



Hampshire
County Council

**Ecological Desktop
Assessment**

Report for:

**Hampshire County Council –
Property Services**

HAVANT BOROUGH
COUNCIL

26 MAY 2015

RECEIVED

VALID APPLICATION

21 MAY 2015

STRATEGIC PLANNING
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Trosnant Infant School

Temporary Classroom Installation

May 2015

Revisions:	V1
Written by:	L Roberts
Approved by:	M Owen
Client ref:	P10990
Ecology ref:	15.0633

Contents

1	SUMMARY	3
2	INTRODUCTION	4
2.1	Project Description	4
2.1.1	<i>Requirement for Ecological Assessment.....</i>	4
2.1.2	<i>Site Description.....</i>	4
2.1.3	<i>Limitations</i>	5
3	METHODS	6
3.1	Desk-based Assessment	6
4	RESULTS	7
4.1	Designated Sites	7
4.2	Protected Species	7
4.3	Habitats/ Vegetation.....	7
5	ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND RECOMENDATIONS	8
5.1	Habitats/ vegetation	8
6	CONCLUSION	8

1 SUMMARY

- Hampshire County Council Property Services propose to install a temporary classroom at Trostant Infant School.
- An ecological desktop assessment was carried out including an analysis of aerial imagery of the site and search for designated sites and protected species within 0.5km of the site.
- No designated sites occur within 0.5km of the site. There are several records of bats within the search area.
- The proposed location for the temporary classroom would be on the school field which is most likely to comprise amenity grassland of negligible conservation value.
- No ecological constraints have been identified by this desk-based assessment and further ecological input is not considered to be necessary.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Description

Hampshire County Council Ecology Team (HCCET) has been commissioned by HCC Property Services to undertake an ecological desk-based assessment in relation to proposals to install a temporary classroom at Trosnant Infant School. The proposed location of the existing temporary classroom is shown on Figure 1 below.

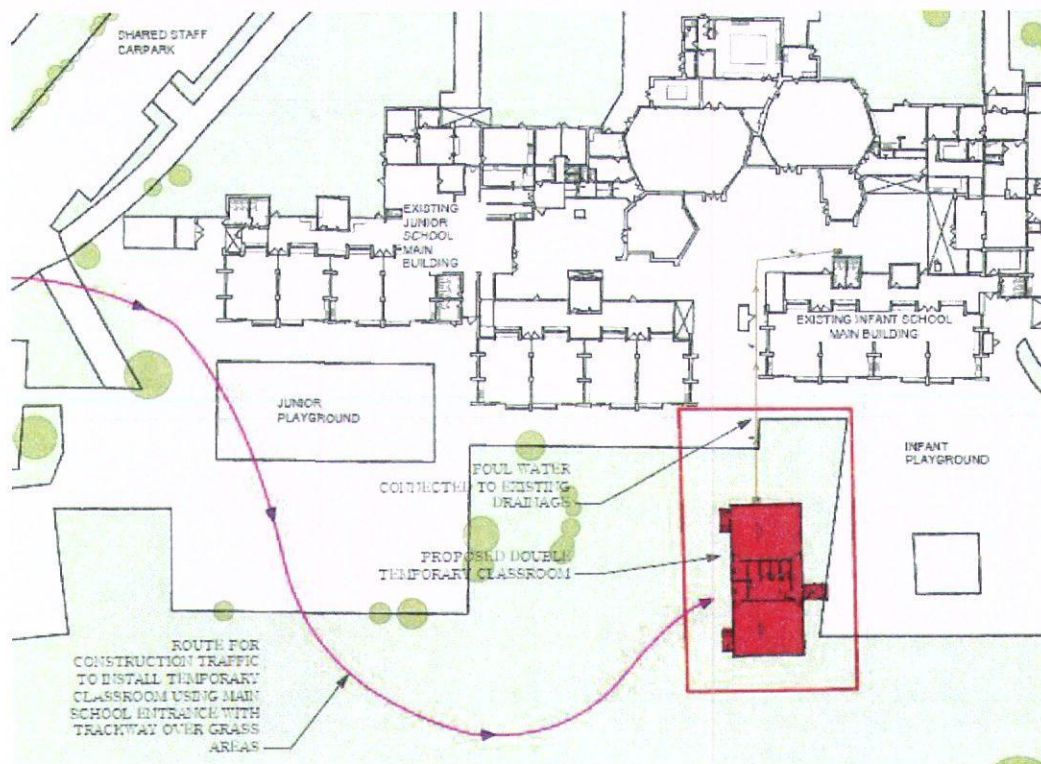


Figure 1: Proposed location of the temporary classroom (red)

2.1.1 Requirement for Ecological Assessment

HCCET were asked to provide a desk-based assessment of the proposals to determine whether there are likely to be any ecological constraints associated with the proposals.

