

Date: 20 August 2025

Dear Emma,

Re: Land at Bartons Road, Havant – Invertebrate Survey

Further to the recommendation for an invertebrate survey of Land at Bartons Road in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal prepared by John Wenman Ecological Consultancy, please find enclosed an invertebrate survey completed in August 2025 by Matthew Smith, an experienced invertebrate ecologist.

The aim of the invertebrate survey was to determine the ecological importance of the Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land on site. OMHPDL is recognised as important based on colonising plant communities and associated invertebrate assemblages. The invertebrate survey concluded '*Overall, the results of the survey would suggest the site is of limited invertebrate interest.*' Based on the surveyor's knowledge and experience, on OMHPDL sites of high invertebrate quality '*one could reasonably be expected to record 2 or 3 times the number of species found at Bartons Road, along with a significant increase in the number of Red Listed, Nationally Scarce or Local invertebrates.*' A review of satellite imagery and the emerging Local Plan shows there to be a number of brownfield sites within the Havant area which have open mosaic habitats listed as a key feature and are of a greater area compared to the Bartons Road site and likely greater importance (e.g. site allocation 26: Waterloo Park and site allocation 28: Former Colt Site). This further evidences the condition assessment of the OMHPDL being of poor condition with a limited mosaic of plant communities and limited invertebrate interest and therefore of no significant ecological value beyond the local level.

The site is allocated for development within the emerging Local Plan in which there is a drive to maximise development on these brownfield sites and therefore contribution to green infrastructure will ensure that compensation of loss of habitat is kept within the local area. It would be of benefit to local biodiversity to focus the offsite BNG habitat creation and enhancement within the immediate local area to avoid a loss of this type of priority habitat. Therefore it is recommended that there is engagement with the Council Ecologist to discuss the potential opportunity for provision of bespoke mitigation for the loss of OMHPDL on a suitable site within the Havant Borough.

Yours sincerely,


Sarah Foot BSc MCIEEM
Principal Ecologist

