



Hazel Dormice – Method Statement template to support a licence application

The Method Statement will be used to determine the impact of the proposal on the favourable conservation status (FCS) and population survival of the species concerned (Regulation 55(9)(b)) and Section 16(3B)(b)).

You are strongly advised to refer to the Dormouse Conservation Handbook.

Please use recent photographs to support your application.

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Important advice:

The format below must be used. Please enter text below each heading keeping information as concise as possible.

All maps/figures that will become part of any dormouse licence granted must be submitted as separate documents (with the site name and date included on the map/figure. See section I for list – all others may be included within the Method Statement document (e.g. survey maps/figures) if preferred).

A separate Work Schedule must also be submitted on form WML-A35a-E5a&b to accompany the Method Statement.

A Executive summary

Provide an overview (no more than 1 side of A4) of what works are proposed and how the impacts identified will be addressed in order to ensure no detriment to the maintenance of the population at a favourable conservation status.

The proposals entail the construction of up to 82 dwellings with vehicular and pedestrian accesses, public open space, noise mitigation measures, landscaping, foul and surface water drainage and associated works.

To facilitate the creation of the main access, main road and footpaths throughout the development, a total of 0.305ha of suitable habitat (0.02ha of scrub and 0.285ha of woodland) needs to be removed to provide linkage throughout the site.

A licence is required after nest tube surveys carried out in September 2023 by Ecosupport Ltd identified a Dormouse nest in the north-eastern corner of the site.

The permanent loss of dormouse habitat will be compensated by installing 9 dormouse boxes along the retained boundary habitat. This will enhance its carrying capacity, provide receptor sites for dormice during supervised vegetation clearance, and support translocation if needed.

The site will also enhance the boundaries through the planting of additional scrub and trees, effectively widening them into woodland corridors, complemented by wooden trellis structures supporting climbing species such as honeysuckle, ensuring continuous green connectivity along the proposed footpaths. Combined, these enhancements total 0.273ha of suitable dormouse habitat on site, maintaining connectivity with the wider landscape. Furthermore, a woodland of 1.333ha has been created south of the development to compensate for both the BNG additionality and the dormouse mitigation requirements. Even when applying additionality, the combined provision exceeds the total required compensation, offering a robust and resilient habitat resource for dormice.

B Introduction

B1 Background to activity/development:

Include a brief summary of:

- Why the activity and a licence are necessary (e.g. *site preparation for a new housing development will remove hedgerows which dormice are known to nest in; the installation of an underground pipeline will require the removal of sections of hedgerow used by dormice; blocks of woodland inhabited by dormice will be removed for construction of the proposed road scheme*).

To connect the new development to the wider road network, sections of scrub and woodland that are connected to the tree line where a dormouse nest was recorded will need to be removed.

- Include the site/project name and provide an OS grid reference to 8 figures (e.g. format AB 12345678).

Land at Campfield, Southwater - TQ 16064 24870

- Include current status of planning permission (if applicable) e.g. *full planning permission with all relevant wildlife conditions discharged; permitted development; demolition with prior notification of demolition issues resolved*.

Outline planning permission was granted under the planning reference number DC/25/0102 submitted to Horsham District Council for the entire planning.

B2 Relationship with other nearby development and cumulative impacts

B2.1 Is the current application part of a larger development project? For example, is it part of a phased or multi-plot housing development that will require more than one dormouse licence? Enter Yes, No or N/A in the text box below. If yes, note a separate [master plan](#) document will be required.

No

Important Advice: If yes to the above, please note that sections in [this](#) Method Statement on impact assessment and mitigation measures must explicitly relate *only* to impacts from the works currently proposed.

A project-wide master plan must detail the overall impact assessment and mitigation and explain where, and why, each of the dormouse licences will be required. The master plan must be included as a separate document to this application. The separate master plan is expected to take due regard of the overall project to ensure that in-combination effects are considered, and mitigation and compensation measures are both sufficient and coherent.

If the current development is part of a larger development project, summarise very briefly here how the current application relates to the larger project and how the in-combination effects are considered and mitigation/compensation is sufficient.

Important Advice: to accompany this Method Statement also include **Figure. B2.1 for a Master plan overview - and see section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document.**

B2.2 Apart from any mention in B2.1, please inform us of any past or future development or other projects (in the last 5 years or next 5 years) in the vicinity which may have significantly impacted or are likely to significantly impact on the same population/s of dormice as this application. You must make reasonable efforts to establish this, including discussions with your client and the Local Planning Authority – stating below what you undertook. A brief summary of the project/s should be provided including the site name and location, dates and if known the licence reference number(s).

Please note we are not expecting details of every licence/planning permission issued within the vicinity of the site – we are only concerned with projects that have the potential to significantly impact or have impacted on same population of dormice. Note: Natural England is aiming to make available licensing records from the last 5 years publically available.

Using the Map Search for planning applications on Horsham District Council's website, the vast majority of nearby planning applications are located within the urban landscape of Southwater, where there is no suitable habitat.

However, applications of considerable scale within the rural area of Southwater do not appear to affect suitable dormouse habitat:

- DC/21/2180 - Outline application for the erection of up to 73 new dwellings.
- DC/24/0249 - Reserved matters application for the erection of 96 dwellings and ancillary parking and landscaping following approval of outline application DC/20/0695.

- DC/24/1289 - Proposed construction, operation and maintenance of a Battery Storage Energy System (BESS)

Dormouse was found during surveys carried out at the two residential developments and a mitigation licence has been required by the council. However, only minimal dormouse habitat will be lost, and it is considered that the above developments would have incorporated sufficient mitigation to maintain the local dormouse population's favourable conservation status. Thus, the risk of in-combination effects remains low to negligible.

