



STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENT

Prepared for Dawkes & Co Limited

Land at Endon High School, Leek Road,
Endon, Stoke-on-Trent,
Staffordshire, ST9 9EE

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SUMMARY

This document has been prepared by Nathalie Cossa BSc (Hons) on behalf of Dawkes & Co Limited in relation to land at Endon High School, Leek Road, Endon, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST9 9EE to (approximate Ordnance Survey Grid Reference SJ9235452899). It provides the results of a Statutory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for an outline planning application for regarding a proposed development.

The proposed development is within the curtilage of the school at the front. The existing area consists of tarmac road and parking, modified grassland and boundary hedgerows. The proposals are to redevelop the school's eastern boundary at the front to create a total of 73 parking spaces.

The principles of BNG (such as the mitigation hierarchy) have been considered and used with an achievable, measurable increase in net gain.

The baseline ecological unit value for the site as existing totals 0.71 habitat units with 0.09 hedgerow units. The proposed onsite totals habitat equating to 0.25 units and 0.06 hedgerow units. Thus, the proposed development of the site achieves a decrease of 0.46 habitat units and 0.03 hedgerow units, a decrease over baseline of -64.41% in habitat units and -34.09% for hedgerow units. See Figure 6 for more details.

Offsite offsetting will be required for the statutory requirements to be met. If the suggestions in this report are followed, the off-site baseline will change from 7.57 units to 8.10 units and 0.00 to 0.09 hedgerow units. Thus, the proposed off-site post intervention will achieve an increase of 0.54 habitat units and 0.09 hedgerow units, an increase over off-site baseline of 7.08% habitat units. The total net change will be an increase of 0.08 habitat units and 0.06 hedgerow units, a percentage increase of 10.96% in habitat units and an increase of 64.81% in hedgerow units.

If the work carried out is to an adequate standard, the on-site and off-site post intervention will result in the trading rules and BNG requirements being achieved. If created habitats are not managed in the correct condition, BNG will not be achieved which could result in financial implications over a 30-year inspection period.

1 INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared by Fauna Forest Ecology Limited on behalf of Dawkes & Co Limited in relation to land at Endon High School, Leek Road, Endon, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST9 9EE. It provides the results of a Statutory BNG Assessment for an outline planning application regarding change in land use from grassland to parking.

The site is essentially the front eastern edge of Endon High School, between the adjacent footpath that runs along Leek Road back to the hard standing area closer towards the main building.

An off-site provision site has been arranged, which is approximately 350m south of the development site, comprising an area of 3.88ha in size and consisting of grass sports fields with a short gravel track.

The approximate central grid reference for the development site is SJ9235452899 and the off-site area is SJ9219252364 (see Figure 1 for site location).

The proposals are to redevelop the school's eastern boundary at the front to create a total of 73 parking spaces of which 30 would be classed as restricted parking for staff who remain onsite throughout the working day, plus four DDA spaces. The site would operate a one-way entry/exit system to include one-way signage and markings.

The school will retain 10 existing and four DDA parking spaces along its northern boundary as an overspill car park.

The site is at the southern fringe of Endon, 7.6km northeast of Stoke-on-Trent. It is surrounded by habitats which include pasture along with hedgerows and small woodland compartments.