Nesting Bird Precautionary Working Methods File Note

Site Address:	N-gage, Burnage Lane, Manchester, M19 1EN
Client Name:	Premier Modular
Reference:	Nesting Bird Precautionary Working Methods
Date:	27/04/2026

Background

Arbtech Consulting Limited was instructed by Premier Modular to undertake a Nesting Bird Precautionary Working Methods File Note at N-gage, Burnage Lane, Manchester, M19 1EN, (hereafter referred to as "the site"). This report is required to inform a planning application for the demolition of an existing building and replacement with a new modular building (hereafter referred to as "the proposed development"). A plan showing the proposed development is provided in Appendix 1.

This report is informed by a previous a previous nesting bird check completed by Arbtech in April 2026 (Arbtech, 2026). The report detailed a lack of nesting bird activity within the building and the wider site, however, further work is required on site so a further nesting bird check will be undertaken to ensure no new nests have since been created onsite.

A nesting bird check is required prior to development to ensure no nesting birds would be impacted by demolition of the building and any removal of vegetation, in line with the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally take, damage or destroy a wild bird's eggs or its nest while it's being used or built or to kill or injure wild birds. Schedule 1 bird species are afforded additional protection whereby it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturbs the dependent young of such a bird.

Nesting Bird Check Methodology

B1 will be accessed (where safe) to assess whether there is a presence of recent active bird nests within the building 24-48 hours before demolition.

Then, B1 and areas of vegetation to be removed (such as shrubs, ivy etc) will be observed from ground level with the aid of binoculars over at least a 45-minute period as close to dawn as possible, during suitable weather for bird activity, prior to any significant disturbance of the site. The surveyor will be positioned to enable full coverage of the vegetation and building whilst ensuring that no disturbance to nesting activity occurs. The surveyor will look for:

- Birds flying repeatedly to and from the building or vegetation
- Birds carrying nesting material to the building or vegetation
- Birds carrying food to the building or vegetation
- Chicks calling from the building or vegetation
- Young poking their heads out of any nests observed
- Young leaving the nests observed when they are ready to fledge

If birds are observed to enter any vegetation displaying the above behaviours, a close inspection of this section of building or vegetation will be undertaken to assess if there is a presence of bird nests with any signs of recent use. Vegetation to be removed will be subject to a fingertip search to observe if there are any bird nests with evidence of recent use.

If active nests are identified:

A buffer of 5m around this section of vegetation where no pruning work/vegetation removal is undertaken is required to prevent the disturbance of the nesting birds. If clearance works have not been undertaken within 48 hours of the site visit of other sections of vegetation onsite, then a further check will be required in order to assess if any further nests have been constructed for nesting purposes.

The sections of building/vegetation identified as bird nests can only be removed once the chicks have fledged. The nest or until an ecologist deems the nest inactive. This can take a few weeks and will need to be confirmed with a follow up visit from an ecologist.

If no active nests are identified:

Works can commence; however, all site personnel should remain vigilant throughout the construction period for evidence of nesting birds. If clearance works have not been undertaken within 48 hours of the site visit, then a further check will be required in order to assess if any further nests have been constructed for nesting purposes. Furthermore, any further sections to be removed should be checked by a suitably qualified ecologist 24-48 hours before removal.

If an active nest is identified at any stage during the works, activities in the immediate vicinity must cease and a suitably qualified ecologist should be contacted for advice. Works should not recommence in that area until appropriate guidance has been provided to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation.

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Appendix 1: proposed plan