Important Advice: locations of other dormice mitigation sites in relation to this proposal must be shown on Figure B2.2.

C Survey and site assessment (also see section 3 of the Dormouse Conservation Handbook)

C1 Pre-existing information on dormice at the survey site:

Please undertake a historical data search within a 1km search radius and provide a summary of the results of this search. For example, records from local environmental records centres, local dormice/wildlife groups and previous survey work undertaken at the site is all relevant.

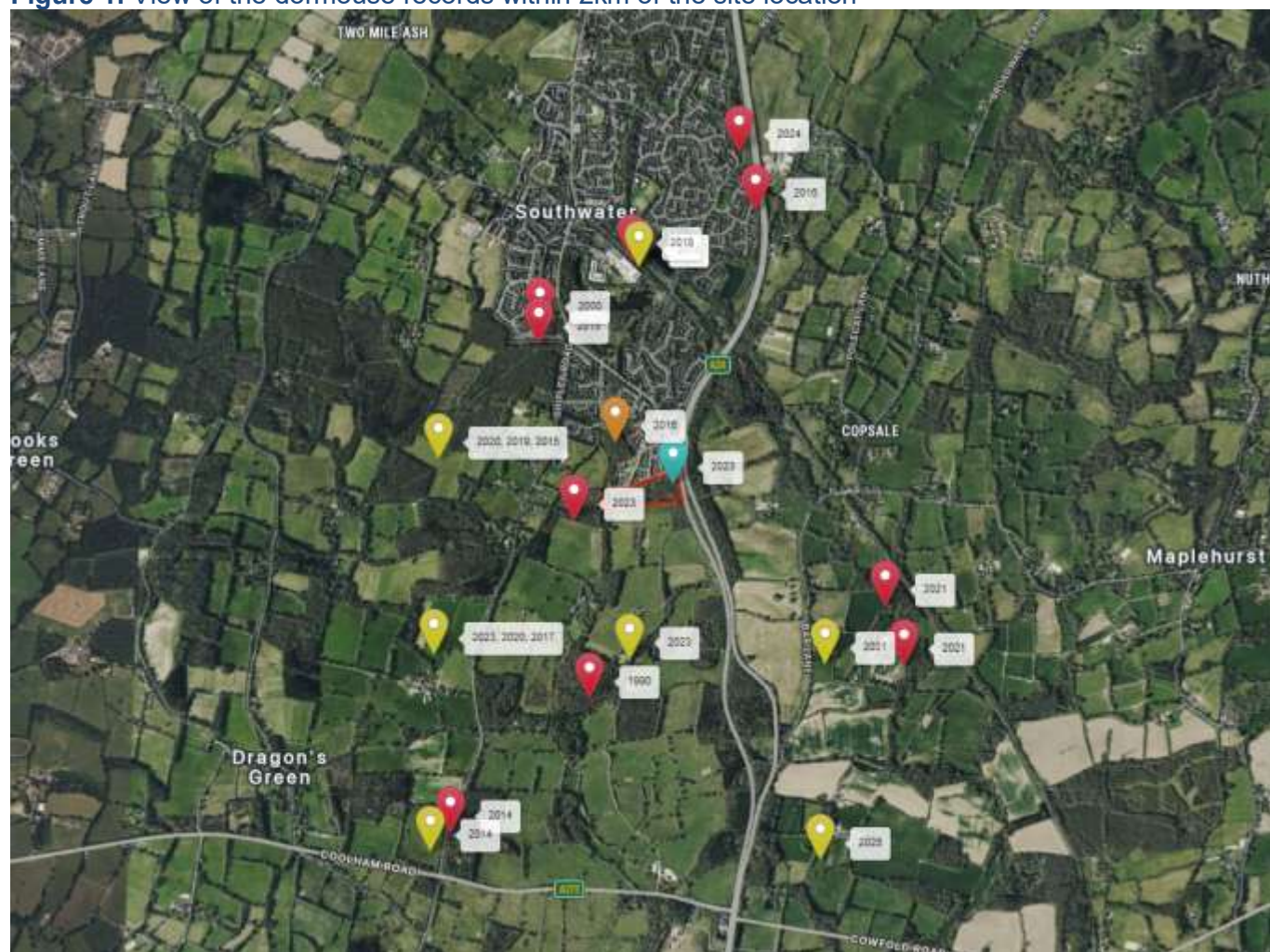
- Should no historical records be found from your search please state this – and specify what searches you undertook.
- Note that you must not include records from National Biodiversity Network (NBN) without first obtaining written permission from the relevant Data Provider.

An updated 2km data search was submitted to Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC) in June 2026, which returned 12 records since 1990 (including the one found on site in 2021 – in blue) (**Fig 1 in red**).

A total of 16 local records of Hazel Dormice were found following a search of the National Biodiversity Network Atlas as part of the National Dormouse Data base (permission obtained from PTES who hold the records). Three of the records were the ones returned by SxBRC (**Fig 1 in yellow**).

A brief search of Magic Maps EPS resource identified 1 Dormouse EPS licences granted within 150m of the site, though it wasn't within the records returned by SxBRC (**Fig 1 – 2016 in orange**).

Figure 1. View of the dormouse records within 2km of the site location



C2 Status of the dormouse population: Briefly detail conservation status at the local, county and regional levels. Please complete the following table, justifying your assessment. If the status is unknown then please enter 'unknown'.

