



Biodiversity gain plan

Submit a biodiversity gain plan to show how your development will achieve biodiversity net gain.

When to use this form

A biodiversity gain plan shows how a development will achieve 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG). Submit this form to your local planning authority after they approve your planning application.

Unless your development is exempt, you cannot start the development until the LPA approves your biodiversity gain plan and biodiversity metric calculation tool.

1. Submission details

1.1 Date

For example, 3/11/2023

24/11/2025

1.2 Planning application reference number

DC/25/1946

1.3 Local planning authority (LPA)

Horsham District Council

1.4 Development site address

If the site does not have an address, enter the OS grid reference.

3 Station Road, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9RF

1.5 Describe the development

Tell us about the proposed development and any changes of use (250 words).

The proposals include the demolition of an existing dwelling and two wooden sheds, construction of three new residential dwellings, construction of a new driveway and associated landscaping within the development boundary.

2. Developer details

2.1 Applicant name

Mr Philip MacDonald

2.2 Company name

Client to complete

2.3 Address

3 Station Road, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9RF

2.4 Email address

philipmac@coversure.co.uk

2.5 Telephone number

07747840873

2.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

2.7 Signature

Philip MacDonald

2.8 Date

08.01.26

3. Responsible person details

Tell us about who is responsible for completing the biodiversity gain plan. For example, a consultancy ecologist or planning agent.

3.1 Name

Amy Oldham BSc (Hons) – Consultant Ecologist

3.2 Company name

Arun Ecology Ltd

3.3 Address

Russets, Hayes Lane, Slinfold, West Sussex, RH13 0SN

3.4 Email address

amy.oldham@arunecology.com

3.5 Telephone number

N/A

3.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

3.7 Signature

A. Oldham

3.8 Date

05/01/2026

4. Biodiversity net gain strategy

4.1 Is the relevant date for the pre-development biodiversity value the same date as the planning application?

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.2 If no, what earlier date did you agree with the LPA?

N/A

4.3 How have you met the guidance on 'what counts towards your BNG'?

[Find out what you can count towards a development's BNG](#)

The guidance on what counts towards BNG has been met for this scheme. The scheme will use on-site habitat creation and the purchase of off-site biodiversity units from a registered habitat bank, Nature Impact, to achieve a 10% gain in the baseline biodiversity value of the site. The BNG will not be delivered through any other schemes.

4.4 How will you avoid or minimise impacts to habitats?

Tell us about the steps you've taken on site, including to avoid or minimise the impact on irreplaceable habitats.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal comprised of a desk study and UK Habitat Classification Survey was completed to identify any adverse ecological impacts and enhancement opportunities within the development boundary as a result of the development.

No irreplaceable habitats or HPis were recorded within the development boundary or will be adversely impacted as part of the development.

The BNG mitigation hierarchy has been followed by first avoiding and minimising habitat loss wherever possible. The only habitat loss will comprise the removal of approximately 20 m of non-native ornamental hedgerow and a small area of vegetated garden to facilitate the development. These habitats are of low ecological value.

As the development boundary post development comprises entirely of 'vegetated garden' and developed land, any on-site habitat enhancement or creation cannot be legally secured and therefore cannot be included within the BNG calculation. Consequently, the residual loss will need to be compensated through the purchase of off-site Biodiversity Units to ensure compliance with BNG requirements.

Ecological enhancement measures (separate from BNG requirements) have also been recommended in the submitted PEA report. These include the planting of native trees and shrubs within the development boundary to provide general biodiversity benefit.

4.5 Did you use your local nature recovery strategy to inform the strategic significance of habitats?

This includes other specified strategies if you do not have a local nature recovery strategy.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

4.6 How will you achieve the target net gain percentage?

- ☐ On-site
☐ Off-site
☒ Both

4.7 Are any of your on-site enhancements considered 'significant'?

[Find out what counts as a significant on-site enhancement.](#)

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

4.8 If yes, tell us about the significant on-site enhancements

Include the appropriate planning condition or how you've secured the habitat.

N/A

4.9 How many off-site biodiversity units do you need to meet 10% net gain?

0.16 area habitat units

0.02 hedgerow habitat units

4.10 Explain why you're using off-site biodiversity units

Only answer this question if you're planning to use off-site biodiversity units (250 words).

