



Western Bridge and Link Road (WBLR) Phase 3 (Brookleigh, Burgess Hill)

Ecological Impact Assessment Report

January 2025

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		S3	Review & Comment
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1. Introduction

Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Ltd (Waterman) was commissioned by Jackson Civil Engineering Group Ltd on behalf of Homes England (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') to carry out an updated Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) and Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) of Phase 3 of the Western Bridge and Link Road (WBLR), Burgess Hill, Sussex (hereafter referred to as the 'Site'). The PEA was completed in July 2024 to verify baseline conditions and constraints (WIE19442-103-1-1-10-PEA) and this report presents the EcIA.

The Phase 3 WBLR is herein referred to as the 'Proposed Scheme'. The WBLR Phase 3 footprint sits within the wider 'Brookleigh Development' footprint which received outline planning consent (December 2018). The WBLR Phase 3 scheme constitutes the third phase of detailed design associated with that outline planning consent, comprising a Reserved Matters application area and a smaller Full application area.

1.1 Site Context

The Proposed Scheme is located on the north-western edge of Burgess Hill, as shown in **Figure 1**, within the administrative boundary of Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC). The Proposed Scheme is approximately centred on co-ordinates 529631, 120070 (TQ 29567 20135) with an approximate postcode of RH15 8UZ.

The Proposed Scheme covers a total area of approximately 3.19 hectares (ha), the majority of which (3.08ha) is within the outline planning boundary of the Brookleigh Development area (and subject to a Reserved Matters application). This area is referred to as Parcel 1. Parcel 1 consists of modified grassland, mixed scrub, sparsely vegetated land, three ditches, and other woodland broadleaved. The remaining 0.1ha (Parcel 2) of land is located outside of the Brookleigh Development area (and subject to a Full application). Parcel 2 largely consists of developed land (footway); sealed surface with a small edge of modified. The Site boundaries for the Reserved Matters and Full applications, which together form the Proposed Scheme, are shown in **Figure 1**.

The boundary of the Proposed Scheme, which is broadly linear and follows the alignment of the existing A2300 and A273 Jane Murray Way, comprises agricultural land, vegetated field boundaries and roadside verges, together with drainage ditches, culverts and carriageway (hardstanding). A section of footpath (Public Right of Way 98CR) crosses the A273 Jane Murray Way and A2300 at the Triangle Roundabout.

1.2 Previous Ecology Assessments

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of the Site was undertaken by Williams Sale Partnership (WSP) in September 2022 (presented in the report dated May 18th 2023¹). At the time the Site was deemed to have potential for bats, [REDACTED], birds (breeding and foraging), great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*, reptiles, and hedgehogs *Erinaceus europaeus*. A Great crested newt technical note was produced in May 2023². Given the age of the data, presented in this earlier PEA, changes in guidance³, subsequent changes in red line boundary, and recent de-vegetation along the A2300 (see below) an update PEA was required, completed in July 2024⁴. Pertinent information from the July PEA has been included in this EcIA Report. It should be noted that the PEA was based around a previously anticipate planning application boundary, as such the survey footprint reported in this EcIA report is slightly larger than the current planning application boundary.

¹ WSP (2023) Western Bridge and Link Road Phase 3. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Ref. WBLR-WSP-EXX-RP-L-0127

² WSP (2023) Western Bridge and Link Road Phase 3 Great Crested Newt Technical Note Ref: ED/100377

³ Collins, J. (ed) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edn). The Bat Conservation Trust, London. ISBN 978-1-7395126-0-6; Presentation of data using the UK Habitat Classification System.

⁴ Waterman (2024) Western Bridge and Link Road (WBLR) Phase 3, Burgess Hill PEA WIE19442-103-1-1-10-PEA July 2024

Wider Area

The WBLR Scheme has been subject to various ecological assessments to inform earlier phases of work along the A2300 and A273 Jane Murray Way, which provide context to ecological constraints that may be present within the Site. Of note, to enable previous works to proceed along the A2300 in 2022 ADAS⁵ undertook the following ecological measures:

- produced a Precautionary Method of Works (PMW) for reptiles and hedgehogs, and ancient woodland located 0.15km north (considering indirect pathways such as pollution or lighting etc),
- implemented a nesting bird check for works during the bird nesting season,
- undertook presence/absence surveys for great crested newt and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- produced a lighting strategy for bats.

Additionally, works within the Site north of the A2300 carriageway (which previously consisted of modified grassland and scrub habitat, now comprising 'sparsely vegetation land') have recently been undertaken by UK Power Networks in 2024. These works were undertaken under an PMW⁴ produced by ADAS and habitats were cleared before the Waterman ecological survey was completed.

1.3 Summary of the Proposed Scheme

1.3.1 The Reserved Matters Application

The Proposed Scheme comprises land which is subject to Reserved Matters pursuant to the wider Brookleigh Development. The description of development for the Reserved Matters application is:

"Reserved Matters application pursuant to outline application DM/21/3279 - WBLR Phase 3 (A2300 pedestrian/cycle improvement), comprising the construction of a segregated 2 metre footway and 3 metre cycle track (Green Superhighway) and 2.75 metre verge along the northern side of the A2300, construction of a 3-metre shared use route with up to up to 1 metre verge along the southern side of the A2300, construction of a 3 metre shared use route along the western side of the A273 Jane Murray Way with up to 2.75 metre verge drainage works, fencing, lighting, landscaping and associated works."

The elements of the Proposed Scheme, within the RMA Application Site include:

- A new segregated footway and cycle track on the north side of the A2300, between the new Link Road roundabout and the Triangle Roundabout. This forms part of the 'Green Superhighway', proposed as part of the Brookleigh development;
- A new shared connection non-motorised users (NMU) on the south and west side of the A2300 and A273, respectively. This shared route connects the two roundabouts on the A2300 and A273 (WBLR Phase 1 works), via the Triangle Roundabout;
- An NMU connection to the future development area;
- Installation of new surface water drainage infrastructure (filter drains, ditch and swale), and adjustments to existing (culverts and headwalls);
- Installation of new street lighting; and
- Landscaping to the north of the A2300.

1.3.2 The Full Application

The Proposed Scheme also comprises land outside of the Brookleigh Development area, which is subject to a separate, full planning application. The description of development for the full planning application is:

⁵ ADAS (2022) Non Licenced method Statement: Various Species (Ref: BXT69105 1106 (00) Rev.0)

“Widening and extension of the existing footway for creation of a shared footway/cycleway along the western side of the A273 between Gatehouse Lane and A272 roundabout via the removal of the carriageway hard strip, relocation of existing bus stop bench, lighting, landscaping and associated works.”

The elements of the Proposed Scheme, within the Full Application Site include:

- A new shared connection non-motorised users (NMU) on the west side of the A273, which connects the roundabout on the A273 (WBLR Phase 1 works) with Gatehouse Lane; and
- Installation of new street lighting; and
- Relocation and re-provision of the bus stop.

1.4 Objectives of this EcIA

This EcIA includes the results of an ecological desk study, comprising an ecological data search and review of historical ecological information at the Site; and Field surveys comprising a UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Field Survey; a Habitat Suitability Index (HIS) assessment for great crested newt, a Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW) and Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) at buildings and trees (external and ground based) for bats.

This EcIA provides an evaluation of the importance of ecological features present within the Zone of Influence (ZoI) and assesses the potential effects that the Proposed Scheme may have on any such features identified. Environmental measures have been incorporated into the scheme to provide mitigation, compensation and/or enhancements to those ecological features of relevance to the Site, as required.

The purpose of this EcIA is to:

- Identify any Important Ecological Features (IEFs) present at the Site and ZoI.
- Provide an assessment of any significant ecological effects associated with the Development, both during construction and operation, upon those IEFs which have been identified.
- Set out environmental measures in line with the Mitigation Hierarchy⁶ required comply with relevant planning policies and nature conservation legislation (**Appendix A**), and to address any potentially significant ecological effects.
- Provide an assessment of the significance of any residual effects.

⁶ BS 42020:2013 Clause 5.2

2. Methodology

2.1 Scope of the Assessment

The scope of this EcIA is based on current guidelines as set out by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)⁷. Consideration is applied to identifying Important Ecological Features (IEFs) within the Zone of Influence (Zol), as detailed below. If IEFs are identified, they have been subject to evaluation.

2.2 Zone of Influence

The Zol is the area(s) over which ecological features are anticipated to be impacted by the biophysical changes caused by a proposed development. Based on the scale and nature of likely Proposed Scheme at this Site, the Zol arising from these works is considered to be no greater than 2km from the Site for most IEFs and 10km for International Statutory Designated Sites. Therefore, this distance has been used to collect the information during the desk study.

2.3 Important Ecological Features

As referenced in industry guidance, IEFs that are anticipated to be affected by the Proposed Scheme have been identified and subject to assessment. In this report, all features are assessed in accordance with the categories in **Table 1** below.

IEFs have been identified as those of being legally protected or of local level of importance or above.

Where features are unlikely to be affected by the Proposed Scheme, or where any effects that impact IEF are unlikely to be significant, for the reasons listed below, such features have been scoped out of the assessment and these features have not been evaluated in accordance with the geographical scale:

- No pathway of effect has been identified, for example the feature is sufficient distance from the Site or there is the presence of a significant barrier between its location and the Site; or
- The feature is of insufficient biodiversity conservation value within the Zol, due to its quality, extent, or population size. Including a lack of legal implications if the feature were to be affected by the development.

Table 1: Geographical Scale of Important Ecological Feature Categories

Geographical Level of Importance	Category
International	Statutory designated sites: Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar sites (including candidate SACs and proposed SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites) within England. A viable area of a habitat type listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive, or smaller areas of such habitat essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. Regularly occurring populations of a species, large enough in number to be of international importance where: • The loss or degradation of these populations would adversely affect the conservation status or distribution of the species at this geographic scale; or • The population forms a critical part of a wider population at an international level; or • The species is at a critical phase of its life cycle at this scale.

⁷ CIEEM (2018): Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

Geographical Level of Importance	Category
National	Statutory designated sites: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and National Nature Reserves (NNR). Ancient Woodland Inventory (depending on site specific parameters – also see County). A viable area of a Habitat of Principal Importance (HoPI) as listed on Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, or smaller areas of such habitat essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. Resident, or regularly occurring, populations of species, significant at an International, European, UK or National level where: • The loss of these populations would adversely affect the conservation status or distribution of the species at a national level; or • The population forms a critical part of a wider population at this scale; or • The species is at a critical phase of its life cycle at this scale.
Regional/County	Local Nature Reserves (LNR). Ancient Woodland (depending on site specific parameters – also see National). Habitat areas which meet the published selection criteria for county site designations, but which are not themselves designated as such. Species – as per National level but where the loss of these populations would negatively affect the conservation status or distribution of the species at a regional/county level and where populations/species are critical at the regional/county scale.
District/Borough	Non-statutory designated wildlife sites of district/borough value. Species – as per Regional/County level but where the loss of these populations would negatively affect the conservation status or distribution of the species at a district level and where populations/species are critical at the district/ borough scale. This may include locally significant populations of a species listed and areas of habitat in a District/Borough Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) on account of its regional rarity or localisation i.e. the Sussex Urban Biodiversity Action Plan (SUBAP)⁸,
Local	Non statutory designated sites of local value. Local Wildlife Sites (LWS). Areas of habitat considered to appreciably enrich the habitat resource within the local context (e.g. species-rich hedgerows, ponds etc.). It may also include sites that retain other elements of semi-natural vegetation that due to their size, quality or the wide distribution of such habitats within the local area are not considered for local designations. Populations/assemblages of species that appreciably enrich the biodiversity resource within the local context. Populations of county level important species that are not threatened or rare in the county and are not integral to maintaining those populations.
Site	Habitats and/or species that are of limited ecological importance due to their size, species composition or other factors. Areas of heavily modified or managed vegetation of low species diversity. Low or moderate numbers of common and widespread species.
Legislation	Species included on Schedules II and V of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended); Species included on Schedules 1, 5 and 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), excluding species that are only protected in relation to their sale (Section 9[5] and 13[2]); and

⁸ Crawley GOV (2000). Urban People and Wildlife: Biodiversity Action Plan for the Urban Areas of Sussex. Available at: <https://crawley.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/PUB228561.pdf>

Geographical Level of Importance	Category
	Listed on Schedule 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) Act, 2006 ⁹ , including ecologically important hedgerows under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997; and
	Red List of Threatened Species (using IUCN criteria ¹⁰) and nationally rare or scarce species and Birds of Conservation Concern (Red List ¹¹).

2.4 Desk Study

The desk study comprises a review of publicly available information and data provided by Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre (SBRC)¹² within 2km buffer of the Site, to identify IEF that may not be apparent during the Field Survey and to provide further information relating to identified IEF within the Zol. Information sources include (but are not limited to):

- Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre (SBRC) (supplied May 2024)
 - Records relating to all protected and priority species were provided (1980 - 2024), as no date range was specified all records were considered, however only those pertinent to the reporting have been referenced. Generally, this is where records are recent e.g. within 5 years, but in some instances may include reference to more historical records.
 - Records of locally designated sites.
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (Magic.gov.uk)¹³; and,
 - Statutory International sites of nature conservation.
 - SSSI Impact Risk Zones (to assess planning applications for likely impacts on SSSIs/SACs/SPAs & Ramsar sites)
 - Species of Principal Importance (SoPI).
 - Habitats of Principal Importance (HoPI) mapped under the Priority Habitat Inventory.
 - Ancient Woodland.
 - European Protected Species (EPS) licence applications.
- Aerial photography¹⁴
 - Local environmental context (e.g. barriers to wildlife dispersal and ecological connectivity pathways).
 - Presence of ponds within 500m of the Site boundary.

2.5 Field Survey

An 'Extended' UK Habitat Classification (UKHab)¹⁵ survey (known as 'the Field Survey') of the Site was undertaken on 9th April 2024 by Principal Ecologist Simon Dowell (MCIEEM; with a Natural England (NE) Class 4 Bat Licence, Class 1 Dormouse Licence, and Class 1 great crested newt Licence) and Consultant

⁹ DEFRA (2022) *Habitats and species of principal importance in England*, GOV.UK. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england> (Accessed: 09 February 2024).

¹⁰ IUCN (2012) IUCN Red List categories and criteria. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Gland and Cambridge (3.1).

¹¹ Birds of Conservation Concern 5 (2021) British Trust for Ornithology. Available at: <https://www.bto.org/sites/default/files/publications/bocc-5-a5-4pp-single-pages.pdf> (Accessed: 09 February 2024).

¹² Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (2024). Report reference SxBRC/24/056 Ecological data search for land at Burgess Hill.