Conservation status assessment		
Local	County	Regional
Surveys recorded a maximum of 1 dormouse nest, alongside the 2 records adjacent to the site. This evidence confirms an established dormouse population in the local vicinity of the development site. Given the connectivity, surrounding hedgerows, woodland, and scrub form integral habitat for this population, which is therefore considered of local value.	There is suitable habitat present for dormice in the county comprising hedgerows and woodland parcels and records were identified in multiple directions from site (Fig 1). This population may connect to further populations in the county, although barriers to dispersal appear to be present in the wider area.	Dormice are nationally rare, however, widespread throughout the south of England.

C3 Survey summary: Please provide a brief summary of the survey undertaken. If standard survey effort was not undertaken please justify why.

A nest tube survey had been set up on-site throughout the redline boundary. A total of 50 tubes were placed within all suitable habitats found on site at approximately 20 m intervals as per Bright et al., (2006). The tubes were checked monthly from May through October to try and ascertain if there is any breeding taking place on-site by licenced and accredited staff from Ecosupport Ltd.

One Dormouse nest was located within a nest tube in the north-eastern corner of the site during the

September check.

Based on Table 3.6 and 3.7 within the Dormouse Mitigation Handbook (Wells et al., 2025), it can be assumed a population density of 15 breeding dormouse within the woodland belt running around and through the site.

C4 Site/habitat description: Please provide:

- A brief description of the site including:
 - Total size of the development site (ha) (most often within the red line planning boundary)
 - A breakdown of the different habitat types the site is comprised of (ha of each habitat type present) – i.e. regardless of their value to dormice
 - An indication of the habitat types on site with potential value to dormice (e.g. 4 ha habitat of ancient woodland, 400m of coppiced hedgerow; 1ha of scrub, etc), differentiating between those surveyed and not surveyed, with an explanation why.

Ensure habitat types are referenced and consistently indicated on relevant figures and tables.

The total area of the development site is 4.5ha.

The following habitat types are present on the development site:

Habitat Type	Area	Value to Dormice	Surveyed
Poor modified grassland	0.426ha	Negligible	N- unsuitable
Pond	0.022ha	Negligible	N- unsuitable
Other broadleaved woodland	3.145ha	Low	N – unsuitable: it was a plantation of Downy Birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>) with very low understorey.
Mature native line of trees	0.711ha	Moderate-High	Y- surveys completed in 2023 from May to October.

- A description of adjacent areas/offsite habitats, specifying any relevance to dormice, including descriptions of habitat/s relevant to dormice connectivity to and from the site.

The wider landscape to the north is predominantly urban, comprising development and associated road networks linked to the town of Southwater. To the east, the A24 forms a significant barrier to dispersal into the wider countryside to the east; however, it also provides a linear corridor of suitable habitat along its margins, facilitating movement north and south. Additionally, the site is connected via hedgerows to woodland areas to the south and west, where further dormouse records have been identified (see **Fig 1**).

- Please also include annotated (cross reference the habitats) and dated photographs as these are very useful as an assessment aid. These can be inserted below or submitted as a separate (referenced) document.

The following images were taken on the 3rd of July 2026 during an updated site visit by Tom Evans, Assistant Project Ecologist with Ecosupport Ltd.

Figure 2. View of the site and the lost habitat (red – woodland, orange – scrub).



Figure 3. View of woodland area – on the right side (taken July 2026).



Figure 4. View of the bramble scrub along the boundaries (taken July 2026).



Figure 5. View of the young plantation on site with the woodland area to be lost in the background (taken July 2026).



C5 Field survey(s): See requirement for location map (C5a) and survey area (C5b) in Checklist I.

Please complete the following tables and add additional lines where necessary. Please enter 'N/A' if the table is not applicable to your survey:

Dates survey undertaken (e.g. format 01/06/13 to 15/10/13)	Survey method (e.g. tubes/nest boxes; nut searches; other – please specify)
18/05/2023 to 19/10/2023	Nest tube survey with 50 tubes installed in April 2023.
Comments (include # of tubes/boxes and date of first installation/quadrats/other field signs etc):	
Comments:	
Comments:	
Comments:	
Comments:	
Comments:	

Please provide surveyors names (including Class Licence registration number if applicable).

The final three surveys were carried out by Katalin Balazs (working as accredited agent under Lyndsey Barratt's Level 1 licence). The nest was found for the first time during these surveys by Katalin Balazs.

Please explain any constraints on the survey/s undertaken (time of year, cold weather, refused access, safety issues preventing access etc – justify as necessary and include evidence where required). If access was refused please provide evidence (letter/email) to demonstrate this.

There were no constraints / limitations to the dormouse surveys.

Please confirm (Yes, No, N/A) that a walk over survey/check has been carried out within 3 months prior to application submission to ensure that conditions have not changed since the most recent survey was undertaken. If 'yes' – provide the date/s undertaken and details of any changes to conditions and habitats on site since the surveys were undertaken. If no walk-over survey/check has been undertaken please explain why.

An updated site visit was undertaken on the 3rd of July 2026. Conditions were similar to previous surveys.

C6 Survey results: Summarise your findings in the tables below and cross reference to **Figure C6** (which must also include locations of positive field signs – see Checklist I). If you did not undertake a specific survey type please add N/A to the relevant table/s.

When completing "Findings" include reference to direct observations, presence of field signs, etc.

