# Biodiversity Net Gain Study

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

DRAFT FINAL REPORT

September 2023







# Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council Biodiversity Net Gain Study

#### **FINAL REPORT**

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Client comments can be sent to Lepus using the following contact details.

Eagle Tower, Montpellier Drive Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL50 1TA

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## Acronyms & Abbreviations

**BAP** Biodiversity Action Plan

**BNG** Biodiversity Net Gain

CIEEM Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management

**CL** Core Landscapes

**EBNT** Environmental Benefits from Nature Tool

**EIP** Environmental Improvement Plan

ha Hectare

IEMA Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment

km Kilometre

**LBAP** Local Biodiversity Action Plan

**LNR** Local Nature Reserve

**LNRN** Local Nature Recovery Network

**LPA** Local Planning Authority

NPPF National Planning Policy Framework

NRN Nature Recovery Network

**SINC** Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

**SLINC** Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

SLP Sandwell Local Plan

SMBC Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

**UKHabs v2** UK Habitat Classifications Version 2

### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

Biodiversity comprises the variety and abundance of plants and animals across the world. Biodiversity has its own intrinsic value, but also provides essential services and functions for all aspects of human life alongside many other multi-functional benefits. These are called ecosystem services and are often split into provisioning services, regulating services, supporting services and cultural services (see **Figure 1.1** and **Figure 1.2**). Provisioning services are critically important for food production and healthy soils, and water availability. Regulating services allow us to, for example, respond and adapt to climate change, clean the air we breathe and the water we drink, regulate flooding, control disease and allow pollination. Supporting services help other ecosystem services to function, such as photosynthesis and nutrient cycling, and cultural services provide benefits for mental health and wellbeing and provide educational and recreational opportunities amongst other benefits.



Figure 1-1: Ecosystem services from land1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Scotland's Nature Agency (2022). Ecosystem Services – natures benefits. Available at: <a href="https://www.nature.scot/scotlands-biodiversity/scottish-biodiversity-strategy-and-cop15/ecosystem-approach/ecosystem-services-natures-benefits#:~:text=Ecosystem%20Services%20are%20the%20direct,as%20reducing%20stress%20and%20anxiety.</a> [Date accessed: 16/06/23]



*Figure 1-2:* Ecosystem services from the sea<sup>2</sup>

1.1.2 In the State of the Nature Report in 2019 headline data indicated that the abundance and distribution of the UK's biodiversity has, on average, declined since 1970, with a 13% decline in average species abundance<sup>3</sup>. This is attributable to a number of pressures including intensive farming, climate change and urbanisation which have led to pollution, habitat loss and degradation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Scotland's Nature Agency (2022). Ecosystem Services – natures benefits. Available at: <a href="https://www.nature.scot/scotlands-biodiversity/scottish-biodiversity-strategy-and-cop15/ecosystem-approach/ecosystem-services-natures-benefits#:~:text=Ecosystem%20Services%20are%20the%20direct,as%20reducing%20stress%20and%20anxiety. [Date accessed: 16/06/23]</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> State of Nature 2019 report (2019). Available at: <a href="https://nbn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/State-of-Nature-2019-UK-full-report.pdf">https://nbn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/State-of-Nature-2019-UK-full-report.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 05/05/23]

1.1.3 The natural environment is a key consideration for sustainable development. Achieving the right balance between growth and housing, alongside protection of the natural environment, provides a number of opportunities. These include connecting people to the environment, improving mental health and wellbeing, and protecting and recovering nature. These benefits are set out in the 25 Year Environment Plan<sup>4</sup> and its update, the Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP)<sup>5</sup>. A decline or loss of biodiversity has the potential to cause environmental, social, and economic impacts.

#### 1.2 Biodiversity Net Gain

1.2.1 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is an approach aimed at embedding biodiversity within new development to leave it in a measurably better state than before. Whilst legislation protects certain habitats and species, there are limited mechanisms to maintain, enhance and create wildlife outside these protections. BNG enhances the current system of protection for habitats and species which fall outside the current legislative framework for the protection of wildlife. Importantly BNG follows the mitigation hierarchy (**Table 1.1**), which aims firstly to avoid and then minimise loss as far as possible, before considering restoration of degraded biodiversity and, as a resort, creating biodiversity in a new location (known as offsetting). BNG also aims to achieve measurable net gains that contribute towards local and strategic biodiversity priorities<sup>6</sup> (see **Figure 1.3**) and requires a long-term commitment to monitoring to ensure its success.

**Table 1.1:** Mitigation Hierarchy<sup>7</sup>

Avoidance	Seek options that avoid harm to ecological features (for example, by locating on an alternative site).
Mitigation	Negative effects should be avoided or minimized through mitigation measures, either through the design of the project or subsequent measures that can be guaranteed – for example, through a condition or planning obligation.
Compensation	Where there are significant residual negative ecological effects despite the mitigation proposed, these should be offset by appropriate compensatory measures.
Enhancement	Seek to provide net benefits for biodiversity over and above requirements for avoidance, mitigation or compensation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> HMG (2018) 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment'. Available at: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment</a> data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf [Accessed on 10/08/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> HM Government (2023) Environmental Improvement Plan 2023: First Revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan</a> [Accessed on 07/02/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Baker, J., Hoskin, R. & Butterworth, T. 2019. CIRIA. Biodiversity Net Gain. Good practice principles for development. Park A: A practical guide.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Based on: CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine version 1.2. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.



Figure 1.1-3: What does BNG look like?8

#### 1.3 Purpose of report

- 1.3.1 Sandwell Council is in the process of producing a new Local Plan, which will be known as the Sandwell Local Plan (SLP). Work is ongoing to provide an up-to-date evidence base to support the SLP.
- 1.3.2 The SLP will have to deal with allocating housing sites across the borough and identifying sufficient housing sites to provide new houses to help meet current and future demand. There is a shortfall in the numbers of houses that need to be built across the Black Country to meet identified needs. Sandwell itself has a housing need of approximately 30,300 new dwellings between 2021 and 2041 that will not all be delivered by the allocations that will be included in the plan, with an overall supply figure of around 9,4929,
- 1.3.3 The Environment Act 2021 will make delivery of 10% BNG mandatory from an as-yet unconfirmed date, after which LPAs will need to be legally compliant with this requirement. Until this time, national planning policy in England requires BNG and the SLP will be important to demonstrate the delivery of this and illustrate how it will be embedded with local and wider priorities. Consideration of BNG at the plan making stage will allow BNG to target a range of local benefits for people and nature, identify features and areas for habitat creation and enhancement and target BNG where it is most needed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Natural England (2022) Biodiversity Net Gain. An introduction to the benefits. Available at: <a href="https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/183/2022/04/BNG-Brochure\_Final\_Compressed-002.pdf">https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/183/2022/04/BNG-Brochure\_Final\_Compressed-002.pdf</a> [Accessed 12/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (2023) Sandwell Local Plan Issues and Options Review. Available at: <a href="https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200317/planning\_policy/4990/sandwell\_local\_plan">https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200317/planning\_policy/4990/sandwell\_local\_plan</a> [Accessed 13/06/23]

1.3.4 Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) has commissioned Lepus Consulting to undertake a study to identify and undertake an assessment of habitats within council-owned sites in Sandwell to establish their suitability for use as potential habitat banks for the delivery of BNG.

### 2 Policy framework and context

#### 2.1 Legislative and policy requirements

- 2.1.1 BNG is a requirement of the Environment Act 2021<sup>10</sup>, with Schedules 14 and 15 requiring all development under the Town and County Planning Act<sup>11</sup> to deliver at least 10% BNG from a date which is yet to be confirmed<sup>12</sup>. Goal 1 of the Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) promotes BNG to ensure thriving plants and wildlife and to ensure that development leaves habitats in a better state for wildlife than before<sup>13</sup>.
- 2.1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>14</sup> requires Local Planning Authorities (LPAs), when making plans and determining planning applications, to deliver BNG stating that they must "secure measurable net gains for biodiversity".

