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Job Name:	**Sayers Farm, Two Mile Ash, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 0LA (DC/24/0377)**
Date:	**4th June 2024**
Prepared By:	**Eddie Selwyn (Principal Ecologist)**
Subject:	**Technical Note – Non-licensed Precautionary Method Statement for Hazel Dormouse**

This technical note has been written to provide details regarding the Precautionary Method Statement for Hazel Dormouse in response to the comments detailed below.

"The non-licensed Precautionary Method Statement for Hazel Dormouse is required prior to determination because paragraph 99 of ODPM Circular 06/2005 highlights that: 'It is essential that the presence or otherwise of protected species, and the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development, is established before the planning permission is granted, otherwise all relevant material considerations may not have been addressed in making the decision.'"

Non-licensed Precautionary Vegetation Clearance Works

All clearance work will be under ecological supervision.

Prior to Clearance Works

Exclusion Area – Site Habitat Clearance

The site will be walked with all interested parties involved and the clearance areas will be agreed upon by all parties. The clearance line should be marked and protective fencing established to ensure that retained and adjacent habitats are protected throughout the whole process.

Method Statement of Clearance Works

All works will be agreed upon by all parties prior to starting. All workers will be inducted to the site and an ecological Tool Box Talk (TBT) given. All work will be conducted under ecological supervision. The detailed method statement of works is shown below.

All works will follow the following points as directed by an ecologist.

- The contractors will be informed of the likelihood of encountering dormice before they commence work. An ecological TBT will be given to everyone on site in all parties. The contractors will be shown pictures of dormice and summer/winter nests. If dormice are seen, all work which could disturb dormice will be halted and left overnight to allow dormice to

disperse naturally. The contractors will be told not to touch the dormice unless an emergency situation arises.

- Where hedgerow clearance is required it will be undertaken with hand tools and supervised by a suitably qualified ecologist under an ecological watching brief.

Clearance works on site will be directed at all times by an ecologist and must follow the following points:

- Hedgerow clearance will be undertaken by starting at one end of the section to be cleared, and working in one direction only. This method ensures that in the unlikely event of dormice being present in the areas dormice can move away from the works through the adjacent hedgerows.
- All areas of hedgerow will be finger tipped searched by an ecologist prior to clearance.
- All clearance must be with hand tools and under ecological supervision. No large tracked vehicles should be used, or heavy machinery. The hedgerow should be moved by hand to the chippers or trailers, with some wood to remain on site.
- The hedgerow will be cut to ground level.
- All arisings must be hand dragged to a pre-agreed works area, unless otherwise stated by the on site ecologist.
- Areas of hedgerow which are to be retained will be fenced off to prevent further disturbance during construction.