Nest tubes & nest box check results

Date (e.g. format 01/06/14 to 15/10/14)	Evidence (Yes / No)
18/05/2023 to 19/10/2023	Yes
Findings: A well woven ball shaped nest made of grass and leaves on the outside was identified on the 12 th September 2023 survey check. Two further tubes contained only loose green leaves. The same finding was identified on the next and last check on the 19 th October 2023 with no individuals identified. The nest was found by Katalin Balazs (working as accredited agent under Lyndsey Barratt's Level 1 licence).	
Findings:	
Findings:	
Findings:	

Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

Nut search results

Date (e.g. format 01/06/14)	Quadrat site
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Findings (include % of nuts opened by dormice):	
Findings:	
Findings:	
Findings:	
Findings:	
Findings:	

Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

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C7 Interpretation/evaluation of survey results:

Guidance: *Natural England advises that caution is taken when interpreting the results of dormice nest tube surveys; a common misconception is that nest tube surveys provide accurate dormice distribution data. However, usage of nest tubes by dormice is patchy and depends on a whole range of site specific factors, such as the presence of suitable locations for natural nests. Natural England considers that once dormice are detected they should be assumed to be present in all suitable habitats on site, unless there are effective barriers to movement.*

Please provide the following:

- A best estimate of dormouse numbers based on data collected, available habitat and published data

The survey work covered a large portion of the active dormouse season including the breeding season. The dormouse survey confirmed that dormice are present within the site (although no evidence of breeding was identified), however there is currently no reliable means of estimating population size from Minimum Number Alive count (Dormouse Mitigation Handbook, Wells et al., 2025). Therefore, estimates of population size should, at present, be based on habitat suitability and its quality: structural complexity and the diversity of favourable species found in the existing habitat (Dormouse Mitigation Handbook, Wells et al., 2025).

The site is comprised of woodland in the middle and remnants of woodland around the boundaries. Based on the section 3.6 of Dormouse Mitigation Handbook, the site has approximately 1.45ha of woodland within the redline boundary. The quality assessment of the woodland has returned 'Excellent' which for woodland habitat represents 10 breeding adults per hectare. Therefore, an estimate of 15 breeding dormice may be found within the woodland found on site.

- Status and significance of the population

The population is considered to be of local value due to presence of only a single nest noted with no breeding activity identified. The population recorded is considered likely to be part of a wider population in the surrounding habitats.

- An assessment of the importance of the site for dormice in the context of the wider landscape, consider the site's location within the geographic range for dormice; dispersal corridors; connectivity to offsite woodland habitat, quality of habitats on site etc

The site is connected to further areas of suitable habitat in the wider landscape, largely comprising of connecting hedgerows with multiple parcels of woodland where further dormice records were identified. The site also connects to habitat along the A24, although this road likely poses a barrier to dispersal further east. Therefore, while there is connectivity to the wider area, the site likely forms part of a local population.

Provide further (brief) comments / explanation if required:

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Important Advice:

Survey maps that must be included in this section of the Method Statement, or as separate documents if preferred, are listed in section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document.

D Impact assessment in absence of mitigation or compensation (also see section 5 of the Dormouse Conservation Handbook). Where appropriate you must take into consideration cumulative impacts of your proposals on the dormouse population/s identified in your survey in each section.

D1 Short-term impacts: The impact/s of activities undertaken on site pre-development and during works must be considered and explained. **Consider disturbance** (such as human presence, noise, vibration, use of machinery for site preparation works etc), **temporary damage and temporary loss of habitats and injuring/killing.**

The works will involve the permanent removal of 0.02ha of scrub and 0.285ha of woodland. Should adequate mitigation not be implemented this could result in direct harm to individual Dormice should they be present within the vegetation being removed, which would constitute a major negative impact at a site level (and an offence under wildlife legislation). In addition, other short-term disturbance impacts on the local Dormouse population are likely to occur through disturbance during the construction period (noise, vibration and visual) to any Dormice present within the retained hedgerow from the movement of heavy machinery and presence of construction workers. Furthermore, groundworks could result in a temporary increase in dust deposition on vegetation. Such impacts could dissuade Dormice from occupying retained habitats on-site and in the immediate adjacent habitats. Should adequate protection not be implemented around all retained habitat, accidental encroachment by machinery and the inappropriate storage of construction materials could also result in damage to retained habitats, decreasing their suitability and putting individual Dormice present at risk of harm. Unmitigated works are considered likely to result in a moderate negative impact at the Local Level.

D2 Long-term impacts: habitat loss or modification Consider and explain the impacts of the proposed works on the dormouse population at a site, local, regional, and national level.

E.g. Removal of Xha scrub habitat for railway embankment stabilisation scheme – Medium negative impact on a site level; medium negative impact at a regional level; low level impact at a national level.

Works will have a direct adverse impact on dormice at the site level through permanent clearance of 0.285ha of woodland and 0.006ha of scrub to facilitate the installation of the access and main road. In addition to the direct risk of killing / injury individual Dormice and the disturbance of nests during works, there is also the minor long-term impact caused by the loss of suitable habitat post-development.

In the long-term, there may be minor operational impacts such as increased noise associated with cars using the access road and new lighting from the dwellings causing potential disturbance to nocturnal movements. Therefore, in the absence of mitigation, there will be a moderate negative impact on a site level, but likely very low negative impacts at the regional and national levels.

D3 Fragmentation and isolation: Will the proposed works result in these types of impacts? *E.g. loss of linear features such as hedges, tree lines, severance of dispersal routes by roads/rail lines, loss of connectivity between existing wooded or hedgerow habitats as a result of the proposal, etc.* Please explain.

Whilst the proposed works will result in the loss of bramble scrub and woodland, connectivity will be maintained due to the retaining of the tree line throughout the site and within the wider habitat, allowing continued connectivity to all habitats. Therefore, the proposed works will not result in any isolation or fragmentation within the wider habitat.

D4 Post-development interference impacts: e.g. human activity as a result of new housing development, by new motorway, increased risk of predation from domestic cats, etc. Please also consider other direct or indirect post development impacts which may include disturbance/ injuring/killing.

