

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

## CULTURAL HERITAGE

There are up to 12 archaeological remains in the area and we will avoid disturbing them as much as possible. It is anticipated that there will be four which will be slightly affected or neutral effect.

There are six identified historic buildings in the area of which five are predicted to be impacted during the construction of the scheme. After the scheme is complete, the predicted impacts are only slight or neutral for all the properties.

There are five landscape types in the area and we will mitigate any disturbance. It is anticipated that only one landscape type would be affected slightly/neutral. The others will only have neutral effect.

# ECOLOGY

There would be no direct or indirect impacts to designated wildlife sites as a result of the scheme.

Significant impacts to notable, protected species and habitats have been avoided or reduced to insignificant levels for the majority of habitats and species groups.

### **Scattered broad-leaved trees**

Approximately 35 scattered trees, including several mature trees, would be lost. Where felling and significant tree surgery work is required, timber would be used to create dead wood habitat to benefit a variety of species. In addition, the scheme would include the provision of significant areas of species rich native woodland planting, including closely spaced standard trees.

### **Birds**

Significant impacts to wintering birds are anticipated during the construction of the scheme and the adjacent playing fields, largely due to disturbance effects. However, habitats of value for wintering birds within the study area that would be significantly affected by the scheme are limited. Foraging birds would therefore be accommodated within similar unaffected habitat within the remaining study area and wider landscape. New habitat would be created on both sides of the scheme and in a superior quality and quantity to those habitats lost.

### **Barn owls**

No barn owl roosts would be directly lost and precautionary methods of working would reduce or avoid disturbance impacts during construction. Barn owl boxes would be installed a suitable distance from the scheme to address these potential disturbance effects.

To reduce road traffic collisions in sections of the scheme where the road is either elevated or at the same level as the surrounding land, low-level flight across the carriageway would be obstructed through planting of continuous native woodland planting with lines of closely spaced standard trees on both sides of the carriageway and would be maintained to provide a mature screen of over 3.5m high. New habitat creation and long term management immediately adjacent to the carriageway would be aimed at keeping areas unfavourable for small mammal prey to further reduce vehicle collisions as a result of barn owl foraging.





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