

Validation of Planning Applications

PLANNING APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (LOCAL)

***FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION SURVEY
AND REPORT***

THE PETERBOROUGH BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST

In accordance with

The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure)
(Amendment) (England) Order 2007

MAY 2008

Biodiversity Checklist to accompany planning applications

Please refer to the guidance notes which specify the types of application which must be accompanied by this checklist. Where identified as required any surveys must also accompany an application.

Question 1: Pre-existing knowledge

To the best of your knowledge are any protected species such as, but not limited to, bats, specially protected birds such as barn owl or kingfisher, great crested newts, reptiles, water voles, badgers or otters present within the site or would be affected by the proposal?

Yes/No

Question 2: Water Voles

Does the proposal affect or is it within 5m of a river, stream, ditch, canal, lake, or other aquatic habitats?

Yes/No

Question 3: Otters

Does the proposal affect or is it within 50m of a river, stream, ditch, canal, lake, or other aquatic habitats.

Yes/No

Question 4: Great Crested Newts

Is the proposal a major proposal within 500*m of a pond or minor proposals within 100*m of a pond?

Yes/No

*A major proposal in terms of dwellings is for more than 10 dwellings, or 0.5 hectares or more of site area; and for non-residential development is more than 1000m² floor area or more than 1 hectare.

Question 5: Reptiles

Does the proposal affect:

- River, streams, canals, lakes, or other aquatic habitats
- Gravel/clay pits or quarries
- 'Derelict' land (brownfield sites), allotments and railway land
- Woodland or hedgerows?
- Rough grassland, scrub?
- Wood or rubble piles?
- Piles of established decomposing plant material such as compost and manure heaps, woodchip and sawdust piles?
- Derelict sites with deteriorated walls with holes beneath, especially where connected to grassy areas?

Yes/No

Question 6: Bats

Does the proposed development constitute or include the modification conversion, demolition or removal of buildings and structures (especially roof voids) involving the following:

- All agricultural buildings (e.g. farmhouses and barns) particularly of traditional brick or stone construction and/or with exposed wooden beams greater than 20cm thick?
- All buildings with weather boarding and/or hanging tiles that are within 200m of woodland and/or water?
- Pre-1960 detached buildings and structures within 200m of woodland and/or water?
- Pre-1914 buildings within 400m of woodland and/or water?
- Pre-1914 buildings with gable ends or slate roofs, regardless of location?
- All tunnels, kilns, ice-houses, adits, military fortifications, air raid shelters, cellars and similar underground ducts and structures?
- Proposals affecting gravel pits or quarries and natural cliff faces and rock outcrops with crevices or caves?
- All bridge structures, aqueducts and viaducts (especially over water and wet ground)?
- Lighting of churches and listed buildings or flood lighting of green space within 50m of woodland, water, field hedgerows or lines of trees with obvious connectivity to woodland or water?
- Affecting woodland, or field hedgerows and/or lines of trees especially those with obvious connectivity to woodland or water bodies?
- Proposals affecting or within 200*m of rivers, streams, canals, lakes, or other aquatic habitats.
- Buildings and walls with thick, dense ivy covering?
- Tall walls (higher than 2m) with crevices present?
- Proposed tree work (felling or lopping) and/or development affecting?
 - old and veteran trees, and trees that are older than 100 years?
 - trees with obvious holes, cracks or cavities?
 - trees with a girth greater than 1m at chest height?
 - trees with substantial coverings of ivy?

Yes/No

Question 7: Barn owls

Does the proposal include modification, conversion, demolition or removal of dwellings or trees and structures of the following types (please indicate which):

- All agricultural buildings (e.g. farmhouses and barns)?
- Works to trees with large cavities and/or development that would affect trees of this type?

Yes/No

Is the proposal or associated activities in proximity (100m) to any of the above.

Yes/No

Question 8: Breeding Birds

Does the proposal affect:

- Agricultural buildings?
- Gravel pits or quarries and natural cliff faces and rock outcrops with crevices or caves?
- Rivers, streams, canals, lakes, or other aquatic habitats?
- Proposals affecting 'derelict' land (brownfield sites), allotments and railway land?
- Woodland, or field hedgerows and/or lines of trees?

- Trees and shrubs especially those with obvious holes, cracks and cavities?

Yes/No

Question 9: Badgers

Does the proposal site include or is within 30m of:

- 'Derelict' land (brownfield sites), allotments and railway land?
- Woodland, or field hedgerows and/or lines of trees?
- Linear features including hedgerows, drainage ditches and lines of trees?

Yes/No

Question 10: Habitats and species of principal importance

Are any of the following features/habitat types present within the proposal site or may be affected by the proposal? (Please indicate which):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedgerows • Ponds • Traditional orchards • Trees and woodland • Wildflower grassland • Wet ditches, drains and watercourses • Standing open water and reedbeds • Fen, marsh and swamp • Wet meadow • Wildflower rich meadows and grassland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood pasture parkland • Trees and scrub used for nesting by breeding birds • Brownfield land of biodiversity interest, such as abandoned brick kilns, factories, industrial and former minerals sites. • Natural and Semi Natural green spaces (e.g. parks, allotments, churchyards and cemeteries, shelterbelts, road verges and railway embankments) |
|---|---|

Yes/No

Please note that species of principal importance are often found in the above habitats. A phase 1 habitat survey of the above should (where appropriate) make recommendations for further survey work for species of principal importance.

Further action for questions 1- 10:

Where a positive answer is given to any of questions 1 to 10, a phase 1 habitat/scoping survey should be carried out by a suitably experienced ecologist to determine what further survey work is required. Any further survey work which is recommended should be carried out and a report as outlined in the guidance notes must accompany a planning application. A phase 1 habitat/scoping survey may also be able to rule out the need to carry out further survey work.

Question 11: Nationally and Internationally important wildlife sites

Does the proposal overlie or is within 2000m of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) but not fall within one of the exceptions listed for SSSI in the guidance notes accompanying this checklist?

Yes/No

If yes you may need to consider if the proposal could result in damage to the wildlife value of the nationally or internationally protected site. It may be necessary to submit supporting information to show that the proposal will not impact upon a SSSI, or that adverse impact will be anticipated and avoided or mitigated for. You should consult Natural England with respect to if the proposal is likely

to impact a SSSI. Please attach to your application a copy of correspondence exchanged with Natural England.

Question 12: County Wildlife Sites (CWS)

Is the proposal:

- Within an urban area, overlying or bordering a County Wildlife Site?
- Outside of the urban area, overlying or bordering a County Wildlife Site?
- Outside of the urban area, but within 250m of a County Wildlife Site and not fall under one of the exceptions listed in the guidance notes?

Yes/No

If so, you may need to consider if the proposal could result in damage to the wildlife value of the site. It may therefore be necessary to submit supporting information to show that the proposal will not impact upon the CWS, or that impacts will be anticipated and avoided or mitigated. You should therefore either:

- Consult the City Council’s Natural Environment team with respect to what further consideration is likely to be required to accompany a planning application.
- Submit a reasoned justification of why further consideration is not required.

Please attach a copy of any correspondence exchanged with the City Council in this respect to your planning application.

Question 13: Trees and Woodland

Does the proposal contain or is it within 15m of woodland or an old(more than 100 years)/veteran tree?

Yes/No

If yes, an arboricultural impact assessment will be required. Please refer to the guidance notes which accompany this checklist in this respect and must accompany a planning application.

Details of person responsible for completing checklist

Name: _____ **Relationship to proposal:**
(e.g. agent, applicant, ecological consultant)

Declaration:
Being familiar with the proposal and site in question the information supplied above is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____