

# Petitioner submission of 21 October 2021

## PE1888/D - Full legal protection for hedgehogs and moles

It has been asked why protection for moles? This species emerges from beneath the ground once a year for mating purposes and is at lesser risk then. They construct a complex series of horizontal and vertical tunnels which helps them get to their sole food supply that is earthworms.

With so much construction work taking place what is happening without it being realized is the moles have to work very hard to reconstruct their tunnels. Their lifespan at best is not long.

Wind turbines also pose a risk to the construction stage. Vertical columns are trenched and depending on the depth of tunnel beneath the surface, they could also damage tunnels. Moles need tunnels and protection.

Hedgehogs also need greater protection their greatest danger at this time is flooding. They're good swimmers but cannot easily get out of water so keep on swimming until exhausted and they drown.

The British hedgehog preservation society monitor all throughout the United Kingdom and if considering that, any of the species are in danger or risk from extinction, it is firmly my belief that hedgehogs given the protection they deserve.