envirotech

Ecological Consultants
Environmental and Rural Chartered Surveyors

Your Ref: Benmore Road, Blackley – Planning Decision Ref 135788/FO/2022
Our Ref: 9019

P. Casey & Co. Ltd
Rydings Road
Rochdale
OL12 9PS

Tuesday, 19 December 2023

Dear Sirs

RE: BENMORE ROAD, BLACKLEY – PLANNING DECISION REF 135788/FO/2022

Condition 32 of planning consent 135788/FO/2022 states

> 32) Prior to any vegetation clearance and prior to any earthworks, a reasonable avoidance measures method statement for hedgehog covering both site clearance and construction, shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. The measures shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

Envirotech have been commissioned to prepare reasonable avoidance measures in reference to condition 32.

The author Mr Andrew Gardner is an ecological consultant with over 20years professional experience.

- A pre-start assessment will be made of suitable features on the site by an ecologist. This is to ensure the potential for use of features on the site for use by hedgehog has not increased Should no evidence of hedgehog hibernation be found, and the level of risk has not increased, works will proceed. The site walkover shall examine hedges, fallen leaves, scrub and any other suitable habitat that may be used as hibernation nests.

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- A toolbox talk will be provided by a licensed ecologist in respect of hedgehog features present on the site to the team responsible for clearance.

- The method for the removal of vegetation, shrubbery and trees / hedgerows will be that it shall be overseen by an Ecologist or suitably qualified person who shall watch and record the gradual removal of these features after a prestart check on site.

- A suitable receptor site shall be identified prior to any works being carried out and the ecologist will be responsible for the actual removal of any animals from the site to the receptor site.

- Provision for capture, transport and captive care of any hibernating or injured hedgehogs will be available with suitable materials on site. Any such works to be undertaken only by the ecologist.

- General avoidance measures during construction shall consist of:

    - No works would be carried out at the site between sunrise and sunset.
    - Noise and vehicle movements at the site will always be kept to a minimum
    - Where any trenches or other excavations are to be left open overnight, these would be battered to form a slope to allow animals to escape
    - A tidy works area would be maintained during construction and any hazardous substances would be fenced off to remove any animal hazards from the site
    - Site staff will be observant for hedgehogs during work and the ecologist for the project will be contacted should hedgehogs be found.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Gardner BSc (Hons), MSc, MRICS, Dip NDEA
Director Envirotech