Planning Application Support Statement

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This supporting statement has been prepared to accompany a planning application to re-align the proposed embankment between Chainage 3480 and 3800 on the proposed A43 Corby Link Road. Part of these proposed changes lie within the existing “red line” planning boundary, but the additional height of the earthworks to form a 3.0m high environmental bund will inevitably move the toe of the embankment and therefore the extent of the highway boundary will be outside of the red line boundary.

2.0 Background

2.1 The A43 Corby Link Road is a major highways scheme that has been developed over many years by the County Council, with the aim of improving transport links between Corby and the A14, to support the growth of Corby and to relieve the A43 at Geddington of through traffic, reduce the number and severity of road accidents and provide a high quality route for through traffic.

2.2 The A43 is identified in the Northamptonshire Arc as a key deliverable in its forward programme and is a strategic route within the county. Previous survey work has shown that it is carrying around 22,300 vehicles (observed base year 2004) per day of which 18% are heavy goods vehicles.

2.3 The A43 Corby Link Road will involve the construction of approx 6.5km of dual carriageway, between the A6003, just north of Barford Bridge, to the north of Kettering and the Stanion Roundabout at the junction of the A43 / A6116 junction to the south east of Corby. The link road runs parallel and on the eastern side of the Kettering to Manton railway line for more than half its length before heading north-east towards Stanion. The works will include the construction of two bridges where it crosses the Newton-Oakley road, the Little Oakley – Great Oakley Road and a third bridge at Featherbed Lane to accommodate farm severance.

2.4 Brief History of the A43 Corby Link Road

- June 2007 - Planning Permission granted.
- Sept 2008 - Public Inquiry relating to Compulsory Purchase and Side Road Orders.
- May 2009 - Secretary of State confirmed the Orders
- June 2010 - Department for Transport issue interim Guidance on Local Authority Major Schemes, suspending previous guidance.
- Jan 2011 - Expression of Interest submission made to the Department of Transport.
- Sept 2011 - Submission of Best And Final Bid Offer to Department for Transport.
Jan 2012 - Department for Transport due to announce A43 Corby Link Road will be supported as part of their Investment in Local Transport Schemes.

Feb 2012 – Full Approval submission made to Department for Transport seeking funding

March 2012 – NCC serve the Notices to Treat and Enter on the landowners

Future Dates

April 2012 Department for Transport expected to confirm their contribution to the funding of the scheme

May 2012 Award of Tender

June 2012 – Works to commence on site

3.0 Scheme Location

3.1 The A43 Corby Link road is located within open land with Corby to the North, Kettering to the South, with the A43 / Geddington to the East and Kettering to Manton Railway line and Oakley vale to the West.

3.2 The route of the proposed A43 Corby Link road is predominately in agricultural use, the area of works required as part of this application is centred on a minor tributary (known as Tributary 2 on the main scheme) of the Harpers Brooke, and is to the north west of Little Oakley on the eastern side of the Kettering to Manton railway line adjacent to the Oakley Vale residential development. The tributary is located approx. 340m north of the Harpers Brooke, ordinance survey grid co-ordinate SP885859.

4.0 Proposed scheme

4.1 The proposed application seeks approval to increase the extent of the earthworks originally approved as part of the Planning permission given to the scheme in June 2007.

4.2 The scope of the works to form the environmental bund to a height of 3m above the adjacent highway level, will use excess material for disposal from the main highway works contract. When the material is in place it will form a localise “false” cutting along the highway that will be part of the additional noise mitigation proposals adjacent to the Oakley Vale residential development.

4.3 The proposed change will not change the route, the road alignment or the scope of works for the remainder of the A43 Corby Link Road as approved as part of the original planning application in June 2007.

4.4 The proposed change to the earthworks will raise the ground profile above the proposed embankment level, and in order to retain the embankment gradients the toe of the embankment will inevitably move further west and the Highway Boundary will fall outside the original “red line” boundary on the Planning and Compulsory Purchase order drawings.
4.5 The layout of the proposed works is included in Appendix A:– Drawing number S73/001Revision C - Alternative Embankment profile between Ch 3400 and Ch 3800

4.6 This drawing indicates two shaded areas of land that will be affected by these proposals a total of 4065 sq.metres on land owned by Great Oakley Farms (1250sq.m) and the Boughton Estate (2815sq.m).

4.7 This drawing also includes a typical cross section to indicate the proposal to increase the height of the environmental bund by 3.0m high above the already approved earthworks to form a false cutting that will help mitigate the potential impact of noise on the residential properties on the Oakley Vale residential development.

4.8 The inclusion of the proposed bunding as part of the scheme will help to reduce the volume of surplus material to be removed off site by approx. 11250cu.m, and these works will be included as part of the main contract, with earthworks due to commence at around the end of July 2012.

4.9 The land acquisition process is underway, although completion of this process is subject to the approval of this application.

5.0 The Need for the Scheme

5.1 The reason for the need to incorporate the environmental bund is due to the concerns been raised by the Oakley Vale Community Association (OVCA) relating to the potential impact of noise on the adjacent properties on the eastern edge of the Oakley Vale Residential development to the west of the proposed A43 Corby Link Road.

5.2 The on-going residential development of Oakley Vale lies on the north-western side of the Kettering – Manton Railway line which passes the development of an embankment that varies in height between 6 -18.75m above the surrounding land. The proposed A43 Corby Link Road is located on the other side of this railway embankment from the development, and the environmental bund will be located where the difference in level between the existing railway and proposed road levels are approx 6.6m.

Drawing Number 105817-001A included in appendix A

5.3 Following a number of discussions with the OVCA, the County Council commissioned an extensive noise assessment in November 2011, this used the current transport web based analysis guidance, (WebTAG). The noise assessment is included in appendix B.

5.4 The noise assessment found that a worthwhile reduction in noise levels at the nearest and worst affected dwellings in Oakley Vale, (i.e. Kempston Close and Haydock Close), would be achieved with the erection of a 2m high noise mitigation fence along an 800m length of the A43 Corby Link Road. This was agreed and 800m of acoustic noise attenuation fence was included in the works information as part of the tender documentation.

5.5 After further discussions, it was clear that the OVCA would prefer a combination of mitigation measures that included both environmental “false” cutting above the level of the proposed embankment and the acoustic noise fencing. The County Council have confirmed to the OVCA that the noise mitigation measures will be developed for the Oakley Vale area that would include the following:

- low noise road surfacing material to be used;
• landscape planting;
• 800m length of noise mitigation measures comprised of the following:
  
a) 400m length of 2m high “Jakoustic” noise mitigation fence From Chainage 3000 (190m) to the south-west of Harpers Brook, across the Harpers Brook culvert structure to Chainage 3400 (210m) north-east of the brook.
  
b) 80m length of 2.0-3.25m deep earthworks cutting from Chainage 3400 (210m) and Chainage 3480 (390m) north-east of Harpers Brook.
  
c) 320m length of 3m high environmental bunding between Chainage 3480 to Chainage 3800m (610m) to the north-east of Harpers Brook.

5.6 These are positive measures that are deemed to be adequate in reducing the extent of the residential area of Oakley Vale that could be affected by the potential changes in noise levels, especially in the region of the viaduct. At no point, including adjacent to the railway viaduct, are the proposed noise mitigation measures alongside the A43 Corby Link Road lower than 2m.

5.7 The aim of this application covers the requirements of the above item c) 320m length of 3m high environmental bunding between Chainage 3480 to Chainage 3800m (610m) to the north-east of Harpers Brook, where the works proposed are outside of the “red line” Planning and Compulsory Purchase Order boundaries.

5.8 For their part the OVCA have undertaken the consultations with the two landowners making them aware of their concerns and desire to include the environmental bunding within the highways scheme, and seeking their support for the acquisition of their land required for the works. This has been achieved by the OVCA and has opened the way to make this Planning Application.

6.0 Scheme Objectives

6.1 The general objectives for the main scheme can be summarised in two key elements:
• To help deliver the planned growth for Corby, Kettering & Wellingborough towns;
• To relieve Geddington of the adverse environmental and social impacts that the village is currently suffering.

6.2 The specific objectives of the main scheme are to:
• Improve the transport links between Corby and the A14;
• Assist the short and long term economic growth of Corby and support the aspirations of Catalyst Corby;
• Relieve the A43 at Geddington of through traffic;
• Reduce the number and severity of road accidents;
• Provide a high quality route for through traffic.

6.3 The key objective for this proposal is that:
• the additional environmental bunding will further reduce the impact of potential noise to the properties on the eastern edge of the Oakley Vale residential development
7.0 Public Consultations

7.1 The consultation process for the A43 Corby Link Road date back to 2001, when the County Council’s executive decided that the A43 Corby Link Road was one of the two top priority schemes, the other being the A509 Isham Bypass, and work started on the project in November 2001. A Wider Reference Group was set up consisting of MP’s, local Councillors, local Parish and Town Councils and action groups, initially 5 routes were considered of these 2 were rejected on both environmental and economic grounds, and three routes were put forward for public consultation in April 2002.

7.2 Following consultations the preferred route was finally agreed by Cabinet in August 2005 and Planning Permission granted in June 2007. All statutory procedures have been completed in relation to the delivery of the bypass and, therefore, full consultation has been carried out at key stages throughout the development of the scheme.

7.3 The scheme has planning permission and has been through the Compulsory Purchase Order, Side Roads Order Public Inquiry process.

8.0 Statement of Community Engagement

8.1 Council Officers have taken part in Oakley Vale Community Association committee meetings on 5 occasions, and were given the opportunity to present and highlight key issues, including constraints, detailed engineering design, noise and the general proposals related to the main A43 Corby Link Road.

8.2 There have also been site meetings with the OVCA committee members and local councillors in order that all parties have a full understanding of each others issues relating to the proposed main scheme.

8.3 Council Officers have supported the OVCA throughout their dealings with landowners and their agents that has resulted in the landowners agreeing to consider the acquisition of land for the works.

8.3 These consultations have resulted in the County Council agreeing to the develop the mitigation items highlighted in section 1.5.

9.0 Planning Policy Considerations

9.1 The local development framework for the Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough and Northeast Northamptonshire has been prepared jointly as the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy adopted in June 2008. This document contains policies relating to the protection of the environment from the adverse impacts of development and seeking to ensure adequate mitigation measures are secured where adverse impacts are unavoidable.

9.2 The North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (June 2008) sets out the vision for future growth up to 2021 and seeks to secure road and infrastructure improvements to support the development in the north of the county.

9.3 Policy 2 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy relates to connecting that part of the county to the surrounding areas, and the network improvements including the A43 Corby Link Road linking the A6003 between Kettering and Corby with the A43 near
Stanion as a priority for further work and investment within North Northamptonshire in the period to 2021.

9.4 Therefore the A43 Corby Link Road is an integral part of the future growth in North Northamptonshire.

10.0 Effects on the Environment / Environmental Benefits

10.1 Although this is not a significant reduction for disposal of earthworks material off site, it will reduce vehicles movements by around 1400, based on 8 cu.m. capacity lorries and the associated reduction in noise, Co2 emissions and traffic congestion on the existing highway network.

10.2 In addition to the reduction in vehicle movements and reduced quantity of material potentially going to an off site land fill, the increased size and height of the bund will enhance the noise reduction properties of this feature.

