

Biodiversity Net Gain Statement

Site Address	Land At E 437424 N 228877 Chipping Norton Road Little Tew Oxfordshire
Planning Reference (Office use only)	24/01861/FUL
Date completed	01/08/2024

This form is designed to establish whether your proposal, if granted, would be subject to the general Biodiversity Gain Condition (as set out in Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)) i.e., that your development must deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain. In cases where a proposal would be subject to the biodiversity gain condition, this form will aid you to understand what additional information you will need to provide to support your application, and how to access this information.

If you require additional validation advice, you can download a copy of West Oxfordshire District Council's planning validation requirements via the following link:

[West Oxfordshire District Council – Planning application supporting information](#)

You can also seek pre-application advice – <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-permission/get-advice-on-your-application/>

The submitted information as listed in this form will be reviewed by your Local Planning Authority. You may be asked for further clarification, if necessary, either prior to validation, or during the application process.

If you answer '**YES**' to question 1.1, please provide comments justifying why your proposal is exempt from the mandatory biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirements in section 1.2. You will not be required to fill out the remainder of this form.

If you answer '**NO**' to section 1.1, please leave section 1.2 blank and proceed to answer all remaining questions in section 2.

If you require additional advice to understand whether your proposal is exempt, the following link contains the most up-to-date list of development exemptions:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain-exempt-developments>

If you have used The Statutory Metric to demonstrate a measurable net gain, please answer all questions in section 3. Alternatively, if you have used The Small Site Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric), please answer all questions in section 4.

Disclaimer: please note if you have submitted your planning application via the planning portal, the answers to sections 1.1-1.2 and question 2.5 will have been covered, however it is recommended this form is completed in its entirety.

Section 1: Biodiversity Net Gain Statement		Y	N
1.1	Is your proposal exempt from the biodiversity gain condition? <i>(if you answer yes, please provide justification under section 1.2 if you answer no, please leave section 1.2 blank, and proceed to Section 2)</i>	☐	☒
1.2	Justification that proposals are exempt from BNG requirements.		

Section 2: Biodiversity Net Gain Proposal		Y	N
2.1	Has assistance or prior advice been sought from the local authority about this application with regards to biodiversity net gain?	☐	☒
2.2	Has the biodiversity metric tool been completed by a competent person? (Competency is aligned with the British Standard 'Process for designing and implementing biodiversity net gain (BS 8683:202)).	☒	☐
2.3	How will your proposal achieve a 10% net gain?	Y	N
2.3.1	On-site (within the red line boundary of your development site)	☒	☐
2.3.2	Off-site (either through delivery of off-site biodiversity gains on your own land outside of the development boundary, or through purchasing off-site biodiversity units on the market)	☐	☒
2.3.3	Statutory credits (this must be a last resort and agreed by the local planning authority)	☐	☒



2.4	Are the on-site enhancements considered significant? ¹	☒	☐
2.5	Will your proposal impact any irreplaceable habitats? ²	☐	☒
2.6	Are European Protected Species present within your development boundary? ³	☐	☒
2.7	Are Priority Habitats present within your development boundary? ⁴	☒	☐
2.8	Are Statutory Designated sites present on or within 500m of your development boundary? (SAC/SPA/SSSI/Ramsar sites)	☐	☒
2.9	Is a bespoke compensation strategy required?	☐	☒
2.10	Has your proposal avoided or minimised impacts to habitats? (Through the use of the mitigation hierarchy)	☒	☐
2.11	Does your proposal comply with CIEEM's Biodiversity Net Gain: Good Practice Principles for Development? https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Biodiversity-Net-Gain-Principles.pdf	☒	☐
Section 3: Statutory Biodiversity Metric		Y	N
3.1	Have the Trading Rules, as set out in The Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide, been met? (If the trading rules have not been satisfied then a net gain in biodiversity cannot be claimed ⁵)	☒	☐
3.2	Has biodiversity metric Rule 4 been instigated? (This must be agreed with your Local Planning Authority, please refer to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for further information ⁵)	☐	☒
Section 4 Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric)			
4.1	Have the Trading Rules, as set out in The Small Sites Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide, been met? (If the trading rules have not been	☒	☐

	satisfied then a net gain in biodiversity cannot be claimed⁶)		
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¹Significant onsite gains can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/make-on-site-biodiversity-gains-as-a-developer#significant-on-site-enhancements>

²Irreplaceable habitats are listed in Tables 1 and 2 in the Schedule to The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitats) Regulations 2024.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6566289e750074000d1ded93/The_Biodiversity_Gain_Requirements_Irreplaceable_Habitat_Regulations_2024.pdf

³List of European protected species can be found here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/1012/schedule/2>

⁴List of priority habitat types can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

⁵The Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65673fee750074000d1dee31/The_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_-_Draft_User_Guide.pdf

⁶The Small Sites Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65c60ec19c5b7f0012951bdd/The_Small_Sites_Metric_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_-_User_Guide.pdf

In the box below, please provide references for the plans, drawings and/or reports relevant to biodiversity net gain including, pre-development and post-development habitat plans and a biodiversity net gain assessment report (which may be submitted as a separate report or included as a chapter within an ecological impact assessment report). This must include a condition assessment and a rationale for the strategic significance assigned to each habitat type included within the biodiversity metric.

Biodiversity Survey and Report:

- Windrush Ecology Ecological Impact Assessment and Biodiversity Net gain Assessment
- Windrush Appendix 6 – Statutory Biodiversity Metric Results
- Windrush Appendix 7 – Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets

D&AHS Volume I:

- Section 7: Biodiversity Enhancement

D&AHS Volume III:

- Appendix 5

The application may not be validated if any of the information submitted proves to be inadequate or inaccurate. If validated and the information is subsequently found not to fully address any potential impacts then further information may be required during the course of any planning application, for instance, if any of the information you have provided needs clarification, or if other potential impacts are identified. If sufficient information on ecological issues is not provided by the time the application needs to be determined, the application may be invalidated or refused.

It is strongly advised that you consider biodiversity net gain at the **earliest possible stage** in your project as there are seasonal constraints to much of the survey work that may be needed to support your application.