



RSK ADAS Ltd
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02 April 2025

Re: Planning Application Response DOC/2025/0004

Having reviewed comments made by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in relation to planning application HPK/2019/0316, received on 10th March 2025, it is understood that additional information has been requested in relation to:

- Invasive non-native species and planning condition 24.

This document also includes the outcome of pre-work nesting bird checks undertaken by ADAS in March 2025.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust response regarding Condition 24. Non-native invasive Species Protocol:

'We have reviewed the Non-native Species Management Plan (ADAS, May 2023). This is based on a 2022 survey and should therefore be updated with a recent site visit to ensure the full extent and all locations of INNS are accurate. The Plan sets out multiple options for management and eradication of each of the species recorded on site but it does not specify which methods will be used. We advise that the Plan should be produced in conjunction with the applicant / developer and the best methods chosen for this particular site. It should state what will be done on the site, not just what the options are. This condition should not be discharged until amendments are made'.

Updated Survey

An updated invasive non-native (INNS) survey was undertaken by ADAS on 20 March 2025 by Senior Ecological Consultant Lydia Waite BSc (Hons) MCIEEM. The site was systematically searched for INNS during the survey. No further stands of Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) were identified. The previously recorded Japanese Knotweed stand to the southwest of the site was not visible during the survey. No vegetation clearance had been undertaken in the area where Japanese Knotweed was previously recorded. Small-leaved Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster microphyllus*) and Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) were present on site, in the same locations as recorded during the preliminary ecological appraisal (ADAS 2022).

Control and Management Prescriptions

Japanese Knotweed

Cube Homes Ltd have stated that the existing stand of Japanese Knotweed will be managed through chemical application in line with the already submitted management plan (ADAS 2023). However, the existing stand of Japanese Knotweed was not visible during the updated survey. It has been recommended and agreed with Cube Homes that this area will be monitored during the 2025 growing season. This area will be considered contaminated and managed in line with the existing management plan in relation to control measures during

construction. Once growth is visible, the stand will be treated through chemical application and monitored in line with the existing management plan.

Rhododendron

Cube Homes Ltd have stated that the existing areas of Rhododendron will be managed through both mechanical and chemical treatments. The stands will be mechanically flailed with the stumps then chemically treated. Stands will be managed and monitored in line with the existing management plan in relation to control measures during construction.

Small-leaved Cotoneaster

Cube Homes Ltd have stated that the existing areas of Small-leaved Cotoneaster will be managed through both mechanical and chemical treatments. The stands will be mechanically cut with the stumps then chemically treated. Stands will be managed and monitored in line with the existing management plan in relation to control measures during construction.

Nesting Bird Checks

A nesting bird check of suitable vegetation and building features was undertaken on 20 March 2025 by Senior Ecological Consultant Lydia Waite BSc (Hons) MCIEEM.

Eight active Jackdaw (*Coloeus monedula*) nests were identified within netting located along the building (B2) eaves. Following discussions with the team on site, there was the suggestion to remove any netting along the eaves which were not currently used by Jackdaw to avoid any further nests being created. This option was explored; however, ruled out as removing any netting between the current nests would compromise the stability and security of the nests present. Therefore, it was agreed that all netting would remain so as to avoid any potential risks. Works to this part of the structure will be delayed until all chicks have confirmed fledged by a suitably qualified ecologist.

All remaining scrub vegetation scheduled for removal was subject to a nesting bird check. No bird nests were recorded in the scrub on site. As such, the area was signed off for removal if undertaken within the succeeding 48 hours.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Fawcett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Simon Fawcett BSc (Hons) MCIEEM
Principal Ecological Consultant