#### 2.2 Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework

- 2.2.1 Launched in January 2023, Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework provides a structure to analyse where greenspace in urban environments is needed most. The Natural England Green Infrastructure Framework has been prepared to help achieve the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on Biological Diversity Targets.
- 2.2.2 Natural England states that the Green Infrastructure Framework is vital for improving the quality of life for urban communities and creating climate resilient towns and cities across England. Along with BNG, the Green Infrastructure Framework is a powerful tool to help deliver the Nature Recovery Network by planning for and investing in space for nature in the urban areas.
- 2.2.3 The Biodiversity Metric used to calculate BNG includes many common green infrastructure habitat features as well as Sustainable Drainage Systems, green roofs and walls, and their inclusion in a scheme design can contribute towards meeting BNG requirements.
- 2.2.4 Enhancing the biodiversity value of, or creating new, offsite green infrastructure, such as parks and other green and blue spaces and linear green infrastructure can also be used to meet BNG requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Environment Act 2021 (c. 30). Available at: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents</a> [Date Accessed: 05/05/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The Town and County Planning Act 1990 (c. 8). Available at: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents</a> [Date Accessed: 05/05/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Current estimated date November 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> HM Government (2023) Environmental Improvement Plan 2023: First Revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-improvement-plan</a> [Accessed on 07/02/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. 2021. National Planning Policy Framework. Available at: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/1005759/NPPF\_July\_2021.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/1005759/NPPF\_July\_2021.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 05/05/23]

#### 2.3 Local initiatives

#### **Climate Emergency**

In March 2020 the Council declared a Climate Emergency. In doing so, members agreed that greenhouse gas emissions need to be reduced to a level that is compatible with keeping global warming below 1.5C above pre-industrial levels. To achieve this reduction, the Council has prepared a Climate Change Strategy (2020) and adopted a target of becoming carbon neutral in its own activities by 2030. SBC are aiming to become a carbon neutral borough by 2041<sup>15</sup>. The Biodiversity Metric (**Chapter 4**) has been designed to work alongside the Environmental Benefits from nature Tool (EBNT). EBNT provides developers, planners and other interested parties with a means of enabling wider benefits for people and nature from biodiversity net gain (which may include carbon sequestration, recreational value and air quality benefits)<sup>16</sup>. The tool uses a habitat-based approach to provide a common and consistent means of considering the direct impact of land use change across 18 ecosystem service services.

#### **Green Space Strategy**

- 2.3.2 The Green Space Strategy (2010)<sup>17</sup> recognises the importance of green space in Sandwell for addressing cross cutting issues such as climate change and its importance for recreation and mental health and wellbeing of local communities. The Strategy was informed by a green space audit carried out in 2006 (and subsequently updated in 2013 and 2018) which noted that there are some good quality green spaces within Sandwell but identified a historical imbalance across its six main towns. It sets out a framework for green space management and regeneration within Sandwell.
- 2.3.3 The Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan (2022)<sup>18</sup> sets out a three-year strategy to implement the Green Space Strategy recommendations. It notes that a green space audit in 2018 demonstrated the need to address the neighbourhood and local level green spaces for the wards with the lowest amount of high-quality green space, with a larger number of smaller sites (green corridors and amenity green spaces) significantly impacting the quality score for Sandwell's green spaces.
- 2.3.4 One action in the Strategy (management of natural features, wild fauna and flora) is to address declining biodiversity focusing on remnant heathland and semi-ancient woodlands to ensure their long-term value. This will be addressed strategically and could work alongside BNG provision. The Strategy identifies that across its 9 LNRs (see **Chapter 5**) there are 0.89 hectare per 1000 population, which is 0.11 hectares per 1000 population below the ANGSt Standard of 1.0 hectares per 1000 population. Therefore, Sandwell requires an additional 35.80 hectares designated as LNR to meet the National Standard.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2020. Climate Change Strategy. 2020 – 2041.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Natural England (2021) The Environmental Benefits from Nature Tool. Available at: https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6414097026646016 [Accessed 13/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2010. Green Space Strategy. 2010-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2022. Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan 22/23 – 25/26.

#### **Tree Strategy**

2.3.5 The Council's Tree Strategy (2023) sets out to protect, enhance, and manage the tree stock and canopy cover in Sandwell<sup>19</sup>. As part of the SLP, a new policy governing the protection and enhancement of tree cover across Sandwell will be included for the first time in the local plan. This presents opportunities to link to the delivery of habitat enhancements associated with the requirement for BNG, such as areas intended for tree planting or woodland creation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2023. Tree Strategy and Implementation Plan. 2023 – 2028.

### 3 Draft Local Plan

#### 3.1 BNG and Local Plan Preparation

- 3.1.1 Biodiversity is a key factor in sustainable development bringing multifunctional social, economic and environmental benefits and helping LPAs address local priorities and issues such as addressing climate change and creating a network of green and blue infrastructure. BNG can help LPAs deliver high quality sustainable development and place making by embedding BNG into all aspects of development.
- 3.1.2 BNG has the potential to link to other planning and climate change services such as addressing the climate emergency, providing improved air quality and flood resilience, complimenting good place making and infrastructure design, such as blue and green infrastructure corridors, linking to local biodiversity priorities such as the Local Nature Recovery Network (LNRN) and providing health and mental wellbeing benefits.
- 3.1.3 CIEEM's BNG good practice guide identifies the following benefits that are associated with considering BNG within Local Plan making<sup>20</sup>:
  - It demonstrates that BNG targets will be met and legislative and planning requirements are met
  - It allows the LPA to target BNG to locations and the types of biodiversity enhancements that make a positive difference locally
  - It prevents piecemeal approaches to BNG and ensures a more joined up (Lawton) bigger, better more connected approach to biodiversity in Sandwell
  - It provides a strategic approach across Sandwell taking a landscape approach
  - Allows links to be made with multifunctional benefits such as health and wellbeing, green infrastructure, air, water, soil quality health and landscape which will deliver distinctive, attractive and sustainable place making
  - Dovetails with other LPA initiatives
  - Links to Local Plan monitoring targets
  - Reduces delays in the planning process.
- 3.1.4 The Local Plan will play an important role in establishing the principles of BNG in the plan area, in terms of providing clear policy wording, focusing on local and strategic priorities for biodiversity and identifying and allocating potential off-site areas for BNG, focusing enhancements which fit into local and strategic biodiversity priorities.
- 3.1.5 CIEEM's BNG good practice guide identifies a checklist (**Table 3.1**) for embedding BNG within a planning function that can help assist in determining suitable policy for BNG<sup>21</sup>:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Baker, J., Hoskin, R. & Butterworth, T. 2019. CIRIA. Biodiversity Net Gain. Good practice principles for development. Park A: A practical guide.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Baker, J., Hoskin, R. & Butterworth, T. 2019. CIRIA. Biodiversity Net Gain. Good practice principles for development. Park A: A practical guide.

 Table 3.1: Checklist for embedding BNG into planning functions (CIEEM, 2019)

Requirements for Embedding BNG in a Planning Function	Planning Function Checklist
Partners and Stakeholders	Have the right partners and stakeholders been identified?  Are there mechanisms in place to engage with, and work collaboratively with, partners and stakeholders
Ecological Skills and Support	Is there adequate staff resource or commissioned external resource to provide ecological expertise?
Evidence Base	Have all data source options been explored?  Are stakeholders being brought together to help collate all available data?  How will the evidence base be used?
Standardised Data Requirements	Has the level of detail required to demonstrate BNG within planning proposals been agreed?  Are developers being provided with the right guidance on the data requirements and standard formats?
Demonstration of the Mitigation Hierarchy	Are the requirements for demonstrating compliance with the mitigation hierarchy clear?  What does an applicant need to provide??  Who will check and verify?
Agreed Metric	Is a standardised means of quantifying biodiversity losses and gains being required, and has this been explained?  Can the metric vary or be simplified for small scale development and has this been explained?
Expected Net Gain for Biodiversity Defined	Has a minimum level of gain for biodiversity been set, or where it has not, is this justified? Who will check and verify the claim of BNG?
Collaboration with Neighbouring LPAs	Has there been adequate co-operation with neighbouring LPAs to ensure that implementation of BNG is complementary and not conflicting?  Have all opportunities been collaborative working and has data sharing been explored?
Local Biodiversity Priorities Defined	Has the necessary liaison with stakeholders been undertaken to determine the local biodiversity priorities?  Are there opportunities for multiple development projects to deliver BNG collectively and, if so, are these being secured?
Adequate Provision of Guidance	Has guidance been provided to enable applicants to understand the BNG requirements?  Does the guidance encourage early consideration of BNG and pre-application discussion?
Enforcement Capacity	Is there enough capacity within the authority for monitoring and enforcement of planning conditions and Section 106 (S106) agreements?
Links to Other Plans and Strategies Made	Have all opportunities been explored for linking BNG with other LPA work areas?  Have these linkages been highlighted in relevant plans and strategies?

