Enfys Ecology

Wrexham University

Ecological Compliance Audit

Project Reference Number	4910	Site name:	Wrexham Glyndwr University: Plas Coch Campus
		Site grid reference:	SJ3273751211
Name of Developer:	Wynne Construction	Planning Permission Condition	Yes/No: Yes, planning Condition 11 If yes: Application No: WRR P/2023/0285
Name and Organization of Ecological Compliance Auditor	Lucy Boyett: Enfys Ecology Ltd	Type of Assessment	☐ Internal ☒ External ☐ Combination of Internal and External
Number of Ecological Compliance Audits (ECA')	2	Intervals between Audits	7 months

A. Schedule of Ecological Compliance Audit Completion and Dissemination

Audit Number	Phase of works	Date Completed	Date Issued to Developer	Date Issued to LPA
1	Enterprise Engineering and optics centre (EEOC) building has been erected (though not finished). An area of amenity grassland and shrub was cleared for the site.	25/10/24 (date of audit)	20/11/2024	20/11/2024
2	Internal works to the Enterprise Engineering and optics centre (EEOC) building were nearing completion, with handover expected imminently. All comments with regards to Audit 2 are noted in red.	06/05/2025	19/01/2026	
3				
4				

B. Performance Indicators

The audit to be conducted in accordance with NRW compliance audit guidelines.

No	Performance Indicator	**Evidence required** - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	**Pass (Yes/No), comments.** **State if photographic evidence has been used**	**What action is required as a result of findings?**
1	Tool Box Talks carried out prior to any works commencing	Copy of documents from ecological induction, showing content of induction. List of induction attendees will be provided.	☒ Yes ☐ No TBT's for wildlife, waste management and energy efficiency were given and attendee logs were provided for review.	None TBT attendee logs were provided for review for the first audit. No further evidence is required.
2	Appropriate removal of Cotoneaster prior to works commencing	Works log Field Observation Contractor/ Licenced landfill report	No, works were carried out by Thomas Contracting. Site manager unaware of cotoneaster and schedule 9/invasive species in general. Cotoneaster was present within the wider site, though it was not clear if the area cleared for the EEOC site contained cotoneaster No cotoneaster within the area of works.	A biosecurity risk assessment, including some invasive species identification reference sheets should be produced and reviewed by all contractors prior to any further site clearance work. If cotoneaster, or any other schedule 9 species need to be cleared then appropriate methodology will need to be followed. The cotoneaster was not within the area of works. All ground works had been completed and no further action required.

3	Demolitions and Vegetation removal carried out at appropriate time of year, or following nesting bird checks by an experienced ecologist	Works log schedule is available for inspection. Report from Ecologist	☒ Yes ☐ No	Vegetation/tree removal (4 trees) was carried out at the end of February 2023 just before nesting bird season. There is no record of an ecologist being appointed to undertake checks or supervise the works – however, as this was outside of the breeding bird season this may not have been necessary. All ground works had been completed as described above and no further action was required.
4	Barrier Fencing is installed prior to works commencing to protect retained features and habitats	Field observation	☒ Yes ☒ No	Trees to be retained are just outside the site barrier so in effect are protected/barriered off from the site. Site barrier was still present and intact providing protection to the trees.
5	Root Protection zones of trees to be retained are marked out; no grounds works carried out within the RPZ's.	Field Observation	☐ Yes ☒ No	Root protection zones were not demarcated or barriered off as such. Some of the posts for the site boundary fencing have been dug in within the root protection zones of the trees to be retained (See Photos 1-4) Site boundary fencing still in place as described above.
6	Removal and translocation of honey bees by a specialist bee removal contractor prior to the demolition of Building 8.	Works log Bee Contractor Report	☐ Yes ☒ No	Demolition of buildings had not yet started at time of audit. Building 8 was not due to be demolished in the near future.

7	Action taken if protected species found during the course of work	Log detailing - number and species found and location actions undertaken if animals found including notification to ecologist	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A	No protected species found as yet. Site manager was aware to notify ecologist should any be found. As above.
8	<u>Enhancements</u> Bat boxes installed as per the ecology report	Log and field observation: - number, location and design of bat boxes as specified (e.g. make & model number) - lighting scheme avoids illumination of roosts / entrances	☐ Yes ☒ No	N/A bat boxes not installed as yet but will be at a later date. As above
9	<u>Enhancements</u> Bird boxes installed as per the ecology report	Log and field observation: - number, location and design of bat boxes as specified (e.g. make & model number) - lighting scheme avoids illumination of roosts / entrances	☐ Yes ☒ No	N/A bird boxes not installed as yet but will be at a later date. As above