The development proposals include an increase in the number of residential units with no shared amenity space or possibility for land within the development boundary to be offset for biodiversity net gain. The post development habitats entirely comprise of 'vegetated garden' and hardstanding.

As per government guidance, enhancements within private gardens cannot be legally secured and therefore cannot be included in the post-development biodiversity value calculation.

It is not possible within the design of the development to create sufficient new habitat or enhance habitat within the site to meet Rule 1 and Rule 2 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric as outlined in the user guidance. Furthermore Principle 9 of BNG is not met as there is a net loss onsite of habitat and hedgerow units.

As a result, an off-site solution to make up the required units, trading summary and habitats area has been sought.

4.11 Explain why you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits

Only answer this question if you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits (250 words).

Statutory biodiversity credits are not required for this development.

4.12 Do you have a habitat management and monitoring plan?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

4.13 Have you used the statutory biodiversity metric tool?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

4.14 Biodiversity metric calculation

Send your biodiversity metric calculation to the LPA and enter the file name.

C-NJA-075_BNG_Metric

4.15 Condition assessments

Send your condition assessments to the LPA and enter the file name.

C-NJA-075_BNG_Condition Assessment

4.16 Pre-development habitat survey report and map

Send your baseline habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

C-NJA-075-001-001_PEA_Report
C-NJA-075_BNG_Baseline Habitat Plan

4.17 Post-development habitat map or landscape plan

Send your post-development habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

C-NJA-075_BNG_Proposed Habitat Plan

4.18 Have you included an approved habitat degradation in the baseline?

If yes, include the relevant consenting body and reference number.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Consenting body

N/A

Reference number

N/A

5. Irreplaceable habitats

5.1 Does the development impact any irreplaceable habitats?

If yes, tell us if you've submitted an approved compensation plan.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

5.2 Have you submitted an approved compensation plan?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

6. On-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes on-site habitat enhancements.

6.1 Survey date

For example, 3/11/2023

PEA (UK Hab) – 13/10/2025

6.2 Survey constraints

For example, access issues, weather, or seasonal constraints.

No survey limitations were recorded during the UK Hab Survey.

6.3 Total pre-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

0.99

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.02

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0

6.4 Total post-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

0.94

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0

6.5 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

-0.06

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

-5.78

Hedgerow biodiversity units

-0.02

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

-100.00

Watercourse biodiversity units

0

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

0

6.6 Will you register and allocate any biodiversity units from your site to other developments?

If yes or provisionally, give details.

☐ Yes

☒ No

6.7 Give details

Tell us about the amount of biodiversity units and the development location (250 words).

N/A

7. Off-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes off-site habitat enhancements.

7.1 Tell us about the off-site habitat enhancements

Include whether you're delivering the off-site enhancements or buying biodiversity units.

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

7.2 Biodiversity gain site register reference number

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

7.3 How have you secured the off-site habitat enhancements?

Tell us about any responsible bodies and whether you've used an S106 or conservation covenant.

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

7.4 Total baseline biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

7.5 Total biodiversity value post-intervention

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission

7.6 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Area habitat biodiversity units % change

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Hedgerow biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Watercourse biodiversity units

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Watercourse biodiversity units % change

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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8. Statutory biodiversity credits

Answer this section if you need to use statutory biodiversity credits.

8.1 Do you need to use statutory biodiversity credits?

☐ Yes

☒ No

8.2 How many statutory biodiversity credits do you need?

Tell us the unit shortfall by tier, including the spatial risk multiplier. Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

A1

0

A2

0

A3

0

A4

0

A5

0

H

0

W

0

8.3 What evidence is there that no units are available through the market?

Send a message from at least 3 habitat providers, or a search result from online registers.

N/A

8.4 Proof of purchase

Send proof of purchase and enter the reference number.

N/A

9. Trading summary

9.1 Distinctiveness group

Tell us if you met the BNG trading rules on habitat compensation for each distinctiveness group. If you did not meet the trading rules, tell us if you agreed bespoke habitat compensation.

Check the rules on habitat compensation in the [statutory biodiversity metric user guide](#).

Very high

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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High

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Medium

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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Low

Nature Impact to complete following granting of planning permission	
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10. Sharing data (optional)

10.1 Can we share your ecological survey data with the Local Environmental Records Centre or other bodies?

☒ Yes

☐ No