Great Crested Newt Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS)

[redacted]

DOMUS architecture

Project:	**Containerised Self-Storage & Open Storage Development**
Site:	**Land at Ridley Wood Industrial Complex, Bryn Lane, Wrexham LL13 9UT**
Reference:	**2154**
Date:	**April 2026**
Version:	**1**

1.0 Introduction

This Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) Method Statement has been prepared to support the proposed containerised self-storage and open storage development at the above site.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (UES, 2026) identified that whilst the site comprises hardstanding of negligible ecological value, great crested newts (GCN) are known to be present within the wider area. As a precautionary measure, the following working methods will be implemented to avoid harm to GCN during construction.

2.0 Site Context

The application site comprises entirely previously developed land, with no suitable terrestrial habitat for GCN within the red line boundary. No ponds or waterbodies are present on site, and no works are proposed to adjacent off-site vegetation.

Works are restricted to existing hardstanding areas and include the installation of storage containers, fencing, and associated infrastructure.

3.0 Risk Assessment

Given the absence of suitable habitat within the site, the risk of GCN being present within the working area is considered to be very low.

However, a precautionary approach is adopted in line with best practice guidance.

Given the absence of suitable habitat within the site, no further survey or licensing is considered necessary. A precautionary approach is therefore proportionate

4.0 Reasonable Avoidance Measures

The following measures will be implemented throughout the construction phase:

1. Toolbox Talk:

All site operatives will receive a toolbox talk prior to commencement of works to raise awareness of GCN, including identification and legal protection.

2. Supervision and Site Awareness:

Site personnel will remain vigilant for the presence of amphibians during all groundworks and site activities.

3. Controlled Working Areas:

Works will be confined to the defined development footprint and existing hardstanding areas only. No encroachment into adjacent vegetation or off-site land will occur.

4. Storage of Materials:

Materials will be stored on pallets or raised off the ground where practicable to avoid creating refugia for amphibians.

5. Excavations:

Any temporary excavations will be covered overnight or provided with a means of escape (e.g. ramp) where left open.

5.0 Procedure if Great Crested Newt is Encountered

In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is encountered during works:

1. All works in the immediate area will cease immediately.
2. The animal will not be handled or moved.
3. A suitably qualified ecologist will be contacted for further advice.
4. Works will only recommence once appropriate guidance has been provided.

6.0 Compliance

These measures will be adhered to throughout the construction phase to ensure compliance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

7.0 Conclusion

The proposed development is located on hardstanding land of negligible ecological value. The implementation of the above Reasonable Avoidance Measures ensures that the risk of harm to great crested newts is appropriately managed and reduced to negligible levels.