

PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL

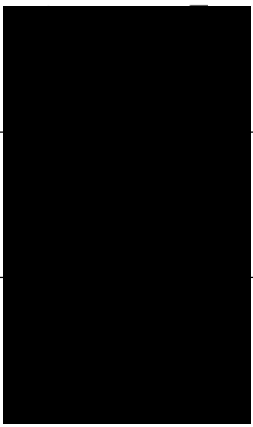
JULY 2024

Ryebank
Chorlton
Manchester
M21 9WW

U R B A N
G R E E N



QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Project No.:	UG1910				
Project:	Ryebank				
Location:	Ryebank, Chorlton, Manchester M21 9WW				
Title:	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal				
Document Type:	PEA	Issue No.:	03		
Date:	10/11/2023				
Prepared By:	Jake Healy	Signature:		Qualifications:	Ecologist, MSc, QCIEEM
Checked By:	Barnaby Indio Gardner	Signature:		Qualifications:	Assistant Ecologist, MEnv, BSc, QCIEEM
Checked By:	Toby Mills	Signature:		Qualifications:	Assistant Ecologist, BSc, QCIEEM
Revision Status					
Rev	Date	Comment		Prepared	Checked
01	09/07/2024	Update to be aligned with BNG Report and new formatting style		JH	OS

CONTENTS

1	Executive Summary	1
2	Introduction	4
2.1	Background to the Scheme	4
2.2	Site Context	4
2.3	Purpose of this Report	4
3	Previous Surveys	5
3.1	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Ascerta, 2020)	5
4	Methods	6
4.2	Desk Study	6
4.3	Field Survey	7
4.4	Bat Assessment	8
4.5	Habitat Suitability Index	9
4.6	Badger Survey	9
4.7	Constraints to the Survey	10
4.8	Lifespan of Report	11
4.9	Definitions	11
5	Baseline Ecological Conditions	13
5.1	Desk Study	13
5.2	Field Survey	16
5.3	Site Suitability for Protected and Notable Species	21
6	Ecological Constraints and Recommended Mitigation	25
6.1	Proposed Development	25
6.2	Designated Sites	25
6.3	Habitats	25
6.4	Fauna	26
6.5	Invasive Species	29
7	Further Surveys	30
7.1	Botanical	30
7.2	Bats	30

7.3	Badger	30
8	Opportunities for Enhancement.....	31
9	References	32
	Figure 1. Site Context.....	2
	Figure 2. UK Habitat Map	3
	Table 1. Desk Study Sources of Information.....	6
	Table 2. Key to Species Abundance	7
	Table 3. Suitability of Buildings and Trees for Roosting Bats	8
	Table 4. Suitability of Site for Foraging and Commuting Bats	9
	Table 5. Criteria used to categorise badger setts.....	10
	Table 6. Criteria used to define sett status	10
	Table 7. Designated Sites within the Search Areas	13
	Table 8. Protected or notable birds recorded within 1km.....	14

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1.1 Step Places, Southway Housing Trust and Manchester Metropolitan University ('the Applicants') are proposing to develop land at Ryebank, Chorlton (hereafter referred to as 'the site'). The proposals include the development of a residential scheme, comprising 120 residential dwellings, with associated hard and soft landscaping.
- 1.1.1.2 Urban Green has been appointed to complete a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of the site. The objectives of the assessment are to identify habitats on site and determine the suitability for any 'protected and/or notable' species that may occur on site. Further ecological surveys and mitigation are recommended to aim to minimise potential impacts on ecology, due to the proposed development.
- 1.1.1.3 Following the survey work, the key recommendations are summarised in the following table:

Current Site Use and Adjacent Site Use	The site is currently an unmanaged green space adjacent to Longford Park. Residential properties border the northern, eastern, and southern boundaries of the site and dominate much of the wider landscape. Though other public green spaces are also present within the vicinity, including Longford Park, Turn Moss Playing Fields, and Sale Water Park.
Potential Impacts on Designated Sites	No potential impacts on designated sites (protected by ecological legislation) nearby to the site are anticipated to occur due to the proposed development. The site is located at a sufficient distance from nearby designated sites, and the proposed development activities have been considered.
Habitats	The site comprised predominantly of other neutral grassland and broadleaved woodland, with areas of scrub, hardstanding, tree lines, and a ditch is also present.
Ecological Constraints	The following potential ecological constraints were identified during the assessment: • Trees T1, T2, T3, T5 and woodland parcel W1 were assessed as having low bat roosting potential. • Tree T4 has moderate bat roosting potential • Four badger setts were identified on site. • Suitable habitats for notable plants to establish. • Suitable habitats for nesting notable bird species, invertebrates, common amphibians, bats, and hedgehogs. • Three-cornered garlic and variegated yellow archangel are present on site. • Priority habitat broadleaved woodland is present on site.
Recommended Ecological Mitigation	The following mitigation measures are recommended to minimise potential impacts due to the proposed development: • Reasonable avoidance measures for common amphibians, and hedgehog. • Targeted planting for invertebrates. • Lighting mitigation related to bats. • If any vegetation requires removal, it should be completed outside of the breeding bird season (March to September, inclusive). If this is not feasible, a Nesting Bird Check is to be completed by a qualified ecologist within 48 hours before removal is completed. • Precautionary Working Methods during the construction phase for badgers. • Eradication of non-native invasive species, three cornered garlic and variegated yellow archangel.
Recommended Further Surveys and Reports	The following ecological surveys and reports are recommended to further assess the sites suitability for protected/notable fauna and/or flora: • Bat transect and static deployment surveys. • Badger Monitoring Surveys and the production of a Badger licence. • Updated botanical survey.

Recommended
Ecological
Enhancements

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2023) highlights the requirement for planning policies and decisions to conserve and enhance the natural environment. The proposed development provides the opportunity to enhance the site and ecological enhancements have been recommended.



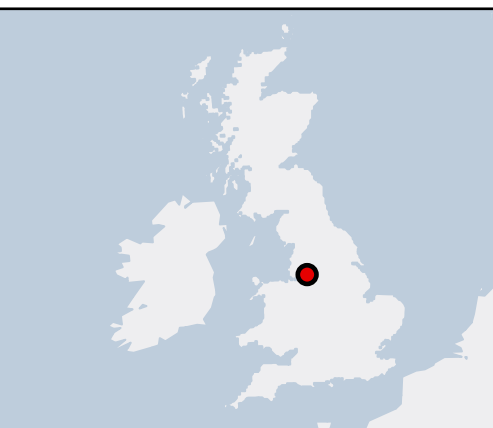
Legend: Red Line Boundary		0.85 Kilometers		N U R B A N G R E E N A: Ground Floor, The Tower, Deva City Office Park, Trinity Way, Manchester M3 7BF T: +44 (0) 161 312 3131 weareurbangreen.co.uk
Client: Step Places		Issue: 01	Figure: 01	
Project: Ryebank		Scale @ A4 1:10000		
Title: Site Context		Approved by: JH	Checked by: SP	
Drawing Ref: UG_1910_SITE_CONTEXT		Author: CL	Date: 10/07/2024	



U R B A N G R E E N

- Red Line Boundary
- Bramble scrub
- Developed land; sealed surface
- Modified grassland
- Other neutral grassland
- Other woodland; broadleaved
- Mixed scrub
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Ditch

- Urban Tree
- Target Note
 - TN1 - Three cornered garlic
 - TN2 - Variegated Yellow Archangel
 - TN3 - Bird Box
 - TN4 - Bug hotel - Timber Pallets
 - TN5 - Culvert
 - TN6 - Compost heap



Do not scale this drawing (printed or electronic version). This drawing is copyright and is for use on this site only. This drawing should be read in conjunction with all relevant consultants drawings and specialist subcontractors / supply chain drawings and specifications. Responsibility for the reproduction of this drawing in paper form, or issued in electronic format, lies with the recipient to check that all information has been replicated in full and is correct when compared to the original paper or electronic image.

Client: Step Places		
Project: Ryebank Fields		
Title: UKHAB Habitat Map		
Issue: 01		
Drawn: CL	Checked: SP	Approved: SB
Project: UG1910	Scale @ A3: 1:1250	Date: 08/01/2025
Dwg No: UG_1910_ECO_HM_01		Revision: 01

2 Introduction

2.1 Background to the Scheme

- 2.1.1.1 Step Places, Southway Housing Trust and Manchester Metropolitan University (“the Applicants”) are proposing to develop land at Ryebank, Chorlton (hereafter referred to as ‘the site’). The proposals include the development of a residential scheme, comprising 120 residential dwellings, with associated hard and soft landscaping.
- 2.1.1.2 Urban Green have been appointed to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the site. The assessment has been extended to include a Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment of the trees on site for bats.
- 2.1.1.3 The author of this report is Jake Healy, MSc, QCIEEM, Ecologist at Urban Green. Jake has experience providing ecological consultation services for an array of projects including residential, industrial, and commercial schemes.

