Ecological Appraisal

Springfield

Swallowfields

November 2026 (v01)

DEEPDENE
ECOLOGY

Project details		
Site name	Springfield, Trowes Lane, Swallowfield, RG7 1RN	
Client	Mr & Mrs Meakin	
Survey type & date	Walkover survey, 29th October 2026	
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Data within this report is valid for a maximum of 18 months from the date of the survey. After this period, an updated site visit will be required to determine a new ecological baseline. More up-to-date survey data may be required for a planning application or licensing, depending on conditions and impacts.

Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this report and its contents, in view of potential ecological constraints to development or the likely presence or absence of species, it must only be viewed as a snap-shot in time and, therefore, not be viewed as definitive. Due to external factors, such as seasonality, weather etc, having the potential to affect survey results, no liability can be assumed for omissions or changes that may, or may not occur, after the date this report was produced.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SITE	• A detached barn set within a residential garden.
PROPOSAL	• It is proposed to construct a side extension to the barn on the western elevation.
SURVEY COMPLETED	• Desk based assessment. • Walkover survey including a Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PRA). • Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment of a nearby waterbody. • The Site is not subject to any designations, does not contain priority habitat and is less than 0.2ha in size and as such, is subject to a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) exemption.
KEY FINDINGS	• From the walkover survey, the Site was comprised of buildings and hardstanding (developed land; sealed surface), bramble scrub and ruderal habitat. • Given the small scale of the proposals and the distance from any statutory, non-statutory designated sites and valuable habitats, it is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts subject to some pollution prevention measures during construction. • The barn (B1) was assessed as having negligible suitability to support roosting bats. No emergence surveys are therefore required. • The Site was considered to have low suitability to support bats (foraging/commuting), individual reptiles, individual amphibians, nesting birds, hedgehogs [redacted] • Precautionary mitigation measures have been recommended for minimising potential impacts on other protected/notable species during any Site vegetation clearance, demolition and construction.
OVERALL FINDING	• The proposed works area is predominantly of low ecological value, comprising common and widespread habitats. • Mitigation measures have been recommended to ensure the proposals will minimise any potential impacts on protected/notable species and protected sites/habitats. • Enhancement measures have been recommended which, when implemented, will result in an overall net gain for biodiversity at the Site.

CONTENTS

			Page
1	INTRODUCTION		6
	1.1	Background	6
	1.2	The Site	6
	1.3	Proposed development	7
	1.4	Scope of the Assessment	7
2	LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT		8
3	METHODOLOGY		8
	3.1	Desk study	8
	3.2	Field survey	9
	3.2.1	Walkover survey	9
	3.2.2	Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PRA)	10
	3.2.3	Categorisation of bat roosting potential	10
	3.2.4	Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment	11
	3.3	Limitations	11
4	EVALUATION		12
5	RESULTS – ECOLOGICAL DESIGNATIONS		14
	5.1	Statutory designated sites	14
	5.2	Non-statutory designated sites	14
	5.3	Valuable habitats and habitat connectivity	15
6	FIELD SURVEY – HABITATS		15
	6.1	Developed land; sealed surface and artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (u1b5 u1b6 u1c)	15
	6.1.1	Evaluation	15
	6.2	Bramble scrub (h3d)	15
	6.2.1	Evaluation	16
	6.3	Ruderal Habitat (u1 81 16)	16
	6.3.1	Evaluation	16
	6.4	Summary	16
7	PROTECTED AND NOTABLE SPECIES		19
	7.1	Mammals	19
	[redacted]		
	7.1.2	Bats	19
	7.1.3	Dormice	21
	7.1.4	Hedgehogs	21
	7.2	Birds	22
	7.3	Reptiles and amphibians	22
	7.3.1	Amphibians	22
	7.3.2	Reptiles	23

	7.4	Invertebrates	24
8	DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MITIGATION		24
	8.1	Habitats on Site	24
	[redacted]		
	8.3	Bats	26
	8.3.1	Foraging and commuting bats	26
	8.4	Nesting birds	26
	8.5	Reptiles & Amphibians	27
9	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCEMENTS		28
	9.1	Habitats	28
	9.2	Protected and notable species	28
	9.2.1	Roosting bats	28
10	CONCLUSION		29
11	BIBLIOGRAPHY		30

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Deepdene Ecology Ltd was instructed by Mrs V. Meakin to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) in support of a planning application at 'Springfields, Trowes Lane, Swallowfield, RG7 1RN' (from hereon in referred to as the 'Site'). It is proposed for the construction of an extension on the western elevation of the existing barn.

1.1.1 Biodiversity net gain (BNG) statement

An ecological constraints assessment was undertaken by Deepdene Ecology in October 2026 and that has helped to inform this assessment. The habitat assessment recorded no priority habitats within the Site and there was no evidence of degradation during the assessment. The Site is small (~0.1ha) and as such, in combination with the lack of priority habitats on Site, it is confirmed that the proposed development meets the required Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) exemption[1]. A BNG assessment is not required in support of the application.

1.2 The Site

The Site (TQ 12097 61415) includes an existing driveway and barn (see **Figure 1** & **2**). The Site is bordered by Trowes Lane on the northeastern boundary and agricultural land to the north, south and western boundary with the eastern boundary consisting of the existing residential curtilage of Springfield.

The Site is in a relatively rural position with farms and residential properties present in the immediate area. In the wider area there are pasture and arable fields, and woodland copses.



Figure 1: Site boundary (indicative only). Image taken from Google Earth.

[1] https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain-exempt-developments (Accessed November 2026).



Figure 2: Site context (indicative only). Image taken from Google Earth.

1.3 Proposed development

A planning application will be submitted to Wokingham Borough Council for the construction of a single storey side extension to the existing barn.

A full set of drawings will be provided with the planning application with the existing and proposed Site Plans provided in **Appendix B**.

1.4 Scope of the Assessment

This report presents ecological information obtained during a desk study and walkover survey undertaken in October 2026 and follows best practice guidance[2].

The walkover survey included an assessment of the potential of the habitats within the Site to support any relevant protected or notable species to ensure that no valuable habitats/protected species are adversely affected by the proposed development.

The purpose of the appraisal is to satisfy the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) by identifying the potential impacts of the proposed development on protected species and features of ecological value. The findings also help inform how the development can help contribute to local biodiversity priorities, in accordance with the local

[2] CIEEM, (2017). *Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Second Edition*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

planning policy, and in-line with the British Standard 42020 (2013) Biodiversity: Code of Practice for Planning and Development.

This report identifies the need for any measures to avoid or mitigate damage and disturbance to species, and provides recommendations for further ecological surveys, as required.

2 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The relevant legislation and planning policy is outlined in **Appendix A**. Where possible, this report has provided guidance on how the proposals can meet the requirements of both local planning policy (Wokingham Borough Council) and the NPPF.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Desk study

A detailed desk study was undertaken to inform this assessment with baseline information collated from the following sources:

- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website[3] –
  - To identify statutory designated sites of nature conservation importance within 2km of the Site and extended to 5km for Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs);
  - To identify any valuable habitats, granted European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licences, great crested newt survey and class licence returns within 2km of the Site; and
  - To determine if the Site was within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone (IRZ).
- Wokingham Borough Council Planning Policy Map (Wokingham Borough Council, 2026)[4] - to identify non-statutory designated sites (Local Wildlife Sites) within a 1km radius around the Site;
- Google Earth - use and analysis of aerial photographs to consider the surrounding landscape and identify any potential features that bats may use to access the Site (including hedgerows and lines of mature trees).

