

Project Pinewood

A Worked Example of How Offsetting Methodology Has Been Applied

Neil Harwood





Strategy Approach

- 45 hectare site on green belt land; huge challenge for planning
- Goal of offsetting reflected in project's sustainability objectives
- Ambitious project KPIs:
 - Preservation of key ecological features on site
 - Maintenance of ecological connectivity across site and beyond
 - To achieve no net loss in biodiversity, preferably gain



Strategy Methodology

- Establish baseline-apply mitigation hierarchy-identify residual impacts
- Quantitative assessment of impacts to habitats: 'area x quality'
- Function also considered e.g. hedgerow gaps
- Professional judgement for species assessments: likely residual population



Strategy Results

- Additional measures required off-site to offset residual losses
- Consultation and development of short-list of offset sites
- Focus on habitats easy to successfully create and quick to mature
- Need for link with wider areas: strategic green infrastructure