Responding to local developments

Planning portals are the best way to respond to live developments, but you can also email the Case Officer/Planning Officer. This will be included in the 'further information' section of the application, but if not, you can ask the council's planning team for this information. Make sure you include the application reference number. Please remember to copy **campaigning@suffolkwildlifetrust.org** into any emails you send.



Hedgehog Street guidance for developers

You can also include a link to Hedgehog Street's guidance booklet for developers.

This is a useful resource as it outlines key ecological facts about hedgehogs that should be considered during planning, how to survey for hedgehogs and minimise disturbance to local populations.

Use the template copy below to respond to a local planning development, calling for hedgehog-friendly measures to be included. If you'd like more tips on responding to developments, please visit Wilder Planning | Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Please note: If you'd like to object to this planning application in greater detail, we advise you to do this as a separate submission to the Hedgehog-Friendly County campaign asks set out below.

[Planning Application Reference/Site Name]

If this planning application is approved, I request that this development includes hedgehog highways (13cm x 13cm gaps in garden boundaries), wildlife-friendly fencing,

native planting, and connected green corridors. Dropped or sloped curbs should also be considered to reduce young hedgehogs being trapped on roads. These are simple, low-cost measures that help prevent habitat fragmentation and support local hedgehog populations.

Delivering these measures not only supports hedgehogs but also delivers on Policy N2 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which states, "To contribute positively to the natural environment, and support nature's recovery, development proposals should … include features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs." I also note that the currently adopted Local Plan supports the inclusion of hedgehog highways.

Hedgehogs are a species of conservation concern, and small changes to development design can make a significant difference to their ability to move between habitats and access food, shelter, and breeding areas.

In line with national and local policy, I expect hedgehog-friendly measures to be included within approved landscaping, boundary, and biodiversity enhancement plans or secured through a suitably worded condition covering ecological enhancement measures. This would support Suffolk Wildlife Trust's vision for a Hedgehog-Friendly County.

[Include a personal element here if possible. Do you see hedgehogs in this area? Do you never see hedgehogs in the area, even if you'd expect them to be there? Are you a wildlife supporter? Keep it short but impactful with 1-2 sentences maximum.]

Thank you for your consideration.

[Name], [Postcode]