10.3 Creation of the environmental bund and the associated embankment will inevitably result in a short term noise nuisance due to the generation of noise and dust by the construction operations.

10.4 The works relating to the environmental bunding in this proposal will conform with the Planning Consent Conditions as applied to the original A43 Corby Link Road as part of the June 2007 approval (Application Numbers CO/06/0427 and KE/06/1127). A copy of this is included in appendix A

10.5 The following comments relate to points raised in the original planning approval.

Condition
No

3) Landscaping
   The proposed landscaping scheme will be extended to include the additional area and change of shape of the environmental bund.

4) Materials
   The road will utilise low road noise surface materials

5) Lighting
   There is no street lighting on the new road, other than at the roundabout junctions at either end

6) Hours of working
   The working hours are limited to between 8am and 6pm Mondays to Fridays, and 8.0am to 1.0pm on Saturdays.

7) Geotechnical Survey
   A full geotechnical survey has been undertaken and the stability of all cutting and embankments and ground stability for adjacent land has been identified. The proposed works required in this submission conform to the criteria set out in the geotechnical survey.

8) and 9) Construction Traffic
   The proposed works in this application will not require any changes to the routes to site already approved.
10) **Machinery Noise Suppression**
All plant, equipment and machinery used on site including vehicular traffic, which is capable of being fitted with the appropriate silencers, baffles, cladding and rubber linings shall be so fitted and maintained.

11) **Wheel Cleaning**
All vehicles leaving the site will not be allowed on the public highway without first being cleaned to prevent mud etc being deposited on the highway.

12) and 13) **Dust and vehicle sheeting**
Control measures for dust emissions shall include:

- Regular water-spraying and sweeping of unpaved and paved roads.
- Sheeting or enclosure of all loads of potentially dusty materials to be transported on the public highway.
- Restricting vehicle speeds on unmade surfaces on site to no more than 15mph.
- Maintaining potentially dusty exposed surfaces in a damp condition by application of water sprays/mobile bowsers preferably making use of rain or grey water.
- Regular inspection and cleansing of paved surfaces – especially site access points - using appropriate means to minimise dust mobilisation.
- Provision and supervised use of vehicle cleaning facilities before site exits to the public highway.
- Use of wet suppression or air extraction and filtration during disc cutting operations.
- Minimise the surface area of unmade roads.
- Clearance of any spillages of potentially dusty materials as a matter of priority using appropriate means to minimise dust mobilisation.
- Storage of any dusty or waste materials in covered skips (if practicable) or screened areas and as far from potentially sensitive receptors as possible (such materials should be removed from the site for proper disposal as soon as possible).

14) **Archaeology**
The Authority have commissioned Northamptonshire Archaeology to undertake all archaeological investigations associated with the main works, this area lies within the boundaries of the existing commission.

This proposal will only minor additional stripping of topsoil and therefore no detriment to any buried heritage assets is expected. Northamptonshire Archaeology will be present onsite during the topsoil strip to ensure that the requirements of the archaeological investigations are met. The area within this proposal will be added to the areas of archaeological interest.

15) and 16) **Protected Species and Biodiversity** –
The proposed development and its impacts on protected species and biodiversity have been assessed as part of the development of the A43 Corby Link Road Ecological Management Plan (EMP) produced in September 2011. The EMP covers the identified protected species that will be impacted by the construction of the A43 Corby Link Road and includes mitigation for their protection and enhancement. Therefore the current proposals and its impacts have already been identified in the Ecological Management Plan and the species identified as being present will be protected by the plan and its method statements.

The Ecological Management Plan is included in Appendix B.
17) and 18) **Drainage**

The minor tributary (known as Tributary 2 on the main scheme) of the Harpers Brooke, is at present an open brook with a flow of 2 litres/ second (0.002 cu.m./second). The tributary will be taken under the road embankment in a 1050mm diameter precast concrete pipe, originally 48m long, which will be increased by 8.0m to 56m long.

The additional length of pipe will not affect the flow of water or have a substantial impact on the findings of the Flood Risk Assessment for the scheme that has already been approved by the Environment Agency.

19) **Public Rights of Way**

This proposal includes the re-positioning of the highway boundary to be 4.0m away from the toe of the embankment. The original scheme includes a 2m wide footpath will run parallel with the road, and the footpath route will be slightly re-aligned to within the 4.0m wide strip between the toe of embankment and the highway boundary, as it passes these works.

20) **Breeding Birds**

The proposed development and its impacts on breeding birds have been assessed as part of the development of the A43 Corby Link Road Ecological Management Plan produced in September 2011. The plan covers the potential for breeding birds and method statements for their protection and enhancement of habitat. Therefore the current proposals and its impacts have already been identified in the Ecological Management Plan and provisions have been identified and implemented to ensure that no breeding birds are affected by the development.

21) **Noise Surveys and Monitoring**

Monitoring surveys are due to take place before works commence, the original panning conditions relate to properties identified in Table 12.2 of Volume 1 of the Environmental Statement, which include Oakley Vale. These surveys will be undertaken again within 3 months of the new road being fully opened.

22) **Programme of Works**

The proposed works will be included in the main programme of works. The main works programme will be submitted to the Planning Authority prior to the scheme commencing on site.

23) **Temporary Construction Access**

The proposed works will not require any amendment to the proposed Temporary construction access routes.

24) **Tip Locations and Haul Routes**

The proposed works will not require any additional requirements and will be included in the proposals for the main works.

25) **Construction Compound**

The proposed works will not require any additional areas for site compounds other than those for the main works.

26) **Extraordinary Loads**

The proposed works will not require any extra ordinary loads.
11.0 Cost Benefits

11.1 Disposing of material off site, and in particular to landfill, is expensive. The typical rate for contractor to disposal of surplus material off site is approx. £11.60 per cu.m whilst depositing material into bunds costs £2.25 per m³. Therefore, reducing the volume of material to be disposed of off site can be calculated as:

\[ £9.33 \times (£11.60 - £2.23) \times 11,250 = £105,000. \]

11.2 This value will reduce slightly to around £90,000 given there will be some contract and contractors overhead costs to resolve, plus there will also be a saving of around £60,000 with the reduction in the length of noise fencing required by 400m.

11.3 Any savings will be used to offset the cost to cost of acquiring the land, and paying landowner compensation and land agents fees.

11.4 It is anticipated that overall this proposals will be cost neutral to the works contract.

12.0 Summary and conclusions

12.1 In summary, permitting the proposals in this application will help to mitigate the potential impact of noise intrusion from the A43 Corby Link Road, to the benefit of those residents living closest to the new road.

12.2 To allow the surplus material to be used to form an environmental bund will also reduce around 1400 HGV journeys and 11,250cu.m of surplus material from going to landfill.

12.3 Although this proposal is of a relatively small scale development in relation to the main A43 Corby Link Road scheme, this proposal also presents an ideal opportunity for Northamptonshire County Council and Oakley Vale Community Association to show their commitment to the residents of Oakley Vale.

APPENDIX A- Planning Support Drawings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drawing Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Plan 1</td>
<td>Site plan 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S73/001 rev C</td>
<td>Alternative Embankment profile between Chainage 3475 and Chainage3850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15512/001rev D</td>
<td>Harpers brook tributary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10581738-001B</td>
<td>A43 typical cross sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application No:</td>
<td>A43 Corby Link Road Planning Approval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## APPENDIX B- Planning Support Documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A43 Corby link Road, WEBTag Report – The noise sub-objective dated November 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A43 Corby link Road – Environmental Management Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dated December 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER 1995
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

CERTIFICATE UNDER ARTICLE 7

Certificate of ownership - CERTIFICATE B

I certify that the applicant has given the requisite notice to everyone else who on the day 21 days before the date of the accompanying application was the owner of any part of the land to which the application relates, as listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner’s Name</th>
<th>Address at which notice was served</th>
<th>Date of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boughton Estates</td>
<td>Estate Office</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weekley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northants, NN16 9UP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Oakley Farms</td>
<td>Thorpe House</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northants, NN15 6BL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signed .....................

On behalf of Northamptonshire County Council

Date ..........................
AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS CERTIFICATE

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER 1995
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

CERTIFICATE UNDER ARTICLE 7

The applicant has given the requisite notice to every person (other than himself) who on the day 21
days before the date of the application was a tenant of an agricultural holding on all or part of the land
to which the application relates, as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tenants Name</th>
<th>Address at which notice was served</th>
<th>Date of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr C.M. Frost</td>
<td>Little Oakley, Corby, NN14 1AQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signed..............................

On behalf of Northamptonshire County Council

Date.................................
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT ORDER 1995**

Notice of intention to seek planning permission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) Insert address or location of proposed development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposed development at (a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Land to the East of the Oakley Vale Residential Development and the Kettering – Manton railway line and to the north of the Harpers Brook, Corby Northamptonshire (Ordnance Survey grid ref SP885859)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(b) Insert description of proposed development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TAKE NOTICE that the Northamptonshire County Council Highway Authority is seeking planning permission to construct an Environmental mitigation bund as part of the works for the A43 Corby Link Road.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(c) Insert address or location of proposed development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>on land at (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Land to the East of the Oakley Vale Residential Development and the Kettering – Manton railway line and to the north of the Harpers Brook, Corby Northamptonshire (Ordnance Survey grid ref SP885859)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you wish to make any objections to the proposal, you should do so by writing within 21 days of the date of service of this notice to: Peter Moor, The Principal Development Control Officer, Northampton County Council, Planning, PO Box 163, County Hall, Northampton, NN1 1AX. E-mail pmoor@northamptonshire.gov.uk
Tel 01604 237019
Town and Country Planning Act 1990

PLANNING PERMISSION

Name and address of applicant
Northamptonshire County Council
County Hall
Northampton
NN1 1DN

Name and address of agent (if any)
S. Flack
Head of Sustainable Transport
Sustainability
Riverside House
Riverside Way
Northampton
NN1 5NX

Part I - Particulars of application

Date of Application
12th December 2006

Application No.
CO/06/0427 and KE/06/1127

Particulars and location of development
Construction of the A43 Corby Link Road; Land to the east of Corby and west of Newton, Little Oakley and Stanion

Part II - Particulars of decision:

The Northamptonshire County Council

Hereby give notice in pursuance of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 that permission has been granted for the carrying out of the development referred to in Part I hereof in accordance with the application, plans and Environmental Statement submitted subject to the following conditions:-

Time Limit

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun no later than the expiration of FIVE YEARS from the date of this permission.

Scope of Permission

2. Except as otherwise required by conditions attached to this planning permission the development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the submitted application i.e. Planning Support Statement (dated December 2006, Environmental Statement, Volumes 1, 2 and 3 (dated December 2006) including Flood Risk Assessment, Drawing Nos. 5033318.010.010 Rev.B (Site Plan – 2 sheets), 118 Rev.B (Site Plan 1:5000), 120 Rev.B (Site Plan – not to scale), 121 Rev.B (Scheme Plan – 2 sheets), 61 Rev.G (Land Ownership), 15 (Landscape Proposals),

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
Landscaping

3. The bypass shall be landscaped and planted with hedgerows, trees (including some semi-mature trees in the vicinity of Little Oakley and Stanion) and shrubs in accordance with a comprehensive scheme which shall, prior to the commencement of construction works, be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing. The scheme as approved shall be implemented concurrently with the development and shall be completed no later than the first planting season following the substantial completion of the development, or as may otherwise be agreed. Any hedgerow plants, trees of shrubs removed, dying, being seriously damaged or becoming seriously diseased within five years of planting shall be replaced by trees and shrubs of similar size and species to those originally required to be planted, or such other species as may be agreed.

