REPORT OF NESTING BIRD SURVEY

Site Address:	Land at Moseley Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, M14 6PD
Client Name:	NHS Property Services
Reference:	Nesting Bird Check
Date:	20th May 2026

Background

Arbtech Consulting Limited was instructed by NHS Property Services to undertake a Nesting Bird Check at Land at Moseley Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, M14 6PD (hereafter referred to as "the site").

The survey site is centred on National Grid Reference SJ 86355 93958 and has an area of approximately 0.7ha. The site comprises grassland and scattered trees. The site is situated to the southeast of the University of Manchester – Armitage Sports Centre. The surrounding landscape comprises of amenity grassland fields to the north and built-up urban infrastructure to the south and dominating the surrounding landscape. There is tree lined train tracks situated ~100m east of the site. This landscape feature offers opportunities for foraging and refuge whilst aiding dispersal north and south.

The survey was required to ensure no nesting birds would be impacted by the felling of all trees in site in preparation for the proposed development, 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.

Survey Methodology

The nesting bird check survey was completed by David Hill-Chambers MSc (Hons) BSc (Hons), Graduate ecologist on the 20th of May 2026.

All trees were observed from ground level with the aid of binoculars over a 1-hour period from dawn (05:05am), during suitable weather for bird activity, prior to any significant disturbance of the site. The surveyor was positioned to enable full coverage of the trees whilst ensuring that no disturbance

to nesting activity would occur. Survey positions were changes every 10 minutes to ensure complete coverage of the trees. The surveyor was looking for:

- Birds flying repeatedly to and from the nest
- Birds carrying nesting material to the nest
- Birds carrying food to the nest
- Chicks calling from the nest
- Young poking their heads out of the box/nest
- Young leaving the box/nest when they are ready to fledge

Following the observational survey, where no nesting activity had been recorded, the surveyor completed a close-up inspection of all trees using torch light for evidence of feathers, droppings and egg remains that may signal current nesting activity.

Limitations

No limitations were experienced.

Results and Discussion

No nesting activity was observed during the watching brief, with no birds recorded entering or exiting the tree canopies throughout the period of observation. No behaviours indicative of active nesting (such as the transport of nesting material or food, alarm calling, or repeated visits to the nests) were observed.

Recommendations

Works can commence; however, all site personnel should remain vigilant throughout the construction period for evidence of nesting birds. Vegetation, structures, and any areas suitable for nesting should be checked on a daily basis to ensure that no new nests have been established. 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.

The installation of a minimum of two bird boxes retained on mature trees around the site boundaries will provide additional and replacement nesting habitat for birds e.g.

- Schwegler 1B Nest Boxes (trees)
- Schwegler 2H Robin Boxes (trees)
- Woodstone Nest Box (buildings or trees)

Or a similar alternative brand.

Tree boxes should be positioned approximately 3m above ground level where they will be sheltered from prevailing wind, rain and strong sunlight. Small-hole boxes are best placed approximately 1-3m above ground on an area of the tree trunk where foliage will not obscure the entrance hole.

Author
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Reviewer
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Appendix 1

Photos





Images 1&2: *Watching brief position 1 and 2*





Images 3&4: *Watching brief position 2 and an example of the condition of the canopy during the survey*





Images 5&6: *Example of the tree on site*