- 3.1.6 Beyond statutory requirements for BNG, LPAs can begin to establish actions to enable the delivery of BNG:<sup>22</sup>
  - Developing and adopting BNG planning policies and setting out local circumstances
  - A strategic approach to BNG that links to the relevant LNRS
  - Establishing a biodiversity evidence base
  - Pre-application advice service BNG needs to be embedded early in the plan-making process
  - Changes to the planning application validation process to factor in BNG information requirements
  - Monitoring of BNG delivery in the long-term
  - Enforcement of non-compliance

#### 3.2 Local Plan Review

- 3.2.1 The Council is in the process of producing a new Local Plan with a view to adopting it in 2025. Work is required to provide an up-to-date evidence base supporting the emerging Plan, of which this report will form a part.
- 3.2.2 The Sandwell Site Allocations and Delivery Development Plan Document (adopted 2012 link) is part of the statutory development plan and relates to the strategic Black Country Core Strategy (adopted 2011 link). Work on the proposed replacement for the Black Country Core Strategy, the Black Country Plan (BCP), stopped last autumn and the four Black Country Authorities, who were working together to deliver the joint strategic plan, are now preparing their own individual Local Plans.
- 3.2.3 The replacement Local Plan for Sandwell will be known as the Sandwell Local Plan (SLP). An Issues and Options document has been the subject of recent public consultation, whereby the public were asked to give their views on the topics and issues the new plan should cover as it progresses.
- 3.2.4 The aim for the SLP will be to ensure it provides policies and associated guidance at a local level to assist decisions to be made on planning applications in the borough. It will also allocate sites for various uses to ensure that that development occurs in the right place and also provides protection for sites considered to be important for ecological and open space value.
- The Sandwell Local Plan, once it is adopted, will be the spatial expression of the Corporate Plan<sup>23</sup> and all the other strategies that Sandwell Council is promoting. It will help to deliver the Council's priorities across a range of policy areas through supporting sustainable development and promoting appropriate land uses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Planning Advisory Service (2023). Resourcing biodiversity net gain for local authorities. Available at: <a href="https://www.local.gov.uk/pas/topics/environment/biodiversity-net-gain-local-authorities/resourcing-biodiversity-net-gain#recommended-actions-beyond-statutory-requirements">https://www.local.gov.uk/pas/topics/environment/biodiversity-net-gain-local-authorities/resourcing-biodiversity-net-gain#recommended-actions-beyond-statutory-requirements</a> [Date accessed: 15/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. Sandwell 2020 vision. Corporate Plan 2021-2025. Available at: <a href="https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/29963/corporate">https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/file/29963/corporate</a> plan - big plans for a great place for the people of sandwell [Accessed 15/06/23]

- 3.2.6 The SLP Issues and Options document (out to public consultation between 6<sup>th</sup> February to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023) seeks representations on the level and type of protection that should be given to the open spaces, landscapes and areas of ecological and environmental value in the future. Given ongoing pressure for development, the consultation is looking for input on how Sandwell's green and open spaces should be protected and how to maintain local historic character, ecological and recreational value, geological importance and landscapes.
- 3.2.7 In reviewing the SLP, a shortfall in housing and employment land has been identified. As a result, areas of open space are under scrutiny, to establish whether they are surplus to requirement and thus potentially available for development.
- 3.2.8 It is important that consideration is given in the plan making process to the potential use of suitable land for BNG offsetting or receptor sites within Sandwell. This will ensure that offsetting opportunities are retained within the borough. This is a particularly important given the nature of many of the potential development sites in Sandwell, such as ones containing contaminated land, which are thus subject to marginal viability.
- 3.2.9 It is also the case that many development sites may lie within heavily built-up areas and as such are physically constrained and so lack the opportunity to deliver significant habitat improvements on-site or nearby. This will tie into the Green Space Strategy in terms of improving access to green space for local communities.
- 3.2.10 As discussed in **Chapter 1**, the Environment Act 2021 will make 10% BNG mandatory from an as-yet unconfirmed date, after which LPAs will need to be legally compliant with this requirement. Until this time, national planning policy in England requires BNG and it will be important for the Local Plan to demonstrate the delivery of this.

# 4 Biodiversity Net Gain

#### 4.1 BNG principles

- 4.1.1 An independent review of England's wildlife sites and the connections between them was published in 2010, known as the Lawton report<sup>24</sup>. This set principles for establishing a coherent and resilient ecological network which can be applied to the design of BNG. These include:
  - Improve protection and management of designated wildlife sites
  - Increase size of wildlife sites
  - Enhance connections between or joining up wildlife sites
  - Creating new wildlife sites
  - Reducing pressures on wildlife sites<sup>25</sup>
- 4.1.2 CIRIA, CIEEM and IEMA have developed the first UK principles on good practice to achieve BNG. These ten principles provide a framework to improve biodiversity and allow development to contribute to strategic biodiversity priorities<sup>26</sup> (**Table 4.1**).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Lawton, J.H., Brotherton, P.N.M., Brown, V.K., Elphick, C., Fitter, A.H., Forshaw, J., Haddow, R.W., Hilborne, S., Leafe, R.N., Mace, G.M., Southgate, M.P., Sutherland, W.J., Tew, T.E., Varley, J., & Wynne, G.R. (2010) Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network. Report to Defra.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Baker, J., Hoskin, R. & Butterworth, T. 2019. CIRIA. Biodiversity net gain. Good practice principles for development. Park A: A practical guide.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> CIRIA, CIEEM and IEMA. 2016. Biodiversity Net Gain: Good practice principles for development.

Table 4.1: BNG Principles<sup>27</sup>

BNG Principle	Description
Principle 1. Apply the Mitigation Hierarchy	Do everything possible to first avoid and then minimise impacts on biodiversity. Compensation for losses is a last resort. The Mitigation Hierarchy is illustrated in <b>Table 1.1.</b>
Principle 2. Avoid losing biodiversity that cannot be offset by gains elsewhere	Avoid impacts on irreplaceable biodiversity - these impacts cannot be offset to achieve No Net Loss or Net Gain.
Principle 3. Be inclusive and equitable	Engage stakeholders early, and involve them in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the approach to Net Gain.
Principle 4. Address risks	Mitigate difficulty, uncertainty and other risks to achieving Net Gain.
Principle 5. Make a measurable Net Gain contribution	Achieve a measurable, overall gain <sup>28</sup> for biodiversity and the services ecosystems provide while directly contributing towards nature conservation priorities.
Principle 6. Achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity	Achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity by using robust, credible evidence and local knowledge to make clearly-justified choices.
Principle 7. Be additional	Achieve nature conservation outcomes that demonstrably exceed existing obligations
Principle 8. Create a Net Gain legacy	Ensure Net Gain generates long-term benefits.
Principle 9. Optimise sustainability	Prioritise Biodiversity Net Gain and, where possible, optimise the wider environmental benefits for a sustainable society and economy.
Principle 10. Be transparent	Communicate all Net Gain activities in a transparent and timely manner, sharing the learning with all stakeholders.

#### 4.2 BNG process

4.2.1 A diagram created by Natural England showing the process for undertaking BNG is presented in **Figure 4.1.** 

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 27}$  CIRIA, CIEEM and IEMA. 2016. Biodiversity Net Gain: Good practice principles for development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Net Gain has been described as a measurable target for development projects where impacts on biodiversity are outweighed by a clear mitigation hierarchy approach to first avoid and then minimise impacts, including through restoration and / or compensation. Adhering to these Net Gain principles (i.e. pursuing all principles together) will help in under-pinning good practice for achieving and sustaining Net Gain.

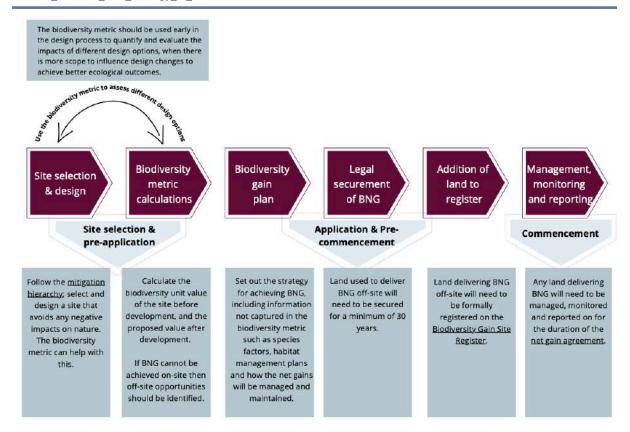


Figure 4-1: BNG process diagram<sup>29</sup>

#### 4.3 Mechanisms for BNG delivery

4.3.1 BNG should firstly be delivered through habitat creation / enhancement via landscaping / green infrastructure on site. Where this is not possible it can be delivered off-site through habitat creation / enhancement, including via habitat banks<sup>30</sup>, with public and private landowners. Lastly, it can be delivered through large-scale habitat projects delivering high value habitats which can also provide long-term nature-based solutions (see **Figure 4.2**).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Natural England (2022) Biodiversity Net Gain. An introduction to the benefits. Available at: <a href="https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/183/2022/04/BNG-Brochure Final Compressed-002.pdf">https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/183/2022/04/BNG-Brochure Final Compressed-002.pdf</a> [Accessed 12/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Sites where habitat is created in advance prior to any loss occurring. This habitat will need to be secured and managed long-term.

## ON-SITE (UNITS)



Delivered through habitat creation/enhancement via landscaping/green infrastructure

## OFF-SITE (UNITS)



Delivered off-site through habitat creation/enhancement, including via habitat banks, with public and private landowners

### STATUTORY CREDITS\*



Delivered through largescale habitat projects delivering high value habitats which can also provide long-term <u>nature-</u> <u>based solutions</u>

\*Credits will be made available for purchase in the future. They are intended for use only where BNG cannot be delivered on-site or off-site via the market, as a last resort.