Materials

4. The road shall be constructed utilising a low road noise surface material as proposed in the submitted application and all maintenance thereafter shall utilise the same type of low road noise construction materials.

Lighting

5. Prior to the commencement of construction works a scheme of all lighting provision related to the development hereby permitted is required to be submitted to, and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority. The scheme as approved shall include details of the types and height of lights and/or light columns, their location, technical specification, means of preventing or minimizing light spillage and the proposed hours of use.

Hours of Working

6. Prior to the commencement of the development a scheme for the hours of construction works on site shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing, and thereafter implemented in accordance with the approved scheme. The scheme shall specifically include provision for the restriction of working during morning and evening peak hours and during bank holidays and any during any major traffic generating events such as Rockingham Speedway.

Geotechnical Survey

7. Prior to the commencement of the development a full geotechnical survey must be carried out to identify the appropriate engineering works to ensure stability of all cuttings and embankments, and ground stability for adjacent land uses. Details of these works shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing.

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
Construction Traffic

8. Prior to the commencement of the development a scheme for the routing and control of construction traffic shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be implemented and thereafter maintained during the construction of the bypass.

9. Prior to the commencement of development all temporary access, construction and accommodating works shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing and thereafter maintained.

Machinery Noise Suppression

10. Except as may otherwise be agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority, all plant, equipment and machinery used on site for the road construction, including vehicular traffic to and from the site, shall be designed and maintained to reduce noise levels to a minimum and shall be operated in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions. All plant, equipment and machinery used on site, including vehicular traffic, which is capable of being fitted with the appropriate silencers, baffles, cladding and rubber linings shall be so fitted and maintained.

Wheel Cleaning

11. Prior to the commencement of any major earthworks locations for the installation of wheel washes shall be agreed in writing with the County Planning Authority and installed prior to earthworks commencing. In any event no vehicle used in connection with the road construction works shall enter the public highway unless it’s wheels and chassis are clean, to prevent the deposit of mud, slurry or other debris.

Dust

12. During the road construction works suitable measure, including the use of water spray facilities in periods of dry weather shall be adopted to ensure that dust is kept to a minimum on the site and temporary access, construction and accommodation roads.

Vehicle Sheeting

13. All vehicles transporting materials to and from the site in connection with the road construction works shall be securely sheeted in such a way to ensure that no material is deposited on the public highway.

Archaeology

14. No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the County Planning Authority.

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
Protected Species

15. Prior to the commencement of any construction work, further surveys shall be undertaken in respect of any bat activity, the presence of great crested newts, otters and water voles and the location of badger setts. The results of the surveys, together with appropriate mitigation works, including a working design, methods statement and timetable of works, shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing and thereafter implemented and maintained in accordance with the approved details.

Biodiversity

16. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, no development as hereby permitted shall commence until an Ecological Management Plan has been submitted to, and approved by, the County Planning Authority in consultation with Natural England. The Plan shall include mitigation and other appropriate nature conservation enhancement measures which will result in a net gain in biodiversity. Implementation of the Plan shall be overseen by a suitably experienced ecological clerk of works.

Drainage

17. The actions and mitigation measures identified in the Flood Risk Assessment scheme submitted with the application (i.e. Appendix G, Volume 3 of the Environmental Statement) shall be implemented in full for the lifetime of the development.

18. No development as hereby permitted shall commence until:

   (a) A desktop study has been undertaken which shall include the identification of previous site uses, potential contaminants that might reasonably be expected given those uses and other relevant information. The information shall be used to produce a diagrammatical representation (Conceptual Model) for the site of all potential contaminant sources, pathways and receptors.

   (b) A Site investigation has been designed for the site using the information obtained from the desktop study and any diagrammatical representations (Conceptual Model) and shall be comprehensive enough to enable a risk assessment to be undertaken relating to the receptors associated with the proposed new use, those uses that will be retained (if any) and other receptors on or off site that may be affected.

   (c) The Site Investigation and risk assessment shall be undertaken in accordance with the details as approved.

   (d) A Method Statement detailing the remediation requirements using the information obtained from the Site Investigation shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing and thereafter implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Public Rights of Way

19. Details of the design, construction and materials of all public rights of way overbridges and underpasses for the bypass shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing prior to their construction. The approved

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
Breeding Birds

20. Operations that involve the destruction and removal of vegetation shall not be undertaken during the months of March to July inclusive, unless approved in writing by the County Planning Authority, once it is satisfied that breeding birds will not be adversely affected.

Noise Survey and Monitoring

21. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted a noise survey of existing background noise levels shall be undertaken at those properties identified in Table 12.2 of Volume 1 – Text of the submitted Environmental Statement (dated December 2006) as being anticipated to experience a net deterioration from existing noise levels upon opening of the A43 Corby Link Road. The results of the survey shall be sufficient to enable an assessment to be made in accordance with the Noise Insulation Regulations 1998 and shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority prior to the opening of the new road. Within 3 months of the new road coming into full use an additional survey of background noise levels at the same locations shall be undertaken and the results used to undertake an assessment of the noise insulation criteria as defined in the Noise Insulation Regulations 1998 and 2 copies of both the survey results and noise assessment shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority within one month of the survey being undertaken.

Programme of Works

22. No development as hereby permitted shall take place until a Programme of Works has been submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority and shall then only be undertaken in accordance with the approved programme.

Temporary Construction Accesses

23. No development as hereby permitted shall take place until details of the location of temporary construction accesses have been submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority and all construction works/activities shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Tip Locations and Haul Routes

24. No development as hereby permitted shall take place until details of the location of temporary tip locations and haul routes have been submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority and all construction works/activities associated with the movement or temporary storage of excess excavated materials shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Construction Compound

25. No development as hereby permitted shall take place until details of the location of the construction compound has been submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority and all works shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
Extraordinary Loads

26. No development as hereby permitted shall take place until details of any extraordinary loads have been submitted to and approved in writing by the County Planning Authority and the movement and management of such loads shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Reasons for conditions and relevant Development Plan Policies

1. Required to be imposed pursuant to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
2. To define the scope of the permission and in the interest of clarity.
3. In the interest of visual and residential amenity (Borough of Wellingborough Local Plan Policy G22 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 6).
4. In the interest of residential amenity (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
5. In the interest of residential amenity (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
6. To ensure that working on site is carried out within reasonable hours so as to avoid disturbance to nearby residential properties (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
7. In the interest of residential amenity (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
8. In the interest of amenity and highway safety (County Structure Plan Policies T3 and T5).
9. In the interest of amenity and highway safety (County Structure Plan Policies T3 and T5).
10. To minimise noise disturbance to local residents (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
11. In the interest of highway safety and to prevent mud and dust getting onto the highway (County Structure Plan Policies T3 and T5).
12. To safeguard the local environment and protect the amenities of local residents from unreasonable dust levels (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
13. To safeguard the interest of users of the public highway (County Structure Plan Policies T3 and T5).
14. To safeguard the archaeological interests of the site and enable adequate opportunities for archaeological investigations (County Structure Plan Policy AR6 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 25).
15. To safeguard Protected Species (County Structure Plan Policy AR3).
16. To ensure the effective delivery of measures to increase biodiversity (County Structure Plan, Policy AR4 and AR5).
17. To reduce the risk of flooding (County Structure Plan, Policy AR8).
18. To ensure that the proposed site investigations and remediation will not cause pollution of the environment or harm to human health. (Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
19. In the interest of vehicular and pedestrian safety and visual amenity (County Structure Plan Policies T3 and T5).
20. To protect breeding birds (County Structure Plan Policies AR3 and AR5).
21. To minimise noise disturbance to local residents (and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12).
22. To ensure that disturbance to local communities is minimised. (County Structure Plan Policy T5 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12)
23. To ensure that disturbance to local communities is minimised. (County Structure Plan Policy T5 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12)

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
24. To ensure that disturbance to local communities is minimised. (County Structure Plan Policy T5 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12)
25. To ensure that disturbance to local communities is minimised. (County Structure Plan Policy T5 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12)
26. To ensure that disturbance to local communities is minimised. (County Structure Plan Policy T5 and Kettering Borough Local Plan Policy 12)

REASONS FOR APPROVAL

The Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands (RSS8) published in March 2005 and incorporating the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub Regional Strategy (MKSM Sub Regional Strategy) is the most up to date Development Plan document relevant to the determination of the application. This document lists “Key Transport Requirements and Phasing Delivery” in MKSM Figure 7, and identifies the A43 Corby Link Road as a “Committed” scheme (i.e. included in the Northamptonshire Local Transport Plan) for delivery between 2007-11. RSS8 therefore clearly identifies the need for the Corby Link Road and establishes this in a policy context. It is considered that the proposal generally accords with the aim and objectives and policies of the County Structure Plan, Policies T1, T4 and T5, Policy 78 of the Kettering Borough Local Plan and Policy T19 of the Corby Local Plan. It accords with Regional Transport policy and will help deliver the regeneration and growth of Corby planned in the Regional Spatial Strategy, and provide environmental relief to the residents of Geddington through the removal of through traffic. On balance the benefits of the proposal, together with the mitigation measures proposed outweigh the adverse environmental and other impacts and therefore the development should be approved.

Date………………………………………… Signed ………………………………………

On behalf of the
Chief Planning Officer

Note: This permission only relates to planning permission and does not include consent under the Building Regulations for which separate permission may be required. The requirements of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001 should also be adhered to wherever appropriate.
Residents below were sent letters by NCC-MPT on the 18th April 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17 Haydock Close</td>
<td>21 April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Corby, NN18 8QX

Resident 18 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 19 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 20 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 21 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 22 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 23 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 24 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2011

Resident 25 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 26 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 27 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 28 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 29 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 30 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 31 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 32 Haydock Close Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012
Resident 33 Haydock Close
Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 34 Haydock Close
Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 36 Haydock Close
Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 1, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 2, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 3, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 4, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 5, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 6, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 7, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 8, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 9, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 10, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 11, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 12, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 13, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 15, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012

Resident 17, Kempston Close
Corby, NN18 8QY 21 April 2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19, Kempston Close Corby, NN18 8QY</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23, Kempston Close Corby, NN18 8QY</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25, Kempston Close Corby, NN18 8QY</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27, Kempston Close Corby, NN18 8QY</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29, Kempston Close Corby, NN18 8QY</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>111, Chepstow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>113, Chepstow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>115, Chepstow Drive Corby, NN18 8QX</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>117, Chepstow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>119, Chepstow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>120, Chepstow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>121, Cheptow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>122, Cheptow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>123, Cheptow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>124, Cheptow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>126, Cheptow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>128, Cheptow Drive Corby, NN18 8QQ</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1, Salisbury Walk Corby, NN18 8RB</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2, Salisbury Walk Corby, NN18 8RB</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3, Salisbury Walk Corby, NN18 8RB</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4, Salisbury Walk Corby, NN18 8RB</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1, Ludlow Walk Corby, NN18 8RA</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2, Ludlow Walk Corby, NN18 8RA</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13, Goodwood Close Corby, NN18 8QS</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX</td>
<td>21 April 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Corby, NN18 8TX

