



**BRYONS HOUSING CARE,
BANK HOUSE ROAD,
MANCHESTER, M9 8LY**

For

EDGEPLAN

ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND BNG REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025

● Landscape Architecture ● Ecology ● Environmental Planning & Assessment ● Arboriculture ●

17 Chorley Old Road, Bolton BL1 3AD

01204 393006

info@appletons.uk.com

www.appletons.uk.com

Follow us on



**Landscape
Institute**
Registered practice


Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION


Constructionline

IEMA
Transforming the world
to sustainability



appletons

17 Chorley Old Road
Bolton
Lancashire
BL1 3AD

Tel: 01204 393006

Email: info@appletons.uk.com

Web: www.appletons.uk.com

Copyright and Non-Disclosure Notice

The contents and layout of this report are subject to copyright owned by Appleton Deeley Limited trading as Appletons save to the extent that copyright has been legally assigned by Appletons to another party or is used by Appletons under license. To the extent that Appletons own the copyright to this report, it may not be used without written agreement from Appletons for any purpose other than that indicated in this report.

The methodology (if any) contained in this report is provided to you in confidence and must not be disclosed or copied to third parties without prior written agreement of Appletons. Disclosure of that information may constitute an actionable breach of confidence or may otherwise prejudice our commercial interests. Any third party who obtains access to this report by any means will, in any event, be subject to third party disclaimer set out below.

Third Party Disclaimer

Any disclosure of this report to a third party is subject to this disclaimer. The report was prepared by Appletons at the instruction of, and for the use by our client on the front of this report. It does not in any way constitute advice to any third party who is liable to access it by any means. Appletons excludes to the fullest extent lawfully permitted all liability whatsoever for any loss or damage howsoever arising from reliance on the contents of this report. Appletons does not however, exclude our liability (if any) for personal injury or death resulting from our negligence, for fraud, or any other matter in relation to which we cannot legally exclude liability.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

TITLE: ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENT

PROJECT: BRYONS HOUSING CARE

JOB NO: 2566-E1

CLIENT: EDGEPLAN

Prepared by: Paul Preston	Date: 24/09/2025
Surveyor: Lorna Cruice	Date: 16/09/2025
Checked by: Lorna Cruice	Date: 25/09/2025
Approved for distribution by: Lorna Cruice	Date: 25/09/2025

Document

Status	Description	Rev date	By	Approved by	Issued To	Issue date	Comments
Final	Ecological Assessment And Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment		PP	LC	JB	25/09/2025	

Revisions to Final Document

Rev	Description	Rev date	By	Approved by	Issued To	Issue date	Comments

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

In August 2025, Appletons was commissioned by Edgeplan to undertake an Ecological Assessment and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) report at The Byrons Housing Care, Bank House Road, Higher Blackley, Manchester, Greater Manchester, M9 8LY (centred at Ordnance Survey grid reference: SD 85047 03547), hereafter referred to as the Site. This work was required to inform a planning application for the erection of a small single-storey plant room and access pathway buffer. To fulfil this brief, an ecological data search and a UKHab habitat survey were undertaken at the Site by Lorna Cruice BA DipLA TechArborA CMLI.

The basic ecological data search identified records of several protected species within 1km of the Site, comprising records of hedgehog, bats, birds. One statutory nature conservation site were identified by the desk study within 1km of the Site. Blackley Forest is the closest nature conservation site located 454m the west of the Site. Two non-statutory sites were identified within 1km of the Site. The closest is Bowker Vale Woods and Reservoir, site of biological importance (SBI) lies 550m west.

The UKHab Habitat Survey was undertaken on 16th September 2025 by Lorna Cruice BA DipLA TechArborA CMLI. At the time of survey, the Application Site comprised the proposed development area for the erection of a small single-storey plant room and access pathway buffer. The Site is set within a predominantly urban residential and recreational landscape, with urban woodland, sports pitches, managed grassland, and built structures immediately adjacent to the Site.

Potential ecological concerns in relation to the proposed development are the presence of habitats suitable for Hedgehog, Bats, and Birds. In order to ensure compliance with wildlife legislation and relevant planning policy, the following recommendations are made, with further advice on each point in Section 6 of this report:

- **Trees:** All retained trees and woodland, including priority woodland, must be protected in accordance with BS5837:2012 "Trees in Relation to Construction – Recommendations". Protection must be installed on Site before any works begin where works coincide with trees or woodland.
- **Bats:** No survey for bats is required. Recommendations have been made in this report in relation to lighting and bat boxes/bricks.
- **Birds:** Any vegetation removal or demolition of structures suitable for nesting birds should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season were practicable. Nesting bird checks and an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) will be required if done during these times, removal is possible any other time of year without any checks or ECoW present.
- **Other Wildlife:** This advice applies to all wildlife, including **hedgehogs**, and non-WCA-protected species. Good Site management should prevent animals from using construction materials as refugia. If wildlife enters the construction zone during works, activity must pause until the animal leaves voluntarily. If any protected species or evidence thereof is found, a stop works notice must be issued, and all works halted until the project ecologist attends Site.
- **BNG:** A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment will **not** be required for the Site, under Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021, as the proposals fall below the de minimis threshold.

Recommendations are made in relation to sensitive Site clearance and construction management methods to minimise impacts upon local wildlife such as hedgehog, bats, and birds. In the interest of ecological enhancement, recommendations are also made in relation to the installation of bird and bat boxes and landscape planting to provide habitat and foraging opportunities for invertebrates and birds.

CONTENTS:

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Methodologies**
- 3.0 Desk Study**
- 4.0 UKHab Habitat Survey**
- 5.0 Ecological Evaluation**
- 6.0 Recommendations**
- 7.0 References**

APPENDIX 1: UKHab Habitat Survey Map

APPENDIX 2: Photographs

APPENDIX 3: Selected Desk Study Data

APPENDIX 4: Relevant Planning Policy and Wildlife Legislation

APPENDIX 5: Potential Habitat Enhancement Opportunities

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Project background

- 1.1 In August 2025, Appletons was commissioned by Edgeplan to undertake an Ecological Assessment and BNG report at The Byrons Housing Care, Bank House Road, Higher Blackley, Manchester, Greater Manchester, M9 8LY (centred at Ordnance Survey grid reference: SD 85047 03547), hereafter referred to as 'the Site'. This work was required to inform a planning application for the erection of a small single-storey plant room and access buffer. This is hereafter referred to as 'the Development'. To fulfil this brief, an ecological data search and a UKHab habitat survey and Biodiversity Net Gain calculation were undertaken.
- 1.2 To assess the ecological value of the Site, an ecological desk study data search was undertaken, and a UKHab Habitat Survey was completed at the Site by Lorna Cruice BA DipLA TechArborA CMLI on the 16th of September 2025.

Site description and context

- 1.3 The survey boundary of the Site, is a 22.72 m² area of modified grassland within The Byrons Housing Care, Bank House Road, Higher Blackley, Manchester (M9 8LY), intended for a proposed plant room. Directly east is Prospect House Specialist Support Primary School. To the north is Co-op Academy Manchester secondary school, with Higher Blackley, Victoria Avenue, and access to the M60 motorway beyond. To the south is residential development, southeast is Crumpsall, west beyond the A576 is Heaton Park, and east is Blackley and Rochdale Road. Urban woodland and small green spaces are interspersed throughout the surrounding residential and commercial areas, and the River Irk lies south beyond Blackley New Road.
- 1.4 The Site lies within a predominantly urban setting, with residential housing and local commercial facilities. The wider landscape is characterised by dense urban infrastructure interspersed with public green spaces and recreational facilities.

2.0 METHODOLOGIES

Ecological desk study

- 2.1 A desk study was undertaken to determine the presence of any designated nature conservation sites, notable habitats, and records of protected/notable species within a 1km radius of the Site. Data was provided by the NBN Atlas, which was used to search for legally protected species within the area, providing verified records of species listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, Habitats Regulations, and other statutory designations, and the Natural England website 'MAGIC' (Multi Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside) was utilised to search locations of statutory nature conservation sites, ancient woodland, and priority habitat types. The Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Inventory was used to search for locations of veteran or notable trees. Manchester City Council's interactive map was used to search for any existing tree preservation orders (TPOs) on Site or nearby the Site.
- 2.2 A basic level desk top study was undertaken. The reasons are: (a) the proposed works are limited to a small plant room (approx. 2.4 m × 5.2 m) and a 1 m external access buffer within an extensively developed urban/industrial context; (b) desktop mapping (OS aerial imagery, MAGIC, NBN Atlas, and site surroundings analysis) and an on-site walkover identified no ponds, watercourses, hedgerows, trees or other semi-natural habitats within the site footprint or immediate vicinity that would reasonably support protected species; and (c) the zone of likely ecological influence is therefore considered to be highly localised. A more comprehensive Biodiversity Data Search from the Greater Manchester Local Records Centre (GMLRC) may reveal more species data within the localised area.
- 2.3 The data collected from these consultees is discussed in Section 3. Selected raw data are provided as Appendix 4. In compliance with the terms and conditions relating to its commercial use, the full desk study data is not provided within this report.
- 2.4 The desk study also included a review of relevant local planning policy with respect to biodiversity and nature conservation, provided as Appendix 5.

