

Client Name: Axis PED
Site Name: Legacy BESS
Project Ref: AxisL-043-1215
Date: 7th September 2023

Legacy BESS – Ecological Enhancements

Overview

Avian Ecology Ltd. were commissioned by Axis PED to design a scheme of net biodiversity benefit in relation to a proposed battery storage development (the 'Proposed Development') on land to the north of Legacy Substation (the 'Site'), as shown on **Figure 1**.

Planning permissions have been granted by Wrexham County Borough Council subject to conditions (Planning Application Reference: P/2023/0175). This note is intended to allow the discharge of Condition 8, which states:

"Before the first use of the development hereby permitted a scheme of net biodiversity benefit shall be implemented in accordance with details first submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved measures for net biodiversity benefit shall thereafter be permanently retained."

This report refers only to ecological enhancements measures, and does not reference measures implemented for mitigation purposes only.

The objectives of this report are to present a scheme of net biodiversity benefit. This report should be read in conjunction with baseline information presented within the following documents:

- Legacy Battery Storage Ecological Assessment Report (Avian Ecology, 2023)
- Legacy Battery Storage Summary of Change (Avian Ecology, 2023)

Summary of proposed Enhancements

Permanent Measures

The following enhancement measures would be secured for the lifetime of the Proposed Development. Due a lack of available space within the Proposed Development Site, ecological enhancements proposed comprises a range of pole mounted bird and bat boxes to be situated around the peripheries of the Site. Specifications can be found in **Appendix 1**

Boxes proposed comprise the following:

- 1x pole mounted barn owl box;
- 2x pole mounted rocket bat box (<https://www.wildcare.co.uk/pole-mounted-eco-rocket-box-cavity-crevice-chamber.html>); and,
- 2x pole mounted roost maternity double bat box (<https://www.wildcare.co.uk/pole-mounted-roost-maternity-single-double-bat-box.html>).

One-off Measures

In addition to the above permanent measures, the following one-time measures would also be undertaken on land outside of the Application Site, however ongoing maintenance cannot be secured due to lying outside of the Applicants land ownership.

- Selective scrub management to encourage the spread of species-rich grassland and protect existing grassland currently being overgrown by scrub;
- Implementation of an invasive species control and eradication plan across the LWS;
- In addition to the above, five bird boxes and six bat boxes, to be suitably positioned on trees. Boxes to be constructed of woodcrete to ensure long lifespan.
- Installation of three insect hotels/refugia (for range of species from solitary bees to ground dwelling species); and,
- Installation of three hedgehog refuge/hibernation boxes

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Figure 1: Ecological Enhancement Plan



Appendix 1: Wildlife Box Specifications

Item	no.	Specification
Permanent measures		
Pole mounted Barn Owl Box	x2	https://peakboxes.co.uk/shop-1/barn-owl-box-duplex-pole-mounted
Pole Mounted Rocket Bat Box	x2	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/pole-mounted-eco-rocket-box-cavity-crevice-chamber.html
Pole Mounted Double Bat Roost Maternity Box	x2	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/pole-mounted-roost-maternity-single-double-bat-box.html
One-off measures		
General Purpose bird boxes	x5	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/vivara-pro-woodstone-nest-box-11251-g.html https://www.wildcare.co.uk/vivara-pro-woodstone-nest-box-11241-g.html
General Purpose bat roost boxes	x6	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/bat-box-65.html https://www.nhbs.com/convex-wood-concrete-bat-box https://www.nhbs.com/2f-schwegler-bat-box-general-purpose https://www.nhbs.com/2fn-schwegler-bat-box
Insect habitat	x3	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/bee-barn-10311.html https://www.wildcare.co.uk/national-trust-insect-tower.html
Hedgehog box	x3	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/woodstone-hedgehog-house-10506.html