24th April 2026

BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL
Proposed Single Storey Rear Extensions
10 The Orangery, Reading, RG6 1FH

1. Introduction

This Biodiversity and Ecological Appraisal has been prepared in support of the planning applications for proposed single storey rear extensions at 10 The Orangery, Reading, RG6 1FH.

The purpose of this report is to assess the likely ecological impact of the proposed development and demonstrate that the proposals would not result in any significant harm to biodiversity, protected species, or ecological features.

2. Existing Site Description

The application sites relate to two existing residential dwellings located within an established residential development known as The Orangery, Reading.

The rear gardens currently consist primarily of maintained amenity lawn with domestic boundary treatments and limited ornamental planting. The areas affected by the proposed extensions comprise managed garden grass with very low ecological value.

There are no ponds, watercourses, mature woodland areas, protected habitats, or notable ecological features within the immediate area of the proposed works.

3. Description of Development

The proposals seek planning permission for matching single storey rear extensions to both dwellings.

The extensions project approximately 4 metres from the rear elevation and incorporate flat roof/parapet roof designs with a maximum height of approximately 3 metres.

The development will occupy a small section of existing domestic garden lawn only.

4. Ecological Assessment

The application sites are considered to have negligible ecological value due to the highly managed and domestic nature of the land.

The proposals involve:

- No removal of mature trees;
- No removal of hedgerows;
- No loss of priority habitat;
- No works to watercourses;
- No alteration to protected landscapes;
- No impact upon ecological corridors.

The small areas of grass to be lost are typical domestic amenity lawn areas which provide very limited biodiversity value.

Given the scale and nature of the proposals, it is considered highly unlikely that protected species such as bats, badgers, reptiles, great crested newts, or nesting birds would be adversely affected by the development.

The proposed works are confined to existing residential curtilage and do not involve demolition of structures known to support roosting bats or nesting habitats.

5. Biodiversity Enhancements

Although the proposals are minor in nature, the applicants remain committed to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity where practical. Existing soft landscaping within the gardens will largely remain retained.

The applicants may incorporate minor biodiversity enhancements including:

- Additional planting within retained garden areas;
- Pollinator-friendly planting;
- Retention of existing garden boundaries and landscaping where possible.

6. Conclusion

The proposed single storey rear extensions at 10 and 12 The Orangery are modest domestic developments located within existing residential gardens of low ecological value.

The proposals will result only in the loss of a limited area of managed grass lawn and will not adversely affect protected species, important habitats, trees, or ecological networks.

It is therefore concluded that the proposed development would have a negligible ecological impact and is considered acceptable from a biodiversity and ecology perspective.

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