2.1.2 Site Description

Trosnant Infant School is located in an urban location toward the centre of Havant. Green space in the area includes gardens and playing fields. An aerial photograph of the school site and surrounding area is shown on Figure 2 below.

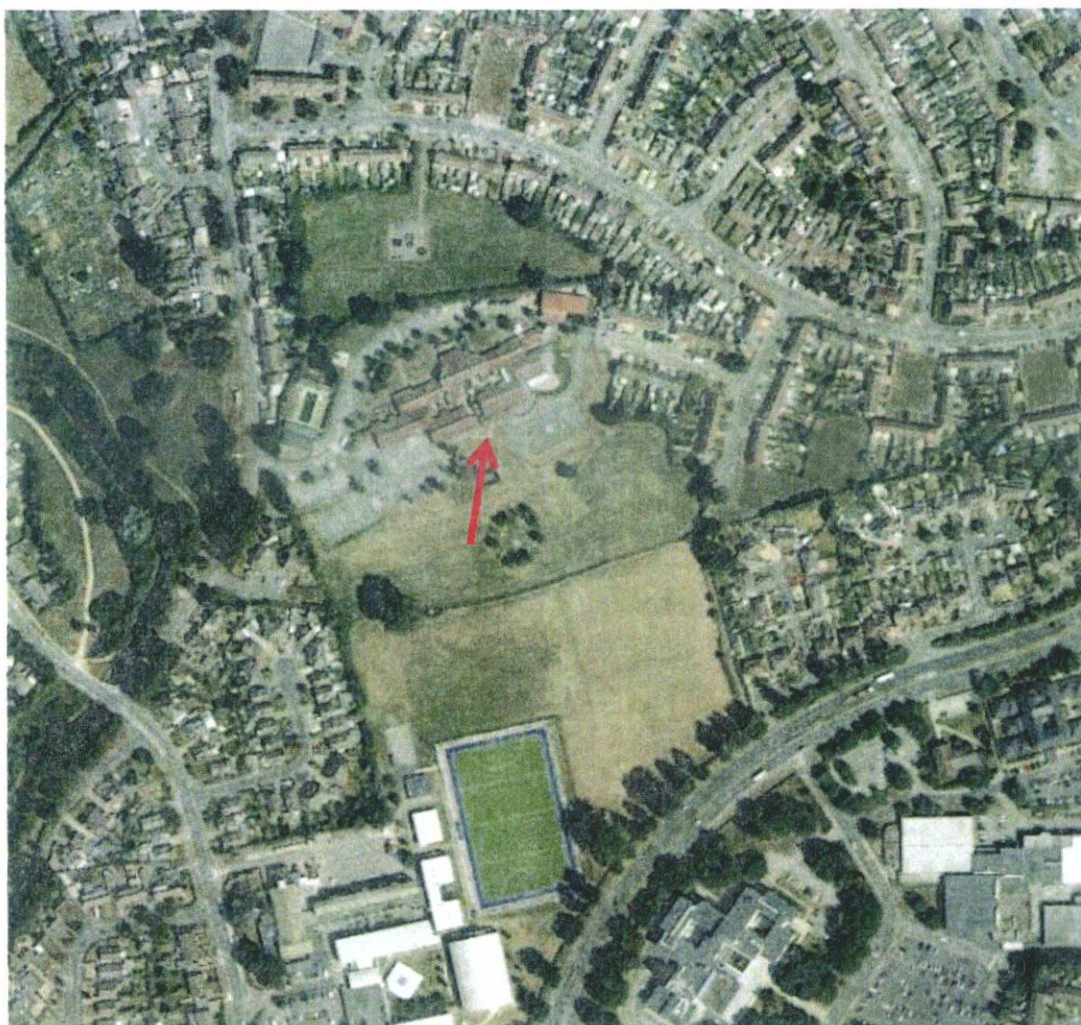


Figure 2: An aerial image of Trosnant School (red arrow) and the surrounding area

2.1.3 Limitations

No site visit has been undertaken to inform this ecological appraisal and recommendations made as part of this desk study are dependent upon the data and imagery available to HCCET as well as any likely project impacts.