UK Habitat Classification Survey

- 2.5 An assessment was made of all areas of the Site based on the standardised UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) survey methodology. This involved a walkover to identify broad vegetation types, which were then classified against UKHab habitat types as per *The UK Habitat Classification Version 2.0* (UKHab Ltd., 2023). A list of characteristic plant species for each vegetation type was compiled however this was not a comprehensive survey and did not aim to identify all species on the Site. The aim is to provide a record of habitats that are present on Site. A GIS map of UKHab habitat classes on Site is produced to enable visualisation and measurement of habitats and other features on the Site. Data recorded during the field survey is discussed in Section 4. Notes were made identifying typical plant species, potential Habitats of Principle Importance (HPIs) and the presence of habitats with potential to support protected or notable species.

- 2.6 Whilst every effort is made to identify and map any invasive plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended), it should be noted that the UKHab Classification Survey is not a specific survey for these species.

Habitat Condition Assessment and Biodiversity Net Gain

- 2.7 Condition assessments of habitats were undertaken against the criteria published within *The Statutory Biodiversity Metric - Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology* (DEFRA, 2023). These criteria are listed in tables in the corresponding habitat type within Section 4 of this report.
- 2.8 Baseline habitats were mapped and measured using GIS in accordance with the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) statutory requirements and the associated good practice guidance. Post-development proposals provided by Edgeplan were cross-referenced with the development layout. Habitat parcels (measured in hectares) and linear features (measured in kilometres or metres) were digitised and classified using UKHabitat / UKHab categories.
- 2.9 As the proposed development is assessed to impact **less than 25 m² of non-linear habitat and less than 5 m of linear habitat**, and **does not affect priority habitat**, a *de minimis* exemption applies under current BNG regulations; therefore, a formal metric-based BNG calculation is not required. However, baseline habitat mapping and quantification are still provided here to ensure transparency in measurement and to demonstrate the minimal habitat change.

Analysis of data

- 2.10 The field survey results, and desk study findings are discussed in Section 6 in the context of Site proposals. Conclusions aim to:
- Inform the likely impact of proposals on protected and/or notable species, habitats, and nature conservation sites;
 - Inform appropriate avoidance, mitigation, and/or compensation measures, if required, to minimise any potential negative ecological impacts; and,
 - Evaluate the need for further survey work and/or consultation.

3.0 ECOLOGICAL DESK STUDY

Introduction

- 3.1 A summary of relevant ecological data from the desk study search is provided within this section. Selected raw data is provided in Appendix 4.

Nature Conservation Sites

- 3.2 The data provided with reference to the Natural England MAGIC website and datasets indicates that one statutory nature conservation sites occur within a 1km radius of the Site. Two non-statutory nature conservation sites, Sites of Biological Interest (SBI), occur within a 1km radius of the Site. A description and location summary of which is presented below in Table 3.1.

Nature Conservation Site	Designation	Proximity to site	Summary Ecological Interest
statutory nature conservation sites			
Blackley Forest	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	454m west	Blackley Forest is a 20-27 hectare Local Nature Reserve in Higher Blackley, north Manchester, characterised by a mosaic of semi-natural woodland, grassland, wetland, and riparian habitat along the River Irk. The woodland canopy is diverse, including species such as beech, silver and downy birch, ash, alder, common and sessile oak, with willow in wetter areas. Ground flora is rich, especially in damp slopes and marginal swamps, where species like marsh marigold, yellow flag, wood horsetail, yellow water lily, and other moisture-loving plants thrive. The River Irk, having been historically polluted, is improving in water quality and supports aquatic and riparian wildlife including kingfishers. The reserve supports a wide variety of bird species (ca. 30 breeding species) and a substantial invertebrate fauna (several hundred species recorded), making it an important biodiversity resource in an urban context. The heathland area adds further ecological value, providing habitat types unusual for Manchester, especially in late summer when heathers are in flower. Community involvement and careful management through the Friends of Blackley Forest help maintain the diversity of habitats and enhance connectivity and wildlife value in this green space.
Non-statutory nature conservation sites			
Bowker Vale Woods and Reservoir	Site of biological importance (SBI)	550m west	Bowker Vale Woods and Reservoir is a designated Site of Biological Importance (SBI) located on the border of north Manchester and Prestwich. The site consists of mixed broadleaved woodland surrounding a large reservoir on the River Irk. Woodland species include oak, sycamore, birch, and willow, with areas of scrub and marginal vegetation providing structural diversity. The reservoir supports aquatic and riparian habitats of value to waterfowl, invertebrates, and amphibians, while the surrounding woodland offers breeding and foraging opportunities for birds, bats, and other fauna. The site forms part of the wider Irk Valley green corridor, enhancing habitat connectivity in the urban landscape.
Baileys Wood	Site of biological importance (SBI)	940m south-east	Bailey's Wood is an area of semi-natural ancient woodland located near Blackley, north Manchester, and designated as a Site of Biological Importance (SBI). The woodland supports a canopy of oak, sycamore, birch, and ash, with an understorey of holly, hazel, and hawthorn. Ground flora includes species such as bluebell, wood anemone, and dog's mercury, indicating its long-established woodland character. The site provides habitat for breeding birds, invertebrates, and common woodland mammals.

			contributing to the ecological network of the Irk Valley corridor.
--	--	--	--

Table 3.1: Summary of conservation sites within 1km of survey area**SSSI Impact Risk Zones**

- 3.3 The Site area is located within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zones (IRZs). IRZs which are utilised by Local Planning Authorities to assess planning applications for likely impacts on SSSIs. The closest SSSI to the Site is Rochdale Canal SSSI, which supports a nationally important aquatic flora. It is located 3.9Km east of the application Site.
- 3.4 The IRZ's in which the Site is located do not specify that consultation with Natural England is required for this type of planning permission application. Presented in Appendix 3.

Protected and Priority species

- 3.5 Table 3.2 provides a summary of protected species records identified by the desk study within the last 20 years within a 1km radius of the Site. Note that absence of a species record should not be taken as confirmation that a species is absent from the search area.

Species	No. of Records	Most Recent Record	Proximity of Nearest Record to Study Area	Legislation	Section 41	Local BAP
Birds						
Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	1	2022	548m west	WCA 1	-	-
Mammals (Bat Records)						
Common Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	2	2024	451m east	WCA 5, WCA 6, HabReg Sch2	-	✓
Bat species Chiroptera	2	2024	451m east	WCA 5, WCA 6, HabReg Sch2	-	✓
Other Mammals						
Hedgehog <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	23	2022	302m south	WCA 6	✓	-
Key: WCA 1: Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Protected wild birds. WCA 5: Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Protected animals (other than birds). WCA 6: Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Animals which may not be killed or taken by certain methods. WCA 8: Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Protected plants. HabReg Sch2: Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Animals of European importance requiring protection. HabReg Sch4: Schedule 4 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Plants of European importance requiring protection. PBA: The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 Note: This table does not include reference to the Berne Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats), the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals or the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).						

Table 3.2: Summary of Protected Species Records Within 1km of Survey Area Within 20 years

- 3.6 In addition to the protected species listed in Table 3.2, the desk study also identified number of other Section 41 species of conservation importance (NERC Act, 2006) recorded within the last twenty years, shown in

Table 3.3 below. None of these records were located within or adjacent to the Site area. The legislation and policy relating to Section 41 Species is provided in Appendix 5.

Bird		
Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Linnet <i>Linaria cannabina</i>	Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		

Table 3.3: Summary of Section 41 Priority Species Records Within 1km of Survey Area Within 20 Years

European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) licence

- 3.7 No EPSM licences for other protected species or great crested newt class survey licence returns were identified within 1km of the Site.

