Wildlife & Ecology Policy



Valuing Diversity

Man Coed VM Ltd is committed to complying with relevant legislation and guidance in respect of wildlife, living organisms, ecosystems and biodiversity including statutory protected species and nature conservation resources.

All staff, direct and indirect will receive training, which includes a session on awareness of potential interactions with flora and fauna, and responsibilities in respect of the environment.

Man Coed VM undertakes to assign appropriate economic value to protecting wildlife and ecosystems from its operations in the natural environment and with respect to the rarity and vulnerability of certain elements of biodiversity and habitats.

Statutory Designated Nature Conservation Sites

The Man Coed VM surveying and planning process will include appropriate enquiries and searches to be undertaken to establish whether the working area and/or any potential off-road vehicular access route(s) to it are subject to any statutory nature conservation designations for features of national or international importance. Man Coed VM Ltd Health & Safety Instruction HSI013 has been developed and will be applied with respect to:

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- National Nature Reserves (NNRs)
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
- Special Areas for Conservation (SACs)
- RAMSAR Sites.

Statutory Protected Species

These species occur widely, and their presence is not in any way limited to designated sites or areas of 'wilderness'. Commonly encountered species in this category include bats, badgers, water voles, Dore mice and newts etc. In many cases, the legislation includes the protection from damage of the animal's place of shelter and obstruction of access to it.

Man Coed VM will implement procedures with respect to the initial site survey and walkover to ensure that staff are equipped to search for species including protected species are present/suspected.

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Biosecurity

Man Coed VM will conduct its operations with respect to preventing the spread of harmful organisms, invasive species, including pests and diseases, invertebrates and pathogens by:

- Employees and sub-contractors undertaking tree or grounds maintenance work shall consider biosecurity as part of the risk assessment process and adopt appropriate control measures for the risk(s) identified.
- Those persons undertaking work around trees or during ground maintenance operations have a responsibility to implement routine biosecurity control measures for all sites and specific measures for higher risk sites highlighted and this should include the cleaning and disinfection of clothing, PPE, tools, plant and vehicles.
- Arboricultural operations such as pruning, felling and planting shall be planned, managed and supervised to minimise the movement of arisings and soil. All arisings shall be disposed of appropriately.
- All persons undertaking Arboricultural and/or grounds maintenance work shall understand and implement biosecurity measures appropriate to the operations and circumstances on site. Training, guidance and supervision will be provided where necessary.
- Where Man Coed VM is planning to carry out planting schemes, we will aim to source home grown and nursed specimens to avoid directly imported stock to reduce the risk of introducing pests and diseases. Reasonable steps will be taken with our supply chain to ensure that trees and associated soils supplied are free from pests and diseases.



Michael Findlow

Man Coed VM Director of Health & Safety

Date: 02/01/2018

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