



The Ecology Co-op

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Building B, Lords Wood Barns, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 9BS.

Tel: 01798 861 800 - E-Mail: info@ecologyco-op.co.uk - www.ecologyco-op.co.uk

Biodiversity Impact Calculation

**Phase 1 Rickman's Green Village,
Crouchlands Farm, Billingshurst**

Author: Patrick Kitchener MRes

Reviewed by: Owen Crawshaw BSc (Hons), MCIEEM

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The Ecology Co-operation Ltd
Registered Office: Greens Court, West Street, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9NQ
Company number: 8905527



Report Summary

1. The Ecology Co-op was commissioned by Artemis Land and Agriculture Ltd to undertake a Biodiversity Impact Calculation a proposed residential housing development at Rickman's Green Crouchlands Farm, Billingshurst, using the Biodiversity Metric 3.1, to quantify net change in biodiversity. The Ecology Co-op were asked to provide an assessment for Phase 1 development which includes 125 houses.

2. The proposed development scheme for the Phase 1 development of Rickman's Green Village at this site will result in the loss of:

On-site

- Modified grassland – 6.45ha.
- Native species rich hedgerow – 0.09km + 0.02km (total 0.11km)
- Native species rich hedgerow with trees 0.02km

The proposed development scheme at this site will retain:

On-site

- Native species rich hedgerow – 0.46km
- Native species rich hedgerow with trees – 0.11km
- Line of trees – 0.09km

Post intervention the following habitats will be created:

On-site

- Developed land; sealed surface – 2.8ha.
- Allotments – 0.05ha.
- Sustainable urban drainage features – 0.5ha.
- Vegetated garden – 1.2ha.
- Modified grassland – 0.6ha.
- Urban tree – 1.68ha.
- Other woodland – 0.45ha.
- Mixed scrub – 0.45ha.
- Other neutral grassland – 0.4ha.

3. The Biodiversity Impact Calculation has demonstrated that the proposed Phase 1 scheme will result in a likely net gain of 6.72 habitat units (+45.27%). The linear feature calculation for the proposed scheme indicates a likely net gain of 1.11 hedgerow units (+11.19%). All net gains will be achieved within the red line boundary.

4. The current scheme does satisfy the trading rules of the Biodiversity Metric 3.1. The calculation has identified a 'Low Distinctiveness Broad Habitat Deficit' of 14.84 Habitat Units.

5. The Phase 1 development of the Rickmans Green Village does meet, and indeed significantly exceeds the 10% mandatory net gain value set out within the Environment Act 2021.