A search for water bodies was carried out within 250m of the Site boundary using the Ordnance Survey website (http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/), and aerial photography (http://maps.google.co.uk).

[3] MAGIC – www.magic.gov.uk (accessed November 2026).
[4] Wokingham Borough Council Planning Maps, https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/planning-policy/adopted-development-plan/policies-map (Accessed November 2026)

3.2 Field survey

3.2.1 Walkover survey

A walkover survey of the Site was undertaken which mapped the existing habitats on Site and assessed their potential to support protected/notable species. Photographs were taken and these are shown in **Sections 6** & **7**.

The survey was completed by Nadine Clark BSc MSc MCIEEM on the 29th October 2026.

Habitat survey

The main habitats within the Site were mapped using the UK Habitat Classification system[5] (UKHabs) with features of ecological interest highlighted as Target Notes (TN) in **Figure 3.** The system comprises a principal hierarchy (the Primary Habitats), which include ecosystems, broad habitats, Priority Habitats and Annex 1 habitats, and non-hierarchical Secondary Codes. Any Secondary Codes selected are appropriate to the Site and habitats recorded.

Protected/notable species

During the walkover survey, the potential for notable/protected fauna to occur in or adjacent to the Site was also assessed. The following assessments were undertaken in respect of the presence of the following legally protected species:

- Assessment of the terrestrial habitat suitability for amphibians, including great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*;
- Assessment of suitable habitats for reptiles;
- Assessment of the habitat suitability for nesting birds;
- Assessment of habitat suitability for hazel dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius;* and

[redacted]

Consideration was given to the potential for the Site to support other notable habitats and species of conservation interest, including:

- Species of Principal Importance for the conservation of biodiversity listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006); and
- Previously listed UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats and Species.

Whilst every effort is made to notify the client of any plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA (1981) (as amended) present on Site, it should be noted that this was not a specific survey for these species.

[5] UKHab Ltd, (2023). *The UK Habitat Classification, Version 2.0*. Available online: https://www.ukhab.org.

3.2.2 Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PRA)

During the walkover survey, a detailed PRA was also undertaken to look for potential roosting opportunities and any evidence of bats at the buildings. The inspection was undertaken in accordance with guidance provided by the Bat Conservation Trust (Collins, 2023) and (Mitchell-Jones & McLeish, 2004).

The external inspection comprised of searching for potential access points or roosting locations such as crevices or holes within the brickwork, around windows, missing, broken or slipped tiles, gaps beneath barge boards, soffits and facias, and any lifted flashing or roof tiles. Evidence of bats such as droppings on window sills or oil staining from bat fur was also searched for. The survey was conducted from the ground around the buildings and was aided by binoculars and a high-powered torch.

The internal inspection assessed the complexity and size of any internal spaces and daytime light levels. A search was also undertaken for potential access points and evidence of roosting bats such as bat droppings, oil staining from bat fur, feeding remains and actual bats.

The weather conditions were dry and cloudy and approximately 15°C and the survey was unconstrained.

Categorisation of bat roosting potential

Following the inspections and taking account of the habitat features, the building was then assigned a level of potential bat roost suitability based on the criteria given in the '*Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines, 4th Edition*' (Collins, 2023) and professional judgement (see **Table 1**).

Table 1: Classifying the bat roosting suitability of buildings (Collins, 2023).

Level of bat roosting potential	Rationale
None	No habitat features on Site likely to be used by any roosting bats at any time of the year (i.e. a complete absence of crevices/suitable shelter at all ground/underground levels).
Negligible	No obvious habitat features on Site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.
Low	A structure with one or more features that could be opportunistically used by individual bats. Unlikely to support maternity or hibernation roosts.
Moderate	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support roosts of high conservation status.

High	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat.
Confirmed roost	Evidence of bat occupation found.

3.2.3 Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment

Waterbodies were present within 250m of the Site and where accessible, they were subject to a Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) survey (Oldham et al., 2000)[6]. A HSI survey assesses the suitability of a waterbody to support great crested newts based on ten habitat factors with the score between 0 and 1. Scores close to 0 indicate unsuitable habitat with 1 representing optimal habitat:

- <0.5 Poor suitability
- 0.5 – 0.59 Below average suitability
- 0.6 – 0.69 Average suitability
- 0.7 – 0.79 Good suitability
- >0.8 Excellent suitability

Whilst HSI isn't a substitute for newt surveys, research does indicate that great crested newts are highly likely to be in waterbodies scoring higher than 0.8 and unlikely in water bodies less than 0.5 (Sellars, 2010)[7]. Results have to be viewed with caution as there is a 3-8% chance of a pond with 'poor' (<0.5) suitability supporting great crested newts (Sellars, 2010).

3.3 Limitations

Ecological surveys are limited by factors which affect the presence of plants and animals such as the time of year, migration patterns and behaviour. The ecological walkover survey has not produced a complete list of animals within the Site and the absence of evidence of any particular species should not be taken as conclusive proof that the species is not present, or that it may not be present in the future. Nevertheless, the results of the ecological survey allow evaluation of potential constraints and the potential for negative impacts from the proposed works.

[redacted]

[6] Oldham R.S., Keeble J., Swan M.J.S. & Jeffcote M., 2000. Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*). *Herpetological Journal* 10(4), 143-155.
[7] Sellars, C., 2010. *In Practice*, September 2010.p.22-25.

4 EVALUATION

Based on the desk study and field survey results, an ecological evaluation of the Site was undertaken using a combination of evaluation criteria for habitats and species, following the general framework provided by CIEEM (*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial and Freshwater*, 2018).

These guidelines aim to give consistency in evaluating the importance of the ecological features within and around a Site, which help inform any effects or impacts a scheme will have upon them.

A value of the ecological features (designated sites or habitats) has been assigned according to their level of importance using the terms outlined in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Examples of the criteria used to define the value/sensitivity of ecological receptors.

Level of value/sensitivity	Examples of criteria
International	**Very high importance and rarity, international scale and limited potential for substitution:** An internationally designated site or candidate site (SPA, SAC, Ramsar Site, Biogenetic reserve). Internationally significant and viable areas of a habitat type listed in Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive. Regularly occurring globally threatened species. Any regularly occurring populations of species listed on Schedules 2 or 5 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 that are rare or threatened in the UK or of uncertain conservation status. A regularly occurring significant population/number of any internationally important species.
National (UK or England)	**High importance and rarity, national scale and limited potential for substitution:** A nationally designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserve (NNR) or a discrete area which meets the published selection criteria for national designation irrespective of whether it has yet to be notified. A viable area of a UK priority habitat or smaller areas of such habitat that is essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. A regularly occurring significant population/number of any nationally important species i.e. listed on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Any regularly occurring population of a nationally important species that is threatened or rare in the county or region. A priority habitat or species featured on the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework.
Regional or County	**High or moderate importance and rarity, regional scale, limited potential for substitution:** Viable areas of habitat or smaller areas of such a habitat which are essential to maintain the viability of the larger whole.