E.g. Occupancy of proposed 200 unit housing development will result in an increased recreational use of retained woodland 'dormouse' areas leading to a likely increase in disturbance and possible increase in predation risk (by cats, dogs etc). Moderate to high negative impact at a site and local level.

Post-development, the impacts of the proposed scheme are expected to be minimal. The retained tree line will be enhanced with native scrub planting, providing screening from noise and light spill associated with the northern development, while also improving foraging resources and strengthening the ecological buffer along the site boundaries. In addition, the main access point will function as a dark 'hop-over' area, incorporating monochromatic red lighting, with low-level lighting proposed around the core development's boundary to maintain and protect dark corridors. Therefore, there is a minimal

negative impact at the local, regional or national level.

D5 Impact Summary

D5.1 Summary of dormouse habitat types to be damaged or destroyed as a result of the proposal:

Please complete the following table.

Dormouse habitat type (ha) e.g. hedgerow, woodland, scrub	Total quantity of habitat to be Damaged (ha)	Total quantity of habitat to be Destroyed (ha)
Scrub		0.02
Woodland		0.285
Total quantity		0.305

Please ensure consistency with figures provided with section C4.

D5.2 Predicted scale of impact of this development/activity on species status: Please complete the following table to explain what impacts are likely to be at the site, local/county and regional levels.

Estimated #s of dormice likely to be affected by proposal	Predicted scale of impact (insert Low, Medium, High in columns below)			Notes (include impact on population)
	Site	County	Regional	
1	Medium	Negligible	Negligible	At the site level, the area of habitat suitable for dormice that will be permanently lost is expected to result in a direct impact on one individual dormouse. This habitat area is relatively small at both the county and regional scales, particularly when considering existing connectivity and the extent of the wider habitat.

Provide further comments/explanation as required, particularly should cumulative impacts be incurred (this information helps develop an understanding of how the impacts will be mitigated or compensated when assessing information provided in Section E):

Important Advice:

Please ensure that a separate 'Impact map' is provided (**Figure D**) which must indicate all areas and habitat types (clearly referenced) that will be disturbed, damaged and / or destroyed (please specify the level of impact on the figure). Also see section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document.

E Mitigation and Compensation (please also see section 4 & 5 of the Dormouse Conservation Handbook)

E1 The mitigation solution being proposed in the method statement should be the one that delivers the 'need' with the least impact on the dormouse population.

Please explain why this design was chosen over other potential solutions – clearly set out what other designs were considered and why they were not feasible (e.g. if the proposal for a road scheme will directly impact on a small section of woodland inhabited by dormice, explain why it is not possible to retain that section of woodland and to avoid the impact; if timings to undertake the works are at a time of year when dormice are breeding explain why the works cannot be timed to avoid this most sensitive period, etc).

The mitigation strategy for the removal of Dormouse habitat on site has been informed by best practice guidelines (Bullion *et al.*, 2025) and information from Natural England's Dormouse Mitigation online guidance pages.

The chosen design minimises the extent of habitat removal required to deliver the approved road infrastructure, while retaining boundary habitat and connectivity. This approach is necessary to achieve an optimal scheme within the available area while meeting relevant road safety requirements.

As such, it represents the least impactful deliverable option. To compensate for the loss of 0.285 ha of woodland and 0.02 ha of scrub, a total of 0.273 ha of suitable habitat will be created and enhanced along site boundaries on site, strengthening connectivity and providing additional foraging and nesting opportunities for dormice. A further 1.333ha of newly created woodland is proposed off-site, to the south of the site.

E2 Methodology

E2.1 Search and clearance of dormouse habitat: Please provide details on the areas involved in search and clearance of habitat (this detail must be in line with impacts **Figure D**). If not applicable to your proposals please state 'N/A' in the relevant text boxes. Also note requirement for **Figure E2**.

Single-stage habitat clearance Details of dormice habitat to be cleared following the single-stage clearance technique (as defined in the Dormouse Conservation Handbook)	
Quantity of habitat to be cleared	0.305ha
Description of the habitat types to be cleared	Woodland and scrub
Clearance to be undertaken within best practice timing of April – May (inclusive) and/or mid-September – October (inclusive)	☒ Yes ☐ No If No, please provide details of proposed timing and justification
Confirm that a maximum of 0.25ha is to be cleared per day, on successive days	☐ Yes ☒ No Estimated number of days 14 If No, please provide details and justification As per the new Dormouse Mitigation Handbook (Wells et al. 2025), the clearance of linear or block of habitat towards retained habitat can be of up to 150m per day.
Tools to be used	Hand tools ☒ Yes ☐ No Other as specified:
Measures to maintain connectivity to retained habitat (if applicable), i.e. dead hedging	Installation of planted wooden trellis over 2 proposed footpaths to retain connectivity along the boundaries.
Other:	
Two-stage habitat clearance Details of dormice habitat to be cleared following the two-stage clearance technique (as defined in the Dormouse Conservation Handbook)	
Quantity of habitat to be cleared	
Description of the habitat types to be cleared	
Clearance to be undertaken within best practice timing of stage one in November – March (inclusive) and stage two in April – May (inclusive)	☐ Yes ☐ No Estimated number of days/ weeks If No, please provide details and justification
Tools to be used	Hand tools ☐ Yes ☐ No Other as specified:
Measures to maintain connectivity to retained habitat (if applicable), i.e. dead hedging	
Other:	

E2.2 Capture and release (if applicable):

Please confirm that you agree to undertake the following procedures if a dormice is encountered during works:

Where active dormice are discovered during works and it is possible to allow them to move independently to safe habitats, outside high risk work areas, this will be the first course of action. Where this is not possible, either:

- In the active season, dormice that are active or torpid will be relocated in their existing nest to suitable habitat, or a specially erected dormice nest box (if applicable), within 100m of the 'capture' location.
- During hibernation, dormice found outside high risk areas, such as haul routes, must remain in situ. Where hibernating dormice need to be moved, the existing nest must be relocated, with surrounding material, to a location within 100m of this site similar in condition and aspect to the existing hibernation nest location. It must then be covered by suitable material, i.e. a log or clay tile for protection. In the unlikely event of the animal rousing from hibernation it should be taken into captivity until it can be released within 100m of its capture site at a suitable time.

