



**Green&BlueBuild**

**On a mission to make  
homes havens for wildlife**







With planning policy beginning to stipulate that new builds include provision for nature, and as Biodiversity Net Gain becomes an established part of the National Planning Policy Framework, creating habitat for wildlife is becoming an essential part of any build.

As a British company with a vision of reconnecting people with nature, Green&Blue would love to be your partner in making your next building project a haven for wildlife.

- **Award winning**
- **Made in England**
- **Designed with experts**
- **Made to British brick and block sizes**
- **Made from up to 75% recycled material**
- **Easy to install**
- **Contribute to planning requirements**
- **An essential part of your marketing message**

The Green&Blue range is designed with a very clear purpose, to make homes havens for wildlife.

Our range of habitat products are designed to create safe nesting and resting spaces for bees, bats, swifts, sparrows, hedgehogs and more, working with you to ensure nature is considered and prioritised.



“The very reason we set up the Innovation Awards was to find and promote initiatives like Green&Blue’s Bee Brick<sup>®</sup>. We couldn’t be more excited that such a fantastic idea has won. Innovation is at the heart of what the Soil Association does, and it is a privilege to be able to support pioneering ideas like the Bee Brick<sup>®</sup> and to see so many people join in by voting.”

Tom MacMillan, Director of Innovation at the Soil Association.





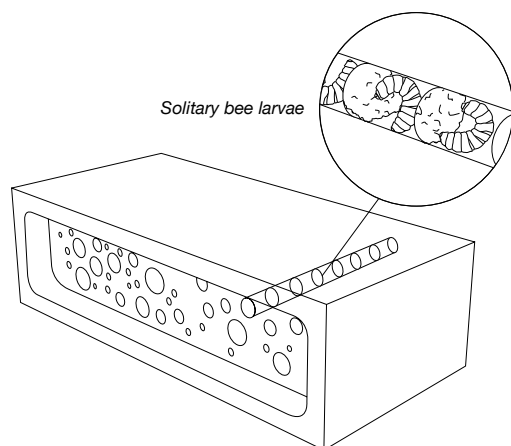
# Bee Brick®

The Bee Brick® has been designed to provide a safe nesting place for solitary bees both within gardens and within the built environment.

Around 90% of our bee species in the UK are solitary bees and they carry out vital pollination work, yet loss of habitat, alongside other factors such as intensive farming methods, has resulted in declining populations.

Bee Brick can be installed in place of a standard brick or block and introduces nesting cavities for these vital pollinators.

Due to foraging distances of solitary bees we recommend one Bee Brick per M<sup>2</sup> of bee friendly planting.



## KEY FEATURES:

- Bee Bricks are solid at the back so no bees enter the cavity wall.
- Standard UK brick size
- Available in a choice of colours to suit your project
- British made
- Bee Bricks are not the kind of nesting site that suit wasps.
- Made from concrete so will not rot or deteriorate.
- Solitary bees do not swarm and most have no sting so they are safe to watch and to encourage.

## POSITIONING:

- Bee Bricks should be installed on a south facing wall, in plenty of warm sunshine.
- Bee Bricks should be located at least 1 metre from ground level with no upward limit.
- Ensure no vegetation obstructs the fascia of a Bee Brick.
- Solitary bees will only forage for approx 100m so you must ensure there are good sources of bee friendly planting nearby. (search planting guides on our website)
- If you wish to clean or offer maintenance guides for Bee Brick you can find instructions on our website - just search 'how to clean'.

“Buglife think the Bee Brick is a brilliant modern way to cater for our pollinators who once nested in old crumbling cement. They can be used to create attractive pollinator hubs in your building.”

Paul Hetherington, Buglife

# Building In Biodiversity

In 2020 Brighton and Hove Council updated planning regulations to make Bee Bricks and swift houses compulsory for new builds and certain types of extensions in Brighton and Hove. Compulsory regulations make everything easier for the planning officers so a winning outcome all round.

The councillor who led the project is keen that these changes are part of a bigger picture to eventually include hedgehog highways, bird feeders, bat boxes and of course pollinator-friendly planting, which will all contribute to improving a system that, as it stands, is just not functioning to protect the environment.

