

Old Manor Drive, Off Echo Square, Gravesend, Kent

Reptile Survey Report

18th August 2025 / Ref No 2025/02/03

Client: Mr J Loker



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1 Introduction

1.1 Background to the Scheme

Following a 'Preliminary Ecological Appraisal'¹ which identified the risk of reptiles being present, KB Ecology Ltd was commissioned to undertake a reptile survey with regards to a proposed development at land off Old Manor Drive, Off Echo Square, Gravesend, DA12 1NP Kent, in support of a planning application for the erection of a detached bungalow.

1.2 Survey Objectives

The purpose of the survey was to assess the likely impact of the scheme on reptiles, and to assist in demonstrating compliance with wildlife legislation and planning policy objectives.

The key objectives of this survey were to:

- Confirm the presence / likely absence of reptile species within suitable terrestrial habitat.
- Provide recommendations for necessary mitigation work.

1.3 Limitations

This report records the potential for fauna evident on the day of the site visit. It does not record any flora or fauna that may appear at other times of the year and, as such, were not evident at the time of visit.

The findings of this report represent the professional opinion of a qualified ecologist and do not constitute professional legal advice. The client may wish to seek professional legal interpretation of the relevant wildlife legislation cited in this document.

2 Methodology

Detailed reptile surveys were undertaken using artificial refuges, in accordance with best practice guidelines (Froglife, 1999). Eight artificial cover objects were installed on 19th May 2025. They were then checked on seven separate occasions in May and June 2025. Numbers of each reptile species were recorded, as well as the air temperature. Naturally occurring refuges were also checked for reptiles, and any additional incidental sightings were also recorded.

Surveys were only undertaken during suitable weather, they were not carried out during wind or rain. They were undertaken by Steve Stanley BSc, who has over ten years of experience in reptile survey and mitigation work.

¹The reader is referred to the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report by KB Ecology Ltd dated 15th June 2025 / Ref No 2025/02/03



3 Legislation

All British native reptiles are listed under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA). This legislation prohibits to:

- Intentionally or deliberately capture, kill or injure a common reptile species (which includes slow worms).
- Sell, barter, exchange, transport or offer for sale reptiles or any part of them.

The Abandonment of Animals Act 1960 (as amended) may also apply when translocation of reptiles are proposed as part of a mitigation strategy. As such, care must be taken to ensure that any receptor sites are suitable for the species in terms of habitat and carrying capacity in order that minimal stress and suffering is imposed upon the reptiles concerned.

4 Results

No reptiles were found on any of the seven surveys undertaken. Table 1 below gives the details of the survey.

Table 1: Results and weather conditions for each survey visit

Reptile survey, Land at Old Manor Drive off Echo Square, Gravesend, DA12 1NP

8 refuges installed on 19th May 2025

Survey	Date	Time	Average Air Temp. deg C:	Wind	Cloud cover, %	Other notes
1	26 May 2025	9:30	16	3	30%	No reptiles
2	29 May 2025	10:00	16	3	50%	No reptiles
3	5 Jun 2025	15:00	15	3	90%	No reptiles- Surveyed after rain.
4	8 Jun 2025	10:00	15	2	70%	No reptiles
5	10 Jun 2025	10:30	16	3	60%	No reptiles
6	13 Jun 2025	9:30	18	1	10%	No reptiles
7	5 Jul 2025	9:30	17	1	0%	No reptiles

5 Recommendations

No reptiles have been found during the seven surveys, therefore reptiles are expected to be absent from the site and no mitigation measures are expected necessary for the species.