

Farncombe House
Farncombe Estate
Broadway
Worcestershire
W12 7LJ

t: 01763 848084
e: info@ecologysolutions.co.uk
w: www.ecologysolutions.co.uk



6283: LAND AT ST NICHOLAS – 2015/00249/FUL

BRIEFING NOTE: ECOLOGY CONSULTATION RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION

1. Ecology Solutions was commissioned by Redrow Homes Ltd in April 2014 to undertake an Ecological Assessment of Land at St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan.
2. The proposals for the Application Site are for residential development together with associated areas of hardstanding, landscape planting and open space (application 2015/00249/FUL).
3. A consultation response with regard to the ecological information submitted was received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council in April 2016.
4. The information set out below provides a response to the comments received from the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

COMMENTS THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Comment 1

5. Total length of (native) hedgerow on site = **742.7m**
6. Length of hedgerow to be retained = **716.9m**
7. Length of hedgerow on site to be translocated = **0m**
8. Length of hedgerow to be improved (i.e. gaps filled, non-native species replaced with native species) = **243m²**
9. Length of hedgerow on site to be lost completely and permanently = **25.8m**
10. Length of hedgerow on site to be created = **935.4m**
11. Length of hedgerow on site to be “bolster planted” as recommended = **243m²**

Comment 2

12. Hedgerow after development – Total length of (native) hedgerow on site = **1678.1m**

Comment 3

13. Of the hedgerow on site post-development, how much of the hedgerow will be within a curtilage, or form part/all of the boundary features = 982.1m

Comment 4

14. Of the mature trees being retained on site, how many will be within curtilages = 1
15. And how many will be outwith the curtilages = 0

Comment 5

16. Numbers of trees (not including hedgerow plants) to be planted = 150

Comment 6

“As per recommendation 7.11, please show the areas of Public Open space and indicative planting/seeding regimes for each area. Indicate what proportion of POS will be low diversity grassland and what proportion will be species-rich flower meadow areas (or other)?”

17. The soft works layout shows the two are of local open space. The LEAP will be 5% wildflower meadow planting and 95% amenity grassland. The LAP will be 20% wildflower meadow planting and 80% amenity grassland

Comment 7

“As per recommendation 7.30, please indicate the numbers of bird boxes to be incorporated into the development on buildings and/or trees. [we suggest one box per 4 houses]”

18. 25 Schwegler 1B bird boxes within placed within the proposed development on suitable trees and buildings.

Comment 8

“Provide an indication of the type and location of interceptor fencing to prevent silt laden surface runoff from the construction site entering watercourses/waterbodies.”

19. The use of interceptor fencing and silt traps will be utilised should silt laden surface runoff into water courses / water bodies be identified. The nearest water body is pond P1 to the northeast of the site and therefore fencing will likely be positioned along the northeast boundary of the site. The type of fencing to be utilised will be a geotextile supported by wooden pickets with a section submerged underground.

Comment 9

“Please provide details of the mechanisms by which Great Crested Newt on site will be prevented from accidental killing and entrapment by entering the drainage system as proposed.”

20. Offset gully pots and dropped kerbs will be utilised throughout the site to ensure Great Crested Newts do not get trapped and can commute within the proposed development.