Resident 6, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX 21 April 2012

Resident 7, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX 21 April 2012

Resident 8, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX 21 April 2012

Resident 9, Ripon Court Corby, NN18 8TX 21 April 2012

Resident 36, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 38, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 40, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 42, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 44, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 46, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 48, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 51, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 53, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 55, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 57, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 57, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 59, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 61, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012

Resident 63, Cheltenham Road Corby, NN18 8QF 21 April 2012
Resident 65, Cheltenham Road
Corby, NN18 8QF
21 April 2012

Resident 67, Cheltenham Road
Corby, NN18 8QF
21 April 2012

Resident 69, Cheltenham Road
Corby, NN18 8QF
21 April 2012

Resident 71, Cheltenham Road
Corby, NN18 8QF
21 April 2012

Resident 1, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 2, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 3, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 4, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 5, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 6, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 7, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 8, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 9, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012

Resident 10, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL
21 April 2012
Resident 11, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL 21 April 2012

Resident 12, Towcester Close
Corby, NN18 8QL 21 April 2012

Resident 1, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 2, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 3, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 4, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 5, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 6, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 7, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 8, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8QX 21 April 2012

Resident 10, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 12, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 14, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 16, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 18, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8 GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 20, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8 GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 22, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012

Resident 24, Folkestone Drive
Corby, NN18 8GZ 21 April 2012
| Resident | 26, Folkestone Drive  
Corby, NN18 8GZ | 21 April 2012 |
|-----------|------------------|---------------|
| Resident  | 30, Folkestone Drive  
Corby, NN18 8GZ | 21 April 2012 |
| Resident  | 32, Folkestone Drive  
Corby, NN18 8GZ | 21 April 2012 |
| Resident  | 34, Folkestone Drive  
Corby, NN18 8GZ | 21 April 2012 |
MGWSP Report
A43 Corby Link Road
Ecological Management Plan
September 2011
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue/revision</th>
<th>Issue 1</th>
<th>Revision 1</th>
<th>Revision 2</th>
<th>Revision 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remarks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared by</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checked by</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorised by</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File reference</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contents

1 Introduction 2
  1.1 Background 2
  1.2 EMP 2
2 Legally Protected and Notable Species 4
  2.1 Badgers 4
    2.1.1 Background 4
    2.1.2 Mitigation 4
    2.1.3 Further Survey 5
  2.2 Bats 5
  2.3 Reptiles and Amphibians 6
    2.3.1 Reptiles 6
    2.3.2 Amphibians 7
  2.4 White Clawed Crayfish/ Otters/ Watervoles 7
    2.4.1 Background 7
    2.4.2 Mitigation 7
  2.5 Birds 8
  2.6 Bluebells 8
    2.6.1 Mitigation 8
  2.7 General Wildlife 9
3 Hedgerows 10
  3.1.1 Mitigation 11
  3.1.2 Five Year Management Plan 12
4 Invasive species 13
  4.1 Ragwort 13
    4.1.1 Mitigation 13
5 Wet and marshy grassland 14
  5.1.1 Introduction 14
  5.1.2 Wet and Marshy Grassland within the Northamptonshire BAP 14
  5.1.3 Wet and Marshy Grassland at A43 Corby Link Road 14
  5.1.4 Mitigation, Habitat Creation and Enhancement within the Scheme 15
  5.1.5 Contribution of Habitat Creation and Enhancement to BAP Targets 17
  5.1.6 Five Year Management Plan 18
6 Wildflower Verges 19
  6.1.1 Wildflower Verges within the Northamptonshire BAP 19
  6.1.2 Wildflower Verges and the A43 Corby Link Road 19
  6.1.3 Wildflower Very Five Year Management Plan 22
Appendix Number 1: Hedgerow Translocation Method Statement 23
Appendix Number 2: Bluebell Translocation method statement 29
Appendix Number 3: Bat Roost Potential plan 32
Appendix Number 4: Bat Activity and Emergence Surveys 33
Appendix Number 5: NBRC Key Species Record 34
Appendix Number 6: Badger Survey Findings 37
1 Introduction

1.1 BACKGROUND
The proposed A43 Corby Link Road would link the A6003 Kettering to the existing A43 south east of Corby. The proposed route would cross undulating farmland, running across the eastern edge of the Kettering to Manton Railway Line for more than half its length.

Construction of the link road will be approximately 6.5km. The entire length of the proposed scheme requires surveying.

The scheme will improve transport links between Corby and the A14 and relieve the traffic through Geddington.

1.2 EMP
An Environmental Statement (ES) was produced and submitted to Northamptonshire County Council by Atkins Ltd in June 2006 to support a planning application for the A43 Corby Link Road.

Planning permission was granted by Northamptonshire County Council in June 2007. 26 planning conditions for the A43 Corby Link Road have been supplied by Northamptonshire County Council, three of which relate to ecology and biodiversity. The conditions relating to ecology and biodiversity mitigation (and the reasons for these) are as follows:

- Condition No. 15 – Protected Species
  - The requirements of the condition state very clearly that the results of surveys, mitigation works, working design, method statement and timetable of works need to be submitted and approved “prior to the commencement of any construction works”.

- Condition No. 16 – Biodiversity
  - Confirmation of the preparation of the Ecological Management plan (to ensure a net gain in biodiversity) is being undertaken and it is being done in consultation with Natural England.

- Condition No. 20 – Breeding Birds

This Ecological Management Plan (EMP) has been produced as a response to the above planning conditions in relation to ecology and biodiversity. It has also been produced to provide more detail on the biodiversity mitigation outlined in the Environmental Statement in order that the mitigation can be implemented as part of the development.
This EMP details the creation and/or enhancement of three habitats and the 5 year management of these habitats. These habitats are:

- Hedgerows;
- Wildflower verges; and
- Wet and marshy grassland.

Habitat creation and enhancement measures have been determined with reference to the Northamptonshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) and identifies specific areas where this scheme assists Northamptonshire to achieve the objectives and targets of their BAP.

The EMP also provides more detail on species mitigation including:

- Badgers;
- Bats;
- Watervoles;
- Otters;
- White Clawed Crayfish;
- Reptiles;
- Breeding birds;
- Bluebells;
- Invasive and Injurious Species;
- Hedgerows and;
- General Wildlife.

The planning application boundary for the scheme which includes the extent of land available for mitigation proposals is shown on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan. This land will be owned by Northamptonshire County Council following construction.
2 Legally Protected and Notable Species

2.1 BADGERS

2.1.1 Background
The ES stated that evidence of badger activity was only found in the Stanion Lane Plantation and a dead badger found on Long Croft Lane.

The desktop survey information for badgers, obtained from the Northamptonshire Biodiversity Records Centre (NBRC), indicates 5 badger sightings within 500m of the proposed bypass (see Appendix 5).

Four were found along or around the A6003 around Barford Meadows and Barford bridge, with dates ranging from 1993 to 2008. One badger sighting was recorded along the A43 south of Stanion in 2008.

2.1.2 Mitigation
During April – August 2011 a survey was carried out for badgers along the extent of the bypass and 100 metres each side of the centre line.

There was limited evidence of badgers using the area as a whole. Appendix 6 shows the location of the evidence found during the survey. No evidence of badgers was found at the southern end by the Barford Meadows and Barford Bridge.

The sett identified by the Badger Group had been previously surveyed and identified as being used by foxes. During a second visit to the area the sett was found disused by the foxes. This sett is approximately 600m from the badger sighting identified in the report produced by the NBRC.

A badger tunnel will be provided under the road along the northern section of the bypass to ensure that the construction of the new road does not limit the access of badgers in the future. This will allow the badgers present at the northern end of the scheme to cross the road safely (helping to prevent road casualties) and will prevent isolation of this species in the long term. This tunnel will also provide a valuable, safe crossing point for other wildlife such as small mammals, reptiles and possibly amphibians, thus providing green infrastructure. The exact location of the badger tunnel will be determined by the Engineers and Contractor on site in consultation with the Engineers’ Ecologist.

The tunnel should be constructed of Class M 600mm diameter concrete pipes that are widened at the entrances, if possible. Where headwalls are required, the precise design will not alter the effectiveness of the tunnel (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 10 – Section 4, February 2001).
2.1.3 Further Survey
Due to the decline in foxes in the area and the sett being disused, further surveys should be carried out during winter 2011 to ensure that badgers do not return to the sett.

2.2 BATS
Daytime inspections and evening emergence surveys of the trees to be felled and evening activity surveys along linear features to be crossed by the scheme (i.e. mature hedgerows, tree lines, watercourses and woodland hedges) were undertaken between April and September 2011.

During the initial daytime walkover inspections, the following was noted:
- 22 trees with low bat roost potential
- 14 trees with moderate bat roost potential
- 8 trees with high bat roost potential
- 11 hedge lines with potential for high bat activity (migration routes)

Please refer to Appendix 3 for Bat Roost Potential trees, and Appendix 4 which shows the Bat activity surveys and individual trees requiring emergence surveys.

Two dusk emergence surveys and one dawn emergence survey was carried out at each of the hedge line and trees with high or moderate bat roost potential.

The surveys were carried out with bat detectors and high beam torches by a licenced bat ecologist. Dawn surveys commenced 2 hours before sunrise and dusk surveys started at sunset.

Bat activity surveys were carried out along the identified transects. The entire transect was walked, stopping at 100m intervals for 10 minutes to monitor any bat activity.

The surveys found no bats roosting in any of the identified trees, however due to the high potential tree A as indicated on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan is to be section felled under supervision of a licensed bat worker. Trees are to be left on the ground for a minimum of 24 hours prior to being removed from site.

There was bat activity found along two hedgerows – numbers 1 and 2 as indicated on the Ecological Works and Constraints plans. It is important that the translocation of the current hedgerows is planted where indicated on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan. This will provide an established linear feature for the bats to follow.

Hedgerow 2 is being removed and replaced with a bridge. Bat boxes are to be placed on the bridge, in a position that they can be regularly inspected by a licenced bat ecologist. The boxes will provide habitat in the area. Although no bat roosts are being removed during the works, there is bat activity and therefore providing the bat boxes
will increase the amount of suitable habitat for the bats. Final location of the boxes will be arranged with the Engineer’s Ecologist during construction.

In order to help prevent bat road casualties, the landscaping has been designed to encourage any commuting bats to fly over the road at height where linear features are severed by the construction of the scheme.

Where existing hedgerows, tree lines and watercourses are fragmented by the new road tall tree lines will be planted on both sides of the road. In hedgerows, clusters of extra heavy standard trees (trees up to 6m in height) will be planted adjacent to the fragmented linear habitat. In areas of tree and shrub planting, clusters of standard trees (trees between 2.5m to 3m in height) adjacent to the fragmented linear habitat. This landscaping for bats will be planted at the end of the construction works and will be organised and overseen by the Landscape Architect.

2.3 REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

2.3.1 Reptiles
Within the site there is suitable habitat for common reptiles to use. It was ascertained following the walkover survey that there were several areas where there was potential for reptiles to inhabit.

The desktop survey information for reptiles, obtained from the NBRC (see Appendix 5), indicates 2 Viviparous lizard sightings and 2 grass snake sightings within 500m of the proposed bypass.