Invasive Species

- 3.8 Three records of an invasive non-native species were identified within 1km of the Site by NBN Atlas tabular data, which reports that the closest occurrence of recorded Japanese Knotweed *Reynoutria japonica* is located 453m to the south. Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera* is recorded 384m to the south-west

Habitats

Priority Habitats

- 3.9 Defra's MAGIC mapping tool identified one priority habitat type within 1 km of the Site, comprising Deciduous Woodland (52 parcels). The closest parcels are directly north-east as part of woodland bounding Co-op Academy Manchester - Secondary school.

Ancient Woodland and Veteran Trees

- 3.10 Reference to the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Inventory indicates that no notable or veteran or ancient trees is present within 1km of the Site.

Tree Protection Orders

- 3.11 Reference to the Manchester City Council interactive map of trees with TPOs (Tree Protection Orders) indicates that no TPOs are located within the survey Site, however, there are several TPOs within 1km of the Site. The nearest Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is located at 6 Hilltop Avenue, Blackley. An Area TPO 1999 protects all trees within a 467 m² site at 6 Hilltop Avenue (M9 6PU), designated in 2005 and last modified in 2018.

Ponds and Waterbodies

- 3.12 Reference to Ordnance Survey data and aerial imagery indicates that are no waterbodies are located within 250m of the Site, and one pond is located within 500m of the Site all of which are separated by urban barriers. The waterbody is described in table 3.5 below.

Water body	Grid Reference	Distance (m) and Aspect from Site	Description	Barriers between Waterbody and Site
WB1		446m south	Ashenhurst Reservoir is located off Blackley New Road in Higher Blackley, north Manchester. It is a managed coarse fishing waterbody surrounded by trees and marginal vegetation, providing a mix of open water and riparian habitats. The reservoir supports a range of freshwater fish and offers potential for aquatic invertebrates, amphibians, waterfowl, and foraging bats, while the surrounding woodland and scrub contribute to habitat connectivity within the Irk Valley corridor.	Major and Local roads and urban infrastructure

Table 3.4: Summary of Waterbodies within 500m of the Site

4.0 UKHAB HABITAT SURVEY

Introduction

- 4.1 This section provides the results of the UKHab Habitat Survey. A UKHab Habitat Survey map is provided in Appendix 1 (Drawing 2566-E1-01), which illustrates the location and extent of all habitat types recorded within the Site area. Any notable features or features too small to map are detailed using target notes.
- 4.2 The survey was carried out on the 16th of September 2025 by Lorna Cruice BA DipLA TechArborA CMLI. Weather conditions at the time of the survey are detailed in Table 4.1.

Precipitation	Wind (Beaufort)	Cloud cover (%)	Temperature (°C)
None	F1	100	15

Table 4.1: Weather conditions at time of UKHab Habitat survey

Survey constraints

- 4.3 The habitat survey included full access to all areas of the Site, allowing thorough inspection of the habitats present. No constraints affected the survey or its conclusions.

Site Habitats

- 4.4 Habitats recorded by the survey within and adjacent to the Site areas are listed below, with the corresponding UKHab codes. Primary habitat codes are listed below (●: primary codes; ○: secondary codes). SC recorded within the text is a reference to these secondary codes. Where several areas of a habitat are present within the Site, these areas are given a designation as per their habitat type, followed with a number (e.g., g4-1), which is labelled on Drawing 2566-E1-01, Appendix 1.
- 4.5 Plant species within each habitat parcel were recorded and given a DAFOR score. These scores are based on estimated percentage cover of the species within the habitat and are: Dominant (D), 51-100% cover, Abundant (A), 31-50% cover, Frequent (F), 16-30% cover, Occasional (O), 6-15% cover and Rare (R), 1-5% cover.
- g4: Modified grassland
 - 108: Frequently mown
 - 516: Active management

g4: Modified grassland

- 4.6 The parcel of g4: Modified grassland within the red line boundary comprised amenity grassland maintained through frequent mowing, resulting in a uniformly short sward. The habitat is a modified grassland community dominated by grasses *Poaceae* sp. Frequent species include white clover *Trifolium repens*. Occasional species include broadleaf plantain *Plantago major*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* and wood avens *Geum urbanum*. Rare occurring species include self-heal *Prunella vulgaris* and willowherb *Epilobium* sp.

4.7 Table 4.2 below provides the condition assessment for g4: Modified grassland parcel.

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)				
Grassland – Modified grassland				
Condition Assessment Criteria			Criterion Achieved (Y/N)	
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species/m ² , including at least 2 forbs. NB - This criterion is essential for achieving moderate condition.		g4-1: N – 7 species identified across the parcel and provides at least 2 forbs but not within 1m ² .	
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20 per cent is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.		g4-1: N – Sward height was very short across the whole parcel	
C	Any scrub present accounts for <20% of the total grassland area (some scattered scrub may be present). Notes – patches of shrubs with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.		g4-1: Y – No scrub present within the parcel	
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access or any other damaging management activities.		g4-1: Y – Frequent management but no damage was present within the parcel	
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example a concentration of rabbit warrens).		g4-1: N – No bare patches were evident within the small parcel	
F	Cover of bracken less than 20%		g4-1: Y – No bracken was present within the parcel	
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA, 1981).		g4-1: Y – No invasive species present within the parcel	
Essential criterion achieved (Y/N)	g4-1: N		Number of criteria passed:	g4-1: 4/7
Condition Assessment Result (Non-Acid grassland)			Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved
Passes 6 or 7 of 7 criteria, including essential criterion A			Good (3)	
Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria, including essential criterion A			Moderate (2)	
Passes 3 or fewer of 7 criteria: OR Passes 4, 5 or 6 criteria but fails criterion A			Poor (1)	g4-1

Table 4.2: Condition assessment for g4: Modified grassland.

4.8 **g4-1 Modified grassland parcel is in poor condition.** The parcel passed four of the seven assessment criteria (C, D, F and G) but failed criterion A (minimum plant diversity), which is essential for achieving moderate condition, as the required number of species was not present within 1 m². It also failed criteria B

(sward height variation) and E (bare ground cover). Because the essential criterion A was not met, the habitat cannot achieve moderate or good condition despite meeting four criteria overall.

5.0 BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN EXEMPTION

5.1 In England, as of 12 February 2024, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) became a mandatory requirement under Schedule 7A of the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*, as inserted by Schedule 14 of the *Environment Act 2021*. The policy requires most developments to achieve at least a 10% net gain in biodiversity compared to the pre-development baseline.

5.2 This letter confirms that the proposed development at the above site is **exempt from the BNG** requirement, based on the existing habitat types and areas present. The habitat assessment has been carried out in accordance with the latest legislation and guidance, and the findings are summarised below and illustrated in Map 2566-E1-02.

5.3 Legal Basis for Exemption

Under *The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024*, the BNG requirement does not apply to developments that meet both of the following conditions:

- The development does not impact an on-site priority habitat; and
- The development impacts:
 - a) Less than 25 square metres of on-site habitat with biodiversity value greater than zero; and
 - b) Less than 5 metres in length of on-site linear habitat.

5.4 The Regulations define a *priority habitat* as one listed under section 41 of the *Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006*. Additionally, *linear habitats* refer specifically to hedgerow and watercourse habitats measured by length using the biodiversity metric.

5.5 Site Assessment and Habitat Types

Our ecological appraisal confirms that:

- A small patch (~22.72 m²) of **Poor condition** UKHab g4: Modified grassland is present. This is not classified as a priority habitat.

5.6 The total measurable habitat with biodiversity value is therefore below the 25 m² de minimis threshold. No linear features such as hedgerows or ditches are present. These findings are illustrated in Map 2566-E1-02.

5.7 Applicability of BNG Exemption

Given the above, the site meets both conditions for exemption:

- The development does not impact any priority habitats.
- It affects only ~ 22.72 m² of low-value, non-priority habitat (UKHab U1f), which is below the 25 m² threshold.
- No linear habitats are present within the proposed plant room footprint.

As such, the development does not trigger a requirement for a biodiversity gain plan under current legislation.

5.8 Relevant Guidance and Policy Confirmation

Government and Defra guidance reinforce this exemption: “A development that does not impact a priority habitat and impacts less than 25 square metres of onsite habitat ... is exempt from BNG.” (*Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs [Defra], 2024*)

6.0 ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Proposed development overview

- 6.1 As previously detailed, the planning application proposes the erection of a single-storey detached café and associated landscaping.

