Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) Checklist

CIEEM

ASSOCIATION OF Local Government Ecologists

	EcIA Criteria (to ensure decisions are based on adequate information in accordance with Clauses 6.2 and 8.1 of BS42020:2013)	Yes No n/a	Paragraph reference number(s)
Pre-app/ scope	1. Where pre-application advice has been received from the Local Planning Authority and/or an NGO and/ or statutory body (e.g. NE DAS, NRW DAS)[i], it has been fully accounted for in the EcIA	N/A	
	2. The scope, structure and content of the EcIA is in accordance with published good practiceii, iii and iv	Y	Chapter 2
Surveys, Sites, Species and Habitats	3. Adequatev and up-to-datevi: a. Desk study has been undertaken[vii] b. Phase 1 habitat survey (or equivalent) has been undertaken[vii] c. Phase 2 ecology surveys have been undertaken (where necessary)[viii]	Y	All methods in Chapter 2 of Ecological Appraisal
	4. All statutory and non-statutory sites likely to be significantly affected are clearly and correctly identified	Y	Chapter 3
	5. All protected or priority species and priority habitatsix likely to be significantly affected are clearly and correctly identified, and adequate surveys have been undertaken to inform the baseline	Y	Chapter 5
	6. Any invasive non-native plant species present are clearly and correctly identified	N/A	None on-site
	7. Where a separate PEA Report states that Phase 2 ecology surveys are required, these have been undertaken in full and results submitted with the application (or lack of such surveys is justified)	N/A	Incorporated in Ecological Apprasial
Impacts and Effects	8. The assessment is based on clearly defined development proposals along with relevant drawings/plans (and any plans used are the same version number as those submitted with the application) or 9. The residual ecological effects are considered to be not significant at any geographical scale irrespective of the detailed development proposals, and the assessment is based on a worst-case-scenario	Y	Proposals discussed throughout Ecological Appraisal
	10. The report describes and assesses all likely significant ecological effects (including cumulative effects) clearly stating the geographical scale of significance (where relevant)	Y	Throughout
Mitigation, Compensation and Enhancement	11. The mitigation hierarchy has been clearly followed[x]	Y	Throughout
	12. The report: a. Clearly identifies the proposed mitigation and compensation measures, and explains how these will adequately address all likely significant adverse effects b. Includes, where necessary, proposals for post-construction monitoring c. Recommends how proposed measures may be secured through planning conditions/obligations and/ or necessary licences	Y	Chapter 6
	13. A summary table of proposed mitigation and compensation measures has been provided	N	Detailed in Chapter 6
	14. The need for any mitigation licences required in relation to protected species is clearly identified	N/A	Chapter 5
	15. Proposals to deliver ecological enhancement/Biodiversity Net Gain have been provided	Y	Chapter 6
Competence/Good Practice	16. Limitations[xi] of the ecological work have been correctly identified and the implications explained	Y	2.4
	17. All relevant key timing issues (e.g. site vegetation clearance or roof removal) that may constrain or adversely affect the proposed timing of development have been identified	Y	Chapter 6
	18. All ecological work and surveys accord with published good practice methods and guidelines OR deviation from such guidelines is made clear and fully justified, and the implications for subsequent conclusions and recommendations made explicit in the report[xii]	Y	Chapter 2
	19. All ecologists and surveyors hold appropriate species licences (where relevant) and/or have all necessary competencies to carry out the work undertaken	Y	Chapter 2
Conclusions	20. The report clearly identifies where the proposed development complies with relevant legislation and policy, highlighting any possible non-compliance issues, and highlighting circumstances where a conclusion cannot be drawn as it requires an assessment of non-ecological issues (such as socio-economic ones)	Y	Throughout
	21. The report provides a clear summary of losses and gains for biodiversity, and a justified conclusion of an overall net gain for biodiversity	Y	Chapter 5
	22. Justifiable conclusions[xiii] based on sound professional judgement[xiv] have been drawn as to the significance of effects on any designated site, protected or priority habitat/species or other ecological feature, and a justified scale of significance has been stated	Y	Chapters 3, 4 and 5