

Athlone House 3 Condition 12 supplement

Condition 12 states that:

Prior to commencement of works on site, except for preparatory works specifically agreed, a Wildlife conservation management plan shall be submitted to and approved by the Council. This should provide detail on precautionary methods for the protection of habitats and species during construction and in the intervening period between construction and occupation. They shall include all related recommendations for habitat and species protection as set out in the Ecology Statement by CBA hereby approved, including provision of fencing to protect habitats during construction, methods to protect the acid grassland specifically, methods to protect reptiles and amphibians, and other habitats during construction. This condition may be discharged in phases, subject to agreement.

1. The majority of condition 12 has been discharged save that affecting reptiles in the north western part of the site and as noted in para 4.12 of report dated September 2017 revA to discharge condition 12:

As noted above dredging of the existing pond will be undertaken in autumn to avoid harming amphibians in the aquatic phase in spring and summer such as toads (a BAP species), frogs and common newts which form prey for grass snake, and avoid harming hibernating herpetofauna which may be present around the banks in winter. Once available, further details of the works around the pond will be submitted in relation to protection of herpetofauna.

2. Works around the pond in the north western part of the site included the construction of the boat house and small bridge, excavation of small trenches for cables and planting panels, and the restoration of Pulhamite rock features including construction of a small water feature as set out in the historic landscape restoration and landscape proposals.
3. The reptile exclusion fencing was extended from that shown on the Drawing 725/12b to incorporate the potential habitat in the area affected by the works to include the area running along the northern side of the pond outside the woodland
4. These works were undertaken following principles to protect reptiles and amphibians during construction as set out in the September 2017 report. The majority of the works in the north western area were undertaken using hand held tools.
5. In the area affected there were no reported sightings of grass snake during the construction period.