Nature Conservation Areas

Statutory Nature Conservation Sites

- 6.2 One statutory nature conservation site is located within 1 km of the Site. The Three Sisters Salford Local Nature Reserve (LNR) lies approximately 180 m south-east of the Site. Given the small scale and nature of the proposed Development, its separation from the LNR, and the intervening residential development, no adverse impacts on the LNR are anticipated. Accordingly, no further recommendations are considered necessary.
- 6.3 The SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZ) in which the Site is located do not specify that further consultation with Natural England is required with respect to Site development and SSSIs (see selected information in Appendix 3.1). No further recommendations are made.

Non-statutory Nature Conservation Sites

- 6.4 One non-statutory Sites is present within 1km of the Site. Bridgewater Canal, Site of biological importance (SBI) lies 930m west. This designated site is separated from the proposed works by urban habitats and topographical features, and considerable distance and as such, construction activities are not anticipated to impact this Site. No further recommendations are made.

Site habitats

- 6.5 The ecological importance of the habitats present on Site is determined by their presence on the list of Habitats of Principal Importance in England (Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006) and on the Local BAP, along with the intrinsic value of the habitat. The ecological value of the habitats on Site is discussed in the text below in terms of the likely impact of Site proposals.
- 6.7 Habitats are considered to be of low ecological value; g4: Modified grassland, is not listed as a Habitat of Principal Importance under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006. These habitats are considered of low ecological value. The proposed Development is unlikely to significantly impact biodiversity. However, in accordance with the provision of Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment), biodiversity enhancement measures should be incorporated into any proposed landscaping scheme to maximise the ecological value of the Site. Further recommendations for these habitats are made in section 6.

Protected/notable species

- 6.8 Protected and notable species that have been identified by the desk study, and those which potentially suitable habitat occurs within or adjacent to the Site, are discussed in the text below in terms of the likely impact of Site proposals.

Hedgehog

- 5.9 Records of European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) within 1 km of the Site confirm the species' local presence. The proposed small-scale development of amenity grassland is expected to result in only minor habitat loss. Recommendations are provided in Section 6 of this report.

Bats (Foraging and Commuting)

- 5.10 A total of four records of bats were identified by the ecological desk study within 1km of the Site. The closest of these was a record located 451m east of the Site. It is likely that pockets of urban green space with trees, woodland and scrub habitats in the local area are used as foraging and commuting corridors, as are the individual trees and the woodland adjacent to the Site boundary. Woodland, directly adjacent to the north and east of Site and an abundance of mature trees within the direct local areas provides an abundance of commuting and foraging habitats in the local areas. However, occasional commuting use by bats moving between higher-quality surrounding habitats intersecting the proposed Site area cannot be entirely ruled out. Recommendations are provided in Section 6.

Bats (Roosting)

- 5.11 No bat roosts have been recorded within 1km of the Site. As proposed habitat loss is wholly grassland and provides no suitable roosting habitat, It is therefore considered unlikely that bats are present roosting on Site and no further recommendations are made in relation to roosting bats.

Birds

Schedule 1 bird species

- 5.12 Records of Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* were returned within 1 km of the Site, with the closest records located 548m west of the Site. This species is listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The Site comprises amenity grassland which of negligible foraging or shelter opportunities for this species. More suitable habitats, including woodland, mature trees, and watercourses, are located off-site and will not be affected by the proposed works. It is therefore considered unlikely that the development will have any significant adverse effect on Kingfisher or other Schedule 1 species. No further recommendations are made.

Priority bird species

- 5.13 Several bird species of principal importance under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 were identified by the desk study within 1 km of the Site, including Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*), Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*), House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*), and Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*). These species are primarily associated with farmland, grassland, and hedgerow habitats. The Site currently supports amenity grassland with hedgerow and woodland directly adjacent to proposed works. Therefore, the Site is considered to offer suitable nesting and foraging habitat for priority species found in grassland, urban, and suburban environments, as well as for common bird species that favour these habitats. As all nesting birds are legally protected, Section 6 includes recommendations regarding the timing of vegetation clearance to avoid disturbing nesting birds. Additionally, recommendations are made for the installation of bird boxes to enhance the Site for hole- or cavity-nesting

species, as well as the planting of native trees and shrubs to provide valuable foraging resources and potential nesting habitats.

Biodiversity Net Gain Exemption

6.9 In summary, based on the Biodiversity Net Gain assessment and current regulations:

- The site contains **22.72m²** of non-priority, non-linear vegetated habitat.
- There are no priority habitats and no linear habitats within the proposed development boundary.
- The development is therefore exempt from the requirement to prepare a biodiversity gain plan or deliver a measurable 10% net gain.

Please see Map 2566-E1-02 attached for a visual representation of site habitats.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 All recommendations provided in this section are based on Appletons' current understanding of the proposals: Should the proposals alter, the conclusions and recommendations made in the report should be reviewed to ensure that they remain appropriate.

Site habitats

Trees

- 7.2 Where appropriate all habitats that are to be retained as part of any proposed works should be protected in accordance with British Standard "Trees in relation to construction - Recommendations" BS5837:2012. Where works coincide with trees and woodland, protection must be installed on Site prior to the commencement of any works on Site.

Remaining habitats on Site

- 7.3 It is recommended that all other remaining habitats on Site due to be retained during the development should be separated from construction activities where appropriate by protective fencing throughout the construction works so that they are not degraded as a result of the works.

Habitat Loss and Enhancement

- 7.4 In accordance with the provision of Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment), biodiversity enhancement measures should be incorporated into the proposed landscaping scheme to maximise the ecological value of the Site. For this Site, appropriate measures could include bat and bird boxes, provision of hedgehog refugia, inclusion of invertebrate and bird attracting plant species within landscaping plans as described in the relevant sections below.
- 7.5 A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment will **not** be required for the Site, as it qualifies for exemption under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021).

Protected / Notable Species

Hedgehog

- 7.6 Hedgehogs usually hibernate between October and February inclusive, and extra care shall be taken when undertaking vegetation clearance in these months. Therefore, during these months, any vegetation to be cleared/strimmed using care and direction two-tiered strimming and moved to a suitable similar habitat adjacent to the Site, or allowed to move away on its own accord, before any further clearance can occur.
- 7.7 Hedgehog refugia installation is recommended along the vegetated Site boundaries. Refugia could take the form of log piles, compost heaps or grass/leaf piles, purpose-built hedgehog houses, wild corners with leaf litter, and hedgehog highways are all cited as best-practice, examples of which are provided in Appendix 5.

Bats

7.8 To protect any bats using the Site or immediate surroundings for, foraging, and/or commuting purposes, a strategic lighting plan should be followed in regard to newly created areas of grassland and newly planted trees and shrubs. The following advice is provided in relation to minimising impacts upon foraging and commuting bats:

- Utilise low level lighting that is as directional as possible and preferably below 1 lux.
- Eliminate bare bulbs and any upward pointing light to minimise light spill.
- Avoid excessive lighting beyond that which is required for safety.
- Utilise narrow spectrum bulbs to lower the range of species affected by lighting.
- Avoid light sources that emit ultra-violet light and white and blue wavelengths of the light spectrum. Utilise light which peak higher than 550 nm with minimal ultra-violet light and a warm to neutral colour temperate (<4,200 kelvin).
- Utilise low pressure sodium or high-pressure sodium lamps instead of mercury or metal halide lamps, due to UV filtration characteristics.
- Avoid reflective surfaces under lights.

7.9 In the interest of ecological enhancement, bat boxes or bat bricks (or other roosting features) can be installed or integrated into the new building construction on Site. Integrated roosting features could include gaps 15-25mm wide and 50-500mm long created between barge boards and brick/concrete elevation walls (but not placed over doorways and windows).

7.10 Bat boxes should be sited above 3m in height or positioned as close to the eaves or gable apex as possible on buildings. They should be positioned at locations sheltered from strong winds and exposed to the sun for part of the day (usually on south or southwestern aspects). Once installed, a bat box cannot legally be removed or opened without a licence. See Appendix 6 for examples of potentially suitable bat boxes and bricks.

Birds

7.11 To ensure compliance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), where practicable any tree removal, vegetation clearance, removal of structures and building demolition should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season. The nesting bird season is weather dependent but generally extends between March -September (inclusive).

7.12 If this is not possible then works can proceed under a Precautionary Working Method Statement (PWMS) where any vegetation, structure or building to be removed, disturbed or demolished shall be checked by an experienced ecologist for nesting birds within 48 hours of works commencing. If birds are found to be nesting, any works which may affect them would have to be delayed until the young have fledged and the nest has been abandoned naturally.

7.13 In the interest of ecological enhancement, bird box installation is recommended either on retained trees or integrated into the proposed extended building (or both). Bird boxes should ideally be sited facing northeast,

avoiding exposure to direct sunlight which may cause overheating of eggs/chicks in the nest. See Appendix 6 for examples of suitable nest boxes.