¹³ DEFRA (2014) Magic Map. Available at: <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>

¹⁴ Google Earth [Accessed 03/07/2024]

¹⁵ UK Hab Ltd (2023). UK Habitat Classification Version 2.0 (at <https://www.ukhab.org>)

Ecologist Caitlin Page (ACIEEM; with a NE Class 1 great crested newt Licence). The Field Survey was completed in accordance with methodology outlined in the UK Hab Classification User Guide 2.0²¹ with the type and extent of each habitat present within the Site and immediately adjacent (where relevant) recorded. The Field Survey of the Site was conducted under conditions deemed appropriate for survey, with a temperature of 11°C, a Beaufort level of one, recent rain <20minutes prior to the Field Survey and an Oktas level of three.

The Field Survey methodology was 'Extended' by undertaking an assessment of the Site to support protected and notable faunal and flora species. A fine scale Minimum Mapping Unit (MMU) was deemed an appropriate level for mapping habitats i.e. a habitat area was only mapped if the habitat was greater than 25m² (area habitats) or 20m in length / 5m width (linear habitats). Trees were only mapped whereby their stem diameter was >30cm.

Each habitat was assigned a Primary Code of the Professional Edition of the UKHab Field Key¹⁶ at a minimum of the Level three hierarchy, using the UKHab Habitat Definitions¹⁷ for reference. Secondary Codes (SC) were then applied to provide additional context to the habitats, with no more than six Secondary Codes being assigned.

All habitat types within the Site were mapped (see **Figure 1** for UKHab mapping) using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software, with target notes taken where appropriate. An assessment of the Site to support protected and notable fauna and flora species was also undertaken.

2.6 Habitat Suitability Index

As part of the Field Survey a Habitat suitability Index (HSI)¹⁸ for great crested newts was undertaken. HSI assessments aim to quantify the suitability of a waterbody to support great crested newt based on ten factors, listed below:

- Geographic location
- Pond area
- Pond permanence
- Water quality
- Shade
- Waterfowl
- Fish
- Pond count
- Terrestrial habitat, and
- Macrophytes.

Each factor is awarded a score between 0 and 1, according to ARG UK guidance²⁸. The waterbody is then given a mean suitability score between 0 and 1, where:

- <0.5 is poor
- 0.5 to 0.59 is below average
- 0.6 to 0.69 is average
- 0.7 to 0.79 is good, and
- >0.8 is excellent.

¹⁶ UK Habitat Classification Working Group (2018). UK Habitat Field Key

¹⁷ UK Habitat Classification Working Group (2018). UK Habitat Classification Definitions V1.0. Available online at: <https://ukhab.org/ukhab-documentation/>

¹⁸ Oldham R.S., Keeble J., Swan M.J.S. & Jeffcote M. (2000). Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*). *Herpetological Journal* 10(4), 143-155.

2.7 Daytime Bat Walkover and Preliminary Roost Assessment

As part of the Field Survey a Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW) was also undertaken to assess and record any habitats suitable for bats to roost, commute, and forage within the Site and surrounding areas.

As part of the DBW, a Ground-Level Tree Assessment (GLTA) of trees present within the Site and immediately adjacent for their suitability to support roosting bats was also undertaken.

The GLTA was based on the current best practice guidelines at the time of the survey (Collins, 2023)¹⁹. An assessment of each tree was made in terms of its suitability to support roosting bats using the criteria set out within **Table 2** below. The survey consisted of a visual inspection (including the use of binoculars) of the exterior of each tree for evidence of bat use (e.g. droppings, scratch marks, staining and sightings). A number of factors were considered, including presence of features suitable for use by roosting bats, proximity to foraging habitats or cover and potential for disturbance. Notes were made relating to relevant characteristics of features providing potential access points and roosting opportunities for bats.

Table 2: Tree Suitability for Roosting Bats Guidelines (Collins, 2023)

Potential Suitability	Description
Potential Roosting Feature (PRF)	A tree with at least one PRF present.
FAR	Further Assessment Required to establish if PRFs are present in the tree.
NONE	Either no PRFs in the tree or highly unlikely to be any.

No buildings were present within or immediately adjacent to the Site and so a Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) of buildings was not required.

2.8 Invasive Non-Native Plant Species

As part of the Field Survey, the Site was searched for the presence of common and readily identifiable invasive non-native plant species (INNS), however the purpose of a PEA is not to identify an exhaustive INNS list but to confirm presence and make outline recommendations for further work depending on the development proposals. Species searched for included Japanese knotweed *Reynoutria japonica*, giant knotweed *Fallopia sachalinensis*, hybrid knotweed *Fallopia baldschuanica*, giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, buddleia *Buddleja davidii*, cotoneaster *Cotoneaster* sp., Virginia creeper *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, tree of heaven *Ailanthus altissima* and false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*.

The list of INNS included on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)²⁰ is extensive and such species are found in a range of different habitat types.

¹⁹ Collins, J. (ed) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edn). The Bat Conservation Trust, London. ISBN 978-1-7395126-0-6

²⁰ HMSO (1981) 'Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

2.9 Impact Assessment

Where IEFs are identified that have the potential to be affected by the Proposed Scheme, their value has been assigned in accordance with the geographic frame of reference outlined in **Table 1**. As outlined in Section 2.3, in instances where standard avoidance measures remove the potential for impact for an identified feature, it is not considered an IEF and it has not been subject to the evaluation of importance.

Value judgements are based on various characteristics that can be used to identify IEFs. These include site designations (such as SSSIs), or for undesignated features, the size, conservation status (locally, nationally or internationally), and the quality of the ecological feature. In terms of the latter, 'quality' can refer to habitats (for instance if they are particularly diverse, or a good example of a specific habitat type), other features (such as wildlife corridors or mosaics of habitats) or species populations or assemblages.

Value judgements are also based on the Ecologist's academic and professional qualifications, in addition to experience of undertaking similar assessments.

The potential effects of the Proposed Scheme are assessed within the ZoI. Effects can be positive, negative or insignificant. Negative effects can include:

- direct loss of habitats;
- fragmentation and isolation of habitats; and
- disturbance to habitats and species.

Negative and positive effects on nature conservation features have been characterised based on predicted changes as a result of the Proposed Scheme. In order to characterise the effects on each feature, the assessment takes account of the following parameters:

- extent;
- duration;
- timing;
- frequency; and
- reversibility.

2.10 Constraints and Limitations

No constraints or limitations occurred during the Field Survey.

All other contractors, designers and the Applicant should be aware of the following: The recommendations within this report are assessed to be the most effective ecological solution at this stage of the project. No other pre-construction information has been provided, obtained, or referred to during the preparation of this report (including, but not limited to, services information, geotechnical reports, and ordnance reports). In deciding whether and how to progress with this project, it will be incumbent upon the client, designers, and contractors to obtain and refer to relevant pre-construction and maintenance information, as required by the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations to ensure compliance. Waterman can assist with the development and co-ordination of this design to support effective risk management on this project upon request.

3. Baseline Ecological Conditions

3.1 Statutory Designated Sites

No statutory designated sites are located within the Site boundary and no statutory designated sites are located within the 2km search area of the Site. Bedlands farm LNR is located 2km east of the Site. No statutory internationally designated sites lie within 10km of the Site.

The Site does fall within three SSSI impact risk zones associated with Ditchling Common SSSI (approximately 3.8km south east of the Site)²¹ that trigger further assessment in the following development categories:

- Infrastructure: Airports, helipads and other aviation proposals.
- Minerals, Oil and Gas: Oil & gas exploration/extraction.
- Air Pollution: Livestock & poultry units with floorspace > 500m², slurry lagoons > 750m² & manure stores > 3500t.
- Combustion: General combustion processes >20MW energy input. Incl: energy from waste incineration, other incineration, landfill gas generation plant, pyrolysis/gasification, anaerobic digestion, sewage treatment works, other incineration/ combustion.
- Waste: Landfill. Incl: inert landfill, non-hazardous landfill, hazardous landfill.
- Compost: Any composting proposal with more than 75000 tonnes maximum annual operational throughput. Incl: open windrow composting, in-vessel composting, anaerobic digestion, other waste management.

As the Proposed Scheme is not associated with the development categories which would trigger further consultation with Natural England, Statutory designated sites are scoped out of this EclA.

3.2 Non-Statutory Designated Sites

No non-statutory designated sites are located within the Site. There is one site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) and two Notable Road Verges (NRV) within 2 km of the Site, as detailed in **Table 3** below. It should be noted that the distances provided in **Table 3** and **Figure 4** are taken from the central grid reference of the Site and therefore are approximate. Given the distance and lack of habitat connectivity Non-Statutory Designated Sites are scoped out of the EclA.

Table 3: Summary of Data Search Records of Non-statutory Designated Sites within 2km of the Site

Site Name	Designation	Distance from Site (km)	Description
Malthouse Lane	NRV	0.38km S	**NRVs are areas of roadside verge designated for their special wildlife interest. They may support locally notable flora or fauna, represent good quality declining or rare habitat, have good species diversity, be of high aesthetic value or be of value to the local community. This site has no habitat connectivity to the Site.
Pond Lye SNCI	SNCI	1.2km NW	A pond with extensive areas of sedge swamp around a species rich neutral grassland. The grassland is currently unmanaged and has scrub encroachment.

²¹ The Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are a GIS tool developed by Natural England to assess the potential risks posed by development proposals to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). The zones define areas around each SSSI that reflect the sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and indicate the types of development proposals that could have adverse impacts. Local planning authorities use the IRZs to determine whether a proposed development is likely to affect a SSSI and whether they need to consult Natural England for advice on how to avoid or mitigate potential impacts. The SSSI IRZs can also be used by developers, consultants, and the public to consider potential impacts and seek pre-application advice from Natural England. [SSSI IRZ User Guidance MAGIC.pdf \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)

Site Name	Designation	Distance from Site (km)	Description
			The pond has a good diversity of breeding birds including great crested grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>, water rail <i>Rallus aquaticus</i> and mute swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>. Species rich grassland north of the pond contains two uncommon species in West Sussex, meadow thistle <i>Cirsium dissectum</i> and spiny retharrow <i>Ononis spinosa</i>. This site has no habitat connectivity to the Site.
Northend Lane NRV	NRV	1.47km SW	** This site has no habitat connectivity to the Site.
**The information is the same and therefore carried through.			

3.3 Ancient Woodland

There are no areas of ancient woodland located within the Site. At least 39 ancient woodlands are located within the 2km search area with the closest being 0.15km north of the Site, and 0.25km south of the site connected to the site with deciduous woodland, **Figure 3**. Given ancient woodland is an irreplaceable, in the absence of further survey data of ancient woodland, collectively the ancient woodland within 2km of the Site is considered to be of National Importance.

3.4 Priority Habitats

Two priority habitat layers (sourced using Magic.gov.uk ¹⁹) were found to be present within the ZoI of the Site, **Figure 3**. Priority habitat layers can be a useful indicator of HoPIs present within 2km of the Site (subject to site-based verification). These included:

- Deciduous woodland (the nearest of which is located immediately adjacent to the south of the Site, both for Parcel 1 and 2); and
- Traditional orchards (the nearest of which is located approximately 0.60km south-west of the Site, Parcel 1 and 0.40km from Parcel 2).

In the absence of survey data to verify the presence of these priority habitats which occur outside of the site boundary, it is assumed that these habitats comprise HoPIs and are considered to be of County Importance.

3.5 Protected, BAP and other Notable Fauna

As a result of the Field Survey and a review of the ecological data search, an assessment is made below on the potential of the Site to support the following species/groups:

- Bats;
- [REDACTED]
- Breeding Birds;
- Dormouse;
- Great Crested Newts;
- Terrestrial Invertebrates;
- Protected and other Notable Flora;
- Invasive Non-Native Plant Species;
- Reptiles, and;
- Hedgehogs and other mammals

3.5.1 Bats

Desk Study

The SBRC provided 73 records with the species comprising the below:

- 28 records of common pipistrelle;
- 18 records of unidentified bat species *Chiroptera*;
- 13 records of brown long-eared;
- Five records of soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*;
- Three Natterer's Bat *Myotis nattereri*;
- Two records of Serotine *Eptesicus serotinus*;
- Two records of Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*;
- One record of whiskered bat *Myotis mystacinus*.
- One record of Bechstein's Bat *Myotis bechsteinii*, and
- One records of noctule *Nyctalus noctula*.

The closest of these records was recorded 0.27km southeast from the Site, this common pipistrelle was recorded as in hand, rescued female pup (1 week old) which was rehabilitated and released with the roost located very nearby at the grid reference TQ 29849 20047. A review on Magic.gov.uk identified European Protected Species Licence return for bats (four applications for species including brown long-eared *Plecotus auritus*, common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, and soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*) with the closest application 2014-2981-EPS-MIT being 0.90km North-east of the Site.

Field Survey

The Site is assessed to have no buildings with suitability to support roosting bats. The Site did not offer any hibernation features for bats.

The Site is assessed to be of low value as a foraging and commuting resource due to the minimal vegetated habitat within the Site and moderate levels of associated night lighting along the A2300 carriageway. Small areas of woodland edge habitat exist along the southern boundary of the Site, but this woodland has been fragmented by the new road linking the A2300 to the A273 carriageway. Larger areas of woodland are located to the South of the Site which are more likely to be significant for the local bat populations.

All trees within the Site were subject to a ground-level tree assessment to assesses the likelihood of individual trees supporting Potential Roost Features (PRFs). It was deemed that the majority of trees onsite have '**NONE**' suitability to support roosting bats as they were assessed to have no features suitable for bats to roost and are not of the right age/condition to support PRFs and therefore roosting bats. Three trees (tree T1-3 (**Figure 2**)) within the Zol of the Scheme located in OBW1 were deemed to have a '**PRF**' rating, with notable woodpecker holes, cracked limbs and rot holes being present. Trees which may supported PRFs are described in **Table 4**: Trees with Bat Roost Suitability below and **Figure 2**. Only Tree T1 is located within the Site Boundary (planning application area). Trees T2 and T3 are also described for context as they are located in close proximity, and therefore within the Zol of the Site.

Table 4: Trees with Bat Roost Suitability

Tree	Grid Reference	Description	Photograph
T1	TQ 29532 20090	Common Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> tree with a double woodpecker hole SE identified using a ground-based assessment.	
T2 (not within Site Boundary)	TQ 29553 20037	Common Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> tree with a woodpecker hole on central trunk above branching dead limb NW identified using a ground-based assessment.	

Tree	Grid Reference	Description	Photograph
T3 (not within site boundary)	TQ 29549 20081	Common Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> tree with a hole at the end of an attached broken limb on the north identified using a ground-based assessment.	

