

West Waterlooville Developments Ltd,
c/o Kevin Hodgson at WYG,
1-2 Cherry Orchard West,
Kembrey Park,
Swindon,
SN2 8UP

22nd October 2018

RE: Briefing note in regards to temporary construction access off London Road

Dear Kevin,

This briefing note has been prepared to provide ecological information in regards to a S278 application for the construction of a temporary access road off London Road for the Berewood development in Waterlooville. The works will involve the removal of a section of hedging for the development.

Hedgerow description

The section of hedge to be removed is a recently planted hedgerow comprising native species such as field maple (*Acer campestre*), dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), hazel (*Corylus avellane*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). The hedgerow is species rich but has not developed into a mature hedgerow with tree guards still present.

Potential for protected species

The hedgerow comprises species favoured by dormice such as hazel and dormice are known to be present within the wider Berewood development. However, the hedgerow is not considered suitable for dormice due to the immaturity of the hedge which means it provides very little cover for use by dormice.

The base of the hedgerow is also not considered suitable for reptiles due to its immaturity and lack of cover. The surrounding habitats are also short sward grassland which does not provide suitable habitat for reptiles.

The hedgerow may provide habitat for breeding birds such as robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) and blackbird (*Turdus merula*) which will often nest in more exposed sections of hedgerow.

Mitigation

Clearance works should be conducted in the winter to avoid nesting birds. If conducted during the breeding season (March to September) an ecologist will be present to search for any active nests. If an active nest is discovered a five metre buffer will be established and clearance will not continue until the young have fledged.



The creation of the access point will result in the loss of a section of species rich hedgerow. However, this access is only required temporarily and once development is complete the gap in the hedgerow will be re-instated with native planting to restore the hedgerow.

I hope the information provided is comprehensive but if there are any further questions then please contact me.

Best wishes,

Louisa Jones MSc MCIEEM
Principal Ecologist