Where a breeding nest is discovered, works must stop and provision be made for the nest to remain in situ, undisturbed and connected to contiguous habitat, until the young have been weaned and allowed to disperse naturally. Only following dispersal of all young from the nest shall licensable works in this location re-commence.

Yes, I agree / No, I don't agree

Yes

If NO, please provide justification below. Please use this text box to describe any additional information on protocols to be employed if dormice are found during works.

Should your proposals include capture (taking) and release please see requirements for Figure E2 (in Checklist I) and specify below:

- Numbers of dormice that are likely to be affected at the time the works are to be undertaken. Note: *this may be different to the maximum number of dormice estimated during survey as timings for works should be at a time when dormice are least likely to be directly impacted.*

While the proposed loss of woodland is notable, it is located at a considerable distance from the identified nest, and the extent of scrub proposed for removal is limited. However, given the presence of a nest on site and records of dormice in the surrounding area, it is considered that no more than one dormouse will be affected by the proposed works.

E3 Dormouse compensation: Please detail how all impacts to dormice (as identified in section D) will be compensated. If not applicable to your proposals please state 'N/A' in the relevant boxes (also note requirement for **Figure E3 and E4** below).

E3.1 Enhancement and / or restoration of dormouse habitat – Provide details of all works including:

Enhancement measure <i>Select 'yes' or 'N/A' if not applicable to this application</i>	Quantity	Details of location (must also be clearly shown on Figure E3)	Additional details <i>i.e. species composition, size of whips (where applicable)</i>
Hedgerow gap planting ☐ Yes ☐ N/A	Length (m)		
Hedgerow translocation	Length (m)		

☐ Yes ☐ N/A			
Coppice stool translocation ☐ Yes ☐ N/A	Area (ha) / length (m)		
Habitat re-instatement / restoration ☐ Yes ☐ N/A	Area (ha) / length (m)		
Woodland thinning / coppicing ☐ Yes ☐ N/A	Area (ha)		
Woodland infill planting to increase species diversity ☒ Yes ☐ N/A	Area (ha) 0.273	Around the boundaries within the redline.	Species that will be included within all planting areas for Dormice on site can include (reflective of those found on-site and in the wider area): Hazel, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Holly, Gorse, Elder, Buckthorn, Common Broom, Field Maple, Guelder Rose, Wayfaring Tree and climbers such as Honeysuckle and Traveller's Joy. Whips used will be of 60 - 90 cm minimum height.
Other:			

E3.2 Creation of new habitat – Provide details of all works including:

Compensation measure <i>Select 'yes' or 'N/A' if not applicable to this application</i>	Quantity	Details of location (must also be clearly shown on Figure E3)	Additional details <i>i.e. species composition, size of whips (where applicable)</i>
New hedgerow planting ☐ Yes ☐ N/A	Length (m)		
New scrub planting ☐ Yes ☐ N/A	Area (ha)		
New woodland planting ☒ Yes ☐ N/A	Area (ha) 1.333	South of the development, outside of the redline.	It is recommended that the woodland planting comprises a mix of the following tree and shrub species: Alder, Beech, Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Hazel, Oak, Wild cherry, Dog rose, Crab apple, Dogwood, Elder, Field maple, Guelder rose, and Small-leaved lime. These species should be planted randomly to avoid the

			appearance of a plantation linear woodland. A more semi-natural appearance can be achieved through randomisation locations for planting with long term benefits as a result of a varied structure and microclimates.
Nest box installation ☒ Yes ☐ N/A	Number 9	Along the retained eastern and western boundary	N/A
Connectivity / linking structures (e.g. dead hedging) ☒ Yes ☐ N/A	2 no. planted wooden trellises	Over the 2 proposed footpaths	Trellises to be planted with native Honeysuckle
Other:			

E3.3 Summary of compensation – please summarise the total quantity of dormice habitat to be enhanced and / or provided as compensation.

Total quantity of dormice habitat enhanced / restored (total of Table E3.1) in ha / metres	0.273ha	Total quantity of dormice habitat created (total of Table E3.2) in ha / metres	1.333ha
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Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required: Note that compensation measures are expected to result in no net loss of dormice habitat. If your proposals will result in an overall net loss of available dormice habitat please provide full justification on how the favourable conservation status of the population will be maintained.

If you are proposing **enhancement** of existing habitat, please provide details to justify that the existing habitat is in need of enhancement and / or has the potential to be enhanced.

Currently, the site boundaries comprise tree lines that may represent remnants of former woodland. To provide additional foraging and nesting opportunities for dormice on site, the proposals include enhancing these boundaries through the planting of additional scrub and trees, effectively widening them into woodland corridors.

E3.4 Bridges and other permanent linking structures *Note – creation of dormouse bridges to mitigate for fragmentation impacts for high impact cases must be protected in the long term.* Please provide details of:

- Planting
- Siting, including why and how area/location for creation was selected
- 8-figure grid reference on location
- Design (including length, width, height, installation details and materials to be used)
- Evidence (if necessary) to provide reassurance that such a design is used or will be used by dormice (also see requirement for **Figure E3** and the need for long term site safe guard, security and monitoring and maintenance of such a mitigation measure in section E4).