The Site is assessed as offering low suitability for bat foraging. There are three trees within or adjacent to the site that offer bat roost suitability however further assessment has not been undertaken given these are on or outside of the boundary and can be retained. Desk study indicates common and widespread bats in the local area. As such, given the presence of the three trees with bat roost suitability, the Site is considered to be of Local Importance to bats.

██████████

██████████

3.5.3 Breeding Birds

Desk Study

SBRC returned numerous notable bird records within 2km of the Site, these can be found within **Appendix B**. Multiple records of UK Red list Birds of Conservation Concern as well as NERC Sch41 species were provided within the Zol, however the majority of habitats within the Site are not suitable for these species due to being a developed land; sealed surface (road) or smaller area of woodland/scrub. The closest record the SBRC identified was 0.14km south from the Site, this Red Kite *Milvus milvus* was recorded as possibly breeding due to being observed in suitable breeding habitat in 2018. The most recent record of Red Kite was identified in 2022.

Field Survey

No notable breeding birds were identified during the Field Survey. Habitats with potential for breeding birds include woodland, scrub, and hedgerow, however, due to the size of these habitats as well as considering the availability of habitats outside the Site boundary, the Site was not considered to hold a significant population of notable bird species. Foraging birds are likely to be supported by the grasslands present within the Site alongside the hedgerows, woodland and scrub. The Site is considered to be important for breeding birds at a Site level.

3.5.4 Dormouse

Desk Study

The SBRC returned three records of hazel dormouse with the closest identified 0.21km southwest from the Site in 2012. Four licence applications were for hazel dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius*, with the closest applications 2020-48403-EPS-MIT and 2021-50974-EPS-MIT located approximately 1.60km east of the Site.

Previous assessments in 2022²² reference that hazel dormouse known to be present within the species rich and poor hedgerows and broadleaved woodlands within the wider landscape north of the A2300A, however a recent Ecological Clerk of Works Diary²³ of the wider area indicated that there were no signs found onsite of hazel dormouse after a fingertip search in 2024 of scrub vegetation which was considered to offer suitable habitat for hazel dormouse.

Field Survey

The habitats within the Site are isolated and severed by roads and buildings thus reducing the potential for dormouse to be present on-site. Additionally, historical surveys throughout 2019, 2020, and February 2024 concluded, no presence of hazel dormouse were found. Therefore, it is considered unlikely that dormouse is present on-site. As such dormouse are not considered an IEF.

3.5.5 Great Crested Newts

Desk Study

The SBRC returned 352 records of amphibian which incorporated 106 records of great crested newt, see **Appendix B** for the species list. The closest recorded amphibian was a great crested newt located ~0.36km²⁴ NE from the Site.

Magic.gov.uk identified a historical great crested newt licence return from Pond 3 in 2011 for the destruction of a resting place (EPSM2009-984), as well as a great crested newt licence return in 2014 adjacent to ponds P4-5 within 0.5km from the Site, **Figure 5**. Great crested newt was also confirmed to be present in Pond 3 in 2023 surveys.

Field Survey

A search for ponds within 500m of the Site from aerial photography, identified six ponds (P1 - P5) and four ditches (D1 – D4) these are illustrated in **Figure 5**.

Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) surveys were undertaken during the Field Survey, these are summarised in **Table 5** along with distance from Pond and previous eDNA survey results (where applicable).

²² ADAS (2022) Goddard's Green Ecological Constraints Report BXT69105-1069 (00)

²³ ADAS (2024). Ecological Clerk of Works Diary - Goddard's Green (Ref: SPN - BXT69105-1069 (00))

²⁴ The sign (~) refers to the approximate location and is used throughout the report to signify this.

Table 5: Habitat Suitability Index for Great Crested Newts

Pond	Distance from Site	eDNA result (2023)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Score Status
P1	0.60km N	Not assessed	1	0.95	Never dries	Good	0-60%	Minor	Absent	0.9-2	Good	30%	Excellent
P2	0.16km E	N/A – Dried up	1	0.05	Dries annually	Bad	96-100%	Absent	Absent	0.9-2	Moderate	0%	Poor
P4	0.43km E	Not assessed	1	0.85	Dries annually	Moderate	0-60%	Absent	Absent	0.9-2	Good	90%	Good
P3	0.10km E	Positive	1	0.95	Never dries	Good	0-60%	Minor	Absent	0.9-2	Good	80%	Excellent
P5	0.60km E	Not assessed	1	1	Never dries	Moderate	71-75%	Minor	Absent	0.9-2	Moderate	20%	Good

Given the confirmed presence of great crested newt in Pond 3 in 2023, it is likely that great crested newt are present within suitable terrestrial habitats within 250m of the Pond. Recent scrub clearance to the immediate north of the A2300 (mapped as sparsely vegetated land) has removed previously suitable terrestrial habitat for great crested newt south of the sparsely vegetated land. Optimum terrestrial habitat is located adjacent to Pond 3 which further reduces the likelihood of great crested newt occupying suitable terrestrial habitat on-site within the distant terrestrial range.

A review of aerial photographic indicates that whilst Pond 3 is located 100m from the Site, given the barrier caused by the St Pauls Roman Catholic Collegiate, the distance between the Pond and the closest area of the site is 150m (traversing apparent amenity grassland and the northern wall of the College). However, if measuring the more optimum connectivity features route from Pond 3 to the Site (i.e. using connecting hedgerows), the distance extends to 1.10km.

As this exceeds 250m, and given the more optimum and immediate habitat to Pond 3, it is considered unlikely that great crested newt would be present within the Site. Nevertheless, as great crested newt can occur in habitats within 500m of breeding habitats and could traverse amenity grassland to access the Site, the presence of an incidental great crested newt within suitable habitats on-site cannot be discounted. As such the Site is considered important to great crested newt at a Site level, to account for the potential for an incidental individual.

3.5.6 Terrestrial Invertebrates

Desk Study

Several notable and protected invertebrate species within 2km of the Site were returned from the data search, see **Appendix B**. The closest record was a Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages* adjacent to the west of Site. This was not provided by the record centre however, the most recent invertebrate identified was in 2024 the *Rhinocyllus conicus*.

Field Survey

The Field Survey considered the Site to have low potential to support notable and protected invertebrate species and assemblages given the lack of species rich habitats present. As such terrestrial invertebrates are not considered an IEF.

3.5.7 Reptiles

Desk Study

SBRC returned 50 records of reptiles within 2km of the Site. The closest identified reptile was a common lizard *Zootoca vivipara* located ~0.20km east from the Site and the most recently identified species was a slow-worm *Anguis fragilis* identified in 2019. No licences from Natural England (sand lizard or smooth snake) were identified on the Magic website within 2km of the Site.

Field Survey

During the Field Survey a juvenile slow-worm was identified within Parcel 1 (**Figure 1**, TN1). The habitats within the Site are considered suitable to support reptiles, due to the woodland edge habitat, hedgerow and scrub habitat providing ecotones for basking, foraging, hibernation, and shelter as well as field margins within the Site. However, recent works to the northern side of the A2300 and the A2300 carriageway itself, plus the A273 Jane Murray Way carriageway to the east and the new link road connecting the two carriageways to the south of the Site form barriers to reptile dispersal. The Site itself is now isolated and it is likely that a significant population of reptiles is unlikely to be present within the Site. Given incidental sighting of a slow worm, the site is considered to be of Local importance to common reptile.

3.5.8 Hedgehogs and other mammals

Desk Study

SBRC returned 54 records of Hedgehogs *Erinaceus europaeus*. The closest record was identified 0.18km SE of the Site. There were no records for Species of Principal Importance such as harvest mouse *Micromys minutus* or brown hare *Lepus europaeus* identified.

Field Survey

The Field Survey identified numerous habitats features suitable for hedgehog and brown hare; such as scrub, woodland, and grassland. More suitable habitat with large areas for foraging and shelter are available within the wider landscape. As such the site is considered to be important for hedgehog and other notable mammals at a Site level.

3.5.9 Protected and other Notable Flora

Desk Study

The SBRC provided 88 records of notable flora within 2km of the Site, however specific locations were not provided. Notable species included NERC S41 and WCA Sch 8 Pennyroyal *Mentha pulegium* (2008), Sussex rare flora black poplar *Populus nigra* (2018). Red Listed c *Anacamptis morio* (2016) and nationally rare and scarce flora recorded was aggregate-headed Hawkweed *Hieracium aggregatum* (2011). The full list of notable flora species has been provided in **Appendix B** however it is considered unlikely that these species are present on-site.

Field Survey

No protected or notable plant species were recorded within the Site at the time of Field Survey, habitats are common, widespread and relatively low in species diversity.

3.5.10 Invasive Non-Native Plant Species

Desk Study

SBRC returned 53 records of invasive non-native plant species (INNS) from within 2km of the Site including Himalayan balsam and Winter Heliotrope *Petasites fragrans*, the closest record being 0.7km from the site. The full list of INNS has been documented in **Appendix B**.

Field Survey

No invasive non-native plant species listed on Schedule 9 on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), or Sussex INNS species, were recorded during the Field Survey

3.6 Field Survey

3.6.1 Habitats

The following habitat types were identified on and directly adjacent to the Site during the Field Survey. **Table 6** and **Table 7** below summarises the Primary Codes and labels used to categorise the habitats recorded, these are mapped within **Figure 1** which depicts habitat parcels and hedgerow features. All habitats are common and widespread, and are considered important at a Site level.

Table 6: Summary of habitats recorded within the Site

Level 2 Code / Label	Level 3 Code / Label	Level 4 Code / Label	Level 5 Code / Label	Secondary Codes
g / Grassland	g4 / Modified grassland			50 – Ditch
h / Heathland and Shrub	h3 / Dense Scrub	h3d/ Bramble Scrub		
h / Heathland and Shrub	h3 / Dense Scrub	h3h / Mixed Scrub		
w/ Woodland	w1 / Broadleaved mixed and yew woodland	w1g / Other woodland; broadleaved		50 – Ditch
u – urban	u1 – built up areas and gardens	u1b - developed land; sealed surface	u1b6 – other developed land	800 - Road
u/ Urban	u1/ Built-up areas and gardens	u1f/ Sparsely vegetated urban land		

Table 7: Summary of hedgerow and other linear habitats recorded within the Site

Level 2 Code / Label	Level 3 Code / Label	Level 4 Code / Label	Level 5 Code / Label	Secondary Codes
h / Heathland and Shrub	h2 – Hedgerows	H2a – Native Hedgerow		11 – Hedgerow with trees
u – urban	u1 – built up areas and gardens	u1e – Built linear feature		612 – Fence

A summary description, together with relevant Secondary Codes, of the above habitats within the Site is provided below. The habitat descriptions should be read in conjunction with **Figure 1** and photographs (Plates) presented in **Appendix B**.

g4 / Modified grassland (SC 50 – Ditch)

MG1 was modified grassland located in the top northwest of the Site (Parcel 1) and was comprised of tussocky swards with patches of bare ground which appeared to be due to frequent construction traffic which continues following the fence line south.

MG2 was modified grassland located in the south end of the Site (Parcel 1) that was much wetter than MG1 with grass that transitioned from a shorter sward to a higher sward west leading towards the adjacent woodland.

MG3 – MG7 were all road verges that contained patches of grass which were damaged by plant tracks. MG3 was located within the southeast corner of Parcel 1, MG4 -5 were on either side of the A23 in the south of Parcel 1, whereas MG6-7 were located on either side of A23 Jane Murray Way, Parcel 2.

h3d/ Bramble Scrub

BS1 was a small patch of bramble scrub located on-top of a bund in the north of the Site, and was situated in MG1. The north side of the bund was distinctly more bare than the rest of the areas.

h3h / Mixed Scrub

MS1 appeared to have been a previous hedgerow which, through lack of management, has overgrown and turned into mixed scrub located adjacent to the west side of the A2300. It appeared to be associated with screening for the A2300. The majority of the scrub was comprised of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*.

MS2 was dense mixed scrub located in the northeast of the Site, Parcel 1 and is comprised of

predominantly willow *Salix* sp. and surrounded by bramble along the edges.

w1g / Other woodland; broadleaved

OBW1 contained open structured woodland with minimal mid-story located adjacent to the furthest south region of the Site, Parcel 1. The woodland had fallen deadwood present throughout. The species present included oak and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, with a hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, and hazel *Corylus avellana* understory.

OBW2 was a woodland located in the northwest of the Site, Parcel 1. This woodland contained minimal understory, with all trees similar in age-class (semi-mature) the woodland had two storeys and was visibly pruned as well as heavily managed with thinning however, there were areas of fallen deadwood present. The species present included hazel, willow *Salix* sp. and hawthorn with occasional silver birch *Betula pendula* and sycamore and was identified as plantation woodland to provide screening for the nearby school to the east from the A2300.

u1b - Developed land; sealed surface (SC 800 – Road)

This habitat runs through the centre of both Parcel 1 and 2, consisting of a single carriage way with kerbs and footpaths.

u1f/ Sparsely vegetated urban land

U1 was located northeast adjacent to A2300 (Parcel 1) and contained patches of grass around bare ground damage from heavy plant machinery. This habitat showed evidence of recent vegetation clearance at the time of survey.

h2a – Native Hedgerow (SC 11 – Hedgerow with trees)

H1 was located southwest in Parcel 1 and runs along south of MG1. Species comprised predominantly hawthorn, elder *Sambucus nigra*, and hazel *Corylus avellana*.

H2 was located south along the end of MG2 in Parcel 1 and contained similar species to those within H1.

u1e – Built linear feature (SC 612 – Fence)

A wooden fence ran along the east boarder of MG1, Parcel 1.

Ditch

D1 was a ditch that ran along the east woodland edge of OBW2.

D2 (partly within site boundary) was a ditch that ran to the south of grassland MG1.

Plates of all the habitats described above have been provided within **Appendix C**.

4. Impact Assessment

Table 8 identifies those ecological features that have been identified through this assessment, along with their assigned importance, summary of potential impacts, avoidance/reduction and mitigation measures and whether there is a predicted residual impact. In some instances, whilst specific impacts have not been predicted, standard good practice measures have been incorporated into the Proposed Scheme or to provide further legal protection for a change in baseline.