2.2 Site Context

- 2.2.1.1 The site is located at National Grid Reference SJ 8104 9458 and comprises a total area of approximately 4.86ha (see Figure 1).
- 2.2.1.2 The site is located in an urban area of Chorlton, approximately 4km south of Manchester City Centre. Old Trafford Cricket Ground and Manchester United football ground are located approximately 0.8km and 1.5km north of the site, respectively. Various green spaces are adjacent to the site including Turn Moss Playing Fields, Trafford Athletic Club and Longford Park. Due to the site’s location close to city centres, main roads, train lines, tram lines, urban areas and residential areas, there is a high level of disturbance.

2.3 Purpose of this Report

- 2.3.1.1 This report has been produced to set out the methods, results, and conclusions of a PEA. The purpose of the PEA report is to identify habitats on site and determine the sites potential value for protected and/or notable fauna and flora, with the addition of potential impacts on designated sites, including a PGLRA for trees. This will inform the need for any further ecological surveys and/or mitigation to minimise the potential impacts on ecology on site and within the local area.
- 2.3.1.2 Further information and details of UK legislation for those species which are formally protected is defined in Appendix 1, which are considered throughout the assessment.
- 2.3.1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2023) and other Local Planning Policies are considered with the PEA. Ecological enhancements are advised to be in line with relevant Planning Policies.

3 Previous Surveys

3.1 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Ascerta, 2020)

- 3.1.1.1 A PEA was produced by Ascerta in January 2020 for Manchester Metropolitan University. The field survey was carried out by Mr Neil Everett on the 1st November 2019. The site was found to comprise an area of semi-improved and unmanaged improved grassland, with pockets of broadleaved woodland, scattered trees, bramble scrub, and species poor hedgerow. A small electrical substation was present to the south of the site with areas of hardstanding. While the Nico ditch (an ancient boundary or defensive ditch) runs east – west through the centre of the site.
- 3.1.1.2 The site was found to provide suitable habitat for nesting birds, badger, hedgehog, amphibians, bats, and reptiles, and various mitigation measures and further survey work were recommended.

4 Methods

- 4.1.1.1 The PEA assessment and Report follows the good practice methodology as detailed within the *Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal* (CIEEM, 2019).

4.2 Desk Study

4.2.1 Online Resources and Local Records Centre

- 4.2.1.1 Due to the size and low impact of the proposed development and being located within a predominantly urban area of Chorlton, a 1 km Local Data Search was conducted as it is deemed an appropriate distance for the Zone of Influence.
- 4.2.1.2 Sources of information used in the desk study are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Desk Study Sources of Information

Source	Date Consulted	Information Sought
MAGIC website (www.magic.gov.uk)	28/11/2023	Locations of statutory designated sites within 1km of the site boundary. Locations of Natura 2000 sites (Ramsar, Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA)) within 5km of the site boundary. Locations of European Protected Species Licences (EPSL) and Class Licences within 1km.
Natural England (https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/)	28/11/2023	Relevant statutory designated site citations.
JNCC (https://jncc.defra.gov.uk/)	28/11/2023	Information on European wildlife sites. Details of relevant Section 41 species and habitats.
Greater Manchester Ecology Unit	25/10/2023	Locally designated wildlife sites within 1km of site boundary. Records of protected and notable species within 1km of the site boundary.
Greater Manchester Local Biodiversity Action Plans	28/11/2023	Species and habitats which are given special conservation status at the local level.

4.3 Field Survey

4.3.1 Vegetation

- 4.3.1.1 An Ecological Survey of the land at Ryebank was completed on the 18th of October 2023 by Jake Healy, Ecologist and Sarah Child, Biodiversity Net Gain Consultant of Urban Green. The weather conditions were 14°C, intermittent clouds (3/8 oktas), with a wind speed of 1 on the Beaufort Scale.
- 4.3.1.2 The methods were based on the standard methodology as detailed by The UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) User Manual (Butcher et al, 2020). A UKHab Habitat Plan has been produced to demonstrate habitats within the proposed development and the surrounding area. The mapping techniques are based on The UKHab User Manual (Butcher et al, 2020) guidance.
- 4.3.1.3 Flora species listed as protected in the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended) and species which are indicators of important and/or uncommon habitats, were searched for during the survey.
- 4.3.1.4 Species abundance is described using the DAFOR scale as shown in Table 2. Percentages are an approximate indication rather than a quantitative measure.

Table 2. Key to Species Abundance

Code	Category	Description	Indicative Percentage Ranges
D	Dominant	Covers most of the area	90% or greater
A	Abundant	Very common throughout the area.	50 – 90%
F	Frequent	Common or with many individuals.	20 – 50%
O	Occasional	Occurs in several places but not throughout. Populations are not large.	5 – 20%
R	Rare	Occurs in low numbers in relation to size of area.	Less than 5%
“L” will be used to indicate abundance in a localised area, e.g. LA = Locally abundant			

- 4.3.1.5 Any invasive species, including those listed on Schedule 9 of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended) were noted during the field survey when sighted.

4.3.2 Fauna

- 4.3.2.1 A site search for field signs of protected and notable fauna was undertaken, and incidental sightings are detailed. The searches completed were as follows:
- Suitability of any ponds to support notable and protected amphibians, and the suitability of the site’s terrestrial habitats to support amphibians.
 - Suitability of the site to support reptiles by way of habitat structure and refuge piles, as well as links to the wider landscape.
 - Search of any watercourses for signs or suitability for white-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*), water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) and otter (*Lutra lutra*) by way of burrows, resting places, holts, and foraging signs.
 - Suitability of the site to support notable bird species. Bird nests and droppings of notable and protected bird species.

- Suitability of the site to support notable invertebrates.
- Search of the site for any invasive species.
- Badger (*Meles meles*) field signs such as setts, mammal, paths, snuffle holes and latrines.
- Suitability of the site to support notable terrestrial mammals including harvest mouse (*Micromys minutus*) and brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*).

4.4 Bat Assessment

4.4.1 Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment

- 4.4.1.1 A Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment (PGLRA) was carried out on the site trees using close-focussing binoculars.
- 4.4.1.2 The PGLRA methodology is based on information contained within the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) guidelines, 3rd edition (Collins, 2016). The categorisation within this report is based on that set out in Table 3, which is used as a basis for determining the requirement for further surveys.

Table 3. Suitability of Buildings and Trees for Roosting Bats

Category of Suitability	Typical Characteristics	Further Survey Requirements
High Roost Suitability	A structure/tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat.	Three separate survey visits. At least one dusk emergence and a separate dawn re-entry survey. Surveys can be undertaken between May and September, with at least two surveys between May and August.
Moderate Roost Suitability	A structure/tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but are unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status.	Two separate survey visits. One dusk emergence and a separate dawn re-entry survey. Surveys can be undertaken between May and September with at least one survey between May and August.
Low Roost Suitability	A structure/tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate condition and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis by larger numbers of bats.	Structures: one emergence/re-entry survey between May and August. Trees: No further survey required but precautionary methods of felling recommended.
Negligible Suitability	Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats.	No further work required.

4.4.2 Commuting and Foraging Bats

- 4.4.2.1 The site was assessed for its suitability for use by commuting and foraging bats.
- 4.4.2.2 The commuting and foraging assessment methodology is based on information contained within the Bat Conservation Trust guidelines 3rd edition (Collins, 2016). The categorisation within this report is based on that set out in Table 4, which is used as a basis for determining the requirement for further surveys.

Table 4. Suitability of Site for Foraging and Commuting Bats (adapted from Collins, 2023)

Category of Suitability	Typical Characteristics
High Suitability	Continuous high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by commuting or foraging bats such as; river valleys, streams, hedgerows, lines of trees or woodland edge. Site is close to or connected to known roosts.
Moderate Suitability	Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by commuting bats such as lines of trees, scrub or linked back gardens. Habitat connected to wider landscape that could be used for bats for foraging such as; trees, scrub, grassland or water.
Low Suitability	Habitat that could be used by small number of commuting bats such as; defunct hedgerow, isolated features not well connected to surrounding habitat or Isolated habitat that could be used by a small number of foraging bats such as a lone tree or patch of scrub.
Negligible Suitability	No features on site suitable for use by commuting and foraging bats.

4.5 Habitat Suitability Index

- 4.5.1.1 No ponds were present on site; or within 250m of the site boundary (see Section 3.3.5 for further details). As great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) upper dispersal limit is generally considered to be up to 250m from a waterbody (though occurrence of greater distances does exist), ponds beyond this distance were not assessed due to limited connectivity (English Nature, 2001).