E3.5 Wider biodiversity gains:

Please indicate if enhancements, over and above what is necessary to mitigate the impact of the activity of the licence proposal, are being provided. Please indicate if enhancements are included to satisfy the

requirement of a planning permission, and if so state the relevant planning condition, or other consents in your response below. Please also state if an applicant wishes to provide more than is typically required to mitigate for the impacts. Enter N/A if this is not applicable to your application.

Note: Any licence granted will only cover mitigation and compensation required to fulfill licensing requirements, but will acknowledge additional biodiversity enhancements to be provided.

Important Advice:

Scaled maps/plans of mitigation/compensation must be provided as separate maps/figures (also **see section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document for more detail**). Please remember to date your maps/figures and include a relevant site name and / or grid reference.

- **Figure E2** to show search and clearance of dormouse habitat and indicate which areas will be subject to the different methodologies showing direction of displacement where applicable (ensure this is clearly labelled and consistent with other mandatory maps/figures).
- **Figure E3** to show specifications for mitigation / compensation to be provided, and or retained/enhanced habitats, and annotate where it will be provided. Indicative locations of dormouse boxes must also be shown. Should the scheme be large or complicated it may be necessary to submit more than one figure (note: this will be necessary should linking structures be required see Checklist I – as the design detail must also be provided). For development schemes, include the final development layout.

NOTE: It must be possible to compare these with the survey results plan (**Figure C6**) and 'Impacts' Figure (**D**).

E4 Post-development site safeguard: Further guidance and explanation on post-development monitoring requirements are included within our 'How to get a licence' document:
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/wml-g12_tcm6-4116.pdf.

E4.1 Habitat/site management and maintenance:

Is any specific post-development habitat management and site maintenance planned? If 'Yes' include the following:

- The period (years and months) for which habitat management and maintenance will take place. Ensure that this is consistent with the post development works detailed in section **E5b** of the **Work Schedule document, WML-A35a-E5a&b**.
- Detail what will be undertaken in terms of habitat management and site maintenance required to ensure long-term security of the dormouse population. Ensure this relates to **Figure E3**.

Habitat Management	Required?	What measures will be undertaken?	Timing i.e. first 5 years following completion of development
☐ No habitat management required			
Hedge management	Yes ☐ N/A ☒		
Woodland management	Yes ☒ N/A ☐	The newly enhanced and created woodland will be kept clear of any undesirable species and replaced with native species. Furthermore, once established, selective thinning and coppicing can be undertaken, with some trees cut at 3-5m height and left to rot for saprophytic invertebrates and a resource for woodland birds.	As required, during October - February, while coppicing between October and November, every 3 years but best carried out every 6-10years rotation.
Scrub management	Yes ☐ N/A ☒		

Other as specified:	Yes ☐ N/A ☒		
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Site Maintenance	Required?	What measures will be undertaken?	Timing i.e. first 5 years following completion of development
☐ No site maintenance required			
Check success of establishment of new planting and take remedial action if required	Yes ☒ N/A ☐	Any new plants will be replaced if they die during the first 5 years. In addition, the woodland will be assessed for its health and management will take place if needed.	Annual monitoring / replacement as needing, during first 5 years following completion of development, by the appointed management company..
Maintain dormouse bridges / connecting structures in good condition	Yes ☒ N/A ☐	The trellises will be checked on a yearly basis to ensure the structure is still intact, still linked to adjacent hedgerows, and to replace any plant growth on the trellis, if necessary.	The trellis will be monitored for at least 10 years by the appointed management company.
Clear material in nest boxes to maintain condition	Yes ☒ N/A ☐	Any nests found in poor condition (dilapidated/rotting) will be removed during each monitoring check of the boxes. Any nest boxes that have become dilapidated or damaged will also be replaced.	Once a year, every other year for the first 5 years following completion of vegetation clearance.
Other as specified:	Yes ☐ N/A ☒		

Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

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Note – for phased or multi-plot developments a separate habitat management and maintenance plan is required, which must be submitted with the master plan: see guidance on phased developments.

Important Advice:

Please include **Figure E4** as a separate figure to show which structures and habitats will be managed, maintained and monitored post development as part of your proposal – also see *section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document*).

E4.2 Population monitoring, habitat usage etc: Where required, please include details of:

- Timing – state the years and months post development monitoring or other will be undertaken. Ensure that is consistent with the post development works detailed in section **E5b** of the **Work Schedule document WML-A35a-E5a&b**.

Post-work population monitoring works will take place once a year, every other year for the first 5 years post completion of the vegetation clearance (so in 2027, 2029 and 2031).

- The type of monitoring which will be undertaken (e.g. nut searches, nest tube/nest box survey, hair tubes, camera traps, etc) – include survey methods and equipment to be used as necessary.

Nesting box checks.

- Specify which compensation/mitigation measures will be subject to monitoring (and ensure these are clearly referenced on **Figure E4**).
Note: any bridges or linking structures deployed must be monitored.

All new planting, planted trellises and nest boxes will be subject to monitoring.

Please note that it will be a requirement of the licence to undertake remedial action should monitoring identify that further management/maintenance is required of any compensation/mitigation measure provided (e.g. dormouse nest boxes or bridges/linking structures) to ensure that they are working effectively and are fit for purpose.

Important advice: Please always consider whether any *post development* monitoring effort should be staggered over alternate years in cases where use of the compensation measures may not occur in the same year of provision.