Table 8: Ecological Features and Avoidance Measures

Ecological Feature and Importance	Summary of potential impact	Avoidance, reduction, mitigation	Residual Impact
Designated Sites Importance not evaluated as not within Zol	No Statutory designated sites are located with the Zol. It has been assessed that the non-statutory designated sites within the Zol would not be subject to any significant direct or indirect impacts as a result of the Proposed works due to the distance from the Site and/or the separation by major infrastructure and urban development.	No specific mitigation measures for the protection of designated sites are considered to be required in this instance. Notwithstanding this, the industry standard good practice measures will be implemented during preparation and construction activities to avoid secondary effects to habitats in the wider landscape arising from surface water run-off, dust, noise, and vibration, light (see Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) below).	None
Habitats (on-site) Site Importance	Habitat types are both nationally and locally common. As such, habitat loss arising from the Proposed Scheme are considered significant at a Site level.	Standard good industry practice will be implemented to minimise losses of vegetation as far as practicable. The scheme is committed to deliver 10% Biodiversity Net Gain to compensate for habitat losses on-site. The BNG assessment will identify the details of permanent and temporary habitat losses, and subsequent gains through landscaping along with their units.	None
Ancient woodlands National (collectively)	There is an ancient woodland located 0.15km north of the Site and 0.25km to the south of the site with habitat connections. It is understood that the Proposed Scheme and temporary construction areas will not enter an ancient tree root protection buffer zone (a buffer zone is 15 times larger than the diameter of the closest ancient tree to the development) as such no impacts are predicted	Standard good practice pollution prevention measures (as outlined for Designated Sites) are applicable. The above measures will be included as part of CEMP.	None
Bats (Foraging and Commuting) Site importance	The Site is considered to be of low suitability for foraging and commuting bats. As such, no significant impacts are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Scheme.	Notwithstanding the low value of the site for foraging and commuting bats, standard good industry lighting measures will be implemented during construction and operation to limit the spill of light pollution into the	None

Ecological Feature and Importance	Summary of potential impact	Avoidance, reduction, mitigation	Residual Impact
		surrounding landscape ²⁵ , and vegetation removal limited as far as possible.	
Bats (Roosting) Local importance	There were PRFs located in OBW1 adjacent to the Site in trees T1 – T3. As such roosting bats in these trees cannot be discounted. However, considering the trees will remain in situ and the location of the works would have no direct impacts to the trees, no direct impacts are predicted. Avoidance measures are proposed to mitigation for potential disturbance impacts during construction and operation.	A Precautionary Working Method (PWM) is proposed to mitigate against any potential indirect disturbance during construction, including standard good industry measures relating to lighting (as outlined above). This will be implemented through the CEMP The proposals will include a lighting scheme²⁵ to avoid operational light spill on the tree line which offers the roosting features.	None
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Breeding Birds Site importance	Breeding birds may be harmed through vegetation loss, also resulting in a breach of wildlife legislation.	Loss of habitat supporting breeding birds will be minimised wherever possible. Should vegetation removal be necessary this will not be removed within the nesting season of March to August inclusive subject to seasonal variations. If this is not possible, a suitably experienced ecologist will inspect any vegetation to be removed for the presence of active birds' nests prior to removal. Any active nests will be protected from destruction with a suitable buffer until they are no longer in use. Measures to avoid impacts to breeding birds will be included in the PMW and CEMP. Habitat compensation will be considered as part of the BNG assessment.	None
Great crested newt. Site importance (to account for	Great crested newt are considered highly likely to be absent from Site and impacts to a the local great crested newt population is not predicted.	To account for potential changes to the suitability of terrestrial habitat on-site, for example through natural regeneration, and to avoid breaching wildlife legislation, a PMW will include	None

²⁵ Bat Conservation Trust (2023). GN08/23 Bats and Artificial Lighting At Night. Available at: <https://www.bats.org.uk/news/2023/08/bats-and-artificial-lighting-at-night-ilp-guidance-note-update-released> [Accessed 02/01/2025]

Ecological Feature and Importance	Summary of potential impact	Avoidance, reduction, mitigation	Residual Impact
the low risk of an individual on-site)	There is a low risk of an incidental great crested newt being present on the Site in the future, should habitat suitability change. Avoidance measures are proposed for legal compliance purposes.	consideration of great crested newt in the area. This will involve a review of whether potentially suitable terrestrial habitat is present within the works area prior to clearance by a suitably qualified individual, with the implementation of a hand search/destructive searches during the appropriate time of year if required. Should suitable hibernation features be identified, works to these will avoid the amphibian hibernation season (generally taken to be November to February depending on seasonal variations) where disturbance to can result in greater harm and death. Alternatively trained detection dogs can be used to confirm the absence of great crested newt hibernating in such features. In addition, standard practices such as storing materials on pallets and not leaving trenches uncovered will be included. The PMW will be included in the CEMP. This will outline that in the unlikely event that a great crested newt is encountered during works, works should stop and advice sought from a suitably qualified ecologist. As a European Protected Species, great crested newt will not be moved without a mitigation licence.	
Reptiles Local Importance	A slow worm was identified within the Site during the Field Survey, and the habitats on-site are considered to support a small number of individuals of slow worm and potentially other common reptiles. Habitat loss could result in harm and injury to the local reptile population and result in a breach of wildlife legislation.	To avoid harming reptiles and breaching wildlife legislation through construction activities, and in line with approaches previously adopted in the area when undertaking de-vegetation works a PMW ⁴ is proposed. This will include a sensitive and phased vegetation clearance approach to allow reptiles to move out the way into suitable habitat that connects to the wider landscape, and not flushing reptiles onto roads. Works to potential reptile habitat (woodland edge habitat, hedgerow, scrub, sparsely vegetated areas and mosaic habitats) will avoid the reptile hibernation season (generally taken to be November to February depending on seasonal variations) where disturbance to reptile can result in greater harm and death. In addition, standard practices such as storing materials on pallets and not leaving trenches uncovered will be included. The PMW will be included in the CEMP.	None

Ecological Feature and Importance	Summary of potential impact	Avoidance, reduction, mitigation	Residual Impact
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Habitat compensation will be addressed through the BNG assessment.

4.1 Biodiversity Net Gain and Ecological Enhancement

It is understood that a target 10% biodiversity net gain will be delivered as part of the wider Brookleigh Development, which may include off-site provision where it has not been possible to deliver on-site. The BNG calculation for the Site will be recorded in a biodiversity net gain (BNG) assessment calculation to inform this process.

Further faunal enhancement will be delivered, as part of the wider Brookleigh Development, including:

- Installation of bat and bird boxes within the retained woodland.
- Creation of log piles and hibernacula following any tree removal, of value to reptiles, amphibians including great crested newt, hedgehog and invertebrates.
- Consideration of faunal enhancement as part of habitat creation/enhancement proposals, for example through inclusion of mosaic habitat, bare ground and basking areas and inclusion of species diverse nectar bearing plants with blossoming sequencing, providing further foraging for bats and birds.
- Inclusion of invertebrate enhancement options such as bug hotels.

4.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, there are no significant impacts predicted as a result of the Proposed Scheme, and no residual impacts.

A PMW will be produced to be included in the CEMP to avoid breaching wildlife legislation and implementing standard good practice measures for the following features, as outlined in **Table 8**:

- Habitats and Designated Sites, standard pollution prevention measures, limiting de-vegetation and habitat loss as far as possible.
- Species: [REDACTED] bats, breeding birds, great crested newt and reptiles.

Habitat re-instatement, creation and enhancement opportunities will be explored as part of a BNG Assessment expected to be a post commencement planning condition. Additional faunal enhancements have been proposed, also expected to be a post commencement planning condition.

Figures

Figure 1: Habitats Features Plan (Ref: WIE19442-101_GIS_EcIA_1B)

Figure 2: Preliminary Roost Assessment Bat Potential (Ref: WIE19442-101_GIS_EcIA_2B)

Figure 3: Ancient Woodlands and Notable Habitats (Ref: WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_3B)

Figure 4: Designated Sites (Ref: WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_4B)

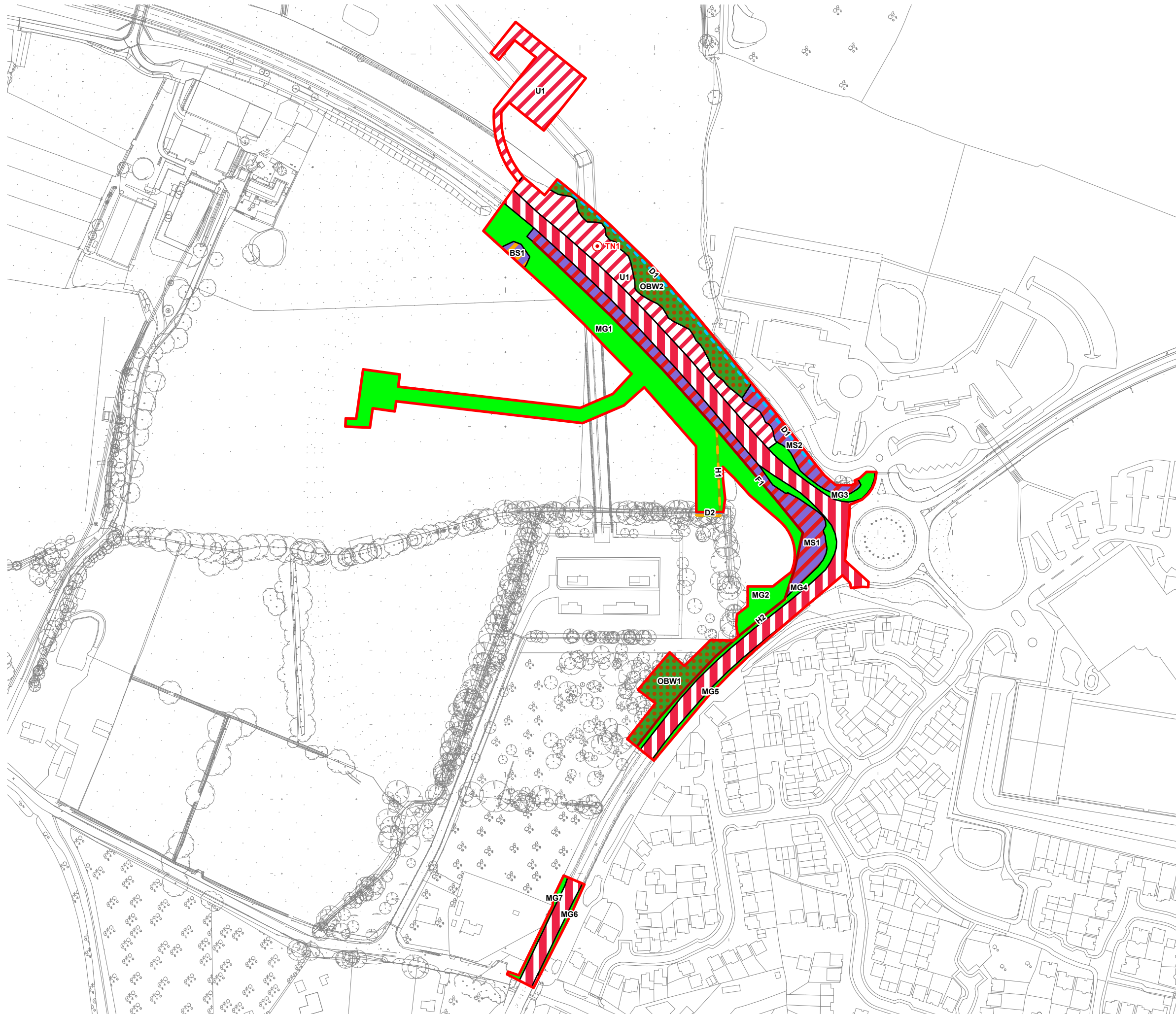
Figure 5: Waterbodies within 500m of the Site (Ref: WIE19442-101_GIS_EcIA_5B)

Figures

Western Bridge and Link Road (WBLR) Phase 3 (Brookleigh, Burgess Hill)

Project Number: WIE19442 (103)

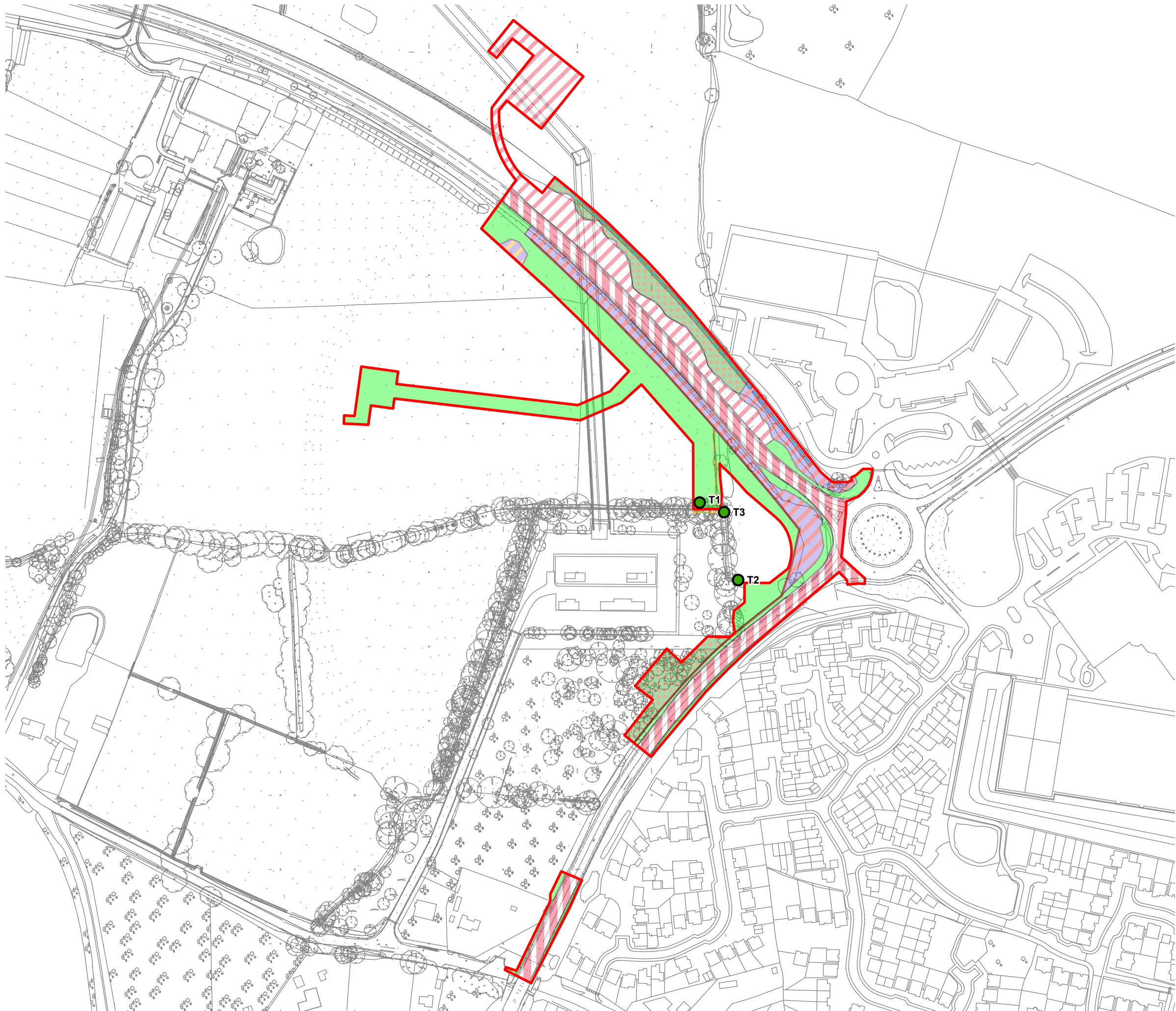
19442103-WAT-XX-XX-RP-N-750001_C01_A0



- Site Boundary
- Baseline Habitats**
- g4 - Modified grassland
 - h3d - Bramble scrub
 - h3h - Mixed scrub
 - u1f - Sparsely vegetated land
 - w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved
 - u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
 - h2 - Hedgerow
 - r50 - Ditch
 - u1e - Built linear feature
- Target Note 1: Incidental juvenile slow-worm was identified



