

# Biodiversity net gain statement

The purpose of this form is to show how your development has considered biodiversity net gain.

## When to use this form

A biodiversity gain statement shows how a development may achieve 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG). Submit this form as part of your planning application. All parts of this form must be completed (unless directed by the form to skip ahead) and all supporting documents must be provided.

Parts of the form identified by an \* represent “Statutory minimum information” outlined in Article 7 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

## 1. Submission details

### 1.1 Date

For example, 3/11/2023

### 1.2 Development site address

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

### 1.3 Describe the development

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

## 2. Developer details

### 2.1 Applicant name

### 2.2 Company name(if applicable)

### 2.3 Address

### 2.4 Email address

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### 2.5 Telephone number

## 3. Responsible person details

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

### 3.1 Name

### 3.2 Company name

### 3.3 Address

### 3.4 Email address

### 3.5 Telephone number

### 3.6 Relevant Qualifications and competency

of the person carrying out the assessment.

### 3.7 Declaration

By signing this declaration, you confirm that the information you give is complete and correct.

Signature:

3.8 Date

## 4 Biodiversity net gain exemption

4.1\* Do you believe this application is exempt from statutory biodiversity net gain? Yes – Proceed to 4.2 No - Proceed to section 5

4.2\* Which exemption best applies to your application?

**Small sites (exempt from statutory net gain requirements until 2nd April 2024) – Proceed to 4.3**

Developments below the size threshold and not impacting a priority habitat – Proceed to 4.4 Householder applications – Proceed to 4.7 Self-build and custom build applications - Proceed to 4.7 Biodiversity gain site – Proceed to Section 5

4.3 Is your development classed as a small site?

Small sites are where the number of dwellings is between one and nine, or if this is unknown, the site area is less than 0.5 hectares and for non-residential where the floor space to be created is less than 1,000 square metres or the total site area is less than one hectare. Small sites are exempt until 2nd April 2024. Yes – Proceed to 4.7 No – Proceed to Section 5

4.4 Have all habitats (including urban) with a distinctiveness score above 0 been assessed/considered when making this judgement?

This includes, but is not limited to, ivy covered walls, planters, and vacant/derelict land.

Yes

No

4.5 Has habitat degradation since January 2020 been considered when making this judgement?

Yes

No

4.6 Is your application likely to have a negative impact on habitat outside of the red line boundary?

Yes

No

4.7\* Explain why you believe that this development is exempt from Biodiversity Net Gain

If exempt, please submit form, please do not continue

## 5. Biodiversity net gain baseline

5.1\* Is the relevant date for the pre-development biodiversity value the same date as the planning application? Yes - Proceed to 5.4 No - Proceed to 5.2

5.2\* If no, what date have you put?

5.3\* Explain why your relevant date is different to the planning application date.

5.4\* Is there any evidence of habitat degradation that has taken place on site since January 2020? Yes - Proceed to 5.5 No – Proceed to 5.6

5.5\* Describe the nature of the degradation and how this has been factored into your application.

5.6\* Does the site (or did the site prior to degradation) have any Irreplaceable Habitats? Yes - Proceed to 5.7 No – Proceed to 5.9

5.7\* Describe the type and conditions irreplaceable habitats that are (were) present.

5.8\* Confirm you have used the statutory biodiversity metric tool?

Use small site metric when appropriate.

Yes

No

## 6. Biodiversity net gain post development

6.1 Confirm you have added post development details to the metric tool submitted with this application.

Yes

No

6.3 Will the development have any negative impact on irreplaceable habitats? Including individual ancient/veteran trees.

Yes

No

6.6 How do you foresee achieving the required (10%) net gain percentage?

On-site – Proceed to 6.7 Off-site – Proceed to section 7 Both – Proceed to 6.7 then Section 7

6.7 Does your application include any on-site habitat enhancements/creations that could be considered 'significant'?

For more information as to what is considered significant, please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/make-on-site-biodiversity-gains-as-a-developer> Yes - Proceed to 6.8 No - Proceed to section 7

6.8 Tell us about the significant on-site enhancements/creations.

Which parcels does significance apply to, what total units and % gain is made up by these parcels. Do any of these have a high/very high difficulty level in achieving, if so, how will you manage it?

## 7. Biodiversity net gain post development – Off-site

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

7.1 **Explain why you are using off-site biodiversity units.**

Ensure you make reference to the Biodiversity Gain Hierarchy and the NPPF Mitigation Hierarchy

7.2 **Have you (preliminarily) secured off-site units?** Yes – Proceed to 7.3  
No

7.3 **Confirm you have added proposed off-site gains to the metric tool submitted with this application.**

Yes

No

7.4 **Which option best describes the location of your off-site provision?**

National character areas can be found at National Character Area profiles - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Within Colchester and same National Character area

Within a neighbouring LPA or neighbouring National Character area

Not within the same or neighbouring LPA or National Character area

7.5 **Provide the exact location and details of the off-site provision.**

7.4 **Provide details of the off-site provider.**

Name

Email address

Telephone number

## 8.0 **Document checklist**

+ Completed biodiversity Metric (as excel file type) – pre- and post-development.

+ a plan, drawn to an identified scale which must show the direction of North, showing onsite habitat existing on the date of application (or and earlier date), including any irreplaceable habitat.

+ draft BNG plan.

**Please Save this completed form in a .doc, .docx or .pdf format and submit with your planning application.**