



Insightful

# **Ecological Advice**

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Capability Statement

# Who we are

**STANTEC IS A TOP TIER GLOBAL CONSULTANCY. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH OUR CLIENTS AND COMMUNITIES IN THE UK FOR OVER 150 YEARS.**

We have consistently been at the forefront of planning, design and delivery of infrastructure and development in the UK.

With offices across the UK, Stantec has a strong reputation for its work with public and private sector clients on a diverse range of high-profile infrastructure and development projects.



# Stantec in the UK

**1700**  
INFRASTRUCTURE, BUILDINGS,  
WATER & ENERGY

**40**  
PLANNING SERVICES

**250**  
ENVIRONMENT &  
SUSTAINABILITY SERVICES

**200**  
CIVIL ENGINEERING

**160**  
TRANSPORT PLANNING

**95**  
BUILDING STRUCTURES  
& UTILITY SERVICES

# How can we help?

## **GROWING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS THAT THE NATURAL WORLD PROVIDES, ALONG WITH CURRENT PRESSURES FACING OUR NATIVE HABITATS AND SPECIES, INCREASINGLY PUTS ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR CLIENT'S PROJECTS.**

Our award-winning ecology team provides trusted consultancy advice to clients pursuing and delivering infrastructure and land development projects. We work collaboratively with colleagues, clients and stakeholders throughout the planning lifecycle to provide effective and innovative advice that results in high quality practical outcomes, benefiting biodiversity and business alike.

By collaborating across our technical teams, opportunities for improvement and enhancement of the natural world are explored at each stage of the lifecycle of a project. We work with colleagues including landscape architects, hydrologists, acousticians and air quality scientists to ensure projects deliver the best outcomes.

## **KEY SERVICES:**

### **ECOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT & HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT**

- We are experts in undertaking EclA and HRA and have a strong track record of delivering high quality assessments for a range of projects.
- We have extensive experience in consulting with planning authorities, statutory nature conservation bodies, and other stakeholders, to ensure successful consenting of projects.

### **ECOLOGICAL SITE SURVEYS AND LICENSING**

- We undertake the full range of ecological surveys, from initial site appraisal to inform project feasibility and viability, through detailed baseline surveys to inform Ecological Impact Assessments, support mitigation licensing, where required and determine and undertake post-construction monitoring.

### **LAND ASSET BIODIVERSITY CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REVIEW**

We offer consultancy advice to clients looking for proportionate ecological assessment and advice that:

- is proactive in guiding site viability
- informs masterplan designs that deliver genuine biodiversity enhancement, and
- can be used to promote site allocation in the Local Plan process.

### **BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENTS**

- Extensive experience in using baseline habitat data and masterplan designs to calculate the biodiversity balance of projects.
- We work with clients and colleagues across the project team to ensure protection and creation of high-quality habitats to support delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain.

# Project Experience

## BEACONSFIELD EASTERN RELIEF ROAD

**CLIENT:** Buckinghamshire County Council  
**LOCATION:** Buckinghamshire

The relief road project aims to support sustainable economic growth in Buckinghamshire by reducing congestion and journey times to the M40, as well as improving north/south transport connectivity.

Collaboration was key to the project. The successful identification and delivery of innovation through ecological mitigation and enhancement was achieved through Stantec's ecologists working together with the arboricultural consultants, engineers, landscape designers, contractors and the councils' ecological advisors.

This included a novel and innovative design for the drainage system which provides an effective drainage design in addition to ponds that offer enhanced habitat opportunities for great crested newts.

Stantec supported the project team through the design process by identifying opportunities for biodiversity enhancement to ensure the project delivered Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), evidenced through calculations using the Defra Metric methodology.

Our work was 'Commended' at the CIEEM Awards 2020 (Best Practice: Large-scale Mitigation category), and shortlisted at the IEMA Sustainability Awards 2020 (Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain category).



