

# Consultee Comment for planning application 23/03073/HYBRID

<b>Application Number</b>	23/03073/HYBRID
<b>Location</b>	Phase 2 SW Bicester Kingsmere Parcel R East Of Ludlow Road Bicester
<b>Proposal</b>	In FULL, the construction of an 82-apartment affordable extra care home (C2 use class) with associated openspace / green infrastructure, landscaping, car / cycle parking, service infrastructure (drainage, highways, lighting), engineering operations, creation of new vehicular access and re-instatement of existing access to footpath, and in OUTLINE, the construction of up to 14 residential (C3 use class) dwellings with associated landscaping, service infrastructure (highways, drainage, lighting)
<b>Case Officer</b>	Linda Griffiths
<b>Organisation</b>	Ecology (CDC)
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	Cherwell District Council Bodicote House White Post Road Bodicote Banbury OX15 4AA
<b>Type of Comment</b>	Comment
<b>Type</b>	
<b>Comments</b>	<p>I have reviewed the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment submitted by CSA Environmental. The report outlines the habitats that will be created on site to achieve a net gain. The baseline of the site is entirely bare ground. As such, even though there will be a removal of habitat units, which shows up as a net loss on the metric, the habitat being removed is not of any ecological value. Furthermore, the location of the site means that there is not much scope for adding habitat units. Instead, the BNG strategy is to add hedgerow units which will provide the greatest benefits to wildlife for this site.</p> <p>The application was submitted prior to the BNG mandate coming into effect, so I am not opposed to above strategy. The site is entirely bare ground and holds little ecological value. As such, I do not think that the removal of bare ground to facilitate the development will result in a loss of biodiversity. Furthermore, the addition of trees, hedgerows, scrub, shrubs, and grassland will provide a clear net gain.</p> <p>However, the BNG metric (excel version) has not been submitted - so I can only see the headline results. I would like to review the details of the created habitats in the excel metric before providing final comments. If you could let me know when this has been uploaded, I will review.</p> <p>Kind regards, Megan Belanger</p>
<b>Received Date</b>	16/02/2024 12:13:02
<b>Attachments</b>	