The grass snakes were seen within the Barford Meadow, in an area adjacent to the Barford Bridge in 2002 and 2006. The Viviparous Lizards were seen in the South Wood, to the north of the scheme in 1998 and 2002.

Artificial refugia searches were placed at 12 sites along the length of the proposed scheme which were identified during the walkover survey as having potential for reptiles. The artificial refugia were monitored regularly to determine if any reptiles were present.

No reptiles were found during the monitoring of the artificial refugia, however a grass snake was seen when setting up the refugia. The grass snake is protected against killing, injury and sale, barter or exchange, but their habitats or places of shelter are not specifically protected.

It is likely that the disturbance caused by the construction of the scheme would cause any reptiles present in the area to move away. The works are scheduled to be started in the late spring. Therefore reptiles will be active, able to move away from disturbed areas and will not be as vulnerable to disturbance as when hibernating.
2.3.2 Amphibians

There has been one recorded sighting of a Great Crested Newt within 500m of the proposed bypass in 2002. This was recorded by the NBRC around the Newton Old Railway and Pit.

During the monitoring of the artificial refugia for reptiles, a common toad was sited under one of the artificial refugia.

The common toad is protected against sale and trade under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

The area in which the toad was seen is outside the site boundary and therefore the level of disturbance to the species and its preferred habitat should be kept to a minimum.

2.4 WHITE CLAWED CRAYFISH/ OTTERS/ WATERVEROLES

2.4.1 Background

The ES stated that water vole presence was found in Harpers Brook further to the east of Great Oakley, but during a survey carried out in May 2004 no signs indicating the presence of either Water Vole, Otters or Whiteclawed crayfish were found.

The desktop survey information for White Clawed Crayfish (WCC), Otters and Watervoles, obtained from the NBRC, indicates 4 WCC sightings, 2 otter sightings and no watervole sightings (see Appendix 5).

The sightings of the WCC were all seen within the River Ise, three close to Barford Bridge and one south of Newton village between 1986 – 2003.

The otter sightings were both seen along the River Ise, one close to Barford Bridge in 1998, and one south west of Newton in 2001.

As water voles were noted downstream the area affected could potentially mean that the route could be used by young water voles as a dispersal route.

2.4.2 Mitigation

Surveys of the Harper’s Brook were undertaken in June 2011 and no evidence of aquatic legally protected species (i.e. water voles, otters and white-clawed crayfish) were found.

Part of the Harper’s Brook, which is to be crossed by the new road, will be culverted. To ensure the movement of any fauna in the area using Harper’s Brook as a corridor is not restricted by the culvert, now and in the future, the structure will have provisions within it to allow fauna to move up and down the watercourse freely. This will also provide a safe manner in which wildlife can move across the road (helping to prevent
road casualties) and will allow species movement from east to west (preventing species isolation), thus providing green infrastructure.

The culverts will have ledges provided which will be located at a suitable height above the regular high-water mark. The ledges will have enough head room above them to allow all mammals, including large mammals such as otters and badgers, to travel along them. Ideally the ledges should have cobbles fixed into place to encourage small mammals to use them. The position of the ledges will be agreed with the Engineer and the Engineers’ Ecologist.

2.5 BIRDS
To avoid damage or destruction of the nests of breeding birds, where possible any vegetation to be removed should be cleared outside of the nesting season. The bird nesting season is between 1 February and 31 September. If this is not possible, any vegetation clearance required in the nesting season should be checked by the Engineers’ Ecologist no more than 48 hours prior to removal of vegetation.

If any birds’ nests are found when the Engineers’ Ecologist is not present work should cease in the area and the Engineers’ Ecologist should be contacted and advice sought. The arable margins, hedgerows, wildflower verges and woodland planting areas will also be of benefit to both seed and insect eating birds for foraging and for nesting.

During one of the transect bat surveys, a barn owl was seen flying from the trees to the south of the scheme boundary. No evidence was found of the barn owl using any of the trees that are to be removed.

Barn Owls have been recorded by the NBRC between 1989 and 1995 in and around the southern tip of Corby town (see Appendix 5).

2.6 BLUEBELLS
The common bluebell is protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is an offence for landowners to remove bluebells from their land for sale, and it is a criminal offence to remove the bulbs of wild common bluebells.

Surveys of woodland areas were carried out along the length of the bypass route. There was one area which was identified as having bluebells present this is shown on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan.

2.6.1 Mitigation
The bluebells identified are to be translocated to an area identified on the Ecological works and Constraints Plan. The bluebell translocation method statement can be found in Appendix 2.
The translocated bluebells will be monitored for two years after the plants have been moved. If the translocation has a less than 60% success rate after two years then the bluebell population should be added to using native bulbs of local provenance (which have not been taken from the wild).

2.7 GENERAL WILDLIFE
During the surveys a large number of brown hare’s were spotted. The UK’s Biodiversity Action Plan’s (BAP) actions for protecting the hare are to: expand existing populations.

The main habitat of the Brown Hare in Britain is open farmland. Unlike Rabbits, hares do not dig and burrow into the ground, but instead live their whole lives above ground. They do not have a particular ‘home’ and will sleep in any suitable place, continually shifting from one place to another.

Hares can have between 2 - 4 litters of young a year, usually between February and September. The young are born in the open, with a full coat of fur and open eyes. The young hares are known as leverets and each one in a litter will be left in a separate form of its own.

They are able to leave their birth place very soon after they have been born. Hares protect themselves in their forms by lying as still as a statue, tucked in close to the ground with their ears pressed flat along their backs. A hare will not move until the last minute before it is discovered, as its best defence lies in stillness and camouflage.

Changes in farming methods over the last 50 years are likely to have had a major impact on hare populations.

In particular, the switch to cutting grass several times a year to make silage, rather than leaving it to grow much longer and turning it into hay, will have had an effect. This is because the leverets are particularly vulnerable to cutting machinery in grass fields.

Care needs to be taken when clearing areas and a walkover of identified areas shown on the Ecological Works and Constraints Plan that Hares may be occupying need to be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist before works start. If any leverets are found this area will need to be marked and untouched until the young hares have moved on (around 3 weeks after birth).

During one of the night bat surveys glow worms were spotted along the edge of a farmer’s field towards the railway. The site has been noted and recorded on the national survey records as known sites are limited. The site has to be monitored yearly during May – June and records forwarded for the national survey. The area that the glow worms were found is just outside the site boundary, but care needs to be taken when placing site boundary fences and carrying out site clearance.
3 Hedgerows

A hedgerow is defined as a boundary line of trees or shrubs over 20m long and less than 5m wide at the base. Hedgerows are a distinctive landscape feature of lowland Britain and are very important, providing valuable habitats and network connections for many different species. Hedgerows provide important foraging and refuge habitats for wildlife and provide important corridors for migration between habitats. They are protected under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. It is a criminal offence to remove a hedgerow without a hedgerow removal notice from the LPA.

Hedgerows in Northamptonshire

The Northamptonshire Habitat Action Plan (HAP) for hedgerows consists of a number of objectives and targets for the management and mitigation of the habitat within the county. The objectives and targets relevant to the EMP are:

- Objective 5: to increase the length of hedgerow under conservation management.
- Target: to increase the length under conservation management by 50,000m per year.

According to the local Wildlife Trust the conservation management involves:

- Trimming hedgerows outside of growing season, when dormant,
- No or little use of flail to cut the hedgerow,
- Managing the hedgerow to encourage an ‘A’ shaped cross section, introducing a cycle of hedge laying as a management technique (when appropriate)

Hedgerow surveys

During the desktop survey and initial walkover survey, hedgerows which were to be affected either directly or indirectly by the construction of the new road were highlighted, and recommendations made for full surveys to be carried out.

These hedgerow surveys were carried out to establish:

- The state of the hedgerow, in terms of length and condition,
- To identify species diversity within the hedgerow,
- To identify the potential of the hedgerow for wildlife habitat,
- Points of connection at either end

Nineteen hedgerows were surveyed in total along the route of the proposed road using the ‘Standard Procedure for local surveys in the UK’, prepared on behalf of the Steering Group for the UK Biodiversity Action Plan for Hedgerows.

Ten out of the nineteen hedgerows that were surveyed were identified as being species rich. Species rich hedgerows are those defined as having at least five of the structural species making up the hedgerow being native woody species (either native somewhere in the UK or archaeophytes).
The table below shows the list of hedgerows which have been identified as species rich and the individual woody species found.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hedge number</th>
<th>Native Woody Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ash, Birch, Blackthorn, Wild Cherry, Elder, Hawthorn, Black Poplar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Wild Cherry, Hawthorn, Field Maple, Black Poplar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Elder, Hawthorn, Hazel, Field Maple, Dog Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Hazel, Field Maple, Dog Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Elder, Hawthorn, Hazel, Dog Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Field Maple, Elder, Dog Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13b</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Elder, Hawthorn, Field Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Blackthorn, Dogwood, Elder, Hawthorn, Field Maple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Elder, Hawthorn, Field Maple, Dog Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ash, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Hawthorn, Field Maple, Native Oak, Dog Rose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.1 Mitigation
The hedgerows highlighted as being species rich will provide a good habitat for species as well as providing migration routes for many different mammal and bird species.

In order to minimise the impact the hedgerows listed above should be translocated to an area adjacent to the new road verges and incorporated into any new hedgerows that are to be planted in these locations.

The translocation of these hedgerows will be carried out in accordance with the Method Statement in appendix 1 and in locations identified in the Ecological Works and Constraints plan.

Post monitoring of the translocated hedgerows will be carried out by a suitable ecologists to ensure that they are becoming established at the new location. If more than 20m of any hedge line fails, this will need to be replenished with new plants of the same species.
### 3.1.2 Five Year Management Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hedgerow Five Year Management Plan</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Actions</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Establishment:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check growth and establishment of shrubs and trees and translocated hedgerows.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace any lost (including planting up the translocated hedgerows if necessary).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check rabbit guards to ensure they are not hindering growth of plant.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Maintenance:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check mulch, mulch mats and weed control membrane.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm in plants as necessary.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure tree stakes, ties and canes are in place so plants are self supporting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove debris and litter from planting plots.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check rabbit guards to ensure they are not hindering growth of plant.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every maintenance visit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weed control – Spot spraying only where necessary:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twice per annum only on rampant or noxious weeds (early/mid spring and late summer).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1m strip width along hedgerows (0.5m either side of hedgerow)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check herbicide complies with EA standards.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cutting of hedgerows:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once substantial enough* trim once every 2 years (on alternate sides each time).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting undertaken between November and February (avoiding the bird breeding season). Ideally cut in late January or February.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Removal of plant guards:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removed once plant has become established (providing no evidence of rabbit activity).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check every maintenance visit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lay the hedgerows:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once large enough consider laying the hedgerow to improve structure*.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is likely to begin when the hedgerow is 15 years old and stem reaches 5-10cm at base. Future laying every 10-30 years. Best carried out in winter months between mid-November and early March.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce flora and fauna species list.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use monitoring to inform General Maintenance regimes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Invasive species

Invasive species are not native to this country, and in many situations were brought over from abroad because of their ornamental properties. They do not compete fairly with our native plants, and can quickly take over a large area, killing off the native species.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to ‘plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild’ Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed.

