



Biodiversity gain plan

Submit a biodiversity gain plan to show how your development will achieve biodiversity net gain.

When to use this form

A biodiversity gain plan shows how a development will achieve 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG). Submit this form to your local planning authority after they approve your planning application.

Unless your development is exempt, you cannot start the development until the LPA approves your biodiversity gain plan and biodiversity metric calculation tool.

1. Submission details

1.1 Date

For example, 3/11/2023

12/05/2026

1.2 Planning application reference number

25/00182/KMBC1

1.3 Local planning authority (LPA)

Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council

1.4 Development site address

If the site does not have an address, enter the OS grid reference.

Halewood Leisure Centre, Baileys Lane, Halewood,
Knowsley, Liverpool, L26 0TY

1.5 Describe the development

Tell us about the proposed development and any changes of use (250 words).

The proposed development comprises the redevelopment and enhancement of Halewood Leisure Centre and associated external areas. The proposals include refurbishment and extension works to the existing leisure centre, reconfiguration of existing hardstanding and parking areas, upgraded pedestrian access and circulation routes, enhancement of the existing artificial grass pitch, and comprehensive soft landscaping works across the site.

The development includes the creation and enhancement of a range of habitats including native hedgerow planting, mixed scrub, introduced shrub planting, rain gardens, ponds with associated marginal planting, urban tree planting, and areas of modified and other neutral grassland. The proposals are supported by a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) to ensure the long-term establishment, management and maintenance of habitats in accordance with the Biodiversity Net Gain assessment for the site.

2. Developer details

2.1 Applicant name

2.2 Company name

2.3 Address

2.4 Email address

2.5 Telephone number

2.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

2.7 Signature

2.8 Date

3. Responsible person details

Tell us about who is responsible for completing the biodiversity gain plan. For example, a consultancy ecologist or planning agent.

3.1 Name

3.2 Company name

Ascerta

3.3 Address

Mere One, Mere Grange, Elton Head Road, St Helens
WA9 5GG

3.4 Email address

3.5 Telephone number

3.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

3.7 Signature

3.8 Date

12/05/2026

4. Biodiversity net gain strategy

4.1 Is the relevant date for the pre-development biodiversity value the same date as the planning application?

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.2 If no, what earlier date did you agree with the LPA?

4.3 How have you met the guidance on 'what counts towards your BNG'?

[Find out what you can count towards a development's BNG](#)

The Biodiversity Net Gain assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. Habitats included within the assessment comprise retained, enhanced and newly created on-site habitats associated with the development proposals. Proposed habitats have been designed to provide measurable biodiversity enhancements through native planting, habitat diversification, urban tree planting, grassland enhancement, ponds and associated wetland planting, native hedgerows and

rain gardens. Habitats which do not meet the requirements of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric have not been included within the biodiversity unit calculations.

4.4 How will you avoid or minimise impacts to habitats?

Tell us about the steps you've taken on site, including to avoid or minimise the impact on irreplaceable habitats.

The development proposals have sought to retain and enhance existing habitats where practicable within the site layout. Existing urban trees and areas of grassland are retained where feasible, with additional habitat enhancement and creation proposed throughout the site. Construction impacts will be managed through implementation of mitigation and protection measures set out within the associated ecological documentation and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP). Long-term management and monitoring prescriptions have been incorporated to support successful habitat establishment and ongoing ecological functionality. No irreplaceable habitats are present within the application site

4.5 Did you use your local nature recovery strategy to inform the strategic significance of habitats?

This includes other specified strategies if you do not have a local nature recovery strategy.

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.6 How will you achieve the target net gain percentage?

☒ On-site

☐ Off-site

☐ Both

4.7 Are any of your on-site enhancements considered 'significant'?

[Find out what counts as a significant on-site enhancement.](#)

☐ Yes

☒ No

4.8 If yes, tell us about the significant on-site enhancements

Include the appropriate planning condition or how you've secured the habitat.

4.9 How many off-site biodiversity units do you need to meet 10% net gain?

4.10 Explain why you're using off-site biodiversity units

Only answer this question if you're planning to use off-site biodiversity units (250 words).