- 7.14 Any trees and shrubs planted as part of the landscaped areas of the development should include species which will provide both shelter and nesting habitats for birds, as well as food sources. Examples of tree and shrub species which provide these are listed below.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
Trees		Shrubs	
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	<i>Berberis</i> species	Berberis
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Common ivy
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab apple	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Common honeysuckle
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood
<i>Juniperis communis</i>	Juniper	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder rose
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	European spindle
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry		

Invertebrates

- 7.15 If possible, the inclusion of plant species to optimise the attraction of invertebrates such as feeding bumblebees and butterflies. The use of native species should be maximised; however, some domestic and non-native species can also provide food and shelter for invertebrates. A mix of plant species that flower at different times of year are best for attracting and supporting invertebrates. Examples of native invertebrate attracting species are provided below. These examples are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Scientific name	Common name
Trees	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Common holly
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry
<i>Prunus padus</i>	Bird cherry
Shrubs	
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Common box
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common hawthorn
<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Bell heather
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Sweet briar
<i>Salix lanata</i>	Woolly willow (male)
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Common wayfaring tree
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder rose
Scientific name	Common name
Herbaceous perennials	
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered bellflower
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common knapweed
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp agrimony
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow cranesbill
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field scabious

<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye daisy
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	Yellow loosestrife
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife
<i>Malva moschata</i>	Musk mallow
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Wild marjoram
<i>Persicaria bistorta</i>	Common bistort
<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i>	Jacob's ladder
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small scabious
<i>Sedum telephium</i>	Orpine
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy
Biennials	
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild angelica
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Common teasel
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
Annuals	
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's bugloss
<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn marigold
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy
Climbers	
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's joy
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Common ivy
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Common honeysuckle

General Wildlife Recommendations During the Construction Phase

- 7.15 General wildlife covered by the following recommendations includes badger, otter, hedgehog, brown hare, fox, rabbit, common amphibian species, and reptiles. Recommendations include:
- Excavations left overnight shall be covered or a ramp down into the excavation shall be provided to ensure any animals that enter can safely escape.
 - Pipes that may entrap wildlife are covered and/or capped off.
 - Good management practices that ensure animals do not use construction materials and/or arisings as refugia and that waste management does not entice wildlife to forage within construction areas.
 - Should any wildlife enter construction areas during active works (i.e., an individual hedgehog, fox etc.), the works shall immediately cease within a 30m buffer of the animal, until the animal has left the active working area of its own accord and
 - If any protected species, or evidence of protected species, is uncovered during the works on Site (e.g., great crested newts, reptiles, invasive species) a stop works notice must be issued whilst the project ecologist is contacted to attend Site and determine a way forward.

8.0 REFERENCES

- British Standards Institution (2013). British Standard 42020: 2013. Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development. British Standards Institution, London.
- British Standards Institution (2012). British Standard 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction – recommendations. British Standards Institution, London.
- Collins, J. (ed.) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th ed). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.
- Collins, J. (ed.) (2016) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd ed). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority. (2021). *Places for Everyone: Publication Plan*. GMCA. greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk
- Greater Manchester Ecology Unit. (2009). *Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan*. Greater Manchester Ecology Unit. gmlrc.org
- Institute of Environmental Assessment (1995). Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment, Institute of Environmental Assessment. E&FN Spon, An Imprint of Chapman and Hall. London.
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2012). UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. Available: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/UK_Post2010_Bio-Fwork.pdf
- Manchester City Council (2012) *Manchester Core Strategy Development Plan Document 2012*. Manchester: Manchester City Council. Available at: https://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/download/5599/core_strategy_development_plan (Accessed: 23 September 2025).
- Manchester City Council (2022) *Manchester Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2022–2030*. Manchester: Manchester City Council. Available at: https://www.manchester.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/28852/manchester_biodiversity_strategy_and_action_plan_2022_-_2030.pdf (Accessed: 23 September 2025).
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (December 2024). National Planning Policy Framework. Available: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/675abd214cbda57cacd3476e/NPPF-December-2024.pdf>

Natural England. Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC). Available:

<http://www.magic.gov.uk/>

Salford City Council. (2022). *Salford's Biodiversity Emergency Declaration & Biodiversity Duty*. Salford City Council. [Salford City Council](#)

Salford City Council. (2023). *Salford Local Plan: Chapter 23 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity (Policy BG2)*. Salford City Council. [Salford City Council+2Salford City Council+2](#)

The Woodland Trust (no date) Ancient Tree Inventory. Available:

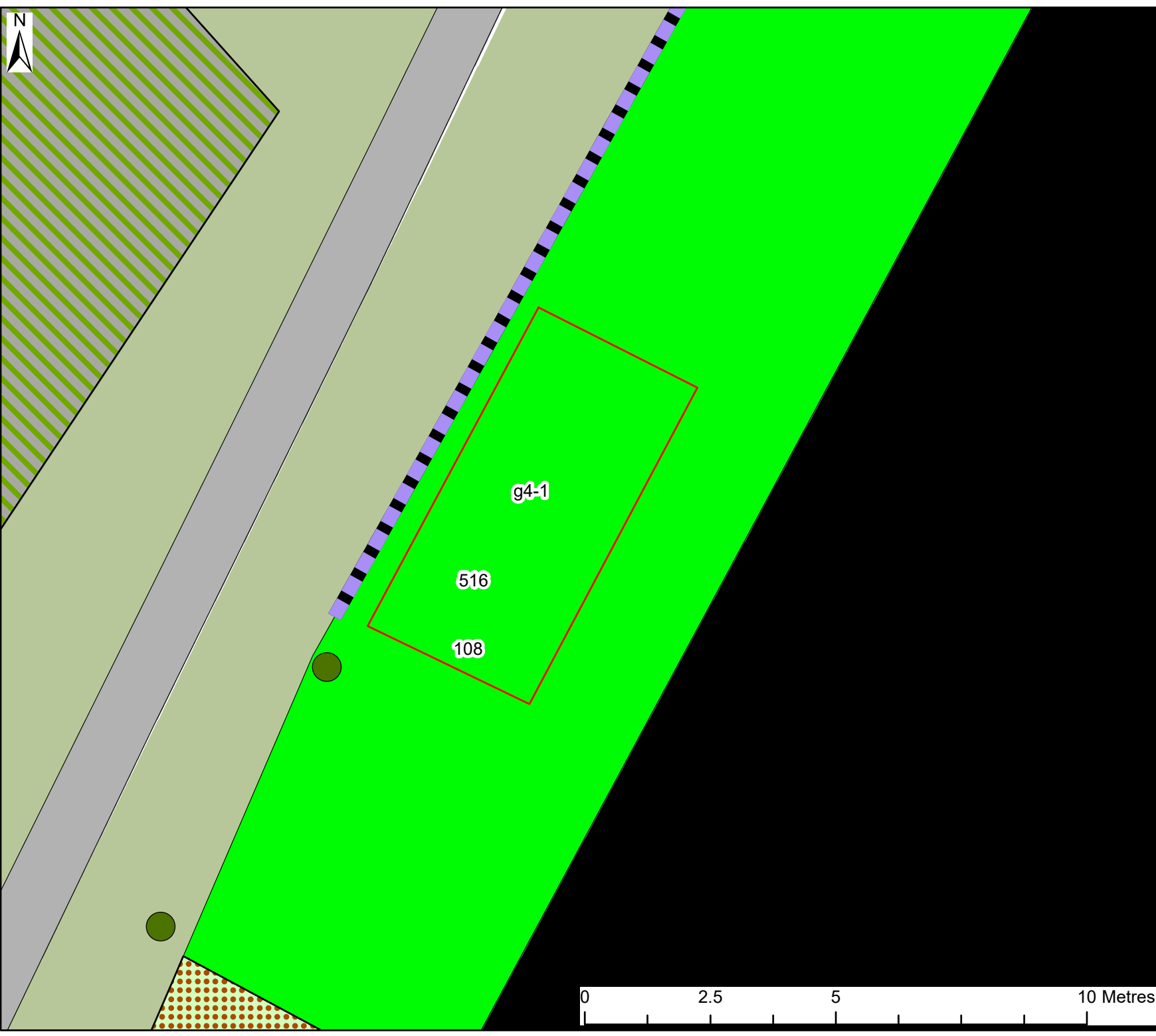
<https://ati.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

UKHab Ltd (2023). UK Habitat Classification Version 2.0. Available :

