



Collyhurst Village

Manchester

Bat And Bird Box and Hedgehog Scheme

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Environment Partnership (TEP) Ltd was commissioned by DEX Construction (hereafter referred to as 'the client') in April 2024 to produce a bat and bird box and hedgehog habitat mitigation scheme to be implemented into a detailed planting plan for proposed works at Collyhurst Village (hereafter referred to as 'the site').
- 1.2 A reserved matters planning permission 129393/VO/2021 has been granted to allow development of the scheme. This bat and bird box plan is to discharge condition 38.
- 1.3 In order to discharge, Condition 38 reads as follows:

“Prior to the first occupation of a phase of the development hereby approved, details of the number, siting and appearance bird and bat boxes and habitats for hedgehogs for that phase shall be submitted for approval in writing by the City Council, as Local Planning Authority. The approved details shall be implemented and be in place prior to the first occupation of the relevant phase of the development hereby approved and shall thereafter be retained and maintained in situ.”
- 1.4 This ecological enhancement plan is therefore focused on the provision of suitable bat and bird boxes as well as hedgehog habitats. The plan will provide details on the designs/specifications of the bat and bird boxes and hedgehog habitats, as well as suitable locations for the installation of the boxes and habitats within the site.
- 1.5 The specification of bat and bird boxes and hedgehog habitats for the mitigation scheme have been chosen with consideration given to the species assemblages present at the site following a review of the desk study and other survey work completed.

