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To whom it may concern,

Land Off Essex Avenue To The Rear Of 21 Cranmer Road, Manchester- Hedgehog, Badger & Mammal Reasonable Avoidance Strategy

Planning Ref - 141471/FO/2024

1. Introduction

Planning permission has been granted for the construction of a new dwelling on land to the rear of 21 Cranmer Road, Didsbury, Manchester *(Application No: - 141471/FO/2024)*.

Condition 16 of the above planning permission states:

> *16) Prior to any site clearance or construction works a Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAM) method statement, in relation to badgers, hedgehog and other mammals, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the City Council as local planning authority. The approved RAMS shall be implemented as part of the development and remain in place for the duration of the construction period.*

To address this condition, an appropriate Hedgehog, Badgers and Mammal Reasonable Avoidance Strategy has been devised (see below) by Richard Roe (BSc, MSc, MCIEEM, CEnv). Richard has over 25 years' experience as a professional ecologist.

2. Hedgehog, Badger and Mammal Reasonable Avoidance Strategy

The site is located within a suburban setting in Didsbury suburban village. Habitats at the site include areas of garden habitat with scattered fruit trees and established beds of ornamental shrubbery. There is also a garden shed located the rear garden.
These features could offer suitable refuge habitat for hedgehog and the garden may be infrequently visited by Badger. Badger are known to be present in the wider locality. However, no evidence of badger setts or badger activity was identified on site during a site visit completed on 7 October 2024.

It is therefore proposed that these habitat features are cleared from the site in an appropriate manner to limit the risk of harm to any hedgehogs and precautionary measures are followed to limit the risk of harm to other mammals during construction..

An appropriately qualified ecologist will be appointed to undertake a check for hedgehogs and badger immediately prior to site clearance and to supervise the removal of potential hedgehog refuge features.

An update badger survey would be undertaken prior to full site clearance. This would be carried out to confirm that no badger setts have been excavated on site since the previous 2024 surveys. If any evidence of a badger resting place identified, this would be reported to the council and if necessary, the development would need to be undertaken under an appropriate badger disturbance licence. An update method statement for closure of the badger sett would be provided to the council and submitted to Natural England as part of the disturbance licence application stop

Prior to the clearance of any dense ornamental shrubbery, this will be checked first for the presence of hedgehogs by the appointed ecologist.

The underside of the garden shed will also be checked for hedgehogs or any other burrowing mammals prior to its removal by the appointed ecologist. This would be undertaken by carefully lifting the base of the shed under ecological supervision. If no hedgehog or other mammals are present, the shed will be carefully removed from the site.

Any encountered hedgehogs will be moved across to a suitable area of habitat located outside of the works boundary (e.g. the nearby Fog Lane Park).

As a precaution, it is also proposed that where any trenches or other excavations are to be left open overnight during construction these will be fitted with mammal ramps or will have the sides battered to form a slope to allow hedgehogs or other mammals to escape.

A tidy works area would be maintained during construction and any hazardous substances would be fenced off to remove any badger/mammal hazards from the site.

It is proposed that any new garden fencing at the site is ‘hedgehog friendly’ with suitable access holes (approximately 15cm x 15cm) retained through the fencing to allow hedgehogs to move between garden habitats at the site.