E4.3 Mechanism for ensuring safeguard of mitigation/compensation and post-development management, maintenance and monitoring works:

Please explain what mechanism is in place to ensure safeguard of mitigation/compensation provisions (e.g. Restrictive Covenant, clause to relinquish future development rights in S106 agreement, NERC Act agreement, explicit recognition of site in local planning documents, designation as County Wildlife Site or similar.) The need for this, and the type of mechanism, will vary with the scheme and impact. For substantial impact schemes, some mechanism is always required. If you offer no specific mechanism, explain how you believe the population will be free of threats as far as can be reasonably determined (the expectation of the granting of a licence should not be used for this purpose).

All mitigation / compensation and enhancement habitat will be protected via its inclusion within this MS which in turn will form part of the granted EPSL (a legally enforceable document).

Explain how all post-development works (management, maintenance (including remedial action) and monitoring, as appropriate) will be ensured? Include a commitment that the monitoring, habitat management and maintenance work will be undertaken. Mechanism/s for ensuring delivery must be in place before applying for a licence (also see Section F).

All post-completion landscape maintenance and management will be funded by and be the responsibility of the developers. All management and maintenance works will be secured through a Section 106 agreement which will legally oblige the developers (or another agreed party should responsibility be moved to another entity) to carry out the works as per the management timeline.

E5 Timetable of works: Please complete the **Work Schedule document WML-A35a-E5a&b found on the 'dormouse' application form web page and append to your application pack.**

Important Advice: Please note that from July 2014 a separate Work Schedule is a mandatory requirement to support a new dormouse licence application when using this template.

F Declarations

If the mitigation/compensation area/s is/are not owned by the applicant, you must have consent from the relevant land owner(s). You must have also secured details of how any measures to maintain the population in the long term will be achieved (e.g. a legal agreement).

F1 Declaration Statement(s) – You must include the following declarations within your Method Statement and include the appropriate answer (Yes/No/Not applicable):

F1.1 Re: section E1 - I confirm that relevant landowner consent/s has/have been granted to accept dormice onto land outside the applicant's ownership:

Yes

F2.2 Re: section E2 - I confirm that landownership consent/s has/have been granted to allow the creation of the proposed compensation on land outside the applicant's ownership

Yes

F2.3 Re: section E3 - I confirm that consent/s has/have been granted by the relevant landowner/s for monitoring, management and maintenance purposes on land outside the applicant's ownership

Yes

Comments if applicable:

Important Advice:

Unsecured consents statement:

If you have been unable to secure consents for any of the three declarations please explain why and detail any plans you have in place to obtain the consent(s) or provide details of any right(s) or agreement(s) that will enable the lawful implementation of the proposed mitigation, compensation and monitoring. Failure to provide the appropriate landowner consents means that the Method Statement is unlikely to meet the requirements for the FCS test to be met. It is therefore in your interest to ensure that the appropriate consents have been secured *before* applying for a licence.

G References: List any references cited, and include credits for source information.

H Annexes (supporting documents please append to your application pack)

H1 Pre-existing survey reports;

H2 Raw survey data.

I Check list of figures to be submitted with each Dormouse Method Statement

With your Method Statement and supporting documents please submit the following maps/figures – see table below. Note that some can be included within the Method Statement itself (if preferred) and others must be submitted individually (i.e. separate documents).

Maps/Figures must include the title, site name as referenced on your application form, date and figure reference. If a grid reference is more applicable (e.g. a dormouse bridge is being provided please include this). Include a scale bar (appropriate to the situation e.g. 100m on site maps, 1km on location maps) and direction of North etc.

Additional maps, photographs or diagrams should be included where necessary to adequately explain the scheme.

Figure reference	Mandatory as will be included in the dormouse licence, if applicable	Mandatory for assessment purpose only, but will not be included in the dormouse licence	What it must show (also see details above on site reference, dating and naming).
Figure B2.1	Yes, if the application is part of a phased or multi-plot development where more than 1 licence is required	-	Master plan overview- note – this is not the same as a master plan document, for which you should follow the guidance as stated in section B2.1.
Figure B2.2	-	Yes, if applicable	Locations of other nearby dormouse licensed sites, or sites which will be impacted on by future development.

Figure C5a	-	Yes	Location map at an appropriate scale for the application (often 1:50,000 or 1:25,000)
Figure C5b	-	Yes	Survey area showing all habitats that are within the survey area and distinguishing those that were surveyed and those that were not. Aerial photographs should be provided where possible (ensure you have permission to use copy righted maps). If boxes or tubes were used or transect/quadrat routes, ensure that these routes are indicated as appropriate.
Figure C6	-	Yes	Survey results - provide clear, annotated and cross-referenced maps/plans/photographs to show the survey results (location of nests/dormice, etc). Ensure Figure is at a suitable scale to show the results.
Figure D	Yes	-	Impacts plan – map/figure to show impacts and where licensable works will take place: clearly indicate areas of habitats and habitat types to be impacted by the works (specify whether damage, and temporary impacts, destruction or disturbance will occur).
Figure E2	Yes	-	Locations and habitats where all capture and exclusion activities will be undertaken (ensure this is clearly labelled and consistent with other mandatory maps/figures). Indicate direction of displacement with arrows.
Figure E3	Yes – depending on proposals more than one figure may be required – particularly if the proposal is large or complicated or linking structures are provided	-	Specifications for mitigation / compensation Mitigation / compensation figures must show all habitat creation, restoration/enhancement, indicate where boxes will be erected etc. For development projects, show the final development layout within the site. Non-standard structures: Include design and dimensions for dormice bridges / other linking structures and materials to be used etc and provide an 8-figure grid reference for each structure.
Figure E4	Yes – when monitoring and maintenance will be included in the licence	-	Monitoring, management and maintenance map. Please indicate the specific structures and habitats that are to be managed, maintained and monitored as part of this licence proposal. Ensure that they are correctly referenced and are consistent with other parts of the Method Statement and figures.