Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

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

01/07/2025

1.2 Planning application reference number

DC/24/1369

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.

New Inn Farm West End Lane Henfield West Sussex

1.5 Describe the development

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

Change of Use of land for equestrian facilities to include an outdoor arena, horse walker and lunge pen

2. Developer details

2.1 Applicant name

Miss Jo Linton

2.2 Company name

2.3 Address

New Inn Farm West End Lane Henfield West Sussex

2.4 Email address

[redacted]

2.5 Telephone number

[redacted]

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

Jo Linton

2.8 Date

01/07/2025

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

Izabel Phillips

3.2 Company name

Phillips Ecology

3.3 Address

Clifton Cottage, Bucks Head Hill, Meonstoke,
Southampton SO32 3NA

3.4 Email address

[redacted]

3.5 Telephone number

[redacted]

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
[redacted]

3.8 Date
01/07/2025

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?

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

Yes

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.

The proposal has been carefully designed to minimise impacts on existing habitat features. The development footprint is limited to areas of hardstanding and modified grassland, assessed to be in poor condition. A small section of species-rich hedgerow, also in poor condition, will be lost; however, no irreplaceable habitats are present on site.

To offset and enhance biodiversity on site, areas of other modified grassland within the wider application boundary will be improved through management to achieve other neutral grassland in good condition. In addition, new species-rich hedgerow will be planted to compensate for the hedgerow loss, ensuring overall habitat enhancement and supporting a net gain in biodiversity.

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.

The proposal includes significant on-site biodiversity enhancements that are essential for delivering the statutory 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). These enhancements consist of improving existing modified grassland to 'good' condition other neutral grassland and the planting and management of a new section of native species-rich hedgerow to achieve moderate condition.

Grassland enhancement measures will include:

- A twice-yearly cutting regime (a late summer hay cut with optional spring cut), with arisings removed to reduce soil fertility and support species diversity.

- Overseeding with a suitable native wildflower and grass mix, following light scarification where necessary.

- Selective control of competitive or invasive species and scrub to prevent encroachment and allow a diverse sward to establish.

- Periodic visual inspections to track progress toward target condition, with adaptive actions if required.

Hedgerow creation and management will involve:

- Planting a section of continuous, native, locally appropriate hedgerow using a minimum of five native woody species.

- Ensuring the hedgerow remains unmanaged (i.e. not cut) for at least the first five years, and then trimmed on a two- or three-year cycle outside of the bird nesting season to allow flowering and fruiting.

- Maintaining structural diversity by encouraging a range of heights and dense base growth.

All enhancements are shown on the accompanying 'Map 2 – Onsite Habitats Proposed' and are integral to achieving the calculated 16.33% increase in habitat units and a 25.52% increase in hedgerow units.

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

Nil

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).

N/A

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).

N/A

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.

The_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_Calculation_Tool_-_Macro-disabled_tool_23.07.2024 (2)

4.15 Condition assessments

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

4.16 Pre-development habitat survey report and map

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

Map 1 – Onsite Habitat Existing

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.

Map 2 – Onsite Habitat Proposed

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

29/04/2024

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

N/A

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

0.71

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.16

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

0.83

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.20

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

0.12

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

16.33%

Hedgerow biodiversity units

0.04

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

25.52%

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).

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.

7.2 Biodiversity gain site register reference number

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.

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

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

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

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

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

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

Hedgerow biodiversity units

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

Watercourse biodiversity units

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

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

A2

A3

A4

A5

H

W

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.

8.4 Proof of purchase

Send proof of purchase and enter the reference number.

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

Yes

High

Yes

Yes

Medium

Yes

Low

Yes

10. Sharing data (optional)

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

☒ Yes
☐ No