



ECOLOGICAL ADVICE SERVICE

TO: Rebecca Harrison

FROM: Helen Forster

DATE: 14 August 2023

SUBJECT: Ascot Arms, Gravesend 20230711

The following is provided by Kent County Council's Ecological Advice Service (KCC EAS) for Local Planning Authorities. It is independent, professional advice and is not a comment/position on the application from the county council. It is intended to advise the relevant planning officer(s) on the potential ecological impacts of the planning application and if sufficient/appropriate ecological information has been provided.

Any additional information, queries or comments on this advice that the applicant or other interested parties may have must be directed in every instance to the planning officer, who will seek input from the EAS where appropriate and necessary.

Condition 27 states: *Within six months of works commencing, details of how the development will enhance biodiversity will be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. This will include the recommendations in section 7.0 of the Preliminary Ecological Assessment (Andrew Day Arboricultural Consultancy February 2021). The approved details shall be implemented before the first occupation of the development and thereafter retained.*

We advise that additional information is required prior to determination.

The submitted landscaping plan has confirmed that a native species hedgerow will be created within the site and areas of the grassland will be enhanced with wildflower and bulb plug planting. We are supportive of these proposals but advise that more could be done.

This includes:

- Increasing the number of native species within the site or increasing the number of species which benefit pollinators <https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/search-form>.
- Inclusion of enhancement features within the building and grounds.

If you have any queries regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Helen Forster MCIEEM
Biodiversity Officer

This response was submitted following consideration of the following documents:
Landscape Proposals; PDP; Feb 2021