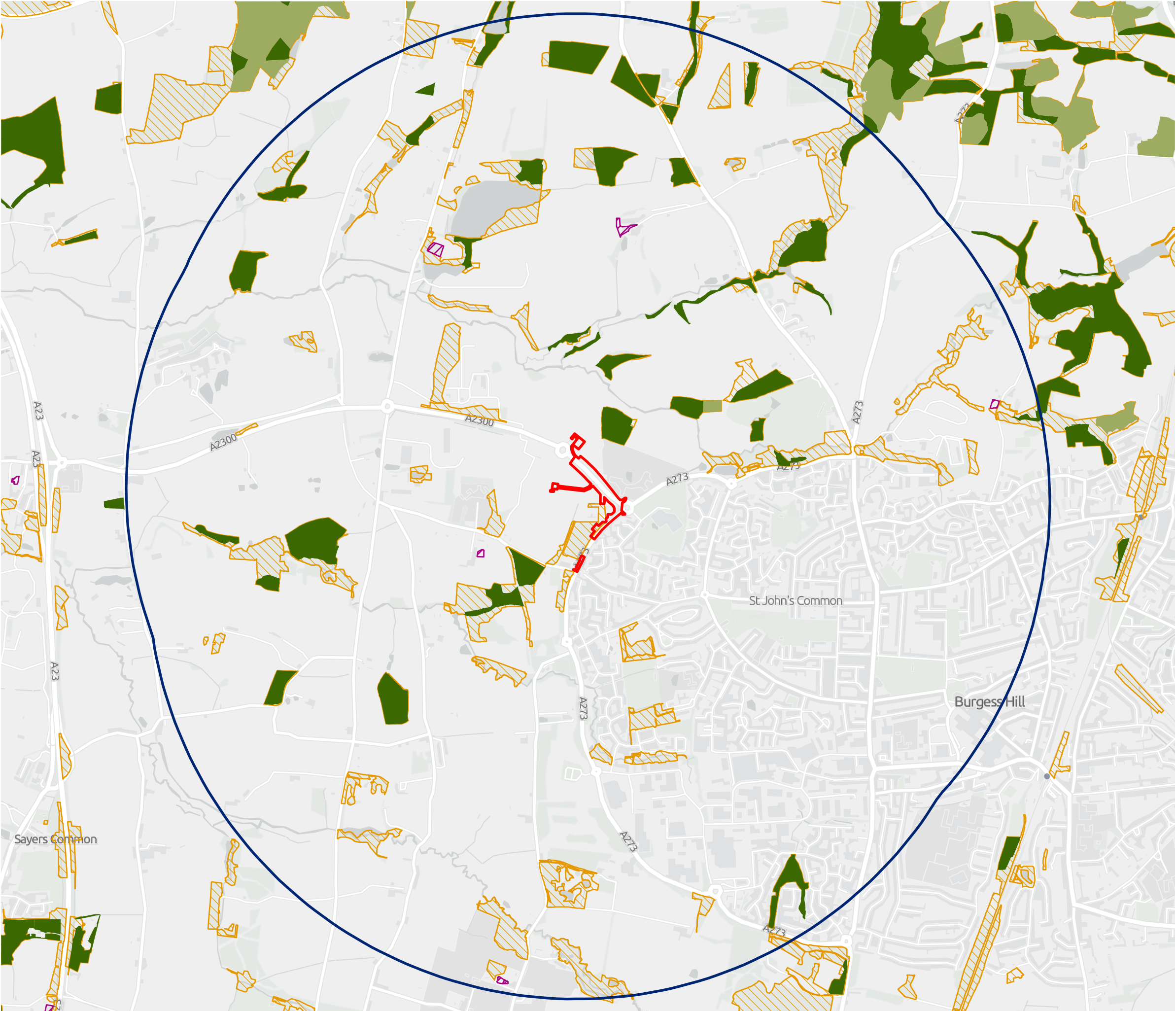
Project Details	WIE19442-103: Burgess Hill
Figure Title	Figure 1: Habitats Features Plan
Figure Ref	WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_1B
Date	November 2024
File Location	N:\Projects\WIE19442-103\GIS\WIE19442-103_GIS_EC



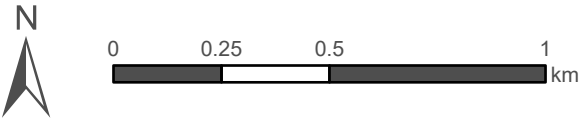
- Site Boundary
- Preliminary Roost Assessment Location
- Baseline Habitats**
- g4 - Modified grassland
 - h3d - Bramble scrub
 - h3h - Mixed scrub
 - u1f - Sparsely vegetated land
 - w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved
 - u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
 - h2 - Hedgerow
 - r50 - Ditch
 - u1e - Built linear feature



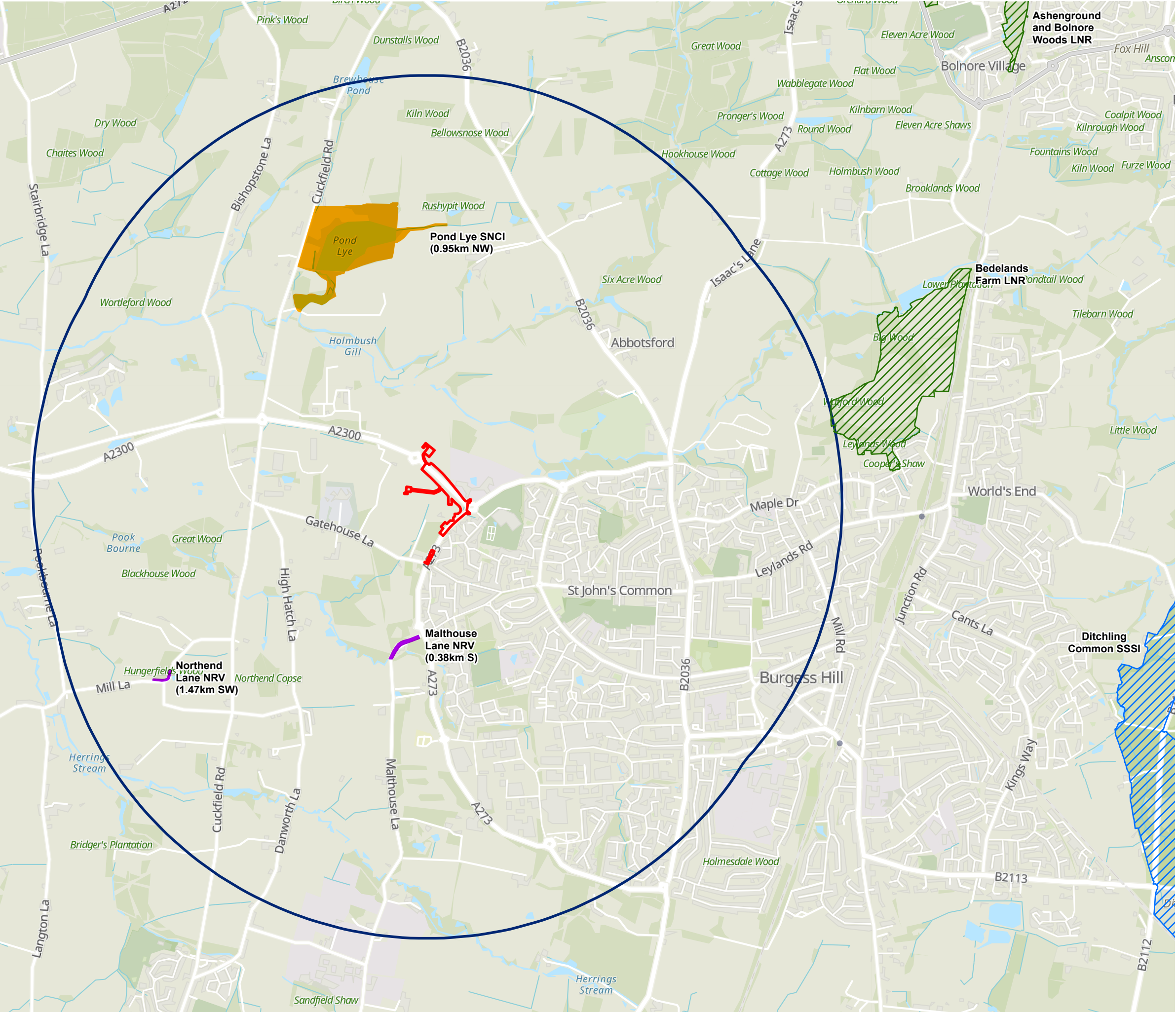
Project Details	WIE19442-103: Burgess Hill
Figure Title	Figure 2: Preliminary Roost Preliminary Roost
Figure Ref	WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_2B
Date	November 2024
File Location	N:\Projects\WIE19442-103\GIS\WIE19442-103_GIS_EC



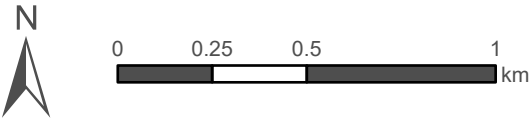
- Site Boundary
- 2km Search Area
- Notable Habitats**
- Deciduous woodland
- Traditional orchard
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland



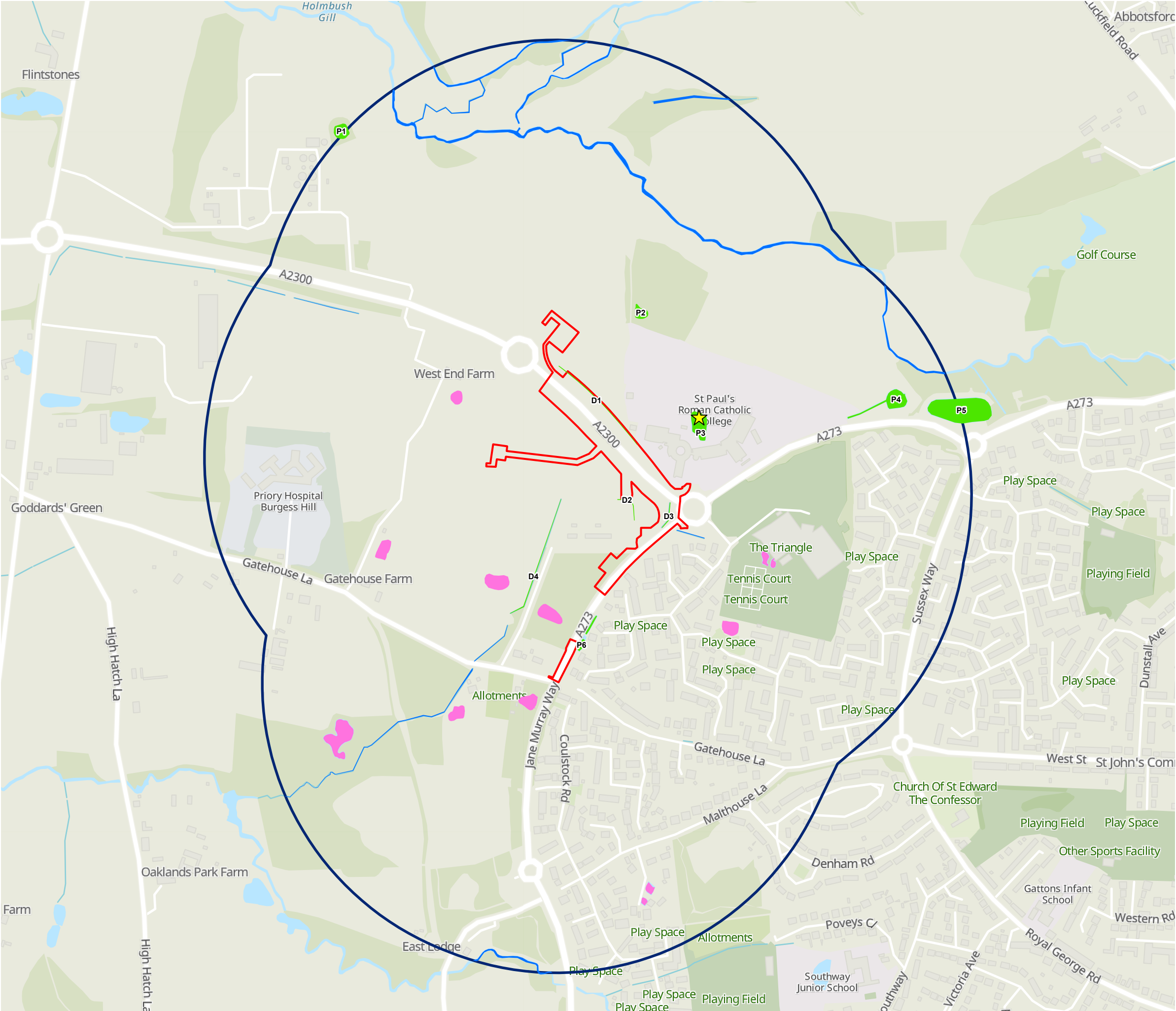
Project Details	WIE19442-103: Burgess Hill
Figure Title	Figure 3: Ancient Woodlands and Notable Habitats
Figure Ref	WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_3B
Date	November 2024
File Location	N:\Projects\WIE19442-103\GIS\WIE19442-103_GIS_EC



- Site Boundary
- 2km Search Area
- Non-Statutory Designated Sites**
- Pond Lye SNCI
- Malthouse Lane and Northend Lane NRV
- Nearest Statutory Designated Sites**
- Local Nature Reserves (LNR)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)



Project Details	WIE19442-103: Burgess Hill
Figure Title	Figure 4: Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites
Figure Ref	WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_4B
Date	November 2024
File Location	N:\Projects\WIE19442-103\GIS\WIE19442-103_GIS_EC



- Site Boundary
- 500m Search Area
- Waterbodies**
- xx Waterbodies subject to HSI due to connectivity to the Site
- Waterbodies have sufficient barriers such as roads and infrastructure between them and the Site that no HSI is required
- Other Waterbodies within 500m
- ★ GCN identified 2023



Project Details	WIE19442-103: Burgess Hill
Figure Title	Figure 5: Waterbodies within 500m of the Site and Great Crested Newt Status
Figure Ref	WIE19442-103_GIS_EcIA_5B
Date	November 2024
File Location	N:\Projects\WIE19442-103\GIS\WIE19442-103_GIS_EC

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Western Bridge and Link Road (WBLR) Phase 3 (Brookleigh, Burgess Hill)

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A. Summary of Relevant Planning Policy and Wildlife Legislation

Environment Act 2021

The Environment Bill was given Royal Assent in November 2021 and is now the Environment Act 2021. The Act includes a target to halt the decline of nature by 2030 and to strengthen the existing biodiversity duty through the introduction of a mandatory requirement to achieve at least 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG) for new developments in England. These requirements commenced on 12th February 2024. The BNG requirement is framed as a pre-commencement condition and that BNG information will need to be provided by the applicant as part of the planning application submission.

