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## Arboricultural & Ecological Services



SURVEYS, INSPECTIONS, REPORTS

### FORMER RUGBY CLUB WAEN RHUDDLAN RHYL DENBIGHSHIRE LL18 5RS

#### Badger Survey Results

- The Cofnod (Local Ecological Records Centre) website was accessed ([www.cofnod.org.uk](http://www.cofnod.org.uk)) and a Cofnod Data Request [E07584] was made for a data search for Priority Species and designated wildlife sites within a 1km radius of the site. There are records of badgers within 1km radius of the survey site according to the data search.
- No evidence of recent badger activity was observed on site, in the form of setts, latrines, snuffle holes, hairs caught on wire fences etc. The amenity grass (rugby pitches) have some potential for foraging badgers, but no evidence was observed.
- Some low quality trees require felling to facilitate the proposed development, which will result in some limited habitat loss on site. New tree and hedge planting will mitigate for any loss of habitat. There will be no loss of connectivity in the local landscape.
- The predicted impact of the proposed development on bats is low, provided that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented and that Reasonable Avoidance Measures are followed, in order to minimise the impact on locally recorded badgers.
- As no offence is likely to be committed, an NRW Derogation licence is not required.



PRO3755



UK/I 0343A

## Reasonable Avoidance Measures

### Site Induction

- As part of the site induction process, all staff working on site will be made aware of the potential presence of badgers within the immediate landscape, and their status as a UK Protected Species. Badgers are protected in the UK under the Protection of Badgers Act, 1992.
- The toolbox talk will set out what measures are being implemented to avoid affecting badgers.
- Contractors will be instructed to cease work in the unlikely event that they discover a badger within the site, and contact a licenced ecologist. Contact details will be displayed within the site cabin.

### Site clearance

- Prior to the site clearance and commencement of development activity, the site should be re-inspected to check for any evidence of badger activity.

### Construction work

- Where possible, any trenches that need to be excavated should be backfilled on the same day.
- Where trenches have to remain open overnight, they should be covered with plyboard sheets and a sloping access maintained at the ends, to provide a means of escape for any animals that may fall in.
- In the unlikely event that evidence of badger activity is found during development activity, then all works must cease immediately and advice sought from an ecologist.
- All work must be carried out as quickly and quietly as possible.

### Lighting

- Badgers can be disturbed by bright, artificial lighting. Where lighting is essential in the vicinity of the proposed development, subdued lighting should be used and the illumination should be directed downwards. The use of sensor-triggered lighting is preferable to permanent lighting. It is important that the sett and badger tracks are not directly illuminated.