	Regional/County significant and viable areas of habitat identified as being of regional value in the appropriate Natural England Natural Area. Any regularly occurring significant population of a species listed as being nationally scarce, or on the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework or relevant Natural Area on account of its regional rarity or localisation. Significant populations of a regionally/county important species (those listed on the Priority List). Sites such as County Wildlife Sites (CWS) or Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) selected on Regional/County criteria. Any regularly occurring significant population of a protected/notable species on account of its rarity or localisation.
Borough	**Low or moderate importance and rarity, borough scale:** Areas identified in the relevant natural area profile. Sites/features that are scarce within the locality or which appreciably enrich the local area's habitat resource. A diverse and/or ecologically important, valuable hedgerow network. A significant population of a locally important species. Species populations of local importance.
Local	**Very low importance and rarity, local scale:** Areas of habitat considered to appreciably enrich the habitat resource within the study area itself. A small population of a species of conservation.
Site	Habitats with limited value beyond their capacity to support common and widespread species.
Negligible	Habitats of intrinsically low ecological value including amenity grassland and hard standing.

At the PEA stage, it is not possible to assign value to any species and instead, the potential for the Site to support the species is assessed and recommendations are provided for further surveys/mitigation.

5 RESULTS – ECOLOGICAL DESIGNATIONS

5.1 Statutory designated sites

There are two nationally statutory designated sites within 2km of the Site and one internationally designated site within 5km (see **Table 3**).

Table 3: Statutory designated sites within 2km.

Site Name	Distance & direction	Description
Internationally designated sites		
Thames Basin Heaths SPA	2.1km southeast	Internationally protected nature conservation designation covering areas of lowland heathland. The designation protects internationally important populations of three rare ground-nesting bird species: Dartford warbler *Curruca undata*, nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* and woodlark *Lullula arborea*.
Nationally designated sites		
The Marshes LNR	0.5km east	Planted woodland and pond.
Swallowfield Meadows LNR	0.65km north	A small site supporting ponds and meadow.

SPA: Special Protection Area; LNR: Local Nature Reserve.

The Site is within the 5km zone of influence for the Thames Basin Heath SPA, within which any development with a net gain in dwellings must provide mitigation. As the current proposals will not increase the number of residential units, no mitigation is required in relation to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA.

The Site falls within a SSSI impact zone but is not of a type or scale that requires further consultation with Natural England.

It is not anticipated that there will be any direct impacts to any statutory designated sites given the distance and small scale of the proposals. Statutory designated sites are not considered further in this report.

5.2 Non-statutory designated sites

There are two locally designated (Local Wildlife Sites, LWS) within 1km of the Site (see **Table 4**).

Table 4: Non-statutory designated sites within 1km.

Site Name	Distance & direction	Description
St. Leger's Copse, Collin's Copse LWS	0.7km west	Ancient woodland habitat

The Marshes, Riseley LWS	1km southwest	Contains wood pasture and parkland BAP habitat and deciduous woodland priority habitat.

It is not anticipated that the proposals will result in any negative impacts to non-statutory designated sites given the distance away, the small scale of the proposals and the intervening habitats. Therefore, non-statutory designated sites will not be considered again in this assessment.

5.3 Valuable habitats and habitat connectivity

There are a few small pockets of Priority Deciduous Woodland (Section 41 NERC Act habitat of principal importance) and Ancient Woodland in all directions in the wider landscape. The closest Priority Deciduous Woodland is located approximately 130m north. The closest pocket of Ancient Woodland is approximately 300m to the northeast.

Given the small scale of the proposals, there will not be any direct impacts on the nearby valuable woodland. No specific mitigation measures are therefore required, although standard good practice pollution prevention measures should be followed during construction.

6 FIELD SURVEY – HABITATS

The main habitats within the Site have been described below and are depicted on the map in **Figure 3** with photographs in **Table 5**.

6.1 Developed land; sealed surface and artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (u1b5 u1b6 u1c)

The Site contained an existing driveway, the barn, and hardcore areas (Photographs 1-3, **Table 5**). The areas of driveway and hardcore had not been encroached by vegetation apart from some small areas of ruderals and bramble scrub which have been recorded separately.

6.1.1 Evaluation

The building and areas of hardstanding/hardcore support limited botanical interest with little encroachment by vegetation due to their regular use. As such, these habitats are considered to be of negligible ecological value. The building's potential to support roosting bats is discussed separately in **Section 7**.

6.2 Bramble scrub (h3d)

There was a small area of bramble scrub in the northwestern corner of the Site which had developed where management had not been undertaken (Photograph 4, **Table 5**). The habitat was dominated by bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. with nettle *Urtica dioica*, red dead-nettle *Lamium purpureum* and hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium* also present.

6.2.1 Evaluation

The bramble provided some cover and foraging opportunities for local wildlife, although the area was small. Overall, the habitat is considered to be of Site level ecological value at most.

6.3 Ruderal habitat (u1 81 16)

There were two small areas of ruderal habitat which had developed in areas where regular activities and vehicle movements were not occurring due to a fence and materials. Species recorded included mullein *Verbascum thapsus,* nettle, burdock *Arctium lappa*, bristly oxtongue *Helminthotheca echioides* and Canadian fleabane *Erigeron canadensis*.

6.3.1 Evaluation

The ruderal habitat provided little cover and was small and unconnected to other areas of natural habitat. As such, it was assessed as having negligible ecological value.

6.4 Summary

The Site supported common and widespread habitat types with very limited natural habitat present. The majority of the Site consisted of buildings and hardstanding with small areas of bramble scrub and ruderal habitat around the edges. The proposed works only involve the loss of the hardcore habitat.

Table 5: Habitats around the Site.

	
Photograph 1: Block paved driveway from Trowe Lane.	**Photograph 2**: Hardcore area in front and to the side of the barn.



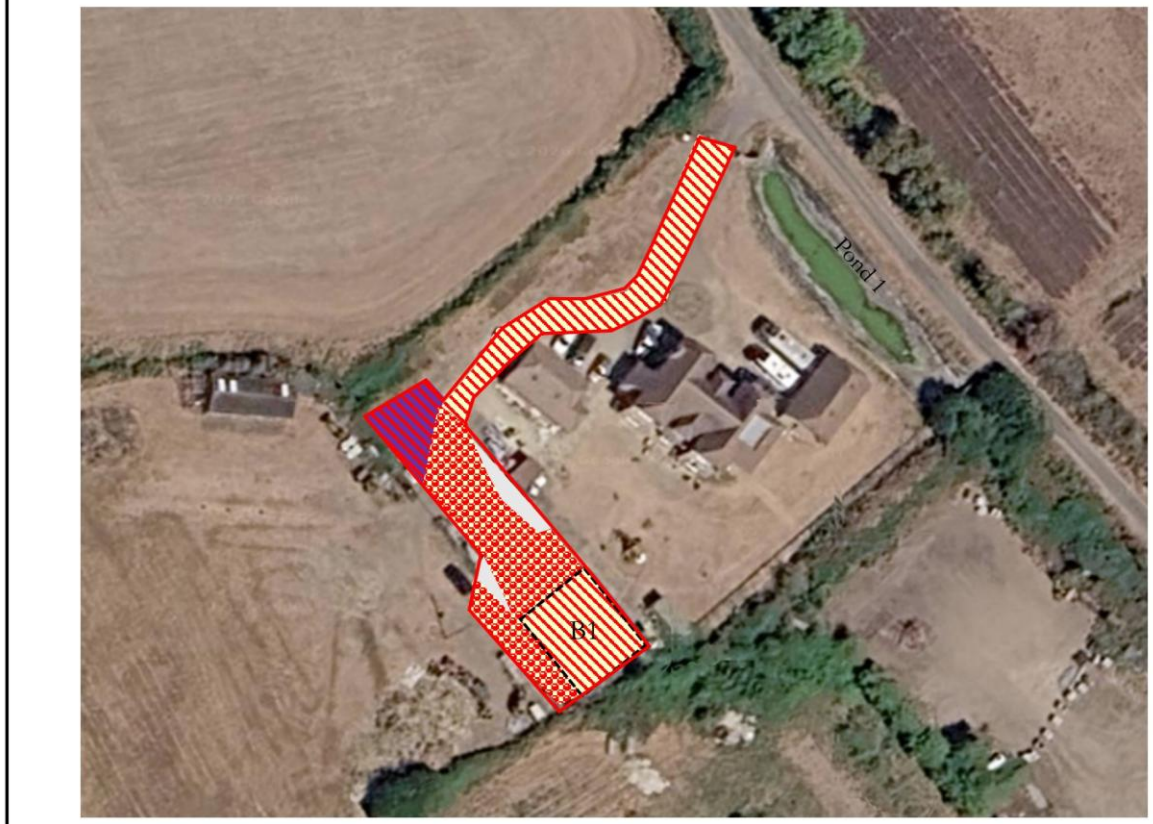
Photograph 3: Area of hardcore where new extension is proposed.