It is recommended that ecological input into the landscaping is implemented so that the scheme can deliver a minimum 10% net gain in biodiversity, maximising the units that can be delivered on-site, to be calculated through the statutory metric⁴¹.

The act is supported by secondary legislation comprising six statutory instruments:

The Biodiversity Gain (Town and Country Planning) (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2024;

The Biodiversity Gain Site Register (Financial Penalties and Fees) Regulations 2024;

The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024;

The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024;

The Biodiversity Gain (Town and Country Planning) (Modifications and Amendments) (England) Regulations 2024; and,

The Biodiversity Gain Site Register Regulations 2024.

National Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework, 2024

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in 2012 and last updated in December 2024²⁶. Section 15 (outlined below) of the NPPF, 'Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment', is of relevance to this report. No significant changes to Section 15 are noted since the 2021²⁷ update. The Government Circular 06/2005²⁸ - Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: Statutory Obligations and Their Impact within the Planning System, remains valid and is still referenced within the NPPF.

The NPPF encourages the planning system to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. This should be achieved by:

- "Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
- recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
- maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
- minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs;

²⁶ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2024): National Planning Policy Framework

²⁷ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. (2021): National Planning Policy Framework

²⁸ Department of Communities and Local Government (2005): Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System.

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- preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
- Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate”.

The NPPF also stipulates that Local Planning Authorities (LPAs), when determining planning applications, should apply the following principles:

- “If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
- development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
- development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional, and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
- development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity.”

National Planning Practice Guidance, 2024

The Government’s National Planning Practice Guidance²⁹ (NPPG) is intended to provide guidance to local planning authorities and developers on the implementation of the planning policies set out within the NPPF. The guidance of most relevance to ecology and biodiversity is the Natural Environment Chapter, which explains key issues in implementing policy to protect biodiversity, including local requirements. In addition, to the biodiversity net gain guidance³⁰ which requires development to have a positive impact (‘net gain’) on biodiversity by delivering at least a 10% increase in biodiversity value relative to the pre-development biodiversity value of the onsite habitat.

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

The majority of former Priority national (English) BAP habitats and species are now those as Habitats of Principal Importance (HoPI) and Species of Principal Importance (SoPI) in England listed under Section 41 (S41) of the NERC Act 2006. For the purpose of this report, habitats and species listed under S41 of the NERC Act are referred to as having superseded the UK BAP. All public bodies have a legal obligation or ‘biodiversity duty’ under Section 40 of the NERC Act 2006 to conserve biodiversity by having particular regard to those species and habitats listed under S41.

Local Planning Policy

The Sussex Urban BAP aims to³¹:

²⁹ Department for Communities and Local Government. (2024). *National Planning Practice Guidance*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance#full-publication-update-history>.

³⁰ Department for Communities and Local Government. (2024). *National Planning Practice Guidance*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain>.

³¹ Crawley GOV (n.d). Habitat Action Plan for Sussex. Available at: <https://crawley.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/PUB228561.pdf>

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- Broaden and deepen understanding of sustainable development and the role that biodiversity plays, through all sectors of society;
- Encourage partnerships to implement biodiversity targets in all urban areas,
- Safeguard and manage biodiversity;
- Encourage key policy frameworks for urban regeneration where the protection and enhancement of biodiversity is a key priority;
- Encourage people to take more environmentally informed decisions;
- Support the delivery of environmental action at the local level;
- Promote an urban environment where quality of life and quality of environment are integral.

DPN1: Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Nature Recovery³²

Biodiversity and geodiversity will be protected because they are important natural capital assets and provide benefits as part of ecosystem services. Nature recovery will be supported and encouraged because it is important for delivering improvements to nature, ecological networks and green and blue infrastructure. Proposed development likely to affect designated nature conservation sites, protected species, priority habitats and priority species must carry out habitat and species surveys at the earliest opportunity in order to inform the design and conserve important ecological assets as listed below from negative direct and indirect effects. These assessments will need to be submitted in an ecological impact assessment report. Protecting Biodiversity

All development must ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

Direct and indirect damage and harm to existing important ecological assets will need to be avoided, including from recreational use. Such assets include:

- Internationally designated Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation
- and Ramsar sites, and any formally proposed for designation.
- Nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
- Locally designated Local Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves.
- Protected landscapes including Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks.
- Irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodland, ancient or veteran trees and lowland fen.
- Priority habitats and species.
- Other areas identified as being of nature conservation or geological interest, including wildlife corridors, areas identified for nature recovery, Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, and Nature Improvement Areas.

Biodiversity in New Developments

Development will need to demonstrate that the mitigation hierarchy set out in national policy has been applied. If significant harm to biodiversity cannot be avoided (by locating development on an alternative site with less harmful impacts or through design), then such harm will need to be mitigated. Where harm cannot be adequately mitigated, then as a last resort, such harm must be compensated for.

Biodiversity will be protected and enhanced by ensuring development:

- Protects existing biodiversity by retaining features of interest, including connecting routes as part of wider ecological networks, and ensuring the appropriate long-term management of those features.
- Takes appropriate measures to avoid and reduce disturbance to sensitive habitats and species and to support the recovery of Priority species populations.

³² Mid Sussex District Council (2023) Mid Sussex District Plan 2021 – 2039. Available at: <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/n1rddogj/district-plan-reg19-accessible-version.pdf>

- Contributes and takes opportunities to improve, enhance, manage and restore biodiversity and green and blue infrastructure, so that there is a net gain in biodiversity, including through creating new designated sites and locally relevant habitats to support nature recovery.

Development must incorporate biodiversity features and such biodiversity features must include appropriate long-term management arrangements where relevant. The Council will provide further guidance on recommended standards for biodiversity features within developments.

In Sussex, Local Sites consist of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) and Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS). The methods for designating SNCI differs in East and West Sussex. In West Sussex the SNCIs are designated on a county level using criteria available from West Sussex County Council, while in East Sussex each district has its own criteria for SNCI designations.

Sussex priority habitats relevant to the Sites location included³³:

Lowland Farmland and Grassland

- Arable Field Margins
- Hedgerows
- Traditional Orchards

Woodland

- Wood-pasture and Parkland
- Woodland

Freshwater and Wetlands

- Eutrophic Standing Waters
- Ponds
- Sussex priority species relevant to the Sites location included⁴¹: Brown hairstreak butterfly;
- Skylark;
- Linnet;
- Yellowhammer;
- Reed-bunting;
- Curlew;
- Tree sparrow;
- Grey partridge;
- Bullfinch;
- Starling;
- Song thrush, and;
- Turtle dove

Pollinator Action Plan 2019 – 2022³⁴

Our vision: Our local environment will be rich in flower-rich habitats, helping support sustainable pollinator populations and making places more attractive for people to live and work in.

³³ Sussex Wildlife Trust (2014) Biodiversity and Planning in Sussex. Available at: <https://dnu7gk7p9afoo.cloudfront.net/Files/swt-planning-guidance-2014.pdf>

³⁴ West Sussex Council (2018). POLLINATOR ACTION PLAN 2019 - 2022 Available at: https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/12616/pollinator_action_plan.pdf

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Aims: The County Council will work to:

- encourage local plans, policy and guidance to represent the needs of pollinators
- protect and enhance the amount of pollinator habitat in West Sussex to prevent extinctions and
- improve the status of any locally threatened species
- improve our knowledge and understanding of pollinators in our local area
- increase awareness of pollinators and their habitat needs across local residents, businesses and
- other landowners
- increase the contribution to pollinator conservation of land under the ownership of, or managed
- by, the County Council.

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Legislation

Specific habitats and species receive legal protection in England under various pieces of legislation, including:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017³⁵ (as amended);
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended)³⁶; and
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006³⁷;

Further details of legislation in respect of legally protected and notable flora and fauna of relevance to the Site are provided below:

Bats

In summary, all UK bat species are protected by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and by the WCA 1981 (as amended). Taken together it is an offence to deliberately, intentionally or recklessly:

- Kill, injure or capture a bat;
- Disturb bats in such a way as to be likely significant to affect
 - (i) the ability of any significant group of bats to survive, breed, or rear / nurture their young; or
 - (ii) the local distribution of that species;
- Damage or destroy any breeding or resting place used by bats; or
- Obstruct access to any place used by bats for shelter or protection and disturbing bats while occupying such as place.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Birds

The level of protection afforded to birds under the law varies from species to species. A few game and pest species may lawfully be hunted and killed, usually under licence, whilst the rarest species are listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA 1981 and are protected by special penalties for offences.

³⁵ HMSO (2017) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

³⁶ HMSO (1981) 'Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)'

³⁷ ODPM (2006) 'Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)'

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All of the native bird species of Britain are additionally covered by the European Union (EU) Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 2009³⁸ ('The Birds Directive'). The Birds Directive applies to all wild birds, their eggs, nests and habitats, and provides for the protection, management and control of all species of birds naturally occurring within each member state of the European Union. It requires the UK to take measures to ensure the preservation of sufficient diversity of habitats to maintain populations of all wild birds at ecologically and scientifically sustainable levels. The requirements of the Birds Directive are implemented in the UK primarily through the WCA 1981 (as amended) and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Statutory protection is given to all nesting birds in the UK under the WCA 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird, take, damage or destroy its nest whilst in use or being built, or take or destroy its eggs. In addition to this, for species listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb birds while they are nest building, or at or near a nest with eggs or young, or to disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

In addition to statutory protection, the bird species of Britain are also subject to various conservation designations intended to indicate their rarity, population status and conservation priority. These do not have statutory force but may be instrumental in determining local, regional and national planning and development policy. The main categories of designation comprise the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) 'Species Alert' lists, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) 'Birds of Conservation Concern' lists and species listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 and local Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs).

The BTO Conservation Alert System lists of 'Birds of Conservation Concern' include a 'Red List' for birds of high conservation concern and an 'Amber List' for birds of medium conservation concern. Red List species are those that are globally threatened, and Amber List species are those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) criteria³⁹. An updated list of 'Red' and 'Amber List' species was published in 2015 (Eaton et al., 2015)⁴⁰.

Great Crested Newt

In summary, great crested newt, their eggs, breeding sites and resting places are protected by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and by the WCA 1981 (as amended). Taken together it is an offence to:

- capturing, killing, disturbing or injuring great crested newts deliberately.
- damaging or destroying a breeding or resting place.
- obstructing access to their resting or sheltering places (deliberately or recklessly).
- possessing, selling, controlling or transporting live or dead newts, or parts of them.
- taking great crested newt eggs.

Hazel Dormouse

Hazel dormice, their breeding sites and resting places are protected by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and by the WCA 1981 (as amended). Taken together it is an offence to

- deliberately capture, injure or kill hazel dormice.
- damage or destroy a dormouse resting place or breeding site.
- deliberately or recklessly disturb a hazel dormouse while it's in a structure or place of shelter or protection.

³⁸ Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds

³⁹ IUCN (2000): 'The revised Categories and Criteria (IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria version 3.1)'.

⁴⁰ Eaton et al (2015): 'Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the population status of birds in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man'. *British Birds* 108, 708–746.

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- block access to structures or places of shelter or protection.
- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead hazel dormice, or parts of hazel dormice.

Hedgehog

Hedgehogs are legally protected under Schedule 6 of the WCA 1981 (as amended). This makes it illegal to kill or capture them using certain methods.

Invertebrates

The majority of invertebrate species are not legally protected. However, a total of seventy-two terrestrial and aquatic invertebrate species are protected under the WCA 1981 (as amended). Certain species of invertebrate are also protected under the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended).

Protected and other Notable Flora

Wild plants listed in Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) receive special protection. It is an offence to intentionally pick, uproot or destroy such a plant or to possess, sell or exchange them. Even non-vascular plants - which have no roots - are protected against removal from the substrate on which they are growing. The Schedule is reviewed every five years. It currently includes vascular plants (including flowering plants, ferns and horsetails), bryophytes (including mosses and liverworts), charophytes (stoneworts), lichens and fungi⁴¹.

Invasive Non-native Plant Species

In accordance with those species listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA 1981 (as amended) it is an offence to:

- Plant in the wild (or release seeds);
- Allow their spread into the wild

Reptiles

All native British reptiles are protected in accordance with the WCA 1981 (as amended). There are two levels of protection afforded to reptiles through the WCA 1981 (as amended); these result from different parts of the Act applying to the different species.

In summary, common species of reptile such as common lizard *Zootoca vivipara*, slow worm *Anguis fragilis*, grass snake *Natrix natrix* and adder *Vipera berus* are partially protected under the WCA 1981 (as amended); this prohibits the intentional killing and injuring and trade (i.e. sale, barter, exchange, transporting for sale and advertising to sell or to buy).