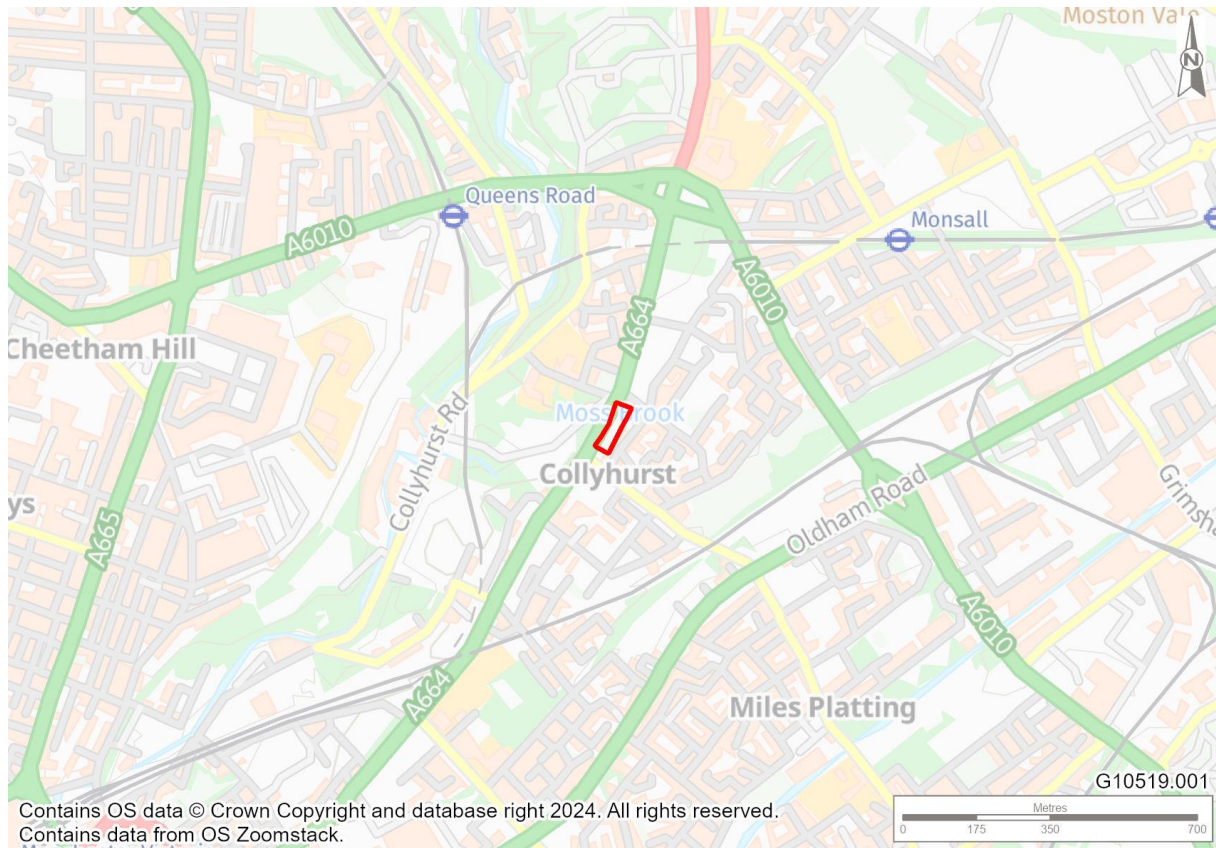


Figure 1: Site Location

2.0 Mitigation and Enhancement Strategy

- 2.1 Bat and bird boxes provide artificial roost sites in areas where the habitat otherwise provides limited roosting opportunities. Bat and bird boxes incorporated into the design will increase the site's ecological value by providing roosting opportunities for bats and will increase the availability of nesting sites for birds which commonly use artificial boxes.
- 2.2 Hedgehog habitats provide shelter and sustenance to hedgehogs. They prefer woodland edges, hedgerows and suburban habitats. Hedgerow habitat has been included in the site plan, so this will support hedgehog populations.
- 2.3 Enhancement in association with the public greenspace will include bat/bird boxes that can be affixed onto existing trees.
- 2.4 Appropriate siting of the boxes is important to increase the likelihood of uptake and make them more attractive to bats and birds; further details are provided below.
- 2.5 Bat and bird box types are also recommended below; however, similar products are likely to be available from alternative suppliers.

Bat Boxes

- 2.6 In total, six bat boxes will be installed into the scheme design on existing trees within the site in order to enhance bat roosting opportunities within the site. The bat boxes will be installed on south east and south west aspects of the trees. The proposed positions of the bat boxes are shown in Drawing G10519.002.
- 2.7 The bat box specification is as follows:
 - Six 2F Schwegler Bat Boxes (General Purpose)

Bird Boxes

- 2.8 In total, six bird boxes will be incorporated into the scheme design on existing buildings, in order to increase nesting opportunities for birds on site and compensate for the loss of existing potential nest sites. All bird boxes should be sited between the north and east aspects of buildings, the proposed positions of the bird boxes are shown in Drawing G10519.002.
- 2.9 The bird box specification is as follows:
 - Two Schwegler Starling Nest Box
 - Two 1B Schwegler Nest Box
 - Two Vivara Pro Barcelona WoodStone Open Nest Box

Hedgehog Habitats

- 2.12 Because the site is a proposed public space, the need for hedgehog highways is not required. The planned hedgerow within the site plan will create hedgehog habitat and disperse hedgehogs through the site.

Siting and Installation of Bat and Bird Boxes

- 2.13 The bat and bird boxes should be sited in accordance with the attached Drawing G10519.002. Failure to do so may result in boxes being sited in sub-optimal positions that could lead to lower take-up by bats and birds.
- 2.14 Proximity to suitable commuting and foraging habitat for bats and birds has also been considered during the siting process.
- 2.13 It must be ensured that there is unobstructed access for bats and birds entering and leaving the boxes.
- 2.14 It is recommended that new bat and bird boxes are installed during autumn and winter to ensure they are ready for use the following breeding season, although it is possible to install them at any time of year. Many birds will enter nest boxes during the autumn and winter, looking for a suitable place to roost or feed. They often use the same boxes for nesting the following spring.
- 2.15 All bat and bird boxes must be installed in line with the manufacturer's specifications to ensure no hazard is posed to members of the public.
- 2.16 Should the recommended bird/bat boxes not be available, similar products are likely to be available from alternative suppliers. Any substitutions should be agreed with the Local Planning Authority.
- 2.17 Should the existing trees recommended in Drawing G10519.002 not be suitable for installation of any boxes, an ecologist must be consulted, and an alternative location may be used, or it must be substituted for an alternative bat or bird box as described above.