Figure 4-2: Mechanisms for BNG delivery<sup>31</sup>

#### 4.4 Biodiversity Metric 4.0 Calculation Tool

- 4.4.1 BNG is measured using the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 Calculation Tool. Natural England have published detailed guidance<sup>32</sup> on how to use the metric. The following section provides a summary of this document including the key components of the metric.
- 4.4.2 The metric can be used to inform and improve planning, design, land management and decision-making. The metric uses habitats and 'biodiversity units' as a proxy to describe biodiversity. These biodiversity units are the 'currency' of the metric. There are three types of biodiversity units, which are calculated in three separate 'modules' of the metric (area units, hedgerow units and watercourse units)<sup>33</sup>.
- 4.4.3 It is a simple assessment tool and only considers direct impacts on habitats, within the footprint of a development, estate or project. The metric can:
  - assess or audit the biodiversity unit value of an area of land
  - calculate the losses and forecast gains in biodiversity unit value resulting from interventions which affect habitats

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Natural England (2022) Biodiversity Net Gain. An introduction to the benefits. Available at: <a href="https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/183/2022/04/BNG-Brochure\_Final\_Compressed-002.pdf">https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/183/2022/04/BNG-Brochure\_Final\_Compressed-002.pdf</a> [Accessed 12/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Natural England (2023) The Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide. Available at: <a href="https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6049804846366720">https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6049804846366720</a> [Accessed 15/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Natural England (2023) The Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide. Available at: <a href="https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6049804846366720">https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6049804846366720</a> [Accessed 15/06/23]

- compare different proposals for a site, allowing more objective assessments of potential biodiversity changes
- be used to calculate biodiversity units and percentage biodiversity change.
- 4.4.4 It is important to recognise that the metric is only a proxy and that BNG should look more closely at the function of a site within the wider landscape linking to local and strategic biodiversity priorities.

#### Metric principles

4.4.5 The principles set out in **Table 4.2** should inform the use of the metric.

**Table 4.2:** Biodiversity metric principles<sup>34</sup>

Principle 1	This metric does not change existing biodiversity protections, statutory obligations, or policy requirements.  The use of this metric does not override the ecological mitigation hierarchy and other requirements (such as consenting or licensing processes, for example woodlands).
Principle 2	This metric should be used in accordance with established good practice guidance and professional codes.
Principle 3	This metric is not a complex or comprehensive ecological model and is not a substitute for expert ecological advice.
Principle 4	Biodiversity units are a proxy for biodiversity and should be treated as relative values.
Principle 5	This metric is designed to inform decisions in conjunction with locally relevant evidence, expert input, or guidance.
Principle 6	Habitat interventions need to be realistic and deliverable within a relevant project timeframe.
Principle 7	Created and enhanced habitats should seek, where practical and reasonable, to be local to any impact and deliver strategically important outcomes for nature conservation.
Principle 8	The metric does not enforce a minimum habitat size ratio for compensation of losses. However, proposals should aim to:  • maintain habitat extent (supporting more, bigger, better and more joined up ecological networks) and  • ensure that proposed or retained habitat parcels are of sufficient size for ecological function

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Natural England (2023) The Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide. Available at: https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6049804846366720 [Accessed 15/06/23]

#### 4.5 Habitat quality

4.5.1 There are three habitat quality components of the metric show in **Figure 4.3** below.

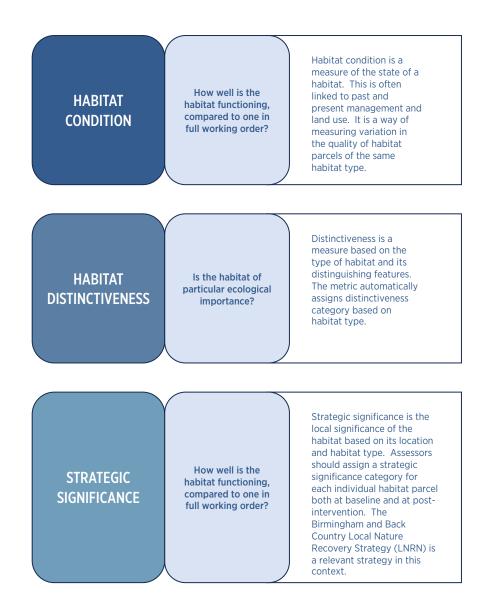


Figure 4-3: Habitat quality components of the Biodiversity Metric.

#### 4.6 Habitat interventions

4.6.1 The metric contains three different habitat intervention scenarios.

#### **Habitat retention**

4.6.2 Habitat retention is where the baseline habitat is retained in its baseline condition and there is no action to enhance or create the habitat.

#### Habitat enhancement

4.6.3 Habitat enhancements can be:

- an improvement in condition compared to the baseline state; and
- a change to a higher distinctiveness habitat within the same broad habitat group compared to the baseline state.
- 4.6.4 Condition must stay the same or improve, including when enhancing to a higher distinctiveness habitat.

#### **Habitat creation**

- 4.6.5 Habitat creation is where one habitat type is replaced by another habitat and includes:
  - a loss of baseline habitat and its replacement with another; and
  - a change in broad habitat type (for example a change from grassland to woodland).

#### 4.7 Biodiversity units

4.7.1 Biodiversity units are calculated by the metric using the following formulas:

Biodiversity units = habitat area (ha) x habitat type x habitat condition (poor to good) x strategic significance.

Change in biodiversity units = biodiversity units after (post intervention habitats) minus biodiversity units before (baseline habitats).

### 5 Local biodiversity priorities

#### 5.1 Biodiversity Action Plan

- 5.1.1 The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) has been superseded; however local BAPs remain relevant providing a framework for biodiversity locally. In 2010, the Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Partnership produced a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)<sup>35</sup>.
- 5.1.2 The objectives of the LBAP are to:
  - maintain and increase the biodiversity of key sites and landscapes through appropriate protection and management
  - restore degraded habitats and key species populations by restoring key areas
  - link key areas with ecological corridors to reconnect wildlife populations and make them less vulnerable
  - promote and support the use of the natural environment to mitigate against, and adapt to, the effects of climate change
  - enable the sustainable use of the natural environment to benefit health and wellbeing of residents, workers and visitors as well as improving the local economy.

#### 5.2 Nature Recovery Network

- 5.2.1 The Nature Recovery Network (NRN) is a major commitment in the government's 25 Year Environment Plan to expand, improve and better connect wildlife rich places. The Environment Act 2021 made Local Nature Recovery Networks (LNRN) mandatory. These aim to target action and investment in nature locally and will cover the whole of England.
- 5.2.2 A draft Black Country Local Nature Recovery Opportunity Map has been produced by the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country and the Local Environmental Records Centre (EcoRecord)<sup>36</sup> through analysis of local and national data sets including designated sites, priority habitats, species distribution, land use and ecological connectivity (2021). This drew on the Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area (NIA)<sup>37</sup> Ecological Strategy<sup>38</sup> which identifies the conurbation's Core Ecological Areas, Ecological Linking Areas and Ecological Opportunity Areas through a detailed review of data and evidence collected over 17 years.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Birmingham and the Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan (2010) Available at: <a href="https://www.bbcwildlife.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-10/bbcbapfinal2010.pdf">https://www.bbcwildlife.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-10/bbcbapfinal2010.pdf</a> [Accessed 13/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust. March 2022. Black Country Local Nature Recovery Map and Strategy: an emerging approach.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> The 'Living Landscape'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> The Wildlife Trist for Birmingham & Black Country. 2017. Technical Report of the Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area Ecological Strategy 2017 – 2022.

- The Nature Recovery Opportunity Map (**Figure 5.1**) comprises a number of components that depict the areas of current high ecological value, ecological connectivity between these areas, and prioritises opportunities for investment in nature's recovery on a landscape scale. These comprise thirteen **Core Landscapes** and **Priority Network Restoration Zones.** A Statement of Biodiversity Priorities has been produced for each of the ecological sub-areas (Core Landscapes). These meet many of the Defra guidance points for producing a Statement of Biodiversity Priorities.
- 5.2.4 **Core Landscapes** are defined as large areas of land comprised of multiple land use parcels that are ecologically coherent, often sharing similar geology, soil types, habitats, landscape character and land-use history. Core Landscapes typically support the highest abundance and diversity of semi-natural and Priority Habitats. They provide significant opportunity and are a priority for investment in ecological recovery (e.g. habitat restoration and creation). Three of these Core Landscapes coincide with Sandwell's administrative area:
  - CL07 Sandwell Valley
  - CL11 Stour Valley
  - CL10 The Rowley Hills, Bumble Hole and Warren's Hall
- 5.2.5 **Priority Network Restoration Zones** are those parts of the urban Black Country landscape that contain the highest density of Core Habitat and Core Expansion land use parcels, and which collectively link Core Landscapes. The purpose of Priority Network Restoration Zones is to support the creation of a coherent ecological network across the Black Country landscape, and are where investment in nature's recovery outside of Core Landscapes has been prioritised.
- 5.2.6 To produce the Draft Black Country Local Nature Recovery Opportunity Map, the Core Landscapes and Priority Network Restoration Zones were overlain on the components of the Nature Recovery Network Map. Locations where the Core Landscapes directly link with the Natural England's National Habitat Network in adjoining local authority areas are indicated as National Habitat Network Connections.