⁴¹ Natural England (2014) Wild plants: dangerous, invasive and protected species. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wild-plants-dangerous-invasive-and-protected-species#specially-protected-plants>

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B. Notable Species for the Site

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Bats				
Bat <i>Chiroptera sp.</i>	Hab Dir A2 NP, Hab Dir A4	7	17/06/2021	0.45 SW
Serotine <i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a	2	22/05/2012	0.75 SW
Bechstein's Bat <i>Myotis bechsteinii</i>	Hab Dir A2 NP, Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	1	14/12/2017	1.71 W
Daubenton's Bat <i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a	2	29/07/2020	1.39 NW
Whiskered Bat <i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a	1	09/10/2013	1.63 SE
Whiskered/Brandt's <i>Myotis mystacinus/brandtii</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a	2	05/10/2012	0.62 W
Natterer's Bat <i>Myotis nattereri</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a	3	12/09/2020	1.21 S
Noctule Bat <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	1	22/07/2021	1.97 SW
Pipistrelle Bat species <i>Pipistrellus sp.</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	6	22/06/2009	0.72 E
Common Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, NERC S41, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a	28	27/10/2022	0.30 E
Soprano Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	5	June 2018 - July 2018	1.18 E
Long-eared Bat species <i>Plecotus sp.</i>	Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	2	31/01/2018	1.40 SW
Brown Long-eared Bat <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	Hab Dir A4	13	12/09/2017	0.43 SW

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
	Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41			

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Birds				
Lesser Redpoll <i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	NERC S41	6	08/12/2020	1.96 E
Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter nisus</i>		107	05/02/2022	
Sedge Warbler <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		11	21/07/2011	
Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		38	07/06/2020	
Common Sandpiper <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		11	12/05/2005	1.45 NW
Long-tailed Tit <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		184	05/12/2022	
Mandarin Duck <i>Aix galericulata</i>		23	22/05/2012	
Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	NERC S41	19	08/02/2022	0.34 SE
Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Birds Dir A1 WCA Sch1 Pt1	74	01/09/2018	0.22 SW
Red-legged Partridge <i>Alectoris rufa</i>		5	14/03/1999	
Egyptian Goose <i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>		3	23/07/2007	
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>		9	01/02/2012	
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		137	04/08/2022	0.22 SW
White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>	NERC S41	1	10/02/1991	1.92 S

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>		8	27/04/2019	
Snow Goose <i>Anser caerulescens</i>		1	16/09/1997	
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>		20	02/12/2021	1.84 SE
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	NERC S41	4	22/05/2012	0.44 SW
Swift <i>Apus apus</i>		127	24/07/2022	0.63 S
Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>		93	28/11/2022	
Short-eared Owl <i>Asio flammeus</i>	Birds Dir A1	1	07/02/2024	
Little Owl <i>Athene noctua</i>		9	22/05/2012	
Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i>		4	09/01/1999	
Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>		7	26/03/2003	
Waxwing <i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>		10	30/01/2009	
Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Birds Dir A1 WCA Sch1 Pt1, NERC S41	5	01/02/2003	1.73 NW
Brent Goose <i>Branta bernicla</i>		1	12/11/2014	
Canada Goose <i>Branta canadensis</i>		76	17/05/2022	
Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i>		1	13/11/1991	
Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i>		163	05/12/2022	
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>		1	01/01/1997	
Nightjar	Birds Dir A1	3	22/05/2012	0.44 SW

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	NERC S41			
Goldfinch <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		170	11/02/2024	
Treecreeper <i>Certhia familiaris</i>		103	28/11/2022	
Greenfinch <i>Chloris chloris</i>		175	07/02/2024	
Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		128	01/12/2022	1.04 NW
Hen Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Birds Dir A1 WCA Sch1 Pt1, NERC S41	1	26/01/2003	
Hawfinch <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	NERC S41	15	07/02/2018	0.61 SE
Jackdaw <i>Coloeus monedula</i>		238	06/12/2022	
Rock Dove <i>Columba livia</i>		55	01/12/2022	
Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>		53	03/09/2022	1.02 NW
Woodpigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>		349	04/06/2023	
Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>		10	06/12/2022	
Carrion Crow <i>Corvus corone</i>		334	05/12/2022	
Carrion Crow <i>Corvus corone corone</i>		2	12/11/2011	
Rook <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>		94	28/11/2022	
Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	NERC S41	35	16/06/2019	0.50 SW
Whitethroat <i>Curruca communis</i>		71	04/05/2023	0.64 S
Lesser Whitethroat <i>Curruca curruca</i>		30	27/04/2020	

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Blue Tit <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		364	11/02/2024	
Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>		62	01/01/2010	1.50 NW
House Martin <i>Delichon urbicum</i>		47	20/09/2020	1.0 E
Great Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos major</i>		210	05/12/2022	
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dryobates minor</i>	NERC S41	23	27/08/2018	0.52 NE
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dryobates minor comminutus</i>	NERC S41, NERC S41	1	07/03/2021	
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>		22	19/11/2019	1.35 S
Corn Bunting <i>Emberiza calandra</i>	NERC S41	3	15/11/2018	1.94 SW
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	NERC S41	38	08/02/2022	1.0 W
Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	NERC S41	19	03/04/2023	1.03 NW
Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		352	11/02/2024	
Lanner Falcon <i>Falco biarmicus</i>		1	22/08/2001	
Peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Birds Dir A1 WCA Sch1 Pt1	9	05/04/2022	
Hobby <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	31	26/09/2023	0.63 S
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		103	05/12/2022	0.22 SW
Pied Flycatcher <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		2	15/09/1996	
Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		238	01/12/2022	
Brambling	WCA Sch1 Pt1	3	19/02/2006	

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Fringilla montifringilla				
Coot		28	31/05/2020	
Fulica atra				
Snipe		16	01/03/2018	1.70 SE
Gallinago gallinago				
Moorhen		121	28/11/2022	
Gallinula chloropus				
Jay		188	03/04/2023	
Garrulus glandarius				
Red-throated Diver	WCA Sch1 Pt1	1	09/02/1992	1.77 SE
Gavia stellata				
White-tailed Eagle	WCA Sch1 Pt1	1	17/11/2023	1.60 NW
Haliaeetus albicilla				
Swallow		90	29/05/2023	1.04 NW
Hirundo rustica				
Mediterranean Gull	WCA Sch1 Pt1	1	05/06/2016	
Ichthyaetus melanocephalus				
Seagull		1	04/06/2023	
Larus				
Herring Gull	NERC S41	196	05/12/2022	1.67 NE
Larus argentatus				
A Bird	NERC S41, NERC S41	1	12/11/2011	
Larus argentatus argenteus				
Common Gull		7	11/11/2019	
Larus canus				
Lesser Black-backed Gull		9	02/06/2021	1.83 SE
Larus fuscus				
Great Black-backed Gull		1	11/12/2018	
Larus marinus				
Linnet	NERC S41	12	19/09/2019	1.30 SW
Linaria cannabina				
Grasshopper Warbler	NERC S41	2	24/08/2009	
Locustella naevia				
Crossbill	WCA Sch1 Pt1	1	03/07/2005	
Loxia curvirostra				

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Nightingale <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		110	14/05/2022	0.37 SW
Wigeon <i>Mareca penelope</i>		4	19/02/2008	
Gadwall <i>Mareca strepera</i>		1	25/12/1991	
Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1, NERC S41	1	06/07/2002	1.52 N
Budgerigar <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>		1	22/03/1997	
Smew <i>Mergellus albellus</i>	Birds Dir A1	1	16/01/1957	
Goosander <i>Mergus merganser</i>		3	14/11/1998	
Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	Birds Dir A1 WCA Sch1 Pt1	15	23/06/2022	0.18 S
Pied Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>		95	01/12/2022	
Pied Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>		13	02/12/2021	
Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		79	05/04/2022	0.78 S
Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	NERC S41	5	16/05/2013	1.54 N
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	NERC S41	8	07/06/2020	1.72 NW
Cockatiel <i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>		1	03/09/1999	
Wheatear <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		5	08/05/2005	0.81 S
Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Birds Dir A1 WCA Sch1 Pt1	3	04/09/2009	
Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>		324	01/12/2022	
House Sparrow	NERC S41	293	24/05/2023	0.82 SE

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
<i>Passer domesticus</i>				
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	NERC S41	5	08/02/1997	1.54 SW
Indian Peafowl <i>Pavo cristatus</i>		3	08/02/2020	
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	NERC S41	4	07/04/2013	1.48 N
Coal Tit <i>Periparus ater</i>		80	25/02/2022	
Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		48	05/12/2022	
Pheasant <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		73	05/12/2022	
Black Redstart <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	1	15/11/2010	
Redstart <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		3	20/04/2008	1.12 S
Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		170	05/04/2022	
Wood Warbler <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	NERC S41	1	03/07/2000	1.74 NW
Willow Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		33	14/04/2018	1.02 NW
Magpie <i>Pica pica</i>		330	06/12/2022	
Green Woodpecker <i>Picus viridis</i>		213	05/12/2022	1.03 SE
Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		67	10/04/2016	
Willow Tit <i>Poecile montanus</i>	NERC S41	4	02/04/2006	1.52 N
Marsh Tit <i>Poecile palustris</i>	NERC S41	34	14/06/2019	1.68 NE
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	NERC S41	218	04/05/2023	1.03 NW

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Ring-necked Parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i>		2	04/12/2022	
Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	NERC S41	144	05/02/2022	1.03 NW
Water Rail <i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		17	30/01/2015	
Firecrest <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	7	29/07/2011	2.80 W
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>		150	28/11/2022	
Greater Rhea <i>Rhea americana</i>		1	01/07/2006	
Sand Martin <i>Riparia riparia</i>		6	01/08/2009	
Whinchat <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		2	03/09/2022	
Stonechat <i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		2	31/10/2008	
Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>		2	01/02/2012	
Nuthatch <i>Sitta europaea</i>		216	05/04/2022	
Shoveler <i>Spatula clypeata</i>		4	23/04/2003	1.51 N
Siskin <i>Spinus spinus</i>		30	15/01/2019	
Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Birds Dir A1	2	06/06/1999	
Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		180	01/12/2022	
Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	NERC S41	17	26/09/2012	0.60 S
Owls <i>Strigidae</i>		1	02/08/2007	
Tawny Owl		40	19/09/2021	0.72 SW

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
<i>Strix aluco</i>				
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	NERC S41	216	05/12/2022	1.0 E
Blackcap <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		136	10/12/2021	
Garden Warbler <i>Sylvia borin</i>		28	11/04/2018	
Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		3	22/04/2000	
Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		1	12/05/1993	
Paradise/New Zealand Shelduck <i>Tadorna variegata</i>		2	20/03/2003	
Green Sandpiper <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	6	12/02/2008	
Wren <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		281	05/12/2022	
Thrush Species <i>Turdus</i>		1	25/05/2012	
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	108	28/11/2022	
Blackbird <i>Turdus merula</i>		353	09/12/2022	
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	NERC S41	215	01/12/2022	1.03 NW
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	66	08/02/2022	
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	NERC S41	1	12/10/1993	2.02 E
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		66	17/11/2021	1.03 NW
Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	WCA Sch1 Pt1	52	15/12/2022	0.66 SW
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	NERC S41	15	01/03/2018	0.96 E

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Amphibians				
Common Toad <i>Bufo bufo</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a, NERC S41	26	10/04/2016	0.08 E
Unidentified Amphibian <i>Lissotriton</i>		3	May 2009 - June 2009	
Palmate Newt <i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a	21	27/03/2011 - 12/04/2011	0.60 E
Smooth Newt <i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a	120	16/06/2022	
Common Frog <i>Rana temporaria</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a	79	03/05/2016	0.08 E
Newt <i>Triturus</i>		17	02/06/2015	
Great Crested Newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i>	Hab Dir A2 NP, Hab Dir A4 Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	106	18/05/2022	0.14 NE

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Mammals				
Yellow-necked Mouse <i>Apodemus flavicollis</i>		1	30/05/1966	
Wood Mouse <i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>		11	26/12/2016	
European Water Vole <i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.4a/s9.4b/s9.4c, NERC S41	3	14/08/2008 - 24/08/2008	1.42 N
Roe Deer <i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		12	13/07/2018	
West European Hedgehog <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	NERC S41	54	03/07/2023	0.29 E
Field Vole <i>Microtus agrestis</i>		4	15/08/2006 - 12/09/2006	

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Hazel Dormouse <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	Hab Reg Sch2, WCA Sch5 s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5a, NERC S41	4	25/05/2012	0.22 SW
Stoat <i>Mustela erminea</i>		1	23/07/2007	
Weasel <i>Mustela nivalis</i>		2	01/03/2008 - 30/11/2008	
Bank Vole <i>Myodes glareolus</i>		1	27/02/2021	
Eurasian Water Shrew <i>Neomys fodiens</i>		7	01/05/2018	
American Mink <i>Neovison vison</i>		4	21/02/2021	
European Rabbit <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		33	13/04/2022	0.17 NW
Brown Rat <i>Rattus norvegicus</i>		2	22/01/2022	
Eastern Grey Squirrel <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>		18	02/01/2013	
Eurasian Red Squirrel <i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.1/s9.1 kill/s9.1 take/s9.4a/s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5 a, NERC S41	1	1931	
Eurasian Common Shrew <i>Sorex araneus</i>		8	22/05/2012	
?Eurasian Pygmy Shrew <i>Sorex minutus</i>		1	29/08/1966	
European Mole <i>Talpa europaea</i>		8	07/05/2009	
Red Fox <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		38	17/06/2021	

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Reptiles				

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Slow-worm <i>Anguis fragilis</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.1/s9.1 kill/s9.5a, NERC S41	20	22/04/2019	0.22 SW
Grass Snake <i>Natrix helvetica</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.1/s9.1 kill/s9.5a, NERC S41	22	15/07/2016	0.22 SW
Adder <i>Vipera berus</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.1/s9.1 kill/s9.5a, NERC S41	2	01/01/1993	0.43 SE
Common Lizard <i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.1/s9.1 kill/s9.5a, NERC S41	6	06/05/2008 - 18/06/2008	0.31 E

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
Invertebrates				
Hill Cuckoo Bee <i>Bombus rupestris</i>		1	21/05/2017	1.73 SW
Stag Beetle <i>Lucanus cervus</i>		1	25/07/2008 - 30/09/2008	1.34 NW
A Beetle <i>Paracorymbia fulva</i>		3	10/07/2023	0.53 W
A Beetle <i>Ptinus sexpunctatus</i>		1	08/04/2017	1.72 SW
Black-headed Cardinal Beetle <i>Pyrochroa coccinea</i>		1	23/05/2007	0.16 SE
A Beetle <i>Rhinocyllus conicus</i>		1	15/02/2024	1.30 S
A Beetle <i>Staphylinus dimidiaticornis</i>		1	11/04/2018	1.69 SW
Purple Emperor <i>Apatura iris</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a	4	16/07/2014	0.64 S
Small Heath <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	NERC S41	20	23/06/2022	0.63 S
Small Blue <i>Cupido minimus</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a, NERC S41	11	16/06/2021	1.59 S
Dingy Skipper <i>Erynnis tages</i>	NERC S41	2	28/05/2023	0.29 E
Wall <i>Lasiommata megera</i>	NERC S41	1	01/06/1999	1.95 E
White Admiral <i>Limenitis camilla</i>	NERC S41	5	16/06/2020	1.01 E
Grizzled Skipper	NERC S41	4	01/06/2014	0.70 SW

