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Ecological walkover survey completed at Busy Bees Nursery in Heatherton to inform the installation of a prefabricated classroom building measuring 11x6m.

Survey Methodology

A site walkover survey was completed by Lizi Pimlott of LP Ecological Services Ltd on 16/04/2026.

A desk study was completed on 15/04/2026 to identify any designated sites, notable habitats and protected species records on or within 500m of the site.

Survey Results

Designated Sites

No statutory designated sites were identified within 500m of the site. A potential non-statutory designated sites was identified approximately 150m northeast of the site from a review of the City of Derby Local Plan. Details of this site were not available; however, it seemed to overlap with the grounds of Derby Grammar School.

Habitats and Flora

Two parcels of deciduous woodland were identified within 500m of the site, located 190m northeast and 350m east respectively. A parcel of woodland is also present immediately to the north of the site, which is not designated as priority habitat but does connect to the aforementioned parcels.

The wider site comprises a nursery building with associated parking and outdoor space bordered by timber panel fencing. The proposed building footprint comprises short modified grassland. Scattered shrubs and trees are present within the site including hawthorn, Lawson cypress, sycamore, field maple, cherry and horse chestnut. To the southwest, the modified grassland gives way to artificial grass surface.

No notable flora species were recorded on the site.

Fauna

No records of European protected species were identified within 500m of the site. However, hedgehog (a priority species) has been recorded in the local area as well as several other common species.

The site is bordered by timber panel fencing which will prevent the movement of terrestrial species to and from the site. The site itself is regularly disturbed by staff and children throughout the day meaning other species such as birds are likely to be deterred from the site.

No evidence of any notable species was recorded on the site.

The adjacent woodland is likely to support a wider array of species including bats and birds. However, the urban location is likely to deter other woodland favouring species such as [REDACTED]. The trees immediately adjacent to the site were thin stemmed with no potential roost features for bats identified and no bird nesting activity observed.

Impact Assessment

The proposed development is of small scale, comprising the installation of a prefabricated building measuring 11x6m.

This will result in the loss of modified grassland and the removal of a mature hawthorn shrub and three small trees including Lawson cypress, cherry and field maple. This is not considered significant in terms of habitat loss.

Due to the prefabricated nature of the building and the established function of the wider site as a nursery, it is considered unlikely that any significant impact on the woodland would occur as a result of the proposed development.

The proposed development will not result in any loss of habitat for any notable species. Due to the prefabrication of the building, its installation is unlikely to result in any indirect disturbance to local wildlife and its usage is unlikely to generate any additional noise disturbance compared to existing levels. No artificial lighting is proposed to be installed externally and the building will be in use during daylight hours meaning any internal light spill is unlikely to affect nocturnal species such as bats or hedgehogs. The trees and shrub to be removed are small in size and in a disturbed location meaning they are unlikely to be used by nesting birds.

No statutory designated sites were identified within 500m of the site and no impacts are anticipated on non-statutory designated sites due to their distance, with the adjacent woodland providing screening between these areas and the site.

Conclusion

No impacts to any designated sites, notable habitats or protected or notable species are anticipated as a result of the proposed development. No further surveys or mitigation measures are proposed.

Site Photographs



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Validity

Due to the dynamic nature of ecological conditions, the results of the survey(s) and related conclusions and recommendations as contained within this report should only be considered valid for up to 18 months from the date the last survey was undertaken.

Any alterations to the site proposals may invalidate the recommendations contained within this report.