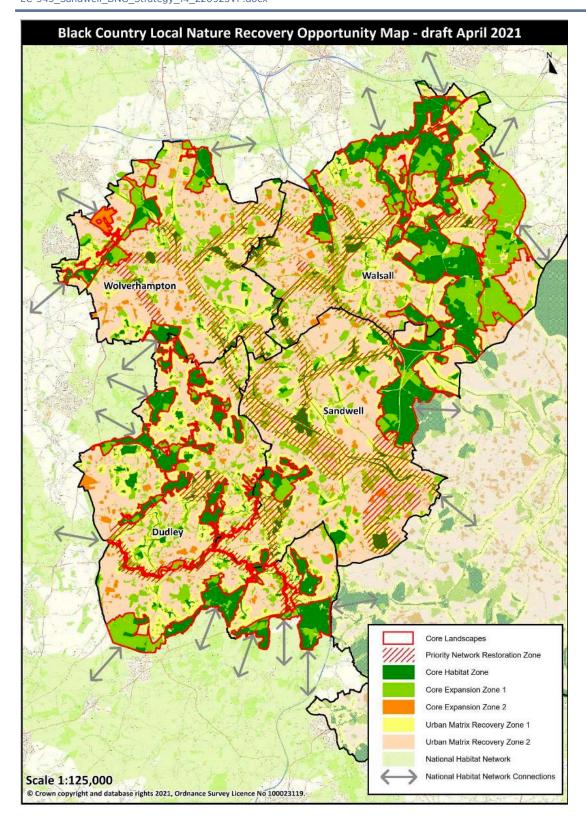


Figure 5-1: Black Country Local Nature Recovery Opportunity Map<sup>39</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust. Black Country Local Nature Recovery map. Available at: <a href="https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/black-country-local-nature-recovery-opportunities-map">https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/black-country-local-nature-recovery-opportunities-map</a> [Date accessed: 16/06/23]

#### 5.3 Local Sites of Biodiversity Importance

- 5.3.1 There are no internationally, European or nationally designated sites located within Sandwell. There are however nine Local Nature Reserves (LNRs). These are: 'Codsall Coppice', 'Forge Mill Lake', 'Gorse Farm Wood', 'Holly Wood', 'Mousesweet Brook', 'Priory Woods', 'Sheepwash', 'Sots Hole' and 'Warrens Hall'. LNRs form key sections of the ecological network in addition to the numerous Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC) as shown in **Figure 5.2.**
- Priority habitats found within Sandwell include deciduous woodland, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, and good quality semi-improved grassland. Some small extents of lowland priority habitats including heathland, meadows and acid grassland can also be found. There are limited areas of ancient woodland located within Sandwell. Sandwell Borough has significant amounts of green space, which make up nearly 24% of the total land area (3.63ha per 1000 population) <sup>40</sup>. Natural and Semi-natural green space makes up nearly 40% of the supply (by area) of unrestricted green space and is important in terms of contributing to landscape character and biodiversity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2022. Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan 22/23 – 25/26.

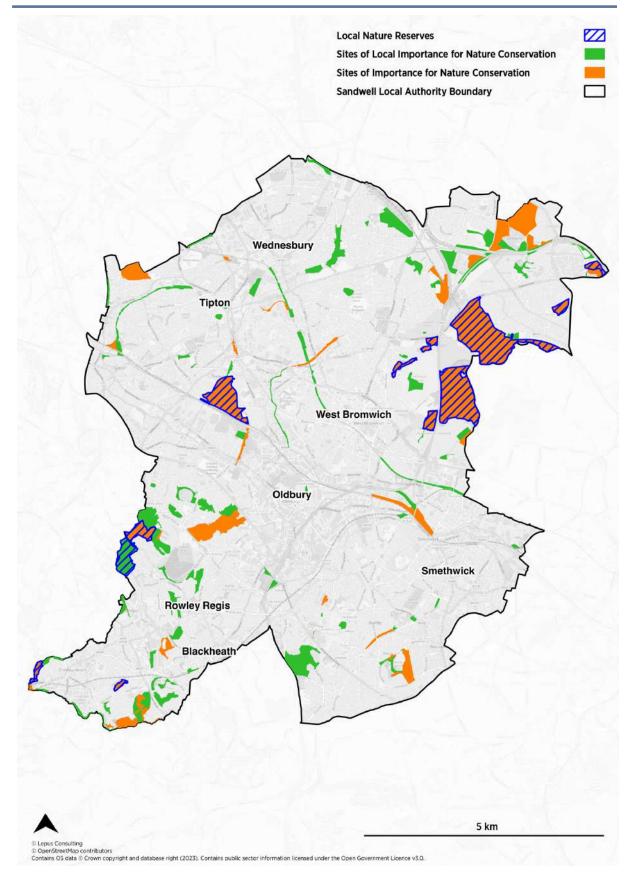


Figure 5-2: Designated sites in Sandwell (LNRs, SINCs and SLINCs)

### 6 Assumptions

#### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Site assessments were carried out with a high degree of care and integrity. However, as is common with most field studies, there were a number of assumptions that had to be made in order to evaluate the sites efficiently and within the proposed timescale.

#### 6.2 Time of year

- 6.2.1 Due to time constraints, each site was only visited once. These visits were carried out throughout June and September. June and July are the peak months for grassland surveys however, August and early September are still viable for these surveys to take place.
- 6.2.2 If any of the habitat banks are chosen for BNG, further survey work is recommended to ensure habitat classification remains constant across a greater period of time.

#### 6.3 Accessibility

6.3.1 Some of the sites contain small areas of land that were found to be inaccessible during the site visits. For example, habitat parcel 18 at Hill House Farm was completely surrounded by dense woodland. A number of viewing points from within the site were used to help gain a broad understanding of the habitat; google satellite images were also used. However, to ensure habitat parcel 18 has been correctly identified, and to fully complete a condition assessment for this parcel, it is recommended another site visit with requested access to the northern side of the side via the adjacent property (Dartmouth Golf Course).

#### 6.4 Water

A number of sites contained running water features classified as ponds, rivers or streams under The UK Habitat Classification Version 2. Condition assessments were carried out for these habitats. Due to time constraints, the condition of these habitats were based solely on visual evidence. It is recommended that the condition of these habitats be assessed further by an accredited water condition assessor to understand water composition, aquatic species present, and potential habitat enhancements that have not been accounted for at this stage in the project.

#### 6.5 Individual trees

The majority of sites contained individual trees scattered throughout habitats that did not classify as any of the following: line of trees, hedgerow with trees, woodland or parkland. Due to time constraints, it was deemed inefficient at this stage to map and complete condition assessments for each individual tree within sites. Veteran or ancient trees would represent a reasonable exception to this rule, however, the survey results only recorded veteran trees amongst 'mainstream' habitats e.g. broad-leaved woodland. If any of the sites are chosen for BNG, it is recommended that further evaluation of individual trees is undertaken.

#### 6.6 Land use change

The suggested habitat enhancements are recommended as appropriate and manageable targets for uplift. However, at some sites (in particular Hill House Farm), the suggested enhancements may alter the functionality of the land. Where possible, amenity grassland has been retained to not compromise existing open space functionality. However, at Hill House Farm in particular, there were habitat parcels grazed by horses. It could be possible for suggested habitat enhancements to be carried out without having to remove horses from the land. However, this task would be made simpler if the land use were to be changed to a less intensive management method. Land use should be taken into account when reviewing the suggested habitat enhancements, to ensure SMBC are confident that suggested habitat enhancements are practical and manageable.

#### 6.7 Practicality of mapping

- 6.7.1 Due to the size of some of the sites, land parcels <0.5ha have not been mapped where it was deemed impractical. For example, the broadleaved woodland habitat at Swan Pool/Priory Wood contained small areas of amenity grassland on it's inner boundary. Including these small parcels of amenity grassland in the maps would have created clutter and made the maps difficult to interpret and impact on biodiversity uplift would have been minor.
- 6.7.2 Similarly, watercourses were mapped to the best of our ability with the time available to us. There was one site in particular (Swan Pool/Priory Wood) where small streams were present throughout areas of dense woodland. It was deemed impractical to precisely map these small habitats as their impact on biodiversity uplift would have been minimal and we would have had to suggest further assessment of these habitats anyway.
- 6.7.3 Any land parcels <0.5ha that would have a significant impact on biodiversity have been drawn on the maps and conditions have been assessed.