3 METHODS

3.1 Desk-based Assessment

A desk-based assessment was initially carried out by HCCET on 8 May 2015. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping was used in order to identify all records of protected species and habitats within a 0.5km radius of the site, which was considered sufficient given the localised nature of proposals. In addition, aerial photography and ordinance survey mapping was analysed to inform the results.

HCCET had full access to the extensive biological database held by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC). The data is aggregated to meet the HBIC Data Users Agreement and attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of the agreement which states: *'Whilst every reasonable effort is made to validate information supplied to and by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, owing to the dynamic and judgmental nature of information relating to wildlife, HBIC disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy or comprehensiveness of the information supplied, and accepts no liability for any indirect, consequential, or incidental damages or losses arising from use of the information'*.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Designated Sites

No designated sites occur within 500m of the site.

4.2 Protected Species

A number of records of bats occur within the search area, including common & soprano pipistrelles *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* & *pygmaeus*, serotine *Eptesicus serotinus* and noctule *Nyctalus noctula*. The closest bat record is of a serotine bat roost 125m west of the school site.

No records of other protected species relevant to his proposal occur within the search area.

4.3 Habitats/ Vegetation

Review of aerial photography indicates that the temporary classroom will be located to the southwest of the school building on what is most likely to be amenity grassland, which would also be used for site access. An aerial photograph of the proposed location of the temporary classroom is shown on Figure 3 below.

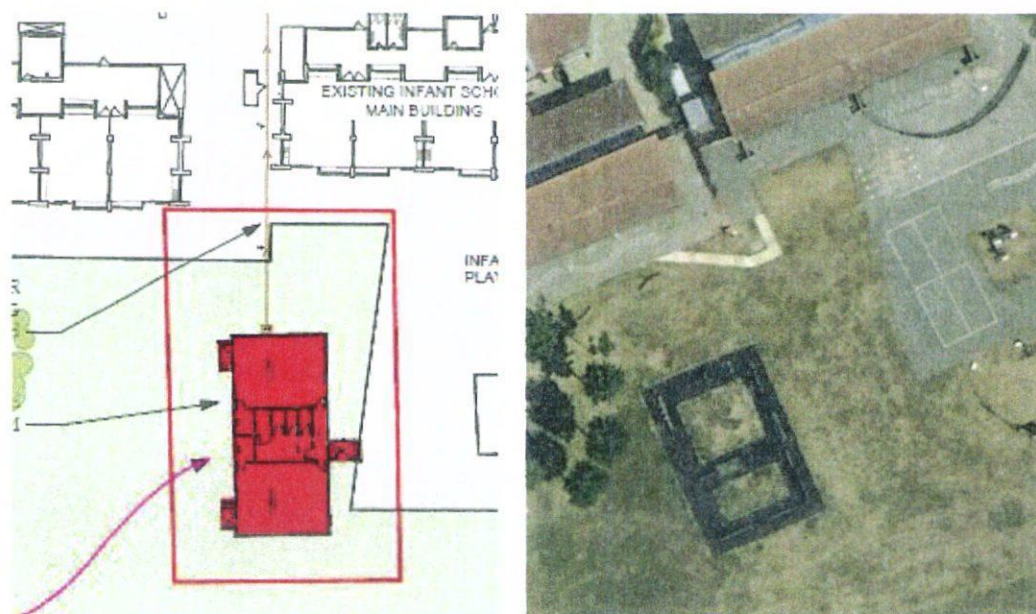


Figure 3: Proposed location of the temporary classroom, including location plan and aerial photograph.

5 ASSESSEMENT OF IMPACTS AND RECOMENDATIONS

5.1 Habitats/ vegetation

It is likely that the proposed location for the temporary classroom comprises amenity grassland of negligible conservation interest.

6 CONCLUSION

No potential ecological constraints associated with the proposal have been identified by this desk-based assessment, further ecological input is consequentially not considered to be necessary.