

With regard to the above application the appropriate ecological surveys have been carried out and there are no significant protected species issues on site, there are however habitats of value. Should permission be granted a CEMP for biodiversity should be conditioned which outlines which areas will be protected during construction and how, timings of works to avoid harm to species on site, sensitive methods of working etc.. It should also include the measures outlined in sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the Bat assessment which include those on lighting.

A Biodiversity Impact Assessment has been submitted which outlines the habitats currently on site and those to be created. They have not submitted the actual calculation which makes it difficult to check figures however the assessment states that there will be a good level of net gain on site. A LEMP should be conditioned which includes full details of all retained and created habitats and how they will be managed and monitored to ensure they reach the desired condition and this should include submission of a metric to show the level of net gain which will be achieved.

In addition the applicant should include biodiversity enhancements on site such as bird and bat provisions at least some of which should be integrated into the fabric of the buildings. Currently CDC looks for a minimum of the equivalent of 1 per dwelling (though these may be best clustered). They should also consider log piles and insects hotels where possible.

Please get back to me to discuss any of the above.

Kind regards

Charlotte

Dr Charlotte Watkins
Ecology Officer