### 7 Identifying potential habitat banks

#### 7.1 Desktop Review

- 7.1.1 This chapter explains the methodology that has been used to identify potential habitat banks within Sandwell. The first step of the process was to prepare a desktop review of a data set of land ownership that was supplied by the Council. The Council owns a wide range of sites across the borough. Some of which are very small and some of which are significant in size, such as Sandwell Valley Country Park. Land owned by the council has different land use types and includes allotments, cemeteries, areas of natural green space and areas for outdoor sports. In order to begin the process of honing down appropriate locations for potential habitat banks, a combined review of land ownership together with analysis of green space was prepared.
- 7.1.2 A review of the Sandwell Green Spaces Audit (2018)<sup>41</sup> identified 543 green spaces in Sandwell, with 323 green spaces (59%) having unrestricted access to the public. This is 3.63 hectares per 1,000 population. Green spaces in Sandwell include the following:
  - 34 allotment sites (with 1,336 plots)
  - 211 amenity green spaces (from small local spaces to larger communal green spaces)
  - 21 cemeteries and churchyards
  - 22 green corridors (such as green walkways, and green space that connects areas)
  - 90 areas of institutional land
  - 75 natural and semi-natural green spaces (including 9 recognised nature reserves)
  - 48 outdoor sports facilities (including 15 playing pitches, 27 Multi Use Games Areas, 33 outdoor gyms, 4 Bowling Greens, and 12 BMX and skate facilities)
  - 32 parks and gardens (including 9 Green Flag Parks)
  - 10 areas of provision for children and young people. 4243
- 7.1.3 The Green Spaces Audit (2018) provides the geographic extent of spaces in Sandwell for consideration as potential habitat banks for BNG.
- 7.1.4 The Green Spaces Audit (2018) identifies the typology for each site in Sandwell. Sites identified as 'Allotments', 'Cemeteries & Churchyards', 'Institutional Land' (schools, hospitals, sports grounds and reservoirs), 'Outdoor Sports Facilities' and 'Provision for Children & Young People' are not considered to be suitable locations for habitat banks and were therefore excluded.
- 7.1.5 Any sites falling under full or partial private ownership were also excluded from consideration as habitat banks, leaving only sites in full ownership of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2022. Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan 22/23 – 25/26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. Green Spaces. Available at: <a href="https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200237/green spaces">https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200237/green spaces</a> leisure and events/4941/green spaces [Accessed 24/05/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. 2022. Green Spaces Strategy Implementation and Business Plan 22/23 – 25/26.

#### 7.2 Minimum size thresholds

- 7.2.1 Metric principle 8 from the Biodiversity Metric (4.0) states that 'the metric does not enforce a minimum habitat size ratio for compensation of losses. However, proposals should aim to:
  - maintain habitat extent (supporting more, bigger, better and more joined up ecological networks) and
  - ensure that proposed or retained habitat parcels are of sufficient size for ecological function.'
- 7.2.2 To adhere to principle 8, sites smaller than 10ha are excluded from consideration in this study.

#### 7.3 Field survey

- 7.3.1 Field survey work was always prepared by two surveyors. Surveys were led by a fully qualified ecologist. Habitats were surveyed and classified using the JNCC Phase 1 habitat mapping protocol. This aligns with the approach that is used for recording sites of nature conservation importance in Birmingham and the Black Country. This enabled the preparation of Phase 1 habitat maps to be created. Each of the following sections includes a Phase One habitat map.
- 7.3.2 For the purposes of preparing the biodiversity net gain metric calculation, it is necessary to convert habitat survey information that has been recorded using Phase 1 habitat protocol. This is made possible by using the Phase 1 translation tool which is provided in the Net Gain calculator.
- 7.3.3 In doing so, this approach meant that there was no 'tall ruderal' habitat that could be mapped and used in the calculator since the Biodiversity Net Gain calculator requires that this habitat is only recorded as neutral grassland. Similarly, the Biodiversity Net Gain calculator condition assessments required that grassland be recorded according to UK Hab species assemblages. This was possible having recorded quadrat data of the different types of grass and herb assemblages found to be present in grassland habitats.
- 7.3.4 Where possible, a photographic record was made of each potential habitat bank survey location.

### 8 Results

#### 8.1 Potential habitat banks

- 8.1.1 By applying the criteria detailed above in the methodology, the following 19 sites listed in **Table 8.1** have been identified for potential habitat banks in Sandwell.
- 8.1.2 Each site in the final list of potential habitat banks has been given a relative rank for 'potential for BNG', either Low, Medium or High. The ranking has been determined by considering the baseline land use at each site. A map showing the location of sites ranked 'high' and 'medium' is presented in **Figure 8.1.** The majority of sites ranked 'medium' and 'high' are classified within the 'Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace' typology from the Sandwell Green Spaces Audit (2018). Two sites ranked 'medium' are within the 'Parks and Gardens' typology, these are 'Tividale Park' and 'Warrens Hall Park' which are both considered to have good potential to deliver BNG. Sites ranked 'low' are within the 'Parks and Gardens' typology and contain high levels of amenity grassland which is valuable for open space functionality and is therefore not considered to be suitable for BNG.

Table 8.1: Potential habitat banks in Sandwell

Site name	Location	Size (ha)	Typology	Potential for BNG (L/M/H)		
Forge Farm	West Bromwich	30.61	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	High		
Hill Farm Bridge Fields	West Bromwich	21.2	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	High		
Hill House Farm	West Bromwich	51.01	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	High		
Menzies Open Space	West Bromwich	17.83	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	High		
Ray Hall Pastoral Land	West Bromwich	11.97	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	High		
Sandwell Park Farm	West Bromwich	28.85	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	Medium		
Swan Pool/Priory Wood	West Bromwich	85.7	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	Medium		
Tibbington Open Space AKA The Cracker	Tipton	14.83	Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	Medium		
Tividale Park	Oldbury	11.62	Parks & Gardens	Medium		
Warrens Hall Park SOS	Rowley Regis	21.4	Parks & Gardens	Medium		
Barnford Hill Park	Oldbury	12.5	Parks & Gardens	Low		
Corngreaves Public Open Space	- I ROWIEV REGIS		Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace	Low		
Dartmouth Park	West Bromwich	25.6	Parks & Gardens	Low		
Haden Hill Park	Rowley Regis	13.58	Parks & Gardens	Low		

Jubilee Park	Tipton	12.01	Parks & Gardens	Low
Red House Park	West Bromwich	18.09	Parks & Gardens	Low
Victoria Park (Smethwick)	Smethwick	14.5	Parks & Gardens	Low
Victoria Park (Tipton)	Tipton	13.78	Parks & Gardens	Low
West Smethwick Park	Smethwick	20.61	Parks & Gardens	Low

- 8.1.3 Two of the sites listed above are designated as LNRs. Also, 11 sites contain either a SINC, SLINC or both. Statutory protected sites can be enhanced for BNG<sup>44</sup>.
- 8.1.4 The following section presents the details, baseline habitats and suggested post intervention habitats for each site. Habitat data for each site has been entered into the Biodiversity Metric (4.0) and the results have been calculated and presented showing the on-site net change and the total net % change.

#### 8.2 Habitat definitions

- 8.2.1 Habitats were classified using the UK Habitat Classification Version 2<sup>45</sup>.
- 8.2.2 The main habitats found within the sites were:
  - Grassland Neutral Grassland: Arrhenatherum (Level 5 code g3c5); Deschampsia (Level 5 code g3c7) and Holcus-Juncus (Level 5 code g3c8)
  - Grassland Modified Grassland (classified on site using Phase 1 Habitat classifications of 'amenity grassland' and 'improved grassland')
  - Woodland and forest Other woodland broadleaved
  - Wood-pasture and parkland
  - Heathland and shrub Hedgerows
  - Heathland and shrub Dense scrub: Mixed scrub and Willow scrub
  - Wetland Reedbeds
  - Cropland Arable and horticulture: Annuals horticulture (Level 5 code c1f5)
  - Rivers and Lakes Rivers and streams: Other rivers and streams
  - Pond (non-priority).
- 8.2.3 In-depth habitat descriptions can be found in the UK Habs (2023) guide.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Planning Advisory Service Biodiversity (2023) Net Gain FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions. Available at: https://www.local.gov.uk/pas/topics/environment/biodiversity-net-gain-local-authorities/biodiversity-net-gain-faqs [Accessed 14/06/23]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> UKHab (2023) UK Habitat Classification. Available at: <a href="https://ukhab.org">https://ukhab.org</a> [Accessed 07/09/23]