Photograph 4: Small area of bramble scrub present in the northwestern section of the Site.



Photograph 5: Small area of ruderal habitat starting to develop.



Legend

- Site boundary
- Developed Land/sealed surface
- Bramble scrub
- Artificial unvegetated/ unsealed surface
- Ruderal habitat
- Buildings

Project	Springfield, Swallowfield
Title	UK Habs Map
Drawing	Figure 3
Date	1st November 2026

7 PROTECTED AND NOTABLE SPECIES

The following section summarises the assessment of the Site's potential to support protected/notable species. Any relevant existing desk study information is also discussed.

7.1 Mammals

7.1.1 [redacted]

[redacted]

7.1.2 Bats

Desk study

There are three existing EPSM licences that have been granted for bats within 1km of the Site (see **Table 6**).

Table 6: Existing EPSM Licences within a 1km buffer.

Licence number	Distance & direction	Species	Description	Dates
EPSM2013-5997	0.7km northwest	Common pipistrelle Soprano pipistrelle	Destruction of resting place	2013-2014
EPSM2010-1956	1km north	Common pipistrelle Soprano pipistrelle	Destruction of resting place	2010-2012
2017-28675-EPS-MIT	1km southeast	Common pipistrelle Brown long-eared	Destruction of resting place	2017

Field survey- buildings

There was one building within the Site; the barn where the side extension is proposed (B1). The barn (B1) was subject to a PRA and the findings are provided in **Table 7** below.

Table 7: PRA Survey Findings

Building/Tree	Description	Survey findings	Bat suitability and recommendations	Photos
B1	Barn	**External**: This single storey barn had a breeze block base and corrugated metal walls. It had a metal roller door at the front. The roof was a gable corrugated metal roof with six clear plastic skylights. The edges of the corrugated metal sheets had been filled with expanding foam presenting potential roosting features or access points. There were two metal vents present, but these were tight fitting to the walls and no features suitable for roosting bats were noted. **Internal:** The building had two separate workshop areas with the roof set on a metal frame with wooden joists. The internal spaces were open to the roof with no enclosed roof voids. The skylight provided a light, airy internal space. There were no internal crevices noted that could support roosting bats. **No evidence of roosting bats was recorded during the assessment.**	**Negligible suitability-** no suitable potential roosting features noted. **No further surveys have been recommended.**	 

Field survey-Foraging and commuting

The Site contains small areas of natural habitat, including bramble scrub and the Site was connected to other nearby suitable habitats. These habitats are likely to be used by common species of bats for foraging and commuting.

Evaluation

Three species of bat were recorded within the desk study, but as this was only from EPSM licence data, this is likely to be skewed towards certain species most often found associated with buildings.

The building on Site (B1) was assessed as having negligible suitability to support roosting bats and therefore, no further surveys are required in relation to roosting bats.

The habitats present on Site are of low value to foraging and commuting bats. Therefore, mitigation measures in relation to lighting are required and have been provided in **Section 8** as a precaution.

7.1.3 Dormice

Desk study

There is one existing EPSM licence that has been granted for dormice within 2km of the Site. It is located approximately 1.3km to the south and was for the damage and destruction of a resting site.

Field survey

There was no habitat suitable to support dormice apart from a small section of bramble scrub which is not connected to other suitable habitat. No other suitable habitat for dormice was present on Site.

Evaluation

Whilst the Site falls within the dormouse's natural range, no woodland or hedgerow networks will be impacted by the proposals. There will not be a reduction in connectivity across the Site or wider landscape because of the proposals and the bramble scrub is not proposed to be impacted as part of the scheme. Therefore, dormice will not be considered any further within this assessment.

7.1.4 Hedgehogs

Field survey

The bramble habitat offered some potential to support foraging/commuting hedgehogs.

Evaluation

There is very limited potential for the Site to be used occasionally by hedgehogs, although no evidence of the species was found during the survey. Overall, there is considered to be low potential for hedgehogs to use the work area, and precautionary mitigation has been recommended in **Section 8**.

7.2 Birds

Field survey

The vegetation and buildings within the Site have the potential to support common and widespread species of nesting birds.

Evaluation

The Site offers a range of opportunities for bird species with the buildings and denser habitat providing the most suitable habitat for nesting. The Site is considered to be of value at the Site level for common species of nesting birds and precautionary mitigation has been recommended in **Section 8**.

7.3 Reptiles and amphibians

7.3.1 Amphibians

Desk study

There is one existing EPSM licence that has been granted for great crested newts within 2km of the Site. This licence, issued in 2015, is located 1km to the north of the Site and was for the damage and destruction of breeding and resting sites for the species. There is also a survey licence return associated with the licence application.

Great crested newts typically will use habitat within 250m/500m of a waterbody. Surveys of land greater than 250m from the nearest waterbody are normally appropriate when all of the following conditions are met (Natural England, 2015):

a) Maps, aerial photos, walkover surveys or other data indicate that the waterbodies have potential to support a large great crested newt population;
b) The development footprint contains particularly favourable habitat, especially if it constitutes the majority available locally;
c) The development would have a substantial negative effect on that habitat; and
d) There is an absence of dispersal barriers.

The proposed project does not meet the criteria above, and therefore consideration is only required for land and waterbodies within 250m of the Site.

There is a lined pond adjacent to the Site (SU 72567 64013) but no other ponds are located within 250m of the Site that can be seen from OS or aerial images.

Field survey

There are no waterbodies present on Site. There was a single lined pond adjacent to Trowe Lane, approximately 65m from the proposed works and this pond was subject to a HSI assessment (see Photograph 1 in **Table 8**). The pond was found to be of 'below average' suitability (0.55) and a section of the pond, just outside of the curtilage of Springfield, appeared to have dried up due to encroachment by willow. The HSI assessment of the pond is detailed within **Appendix C**.

Great crested newts spend a large amount of time on land and so both breeding ponds and terrestrial habitat around breeding ponds are protected and require assessment where there is likely to be an impact to the species.

The Site provides limited value to amphibians as it was dominated by hardstanding and artificial, unvegetated habitats. The bramble scrub and ruderal habitat will not be impacted by the proposals. The works area consisted of buildings and hardcore and as such, these habitats have no ecological value, lacking refugia and offering minimal opportunities for foraging or shelter for protected or notable species. No dense habitat or log piles/refugia will be impacted by the proposals.

