

Biodiversity gain plan

Submit a biodiversity gain plan to show how your development will achieve biodiversity net gain.

When to use this form

A biodiversity gain plan shows how a development will achieve 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG). Submit this form to your local planning authority after they approve your planning application.

Unless your development is exempt, you cannot start the development until the LPA approves your biodiversity gain plan and biodiversity metric calculation tool.

1. Submission details

1.1 Date

For example, 3/11/2023

1st July 2026

1.2 Planning application reference number

3/2026/0316

1.3 Local planning authority (LPA)

Ribble Valley Borough Council

1.4 Development site address

If the site does not have an address, enter the OS grid reference.

Primrose Nature Reserve, Clitheroe. SD74094123

1.5 Describe the development

Tell us about the proposed development and any changes of use (250 words).

Proposed extension of existing footpath through the northern edge of the nature reserve.

2. Developer details

2.1 Applicant name

Richard Stephenson

2.2 Company name

Primrose Community Nature Trust

2.3 Address

Primrose Studios, Primrose Road, Clitheroe BB7 1DR

2.4 Email address

[REDACTED]

2.5 Telephone number

2.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

2.7 Signature

John Richard Stephenson

2.8 Date

1/7/26

3. Responsible person details

Tell us about who is responsible for completing the biodiversity gain plan. For example, a consultancy ecologist or planning agent.

3.1 Name

Verity Webster

3.2 Company name

Verity Webster Ltd.

3.3 Address

8 Bent Row, Long Lane, Heath Charnock, PR6 9EW

3.4 Email address

[REDACTED]

3.5 Telephone number

07917852401

3.6 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct. Any opinions are your genuine opinions.

3.7 Signature



3.8 Date

30/06/2026

4. Biodiversity net gain strategy

4.1 Is the relevant date for the pre-development biodiversity value the same date as the planning application?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

4.2 If no, what earlier date did you agree with the LPA?

4.3 How have you met the guidance on 'what counts towards your BNG'?

[Find out what you can count towards a development's BNG](#)

Enhancement of 90m² of bramble scrub on-site, enhancement of 60m of Mearley Brook on-site and planting of 19 small trees off-site.

4.4 How will you avoid or minimise impacts to habitats?

Tell us about the steps you've taken on site, including to avoid or minimise the impact on irreplaceable habitats.

Priority habitats including lowland mixed deciduous woodland were avoided. Impacts upon the riparian zone of Mearley Brook were minimised.

4.5 Did you use your local nature recovery strategy to inform the strategic significance of habitats?

This includes other specified strategies if you do not have a local nature recovery strategy.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

4.6 How will you achieve the target net gain percentage?

- ☐ On-site
☐ Off-site
☒ Both

4.7 Are any of your on-site enhancements considered 'significant'?

[Find out what counts as a significant on-site enhancement.](#)

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.8 If yes, tell us about the significant on-site enhancements

Include the appropriate planning condition or how you've secured the habitat.

Planting of 19 small trees is considered significant because they are of moderate distinctiveness. Mixed scrub, enhanced from bramble scrub is also of moderate distinctiveness.

4.9 How many off-site biodiversity units do you need to meet 10% net gain?

0.27

4.10 Explain why you're using off-site biodiversity units

Only answer this question if you're planning to use off-site biodiversity units (250 words).

The off-site units are outside the red line boundary of the site works, but within Primrose Nature Reserve. This alternative space was used because it is a more appropriate place to undertake additional habitat creation.

4.11 Explain why you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits

Only answer this question if you're planning to use statutory biodiversity credits (250 words).

NA

4.12 Do you have a habitat management and monitoring plan?

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.13 Have you used the statutory biodiversity metric tool?

☒ Yes

☐ No

4.14 Biodiversity metric calculation

Send your biodiversity metric calculation to the LPA and enter the file name.

Rev C_Statutory_Metric_Macro_Enabled_1.0.4_Primrose
NR.xlsm

4.15 Condition assessments

Send your condition assessments to the LPA and enter the file name.

Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_Condition_Assessments_-
_July_2025. Primrose NR.xlsx

4.16 Pre-development habitat survey report and map

Send your baseline habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

Primrose NR BNG Rev C_compressed.pdf

4.17 Post-development habitat map or landscape plan

Send your post-development habitat survey report and map to the LPA. Enter the file name.

Primrose NR BNG Rev C_compressed.pdf

4.18 Have you included an approved habitat degradation in the baseline?

If yes, include the relevant consenting body and reference number.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Consenting body

Reference number

5. Irreplaceable habitats

5.1 Does the development impact any irreplaceable habitats?

If yes, tell us if you've submitted an approved compensation plan.

☐ Yes

☒ No

5.2 Have you submitted an approved compensation plan?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. On-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes on-site habitat enhancements.

6.1 Survey date

For example, 3/11/2023

26/02/2026 and 17/04/2026

6.2 Survey constraints

For example, access issues, weather, or seasonal constraints.

The initial survey was undertaken in the winter. A subsequent visit was undertaken in mid-April 2026, specifically to assess the off-site area for Biodiversity Net Gain. However, because species are more conspicuous or only present at some times of the year, some species are likely to have been missed. The species list constructed is not comprehensive. Data from a survey work previously undertaken at the site from the Primrose Community Nature Trust was used to further inform the categorisation of habitats present. Where categorisation is not certain this is indicated and taken into consideration. The data is considered sufficient to inform the appropriate habitat categorisation and recommendations for mitigation in this case given the potential impacts and scope of works.

6.3 Total pre-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

2.32

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.49

6.4 Total post-development biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

2.28

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.55

6.5 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

-0.04

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

-1.57%

Hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

0.00

Watercourse biodiversity units

0.06

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

12.37%

6.6 Will you register and allocate any biodiversity units from your site to other developments?

If yes or provisionally, give details.

☐ Yes

☒ No

6.7 Give details

Tell us about the amount of biodiversity units and the development location (250 words).

7. Off-site habitat enhancements

Answer this section if your development includes off-site habitat enhancements.

7.1 Tell us about the off-site habitat enhancements

Include whether you're delivering the off-site enhancements or buying biodiversity units.

Off-site enhancement will be taking place outside the red line boundary, but within Primrose Nature Reserve.

7.2 Biodiversity gain site register reference number

NA

7.3 How have you secured the off-site habitat enhancements?

Tell us about any responsible bodies and whether you've used an S106 or conservation covenant.

The off-site area is within the ownership and management of Primrose Community Nature Trust.

7.4 Total baseline biodiversity value

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

0.08

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

7.5 Total biodiversity value post-intervention

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Number of area habitat biodiversity units

0.35

Number of hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Number of watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

7.6 Total net change in biodiversity units

Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

Area habitat biodiversity units

0.27

Area habitat biodiversity units % change

342.94%

Hedgerow biodiversity units

0.00

Hedgerow biodiversity units % change

0.00

Watercourse biodiversity units

0.00

Watercourse biodiversity units % change

0.00

8. Statutory biodiversity credits

Answer this section if you need to use statutory biodiversity credits.

8.1 Do you need to use statutory biodiversity credits?

☐ Yes

☒ No

8.2 How many statutory biodiversity credits do you need?

Tell us the unit shortfall by tier, including the spatial risk multiplier. Enter the number from the headline results in your statutory biodiversity metric calculation.

A1

A2

A3

A4

A5

H

W

8.3 What evidence is there that no units are available through the market?

Send a message from at least 3 habitat providers, or a search result from online registers.

8.4 Proof of purchase

Send proof of purchase and enter the reference number.

9. Trading summary

9.1 Distinctiveness group

Tell us if you met the BNG trading rules on habitat compensation for each distinctiveness group. If you did not meet the trading rules, tell us if you agreed bespoke habitat compensation.

Check the rules on habitat compensation in the [statutory biodiversity metric user guide](#).

Very high

NA

High

Yes

Medium

Yes

Low

Yes

10. Sharing data (optional)

10.1 Can we share your ecological survey data with the Local Environmental Records Centre or other bodies?

☒ Yes

☐ No