4.6 Badger Survey

- 4.6.1.1 A full walkover of the site was conducted to assess for signs indicating the presence of badgers, such as setts, latrines, guard hairs, mammal paths, and footprints.
- 4.6.1.2 A badger sett is defined as “any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger” (Protection of Badgers Act, 1992). Badger setts are commonly categorised dependent on their level of use and size. Descriptions for each type of sett are given in Table 5 (based on Harris, Cresswell, and Jeffries, 1989).

- 4.6.1.3 The term “current use” is not synonymous with current occupation. A sett is defined as such as long as signs indicative of “current use” are present (Protection of Badgers Act, 1992). Therefore, a sett remains protected by the Act until such a time as the field signs have deteriorated to such an extent that they no longer indicate that the sett is in “current use” (Natural England, 2009). Using this definition, the status of a sett was assessed using the criteria in Table 6 (based on Harris, Cresswell, and Jeffries, 1989).

Table 5. Criteria used to categorise badger setts

Sett Category	Criteria
Main	The largest and most used sett. Usually, a large number of holes with large spoil heaps and established paths between sett entrances usually marked with latrines. In continuous use and used for breeding.
Annexe	Normally less than 150m from the main sett and are connected to it by one or more well established paths. Several entrances but not always in use even if the main sett is active.
Subsidiary	Often consist of several entrances and are usually at least 50m from the main sett. There is often no obvious path connecting with another sett and they are not always in use.
Outlier	Usually consist of one or two holes with no obvious paths. Small spoil heaps outside holes indicating they are not extensive underground. Sporadic use often inhabited by foxes or rabbits when not used by badger.

Table 6. Criteria used to define sett status

Level of use	Definition
Active	Entrance holes well used, clear of debris/vegetation, except bedding material. The holes may or may not have been excavated recently. Fresh spoil outside. Signs of wear consistent with use (presence of smooth, compacted soil / prints / hairs).
Inactive	Entrance holes not in regular use: they have some accumulated debris/vegetation and no field signs indicating recent use by badgers. Sett use is often seasonal, and a sett recorded as inactive could be in regular use after a minimal amount of clearance.
Disused	Entrance holes show no signs of recent use and are often partly or wholly blocked. Entrances may require considerable digging to re-open. Setts may become disused through collapse, flooding, interference or other reasons

4.7 Constraints to the Survey

- 4.7.1.1 Whilst every effort has been made to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no investigation could ensure the complete characterisation and prediction of the natural environment.
- 4.7.1.2 This PEA does not constitute a full botanical survey. The protected species assessment provides a view of the likelihood of protected species occurring on the site based on the known distribution of species in the local area and the suitability of the habitat.

- 4.7.1.3 October is a suboptimal time for carrying out UKHab Habitat Surveys due to being outside of the optimal plant growing season. Therefore, it is likely that some plants are present on the site but were not evident at the time of the survey and were not recorded. This is not considered to be a significant constraint with regards to the general UKHab Habitat Survey results as the habitats remained consistent with previous surveys, and due to the size and location of the site and limited extent of the habitats, it is considered very unlikely that any rare or priority plant species were missed.
- 4.7.1.4 It should not, however, be taken as providing a full and definitive survey of any protected species group.
- 4.7.1.5 Where a lack of records is found during the desk search for a defined geographical area, it does not necessarily mean that there is a lack of ecological interest; the area may be simply under-recorded.
- 4.7.1.6 The conclusions and recommendations detailed in this report are based upon the site redline boundary and the development proposals as outlined by the client at the time of writing. Should there be any changes to the site redline boundary or development proposals at a later stage, this assessment should be reviewed to determine whether any amendments or additional survey work is required.
- 4.7.1.7 The findings of this report represent the professional opinion of qualified ecologists and do not constitute professional legal advice. The client may wish to seek professional legal interpretation of the relevant wildlife legislation cited within this document.
- 4.7.1.8 A large portion of the trees on site were covered in ivy which prevented a detailed inspection for roosting bat features and has been considered throughout the report.
- 4.7.1.9 Large areas of scrub habitat have established on site that are dense and difficult to survey, this has been considered throughout the report.

4.8 Lifespan of Report

- 4.8.1.1 In accordance with CIEEM's Advice Note on the Lifespan of Ecological Reports and Surveys (CIEEM, 2019), the details of this report will remain valid for a period of **18 months** from the date of the survey (i.e. until **18th April 2025**). After this date, this assessment should be reviewed to determine whether any updated surveys are required.

4.9 Definitions

- 4.9.1.1 For the purposes of this report, the term 'protected and notable species' relates to:
- Species included on Schedules 2 and 4 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017;
 - 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 (see section 9[5] and 13[2]);
 - Invasive non-native species included on Schedule 9 of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended);
 - Species of principal importance for the conservation of/maintaining and enhancing biodiversity as required under: Section 41 of the *Natural Environment and Rural*

Communities Act 2006 (England), Section 7 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*, Section 2[4] of the *Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004*;

- Local species of importance as identified within various local biodiversity action plans; and,
- Badgers, which are protected under the *Protection of Badgers Act 1992*.

5 Baseline Ecological Conditions

5.1 Desk Study

5.1.1 Site Location

- 5.1.1.1 The site is located in an urban area of Chorlton, approximately 4km south of Manchester City Centre. Old Trafford Cricket Ground and Manchester United football ground are located approximately 0.8km and 1.5km north of the site, respectively. Various green spaces are adjacent to the site including Turn Moss Playing Fields, Trafford Athletic Club and Longford Park. Due to the site’s location close to city centres, main roads, train lines, tram lines, urban areas and residential areas, there is a high level of disturbance.
- 5.1.1.2 Longford Park is located immediately west of the site, covering approximately 22ha, the largest council-managed park in Trafford. This park was formally designated as a ‘Conservation Area’ in 1996 due to its heritage landscape, buildings, features and historical connections. Although the Park technically receives statutory protection, this protection is received via the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, relating to its architectural and historic importance, not its ecological value.
- 5.1.1.3 Habitats within the surrounding area are limited to urban street planting and recreational parks, with Trafford Athletic Club, St Johns RC Primary School and adjacent residential areas all present within 500m of the site.

5.1.2 Designated Sites

- 5.1.2.1 No sites that form part of the National Site Network were located within 5km of the site boundary and no further statutory sites were located within 1km of the site boundary. One non-statutory designated site was located within 1km of the site and are detailed within Table 7.

Table 7. Designated Sites within the Search Areas

Designated Site	Approx. Distance from Site	Details
Non-statutory designated sites		
Bridgewater Canal Site of Biological Importance (SBI)	930m west	No information available

- 5.1.2.2 The site does not fall within any specific Impact Risk Zone of any Statutory Sites, based on consultation with MAGiC Maps.

5.1.3 Flora and Fauna

- 5.1.3.1 The following section summarises protected and/or notable species records that have been recorded within 1km of the site.

Invertebrates

- 5.1.3.2 Two records of cinnabar moth (*Tyria jacobaeae*) were returned within 1km of the site. Both of which were located on site in 2020.
- 5.1.3.3 This species is listed on Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006.

Vascular Plant

- 5.1.3.4 The data search returned one record of a notable vascular plant species, the bee orchid (*Ophrys apifera*). Which was located approximately 80m west of the site in 2022 and is listed on Section 13 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).

Amphibians

- 5.1.3.5 One record of common toad (*Bufo bufo*) was received, within 1km of the site from 2012. Common toad is listed on Section 41 of NERC (2006).
- 5.1.3.6 A Magic Map search returned no granted EPSL relating to great crested newt present within 1km of the site. The closest EPSL relating to great crested newts was one record approximately 3.4km from site.

Birds

- 5.1.3.7 A total of 67 records of protected or notable birds were returned within 1km of the site as detailed in Table 8.