Evaluation

The habitats on Site that will be directly affected by the proposed work, primarily buildings and hardstanding, are suboptimal for great crested newts, providing minimal opportunities for foraging or shelter.

There was one pond within 250m of the Site, but this was assessed as being 'below average' in suitability for great crested newts. Previous applications at Springfield, for example for the construction of a single storey annex (Planning reference: 223699), have provided a reasonable avoidance measures (RAMS) working methodology and no great crested were found during works. Therefore, great crested newts are not likely to be present on Site.

The proposed works are very small in scale and will not impact natural habitats. However, to eliminate any residual risk to individual newts, precautionary mitigation measures are detailed in **Section 8**.

7.3.2 Reptiles

Field survey

The habitats within the works area of the Site consisted of buildings and hardstanding, which are not optimal habitat for reptiles and the habitats are unlikely to support a population of reptiles. No suitable habitat was noted on Site for the rarer species of reptiles either.

Evaluation

There is a very low potential for individual common reptiles to be present on Site within the works area given the poor quality habitat and lack of foraging and sheltering opportunities. No further surveys are recommended; however, precautionary mitigation for individual reptiles has been provided in **Section 8**.

7.4 Invertebrates

Field survey

The Site is dominated by common and widespread habitats that are typical of residential curtilages. These habitats do not offer any nectar-rich sources or mosaic of habitats typically required by notable invertebrate species.

Evaluation

The Site was not considered suitable to support a notable invertebrate assemblage. Therefore, no further surveys or assessments for invertebrates are considered necessary.

Table 8: Protected Species Assessment.



Photograph 1: Lined pond adjacent to Trowe Lane.

8 DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MITIGATION

This section summarises the findings of the desk study and walkover survey and provides recommendations for any mitigation based on the current layout.

8.1 Habitats on Site

It is recommended that the proposed works should minimise impacts on natural habitats wherever possible, although the habitats present on Site are common and widespread. This can be achieved through, for example, minimising vegetation clearance required, ensuring that the volumes of material required is calculated to minimise any necessary stockpiles, ensuring that any temporary stockpiles for materials required are placed on geotextile matting to

minimise impacts etc or alternatively making use of the existing hardstanding. In addition, best practice construction methods should be followed as described below:

- **Pollution prevention**
  - There must be adherence to current CIRIA good practice guidance (CIRIA C532, 2001) and Defra pollution control guidelines.
  - Run-off from construction activities is to be minimised through the use of appropriate control measures.
  - Chemicals, oils, and hazardous substances are to be stored securely on impermeable surfaces, with appropriate spill kits available.
  - No discharge of contaminants (including oil, vehicle washings, or concrete mixes) within or adjacent to retained habitats. Any such activities will take place only on hardstanding at a designated location outside the Site.
- **Dust and waste management**
  - Appropriate waste management procedures must be implemented throughout construction.
  - Dust control measures must be adopted, including use of screening during windy conditions, damping down of dust sources, and covering of loose materials.

The design proposals will predominantly impact the negligible value habitats since the works area was dominated by buildings and hardstanding. However, any mature trees close to the working area should be protected through the use of root protection zones following best practice guidelines (i.e. BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations).

[redacted]

8.3 Bats

8.3.1 Foraging and commuting bats

A variety of bat species are likely to forage/commute within the Site and artificial lighting is known to result in the loss of foraging habitat available and can also interfere with commuting routes from roosts (Stone, 2013). Therefore, there should be no night-time working or lighting. Operational lighting post-development should be kept to a minimum (and avoiding the woodland areas) and follow guidance from the Bat Conservation Trust 'Bats and artificial lighting at Night' (2023). This includes:

- Avoid artificial lighting close to any mature trees or woodland within the Site or close to the boundary;
- Directing any task lighting used during construction away from vegetation;
- White and blue wavelengths of the light spectrum should be avoided, and the brightness should be kept as low as feasibly possible;
- All luminaires should lack UV elements and metal halide fluorescent sources should not be used;
- LED luminaires are preferred due to the lower intensity, sharp 'cut-off', colour rendition and dimming capability;
- A warm white light source (2700Kelvin or lower) should be adopted to reduce the blue light component;
- Only luminaires with a negligible or zero Upward Light Ratio, and with good optical control, should be used;
- Luminaires should always be mounted horizontally, with no light output above 90° and/or no upward tilt;
- Any necessary security lighting should be set on short timers (e.g. 1 minute) with a sensitivity to large moving objects only;
- Lighting times will be limited to provide dark periods; and
- The height of columns will be carefully considered to avoid light spill.

If the measures above are fully implemented, it is considered that any bats utilising the Site during the construction phase of the development will be protected. It is not anticipated, given the small scale of the proposals that the lighting scheme will alter post development.

8.4 Nesting birds

The buildings and vegetation within the Site have the potential to support common species of nesting birds.

It is recommended that vegetation clearance/demolition is undertaken outside the bird nesting season, which is generally accepted to extend from late February-August inclusive (although dates vary by species and are subject to prevailing weather conditions).

If this is not possible, and vegetation clearance/demolition is required during the bird nesting season, the following measures will be implemented:

- The area to be removed should be inspected for evidence of nesting activity by a suitably experienced ecologist no more than 24 hours in advance of clearance.
- If this identifies any nesting activity the feature should be left undisturbed with an appropriate exclusion zone until the end of the nesting season or until the birds have fledged and it is confirmed that the nest is no longer in use.
- All resultant brash should be immediately moved away from the working area.

If the measures above are fully implemented, it is considered that nesting birds will be protected during the construction phase of the development.

8.5 Reptiles & amphibians

Given the lack of suitable habitat within the works area, great crested newts and reptiles are not considered likely to be present. However, in order to reduce this risk even further, the following Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) should be adopted:

- Prior to the beginning of works, an ecological toolbox talk should be provided which will include newt and reptile identification and what to do in the unlikely event that an animal is found.
- The retained habitat, outside the working area, should be clearly marked with fencing to ensure that no vehicle access or material storage occur during the works.
- Any vegetation clearance of longer sward vegetation (not currently anticipated) that is required, will be subject to a, sensitive, phased clearance within the reptile active period with works within the hibernation period (November-February inclusive) only permitted if no hibernation habitat is present and can be confirmed by an ecologist:
    - Any tall vegetation or scrub (none currently present on site), if present will be reduced to a height of approximately 250mm, with the arisings removed;
    - At least 24hrs later, the vegetation will be cut again to a height of approximately 150mm, in a directional manner moving towards suitable retained habitat. Arisings will be removed;
    - 48hrs later, or following a careful hand search, the soil strip can progress in areas where works will take place imminently. Once the soil strip has been undertaken, the area will be maintained as bare earth.
    - Vegetation removal will be undertaken towards the retained habitat to allow any animals to have access to the retained areas of habitat.
- Any materials required should be stored on areas of hardstanding or bare ground or stored on pallets.
- Waste should be put straight into skips or removed off Site as soon as possible.
- Excavations should be backfilled as soon as possible to avoid the creation of temporary waterbodies.

- If a great crested newt was found at any point (not considered likely), all works would stop and an ecologist should be consulted to agree an appropriate working approach. An assessment would be made regarding the requirement for a mitigation licence or low impact licence.

If the measures above are fully implemented, it is considered that reptiles and amphibians will be protected during the construction phase of the development.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCEMENTS

The NPPF states that local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity where possible when determining planning applications. The development plans should maximise opportunities for enhancement, in order to achieve a net increase in biodiversity. This is in accordance with the NERC Act (2006) which requires that "*every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat*."

