

Great Crested Newt Impact Report

Non-licensed Avoidance Measures for Great Crested Newts

It is considered that there is only a low risk that individual great crested newts could be present in the area that the artificial pitch is being installed, so the work could go ahead lawfully.

The pitch itself is on the edge of the cricket square furthest away from the pond, approximately 250m away. This distance is right on the border of the Great Crested Newts area that it would normally travel from its breeding pond. The square itself is devoid of grass of a length more than 10mm, so would generally be avoided by the newts. The pitch itself is 84m² and this would be in an area of approx. 40,000m² of grassland, which itself is surrounded by hedgerows and long grass, which is more suited to the Newts habitat.

In order to minimise the small risk of harming great crested newts, the following avoidance measures will be adopted:

Normally during construction the following would be adhered to minimise the small risk of harming great crested newts.

Any vegetation in the construction area will be kept closely mown

Any open excavations and trenches will be backfilled before nightfall, or alternatively, escape ramps will be installed to allow

newts to escape if they become trapped;

Any stored building materials such as bricks etc. that might offer shelter for newts will be kept raised off the ground on pallets or on existing hard standing.

However, the installer has advised that the pitch installation will be completed in one day. If the installation exceeds one day, they will follow the above guidelines.

In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is found during the construction, works will stop immediately, and a licensed ecologist will be called onto site to ensure the newt is not harmed and provide further advice on how to proceed; work will recommence only once further written advice has been received.