<https://www.ukhab.org>



APPENDIX 1



UKHab Baseline Habitats

-  g4: Modified_grassland
-  Offsite h2a: Native hedgerow
-  Offsite individual tree
-  Proposed developemnt red line boundary

Secondary Codes
108: Frequently mown
516: Active management

Background Context

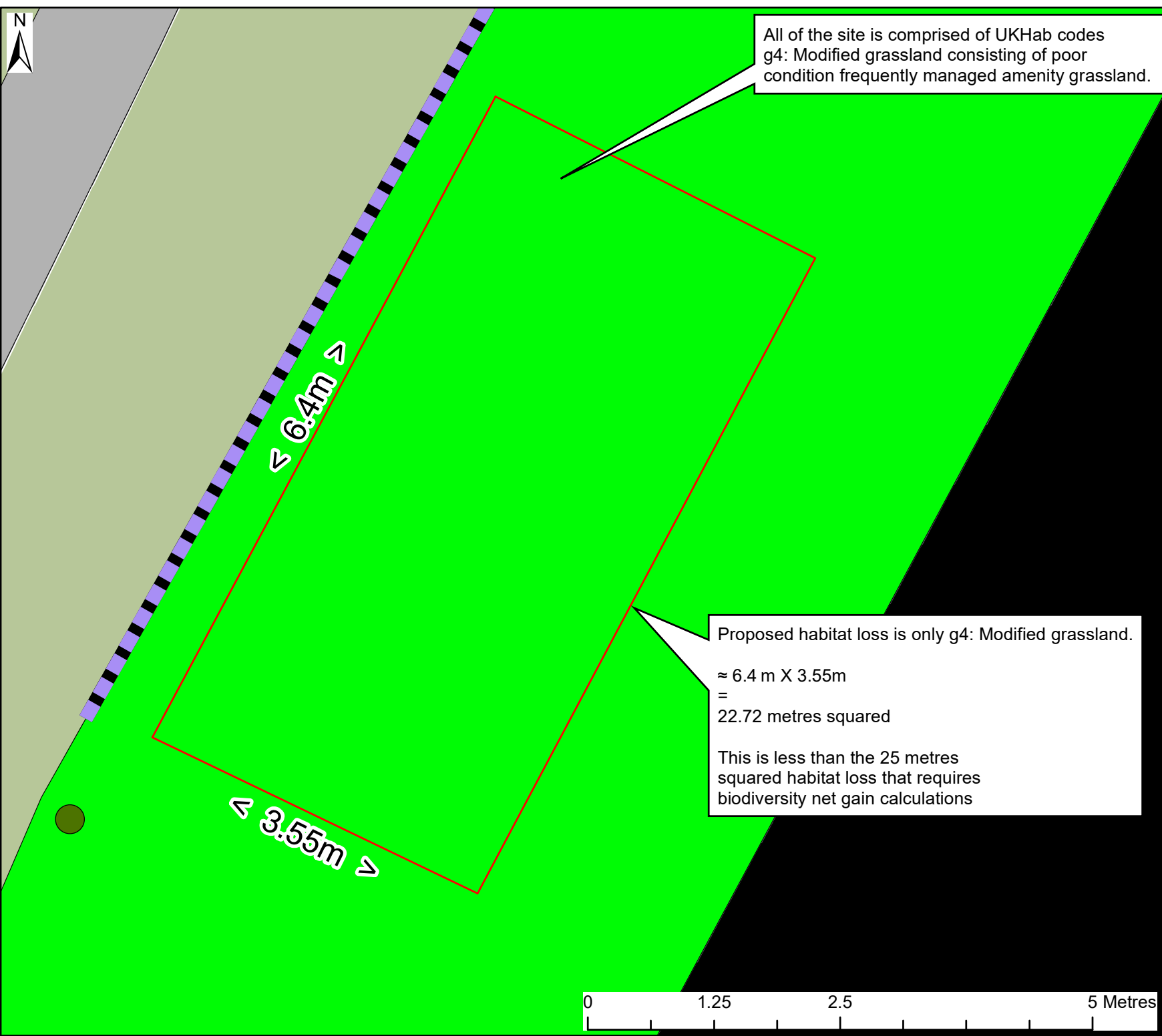
-  Buildings
-  Offsite canopy cover
-  Ornamental shrubbery
-  Path
-  Residential garden

Project	2566 Byrons Housing Care		
Title	UKHab Baseline Habitats		
Client	Edgeplan		
Date	24.09.2025	Scale	1:100
Drawn	PP	Drawing No	2566-E1-01
Checked	LC	Revision	0



*Appletons 17 Chorley Old Road, Bolton BL1 3AD Tel: 01204 393006 Fax: 01204 348792 Web: www.appletons.uk.com Email: info@appletons.uk.com





Baseline Habitat Features Supporting BNG Exemption Justification

- g4: Modified_grassland
- Offsite h2a: Native hedgerow
- Offsite individual tree
- Proposed developemnt red line boundary

Background Context

- Buildings
- Offsite canopy cover
- Path

Project	2566 Byrons Housing Care		
Title	BNG Exemption Justification		
Client	Edgeplan		
Date	24.09.2025	Scale	1:50
Drawn	PP	Drawing No	2566-E1-02
Checked	LC	Revision	0



*Appletons 17 Chorley Old Road, Bolton BL1 3AD Tel: 01204 359006 Fax: 01204 360792 Web: www.appletons.uk.com Email: info@appletons.uk.com





APPENDIX 2

Photograph 1: g41: Modified grassland area of proposed plant room



Photograph 2: g41: Modified grassland overview



Photograph 3: u1f: Sparsely vegetated land



Photograph 5: A view south of the grassland area of the proposed plant room



APPENDIX 3



Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest

For local planning authorities to determine if a proposed development is likely to affect a terrestrial Site of Special Scientific Interest and when to consult Natural England.

Does the proposed development match any of the descriptions below?

- **Infrastructure:** Airports, helipads and other aviation proposals.
- **Air Pollution:** Any industrial/agricultural development that could cause AIR POLLUTION (including: industrial processes, livestock & poultry units with a floorspace > 500m², slurry lagoons > 750m² & manure stores > 3500 tonnes).
- **Combustion:** General combustion processes > 50MW energy input. Including: energy from waste incineration, other incineration, landfill gas generation plant, pyrolysis/gasification, anaerobic digestion, sewage treatment works, other incineration/combustion.

Does the proposed development match any of the descriptions?

Please answer the question by ticking the appropriate box below and then click Continue

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Don't know

Continue



Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest

For local planning authorities to determine if a proposed development is likely to affect a terrestrial Site of Special Scientific Interest and when to consult Natural England.

You do not need to consult Natural England on the proposed development at this location.

The Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI IRZs) indicate that at the location selected, the proposed development is unlikely to have a harmful effect on terrestrial Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and the Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or Ramsar sites that they underpin.

Therefore, you do not need to consult Natural England on the likely impacts of development on terrestrial SSSIs and the SACs, SPAs or Ramsar sites that they underpin.

Discretionary Advice

Natural England may provide pre-application advice on other biodiversity or natural environment impacts or opportunities. [Developers Get Environmental Advice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) provides information on Natural England's pre-application discretionary advice service (DAS).

Please Note

The SSSI IRZs seek to guide consultations relating to the likely impacts of development on terrestrial SSSIs under Schedule 4 (w) of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 and section 281 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They do not alter or remove any other statutory requirements to consult Natural England. The gov.uk website provides more information on when you must consult Natural England when considering development proposals.

The SSSI IRZs only indicate Natural England's assessment of likely risk to the notified features of terrestrial SSSIs and those SACs, SPAs or Ramsar sites that they underpin. There are other sites designated for nature conservation in the coastal and marine environment that are not underpinned by terrestrial SSSIs. This includes SPAs, SACs, Ramsar sites and Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs). You should consult Natural England on any coastal or marine proposal that might impact those sites.

Where the SSSI IRZs indicate a risk is unlikely, this does not mean that there are no potential impacts on biodiversity or the wider natural environment and there may be a requirement to consult Natural England as a statutory consultee on other matters.

[Local Planning Authorities Get Environmental Advice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) provides more information on when you must consult Natural England when considering development proposals including [Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) (NSIPs).



APPENDIX 4

This section provides an overview of the framework of legislation and policy which underpins nature conservation and is a material consideration in the planning process in England.

GENERAL BIODIVERSITY LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended (Habitats Regulations 2017, as amended)

The Habitats Regulations 2017 consolidate and update the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 and all its various amendments. The Habitats Regulations 2017 are the principal means by which the EEC Council Directive 92/43 (The Habitats Directive) as amended is transposed into English and Welsh law.