The measures below will help improve the Site overall for biodiversity.

9.1 Habitats

The majority of the habitats on Site are of low ecological value and enhancement to habitats post-development is recommended. New native tree planting is proposed to the west of the new extension. Any new tree, shrub or hedgerow planting should include a diverse mix of native species, and a suitable list has been provided in **Appendix D.**

9.2 Protected and notable species

9.2.1 Roosting bats

At least one bat box should be installed on the new section of the building. Suitable boxes include the Improved Crevice Bat Box (**Figure 4**) or an Eco Bat Box (**Figure 5**). They should be installed at least 3.5m above the ground with no restricted flight lines by buildings or trees. The box should be installed away from windows and artificial light sources



Figure 4: Improved Crevice bat box



Figure 5: Eco Bat Box

10 CONCLUSION

[redacted]

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Appendix A – Summary of relevant legislation and policy

Legislation

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

The Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended) transposed the marine and terrestrial elements of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) and certain parts of the Wild Birds Directive (EC Directive 2009/147/EC) (known as the Nature Directives) into English law.

The duty of a competent authority in the 2017 Regulations is for the protection of sites or species and the competent authority is a public body, statutory undertaker, minister or department of government, or anyone holding public office.

The Habitats Regulations 2019 created a 'National Site Network' (NSN) on land and at sea, including both the inshore and offshore marine areas in the UK. The NSN includes:

- Existing Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), which are designated due to their importance to the habitats and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive;
- Existing Special Protection Areas (SPAs), which are designated due to their importance for wild birds in accordance with the Wild Birds Directive; and,
- New SACs and SPAs designated under these Regulations.

Designated Wetlands of International Importance (known as Ramsar sites) do not form part of the NSN. Many Ramsar sites overlap with SACs and SPAs and may be designated for the same or different species and habitats. All Ramsar sites remain protected in the same way as SACs and SPAs.

The 2019 Regulations sets out management objectives for the NSN, which are to:

- Maintain or, where appropriate, restore habitats and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive to a favourable conservation status; and,
- Contribute to ensuring, in their area of distribution, the survival and reproduction of wild birds and securing compliance with the overarching aims of the Wild Birds Directive.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended)

The WCA, as amended, consolidates and amends pre-existing national wildlife legislation in order to implement the Bern Convention and the Birds Directive. It offers protection to a wide range of species alongside the Habitat Regulations 2019 & 2017.

The Countryside Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000

The CRoW Act amends and strengthens existing wildlife legislation detailed in the WCA. It places a duty on government departments to have regard for biodiversity, and provides increased powers for the protection and maintenance of Sites of Special Scientific Interest

(SSSIs). Habitats and species are listed (Section 74) for which conservation measures should be promoted, in accordance with the recommendations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio Earth Summit) 1992.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

Under Section 40 of the NERC Act, a duty is placed upon all local authorities and public bodies in England and Wales to promote and enhance biodiversity in all of their functions. Lists of habitats and species (Section 41) of principal importance to the conservation of biodiversity are provided which supersede Section 74 of the CRoW Act 2000.

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

The Hedgerow Regulations protect 'important' hedgerows from being removed without permission from the Local Planning Authority. Hedgerows are protected if they are at least 30 years old and meet at least one of the criteria listed in part II of Schedule I.

Guidance

UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) has been replaced by the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (2012) and the England Biodiversity Strategy has been replaced by the 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services' (2011). This sets out how the quality of our environment on land and at sea will be improved over the next ten years and follows on from policies contained in the Natural Environment White Paper.

Species and Habitats of Material Consideration for Planning in England

Previous planning policy (and some supporting guidance which is still current, e.g. ODPM Circular 06/2005, now under revision), refers to UK BAP habitats and species as being a material consideration in the planning process. Equally many local plans refer to BAP priority habitats and species. Both remain as material considerations in the planning process but such habitats and species are now described as Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation in England, or simply priority habitats and priority species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. The list of habitats and species remains unchanged and is still derived from Section 41 list of the NERC Act 2006.

Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) August 2026

The NPPF aims to minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity. Chapter 15 '*Conserving and enhancing the natural environment*' details what local planning policies should consider with regard to planning applications.

Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- **N1 – Identifying environmental opportunities and safeguards:** Development plans should identify important biodiversity, landscape and geological features, protect areas of environmental value, and identify opportunities to restore habitats, strengthen ecological networks and support nature recovery.

- **N2 – Improving the natural environment:** Development should contribute positively to the natural environment by protecting and enhancing existing habitats and natural features, incorporating opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, supporting ecological networks and delivering Biodiversity Net Gain where applicable.

- **N3 – Trees in new development:** Development should incorporate trees where appropriate, ensure that new trees are suitably located and selected, and provide for their long-term management, recognising their benefits for biodiversity, climate resilience and the character of development.

- **N4 – Protected Landscapes:** Development within National Parks, the Broads and National Landscapes should conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and special qualities, with major development only supported in exceptional circumstances and subject to appropriate consideration of its impacts.

- **N5 – Maintaining the character of the coast:** Development affecting coastal areas should protect and enhance the character of the coast, including Heritage Coasts, and take account of the environmental effects of development and coastal change.

- **N6 – Areas of particular importance for biodiversity:** Development should protect designated sites and irreplaceable habitats according to their level of importance, with particularly strong protection for internationally and nationally important sites and irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodland and qualifying ancient or veteran trees. The policy also applies where development outside a designated site could affect its biodiversity or geodiversity interests.

Local Planning Policy

Wokingham Borough Local Development Framework- Adopted Core Strategy Development Plan Document adopted January 2010

The current Local Plan for Wokingham Borough Council consists of the Core Strategy (2010) until the proposed local plan is adopted.

CP7 – Biodiversity

Sites designated as of importance for nature conservation at an international or national level will be conserved and enhanced and inappropriate development will be resisted. The degree of

protection given will be appropriate to the status of the site in terms of its international or national importance.
Development:
A) Which may harm county designated sites (Local Wildlife Sites in Berkshire), whether directly or indirectly, or
B) Which may harm habitats or, species of principle importance in England for nature conservation, veteran trees or features of the landscape that are of major importance for wild flora and fauna (including wildlife and river corridors), whether directly or indirectly, or
C) That compromises the implementation of the national, regional, county and local biodiversity action plans will be only permitted if it has been clearly demonstrated that the need for the proposal outweighs the need to safeguard the nature conservation importance, that no alternative site that would result in less or no harm is available which will meet the need, and:
i) Mitigation measures can be put in place to prevent damaging impacts; or
ii) Appropriate compensation measures to offset the scale and kind of losses are provided.