Table 8. Protected or notable birds recorded within 1km

Scientific Name	Common Name	Protection	Closest Record to Site	
			Approx. Min. Distance (m)	Date
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Bullfinch	BoCC5**, S41	On-site	2021
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Dunnock	BoCC5**, S41	On-site	2021
<i>Locustella naevia</i>	Grasshopper warbler	BoCC5*, S41	200m	2011
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Herring gull	BoCC5*, S41	On-site	2018
<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Hobby	Schedule 1	Flying overhead only	2019
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House sparrow	BoCC5*, S41	On-site	2021
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Lapwing	BoCC5*, S41	680m	2018
<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	Lesser redpoll	BoCC5*, S41	On-site	2018
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine	Schedule 1	Flying overhead only	2018
<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	Reed bunting	BoCC5**, S41	On-site	2019
<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	Ring ouzel	BoCC5*, S41	200m	2015
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song thrush	BoCC5**, S41	On-site	2021
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Spotted flycatcher	BoCC5*, S41	On-site	2020
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	BoCC5*, S41	On-site	2021

* Red list of BoCC5 (2021)

** Amber list of BoCC5 (2021)

S41 Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006)

Bats

- 5.1.3.8 Forty-four records of bats were returned during the data search, including records of Pipistrelle bat species (*Pipistrellus* sp.), common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), *Myotis* species, noctule bat (*Nyctalus noctula*), as well as multiple records of unidentified bat species (*Chiroptera* spp.) and one record of whiskered bat (*Myotis mystacinus*). All species were recorded within 1km of the site, with the closest record that of one *Myotis* sp., one noctule bat, one pipistrelle sp. and one soprano pipistrelle which were all located on the site. No records of any bat roosts were returned within the data search.
- 5.1.3.9 All species of bat returned are listed as European Protected Species (EPS) through the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as well as being listed on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and listed as a priority species under the Greater Manchester LBAP. Noctule and soprano pipistrelle are further listed on Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006).
- 5.1.3.10 MAGIC also detailed the presence of one granted EPSL within 1km of the site (Ref: 2015-15443-EPS-MIT-1) regarding brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*), to allow the destruction of a resting place approximately 870m from the site.

Hedgehog

- 5.1.3.11 Thirty-nine records of hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) were returned with 1km of the site from 2019-2022. The closest records were two records within the site itself dated 2019.
- 5.1.3.12 Hedgehog are listed on Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006).

Badger

- 5.1.3.13 Twenty-one records of badger were returned within 1km of the site ranging from 2013-2023, twelve of which were located within the surrounding woodland on site. It was noted that eleven of these records related specifically to setts.
- 5.1.3.14 Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

No Records Returned

- 5.1.3.15 The data search returned no records for:
- Non-native, invasive flora and fauna
 - Great crested newt
 - Hazel dormice (*Muscardinus avellanarius*)
 - White-clawed crayfish
 - Reptiles
 - Red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*)
 - Water vole
 - Otter

5.2 Field Survey

- 5.2.1.1 The site habitats and accompanying Target Notes are presented in the UKHab Habitat Map in Figure 2.
- 5.2.1.2 Secondary codes are added to confirm the identity of a habitat (when necessary), and also to provide information on management and the environment relating to that habitat parcel. The number and type of secondary codes added to a primary habitat will vary depending on the habitats present. There is no limit to the number of secondary codes that can be used for a single parcel. More details regarding the secondary codes used can be found in Appendix 4.
- 5.2.1.3 The site was found to comprise a small, well-used greenspace adjacent to Longford Park, which borders the western site boundary, though the site did not appear to be as regularly managed as the adjacent park. Various well-trodden paths were present on site due to regular use of the site by residents and dogs with several of the adjacent properties to the north and east of the site were observed to have developed direct access routes into the site. A mosaic of habitats was found to be present within the site extent which are typical of urban green spaces.

5.2.2 Other Neutral Grassland (g3c)

- 5.2.2.1 The majority of the site was defined by a large parcel of other neutral grassland that spanned much of the site's centre. The habitat appeared to be infrequently managed, comprising a tussocky sward, with prominent desire lines leading through and around the parcel, indicating public use. Areas of scattered scrub, scattered rushes, and tall herb, as well as scattered trees were also present within the parcel. The grassland appeared to be subject to regular anthropogenic disturbance, likely relating to recreational activities and dog walking.
- 5.2.2.2 The whole parcel was relatively consistent in composition, though the southern extent of the site was observed to be slightly more waterlogged in places - with scattered areas of soft rush present - and a section in the north-eastern extent of the site contained escapes from adjacent residential gardens, including bamboo (*Bambusa* sp.) and pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*).
- 5.2.2.3 Please see Appendix 5 for the full species list collected.



Photograph 1 – Northern section of grassland



Photograph 2 – Southern section of grassland

5.2.3 Modified Grassland (g4)

- 5.2.3.1 A smaller area of grassland within the centre-east of the site featured lesser species diversity than the surrounding grassland, dominated instead by a stand of willowherb (*Epilobium* sp.) with occasional bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) scrub and some of the adjacent grasses.



Photograph 3 – Modified grassland

5.2.4 Broadleaved Woodland (w1g)

- 5.2.4.1 A large portion of the site's periphery comprised areas of broadleaved woodland, particularly the northern and western boundaries, though small compartments were also present along the eastern and southern boundaries.
- 5.2.4.2 These areas showed little evidence of management with many of the mature trees present boasting thick carpets of ivy surrounding their trunks and lower limbs. More desire lines were evident through the northern woodland block, which had a limited understorey and ground flora, though the large linear strip of woodland along the western extent of the site appeared to be less frequently used and exhibited a more densely scrubby understorey.
- 5.2.4.3 A small area of what appeared to be invasive non-native species three cornered garlic (*Allium triquetrum*) (TN1) and two small areas of variegated yellow archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* subsp. *argentatum*) (TN2) were identified within the areas of woodland on site. A full species list can be found in Appendix 5.
- 5.2.4.4 A separate area of woodland that was significantly different in composition to the other woodland areas was present within the northern extent of the site. This smaller compartment comprised of dominant suckering aspen (*Populus tremula*), and appeared to be a young, self-set parcel, with occasional occurrences of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). The ground layer comprised occasional holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and common ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) saplings, with wood avens (*Geum urbanum*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), bramble, herb robert (*Geranium robertianum*), ivy (*Hedera helix*), meadow grass (*Poa* sp.), and rare occurrence of box-leaved honeysuckle (*Lonicera pileata*).
- 5.2.4.5 Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland is a Habitat of Principal Importance under Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006) and is also listed on the Greater Manchester LBAP.



Photograph 4 – Northern woodland block



Photograph 5 – Small Aspen woodland



Photograph 6 – Western woodland block

5.2.5 Bramble Scrub (h3d)

The third-most dominant habitat type on site was found to be bramble scrub, and again was predominantly situated along the boundaries of the site. These compartments showed no evidence of recent management and were dominated by dense stands of bramble which deterred the public from utilising the area. The central band of mixed scrub also had an abundance of raspberry cane (*Rubus idaeus*).



Photograph 7 – Central east band of scrub



Photograph 8 – Southern band of scrub

5.2.6 Mixed Scrub (h3h)

- 5.2.6.1 An area of mixed scrub is present within the centre of the site, surrounding the Nico Ditch. Species from the adjacent woodland have begun to naturally colonise this area, including oak, willow (*Salix* sp.), elder (*Sabucus nigra*), and common hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), with a dense understorey of bramble and raspberry.



Photograph 9 – Central east band of scrub

5.2.7 Developed land; sealed surface (u1b)

- 5.2.7.1 A small parcel of hardstanding was present within the southern extent of the site, that appeared to be an old access road and car park. This area was unmanaged, and the periphery of the hard standing had begun to be colonised by the adjacent vegetation types. A man-made bug hotel (TN4) was located just within the boundary of the site off Longford Road, made up of old pallets and dead wood, sticks, and brash.



Photograph 10 - Hardstanding



Photograph 11 – Bug hotel (TN4)

5.2.8 Lines of trees (w1g6)

- 5.2.8.1 Three lines of trees were present on site associated within the southern extent of the site.
- 5.2.8.2 The first line of trees was located along the central eastern boundary and borders the adjacent residential houses and St. Johns Primary School. It was approximately 115m in length and comprised abundant sycamore and occasional cherry (*Prunus* sp.), holly, Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), ash, hazel.

- 5.2.8.3 The second line of trees is present along the south-eastern boundary of the site and was approximately 75m in length, comprising abundant hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and occasional ash, and willow (*Salix* sp.).
- 5.2.8.4 The third line of trees is present within the southern extent of the site, along the northern periphery of the previous car park. The treeline was approximately 35m in the length and comprised occasional oak (*Quercus* sp.), ash, birch (*Betula* sp.), and sycamore.



Photograph 12 – Line of Trees 1



Photograph 13 – Line of Trees 2



Photograph 14 – Line of Trees 3

5.2.9 Ditch (r2b 191)

- 5.2.9.1 A small section of the Nico Ditch runs through the site and culverted at the western extent of the site boundary (TN5). The majority of the ditch's length was densely vegetated with bramble scrub, raspberry cane, tall grassland and associated shrubbery, with some scattered trees also present. The ditch was found to be dry at the time of survey and is only anticipated to hold water during periods of wet weather.