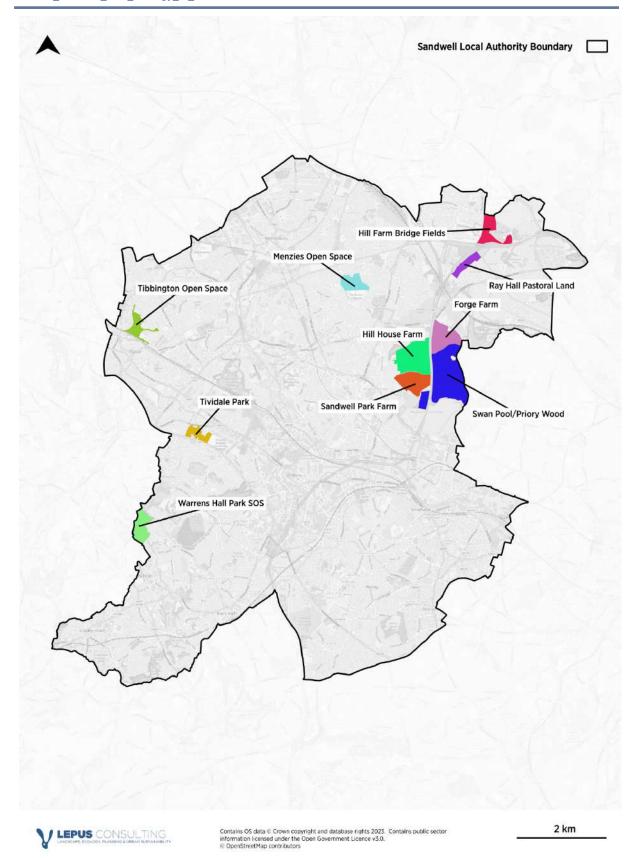


Figure 8-1: Identified potential habitat banks in Sandwell (sites ranked high and medium)

# 9 Forge Farm

#### 9.1 Background

9.1.1 Forge Farm comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace containing several fields of pastures and divided with hedgerows, linear wooded features and small watercourses. Forge Farm is located within the Sandwell Valley in West Bromwich and comprises an area of 30.61ha. Forge Farm is considered to have a relatively **high** potential for BNG. Details about the Forge Farm site are presented in **Table 9.1.** 

Table 9.1: Forge Farm details

Site Name	Forge Farm
Location	Sandwell Valley, West Bromwich
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Not accessible
Area (ha)	30.61
Ownership	Sandwell Council (leased)
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Landscapes and Core Habitat Zone
Designations	Located adjacent to Forge Mill Lake LNR and SINC and Priory Woods LNR and SINC
Historic Environment Area Designations	None within this site
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

9.2.1 Forge Farm has an on-site habitat baseline of 279.59 units. With the suggested enhancements advised within the condition assessment (**Appendix F**), there is a potential uplift of 100.29 units. See **Table 9.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 9.2: Forge Farm Headline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	279.59				
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	11.81				
	Watercourse Units	22.27				
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	379.88				
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units					
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	22.27				
	Habitat Units	100.29	35.87%			
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%			
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%			

- 9.2.2 This site is made up of large areas of 'other neutral grassland' which scored moderate condition. By varying sward height and increasing species diversity within these habitats, condition can be significantly improved.
- 9.2.3 Similarly, Forge Farm compromises large areas of 'other woodland; broadleaved'. Through introduction of deadwood and better management of habitat regeneration, the condition of these habitats could be improved from moderate to good, generating 42.58 units of uplift.
- 9.2.4 Hedgerows and a stream are located within this site. No enhancements are suggested for these habitats

		Existing area habitats		Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance		Ecological baseline	Retention category biodiversity value							
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Ārea (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost		
1	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	2.196	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	20.20		2.196	0.00	20.20	0.00	0.00		
2	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	2.723	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (>)	25.05		2.723	0.00	25.05	0.00	0.00		
3	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	7.96	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	73.23		7.96	0.00	73.23	0.00	0.00		
4	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	13.201	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	121.45		13.201	0.00	121.45	0.00	0.00		
5	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.318	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	2.93		0.318	0.00	2.93	0.00	0.00		
6	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.197	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	11.01		1.197	0.00	11.01	0.00	0.00		
7	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.19	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	1.75		0.19	0.00	1.75	0.00	0.00		
8	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.973	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	18.15		1.973	0.00	18.15	0.00	0.00		
9	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.145	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	1.33		0.145	0.00	1,33	0.00	0.00		
10	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.133	Medium	Poor	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	0.61		0.133	0.00	0.61	0.00	0.00		
11	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.043	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	0.40		0.043	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00		
12	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.413	Medium	Poor	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	1.90		0.413	0.00	1.90	0.00	0.00		
13	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.072	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	0.66	0.072		0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00		
14	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.076	Medium	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	0.70		0.076	0.00	0.70	0.00	0.00		
15	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.093	Low	Poor	Formally identified in local strategy	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required 2	0.21		0.093	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.00		

Figure 9-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Forge Farm

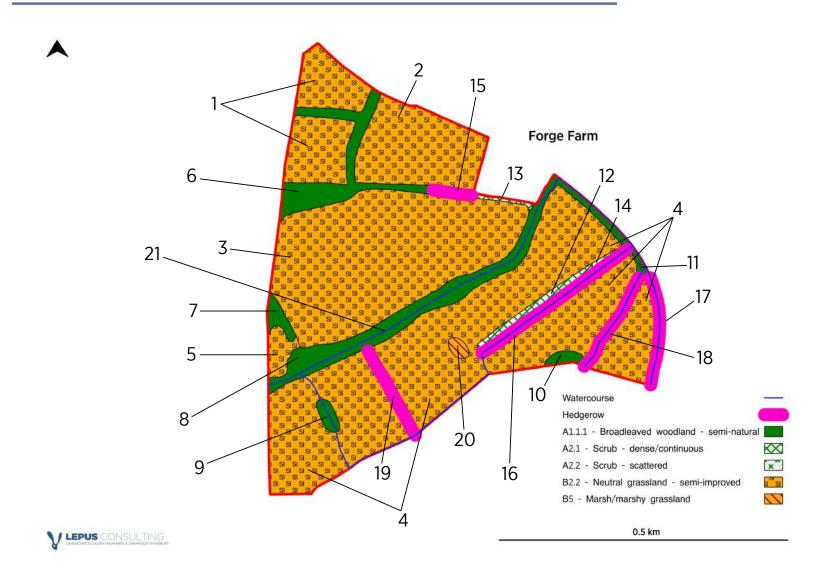


Figure 9-2: Forge Farm Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map



## 10 Hill Farm Bridge Fields

#### 10.1 Background

- 10.1.1 Hill Farm Bridge Fields comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace containing woodlands and scrub located in West Bromwich and comprising an area of 21.2ha. The Rushall Canal runs along the western boundary of this site. Details about the Hill Farm Bridge Fields site are presented in **Table 10.1**.
- 10.1.2 Hill Farm Bridge Fields contains Hill Farm Bridge Fields SLINC and SINC. The SINC evaluation produced by EcoRecord in 1999 includes the following recommendation:

"Extensive area of open grassland, scattered scrub and mature hedgerows with valuable area of calcareous grassland having rare species e.g. Yellow Wort. Additional scattered scrub area should be of at least SLINC status."

10.1.3 Hill Farm Bridge Fields is considered to have a relatively **high** potential for BNG.

Table 10.1: Hill Farm Bridge Fields details

Site Name	Hill Farm Bridge Fields
Location	West Bromwich
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	21.20ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Habitat Zone and Core Landscapes
Designations	Contains Hill Farm Bridge Fields SLINC and SINC.
Historic Environment Area Designations	The site contains Peak House Farm Field System Area of High Historic Landscape Value
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Sandwell SINC Evaluation – Hill Farm Bridge Fields. Produced by EcoRecord the Ecological Database for the Black Country and Birmingham on behalf of Sandwell MBC and The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country

10.2.1 Hill Farm Bridge Fields has an on-site habitat baseline of 181.24 units. With the suggested enhancements advised within the condition assessment (**Appendix B**), there is a potential uplift of 65.90 units. See **Table 10.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 10.2: Hill Farm Bridge Fields Headline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	181.24				
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	0.99				
	Watercourse Units	0.00				
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units					
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	0.99				
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	0.00				
	Habitat Units	65.90	36.36%			
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%			
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%			

- 10.2.2 Areas of broadleaved woodland dominate this site. With a large area of 'other neutral grassland' in the north east of the site.
- 10.2.3 As suggested in the condition assessment, by varying sward height and increasing species diversity within these habitats, condition of the grasslands can be improved. Similarly, the condition of the woodland can be improved through introduction of deadwood and better management of habitat regeneration.