A walkover survey was carried out of the whole site and evidence of injurious and invasive species was identified.

4.1 RAGWORT

A small area of ragwort was found along a field edge, which is shown on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan.

Ragwort is one of five injurious weeds covered by the provisions of The Weeds Act 1959, making it an offence to cause the plant to spread. It has a distinctive bright yellow flower, often found along roadsides.

Although not usually harmful to humans, it can prove fatal to horses and cattle; we have a duty to remove ragwort from the network if it is endangering animals.

4.1.1 Mitigation

Chemical control of ragwort using an approved herbicide is the most effective method of control.

Ragwort can be hand pulled by the root, although this is not as effective as chemical treatment, as roots remaining in the ground can grow into new plants.

Any waste from ragwort removal should be double bagged and disposed of appropriately.
5 Wet and marshy grassland

5.1.1 Introduction
Wet and marshy grasslands are important for wildlife and flood storage. These habitats generally occur in river valleys, where they undergo seasonal inundation with water.

Lowland wetlands have declined significantly because of changes in agricultural practices; this is mostly due to the drainage of land and conversion to arable. In Northamptonshire there are now few remaining wet or marshy grassland sites and those that do remain are small (mostly less than 1ha) and are fragmented in nature.

Important animal species which use wet and marshy grassland include wading birds (including snipe, redshank and curlew) as well as other important bird species such as golden plover and gadwall. Wet and marshy grassland can also support a range of flora including great burnet and marsh marigold (local priority species in Northamptonshire).

5.1.2 Wet and Marshy Grassland within the Northamptonshire BAP
The Northamptonshire BAP lists three types of wet and marshy grassland: flood meadows, water meadows and inundation grasslands.

The Northamptonshire Habitat Action Plan (HAP) for wet and marshy grassland consists of a number of objectives and targets for the management and mitigation of the habitat within the county. The objectives and targets relevant to the EMP include:

- Objective 7: Develop major floodplain grassland and other wetland habitat restoration initiative in the Nene Valley;
- Target: 100ha being restored by 2006;
- Objective 14: Ensure that advice on habitat creation is available and promoted to suitable landowners.

5.1.3 Wet and Marshy Grassland at A43 Corby Link Road
Currently there are 4 ponds that lie within 100metres of the proposed scheme. One which lies on the direct line of the route. A dry pond was also found just south of the route.

One pond will be lost due to the proposed scheme, however 5 new ponds will be incorporated into the scheme as part of the drainage at the site. This will allow an area of wet and marshy grassland to be incorporated into the scheme, helping to increase the nature conservation value of the land surrounding the scheme replacing the area lost through the scheme. This area will provide approximately 6107m² of wet grassland areas.
5.1.4 Mitigation, Habitat Creation and Enhancement within the Scheme

An area of wet and marshy grassland will be created as part of the proposed scheme. The locations of these wetland areas are shown on the Landscape Planting plans.

The wet and marshy grassland area will be designed so that it holds water after a storm event rather than holding water year-round (maximum storage capacity based on a storm of 1 in 200 year return event and this has been increased by 20% to allow for climate change). An additional allowance of 10% of the wetland area storage capacity has then been added to the pond to allow for dilapidation in storage capacity by siltation. When silt levels reach this 10% level, maintenance can be carried out to ensure that adequate capacity is maintained.

The construction of the wet and marshy grassland area will include a waterproof lining buried under the surface to stop water percolating into the ground below and into the underlying aquifer, protecting any contamination of the ground water from road runoff. Oil interceptors will be installed into drains collecting run-off from the road to further prevent pollution to the wet area.

The seed mixes for the wet and marshy grassland areas will be composed of a wetland grass seed mix and a wetland seed mix. On damp or wet soils seeding is usually the most cost effective way to establish plants and if areas will become flooded in winter, spring (late March – early May) rather than autumn seeding is preferred.

The wet and marshy grassland area will be prepared by stripping the topsoil to a level agreed on site with the Landscape Architect. The topsoil is likely to be very nutrient rich from the arable farming that is currently undertaken on this land. By reducing the topsoil levels this will help to support wild flower diversity and prevent aggressive species (such as perennial rye-grass) invading and out-competing the wild flora.

Weed control to remove injurious and undesirable weeds in wetland grass areas, shall be carried out using spot treatment with herbicide during periods of active growth. Any weed growth which cannot be effectively controlled by chemical means without risk of damage to wildflowers shall be hand weeded.

Repeat seeding will be carried out as necessary until an evenly distributed dense sward is established over the seeded areas.

The wetland grass seed mix (80% of total mix) will comprise:

- Agrostis tenuis (browntop bent)
- Agrostis stolonifera (creeping bent)
- Cynosurus cristatus (crested dog’s-tail)
- Deschampsia cespitosa (tufted hair grass)
- Festuca rubra ssp litoralis (slender creeping red fescue)
- Festuca rubra var. commutata (chewings fescue)
- Holcus lanatus (Yorkshire fog)
• **Poa trivialis** (rough meadow-grass)

The remaining 20% of the wetland seed mix will comprise a wild flora suitable to seasonally inundated habitat:

• **Centaurea nigra** (common knapweed)
• **Dipsacus fullonum** (wild teasel)
• **Echium vulgare** (viper's-bugloss)
• **Eupatorium cannabinum** (hemp-agrimony)
• **Filipendula ulmaria** (meadowsweet)
• **Leontodon autumnalis** (autumn hawkbit)
• **Leontodon hispidus** (rough hawkbit)
• **Leucanthemum vulgare** (oxeye daisy)
• **Lotus pedunculatus** (greater bird's-foot-trefoil)
• **Lychnis flos-cuculi** (ragged-robin)
• **Lythrum salicaria** (purple loosestrife)
• **Medicago lupulina** (black medick)
• **Plantago lanceolata** (ribwort plantain)
• **Prunella vulgaris** (selfheal)
• **Ranunculus repens** (creeping buttercup)
• **Silene dioica** (red campion)
• **Trifolium pratense** (red clover)
• **Juncus effusus** (soft rush)

The Northamptonshire BAP specifically mentions National Vegetation Classification grassland communities MG 9 to MG 13 of being particular value for inundation grasslands (British Plant Communities, Volume 3: Grasslands and montane communities, Rodwell, 1998). This species mix has been compiled using the constant species present in the Yorkshire fog – tufted hair grass grassland community (MG 9) and Yorkshire fog - soft rush rush-pasture community (MG 10) as a base in addition to other suitable wetland/inundation species. A seed house (such as Landlife Wildflowers, www.wildflower.org.uk/) will be asked to provide percentages of each species depending on size or weight of the seeds. All seed sourced will be of British provenance. The seed should be sourced locally where available.

Within the wet and marshy grassland area there will be wetland shrub/tree planting and compensatory native woodland planting will also be planted at the edges of this area as shown on the landscape planting plan

The wet woodland planting mix around the wet and marshy grassland area will include:

• **Acer campestre** (field maple)
• **Alnus glutinosa** (alder)
• **Fraxinus excelsior** (ash)
• **Prunus avium** (wild cherry)
• **Cornus sanguinea** (dogwood)
• **Salix caprea** (goat willow)
• Salix cinerea (gray willow)

All seed sourced will be of British provenance. The seed should be sourced locally where available.

Vehicle access tracks, formed out of soft engineering materials, will allow maintenance access to the wet and marshy grassland area.

5.1.5 Contribution of Habitat Creation and Enhancement to BAP Targets

This wet and marshy area of grassland is being created to collect and attenuate run-off before it is released to the Harper’s Brook or River Ise. It will also help mitigate any impacts on water quality as a result of spillages and road traffic accidents. It is possible, therefore, that it could receive a high level of water pollutants at some stage. However, in the intervening years, this area will be relatively undisturbed and, if properly created, can be of significant nature conservation interest and thus help contribute to two of the Northamptonshire BAP objectives for this habitat. It will contribute to the aim of restoring of wetland habitat in the Nene Valley and the objective to ensure the provision of quality advice on habitat creation.

The creation of this area of wet grassland will provide a gain in biodiversity for this area, providing an important area for wildlife away from the new road and the intensively managed habitats near by (i.e. arable farmland). This area may be of use to feeding waterfowl and possibly waders, in addition to other wildlife (i.e. invertebrates).
### 5.1.6 Five Year Management Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wet and Marshy Grassland Five Year Management Plan</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Actions</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First year mowing the wetland grassland:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or three cuts to 75mm or lower (to reduce competition from annual weeds).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not cut after mid-May through to August inclusive, make one cut in September and final cut late October</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuttings to be removed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subsequent mowing the wetland grassland:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twice per annum (March/April and September/October) to height of approx 40mm once grassland has become well established*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In spring each year, only 50% of the grassland must be cut, leaving 50% unmanaged. This must be reversed in autumn so that the 50% left unmanaged in spring is cut and the area cut in spring is left unmanaged.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuttings to be removed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cutting/removal of marshy vegetation:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To ensure the wetter areas do not become reduced in size due to the succession of marginal vegetation**.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuttings to be removed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dredging of the balancing ponds:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To remove accumulated sediment and maintain storage capacity**.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring of the balancing ponds:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once per annum.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check width (to monitor the succession of vegetation – will help determine if any vegetation removal/cutting is required). Check depth (to monitor the accumulation of sediment from the road and surrounding arable fields – will help determine when/if ponds need dredging).</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check erosion around the edges of the pond.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce species lists and compare with what was originally planted (in years 3 &amp; 5).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use monitoring to inform General Maintenance regimes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This may not occur by year 3, however should be considered for the future management of this area.

** The marsh areas may not require cutting of vegetation/dredging until the five year management plan has elapsed. However this should be considered for future management.
6 Wildflower Verges

Wildflower verges constitute one of the largest extents of grassland of nature conservation value in Northamptonshire. They provide important corridors for the movement of species, and can support plant and animal communities which are important in their own right. Road verges often link some of our richest pockets of wildlife, uniting fragments of habitat.

Important animal species which use road verges include barn owl, kestrel, buzzard and linnet. Small mammals also use these areas, as do invertebrates (including lesser marsh grass hopper, a locally priority species). Road verges also support a range of flora including common cow-wheat, a local priority species.

6.1.1 Wildflower Verges within the Northamptonshire BAP

The Northamptonshire Habitat Action Plan (HAP) for road verges consists of a number of objectives and targets for the management and mitigation of the habitat within the county. The objectives and targets relevant to the EMP include:

- Objective 4: Encourage the Highways Authority and owners/occupiers to operate good practise in road verge management; and
- Objective 8: Instigate road verge survey and monitoring project.

The ‘Protected Wildflower Verges’ leaflet produced by Northamptonshire County Council and the Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust includes the following as good practise in road verge management:

- Reducing or ceasing the use of pesticides on the road verge; and
- Cutting the grass once a year in late summer once the flowers have set seed (including areas beyond the visibility strip) and removing the arisings from the verge.

The Road Verge Habitat Action Plan in the Northamptonshire BAP includes Protected Wildflower Verges (PWVs). These sites are roadside verges designated due to their diversity of wildlife. Due to their linear nature, PWVs are often important wildlife corridors or dispersal routes. In Northamptonshire there is an on-going programme to survey, re-survey, evaluation and management of road verges of conservation interest as part of the County Wildlife Sites system operated by the Wildlife Trust for Northamptonshire. There are currently 30 protected wildflower verges that have been designated and are managed by Northamptonshire County Council.