Photograph 15 – Nico Ditch

5.2.10 Individual Trees

- 5.2.10.1 In addition to all the other habitats present on site a total of 41 individual trees were present within the site including ash, silver birch, willow, oak, London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*), and lime (*Tilia sp.*).

5.3 Site Suitability for Protected and Notable Species

5.3.1 Species Discounted from Assessment

- 5.3.1.1 Otter, water vole, and white-clawed crayfish have been discounted from assessment as no aquatic habitats are located on site or within proximity. The closest aquatic habitat is located approximately 950m west, relating to the Bridgwater Canal.
- 5.3.1.2 Hazel dormouse mainly occur in southern counties, especially in Devon, Somerset, Sussex and Kent. There are few recorded localities north of the Midlands, though they are present in parts of the Lake District and in scattered Welsh localities (Matthews *et al.*, 2018). The species are not generally known to be present within the area (Wembridge *et al.*, 2016). The habitats on site are of limited value due to limited areas of extensive woodland and scrub. As such, the species are reasonably discounted from site.
- 5.3.1.3 Red squirrel have been discounted from the assessment. Red squirrel populations are limited to small areas of northern England and are not known to be present in the area; with no previous records returned in the data search. It is anticipated that high abundances of grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) are present within this region (Shuttleworth/RSST n.d.). This species will displace red squirrel through competition as well as cause increased red squirrel mortality through the spread of squirrel pox (The Mammal Society, 2020).

5.3.2 Vascular Plants

- 5.3.2.1 The site provides typical characteristics of naturalised urban green spaces. There is little evidence of management within the site extent compared with the adjacent Longford Park, though there is a consistent level of anthropogenic disturbance related to dog walkers and other recreational activities, that provide constant pressure to the grassland habitats.

- 5.3.2.2 The field survey also identified the presence of ornamental, garden escapees within the northern and eastern site extent where the borders of the site laid adjacent residential gardens and various occurrences of non-native invasive flora (three cornered garlic and variegated yellow archangel) were also present within the habitats on site. However, the site field survey was undertaken in a sub optimal time of the year and so notable plant species that are present on site may have been missed, with records of bee orchid returned in the data search associated with Longford Park.
- 5.3.2.3 As such, notable vascular plant species may be present on site.

5.3.3 Invertebrates

- 5.3.3.1 No aquatic habitats or high floristic diversity was located on site which would provide an important resource for invertebrates during their life cycle. Though, some dead wood was identified on site and records of cinnabar moth were returned within the site extent itself. The unmanaged nature of the site may provide some value to notable invertebrates, though it is anticipated that the majority will be common species.
- 5.3.3.2 Notable invertebrates have been identified on site during the data search.

5.3.4 Amphibians

- 5.3.4.1 No ponds were located within site or within 250m of the site boundary. As great crested newts upper dispersal limit is generally considered to be up to 250m from a waterbody (though occurrence of greater distances does exist), great crested newts are not anticipated to be present on site (English Nature, 2001).
- 5.3.4.2 The site comprised a mosaic of unmanaged habitats which may provide suitable foraging resources and cover for common amphibians such as common toads. Ornamental water bodies may be located within nearby residential gardens which may provide suitable conditions for breeding common amphibians.
- 5.3.4.3 The presence of great crested newt within the site is reasonably discounted, though common amphibians may occur on site.

5.3.5 Reptiles

- 5.3.5.1 The site was found to provide limited value for reptiles, due to the small size of the site and limited connectivity to other suitable habitats within the landscape. Moreover, no records of the species group were returned within the data search.
- 5.3.5.2 Reptiles are considered absent at the site.

5.3.6 Birds

Ground Nesting

- 5.3.6.1 Due to the location of the site within an urban area, adjacent to Longford Park and the regular use of the site by the public it is anticipated that ground nesting birds would choose other habitats with a lesser level of disturbance and pressure associated.
- 5.3.6.2 Ground nesting birds are not anticipated to be nesting on site, though may forage within the site extent.

Passerine

- 5.3.6.3 The site provides optimal nesting opportunities for passerines with a good mosaic of habitat types including woodland, scrub and scattered trees. A wooden bird box (TN3) was also identified on site within the eastern block of woodland, as well as artificial bird feeders within northern woodland block. Various trees on were observed to have disused nests present within their canopy.
- 5.3.6.4 Nesting birds are confirmed present within trees on site.

Birds of Prey

- 5.3.6.5 Records of peregrine falcon and hobby were both returned within the data search within the site extent, however, the records detail aerial behaviour (e.g. flying over the site or ‘dog fighting’); there are no records of foraging or nesting by these species. The site has the potential to support birds of prey, although this is likely restricted to a foraging context only. Though there are no features present on site that could support nesting barn owl.

5.3.7 Bats

Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment

- 5.3.7.1 A PGLRA was completed on all trees located on site and adjacent, though the survey was partly constrained as detailed in Section 3.6. Please refer to Appendix 2 for the results of the PGLRA and imagery of Potential Roosting Features (PRF) identified during the survey.
- 5.3.7.2 In summary, the following features and trees were assessed as having bat roosting potential:
- T1, T2, T3, T5 and woodland parcel W1* were assessed as having low bat roost potential.
 - T4 was assessed as having moderate bat roost potential.
- 5.3.7.3 Based on current proposals all the aforementioned trees and woodland blocks assessed as having bat potential will be retained as part of the development proposals.

Commuting and Foraging Bats

- 5.3.7.4 The habitats on site are anticipated to provide value for foraging bats due to comprising mosaic of unmanaged habitats which will attract invertebrate prey. The woodland parcels on site provide suitable foraging grounds as well forming a linear ‘edge habitat’ that are an important commuting habitat for many bat species. The site is also adjacent to Longford Park and so has a good connectivity with other suitable habitats within the wider landscape. As the predominant habitat within the wider landscape comprises urban development the site is considered to have a local importance for local bat species.
- 5.3.7.5 As such, the site has been assessed as providing moderate commuting and foraging potential.

* W1 – The northern block of woodland was collectively assessed as providing low bat roosting suitability as a precautionary measure due to the level of ivy present around the tree stems.

5.3.8 Hedgehog

- 5.3.8.1 The broadleaved woodland and scrub habitats will provide suitable cover and foraging habitats for the species. Hedgehog are potentially present within the site.

5.3.9 Badger

- 5.3.9.1 Four badger setts were identified on site, totalling seven entrances.
- Sett 1 – Three entrances confirmed as active.
 - Sett 2 – One entrance assessed as being inactive.
 - Sett 3 – Two entrances confirmed as active.
 - Sett 4 – One entrance assessed as disused.
- 5.3.9.2 Additional field signs were also identified within the site extent comprising a recently used latrine in the vicinity of Sett 3 and a well-developed mammal path with associated snuffle holes in the large scrub parcel to the west of the site. Further information regarding the setts identified on site can be found within Appendix 3.
- 5.3.9.3 The entrances identified relating to Sett 1 were adjacent to a large area of bramble scrub which was inaccessible and therefore, the presence of further entrances cannot be discounted within this area of scrub and other areas of scrub on site.
- 5.3.9.4 Furthermore, the data search provided records of badger setts present within the site extent, within the western woodland block and central scrub. Not all setts returned in the data search were located on site during the preliminary field survey.
- 5.3.9.5 Badger are confirmed as present on site.

6 Ecological Constraints and Recommended Mitigation

6.1 Proposed Development

- 6.1.1.1 Step Places, Southway Housing Trust and Manchester Metropolitan University (“the Applicants”) are proposing to develop land at Ryebank, Chorlton. The proposals include the development of a residential scheme, comprising 120 residential dwellings, with associated hard and soft landscaping.

6.2 Designated Sites

- 6.2.1.1 The site is not located within the impact risk zone for any statutory designated sites relevant to ecology within the local area and therefore no impacts on such sites are anticipated as a result of the proposals.
- 6.2.1.2 In the case of Longford Park, although it is statutorily designated, this designation is derived for architectural reasons, rather than reasons pertaining to ecology. Moreover, the proposed scope of works will have no direct impact on Longford Park as the construction proposals are confined within the site boundary. In addition, the existing woodland located along the western boundary of the site (that borders Longford Park) is scheduled for retention, providing a buffer against sources of indirect impacts during the construction phase of the works (e.g. noise dust and light). Finally, the habitat contained within Longford Park, immediately adjacent to the site are open playing fields that are assessed as having low ecological value. For these reasons, it is determined that Longford Park will not be affected by the proposals in a meaningful way and therefore is discounted from further assessment in this report.
- 6.2.1.3 The Bridgewater Canal SBI is located within 1 km of the site boundary. There may be small increase of visitors to the nearby sites. However, based on the size of the scheme and the proposed retention of green space on site, it is anticipated the potential impacts will not be of significance.

