



MEMO

TO	James Neave	FROM	Jo North/Charlotte Hewitt/Sam Noble
DATE	01 March 2022	CONFIDENTIALITY	Public
SUBJECT	WSCC/052/20 A29 Phase 1 Realignment – Planning Condition 5 Ecological Enhancement		

Dear James,

This memo summarises the information provided to support the discharge of Planning Condition 5 – Ecological Enhancement Measures.

Condition 5

'No development shall be carried out until a scheme setting out ecological enhancement measures (including, a badger crossing, bird boxes, bat boxes, and habitat features for small mammals, amphibians and invertebrates) as specified within the Outline Ecological Management Plan (Ref. 7006779 dated April 2021) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority. Thereafter the scheme shall be implemented in full, in accordance with a timetable to be submitted as part of the scheme.'

Introduction

The Ecological Mitigation Plan (attachments 1 and 2) has been prepared to discharge condition 5. It provides an update of the locations of the ecological enhancement measures proposed in the Ecological Management Plan (EMP) (April 2021) submitted with the Planning Application WSCC/052/20 granted on 30th June 2021. The following documents are required to discharge this condition.

Attachment	Name	Reference	Details
1	Ecological Mitigation Plan	A29 Ecological Mitigation Plan March 2022 1of2	Bat, bird and reptile hibernacula locations have been selected in agreement with West Sussex County Council County Ecologist and Arboriculturist. These have been overlaid onto the latest Site Plan.
2	Ecological Mitigation Plan	A29 Ecological Mitigation Plan March 2022 2of2	See above
3	Wildlife Crossing Plan	A29-CAP-HGN-00-DR-C-0187 S4-P05	Plan showing details of the wildlife crossing providing north / south access beneath the Proposed Scheme.

Development of the Ecological Enhancement Measures

The ecological enhancement measures have been developed by WSPs ecology team in consultation with the WSCC Environment Team, and the final locations confirmed in the Ecological Mitigation Plan (Attachments 1 and 2). The

Ecological Mitigation Plan which shows just the new physical habitat features, was used as a reference document during the preparation of the documents required to discharge the following planning conditions:

- Planning condition 3 - Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP),
- Planning condition 17 - Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP).

Bird boxes

The EMP (April 2021) recommended at least six bird boxes be installed in suitable locations within retained habitat to mitigate for the loss of nesting opportunities across the site. Seven bird boxes have been included in the Ecological Mitigation Plan (also noted in Section 2.5.4 of the LEMP). Indicative designs to be used in the mitigation include:

- 1B Schwegler nest box – cavity nest box
- 2H Schwegler robin box – open fronted box
- CedarPlus Triple Sparrow House – for sparrow species
- 3S Schwegler Starling Nest Box – for use by starling and other cavity nesters.

Bat boxes

The EMP (April 2021) recommended for 17 bat boxes to replace 12 Potential Roosting Features with another five provided as an enhancement measure. Indicative designs to be included in the mitigation include:

- 2F Schweglar Bat Box – for general purpose
- 2FN Schweglar Bat Box – suitable for noctule roosting requirements
- 1FF Schweglar Bat Box – for general purpose and maternity colonies
- 1FW Bat Hibernation Box – for hibernation

17 bat box locations have been identified in the Ecological Mitigation Plan. Bat boxes would be installed at approximately 4m above the ground and placed in range of locations at slightly different heights and facing different directions.

Dead wood habitat

The EMP (April 2021) recommended dead wood should be retained within woodland habitats where possible to mitigate for the loss of suitable stag beetle habitat.

To mitigate for the loss of reptile refuge across the Application site the EMP (April 2021) noted that at least six refugia/hibernacula would be needed in suitable locations. The following eight features have been included in the Ecological Mitigation Plan:

- Deadwood piles from log clearance (2).
- Reptile hibernacular to be created from felled vegetation (6) The location of which has been determined in consultation with WSCC County Ecologist and County Arboriculturist.

Timing of installation

The following table shows an indicative programme for the construction of the Phase 1 of the A29 realignment including the timing for installation of the Ecological Enhancement measures:



Stage	Programme
Compound Construction (Barnham Road to Fontwell Avenue)	Early April 2023
Site Clearance (including Folly House demolition)	Late 2022 to Early 2023
Installation of Ecological Enhancement Measures (outside of site boundary)	Early April 2023
Installation of Ecological Enhancement Measures (within site boundary)	Late 2024 – Early 2025
Utilities Diversion	Mid July to Late October 2023
Excavation and Earthworks	Late July 2023 to Early 2025
Construction of Road (including drainage)	Mid 2023 to Early 2025
Installation of New Permanent Acoustic Barrier	Early to Mid 2024
Installation of Street Lighting	Late 2024
Landscaping	Late 2024 – Early 2025
Road Opening	Early 2025