Maintenance

- 2.18 Bat boxes do not typically require any maintenance. Bat boxes can only be inspected by appropriately licensed ecologists. Tree-mounted boxes should be replaced if they are damaged or removed. Bird boxes should be cleaned out of old nesting material during the October to January period.

3.0 Bat Box Specifications

3.1 Specifications of the bat box types recommended for installing on site are provided within Table 1 below.

Table 1: Recommended bat box specifications

Box Specification	Photograph
2F Schwegler Bat Box (General Purpose) The 2F bat box can be sited on a tree or building and is best positioned at a height of between 3m to 6m from ground level. Avoid siting under artificial lights. Bats prefer to change roosts to benefit from varying ambient temperatures, so bat boxes should ideally be clustered in small groups. Suitable for pipistrelles, myotis bats and long-eared bats. Dimensions: Height: 33cm x Diameter: 16cm	

4.0 Bird Box Specifications

4.1 Specifications for bird boxes to be installed within trees on and adjacent to site are provided in Table 2. Bird boxes have been chosen to encourage a variety of common urban and suburban species that are known to be in the local area to utilise the site.

Table 2: Recommended bird box specifications

Box Specification	Photograph
3S Schwegler Starling Nest Box The 3S Schwegler Starling Nest Box is specifically designed for Starlings, however, can also support other birds of a similar size. The nest box can be attached to the tree or wall using an aluminium nail or by hanging over a branch. The ideal position is at least 3m elevation from the ground and north-facing. External dimensions: Height 28cm x Width 19cm x Depth 20cm	

1B Schwegler Nest Box

The 1B Schwegler Nest Box can provide much-needed breeding and roosting space for cavity-nesting species by mimicking natural nest and roost sites. The nest box can be attached to the tree or wall using an aluminium nail or by hanging over a branch. The ideal position is at least 3m elevation from the ground and north-facing.

Dimensions: Height 18cm x Width 36cm x Depth 22cm



Vivara Pro Barcelona WoodStone Open Nest Box

These open nest boxes are suitable for wrens, robins, spotted flycatchers, pied and grey wagtails, song thrushes and blackbirds. The ideal position is at least 3m elevation from the ground and north-facing. It should be sited in undergrowth such as ivy to provide cover for the nest.

Dimensions: Height 24cm x Width 19cm x Length 17.5cm



Drawings

Drawing 1: Bat and Bird Box Plan (Ref G10519.002)

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KEY

Indicative site boundary

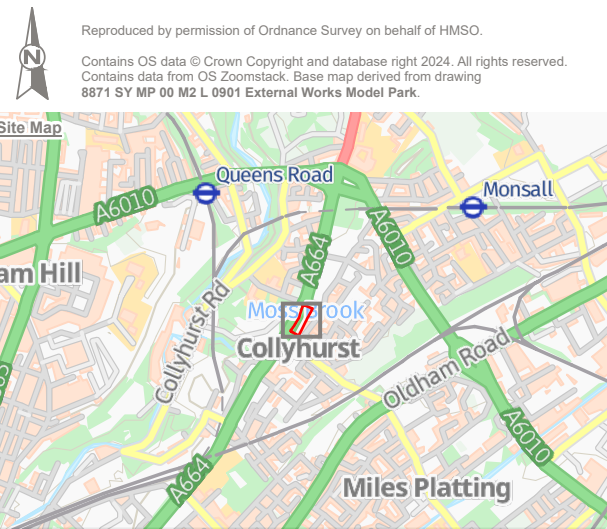
Ecological Enhancement

2F Schwegler bat box (general purpose)

1B Schwegler nest box

3S Schwegler starling nest box

Vivara Pro Barcelona WoodStone open nest box



Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date

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Project
Collyhurst Village, Manchester

Title
Bat and Bird Box Plan

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SP	BJ	RH	1:500 @ A3	20/05/2024