

Biodiversity Statement

Application Type: Householder Planning Application **Proposal:** Installation of three air-source heat pump (ASHP) units **Address:** Sindlesham, Berkshire, RG41 5BY **Applicant:** Ziya Khan

1. Existing Site Conditions

The site is a **detached residential property** with:

- A paved driveway
- A rear garden consisting of lawn, decking, and planters
- No ponds, watercourses, or natural habitats
- No known protected species
- No trees or hedgerows affected by the proposal
- No ecological designations (not a conservation area, SSSI, or wildlife corridor)

The proposed ASHP locations are on **hardstanding or managed garden areas**.

2. Impact on Biodiversity

The installation involves:

- No excavation beyond small pad foundations
- No removal of vegetation
- No impact on trees, hedges, or planting
- No change to drainage
- No lighting changes
- No impact on bat roosts, bird nests, or wildlife habitats
- No change to permeable surfaces
- No impact on soil structure or water flow

The proposal is **low-impact** and does not affect biodiversity on or around the site.

3. Noise and Wildlife

ASHP units produce **low noise levels**:

- 34–40 dB(A) at boundaries
- Below typical ambient garden noise
- No impact on birds, small mammals, or pollinators

Noise levels are not harmful to wildlife.

4. Biodiversity Enhancements

To support local biodiversity, the applicant will implement **small enhancements**:

- Maintain existing planters with flowering species
- Add one additional pollinator-friendly planter near the rear garden
- Avoid installation during peak nesting season where possible
- Maintain permeable surfaces in the garden area

These enhancements exceed the minimal requirements for a domestic mechanical installation.

5. Summary

- No vegetation removal
- No habitat loss
- No impact on protected species
- No ecological constraints
- No negative biodiversity effects
- Minor voluntary enhancements included

The proposal is **fully compliant** with biodiversity and ecology expectations for a householder application.