6.1.2 Wildflower Verges and the A43 Corby Link Road
As a result of the construction of the road 53376m² of grassland planting is being created and will be seeded with a wildflower area mix.

The creation of these wildflower grassland areas, and the hedgerows planted along the edge of the scheme, presents an opportunity to create an important linear habitat for wildlife along the new road. Furthermore, this planting will link the road to the surrounding countryside (i.e. where the new hedgerows meet existing ones) and will provide an important connection to new habitats (allowing dispersal and movement of wildlife through the countryside and helping to prevent species isolation, an important principle of green infrastructure).

Habitat Creation and Enhancement within the Scheme Design

The wildflower grassland areas will be prepared by stripping the topsoil to a level agreed on site with the Landscape Architect. The topsoil is likely to be very nutrient rich from the arable and pasture farming that is currently undertaken on this land. By reducing the topsoil levels this will help to support wild flower diversity and prevent aggressive species (such as perennial rye-grass) invading and out-competing the wild flora.

The species mix to be used within wildflower grassland areas, will consist of approximately 80% grass species and 20% wildflower species. Non aggressive grass species have been chosen to ensure that good cover of the road verge is achieved while also allowing the wildflowers to establish.

The wildflower grass seed mix (80% of total mix) will comprise of:

- Agrostis stolonifera (creeping bent)
- Agrostis tenuis (browntop bent)
- Anthoxanthum odoratum (sweet vernal-grass)
- Cynosurus cristatus (crested dog’s-tail)
- Festuca ovina (sheep’s fescue)
- Festuca rubra sens. Lat. (red fescue)
- Festuca rubra ssp litoralis (slender creeping red fescue)

The remaining 20% of the wildflower seed mix will comprise of:

- Achillea millefolium (yarrow)
- Centaurea nigra (common knapweed)
- Galium verum (Lady’s bedstraw)
- Geranium pratense (meadow crane’s-bill)
- Hypericum perforatum (perforate St John’s-wort)
- Knautia arvensis (field scabious)
- Leucanthemum vulgare (oxeye daisy)
- Linum catharticum (fairy flax)
- Lotus corniculatus (common bird’s-foot-trefoil)
- Lysimachia nummularia (creeping jenny)
- Primula veris (cowslip)
- Prunella vulgaris (selfheal)
- Ranunculus bulbosus (bulbous buttercup)
- Ranunculus ficaria (lesser celandine)
- Sanguisorba minor ssp. minor (salad burnet)
- Viola riviniana (common dog-violet)

The Protected Wildflower Verge Site Selection Guidelines and the Northampton Planting List (both provided by the Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust) were consulted to ensure the species chosen are native to and typical of the county. A seed house (such as Landlife Wildflowers, www.wildflower.org.uk/) will be asked to provide percentages of each species depending on size or weight of the seeds. All seed sourced will be of British provenance. The seed should be sourced locally where available.

This seed mix has been designed in order to provide a diverse habitat of species naturally occurring in Northamptonshire. A number of the flowers chosen are of value to butterflies and other invertebrates (i.e. cowslip, oxeye daisy, common bird’s-foot-trefoil and lady’s bedstraw). A range of early spring flowerers (i.e. primrose and common dog violet), late spring to summer flowerers (i.e. oxeye daisy and bulbous buttercup) and late summer flowerers (i.e. field scabious and selfheal) as well as low, medium and tall growing plants have been chosen to provide aesthetic interest on the verges through out the spring and summer months, as well as a continual resource for invertebrates.

It is hoped that once established and appropriate management is in place these road verges may meet the criteria of the PWV.

The wildflower grassland areas will be seeded after the construction works have been completed, ideally in the spring months of 2012. The Landscape Architect will organise and oversee these works.

It has been strongly recommended that this seed mix is used on their road verges to increase the area of this habitat and to increase connectivity of habitat across the two schemes (thus providing Green Infrastructure).

Within the road verges there are also areas of tree and shrub planting (species mixes in Detailed Landscape Designs).

**Contribution of Habitat Creation and Enhancement to BAP Targets**

Approximately 53376m² of wildflower grassland will be created as a result of this scheme. The associated five year management plan for this habitat will help Northamptonshire to achieve Objective 4 of the local BAP as the Highways Authority will be operating good practise in road verge management.

The creation of wildflower grassland areas (in addition to the hedgerows planted adjacent to them) creates an important linear habitat for wildlife along the new road. Furthermore, this planting will link the road to the surrounding countryside (i.e. where the new hedgerows meet existing ones) and will provide an important connection to new habitats allowing dispersal and movement of wildlife through the countryside and helping to prevent species isolation (providing green infrastructure).
The creation of wildflower grassland areas may potentially benefit invertebrates (including butterflies and beetles), small mammals and their predators and birds such as linnet.

### 6.1.3 Wildflower Verge Five Year Management Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wildflower Verge Five Year Management Plan</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Actions</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Cut of verges:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flailing (or similar technique).</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May require 3 or more cuts in first year.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting to 75mm or lower when average vegetation height exceeds 100mm in first 6 weeks following sowing (to reduce competition from annual weeds).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not cut after mid-May through to August inclusive, make one cut in September and final cut late October.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make first cut in 2nd year mid-March to late April if average vegetation height is &gt;150mm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remove cut material.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subsequent cutting of verges:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using flailing (or similar technique) cut to ground level (approx 40mm).</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut twice per year (March/April and September/October). Remove cut material.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Noxious Weed control:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot treat rampant or noxious weeds (glyphosate based herbicide).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring:</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check growth of the verges. Produce species list for flora and fauna present within these areas. Use monitoring to inform General Maintenance regimes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix Number 1: Hedgerow Translocation Method Statement

Scope of the proposed works
The location of the species-rich hedgerows and sections of the hedgerow to be translocated are shown on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan.

The hedgerow translocation is required to maintain the hedge with its current species mix, structure and value as a wildlife corridor and landscape feature.

Timescales
Hedgerows, like all other growing plants, are best translocated in the dormant season, and sufficiently before spring growth gets under way to have time for roots and soil to re-establish good contact. This, in practice makes the operational periods:

- September – December: Optimum time for work. Relatively low risk of failure
- December – March: Plants dormant. Acceptable risk of failure
- March – September: Plants actively growing. High risk of failure

The choice of operating season should be based on probability of success. Autumn translocations are not guaranteed success, nor are summer ones guaranteed failure. Risks rise as the season progresses, and the probability of needing to spend money on watering and maintenance rise with the risk.

It is physically necessary to trim back small, or coppice larger, growth to reduce the bulk to be translocated. This process reduces the amount of crown that the roots are trying to service in the years immediately following translocation, and therefore also reduces vulnerability to drought.

The season for preparation of the hedgerow must be outside the bird nesting season; typically March – August inclusive. If hedgerow works are undertaken within the bird breeding season then the hedge will need to be netted to prevent birds entering the hedgerow to nest or need to be thoroughly inspecting for the presence of birds nests (either in use or being built). If nests are present these would need to remain in-situ for the remainder of the bird nesting season or until the young from the nest have fledged. If unsure how to proceed following the observation of a birds’ nest, the contractor should contact the Engineer’s Ecologist before proceeding.

Donor hedge preparation (hedgerow to be translocated)

The need for trimming or coppicing prior to translocation is twofold;

- to reduce the above ground bulk, easing weight, and lowering the centre of gravity; and
• to reduce the demand for water and nutrient from the crown, from an inevitably less capable root system.

The easiest preparation therefore is to cut everything down to ground level. However this will not give the ecological and landscape results required; so the compromise will be to coppice or high coppice the hedgerow to approximately 600mm above the ground.

Preparation of the hedgerow will need to be sensitive to the component plants and the structure of the hedge. In practice, the best way to achieve this is for the contractor and Landscape Architect to agree the most appropriate and practical preparation for each section of hedgerow on-site immediately before preparation.

Individual trees which are undesirable as non-native trees, or which are too large/awkward to be realistically worth translocating will be marked for removal.

Coppicing of large trees which are considered worth translocating will be done by chainsaw, while some of the smaller hedgerow sections could be trimmed with a hedge-trimmer. To reduce the level of stress to a minimum the hedge-trimmer should be of the fingerbar type, to give a clean cut, rather than the more common, but harsher, flail type. Felling work should be by qualified tree cutters, properly equipped. Tree climbing will not be necessary. Trimming should be by guarded agricultural tractors, with a flail, or by cutter bar mounted on a tracked excavator.

The arisings from the coppicing and trimming will need disposal. One option is to use the chippings on site to help make a running track from which to work. The trimmed branches should not be left in a pile on-site as these may attract nesting birds. Oversized material will be used as dead wood piles, at the base of the translocated hedge or the retained hedge to act as wildlife refuges (within the CPO limits).

To identify how wide each cut of the translocated hedgerow at ground level will need to be a small trench should be dug initially along approximately 1m of hedgerow (to 0.5m either side of the hedgerow). This will show how far the hedgerow root system extends. Once this is known a decision by the Landscape Architect should be taken on how wide the sections of translocated hedgerow will need to be. Once this is known the roots will either have to be cut at this point either directly with a cutting tool that can go through soil or by digging a narrow trench with an excavator and cutting the roots by hand.

**Receptor site preparation (area in which hedgerow will be translocated)**

The receptor sites for the eleven sections of hedgerow need to be stripped of topsoil on the same day as translocation will take place.

The receptor site(s) should be agreed and marked out with the Landscape Architect. The receptor site will be a trench dug with an excavator. The trench dimensions should be at least 1.5m wide by at least 1m deep. The trench must not be allowed to become
waterlogged. The exact depth and section of the trench may vary with the nature of the transplanted hedgerow and certain sections may need to be excavated to a larger profile.

It is possible that the hedgerows will require translocation to a temporary donor site at the beginning of the works and then translocation to the final location at the end of the construction period. The uncertainty of whether this is required is due to current issues with land ownership and timings the Contractor requires for start up and the works programme (April 2007). If two translocations need to be undertaken, the same methods described in this Method Statement must be followed for both.

**The translocation equipment**

At the donor site the lifting operation should be carried out by a tracked excavator, fitted with a hydraulically operated quick release bucket coupling.

Large cube shaped excavator buckets, each effectively acting as a giant plant pot, and with quick release couplings will be required. The buckets will need to be large enough to take approximately 1.5m width by 1m depth of soil (depending on the extent of the hedgerow root system). The bucket should have a closed back, bottom and side face, and be reinforced to withstand being pushed under trees. In use the bucket should be mounted on the excavator in face shovel mode (i.e. with its open side facing away from the excavator).

The exact depth and width of the excavated sections of hedgerow may change once the excavation has started and once it is possible to observe the extent of the root system.

It is recommended that at least two buckets are available on site. Excavated sections of hedgerow will need to be left in the bucket until it is ready to be placed in the receptor trench.

Hedgerow sections should be removed from the bucket only when being placed in the receptor trench. A second bucket (and ideally a second excavator) may be required to adjust the receptor trench profile according to the size of hedgerow sections that it needs to take.

The excavator used to prepare the receptor site trench should also be fitted with a hydraulically operated quick release bucket coupling.

