ECOLOGY SURVEY AND REPORT: QUALITY GUIDANCE

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This table provides general guidance only and is not exhaustive. The information is only relevant to initial scoping or Preliminary Ecological Appraisals, conducted to assess a project or sites potential ecological issues.

ECOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT	PRESENT (X/√)
Report control sheet stating: Report name, reference code, date of issue, name and address of ecologist/company, report classification (Draft/final)	
Executive summary setting out the key findings, recommendations (including mitigation) and if further surveys are required	
Introduction providing a description of the proposed project, site name, grid reference, site location plan and date of survey(s).	
Desk study to include use of historic records from Local Records Centre or local wildlife groups. Please note (legal): NBN gateway data must not be used or sited unless it is accompanied by written permission from the source (person or company) of each record used.	
Survey methodology stating guidelines followed with justification for method used, equipment and limitations.	
Site description including particular features of interest and relevant adjoining habitats.	
Survey results including species and habitats found, abundance and condition of species and habitats and weather conditions.	
Map showing records of species and habitats and any technical notes or areas of interest.	
Overall evaluation of the site, habitat and species in their ecological and physical context and according to status in legislation (International, national, regional or local importance).	
Assessment of potential impact(s) of development (to include direct, indirect, construction, ongoing use, short and long term effects) on the site, species and adjoining habitats and how impacts can be avoided, mitigated or compensated for.	
Recommendations including details of proposed mitigation, compensation and enhancement with method statements such as timing, equipment or process details. Each recommendation should clearly defined as additional (non-legal) or compulsory (legal requirement) and specify actions for the agent/developer/applicant in relation to the planning application.	