

Section 2. Natural Environment (2 of 4)

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Why is this important?

The Climate Emergency and the Nature Emergency are closely intertwined, and we can't solve one without the other. Nature is a critical ally in the fight against climate change. Addressing climate change and biodiversity need to be considered together, and Nature-based solutions (NBS) can help us both reduce carbon emissions and allow nature to prosper. Addressing nature alongside climate change, can bring environmental, social and economic benefits.

What information can I use?

Information can be sourced from our online mapping, and from supporting documents to your planning application, including:

- o Planning Statement,
- o Design and Access Statement,
- o Biodiversity Metrics
- o Biodiversity Statement
- o Tree Surveys
- o Landscaping proposals

How to complete:

Complete the yellow boxes below. The RAG assessments will calculate automatically.

CIF Questions

Your responses (please complete the yellow boxes)

Supporting Policy, Guidance and Mapping Links

RAG Assessment

	Response - please select an answer from the drop down box	Additional / supporting comments - including any explanation of why you consider the development to be sustainable	Supporting documents - detail where evidence / further information may be found.	Mapping Link Available?	Relevant Local Plan Policies / Additional Guidance	Specific Policy Requirements / Why it matters	Things to consider	RAG Score
Biodiversity	2.1 Is your development required to provide Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)?				Environment Act 2021; CP6: Natural Environment; DM15: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife Habitats; DM27: Design in New Development BNG Planning Advisory Note	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	2.2 If Yes to Q2.1, does the proposed development provide a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gains?			0				
	2.3 If Yes to Q2.1, is BNG to be provided on site, off-site, or a combination of the two? Or national credits?			0				
	2.4 Are other design features included, for example bird boxes, swift bricks, bat boxes, hedgehog highways or ponds/SUDS?			0				
	2.5 If a residential scheme, does the proposed development achieve a Building with Nature Design Award?			0				
Trees & Woodlands	2.6 Does the proposed development result in the loss of trees on site?			ACCESS MAPPING	DM16: Green and Blue Infrastructure DM17: Trees and Woodland Tree and Woodland Strategy	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	Green
	2.7 If Yes, How many trees are to be lost?							
	2.8 Does the proposed development include new tree planting?							
	2.9 If Yes, how many trees are to be planted?							
	2.10 Net change (auto-calculated)							
	2.11 Ratio (auto-calculated, policy requires min 1:3 = 0.33)							
Soils	2.12 Is the site allocated on carbon rich (peat) soils?			ACCESS MAPPING	CP6: Natural Environment	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	2.13 If Yes, is there mitigation of restoration / enhancement proposed?							0
	2.14 Is the proposed development located on high quality agricultural land (Grade 1,2,3a)							0
Air Quality	2.15 Is the proposed development located in an AQMA?			ACCESS MAPPING	CP6: Natural Environment DM2: Protecting living and working environments	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	2.16 If Yes, is any mitigation of air quality proposed?							0