Transport of buckets will be undertaken directly from donor site to receptor site by the excavator as there is such as short distance between donor and receptor site and the less ‘handling’ of the hedgerow sections the better.
The translocation process

The excavator bucket should ideally remove the donor hedgerow in sections by the excavator working from one end of the hedgerow and working down the length of the hedgerow as opposed to coming at the hedgerow from the side.

At the donor site, from the working edge, the excavator should push a bucket at the required depth, forward and under the section of hedge to be lifted, severing basal roots as it goes. The excavator can then lift the bucket containing the block of soil, roots and coppiced stems and ground flora. The bucket will need to get soil around the roots for approximately 1m depth underneath the hedge and for at least 500mm either side of the above-ground parts of the hedge (depending on the extent of the hedgerow root system). The length of sections which are able to be excavated will depend upon the bucket capacity but sections should be as long as possible.

Final preparatory work may include severing any substantial side roots, and making lateral cuts through the hedge bottom to ensure a clean cut between sections. This can be carried out by an excavator but may require hand (bow) saws or chainsaws. Once removed from the ground the section of hedgerow will be watered to prevent drying out.

The excavator will take the section of hedgerow immediately over to the receptor site and place the hedgerow section in the prepared trench (by sliding the section from the bucket). Each hedgerow section should be pushed up tight to its predecessor to exclude air.

The hedgerow sections should be placed in the receptor trench in the order in which they are removed (i.e. first section of hedge excavated is the first section in the receptor ditch and the next section translocated should adjoin the previous section as it did at the donor site).

The hedgerow should be placed in the receptor trench so that the previous ground level of the hedgerow is level with receptor ground level. No soil should be placed on top of the translocated sections of hedgerow and the translocated sections of hedgerow should not be overly compacted.

Once the translocated hedgerow sections are in place, the receptor trench should be backfilled around the edges of the translocated hedgerow with topsoil (and between hedgerow sections if this is necessary). This soil should be packed in around the edges of the hedgerow so that roots are not allowed to dry out or become waterlogged in the event of rain.

Any sections of hedgerow removed must be placed in the receptor trench the same day. If the translocation operation is not complete on any one day the edges of the cuts at both the donor and receptor areas should be packed with soil to reduce damage by over night cold and drying-out. The receptor trench should not be left open.
overnight. The contractor should aim to excavate only as much trench as required to take the hedgerow sections that will be translocated that day.

**Supervision**

The translocation works should be supervised by a suitably experienced person who should be either the Engineer’s Ecologist or the Landscape Architect. The above method statement should be available on site to all operatives prior to commencement and the supervising Ecologist or Landscape Architect should go through the method statement with the operatives on-site prior to the start of works.

**Immediate aftercare**

Immediate aftercare is limited to pressing all soils as firmly as possible, tidying up damage, and protecting the translocated hedge from accidental damage.

The hedgerows should be watered in following translocation, with up to 100 litres required per linear metre. This will be judged on site by the Landscape Architect. The provision of topsoil to pack the hedgerows into the ground may also be required. Invasion of weeds associated with disturbed ground such as nettle should be dealt with by spot herbicide treatment using a glyphosate based herbicide.

High visibility barrier fence will be erected 1m from the receptor trench on completion of each day’s translocation to protect the newly translocated hedge. The temporary fence will remain in place to protect the translocated and retained hedge during the main contract works.

**Seasonal aftercare**

Aftercare that might be needed would include;

- Tidying up trees/shrubs that lean or fall after translocation;
- Removing dead or dying plants, although some dead wood can add to the nature conservation value of the hedgerow; and
- Watering, but only in a seriously dry season and/or if large sections are looking vulnerable. Unnecessary watering is counterproductive.

**Long term aftercare and monitoring**

Long term aftercare and monitoring is beyond the scope of this method statement, but should include only;

- Tidying up trees/shrubs that lean or fall after translocation;
- Removing dead or dying plants, although some dead wood can add to the nature conservation value of the hedgerow; and
- Eventually, carrying out normal hedge trimming operations, where appropriate.
The translocated hedgerow will be managed under the 5 year maintenance period. If, during this period, the translocation of all or part of the hedgerow is considered unsuccessful then a landscape architect will need to assess the hedgerow and consider replacement planting of hedgerow shrubs. Any replacement of trees and shrubs within the hedgerow should be native species, locally sourced where possible (and at least from within the county) and only using species already present within the existing hedgerow.
Appendix Number 2: Bluebell Translocation method statement

Bluebells were found in one area that will be affected by the bypass which is indicated on the Ecological Works and Constraints plan. Bluebells are listed in the UK BAP as a species of conservation concern. Due to the declining trend of the native UK bluebell population the plants should be translocated from the area.

Translocation is not an ideal solution compared to retention of a site as success is rarely higher than 50%. As a method of last resort, as much as possible of the area containing bluebells to be destroyed by the construction of the bypass should be translocated to a suitable receptor area.

The methodology for translocation of the bluebell population is set out below. This methodology should be issued to those staff and contractors involved in the translocation.

Pre-Construction Survey

A survey of the identified location will be completed by MGWSP Ecologists in February - April 2012 to identify the location of any native bluebells in the area to be lost to the new bypass.

All native bluebells found during these surveys will be marked with a stake so they are easily identified when the translocation is undertaken.

Receptor Area

The receptor area for any native bluebells is indicated on the Ecological Works and Constraints plans. The Engineers’ Ecologist will identify the exact location to translocate any plants to on the day the translocation takes place.

Ideal Translocation Method

Bluebells like all flowering bulbs should not be moved during the time of year they are in leaf or flower. The recommended time for translocation would be after the plant has flowered and set seed, and natural die back has occurred. Emergence of the plant is variable and depends upon the weather conditions. Bluebells typically begin to leaf in late January and finish flowering at the end of April. Therefore seed set and die back should have finished by early June.

Translocation of bluebells should ideally be carried out when the plants are in the dormant phase before winter frosts start (between July and October). This method can allow for plants to be returned to their original site if the habitat is made suitable again.
Preparation of the receptor area(s)

Cut squares of vegetation approximately 0.5m x 0.5m by at least 400mm deep (these are known as ‘turfs’).

The turfs should be cut immediately prior to translocation. They must not be cut any sooner as the chance of the translocation failing is significantly increased if the receptor site is left exposed for long periods of time before translocation.

Lifting the bluebells from the donor site

The bluebell bulbs must be lifted within their current poison and kept in turfs. The turfs should be 0.5m x 0.5m and at least 400mm deep.

The edge of turfs should be cut at least 100mm from visible bluebell shoots or the edge of the area marked for translocation to avoid destruction of buried bulb or root mass. The first few cuts should be made and lifted by hand to confirm depth of bulbs.

The turfs for removal should be cut 100mm deeper than the deepest bulb found. The use of heavy machinery should be limited to where access can be achieved without moving over any of the bluebell translocation area, i.e. an ‘outside in’ approach.

Moving the turfs

Care must be taken when moving the turfs so that they are not allowed to break up as this can lead to exposure of bulbs or roots to frost and drying out. Turfs must be placed in the receptor area on the same day they are removed. Turfs must not be stacked or inverted due to risk of damage of sprouting leaves.

Turfs should be placed in the receptor area so the top of the turf is parallel with the current ground level. It is not necessary to place the turfs at the receptor area in the pattern at which they were taken from the donor area.

Gaps between turfs must be minimised by packing hard together. Any gaps or cracks between turfs and adjacent ground must be filled and packed with a dry soil and sand mix (50/50). This will allow for drainage of water and reduce chance of frost on bulbs and roots. If it does not rain within 48 hours of translocation turfs should be lightly watered. Watering of translocated turfs should be done when there is no chance of frost for 12 hours.

Supervision

The translocation works should be supervised by a suitably experienced Ecologist or Landscape Architect.

The above method statement should be available on site to all operatives prior to commencement and all operatives must be inducted into the method statement on-site prior to the start of works.

Monitoring and Future Management

The position of the receptor area should be clearly marked on maps and incorporated into the management program. The site should be monitored for success and invasion of weeds associated with disturbed ground such as nettle, and appropriate action taken.
If the translocation has a less than 60% success rate after two years then the bluebell population should be added to using native bulbs of local provenance (which have not been taken from the wild). The bulb dealer should be asked to guarantee the source of the bulbs before purchase.
Appendix Number 3: Bat Roost Potential plan
Appendix Number 4: Bat Activity and Emergence Surveys
### Appendix Number 5: NBRC Key Species Record

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Taxon Group</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Grid Ref</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tyto alba</td>
<td>Barn owl</td>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>Bern Convention annex 2, EC Cites annex A, W&amp;C Act 1981 Sch 1, Birds of Conservation Concern Amber List, Local BAP.</td>
<td>01/07/1989</td>
<td>01/07/1989</td>
<td>Hay Close in Great Oakley</td>
<td>SP8785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>ECO</td>
<td>Directive</td>
<td>Date Recorded</td>
<td>Date Recorded</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austropotamobius pallipes</td>
<td>Freshwater crayfish</td>
<td>Crustacean</td>
<td>Habitats and Species Directive, W&amp;C Act 1981 Sch 5, Priority Species (UK BAP 2007), Vulnerable (IUCN criteria)</td>
<td>15/05/1990</td>
<td>15/05/1990</td>
<td>Barford Bridge, d/s Rushton stw</td>
<td>SP860830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austropotamobius pallipes</td>
<td>Freshwater crayfish</td>
<td>Crustacean</td>
<td>Habitats and Species Directive, W&amp;C Act 1981 Sch 5, Priority Species (UK BAP 2007), Vulnerable (IUCN criteria)</td>
<td>01/01/1990</td>
<td>01/01/1990</td>
<td>River Ise and Meadows SSSI</td>
<td>SP869831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lepus capensis</td>
<td>Brown Hare</td>
<td>Terrestrial mammal</td>
<td>CRoW Act 200, Prioity Species (UK BAP 2007)</td>
<td>19/07/2002</td>
<td>19/07/2002</td>
<td>South Wood and Quarry Grassland</td>
<td>SP893876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meles meles</td>
<td>Badger</td>
<td>Terrestrial mammal</td>
<td>Protection of Badgers Act 1993</td>
<td>01/01/1998</td>
<td>31/12/1998</td>
<td>Barford meadows</td>
<td>SP858826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meles meles</td>
<td>Badger</td>
<td>Terrestrial mammal</td>
<td>Protection of Badgers Act 1994</td>
<td>13/02/2008</td>
<td>13/02/2008</td>
<td>A6003 Corby - Kettering Road, approx 0.2 miles from slip road for the northbound carriageway</td>
<td>SP860830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meles meles</td>
<td>Badger</td>
<td>Terrestrial mammal</td>
<td>Protection of Badgers Act 1995</td>
<td>24/10/2008</td>
<td>24/10/2008</td>
<td>A43 South of Stanion</td>
<td>SP909865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meles meles</td>
<td>Badger</td>
<td>Terrestrial mammal</td>
<td>Protection of Badgers Act 1996</td>
<td>24/01/1993</td>
<td>24/01/1993</td>
<td>River Ise, Barford Bridges</td>
<td>SP860831</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full species search data can be obtained on request from MGWSP.
Appendix Number 6: Badger Survey Findings
This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

Northamptonshire County Council: Licence No. 100019331. Published 26/05/2011.