The Habitats Regulations 2017 place duty upon the relevant authority of government to identify sites which are of importance to the habitats and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive. Those sites which meet the criteria are, in conjunction with the European Commission, designated as Sites of Community Importance, which are subsequently identified as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) by the European Union member states. The regulations also place a duty upon the government to maintain a register of European protected sites designated as a result of EC Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (The Birds Directive). These sites are termed Special Protection Areas (SPA) and, in conjunction with SACs, form a network of sites known as Natura 2000. The Habitats Directive introduces for the first time for protected areas, the precautionary principle; that is that projects can only be permitted having ascertained no adverse effect on the integrity of the site. Projects may still be permitted if there are no alternatives, and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

The Habitats Regulations 2017 also provide for the protection of individual species of fauna and flora of European conservation concern listed in Schedules 2 and 5, respectively. Schedule 2 includes species such as otter and great crested newt for which the UK population represents a significant proportion of the total European population. It is an offence to deliberately kill, injure, disturb, or trade these species. Schedule 5 plant species are protected from unlawful destruction, uprooting or trade under the regulations.

The Habitats Regulations 2010 were amended in August 2012 and in 2017 to ensure clearer transposition of the provisions of Articles 2, 3, 4(4) (second sentence) and Article 10 of the Wild Birds Directive, by giving additional and specific duties to relevant bodies. A number of amendments were also made to transpose more clearly certain elements of the Habitats Directive.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended)

The WCA, as amended, consolidates and amends pre-existing national wildlife legislation in order to implement the Bern Convention and the Birds Directive. It complements the Habitat Regulations 2010 (as amended), offering protection to a wider range of species. The Act also provides for the designation and protection of national conservation sites of value for their floral, faunal, or geological features, termed Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

Schedules of the act provide lists of protected species, both flora and fauna, and detail the possible offences that apply to these species. All relevant species specific legislation is detailed later in this Appendix.

The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

The CROW Act, introduced in England and Wales in 2000, amends and strengthens existing wildlife legislation detailed in the WCA. It places a duty on government departments and the National Assembly for Wales to have regard for biodiversity and provides increased powers for the protection and maintenance of SSSIs. The Act also contains lists of habitats and species (Section 74) for which conservation measures should be promoted, in accordance with the recommendations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio Earth Summit) 1992.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

Section 40 of the NERC Act places a duty upon all local authorities and public bodies in England and Wales to promote and enhance biodiversity in all of their functions. Sections 41 (England) and 42 (Wales) list habitats and species of principal importance to the conservation of biodiversity. These lists superseded Section 74 of the CROW Act 2000.

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

The Hedgerow Regulations make provision for the identification of important hedgerows which may not be removed without permission from the Local Planning Authority.

UK Biodiversity Action Plan

The United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP), first published in 1994 and updated in 2007, was a government initiative designed to implement the requirements of the Convention of Biological Diversity to conserve and enhance species and habitats. The UK BAP contained a list of priority habitats and species of conservation concern in the UK and outlined biodiversity initiatives designed to enhance their conservation status. Lists of Broad and Local habitats were also included. The priority habitats and species correlated with those listed on Section 41 and 42 of the NERC Act.

The UK BAP required that conservation of biodiversity was addressed at a County level through the production of Local BAPs. These were complementary to the UK BAP, however, were targeted towards species of conservation concern characteristic of each area. In addition, a number of local authorities and large organizations have produced their own BAPs.

Species and Habitats of Material Consideration for Planning in England

In 2011, the government published the 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services' to replace the previous England Biodiversity Strategy. In 2012 the UK BAP was replaced by the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework.

Previous planning policy (and some supporting guidance which is still current, e.g. ODPM Circular 06/2005, now under revision), refers to UK BAP habitats and species as being a material consideration in the planning process. Equally many local plans refer to BAP priority habitats and species. Both remain as material considerations in the planning process, but such habitats and species are now described as Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation in England, or simply priority habitats and priority species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. The list of habitats and species remains unchanged and is still derived from Section 41 list of the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006. As was previously the case when it was a BAP priority species hen harrier continues to be regarded as a priority species although it does not appear on the Section 41 list.

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced.

Chapter 15, on conserving and enhancing the natural environment, sets out how the planning system should protect and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- a) 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);
- b) 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;
- c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
- d) 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;
- e) 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
- f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:

- a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national, and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity⁶⁸; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration, or creation; and

- b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:

- a) 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;
- b) 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;
- c) 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 reasons⁷⁰ and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
- d) development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.

The following should be given the same protection as habitats sites:

- a) potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation;
- b) listed or proposed Ramsar sites⁷¹; and
- c) sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitats sites, potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats Site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.

LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

BIODIVERSITY & WILDLIFE POLICY AND GUIDANCE

The Site lies within Manchester City Council (Greater Manchester) jurisdiction. The key local and regional policies and guidance relevant to ecology and biodiversity are outlined below.

Manchester City Council

Manchester Local Plan (Core Strategy 2012 – saved policies from the UDP)

- **Policy EN9 – Green Infrastructure:** protects and enhances the city's network of green spaces, waterways, trees, and other natural features, supporting biodiversity and ecological connectivity.
- **Policy EN15 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation:** requires development to avoid adverse impacts on biodiversity and geological features, safeguard designated sites, and deliver enhancement where possible.
(Manchester City Council, 2012)

Manchester Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (2022–2030)

- Sets out the city's approach to protecting, restoring, and enhancing biodiversity, aligned with the Greater Manchester Environment Plan.
- Priorities include nature recovery, habitat connectivity, and action for species such as pollinators and urban wildlife.
(Manchester City Council, 2022)

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Places for Everyone Plan (Submission Draft, 2021)

- **Policy JP-G2 – Green Infrastructure Network:** safeguards and enhances Greater Manchester's green infrastructure, ensuring ecological functions and wildlife corridors are maintained.
- **Policy JP-G7 – Trees and Woodland:** requires protection of existing trees and planting of new ones, contributing to biodiversity and resilience.
- **Policy JP-G8 – Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity:** all development must secure a measurable net gain in biodiversity, contributing to the Greater Manchester Nature Recovery Network. (Greater Manchester Combined Authority, 2021)

Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan (GM BAP)

- Identifies local priority habitats (e.g. grasslands, woodlands, wetlands, ponds, rivers) and priority species across Greater Manchester.
- Provides guidance for local authorities and developers to conserve and enhance biodiversity at a district level. (Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, 2011)

SPECIES SPECIFIC LEGISLATION

This section contains a summary of legislation with relation to the species present or potentially present in the survey area. The reader should refer to the original legislation for definitive interpretation.

Badger

Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 is based primarily on the need to protect badgers from baiting and deliberate harm or injury; badgers are not protected for conservation reasons. The following are criminal offences:

- To interfere with a sett intentionally or recklessly. Sett interference includes disturbing badgers whilst they are occupying a sett, as well as damaging or destroying a sett or obstructing access to it.
- To wilfully kill, injure, take, possess, or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or to attempt to do so.

A badger sett is defined in the legislation as:

'Any structure or place that displays signs indicating current use by a badger'. 'Current use'

is not synonymous with current occupation and a sett is defined as such (and thus protected) as long as signs of current usage are present. Therefore, a sett is protected until such a time as the field signs deteriorate to such an extent that they no longer indicate 'current usage'.

Under this Act it is unlawful to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, or take a badger or attempt to do so.
- Cruelly ill-treat a badger.
- Interfere with a sett by doing any of the following:-
 - i. damaging a badger sett or any part of it
 - ii. destroying a badger sett
 - iii. obstructing access to a badger sett
 - iv. causing a dog to enter a sett
 - v. disturbing a badger while it is occupying a sett.

Badgers are also protected under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

For any activity that would contravene the above legislation a badger development licence would be required from Natural England (NE). Natural England will normally only issue such licences for work to be carried out between the months of July and November inclusive, to avoid the breeding season, although exceptions may be possible if a sound justification can be made.

Bats

Bats and the places they use for shelter or protection (i.e. roosts) receive European protection under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, as amended (Habitats Regulations 2010, as amended). They receive further legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981, as amended. This

protection means that bats, and the places they use for shelter or protection, are capable of being a material consideration in the planning process.

Regulation 41 of the Habitats Regulations 2010 (as amended), states that a person commits an offence if they:

- deliberately capture, injure, or kill a bat;
- deliberately disturb bats; or
- damage or destroy a bat roost (breeding Site or resting place).