**“Against sometimes seemingly insurmountable challenges they have been innovative, collaborative, responsible and professional in their efforts to secure the best outcome for the project. They have always been happy to answer calls to explain sometimes very technical matters in laymen’s terms so that the project team could take informed decisions.”**

**Ulrika Diallo Lead Officer - Regeneration and Infrastructure. Transport, Economy & Environment. Buckinghamshire County Council**





## CONNAUGHT BARRACKS

**CLIENT:** Homes England

**LOCATION:** Dover

We were appointed to provide ecological consultancy advice to facilitate the regeneration of the Connaught Barracks site in Dover, as part of the accelerated construction programme.

The site was one of five across the country to receive a share of £1.2 billion from the treasury to build 30,000 start homes by 2020. Due to the complexities of demolition and utilities work, the site was considered too challenging for private developers.

The most significant constraint to development related to numerous bat roosts in derelict buildings, the demolition of which needed to occur under licence from Natural England.

Stantec led the submission of a derogation licence application and extensive liaison with Natural England via their licence pre-screening service. This centered around the relatively unusual planning context of the demolition works.

The agreed resolution negotiated with Natural England was the requirement to have a legal agreement in place, in lieu of planning consent, to secure the delivery of bat roost compensation measures in the long-term.

We provided input to a NERC Act Agreement and led the liaison with Natural England officers and the legal team. A licence was successfully secured in advance of demolition works commencing.



## GREEN PARK

**CLIENT:** Green Park

**LOCATION:** Reading

Stantec was commissioned to produce a bespoke Ecological Management Plan (EMP) for the Green Park business park in Reading. The EMP defined the five-year objectives for Green Park's habitat management and set targets for Biodiversity Performance Indicators (BPI) against which the objectives would be annually tested and subsequently.

The principles of sustainable development are inherent to the EMP, including using arisings from tree management works for log piles, clippings from grass cuttings for grass snake egg-laying sites.

Overall, the EMP and associated management practices that are financially and environmentally sustainable, repeatable in the long term and measurable.

On the back of the EMP and its implementation, Green Park was the first business park to achieve the Wildlife Trust's (WT) Biodiversity Benchmark Award.

The EMP, in combination with other documents was described by the WT Auditor as an "excellent biodiversity management system."







**“In Barratt dealings we have found the team to be very organised, professional, focused, honest and quick to act. They provide pragmatic advice tailored exactly to the client and site’s ongoing complex needs. They are very informative on the importance of ecology and the understanding of biodiversity, and how it can be effectively managed and development mitigated.”**

**Barratt London (2021)**

## **WEST HENDON**

**CLIENT:** Barratt London

**LOCATION:** Barnet, London

Barratt London is working with the London Borough of Barnet to regenerate the West Hendon Estate, providing 2,000 high quality private and affordable homes, vibrant open space, new road infrastructure and community facilities, transforming the area and providing benefits for residents of the Estate and wider Hendon community.

The Estate is adjacent to Brent Reservoir SSSI which is of national importance for breeding and wintering waterfowl. Concerns that demolition, construction and recreational activities would erode the use of the reservoir by key species were voiced by Natural England, local wildlife groups and residents at an early stage.

Stantec’s ecology have worked with stakeholders to develop effective design and monitoring measures which helped to secure the hybrid consent and subsequent Reserved Matters applications.

Stantec continue to support Barratt London in relation to works within and adjacent to the SSSI through consultation with Natural England.



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Communities are fundamental. Whether around the corner or across the globe, they provide a foundation, a sense of place and of belonging. That's why at Stantec, we always design with community in mind.

We care about the communities we serve—because they're our communities too. This allows us to assess what's needed and connect our expertise, to appreciate nuances and envision what's never been considered, to bring together diverse perspectives so we can collaborate toward a shared success.

We're designers, engineers, scientists, and project managers, innovating together at the intersection of community, creativity, and client relationships. Balancing these priorities results in projects that advance the quality of life in communities across the globe.

Stantec trades on the TSX and the NYSE under the symbol STN. Visit us at [stantec.com](http://stantec.com) or find us on social media.

**Design with community in mind**