Biodiversity Checklist

Section 1: Protected Species
Please answer ALL questions. Please mark ✓ in column B or **X** in column C next to ALL the questions in column A. Column D indicates the species survey required (black dots) for each question marked ✓.

A **Proposals for development that will trigger a protected species survey** Please note other types of applications not listed below may also have an impact on wildlife; please contact the LPA for advice if your application does not fit the descriptions below	B **Yes** ✓	C **No** **X**	D **Species that may potentially be affected – further surveys will be required** (see Standing advice for protected species) Bats	Barn owl	Dormouse	Breeding birds	Great Crested Newts	Otter / Water Vole	Badger	Amphibians	Reptiles	Ramsar & Schedule 41 Invertebrates
1. Will the proposed development involve any of the following? ❖ Renovation or conversion of buildings including barns; ❖ Demolition of buildings[1]; ❖ Disturbance to roofs and roof spaces (e.g. building extensions, loft conversions) where the site is located adjacent to woodland[1]; ❖ Works to walls with hanging tiles, wooden cladding or climbing plants[1]; ❖ Works to underground structures such as cellars, ice-houses, tunnels, mines, kilns, adits; ❖ Works to bridge structures.		X	• • • • • •	• •		• • • • • •		• •				
2. Will the proposals affect any areas of woodland, field hedgerows over 1m tall and over 0.5m thick or scrub well-connected to woodland or hedgerows on or adjacent to the site?		X	•		•	•			•			
3. Will the proposal affect any of the following? ❖ Old and veteran trees (on site or within 50m); ❖ Trees with holes, cracks, cavities or heavy vegetation; ❖ Trees with a girth greater than 1m at chest height; ❖ Any of the above where next to watercourses		X	• • • •			• • • •		• •				• •
4. Will the proposal have the potential to impact on ponds, lakes, rivers, streams or water filled ditches (on the land or within 500m)?		X	•			•	•	•		•		•
5. Will the proposal affect mature/overgrown gardens, any rough grassland or derelict land, brownfield, railway land, allotments on or adjacent to the site?		X				•			•		•	•
6. Will the proposal involve lighting of churches, Listed Buildings or flood lighting of green space within 50m of woodland, water, field hedgerows or lines of trees?		X	•	•		•						•
7. Will the proposal involve Major development[2] within 500m of a pond or Minor development[3] within 250m of pond		X					•					

[1] For Householder applications, including roof works, detailed photos maybe submitted of potential bat roost and nesting bird features, including all external and internal roof elevations, tiles, ridge tiles, soffits, eaves, gables and trusses, with the application for an initial assessment by the LPA Ecologist. If the building contains evidence of roosting bats or nesting birds then a Preliminary Roost Assessment and/or a Nesting Bird Survey will be required.

[2] Major development is 10 or more dwellings, the site has an area of 1 hectare or more or 1,000m^{2}floorspace or more

[3] Minor development is less than 10 dwellings or less than 1,000m^2 of new office, retail, manufacturing or other floorspace

	Yes	**No**	
8. Will the proposal involve the generation of renewable energy, e.g. wind turbines (either singly or in groups), hydro-powered schemes, or photo-voltaic arrays?		X	The impacts of these vary from case to case. Your ecologist will advise on the surveys required for your application.

Biodiversity Checklist

Section 2: Protected and Important Habitats That May Support Protected Species
Please answer ALL questions. Please mark a ✓ in Yes boxes or a **X** in the No/Not Sure boxes as applicable.

9. Is your site within or adjacent to any of these designated habitats sites:	Yes	No	Not Sure
❖ Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) [4]		X	
❖ Special Area of Conservation (SAC) [4]		X	
❖ Special Protection Area (SPA) [4]		X	
❖ Ramsar sites[4]		X	
❖ Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) for bats - for bat species cited for SACs outside the designated site but in Functionally Linked Land you can check if your site is in a SAC Bat Consultation Zone by looking at our online maps Further Technical Guidance on Mendip Bat SACs can also be found here		X	
❖ Local Wildlife Site (LWS). (The applicant would need to apply for data from the Somerset Environmental Records Centre)		X	

[4] Locations of statutory designated sites can be found here: https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx. A formal Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) may be required to be undertaken see: Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

If you answer '**Yes'** to any of the above in **Section 1 or 2**, please include with your planning application a Protected Species Survey and Assessment and/or an Ecological/Geological Survey and Assessment. These may form part of a wider Ecological Assessment or part of an Environmental Impact Assessment.
The Assessments must be undertaken by a qualified ecologist, a member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). This should include details of the species and/or habitat concerned, location, significance, any anticipated impact on the species or habitat, and recommendations for mitigation.
Further information on Biodiversity Surveys and Assessments can be found here: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation Assessment - Mendip District Council
A list of Ecological consultants can be found here: https://cieem.net/i-need/finding-a-consultant/

Please note that in all circumstances legislation pertaining to protected species still applies and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that protected species are not impacted as a result of this development.

If protected species are found during the course of the development work must be halted and advice sought from Natural England (telephone 0300 060 6000).

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct and accurate.

Site Location: Land at Whitley Farm, Whitley Lane, Walton Street, Somerset

Date: 09/03/2022

Please return this completed form with your planning application.

Please Note: The completion and submission of the Biodiversity Checklist, along with any reports/surveys required, is a validation requirement for planning applications. Failure to submit the checklist, and any reports/surveys, may mean that your application is found to be invalid. Further information on the validation requirements can be found on the Council's website: Apply for Planning Permission - Mendip District Council

This form may be subject to change - please ensure that you use the most up to date form from our website: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation Assessment - Mendip District Council