

## **Appendix 6.4 Badger Survey Report**

May 24, 2012

FAO Richard May  
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**By e-mail**

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Dear Richard

**THE QUAYS – DEVELOPMENT PHASE 1  
SUMMARY OF SITE INSPECTION FOR BADGERS**

To assist with the discharge of Full Planning Condition 9 and Outline Condition 31 for The Quays development, Soltys Brewster Ecology were commissioned to conduct a Badger survey in the area associated with Phase 1 of the development (West Pond). The enabling works associated with Phase 1 are scheduled to begin from mid June 2012 and in-line with the Ecological Mitigation Strategy<sup>1</sup> a dedicated badger survey was programmed to be undertaken within 4 weeks of the commencement of works at the site.

A site walkover was undertaken on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012 by a suitably experienced ecologist and included a search within the boundary of Phase 1 and the immediately surrounding areas for evidence of use by Badgers (including latrine sites, mammal paths, snuffle holes, hair traces and footprints) and for any type of Badger sett.

During the survey undertaken on the 14<sup>th</sup> May no evidence of Badgers was found in the area associated with Phase 1 of the development, although a number of small burrows likely to be occupied by Rabbits *Oryctolagus cuniculus* and rabbit droppings were noted along the site boundaries, in particular the western boundary. Previous surveys undertaken in the area associated with Phase 1 of the development found no evidence to suggest Badgers were using the area (including site walkovers undertaken in December 2011 and January 2012). The Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey undertaken over the entire Quays site in 2008 identified some evidence of the possible presence of Badgers in parts of East Quay. However subsequent inspection found that the excavations present on site were unlikely to be suitable for use by Badgers, although it is possible that badgers may have foraged in the area in the past leaving some evidence of their presence.

No evidence was found to suggest Badgers are using the area associated with Phase 1 of the development and as a result no further consideration of Badgers would be required during this phase of the development. It is recommended that update Badger surveys are undertaken prior to the commencement of future phases of the development in the South Quay and East Quay areas as per the relevant planning condition (Outline Condition 31).

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<sup>1</sup> Soltys Brewster Ecology (2012) *The Quays – Development Phase 1 - Ecological Mitigation Strategy*.

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We trust that the findings of the site visit are clearly described and assist with discharging the relevant condition but should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



**Annabelle Phillips**  
**Ecologist**