6.3 Habitats

- 6.3.1.1 The site was found to comprise a small well-used greenspace adjacent to Longford Park that bordered the western boundary of the site. Much of the site appeared to be unmanaged and various well-trodden paths had developed due to regular use, with a number of the adjacent residential gardens to the north and east of the site observed to have developed direct access routes into the site. Despite this, the habitats on site were found to provide suitable opportunities for a range of terrestrial species.

6.3.2 Broadleaved Woodland and Trees

- 6.3.2.1 Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland is a Habitat of Principal Importance under Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006) and is also listed on the Greater Manchester LBAP. The habitat should then be retained and improved within the site as much as feasibly possible.
- 6.3.2.2 Generally, the protection measures of retained trees will be through the use of temporary protective demarcation fencing to protect the trees and shrubs. The fencing must extend outside the canopy of the retained trees and must remain in position until all plots have been developed to ensure protection is provided throughout the construction phase as per the associated AIA (Urban Green, 2023).
- 6.3.2.3 The fencing will be in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction: Recommendations.

- 6.3.2.4 It is recommended that any replacement tree planting comprises native species and species known to be of value for the attraction of wildlife. This will include fruiting and flowering species.

6.4 Fauna

6.4.1 Vascular Plants

- 6.4.1.1 As the field survey was undertaken within a sub-optimal time of the year, outside of the flowering season notable plant species could not be reasonably discounted from the site.
- 6.4.1.2 It is recommended that an updated botanical survey is undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist during the flowering season.

6.4.2 Invertebrates

- 6.4.2.1 Notable invertebrates were identified on site via records of cinnabar returned within the data search from 2020. It is anticipated that the majority of invertebrates on site are common species associated with urban green spaces.
- 6.4.2.2 It is recommended that the landscape plans for the site include a variety of flowering plants to increase the value of the site for invertebrates and retain an important food source for the cinnabar moth. Species should include:
- Common bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*);
 - Common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*);
 - Bush vetch (*Vicia cracca*);
 - Hawkbits (*Leontodon* spp.);
 - Hawkweeds (*Hieracium* spp.);
 - Labiates (*Lamiaceae*);
 - Ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*);
 - Meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*);
 - Other trefoils (*Fabaceae*);
 - Other vetches (*Vicia* spp.);
 - Common fleabane (*Pulicaria dysenterica*);
 - Ox-eye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*);
 - Yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*);
 - Red clover (*Trifolium pratense*); and
 - Woundworts (*Stachys* spp.).

6.4.3 Amphibians

- 6.4.3.1 Great crested newt were deemed unlikely to be present on site and no further consideration for the species is required. However, there is a possibility that common amphibians such as common toad may be present on site.
- 6.4.3.2 It is recommended that Reasonable Avoidance Measures are to be followed during site clearance. All site contractors are to be inducted to the potential presence of the species. Any debris is to be cleared by hand, and any common amphibians located moved carefully, by hand, to outside of the development area.

6.4.4 Birds

- 6.4.4.1 Vegetation removal should be undertaken outside of the breeding bird season (March to September, inclusive). If this is not possible, a suitably experienced ecologist should check the habitat for breeding bird activity no more than 48 hours before clearance. If nesting activity is found, nests must be left in situ until the young have fledged.
- 6.4.4.2 The site has been assessed to provide some suitable habitat for nesting birds, therefore it is recommended that the landscape scheme for this site contains a range of habitats such as scrub and trees, which will provide suitable shelter and nesting habitat for a range of bird species which are likely to be present in the surrounding area.

6.4.5 Bats

Roosting Bats

- 6.4.5.1 Trees T1, T2, T3, T5 and woodland block W1 were assessed as having low bat roosting potential. Tree T4 has moderate roosting potential.
- 6.4.5.2 Trees T1, T2, T3, T4, and T5 and woodland block W1 are all proposed as being retained and as such further survey work for bats is not required moving forward. However, should the proposals change, and new trees need to be removed an experienced ecologist should be consulted.

Foraging and Commuting Bats

- 6.4.5.3 The site was assessed as being of moderate value to commuting and foraging bats. It is recommended that the landscape designs for this site contain a mix of native plant species and those known to be of value to native invertebrate species, providing additional value to local bat populations as a foraging resource.
- 6.4.5.4 Further surveys are recommended to be undertaken on site during the appropriate survey season (May to September, inclusive).
- 6.4.5.5 Slow-flying species such as brown long-eared and Myotis species, which are known to be in the local area, are sensitive to lighting and may be impacted by the proposed development, should no mitigation for lighting be considered.
- 6.4.5.6 Lighting mitigation should follow the guidance outlined in the Institute for Lighting Engineers document "Guidance for the Reduction of Obtrusive Lighting" (2005) and BCT's "Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK" (2018).
- 6.4.5.7 Construction lighting should not be directed towards retained and surrounding habitats including the broadleaved woodland and grassland. The construction lighting may impact bats which are sensitive to light. Directional lighting will be achieved by angle and orientation of beam, use of a cowl, louvre or other light shield, or a combination of these.

6.4.5.8 An External Lighting Scheme had not been produced on the writing of this report. As such, the following recommendations are to be considered within the scheme during its condition, to minimise impacts of lighting. The recommendations are as follows:

- Keep site lighting to minimum levels.
- Luminaries should lack UV elements and preferably LED lighting with a warm white light should be used over cool white light (ideally <2700Kelvin).
- Lighting should feature peak wavelengths greater than 550nm.
- Internal lighting should be positioned away from windows to minimise light spill, where appropriate.
- Light placement should be downward facing to prevent excess horizontal or vertical light spill.
- The use of integrated fittings such as cowls, shields, louvres, and hoods, that effectively contain light spill from unintended areas, where appropriate.
- The use of hard landscaping features to block light and create dark corridors.
- Avoid illuminating any suitable retained bat habitats, particularly the tree lines, scrub and woodland blocks, that are potential commuting and foraging habitat for bats.
- Use of timed security lights should be set on motion-sensors and using short, 1-minute timers, to minimise light use, where appropriate.
- Column heights of lighting can be considered to minimise light spill.

6.4.6 Hedgehog

6.4.6.1 Hedgehog may be present on site, as such checks for hedgehogs should be carried out prior to grassland and scrub removal to avoid harming this species during works.

6.4.7 Badgers

6.4.7.1 Four setts were identified on site. Two of the setts were assessed as being active, while one was inactive, and one was disused. Further monitoring surveys are recommended to be undertaken in relation to Setts 1, 2, and 3 to establish their nature and the number of individuals utilising the site.

6.4.7.2 As detailed in Section 5.3.9 Sett 1 was located adjacent a large area of scrub which was inaccessible and so could not be surveyed thoroughly. Mammal paths were identified running from the entrances through the scrub and so the presence of further entrances within the scrub cannot be discounted. As such, it is recommended that any scrub removal is undertaken under ECoW supervision. The scrub is to be strimmed in phases, the first phase should strim the scrub to a length of between 30 and 40cm and then be checked for any further badger signs or sett entrances, before removing the remaining scrub.

- 6.4.7.3 Should the proposed works be deemed to impact a badger sett then a Natural England Badger license will be required. These licences can only be submitted once full planning permission has been obtained and all wildlife conditions have been discharged. It is recommended an updated Badger Walkover is completed prior to development to inform the Badger Method Statement. The walkover is to include the wider area, of habitats suitable for the species to identify badger activity within the wider area and assess site use. Badgers are highly mobile and can create new setts in a short period of time. Any newly created setts will be identified and considered within the method statement.
- 6.4.7.4 A minimum 30m stand-off distance will be maintained from each sett entrance until the appropriate mitigation has been undertaken. Please note that badger licences can only be obtained between July and November (inclusive) each year to avoid potential impact on pregnant females.
- 6.4.7.5 It is not anticipated the proposed development will significantly impact the species due to the majority of habitat of highest value for the species (i.e. broadleaved woodland) will be retained as part of the development. Although loss of suitable foraging habitat within the site extent will occur due to the development proposals. It is considered that the badgers located within the local area and on site are generally tolerant to anthropogenic disturbance as the site is located within an urban area and adjacent to a busy park.
- 6.4.7.6 The following Precautionary Working Methods will be adhered to during construction phase to ensure that no badgers are impacted by the proposed development:
- All site operatives will be inducted to the potential presence of the species and the species legal protection.
 - All site operatives will be inducted as to identifying potential badger setts and should be vigilant if they suspect they locate a new sett during works and inform the site manager immediately. A minimum 20m buffer will be maintained from the potential sett until an ecologist has been to site.
 - All excavations will be battened at a 45-degree angle or ramps to be positioned to allow escape should animals become trapped.
 - All site machinery and materials will be appropriately stored to avoid harm to the species, notably between July and November each year when extra care is needed to avoid potential impacts on pregnant females.