10	External lighting is compliant with approved plans to discharge condition 10	Log and field observation demonstrate construction and installation was in accordance with landscaping plans and any relevant conditions including: - lighting scheme avoids illumination of roosts / entrances - lighting scheme avoids bat dispersal routes	☐ Yes ☒ No	Site manager was unaware of the need for bat friendly lighting, though external lighting of EEOC building yet to be installed and rest of site was still at pre-demolition phase. The bat friendly lighting scheme approved by the planning authority was not applicable to this building, however, any lighting installed should consider the guidance from ILP (2023) 'Bats and Artificial Lighting At Night. Guidance Note GN08/23'. This guidance can be incorporated into any lighting design to ensure the new development will not have a negative impact on any bats using the site or in the wider area. As above
11	Landscaping and planting has been carried out as per approved landscaping plans to discharge condition 8 (and 9)	Log and field observation demonstrate planting and landscaping was in accordance with landscaping plans and any relevant conditions	☐ Yes ☒ No	This had not been carried out as yet at the time of the audit. The Schedule A tree planting and Schedule C native hedge mix planting (as per Planting Plan EEOC-LST-XX-XX-DR-L-0301) had been completed along the boundary of the service yard. Schedule B wildflower mix was due to be sown within a few weeks (see Photo 7 below).
12	Works carried out in line with good practise to protect habitats	Field Observation Works log of environment/ecological issues that have arisen and were managed	☒ Yes ☐ No	No ecological issues were encountered

Audit 1 - 25/10/24: Site Photos







Photos 1-3: Showing the proximity of the site boundary fencing and photo 4 showing post dug into ground and cemented within root protection zone of tree to be retained.






Photos 5-6: The EEOC building and the site within the boundary fencing. Photo 7 showing Cotoneaster within the wider site.

Audit 2 – 06/05/2025



Photo 7 – Planting of trees and native hedge mix.

Any other points to note/comments from auditor:

Audit 1

The stage of development subject to audit was restricted to the construction of the EEOC building, which did not require any demolitions and minimal vegetation clearance. The majority of the ecological concerns and proposed mitigation detailed within the ecological reports submitted as part of the planning application were more relevant to future stages of the development at Wrexham University and have, therefore, yet to be carried out and/or are not applicable to this stage of works.

As part of the EEOC building development, there were two compliance issues to note:

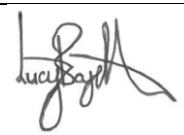
The root protection zones of the trees to be retained had not been marked out within the development area and a concreted post had been put in within the RPZ of one of the trees, resulting in a significant non-compliance.

There was no record of an appropriate scheme of removal for any *Cotoneaster* sp. prior to the ground clearance for the new build. It is not known if there had been cotoneaster in the area of the development and its removal may, therefore, not have been required. However, *Cotoneaster* sp. was present throughout the site there appeared to be an overall lack of awareness of the issues surrounding this plant and other Schedule 9 invasive species that may be present within or around the site. It is recommended that a biosecurity risk assessment is produced and retained on site; to be read and understood by all future contractors, detailing the species that may be present (and how to identify them), appropriate methods of removal and what biosecurity measures need to be followed throughout the works to prevent the spread of any Schedule 9 non-native invasive species to and from the site.

Audit 2

This ecological compliance audit relates solely to the construction phase of the EEOC building. This phase did not involve any demolition works and required only minimal vegetation clearance. As such, the majority of ecological constraints and mitigation measures set out in the ecological reports submitted in support of the planning application relate to later phases of the wider Wrexham University development and are not applicable to this stage of works or are yet to be implemented.

Protective boundary fencing remained present and intact throughout the site, providing continued protection to retained trees. Bat boxes had not been installed at the time of the audit; however, this measure relates to the wider site rather than specifically to the EEOC building, and the final allocation and placement of bat boxes is to be confirmed at a later stage.

Landscaping works were largely complete. Schedule A tree planting and Schedule C native hedgerow planting, in accordance with Planting Plan EEOC-LST-XX-XX-DR-L-0301, had been completed along the service yard boundary. Schedule B wildflower mix was programmed to be sown within the following weeks. A previous audit identified a non-compliance associated with works within a tree root protection zone. At the time of this audit, the boundary fencing remained in place and unchanged, and no further works had occurred within the affected area.			
Photographic Evidence ☒ Yes ☐ No		**If Yes, please attach to completed report**	
Auditor Name	Lucy Boyett, Ecologist, Enfys Ecology	**Date Completed**	06/05/2025
Auditor Signature			
Date ECA Submitted to Developer	19/01/2026	**Date ECA Submitted to Planning Authority**	

Copy of this to be sent to;

Name	Organization	Date
Richard Beatson/ Graham Dickson	Wynne Construction	
Olivia Forde	Cassidy Ashton	
TBC	Wrexham County Borough Council	