered on site.

Biodiversity in Planning

Biodiversity is a material consideration, and Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) have a requirement to consider biodiversity and protected species when determining planning applications. Section 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework (September 2023) gives specific reference to minimising the impacts of development on biodiversity. Local and Neighbourhood plans also provide guidance towards protecting and enhancing biodiversity, including priority habitats and notable species.

Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme

Planting

As part of the scheme, the client team listed the addition of amenity flower/shrub planters on the front of the building. The proposals also include outdoor 'yard' spaces to the rear of the dwellings. Any amenity grassland should be sowed with a species rich seed mix. Introduced flower and shrub beds/planters on site should include a variety of native and non-native flowering species to bring diversity to the species assemblage and encourage pollinating invertebrates, such as:

- David Viburnum *Viburnum davidii*
- Garden Lavender *Lavandula angustifolia*
- Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
- Hebe *Hebe* var.



- Oregon-grape *Mahonia aquifolium*
- Skimmia *Skimmia japonica*
- Daphne *Daphne* var.

Bird Boxes

The following bird boxes will be installed onsite to provide nesting habitat for bird species such as House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*:

- 2 x Vivara Pro WoodStone Build-in Open Nest Box (or equivalent).
- 2x Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace (or similar) bird box suitable for House Sparrow will be incorporated into the fabric of a building as it is built, under the eaves/close to roof line of the northern elevation.

The bird boxes will be positioned at a minimum height of 3 metres off the ground. The boxes will be positioned facing north-east to north-west (see Figure 1).

Bat Boxes

The following bat boxes will be incorporated into the fabric of a building as it is built to provide roosting habitat for crevice dwelling bats:

- 4x Habibat 001 Bat Box (or equivalent) to be positioned on the eastern and southern elevations (see Figure 2 for suggested locations)

The bat boxes are to be positioned facing south or east (see Figure 1). The bat boxes should not be subject to artificial lighting (e.g. security lights).

Invertebrates

The following boxes will be installed on site in the outdoor 'yard' areas to provide nesting habitat for bees and insects:

- 2 x Schwegler Clay and Reed Insect Nesting Aid (or equivalent).
- 2x Green&Blue Bee Brick (or equivalent).

Bee Bricks and boxes will be installed onto a wall close to the native planted area onsite, at no less than 1 metre in height.

Summary

The above listed biodiversity enhancements will provide multiple habitats for protected species, including bats, and other wildlife and other mammal species and invertebrates, as well as likely increasing the botanical diversity of the site.





Figure 1 showing the suggested locations for the Habitat 001 Bat Boxes (blue rectangles), Vivara Pro WoodStone Build-in Open Nest Box (red rectangles) and Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace (green rectangles) (plan courtesy of Triangle Architects Ltd.)