CP8 - Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area

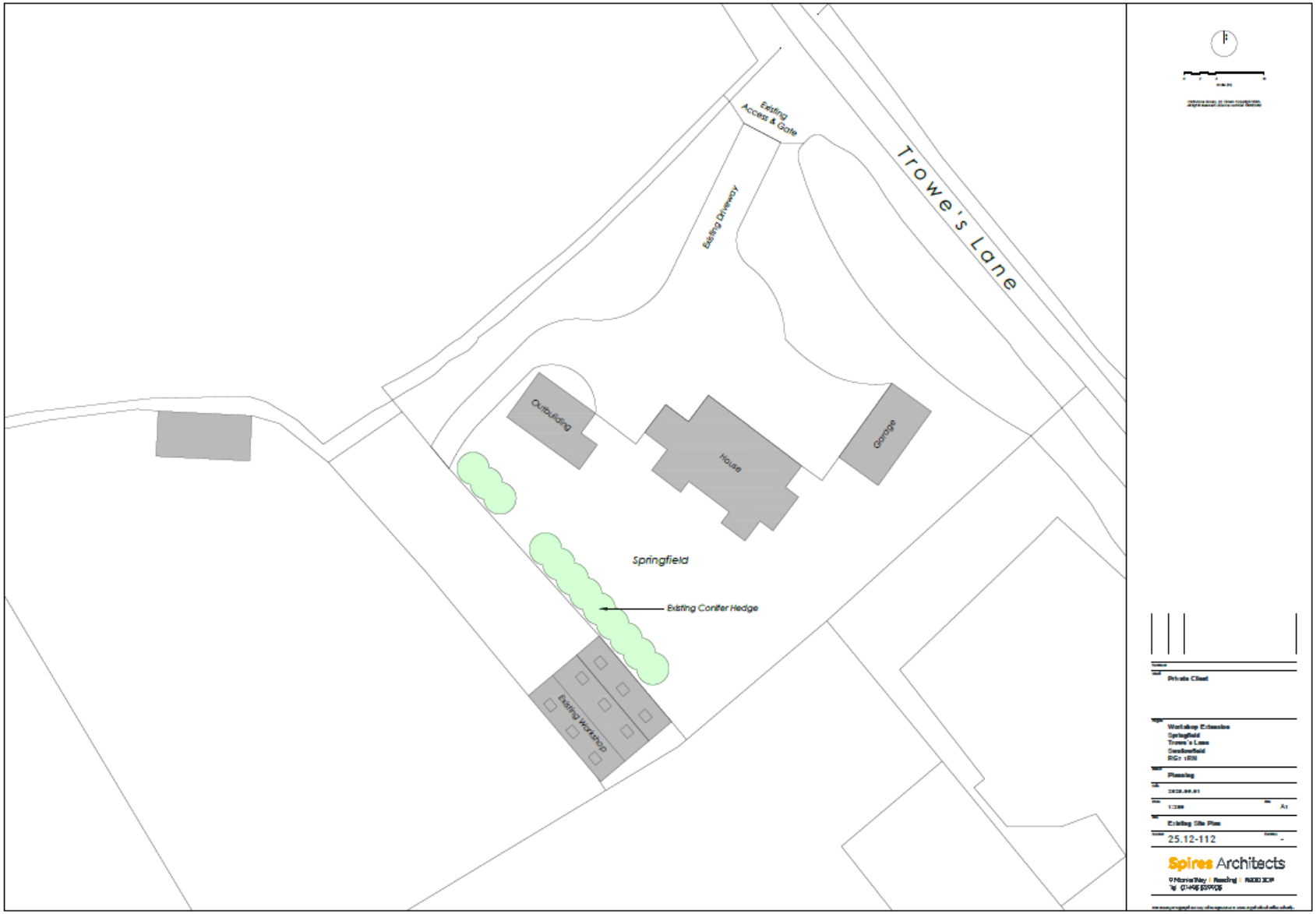
Development which alone or in combination is likely to have a significant effects on the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area will be required to demonstrate that adequate measures to avoid and mitigate any potential adverse effects are delivered.

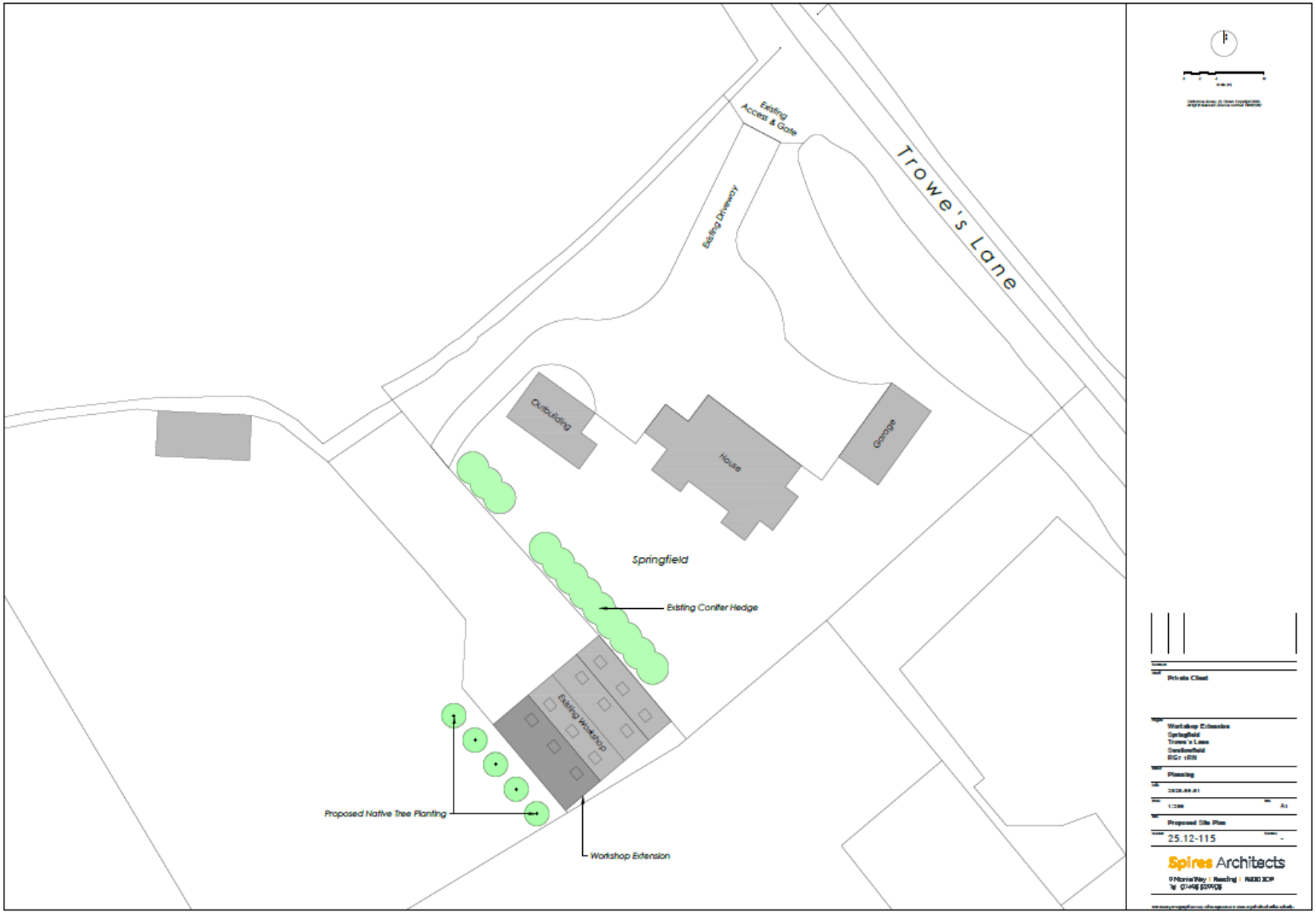
Species	Legislation (England & Wales)	Offences	Licensing procedures and guidance (England & Wales)
Bats *European protected species*	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) Reg 41	Deliberately capture, injure or kill a bat; deliberate disturbance of bats; or damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place used by a bat. [The protection of bat roosts is considered to apply regardless of whether bats are present.]	A Natural England (NE) licence in respect of development is required in England. *European Protected Species: Mitigation Licensing-How to get a licence* (NE 2010) *Bat Mitigation Guidelines* (English Nature 2004) *Bat Workers Manua*l (JNCC 2004)
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.9	Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection or disturb[3] a bat in such a place.	Licence from NE is required for surveys (scientific purposes) that would involve disturbance of bats or entering a known or suspected roost site.
Great crested newt *European protected species*	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) Reg 41	Deliberately capture, injure or kill a great crested newt; deliberate disturbance of bats; or damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place used by a great crested newt.	A Natural England (NE) licence in respect of development is required in England. *European Protected Species: Mitigation Licensing-How to get a licence* (NE 2010) *Great crested newt mitigation guidelines (English Nature 2001)*
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.9	Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection or disturb[3] a great crested newt in such a place.	Licence issued for science (survey), education and conservation by Natural England.
Birds	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.1	Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird; intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built; intentionally take or destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird. [Special penalties are liable for these offences involving birds on Schedule 1 (e.g. most birds of prey, kingfisher, barn owl, black redstart, little ringed plover).] Intentionally or recklessly disturb a Schedule 1 species while it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young; intentionally or recklessly disturb dependent young of such a species.	No licences are available to disturb any birds in regard to development. Licences are available in certain circumstances to damage or destroy nests, but these only apply to the list of licensable activities in the Act and do not cover development. General licences are available in respect of 'pest species' but only for certain very specific purposes e.g. public health, public safety, air safety.