6.5 Invasive Species

- 6.5.1.1 Non-native invasive flora species were identified during the site walkover, including three corned garlic and variegated yellow archangel, which are both listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act as invasive non-native species. As such, it is recommended, prior to the development, that an invasive species specialist should be contracted to map the extent of invasive species present within the site and produce a detailed management plan for the removal and eradication of such species onsite.

7 Further Surveys

7.1 Botanical

- 7.1.1.1 As detailed within Section 4.3.2, The field survey was undertaken in a sub-optimal time of year, as such an updated botanical survey focusing on the ground flora within the woodland parcels and the grassland compartments should be undertaken in the optimal time of the year between April and September, inclusive.
- 7.1.1.2 This will involve a suitably qualified ecologist recording a detailed species composition of the described habitats, which will aid the condition assessments related with the biodiversity net gain assessment.

7.2 Bats

7.2.1 Transect and Static Deployment Surveys

- 7.2.1.1 As the site was assessed as providing moderate commuting and foraging value to bats, further survey effort is required through transect surveys and static deployments.
- 7.2.1.2 These activity surveys are required on site to determine how bats are using the site and to inform any mitigation proposals.
- 7.2.1.3 The surveys will involve surveyors walking a pre-determined transect route recording any signs of bat activity they encounter, using the appropriate monitoring equipment. In accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust survey guidelines.
- 7.2.1.4 Monthly transect surveys are required on warm, dry nights between May and September, inclusive, and will be carried out in full accordance with the latest Bat Conservation Trust guidelines.
- 7.2.1.5 Each transect survey will also include the deployment of two static detectors which will be left on site for five consecutive nights, in optimal weather conditions. The data collected on the static detector will be later analysed to provide further evidence of the site's use by foraging and commuting bats. The static is to be positioned on site once per month over the surveying season.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8 Opportunities for Enhancement

8.1.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2023) highlights the requirement for planning policies and decisions to conserve and enhance the natural environment.

8.1.1.2 Paragraph 174 states that this should be achieved by (in terms of this assessment only):

- 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);
- 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;

8.1.1.3 Specific enhancement recommendations for the site include the following:

- Bat and bird boxes could be placed on the new buildings / retained trees. A plan to show the locations of these boxes and the specifications should be produced by a suitably qualified ecologist once the layout is finalised.
- Planting of linear features such as hedgerows and trees between garden plots where possible, to add commuting features withing the site.
- The inclusion of 'hedgehog highways' to facilitate movement across the site. This includes holes of 13 x 13cm at the bases of fence panels, leaving a sufficient gap beneath gates and/or leaving brick spaces at the bases of brick walls.
- An ecologically sensitive planting scheme could be incorporated on the site to promote invertebrate use of the site, which could benefit local bat and bird species.

9 References

- Ascerta (2020). Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Ryebank Fields. P.1254.19.
- Bat Conservation Trust and Institute of Lighting Professionals (2018). Bats and artificial lighting in the UK – Bats and the Built Environment Series.
- British Hedgehog Preservation Society / People's Trust for Endangered Species (2019). Hedgehogs and Development. BHPS / PTES.
- Butcher, B., Carey, P., Edmonds, R., Norton, L. and Treweek, J (2020) The UK Habitat Classification User Manual Version 1.1 at <http://www.ukhab.org/>
- CIEEM (2019). Advice Note on the Lifespan of Ecological Reports and Surveys. CIEEM.
- CIEEM (2019). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. CIEEM. Rivers Ecology Series No. 10. English Nature, Peterborough.
- Collins (2016). Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (Third Edition). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.
- Stanbury, A., Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Balmer, D., Brown, A., Douse, A., Lindley, P., McCulloch, N., Noble, D., and Win I. 2021. The status of our bird populations: the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain. *British Birds* 114: 723-747. Available online at <https://britishbirds.co.uk/content/status-our-bird-populations>
- Google Earth (2002). Historical aerial imagery of the site. Last checked 01/12/2023.
- Harris S., Cresswell P., Jefferies D. (1989). *Surveying Badgers*. The Mammal Society.
- IEA (1995). Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment. E & F Spon.
- JNCC (2004). Bat Workers Manual. JNCC, Peterborough.
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) (2010) Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey – a Technique for Environmental Audit. JNCC Publications, Peterborough;
- Liles, G. (2003). Otter Breeding Sites. *Conservation and Management*. Conserving Natura 2000 Rivers Conservation Techniques Series No. 5. English Nature, Peterborough.
- Maddock, A. (2008). UK biodiversity action plan; priority habitat descriptions. UK Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Langton, T.E.S., Beckett, C.L., and Foster, J.P. (2001), Great crested newt conservation handbook, Froglife, Halesworth.
- Oldham, R.S., Keeble, J., Swan, M.J.S., and Jeffcote, M. (2000). Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*). *Herpetology Journal* 10 (4), 143-155.
- Peay, S. (2002). Guidance on Habitat for White-clawed Crayfish and its Restoration. Environment Agency.
- Shuttleworth, C., RSST (n.d.). Red and grey squirrels distribution in the British Isles in 1945 and 2010.

The Mammal Society (2020). Species Factsheet: Red Squirrel. Available:
<https://www.mammal.org.uk/species-hub/full-species-hub/discover-mammals/species-red-squirrel/>.
Last accessed 01/12/2023.

Urban Green (2023). Arboriculture Impact Assessment of Ryebank Fields. Reference:
UG_1910_ARB_AIA_01_Rev_00.

Wembridge, D., Al-Fulaij, N. and Langton, S. (2016). The State of Britain's Dormice 2016. Population index, p.100.

Appendix 1 – Relevant Legislation

Legislation relating to European Protected Species (e.g. bats, otter, great crested newt)

European Protected Species and their resting places (e.g. bat roosts) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 transpose the European Union's 'Habitats Directive' (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (EC Habitats Directive) into UK law. The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European Sites', the protection of 'European Protected Species' (EPS), and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites. EPS are listed on Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it is an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take certain animals listed in Schedule 5;
- Intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy any structure or place which any wild animal specified in Schedule 5 uses for shelter or protection;
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb any such animal while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection; or
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place which any such animal uses for shelter or protection.

In addition, under this legislation there are offences relating to sale, possession and control of wild animals listed in Schedule 5.

Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 it is an offence to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill any wild animal listed as a European Protected Species;
- Deliberately disturb wild animals of any such species in such a way as to be likely:
 - 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.
- Deliberately take or destroy the eggs of such an animal, or;
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of such an animal.

In addition, under this legislation there are offences relating to possession, control sale and exchange of an EPS.

Great crested newt, otter and several species of bat are listed as a SoPI under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

Legislation for amphibians (other than great crested newt)

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) the four widespread amphibian species, smooth newt (*Triturus vulgaris*), palmate newt (*Triturus helveticus*), common toad and common frog (*Rana temporaria*) receive limited protection through section 9(5) only which makes selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale (live or dead animal, part or derivative) an offence.

Common toad is listed as a SoPI under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006.

Legislation relating to breeding birds

All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and it is an offence, with certain exceptions, to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;
- Intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird; and
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building or is in, on or near a nest with eggs or young; or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 provides further protection for selected species (including peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), barn owl (*Tyto alba*), little ringed plover (*Charadrius dubius*) and black redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*) during the breeding season. If any person intentionally or recklessly disturbs any wild bird included in Schedule 1 while 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. That person shall be guilty of an offence.

A number of bird species are listed as SoPI under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006.

Conservation status - Birds of Conservation Concern (Eaton et al. 2015)

The UK's leading bird conservation organisations have worked together on the third quantitative review of the status of the birds that occur regularly in the UK, updating the last review in 2011. The status of birds within the UK have been regularly monitored through a series of surveys, including the national Breeding Bird Survey, Common Bird Census, sea bird monitoring programs and wetland monitoring programs. The result of this review and continued monitoring is The Population Status of Birds in the UK, Birds of Conservation Concern 4: 2015.

Birds are assessed against criteria to place each species on one of three alert lists, red, amber or green. Red list species are considered to be of high conservation concern, being either globally threatened, having historical UK population declines, having a rapid population decline or breeding range contraction of 50% or more in the last 25 years.

Amber list species are considered to be of medium conservation concern as they meet one or more of the following criteria (but none of the red list criteria): Red listed for historical decline in a previous review but with substantial recent recovery (more than doubled in the last 25 years), a UK breeding range contraction of between 25% and 49%, a reduction of breeding or non-breeding population of 25-49% in the last 25 years, a 5-year mean of 1-300 breeding pairs in the UK, an unfavourable European conservation status, at least 50% of the UK breeding

population found in 10 or fewer sites, or where the breeding population in the UK represents 20% or more of the European breeding populations.