Disturbance of animals includes in particular any disturbance which is likely to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young, or in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

It is an offence under the Habitats Regulations 2010 (as amended) for any person to have in his possession or control, to transport, to sell or exchange or to offer for sale, any live or dead bats, part of a bat or anything derived from bats, which has been unlawfully taken from the wild.

Whilst broadly similar to the above legislation, the WCA 1981 (as amended) differs in the following ways:

- Section 9(1) of the WCA makes it an offence to *intentionally* (rather than deliberately) kill, injure or take any protected species.
- Section 9(4)(a) of the WCA makes it an offence to *intentionally or recklessly** damage or destroy, or *obstruct access to*, any structure or place which a protected species uses for shelter or protection.
- Section 9(4)(b) of the WCA makes it an offence to *intentionally or recklessly** disturb any protected species *while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection*.

*Reckless offences were added by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

As bats re-use the same roosts (breeding Site or resting place) after periods of vacancy, legal opinion is that roosts are protected whether or not bats are present.

The following bat species are Species of Principal Importance for Nature Conservation in England: *Babastrella bat Barbastella barbastellus*, Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii*, noctule bat *Nyctalus noctula*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*, greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* and lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*.

All bat species which occur within the county are priority species on the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan.

The reader should refer to the original legislation for the definitive interpretation.

Birds

The Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended) gives general protection to all wild birds in Britain (subject to the provisions of the act). It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly*:

- Kill, injure, or take any wild bird,
- Take, damage, or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst the nest is in use or being built, or
- Take or destroy an egg of any wild bird.

It is also an offence for any person to have in his possession or control any live or dead wild bird, egg of a wild bird, or any part, or derivative, of such a bird or egg (subject to the provisions of the act).

Birds listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA 1981 (as amended) are protected by special penalties, and it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly*:-

- Disturb any wild bird included in Schedule 1 whilst it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young, or
- Disturb dependent young of such a bird.

*Reckless offences were added by the Countryside Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

*Reckless offences were added by the Countryside Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

Birds receive further protection through the Bern Convention, the Bonn Convention and the European Communities Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds, or EC Birds Directive:

1. The Bern Convention aims to ensure the conservation and protection of wild bird species and their natural habitats (listed in Appendix II of the Convention), and to regulate the exploitation of those species (including migratory species) listed in Appendix III.
2. The Bonn Convention aims to conserve migratory species and their habitats by providing strict protection for endangered migratory species (listed in Appendix I of the Convention), whilst species on Appendix II are generally of conservation concern and / or deemed to be able to benefit from international cooperation.
3. The EC Birds Directive is the tool through which the European Community meets its obligations for bird species under the Bern Convention and Bonn Convention. The Directive provides a framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds in Europe. Article 5 requires members to establish a general scheme of protection for all wild birds. Annex I contains a list of specially protected bird species. The EC Birds Directive is implemented in the UK by several statutes, including the WCA 1981 (as amended).

Several bird species are Species of Principal Importance for Nature Conservation in England, making them capable of being material considerations in the planning process.

The reader should refer to the original legislation for the definitive interpretation.

Mammals

It is an offence to kill any mammal (including rabbits and foxes) by cruel methods, as outlined within the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. In brief, the legislation states that:

- If, save as permitted by this Act, any person mutilates, kicks, beats, nails, or otherwise impales, stabs, burns, stones, crushes, drowns, drags, or asphyxiates any wild mammal with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering he shall be guilty of an offence.

The death of any mammal by crushing, asphyxia or dragging, such as may be caused by plant during construction may be classed as an offence if construction activities are undertaken without due regard for burrowing mammal species.

Reptiles

All of the UK's native reptiles are protected by law. The two rarest species – sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) and smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) – benefit from the greatest protection, however these species have a limited geographical distribution and none of the habitats within the study area fulfil their specific habitat requirements. It is therefore considered that these species are unlikely to be present within the study area. Common lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*), slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), adder (*Vipera berus*), and grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended from intentional killing or injuring.

In England and Wales, this Act has been amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW), which adds an extra offence, makes species offences arrestable, increases the time limits for some prosecutions, and increases penalties. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a duty on Government Departments to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity and maintains lists of species and habitats which are of principal importance for the purposes of conserving biodiversity in England and Wales. All native reptile species are included on these lists.

This is a simplified description of the legislation. In particular, the offences mentioned here may be absolute, intentional, deliberate, or reckless. Note that where it is predictable that reptiles are likely to be killed or injured by activities such as Site clearance, this could legally constitute intentional killing or injuring.



APPENDIX 5

POTENTIAL HABITAT ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

National Planning Policy Framework states that the planning system should 'contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity...'

Beneath are examples of small-scale habitat enhancement opportunities that could be incorporated into the scheme of the proposed works.

Habitat creation for Birds

The incorporation of native trees, shrubs, and hedgerows into the landscape planting. Trees are particularly important features for nesting and feeding birds within street landscapes. Shrub species that produce berries such as Berberis and Pyracantha (Firethorn) attract feeding birds.

Examples of commercially available bird boxes that can be attached to trees and plant species that provide enhancement for bird species are provided below:



1MR Schwegler Avianex

<http://www.nhbs.com/title/158599/1-mr-schwegler-avianex>



2GR Schwegler Nest Box

<http://www.nhbs.com/title/158595/2-gr-schwegler-nest-box>



3SV Schwegler Nest Box with Predator Protection

<http://www.nhbs.com/title/173230/3-sv-schwegler-nest-box-with-predator-protection>

Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
Trees		Shrubs	
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	<i>Berberis species</i>	Berberis
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Common ivy
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab apple	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Common honeysuckle
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood
<i>Juniperis communis</i>	Juniper	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Gelder rose
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	European spindle
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry		

Habitat creation for bats

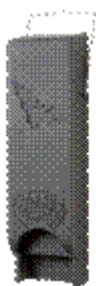
The installation of bat boxes on retained trees or buildings. Bat boxes should be sited above three metres in height on the outer margins of the site, ideally facing or close to areas of landscape planting or existing linear habitat features.

Examples of commercially available bat boxes that can be attached to trees or buildings are provided below.



**1FF Schwegler Bat Box
With Built-in Wooden
Rear Panel**

<http://www.nhbs.com/title/158636?title=1ff-schwegler-bat-box-with-built-in-wooden-rear-panel>



1FFH Schwegler Universal Bat Box

<http://www.nhbs.com/title/177932/1ffh-schwegler-universal-bat-box>



Kent Eco Bat Box

<https://www.nhbs.com/eco-kent-bat-box>

Habitat Enhancements for Hedgehogs

Hedgehog houses come in a variety of forms, with some houses offering basic refuge and other houses offering hibernation opportunities. Houses that offer both are made with a lack of drafts and a predator tunnel in order to keep hedgehogs free from predation by dogs or badger. Ideally, hedgehog houses should offer both and should be sited in a quiet corner, hidden under leaves or brash in a sheltered location. The houses should have a roughly southern exposure. Examples of commercially available hedgehog hibernacula are provided below:



Hedgehog Nest Box

<https://www.nhbs.com/hedgehog-nest-box>



Hedgehog Hibernation Box

<https://www.nhbs.com/hedgehog-hibernation-box>



HH7 Hogilo Hedgehog/Mammal House

<https://www.nhbs.com/hh7-hogilo-hedgehog-mammal-house>

Habitat enhancement for Invertebrates

Below is a list of plant species that would provide enhancement for a variety of invertebrate species if included into any soft landscaping, tree, or shrub planting. These are also included in section 6.

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
Trees		Herbaceous perennials	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Common holly	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye daisy
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin
<i>Prunus padus</i>	Bird cherry	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	Yellow loosestrife
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Common whitebeam	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	<i>Malva moschata</i>	Musk mallow
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Broad-leaved lime	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Wild marjoram
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	<i>Persicaria bistorta</i>	Common bistort
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow	<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i>	Jacob's ladder

Shrubs		<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Common box	<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small scabious
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	<i>Sedum telephium</i>	Orpine
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common hawthorn	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy
<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Bell heather	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Ragwort
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn		
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose	Biennials	
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Sweet briar	<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild angelica
<i>Salix lanata</i>	Woolly willow (male)	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Common teasel
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Common wayfaring tree	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Gelder rose	Annuals	
Herbaceous perennials		<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's bugloss
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn marigold
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered bellflower	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common knapweed	Climbers	
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp agrimony	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's joy
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow cranesbill	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Common ivy
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field scabious	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Common honeysuckle