[redacted]

Reptiles	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.1 Smooth snakes, sand lizards and pool frogs are designated and protected as European protected species (EPS). EPS are protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.	For an EPS animal, it is an offence to: -deliberately kill, injure, disturb or capture them -deliberately take or destroy their eggs -damage or destroy their breeding sites and resting places -possess, control or transport them (alive or dead) For smooth snakes and sand lizards, it is also an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to intentionally or recklessly: -disturb them while they occupy a structure or place used for shelter or protection -obstruct access to a place of shelter or protection Other native reptiles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is an offence to kill or injure: Adder, grass snake, common or viviparous lizard slow worm All native reptiles are listed as rare and most threatened species under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). You must have regard for the conservation of Section 41 species as part of your planning decision.	The developer may need a licence for a development proposal or activity that affects sand lizards or smooth snakes.

Appendix B –Existing and Proposed Site Plan (September 2026)




Existing Access & Gate
Trowe's Lane
Existing Driveway
Outbuilding
House
Garage
Springfield
Existing Conifer Hedge
Existing Workshop
Proposed Native Tree Planting
Workshop Extension
Private Client
Workshop Extension
Springfield
Trowe's Lane
Sandonfield
Planning
1:200
A1
Proposed Site Plan
25.12-115
Spires Architects

Appendix C – Habitat Suitability of Pond adjacent to Trowe Lane

ARGUK GCN HSI Calculator

	Pond Name	Pond 1- off Trowe Lane	Comments
	Grid Ref	SU 72567 64013	
SI No	SI Description	SI Value	
1	Geographic location	1	In SE England
2	Pond area	0.4	around 185m2
3	Pond permanence	0.5	sometimes dries
4	Water quality	0.33	poor water quality
5	Shade	1	~0% shaded
6	Water fowl effect	0.67	waterfowl known to be present
7	Fish presence	0.67	Fish appeared absent
8	Pond Density	0.8	6 ponds in 1km with no barriers to dispersal
9	Terrestrial habitat	0.33	predominantly garden and hardstanding habitats of less value
10	Macropyhyte cover	0.3	around 0% cover
HSI Score		**0.55**	
Pond suitability (see below)		below average	

Categorisation of HSI Score by Lee Brady

HSI Score	
< 0.50	Poor
0.50 - 0.59	Below Average
0.60 - 0.69	Average
0.70 - 0.79	Good
> 0.80	Excellent

Appendix D- Wildlife Friendly Planting (Natural England, 2008. Gardening with Wildlife in Mind. London: Natural England)

Native and wildlife-friendly trees

Common Name	**Scientific Name**
Pedunculate oak	*Quercus robur*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Wych elm	*Ulmus glabra*
Whitebeam	*Sorbus aria agg.*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Apple	*Malus domestica*
Bird cherry	*Prunus padus*
Common alder	*Alnus glutinosa*
Crab apple	*Malus sylvestris*
Crack willow	*Salix fragilis*
Downy birch	*Betula pubescens*
Field maple	*Acer campestre*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*
Juniper	*Juniperus communis*
Large-leaved lime	*Tilia platyphyllos*
Small-leaved lime	*Tilia cordata*
Pear	*Pyrus communis*
Scots pine	*Pinus sylvestris*
Sessile oak	*Quercus petraea*
Silver birch	*Betula pendula*
Sweet chestnut	*Castanea sativa*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Wild service-tree	*Sorbus torminalis*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*

Native and wildlife friendly shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name
Hazel	*Corylus avellana*
Elder	*Sambucus nigra*
Goat willow	*Salix caprea*
Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogyna*
Dog rose	*Rosa canina*
Guelder rose	*Viburnum opulus*
Gorse	*Ulex europaeus*
Broom	*Cytisus scoparius*
Wayfaring tree	*Viburnum lantana*
Shrubby cinquefoil	*Potentilla fruticosa*
Raspberry	*Rubus idaeus*
Alder buckthorn	*Frangula alnus*
Wild privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*
Barberry	*Berberis* × *stenophylla*
Barberry	*Berberis vulgaris*
Bell heather	*Erica cinerea*
Bilberry	*Vaccinium myrtillus*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*
Blackthorn	*Prunus spinosa*
Buckthorn	*Rhamnus catharticus*
Butcher's-broom	*Ruscus aculeatus*
Cowberry	*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*
Cross-leaved heath	*Erica tetralix*
New Zealand holly	*Olearia macrodonta*
Daphne	*Daphne odora*
Dogwood	*Cornus sanguinea*
Field rose	*Rosa arvensis*
Firethorn	*Pyracanthus angustifolia*
Flowering Currant	*Ribes sanguineum*
Gooseberry	*Ribes uva-crispa*
Hebe 'Midsummer Beauty'	*Hebe* sp.
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Japanese quince	*Chaenomeles japonica*
Lilac	*Syringa vulgaris*
Mexican orange	*Choisya ternata*

Mezereon	*Daphne mezereum*
Midland hawthorn	*Crataegus laevigata*
Oregon grape	*Mahonia aquifolium*
Osier	*Salix viminalis*
Portugal laurel	*Prunus lusitanica*
Privet	*Ligustrum ovalifolium*
Purple willow	*Salix purpurea*
Snowy mespilus	*Amelanchier canadensis, Amelanchier lamarckii*
Spindle	*Euonymus europaeus*
Spurge laurel	*Daphne laureola*
Sweet briar	*Rosa rubiginosa*
Wild privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*

Wildlife-friendly trees and shrubs for hedgerows and scrub planting

Common Name	**Scientific Name**
Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogyna*
Blackthorn	*Prunus spinosa*
Wych elm	*Ulmus glabra*
Guelder rose	*Viburnum opulus*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Spindle	*Euonymus europaea*
Holly	*Ilex europaeus*
Bird cherry	*Prunus padus*
Common alder	*Alnus glutinosa*
Crab apple	*Malus sylvestris*
Hazel	*Coryllus avellana*
Beech	*Fagus sylvatica*
Field maple	*Acer campestre*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Dog rose	*Rosa canina*
Elder	*Sambucus nigra*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*