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>				
Brown Hairstreak <i>Thecla betulae</i>	WCA Sch5 s9.5a, NERC S41	35	23/11/2023	0.46 SE
Variable Damselfly <i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>		4	19/05/2008 - 08/06/2008	1.75 NW
Downy Emerald <i>Cordulia aenea</i>		5	19/05/2008 - 30/06/2008	1.52 N
Scarce Chaser <i>Libellula fulva</i>		2	19/05/2008 - 30/06/2008	1.72 NW
Brilliant Emerald Dragonfly <i>Somatochlora metallica</i>		1	28/07/2006	1.37 N
Common Darter <i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>		10	03/08/2017	0.36 NE
Long-winged Cone-head <i>Conocephalus fuscus</i>		1	08/08/2022	1.35 S
Roesel's Bush-cricket <i>Roeseliana roeselii</i>		1	14/07/2010	1.50 N
Knot Grass <i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	NERC S41	6	17/05/2020	0.70 S
Forester <i>Adscita statice statice</i>	NERC S41	1	05/07/2021	1.52 S
Green-brindled Crescent <i>Allophyas oxyacanthae</i>	NERC S41	1	01/10/2012	2.04 E
Garden Tiger <i>Arctia caja</i>	NERC S41	2	13/08/1985	2.03 E
Sprawler <i>Asteroscopus sphinx</i>	NERC S41	1	01/11/2012	2.05 E
Centre-barred Sallow <i>Atethmia centrago</i>	NERC S41	1	14/09/2019	0.69 S
Minor Shoulder-knot <i>Brachylomia viminalis</i>	NERC S41	1	01/07/2012	2.05 E
Bulrush Veneer <i>Calamotropha paludella</i>		2	27/07/1995	1.54 N
Mottled Rustic <i>Caradrina morpheus</i>	NERC S41	1	1990 - 1992	1.70 SW
Dark Crimson Underwing <i>Catocala sponsa</i>	NERC S41	1	18/08/2023	1.72 SW
Latticed Heath <i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>	NERC S41	1	19/08/2019	0.69 S
Red-green Carpet <i>Chloroclysta siterata</i>	NERC S41	1	19/08/2019	0.71 S
Sallow <i>Cirrhia icteritia</i>	NERC S41	1	19/08/2019	0.50 E
Brussels Lace		1	14/06/2020	0.69 S

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
<i>Cleorodes lichenaria</i>				
Scarce Grass-veneer <i>Crambus pratella</i>		1	28/05/2020	0.70 S
Wood Grass-veneer <i>Crambus silvella</i>		1	28/06/2020	0.69 S
Small Square-spot <i>Diarsia rubi</i>	NERC S41	2	22/08/2017	1.73 SW
Figure of Eight <i>Diloba caeruleocephala</i>	NERC S41	2	01/10/2012	1.70 SW
Small Phoenix <i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>	NERC S41	3	28/05/2020	0.68 S
Orange Footman <i>Eilema sororcula</i>		2	03/06/2020	0.68 S
Dusky Thorn <i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	NERC S41	5	04/09/2019	0.74 S
Spinach <i>Eulithis mellinata</i>	NERC S41	1	01/06/2012	2.03 E
Juniper Pug <i>Eupithecia pusillata</i>		1	05/04/2020	0.78 S
Jersey Tiger <i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>	Hab Dir A2 NP	1	19/08/2023	1.73 SW
Chequered Pearl <i>Evergestis pallidata</i>		1	08/07/2020	0.69 S
Alder Kitten <i>Furcula bicuspis</i>		2	09/05/2022	0.69 S
Rush Wainscot <i>Globia algae</i>		8	27/07/1995	1.53 N
Webb's Wainscot <i>Globia sparganii</i>		8	22/08/2017	1.50 N
Marbled Coronet <i>Hadena confusa</i>		1	01/06/2012	2.02 E
Small Ranunculus <i>Hecatera dysodea</i>		1	21/06/2020	0.70 S
Small Emerald <i>Hemistola chrysoprasaria</i>		1	01/05/2012	2.03 E
Rustic <i>Hoplodrina blanda</i>	NERC S41	4	13/08/2017	1.72 SW
Rosy Rustic <i>Hydraecia micacea</i>	NERC S41	3	24/08/2017	1.70 SW
Great Oak Beauty <i>Hypomecis roboraria</i>		1	20/05/2020	0.69 S
Shoulder-striped Wainscot <i>Leucania comma</i>	NERC S41	2	03/06/2020	0.68 S
Rosy Minor	NERC S41	2	20/05/2020	0.70 S

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<i>Litoligia literosa</i>				
Brindled Beauty <i>Lycia hirtaria</i>	NERC S41	6	09/05/2020	0.70 S
Lackey <i>Malacosoma neustria</i>	NERC S41	5	21/06/2020	0.71 S
Kent Black Arches <i>Meganola albula</i>		1	14/06/2020	0.69 S
L-album Wainscot <i>Mythimna l-album</i>		1	01/06/2012	2.03 E
Common Wainscot <i>Mythimna pallens</i>		11	25/05/2020	7.0 S
Oblique Carpet <i>Orthonama vittata</i>	NERC S41	1	13/08/1983	1.59 NW
Powdered Quaker <i>Orthosia gracilis</i>	NERC S41	1	01/05/2012	2.04 E
Barberry Carpet Pareulype berberata	WCA Sch5 s9.1/s9.1 kill/s9.1 take/s9.4a/s9.4b/s9.4c/s9.5 a, NERC S41	1	28/05/2020	0.70 S
Grass Rivulet <i>Perizoma albulata</i>		2	19/06/2010	2.03 E
Shaded Broad-bar <i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>	NERC S41	3	01/08/2022	1.42 NW
Lunar Thorn <i>Selenia lunularia</i>		2	19/05/2012	2.02 E
White Ermine <i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	NERC S41	4	03/06/2020	0.70 S
Buff Ermine <i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	NERC S41	3	20/05/2020	0.69 S
Feathered Gothic <i>Tholera decimalis</i>	NERC S41	1	05/09/2019	0.69 S
Blood-vein <i>Timandra comae</i>	NERC S41	3	13/08/2017	1.57 NW
Cinnabar <i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	NERC S41	8	06/07/2022	0.42 S
Oak Hook-tip <i>Watsonalla binaria</i>	NERC S41	4	25/04/2020	0.69 S
Sword-grass <i>Xylena exsoleta</i>		1	10/07/2019	1.84 NE
Wasp Spider <i>Argiope bruennichi</i>		4	22/05/2012	0.63 S
A True Fly <i>Volucella inanis</i>		2	12/08/2023	1.61 S
Hornet Hoverfly <i>Volucella zonaria</i>		3	29/06/2022	0.50 W

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SBRC returned records of Notable Flora from within 2km of the site				
Pillwort <i>Pilularia globulifera</i>	1	1850		
Caraway <i>Carum carvi</i>	1	01/08/2006	1.71 W	
Pennyroyal <i>Mentha pulegium</i>	2	22/08/2008 - 26/08/2008	1.13 NW	
Tubular Water-dropwort <i>Oenanthe fistulosa</i>	2	14/07/1988	1.51 NW	
Small Fleabane <i>Pulicaria vulgaris</i>	1	15/06/1994	0.43 SE	
Corn Buttercup <i>Pulicaria vulgaris</i>	2	11/06/2000	1.13 NW	
Shepherd's-needle <i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	1	1979		

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
SBRC returned records of Sussex Rare Notable Flora from within 2km of the site				
Corn Chamomile <i>Anthemis arvensis</i>		1	1987 - 2001	1.78 E
A flowering plant <i>Arum italicum</i> subsp. <i>. neglectum</i>		1	1979	
Box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>		7	23/04/2010	0.52 W
Henbane <i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>		1	15/08/2006 - 12/09/2006	1.51 W
White Horehound <i>Marrubium vulgare</i>		1	25/07/2008 - 30/09/2008	1.31 W
Welsh Poppy <i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>		1	11/05/2009	2.82 SW
Water-soldier <i>Stratiotes aloides</i>		1	01/09/2008	1.71 E
Large-leaved Lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>		1	1968	
Yellow-vetch <i>Vicia lutea</i>		2	22/08/2008 - 26/08/2008	1.16 NW

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
SBRC returned records of Red Listed Notable Flora within 2km of the site				
Green-winged Orchid <i>Anacamptis morio</i>		1	20/05/2016	0.44 NE
Quaking-grass		3	20/05/2008	0.42 SE

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
<i>Briza media</i>				
Bladder-sedge		6	04/08/2022	1.04 NW
<i>Carex vesicaria</i>				
Crosswort		1	14/11/2008	1.27 SW
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>				
Common Eyebright		1	21/11/2005	0.66 SW
<i>Euphrasia nemorosa</i>				
Wild Strawberry		6	11/07/2011	0.86 S
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>				
Dyer's Greenweed		6	07/11/2005 - 15/11/2005	0.40 S
<i>Genista tinctoria</i>				
A Flowering Plant				
Marsh Pennywort		5	03/08/2010	1.03 NW
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>				
Marsh Ragwort		4	14/07/1988	1.52 NW
<i>Jacobaea aquatica</i>				
Bitter-vetch		5	07/05/2018	0.43 SE
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>				
Field Pepperwort		1	31/07/2010	0.41 SW
<i>Lepidium campestre</i>				
Common Cow-wheat		1	21/09/2002	1.50 W
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>				
Corn Mint		3	11/07/2013	1.47 W
<i>Mentha arvensis</i>				
Spiny Restharrow		3	14/07/2010	1.51 NW
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>				
Wood-sorrel		8	13/03/2011	1.30 NW
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>				
Hoary Plantain		1	07/02/1992	0.40 S
<i>Plantago media</i>				
Tormentil		9	25/05/2012	0.22 SW
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>				
Lesser Spearwort		11	04/08/2022	0.36 NE
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>				
Wild Clary		1	22/08/2008 - 26/08/2008	1.55 NW
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>				
Ragged-Robin		10	28/07/2012	0.85 SW
<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>				
Goldenrod		1	09/11/2005	2.93 N
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>				
Corn Spurrey		1	10/07/2008	2.90 N
<i>Spergula arvensis</i>				
Field Woundwort		1	30/09/2009	1.95 SW
<i>Stachys arvensis</i>				
Devil's-bit Scabious		9	04/08/2022	0.83 S
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>				
Strawberry Clover		3	29/07/2014	1.23 S
<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>				
Common Valerian		1	14/05/2011	2.71 NW
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>				
Heath Speedwell		8	15/06/2013	0.44 S
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>				
Marsh Speedwell		4	1992	1.52 N
<i>Veronica scutellata</i>				

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
SBRC returned records of Nationally rare and scareNotable Flora from within 2km of the site				
Tall Hawkweed <i>Hieracium acuminatum</i>		1	22/08/2008 - 26/08/2008	1.52 N
Aggregate-headed Hawkweed <i>Hieracium aggregatum</i>		1	28/07/2011	3.21 NE
Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil <i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>		1	1989	0.50 NW

Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
SBRC returned records of WCA Sch 9 INNS Flora within 2km of the site				
Three-cornered Garlic <i>Allium triquetrum</i>		2	22/04/2023	1.50 E
Unidentified Cotoneaster				
Diels' Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster dielsianus</i>		1	12/10/2009	1.68 NE
Wall Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>		1	11/04/2014	1.21 SE
Late Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster lacteus</i> ;		1	01/08/2006	1.55 SW
New Zealand Pigmyweed <i>Crassula helmsii</i>		2	07/05/2009 - 09/06/2009	1.04 S
Montbretia <i>Crocasmia pottsii</i> x <i>aurea</i> = <i>C. x crocosmiiflora</i>		6	24/04/2013	1.69 NE
Canadian Waterweed <i>Elodea canadensis</i>		2	01/09/2008	1.20 S
Nuttall's Waterweed <i>Elodea nuttallii</i>		2	14/03/2007	1.33 S
Japanese Knotweed <i>Fallopia japonica</i>		8	22/04/2023	1.50 E
Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>		1	30/09/2006	0.70 SW
Himalayan Balsam <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>		18	24/08/2011	0.69 SW
Yellow archangel <i>Lamium galeobdolon</i> subsp. <i>argenteum</i> ;		7	23/04/2010	
Parrot's-feather <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>		1	18/06/2007	3.22 NE
Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>		4	14/12/2017	

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Species	Category of importance	Number of records	Date of most recent record	Location of nearest records (km)
SRBC returned records of Sussex INNS Flora within 2km of the site				
Red Valerian <i>Centranthus ruber</i> ;		4	14/05/2011	1.69 NE
Pampas-grass <i>Cortaderia selloana</i> ;		1	14/12/2017	1.72 W
Spanish Bluebell <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> x <i>hispanica</i> = <i>H. x massartiana</i> ;				
Least Duckweed <i>Lemna minuta</i>		2	24/04/2013	1.31 W
Winter Heliotrope <i>Petasites fragrans</i>		9	27/08/2014	0.65 SW
Cherry Laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>		10	13/03/2011	1.29 SW
Evergreen Oak <i>Quercus ilex</i>		2	02/07/2009	0.86 SW

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C. Site photographs

Plate 1: Modified grassland MG3 picture taken from TQ 29578 20139 facing east	Plate 2: Mixed scrub MS2 same as left facing northeast
Plate 3: Mixed scrub MS2 same as above facing northwest	Plate 4: Other broadleaved woodland OBW2 at TQ 29582 20144 facing north
Plate 5: Other broadleaved woodland OBW2 at TQ 29494 20237 facing northwest	Plate 6: Ditch D1 at TQ 29501 20261 in the north of the Site facing northwest
Plate 7: Ditch D1 at TQ 29501 20261 in the north of the Site facing southwest	Plate 8: Modified grassland MG1 at TQ 29408 20278 facing east
Plate 9: Bramble scrub BS1 at TQ 29396 20256 facing west	Plate 10: Sparsely vegetated land U1 at TQ 29524 20199 facing east
Plate 11: Hedgerow H2 at TQ 29493 20188 facing north	Plate 12: Modified grassland MG2 at TQ 29564 20085 facing south
Plate 13: Modified grassland MG2 at TQ 29576 20074 facing east	Plate 14: Fence 1 at TQ 29457 20241 facing east
Plate 15: Mixed scrub MS1 at TQ 29417 20280 facing east	Plate 16: Modified grassland MG4 at TQ 29601 20118 facing south
Plate 17: Other broadleaved woodland OBW1 at TQ 29547 20025 facing west	Plate 18: Other broadleaved woodland OBW1 same as left facing north
Plate 19: Ditch D2 at TQ 29515 20103 facing southeast	

All ditches appear to be wet however, this may have been due to heavy rain the previous night before the survey.

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