4.11 Explain why you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits

Only answer this question if you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits (250 words).

4.12 Do you have a habitat management and monitoring plan?

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.13 Have you used the statutory biodiversity metric tool?

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.14 Biodiversity metric calculation

Send your biodiversity metric calculation to the LPA and enter the file name.

P.2048.24G Halewood Leisure Centre The_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_Calculation_Tool

4.15 Condition assessments

Send your condition assessments to the LPA and enter the file name.

P.2048.24

4.16 Pre-development habitat survey report and map

Send your baseline habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

P.2048.24.E01D Baseline Habitats - Halewood Leisure Centre

4.17 Post-development habitat map or landscape plan

Send your post-development habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

70119719_WSP_LUD_HLC_DR_LA_006 - P02 (Soft Landscape Strategy)

4.18 Have you included an approved habitat degradation in the baseline?

If yes, include the relevant consenting body and reference number.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Consenting body

Reference number

5. Irreplaceable habitats

5.1 Does the development impact any irreplaceable habitats?

If yes, tell us if you've submitted an approved compensation plan.

☐ Yes

☒ No

5.2 Have you submitted an approved compensation plan?

☐ Yes

☒ No

6. On-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes on-site habitat enhancements.

6.1 Survey date

For example, 3/11/2023

6.2 Survey constraints

For example, access issues, weather, or seasonal constraints.

The survey was undertaken under suitable weather conditions and no significant access constraints were encountered during the habitat survey. Habitats were visible and accessible at the time of survey. The assessment was based on the habitats present at the time of survey and the information available within the submitted landscape proposals and associated ecological documentation.

6.3 Total pre-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

16.54

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

6.4 Total post-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

18.43

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

2.17

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

6.5 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

1.89

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

11.42

Hedgerow biodiversity units

2.17

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

N/A

Watercourse biodiversity units

N/A

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

N/A

6.6 Will you register and allocate any biodiversity units from your site to other developments?

If yes or provisionally, give details.

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.7 Give details

Tell us about the amount of biodiversity units and the development location (250 words).

7. Off-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes off-site habitat enhancements.

7.1 Tell us about the off-site habitat enhancements

Include whether you're delivering the off-site enhancements or buying biodiversity units.

7.2 Biodiversity gain site register reference number

7.3 How have you secured the off-site habitat enhancements?

Tell us about any responsible bodies and whether you've used an S106 or conservation covenant.

7.4 Total baseline biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

7.5 Total biodiversity value post-intervention

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

7.6 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

Hedgerow biodiversity units

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

Watercourse biodiversity units

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

8. Statutory biodiversity credits

Answer this section if you need to use statutory biodiversity credits.

8.1 Do you need to use statutory biodiversity credits?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

8.2 How many statutory biodiversity credits do you need?

Tell us the unit shortfall by tier, including the spatial risk multiplier. Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

A1

A2

A3

A4

A5

H

W

8.3 What evidence is there that no units are available through the market?

Send a message from at least 3 habitat providers, or a search result from online registers.

8.4 Proof of purchase

Send proof of purchase and enter the reference number.

9. Trading summary

9.1 Distinctiveness group

Tell us if you met the BNG trading rules on habitat compensation for each distinctiveness group. If you did not meet the trading rules, tell us if you agreed bespoke habitat compensation.

Check the rules on habitat compensation in the [statutory biodiversity metric user guide](#).

Very high

No very high distinctiveness habitats are present within the baseline or proposed development site. No trading of very high distinctiveness habitats is required.

High

No high distinctiveness habitat losses are proposed. Trading rules for high distinctiveness habitats are satisfied.

Medium

Trading rules for medium distinctiveness habitats are satisfied. Medium distinctiveness habitat units generated on-site are sufficient to offset lower distinctiveness habitat losses in accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric trading rules.

Low

Low distinctiveness habitat losses are offset through the creation and enhancement of habitats of the same or higher distinctiveness on-site. Trading rules for low distinctiveness habitats are satisfied.

10. Sharing data (optional)

10.1 Can we share your ecological survey data with the Local Environmental Records Centre or other bodies?

☐ Yes

☒ No