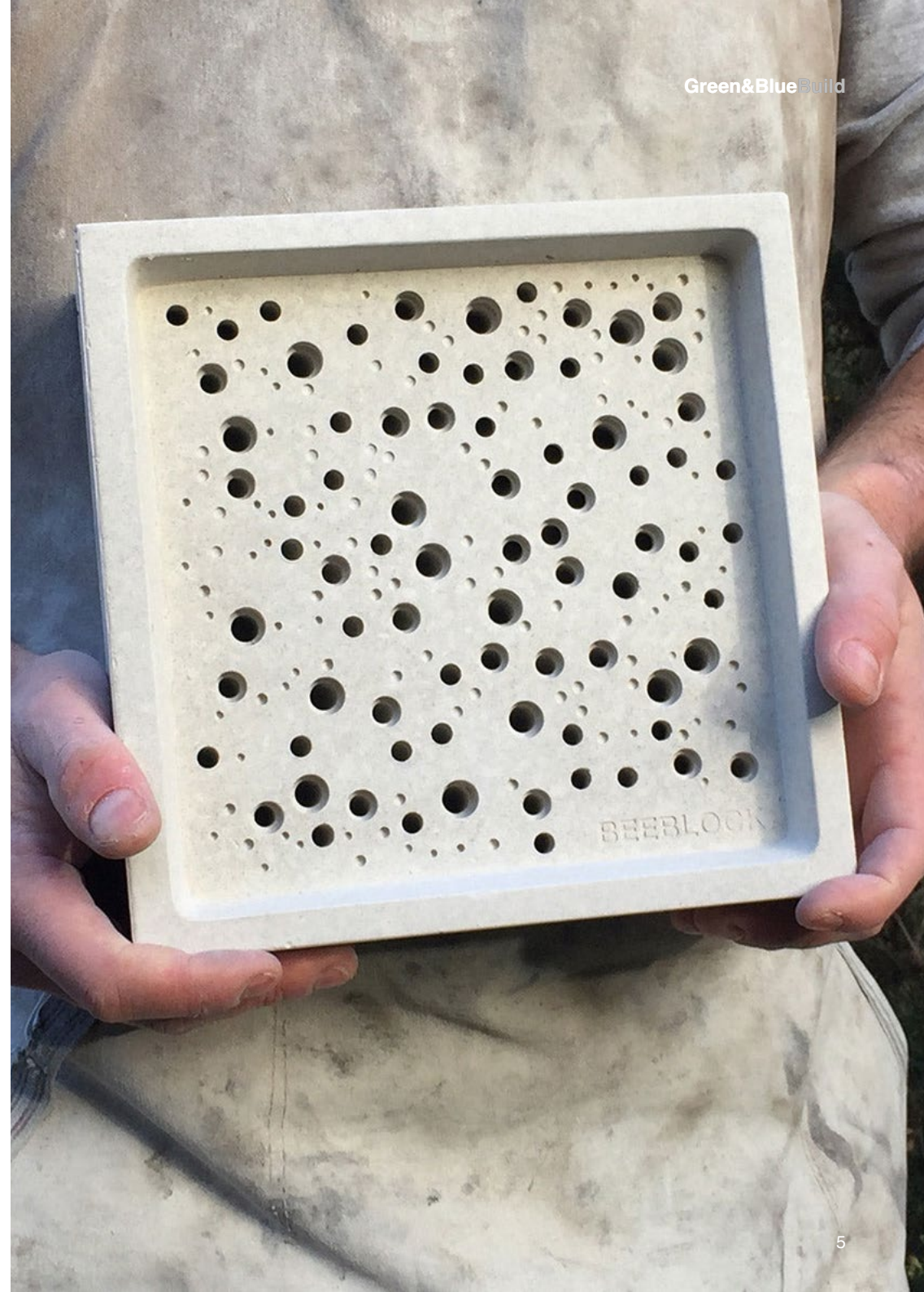
“This is just the start, people understandably have reservations, but the dream is that people will embrace the ideas. A few Bee Bricks won’t be enough, we need to roll out 100s and for people to fall in love with them and plant accordingly. I have seen enough Bee Bricks working for solitary bees to know that this is the way forward.”

Cllr Robert Nemeth, Brighton and Hove.

In 2022 a tweet about the planning change went viral which led to over 100 councillors from all around the UK emailing to ask how they can do this in their area, in addition to 1000s tagged on social media by constituents asking their representative to make the same changes.

This shows the public appetite for these measures and for protecting our wildlife species, and that increasingly habitat is going to be a requirement of planning.

[READ THE FULL STORY](#)







The Bee Brick range includes varying shapes and sizes to suit a variety of build projects or landscaping designs. From blocks for building to the sculptural beauty of the Beepost, you can make a real statement of your commitment to protecting nature within your project.

The beautiful Beepost is 2.3m tall, with at least 30cm designed to be set into the ground. The Beepost is a piece of sculptural beauty designed to be brought to life by nesting bees during the summer months.





## **SOLITARY BEES**

There are more than 250 species of solitary bees living in Britain, named solitary bees because they do not live in colonies like honeybees and bumblebees. Bees are responsible for pollinating around a third of all crops which is what makes them so vital globally.

Solitary bees are a non-aggressive species, meaning they are safe to encourage into your garden without worrying about children or pets, they have no honey or queen to protect. The females will only sting if handled roughly or if stepped on and most males have no sting.

