

FAO Grant McIntosh
PSK, First Floor Somerset House,
Sandal Castle Centre, Asdale Road,
Wakefield, WF2 7JE

P-7036-02
Brooks Ecological Ltd
Unit A, 1 Station Road
Guiseley
Leeds, LS20 8BX

23/04/25

Upper Brook Street Nesting Bird Survey Method Statement

A nesting bird survey method statement was requested by the client, in line with condition '4' and ahead of any vegetation clearance or nesting bird surveys being undertaken. The methodology is provided below.

Where clearance of vegetation is required during the nesting bird period, running between 1st March – 31st August, a survey will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist ahead of clearance. The survey will be timed no more than 48 hours ahead of works to reduce the risk of new nests being established in between the survey and vegetation clearance. Survey will be undertaken within 3 hours of sunrise, or as otherwise deemed suitable by the surveyor depending on local conditions. The survey should be undertaken in suitable weather conditions, weather which is likely to reduce bird activity such as heavy rain or strong wind will be avoided. The survey area should be as undisturbed as possible, i.e. noisy activities and high levels of footfall or similar should be controlled, before and during the survey to reduce disturbance of nesting activity.

The surveyor will deploy various survey methodologies as required to most accurately determine the presence of active bird nests. This could include but is not limited to; prolonged periods of observation at distance, close physical searches of vegetation for active nests or limited intentional disturbance of vegetation to expose nesting, either alone or in combination.

In the instance active nests are located the location(s) will be marked on a plan, and where suitable on site using flags or other materials if this can reasonably be done so. A buffer area will also be shown to minimise the risk of damaging the nests, the size of which will be dependent on various factors and determined during the survey at the time. Reports showing the locations and buffer areas will be issued to the client and made clear to any contractors. The nest will then be retained until deemed no longer active via re-survey by the suitably qualified ecologist or a nominated individual such as the site manager if the nest is clearly visible. Vegetation which is not found to support nesting birds can be cleared.