

# LE 03 Managing impacts on ecology

(All buildings)

## Aim

To avoid, or limit as far as possible, negative ecological impacts on the site and its zone of influence resulting from the project.

## Overview

Assessment type	Available credits	Applicable assessment criteria
Fully fitted	2	All
Shell and core	2	All
Shell only	2	All
Residential: Fully fitted	2	All
Residential: Partially fitted	2	All
EU Taxonomy	-	None

## Minimum standards

Rating level	Criteria
-	None

## Assessment type specific notes

Reference	Assessment type specific note
-	None

## Building type specific notes

Reference	Building type specific note
-	None

## Assessment criteria

This issue is split into two parts:

- Prerequisite – Ecological risks and opportunities
- Implementation of measures on-site – two credits

### Prerequisite – Ecological risks and opportunities

- 1 To undertake LE 03 the criteria outlined in LE 02 for 'Survey and evaluation' and 'Determining ecological outcomes' must have been met.

### Implementation of measures on-site – two credits

- 2 Handover between the design and construction teams must be sufficiently structured and thorough to ensure that all planned ecological measures are communicated, understood, and adhered to throughout construction.
  - 2.a An ecologist will have been in place throughout planning and design. If a new ecologist has been appointed for the construction and handover stages, there must be an additional handover between the two ecologists.
- 3 The measures required to achieve optimal ecological outcomes must be integrated with site preparation and construction processes. These must be measured and monitored throughout construction and handover as follows:
  - 3.a An ecologist will have been appointed by the contractor to monitor and advise on the protection of site ecology as agreed. If this ecologist requires the input of an additional ecological specialist at any point (for example, an expert on a particular form of wildlife), the contractor must provide for such services as required.

## Checklists and tables

None

## Methodology

None

## Compliance notes

None

## Evidence

Criteria	Interim design stage	Post construction stage
<b>Implementation of measures on-site</b>		
2	<p>Evidence that information about the optimal ecological outcome and the measures required to achieve it have been handed over appropriately e.g.</p> <p>Tender documents incorporating ecological requirements.</p>	No additional evidence is required post construction.
2a	<p>If there has been a change in ecologist, the incoming ecologist must confirm they were provided with all the information they needed to understand the optimal ecological requirements and implement measures to achieve them. Where a contractor has not been appointed at design stage, the developer must include the appointment of an ecologist, and the facilitation of handover between ecologists, in the tender documents.</p>	<p>If, as described (left), the contractor was not confirmed at design stage, the incoming ecologist must confirm post construction that on taking up their role they were provided with all the information they needed to fulfil it.</p>
3	<p>A statement from the ecologist covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All measures to be implemented to achieve optimal ecological outcomes.</li> <li>• How each measure should be implemented on site by the contractor.</li> <li>• What evidence should be provided by the contractor to demonstrate compliance at handover of the project.</li> <li>• The management and monitoring actions to be undertaken by the ecologist (if any).</li> </ul>	<p>Evidence in accordance with the statement provided at design stage, for example, site records, site procedures, environmental plans, toolbox talks, site programmes, drawings, site photographs and/ or sign off by the ecologist.</p> <p>If there have been any changes to the measures used, evidence gathered, or to management and monitoring practices, the ecologist must provide a statement explaining that the project still achieved its optimal ecological outcomes.</p>

## Definitions

### Avoidance

Preventing negative environmental impacts by avoiding damaging activities entirely (e.g. through project decisions about site location, design, or timing of works).

### Handover

For the purposes of this issue, handover is when responsibility for the ecology of the site is passed from one individual or organisation to another. An effective handover is critical to meeting the ecological objectives. The handover process encompasses all and any information, activity and responsibility that is relevant to achieving those objectives, including communication, monitoring, and reporting.

For more definitions, see LE 02.

## Additional information

None