

## 4.19 WILDLIFE & ECOLOGY POLICY

### 1. General Statement

This policy is a statement of the intent of the Managing Director and shall apply to all operations and worksites managed by Homegrown Timber Group. This policy supplements our Environmental Policy by focusing on wildlife and habitat protection:

- Notwithstanding the requirement for hazard identification and risk minimisation, wildlife and ecology local to our worksite shall not suffer harm as a result of our undertakings. In particular we shall be vigilant as to the presence of European protected species, bats and nesting birds.
- European protected species are covered by the following legislations:
  - The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
  - The Conservation (natural habitats regulations 1994) (as amended)
  - Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) 2000
- Prior to commencing work on site, a wildlife disturbance assessment shall be completed where there is deemed to be a risk of disturbing a protected species
- Work methods shall be planned that shall reduce the environmental risk to a level which is as low as reasonably practicable.
- The company shall ensure that the working culture encourages constructive conservation.
- Appropriate advice shall be sought from qualified ecologists or other specialists if specific environmental interface issues are identified before, during or after operations.
- We are committed to complying with all applicable legal requirements
- In order to meet this commitment, HTG shall pursue the following objectives:
  - To ensure compliance with all applicable wildlife and ecological legislation and guidance
  - Be prepared to deal with the demands of future legislative developments
  - To ensure that the working culture encourages constructive conservation
  - To assist in the management of ecology
  - To identify and safeguard wildlife
  - Promote the re-use of waste materials, processing waste wood into green waste compost or as wood chip.
  - Use pesticides following best industry practice and in accordance with the relevant legislation

Employees shall be briefed and trained on wildlife and ecological practice in the field and clients shall be actively encouraged to take advantage of our commitment to constructive conservation.

This policy shall be communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of the company.

This policy will be regularly reviewed (minimum annually).

Signed on behalf of Homegrown Timber Group



Timothy Lawrance  
Managing Director  
June 2023

Review Date: June 2024