

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 3, 2024 9:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: WHITEWEBBS - ECOLOGY

Hello [REDACTED]

The applicant should ensure that surveys are carried out in suitable weather conditions and in accordance with best practice. It is impossible to say whether the weather conditions will be suitable on the dates proposed.

It is not good practice to carry out surveys in short succession - not on consecutive evenings as proposed for two of the GCN surveys. Reptile refugia should be left to 'bed in' for at least two weeks before the first survey visit (this is not stated below) and 7 separate checks - at a suitable time of day, and in suitable weather conditions - need to be undertaken.

I must say that I was concerned by your conduct at our meeting last Friday with the applicant and their ecologist. You contradicted me in front of the applicant and publicly disregarded my advice. It was clear that the reptile survey had not been undertaken to an appropriate standard and could not be relied upon given that the weather conditions had been unsuitable for all but 2 of the 7 survey visits. Rather than taking my advice you stated that the survey did not need to be redone (then at one point suggesting that 2 survey visits could be done, demonstrating your lack of knowledge) as the results would make no difference to the outcome - repeating what the applicant's ecologist had (incorrectly, and, disingenuously in my view) said. The opinion that you gave is improper - without knowing what the ecological baseline is it is not possible for the planning committee to reach an informed decision. In this case, for example, it could be that the site supports more species of reptile than were found in the applicant's survey (it also may not) and that the ecological value is higher than their assessment states (e.g. a site with 3 reptile species is considered 'key reptile site' of considerable ecological value). Fortunately, despite what was said during the meeting, it appears that the applicant has reluctantly concluded that the survey needs to be redone. It is not in the council's favour to rely on sub-standard survey data or assessments.

I would like your assurance that a similar situation will not reoccur, that you will take on board my advice about ecological matters, not contradict or undermine me. Please can you confirm that you will be able to do this?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 9:01 PM

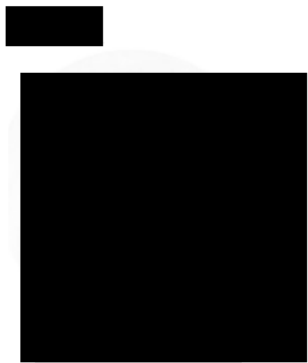
To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: WHITEWEBBS - ECOLOGY

Hi [REDACTED]

Can you review the information below and confirm whether these survey details are suitable and you would be satisfied with the conditions when these are completed?

Kind regards,



[REDACTED]

Managing Director
KEW Planning Ltd



[Knowledgeable](#) | [Experienced](#) | [Wins](#)



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 12:47 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: WHITEWEBBS - ECOLOGY

Hi [REDACTED]

Following our meeting last week with yourself and [REDACTED] please find below the survey calendar of the various surveys that Logika will be (and in some cases have already done) instructing on the site.

As you will appreciate, these go beyond what we consider are necessary for a proportionate and considered understanding of the site's ecological conditions for the reasons that we discussed last week.

Survey	Dates	Notes
--------	-------	-------

type	undertaken or proposed	
Great crested newt population estimate	23/24 April 2024 09/10 May 2024 13/14 May 2024 23/24 May 2024 04/05 June 2024 06/07 June 2024	Evening visit followed by a morning visit . Three survey methods being used at each visit that include – bottle trapping, torching, egg search and netting. All surveys led by licensed surveyors
Grassland visits	24 April 2024 19 June 2024	Quadrat survey with species list and DAFOR scale
Bat emergence survey (Northern Clubhouse)	2 July 2024	Five surveyors (one class 4 bat licence holder and one class 2 bat licence holder running the survey). All surveyors equipped with infra-red cameras and bat detectors
Bird survey visits	24 April 2024 19 June 2024	Bird species list and mapping
Reptile surveys	Visit 1 – 14 May 2024 Visit 2 – 24 May 2024 Visit 3 – 5 June 2024 Visit 4 – 7 June 2024 Visit 5 – 14 June 2024 Visit 6 – 19 June 2024 Visit 7 – 21 June 2024	Artificial refugia check and visual search

Additionally, [REDACTED] is preparing a short Note, which will assist [REDACTED] in sign-posting to the relevant BNG information that has already been submitted to the Council as part of the planning application. This will be issued to you shortly.

Many thanks in advance.

Regards



Disclaimer

This e-mail message and any attached file is the property of the sender and is sent in confidence to the addressee only. Internet communications are not secure and Quod is not responsible for their abuse by third parties, any alteration or corruption in transmission or for any loss or damage caused by a virus or by any other means.

Quod Limited, company number: 07170188 (England).
Registered Office: 21 Soho Square, London, W1D 3QP
For our privacy policy go to <http://www.quod.com/privacy-policy/>