

26<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Development Management  
Wokingham Borough Council  
Civic Offices, Shute End  
Wokingham  
RG40 1BN

### Great Crested Newt Avoidance Statement

Dear Wokingham Planning Department,

Please find this avoidance statement regarding safeguarding of Great Crested Newts in relation to our application submitted for The Old Lodge RG10 OSG.

No amphibian surveys were undertaken in support of this planning application for the following reasons:

- The area affected by the proposal does not include any increase in footprint and therefore does not affect any potential habitat. Material storage will be on the large front driveway which consists of tarmacked hardstanding.

#### Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) Method Statement

The courtyard driveway which consists of tarmac is considered to have no great crested newt refuge, foraging or hibernation potential. Any potential habitat for great crested newts is to the rear gardens and boundaries of the site away from the development.

Precautionary Measures:

- All site personnel will receive a tool box talk during their site induction delivered by a suitably qualified ecologist to include details of the potential presence of great crested newts and what to do in the event they are discovered during the works on site;
- Materials will be stored on site on hard standing (tarmac driveway);
- Stored items will be raised off the ground on pallets to remove any potential habitats or refuge for great crested newts
- Areas of tarmac around pallets will be kept clear and maintained to remove any potential habitats or refuge for great crested newts

IF GREAT CRESTED NEWTS ARE FOUND DURING INSPECTING THE SITE, WORK MUST STOP AND NOT CONTINUE UNTIL A SUITABLY QUALIFIED ECOLOGIST HAS BEEN CONTACTED FOR ADVICE ON HOW TO PROCEED.

Given the above mitigation strategies, it is considered likely that there will be no residual impacts on great crested newts.

If you require any further clarification please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



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