Green list species are considered to be of low conservation concern. They include all regularly occurring species that do not qualify under any of the red or amber criteria are green listed. The green list also includes those species listed as recovering from Historical Decline in the last review that have continued to recover and do not qualify under any of the other criteria.

Legislation relating to badger

Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended) which makes it an offence to:

- wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or to attempt to do so;
- intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a badger sett; and
- disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett.

These provisions have implications for construction or preparation works undertaken in the vicinity of an active sett and may be confounded by distance from the sett entrance. Any works resulting in ground penetration, vibration or noise near an identified badger sett entrance/s have the potential to disturb badgers and advice should be sought from a suitably experienced ecologist under such circumstances. If disturbance to an active sett is probable, then a licence may need to be obtained from Natural England before any works commence.

Legislation relating to invasive plant species

Several non-native invasive plant species such as Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), Japanese rose (*Rosa rugosa*), variegated yellow archangel, rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) and Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) are listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to ‘...plant or otherwise cause the species to grow in the wild’. This includes spreading or transferring contaminated soil from one area to another.

Estate Managers and landowners have a duty to pro-actively treat knotweed outbreaks. Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC), subsection 14ZA (1), makes it is an offence to sell, offer or expose for sale, or to have in one’s possession or transport for the purpose of sale, any Schedule 9 animal or plant or anything from which such an animal or plant can be propagated, including rhizomes of Japanese knotweed. Under subsection 14ZA (2) it is also an offence to publish or cause to be published any advertisement for the purchase or sale of these animals and plants.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) contains a number of legal provisions concerning controlled waste. Any Japanese knotweed contaminated soil or plant material that is intended for discard is likely to be classified as controlled waste.

The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) regulations 1991 also imposes a ‘duty of care’ on persons concerned with controlled waste, which includes any materials incorporating Japanese knotweed including soil, grass cuttings, general wastes and ash arising from the burning of knotweed. The duty applies to any person, who produces, imports, carries, keeps, treats or disposes of controlled waste. Failure to appropriately dispose of any material

containing Japanese knotweed may lead to prosecution under Section 33 and 34 of the EPA 1990 and Section 14 (2) of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

If knotweed stands are to be treated with herbicides, The Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986) applies. These regulations require any person who uses a pesticide to take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of human beings, creatures and plants, safeguard the environment and in particular avoid the pollution of water. If pesticides are to be used in or near to a watercourse, the Environment Agency should be contacted, and approval must be sought (application to use herbicides in or near water).

Waste leaving the site must be handled responsibly and in accordance with the law at all stages between its production and final recovery or disposal. Waste must be transferred to an authorised person, who is either a registered waste carrier or exempted from registration by the Controlled Waste (Registration of Carriers and Seizure of Vehicles) Regulations 1991.

Additional legislation regarding the transport of Japanese knotweed contaminated materials is covered by the Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005 (HWR 2005). This contains provisions about the handling and movement of hazardous waste. Consignment notes must be completed when any hazardous waste is transferred, which includes details about the hazardous waste properties and any handling requirements. Untreated Japanese knotweed is not classed as hazardous waste, but material containing knotweed which has been treated with certain herbicides, may be classified as hazardous waste.

If any waste soil or knotweed is sent for landfill either before or after treatment, it must go to a landfill that is authorised to receive it.

Appendix 2 – Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment

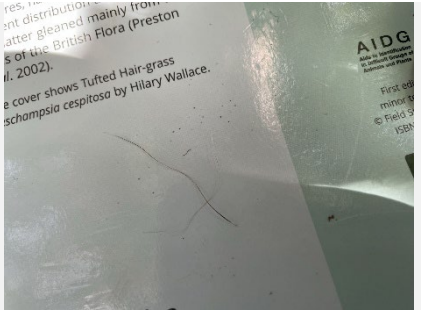
Reference	Description	Evidence			Category of Suitability
T1	Mature sycamore with dense ivy around the stem preventing a detailed inspection.				Low
T2	Mature poplar with cavity on eastern aspect at approximately 12m on underside of lower limb. A squirrel was observed entering the cavity during the field survey.				Low

Reference	Description	Evidence			Category of Suitability
T3	Mature sycamore with ivy covered stem and canopy preventing detailed inspection.	Photograph unavailable			Low
T4	Mature hawthorn with hollow limbs and multiple crevices present that extent into lower limbs. T4 is located directly above the main entrance of Sett 3.				Moderate

Reference	Description	Evidence			Category of Suitability
					
T5	Mature maple with frost crack on underside of limb on northern aspect at approximately 7m high.				Low

Reference	Description	Evidence		Category of Suitability
W1 (woodland parcel)	A large majority of the trees within W1 had dense ivy cover surrounding their stems preventing detailed inspection. The ivy cover however, was not dense enough to provide a roosting feature itself.			Low

Appendix 3 – Badger Setts

Badger Sign Reference	Category of Sett	Level of Use	Description	Photos	
Sett 1	Outlier	Active	Three entrances of differing sizes, situated in a small cluster adjacent to a large parcel of scrub. A number of mammal paths lead to and from these entrances through the woodland and scrub. All entrances had a slight build-up of leaf litter within the entranceways, though the tunnels were seen to be free of debris and appeared smooth, indicating regular use. Various guard hairs were identified within the spoil outside of the entrance ways confirming recent use. ** Dense scrub adjacent the sett could not be accessed and so there is a strong possibility that further entranceways are present, hidden with the scrub habitat.		
Sett 2	Outlier	Inactive	A single entrance located approximately 20m south of Sett 1. The entrance was filled with leaf litter with little fresh spoil present and no other signs of use within the vicinity.		

Badger Sign Reference	Category of Sett	Level of Use	Description	Photos	
Sett 3	Outlier	Active	Sett 3 comprised two entrances in located immediately adjacent each other. The main entrance was located directly under T3 within the root structure and was completely free of leaf litter. A large, fresh spoil mound was present, with various paw prints guard hairs present confirming recent use. A recently used latrine was present within a couple of metres of the main entrance.		
Sett 4	Outlier	Disused	Sett 4 comprised a single entrance that was completely filled with leaf litter. No other signs of badger were present within the vicinity of this entrance.		

Appendix 4 - Habitat Map and Target Notes

Hierarchical code	Code	Meaning
Primary Code	g3c	Other neutral grassland
	g4	Modified grassland
	h3d	Bramble scrub
	r2b	Other rivers and streams
	w1g	Other woodland; broadleaved
	w1g6	Line of trees
	u1b	Developed land; sealed surface
Secondary Code	10	Scattered scrub
	11	Scattered trees
	14	Scattered rushes
	16	Tall herb
	37	Semi-natural woodland
	47	Native
	57	Young trees - self-set
	80	Unmanaged
	189	Scattered grass
	191	Ditch

Appendix 5 – Species List

Habitat	Latin name	Common name	Occurrence
Other Neutral Grassland	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping bent	F
	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False-oat grass	F
	<i>Bromus sp.</i>	Brome	O
	<i>Carex sp.</i>	Sedge	O
	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle	O
	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	O
	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	A
	<i>Epilobium sp.</i>	Willowherb	O
	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red fescue	F
	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog	A
	<i>Hypericum sp.</i>	St. john's wort	F
	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Ragwort	O
	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft rush	O
	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial rye grass	A
	<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field wood rush	O
	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed canary grass	O
	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy	F
	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	F
	<i>plantago major</i>	Common plantain	O
	<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow Grass	F
	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	F
	<i>Rosa sp.</i>	Rose	O
	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel	F
	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed	F
	<i>Taraxacum agg.</i>	Dandelion	F
	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover	F
	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch	F
	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	A

Habitat	Latin name	Common name	Occurrence
Broadleaved Woodland	<i>Acer sp.</i>	Maple	O
	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Three cornered garlic	R
	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	O
	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	O
	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	Lawson cypress	O
	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	O
	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	F
	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	O
	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	O
	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb robert	O
	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood avens	O
	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	A
	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	O
	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	O
	<i>Lamium galeobdolon subsp. argentatum</i>	Variegated yellow archangel	R
	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane	O
	<i>Populus alba</i>	White poplar	O
	<i>Populus nigra subsp. betulifolia</i>	Black poplar	O
	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Cherry	O
	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry laurel	O
	<i>Quercus sp.</i>	Oak	A
	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	O
	<i>Salix alba</i>	White willow	O
	<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat willow	O
	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	O
	<i>Tilia sp.</i>	Lime	O
	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common nettle	O