

Application Number	WSCC/021/23
Location	Recycle Southern Ltd, Elbridge Farm Chichester Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 5EF
Proposal	Regularisation, consolidation and extension to the existing waste transfer facility including an increase in throughput of waste.

ECOLOGY

Conclusion

There is no ecological objection to the proposed development subject to condition.

Commentary

Preliminary ecological appraisal has been completed and submitted to support the application. There are no significant protected species issues to manage, and the proposed ecological mitigation is acceptable.

Elbridge Farm Recycling Centre comprises of an existing waste transfer recycling facility and a section of arable field, which has currently been left as set-aside. The extension of the facility and modification of the existing site will result in the loss of arable set-aside, hardstanding and small areas of bramble scrub and longer grassland vegetation. A ditch is located along the northern boundary of the site which could be vulnerable to sedimentation and runoff during the construction and operation phases of development; protection of this feature has been proposed.

A planted soil bund will be created and protected along the eastern and southern boundaries of the site.

Precautionary mitigation has been proposed for key species and given the low level of risk of harm the approach is acceptable. Some minor ecological improvements have been proposed.

Recommended Condition

Prior to the commencement of habitat clearance or other site preparation work all relevant protections for habitats of importance and protected species have been implemented in accordance with the details outlined within the Ecological Assessment submitted to support the planning application. Prior to the operation of the proposed extension the proposed ecological enhancement will be implemented as described within the planning statement and the ecological assessment.