## **UNDER THREAT**

Bee populations are facing decline and one of the biggest contributions to this is habitat loss. As farming has become more intensive more hedgerows have been lost, hedgerows which used to provide rich habitat for a number of species. They are also threatened by the use of pesticides and by less land given over to meadows and wildflowers. Already in parts of China, pollination is being undertaken by hand, using paintbrushes, because there are simply not the bees to do the job.

## **SOLUTIONS**

We must work to halt and reverse this decline because solitary bees are so essential for pollination. We need to design gardens which are bee friendly, with considered planting. We need to make consideration for biodiversity a starting point for developments rather than an afterthought. By implementing measures such as Bee Brick<sup>®</sup> we can begin to incorporate habitat into manmade environments that would otherwise be lost to wildlife.



# Bat Block

The Bat Block bat brick is designed to create habitat for crevice dwelling bats within the framework of new builds. A simple, stylish way to help protect our bat species and provide hibernation or maternity roosting space for them.

## KEY FEATURES:

- Features an internal FSC certified wooden panel
- Small entrance space to deter larger birds and predators
- Standard UK block size
- British made
- Replicates natural habitat
- Requires no maintenance

## POSITIONING:

- Position South or West facing for summer maternity roost or north facing for winter hibernation.
- Consider bat friendly planting and linear features like hedgerows which aid bats navigation
- Position at least 4m up from ground level
- Position away from windows, doors and climbing plants to avoid predation



Bat  
Conservation  
Trust



10% of all sales from the Green&Blue Bat Block go to the Bat Conservation Trust via their roost scheme. [More info here.](#)



# Protecting swifts

In recent years swifts have been classified in the UK as red under the Birds of Conservation Concern (the Red List for Birds 2021.) We are in danger of losing them from our skies but we can reverse this decline by ensuring that all developments and buildings include specially designed nestboxes.

The Green&Blue range includes several options for swifts depending on your build. The integrated SwiftBlock is designed to be fitted into the external leaf of a new build in place of a standard block or brick whilst the SwiftLoft can be installed or retrofitted into the soffit/fascia area of a property. The Green&Blue range also includes a SwiftBlock which can be surface mounted to an existing property.



## KEY FEATURES:

- Swift nest boxes feature an internal nesting bowl
- Standard UK block sizes
- British made
- Requires no maintenance
- Can suit other species like sparrows

## POSITIONING:

- Position on the shadiest side of a building
- Position at least 5m up from ground level
- Position away from windows, doors and climbing plants to avoid predation
- Place with clear adjacent access to allow for high speed, direct flight entry





With many garden birds facing declining numbers, you can make sure you do you best to help and to support increasing biodiversity on your build by installing bird boxes for various species, alongside other wildlife friendly measures like ponds, trees and considered planting schemes.

Alongside swift nestboxes the Green&Blue range includes sparrow nestboxes and the Bird Block, designed for small garden birds like bluetits.

- Products to be built in or retrofitted
- Nest boxes for swifts, sparrows and small garden birds like bluetits
- British made
- Easy to use
- Designed to suit your build aesthetic





# Hedgehog Link

Hedgehogs are one of the UK's best-loved mammals but their numbers have been in decline for over two decades, being classified as vulnerable to extinction in 2020. A few simple adjustments to the way we build and the way we connect our gardens could have a serious impact on reversing this decline.

The Green&Blue Hedgehog link provides the perfect finish to a hole cut into a fence, allowing hedgehogs the right to roam, and thus increasing their foraging area. The Hedgehog link is designed to connect communities as well as gardens, creating a focal point for education and awareness around these beloved mammals.







## Finishing touches

With wildlife species declining at alarming rates across the board, it's key that we recognise the role construction can play in reversing these declines and creating habitat for wildlife.

Green&Blue can support you with advice on the best habitat you can create within your project. We can also supply a range of products designed to support nature beyond habitat, with a range of British made bird feeders, bird tables and bird baths to complement your build and support the natural world.





## Homebuyer gifts

If you've missed the chance to include habitat for nature within your development, or if you'd like to go even further, then the Green&Blue range includes a selection of products perfect to gift to new homebuyers, or to accessorise gardens for nature. From Beepot planters to mini Bee Cells for solitary bees and from beautiful birdfeeders to selections of seeds for nature, contact us to discuss your requirements and we can put a selection together for you.

Just one more way we can work together to make your home a haven for wildlife.







# Contact

Contact Green&Blue today to discuss how we can work together to make space for nature.

Visit our website at [greenandblue.co.uk/build](https://greenandblue.co.uk/build)

Call us on +44 (0)1872 858658

Email us on [info@greenandblue.co.uk](mailto:info@greenandblue.co.uk)

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