٦		Existing area habitate		Distinctivens	88	Condition		Strategic sign	ificance			Ecological	Retuntion category hiediversity value						
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost	
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	7.869	Modium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Bame broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	72.39		7.869	0.00	72.39	0.00	0.00	
2	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.138	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,18	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	1.27		0.136	0.00	1.27	0.00	0.00	
3.	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	2.246	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a lugher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	20.66		2.246	0.00	20.66	0.00	0.00	
4	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	2.208	Medium	41	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (1)	20.31		2.206	0.00	20.31	0.00	0.00	
5	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	4.233	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	38.94		4.233	0.00	38.94	0.00	0.00	
	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.345	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (*)	1.59		0.345	0.00	1.59	0.00	0.00	
1	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.451	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	2.07		0.451	0.00	2.07	0.00	0.00	
8	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.08	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.37		0.08	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.00	
9	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0,007	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (i)	0.03		0.007	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	
10	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	1.827	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (b)	14.05	1.527		14.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	
11	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.962	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	1.67	0.362	1:	1.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	
12	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.049	Medium	4	Poor	î	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.23	0.049		0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	
13	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.343	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	3.16	0.343		3.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	
14	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.068	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (z)	0.80	0.068		0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	
15	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0,089	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (4)	0.54	0.059		0.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	
16	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.092	Medium	141	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (d)	0.85	0.092		0.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	
17	Grassland	Modified grassland	1.092	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required >	2.51		1.092	0.00	2.51	0.00	0.00	

Figure 10-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Hill Farm Bridge Fields

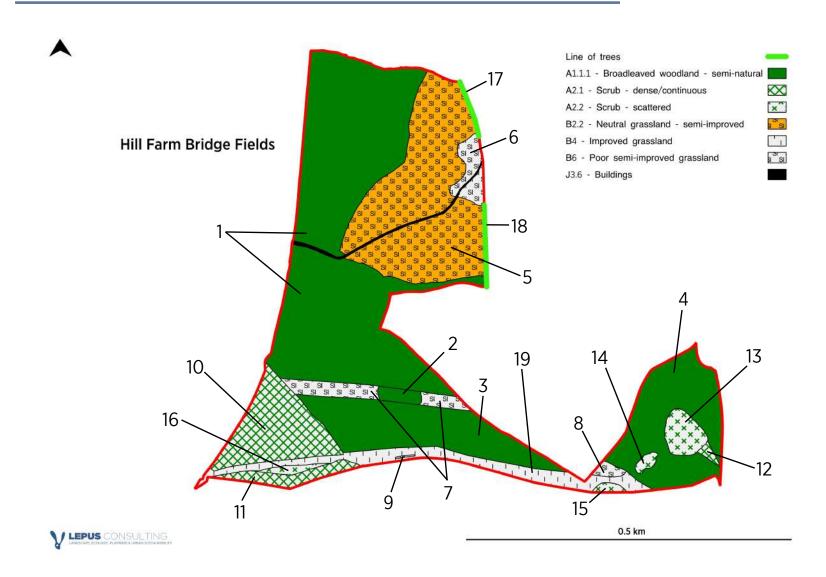


Figure 10-2: Hill Farm Bridge Fields Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













## 11 Hill House Farm

#### 11.1 Background

11.1.1 Hill House Farm comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace containing several fields of pastures which are divided with hedgerows, linear wooded features and small watercourses. Hill House Farm is located within the Sandwell Valley in West Bromwich and comprises an area of 51.01ha. Sandwell Valley SLINC is located within this site. Details about the Hill House Farm site are presented in **Table 11.1.** 

11.1.2 Hill House Farm is considered to have a relatively **high** potential for BNG.

Table 11.1: Hill House Farm details

Site Name	Hill House Farm				
Location	Sandwell Valley, West Bromwich				
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace				
Accessibility	Not accessible				
Area (ha)	51.01ha				
Ownership	Sandwell Council				
Local Nature Recovery Network  Located within Core Habitat Zone and Core Landscapes					
	Located adjacent to Sot's Hole with Bluebell Wood LNR (and SINC).				
Designations	Priory Woods LNR (and SINC) is located to the east of the site on the eastern side of the M5 motorway.				
	Sandwell Valley SLINC is located within this site.				
Historic Environment Area Designations	This site contains part of Sot's Hole Stream Archaeological Priority Area				
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone				

11.2.1 Hill House Farm has the greatest uplift potential of all sites assessed in this study. The site is large (51.01ha) and has 241.73 baseline units with a further 255.87 uplift units available. See **Table 11.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 11.2: Hill House Farm Headline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	241.73				
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	23.80				
	Watercourse Units	10.73				
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units					
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	23.80				
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	10.73				
	Habitat Units	255.87	105.85%			
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%			
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%			

- 11.2.2 There are large areas of 'modified grassland' within the site which should be improved to 'other neutral grassland' of good condition. This is a manageable change; however, it should be noted that the current land use may have to be adapted to accommodate these changes. This is described in more detail in **Chapter 6: Assumptions.** There is potential for uplift in other habitats.
- 11.2.3 Hedgerows and a stream are located within this site. No enhancements are suggested for these habitats.

		Existing area habitats		Distinctiven ess		Condition		Strategic rignificance			Ecological	alogical Resention category biodiversity value						
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hociares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Scere	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units vetained	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	8.196	Medium	4	Moderate	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	higher distinctiveness habitat regulared (s)	78.40		8.196	0.00	75.40	0.00	0.00
2	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.069	Medium	4	Poor	11:	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad hatatar or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.32	0.069		0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.728	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	firme broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	16.90		1.728	0.00	15.90	0.00	0.00
4	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.056	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitation a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.52		0.056	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00
5	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.605	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habital required (b)	14,77		1.605	0.00	14.77	0.00	0.00
6	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.526	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	Sime broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	4.83		0.526	0.00	4.83	0.00	0.00
7	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.142	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitar or a higher distinctiveness habital required (a)	0.65		0.142	0.00	0.55	0.00	0.00
8	Græsland	Other neutral grassland	8.338	Medium	g	Poor	1.	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitar or a higher distinctiveness habital required (2)	29,18		6.336	0.00	29.15	0.00	0.00
,	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.203	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	1.87		0.203	0.00	1.87	0.00	0.00
10	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.456	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or 4 higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	2.10		0.456	0.00	2,10	0.00	0.00
11	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.198	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	finne broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (c)	1.82		0.198	0.00	1.82	0.00	0.00
12	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	1.317	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Sime broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (b)	12.12		1.317	0.00	12.12	0.00	0.00
13	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	2.17	Medium	4	Poor	E	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (b)	9.98	1	2.17	0.00	9,98	0.00	0.00
14	Grassland	Modified grassland	1.14	Low	2	Poor	-1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic	1.18	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required >	2.62	1.14		2.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.903	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	2.08	0.903		2.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.277	Medium	4	Poor	I.	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habital required (c)	1.27	0.277		1,27	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.421	Medium	4	Poor	Ē	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (r)	1.94	7	0.421	0.00	1.94	0.00	0.00
18	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.022	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	9.40	1.022		9.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Grassland	Modified grassland	23.72	Low	2	Poor	10	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required >	64.86		23.72	0.00	54.56	0.00	0.00
20	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.07	Medium	4	Poor	L	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Some broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	0.31		0.07	0.00	0.31	0.00	0.00
21	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.064	Low	2	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	0.14		0.064	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00

Figure 11-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Hill House Farm

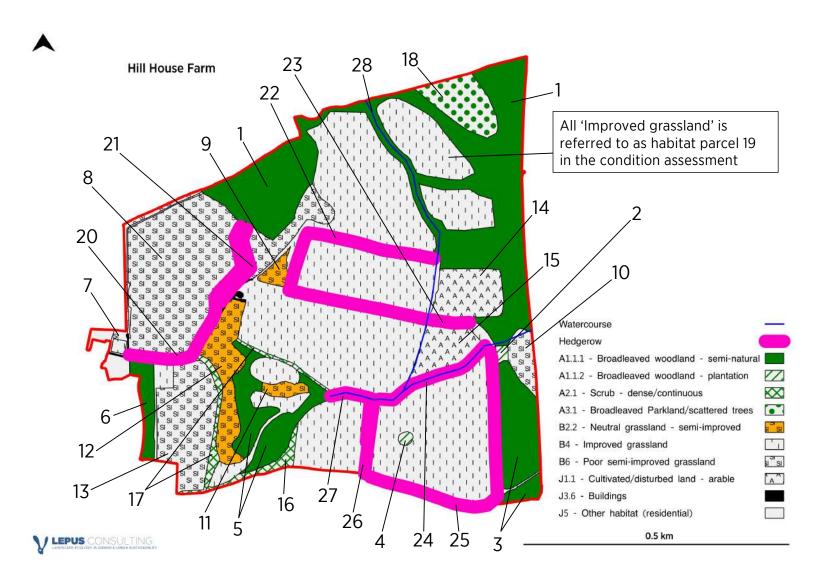


Figure 11-2: Hill House Farm Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













# 12 Menzies Open Space

#### 12.1 Background

- 12.1.1 Menzies Open Space comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace on former colliery land, with grassland and blocks of planted woodland and a pond (non-priority habitat). Details about the Menzies Open Space site are presented in **Table 12.1.**
- 12.1.2 Menzies Open Space contains Millpool, Colliery Pool SLINC. The SINC evaluation produced by EcoRecord in 1999 includes the following recommendation:

"Attractive large pool with surrounding narrow wetland vegetation, planted trees and tall herb and larger expanses of species rich (probably seeded) neutral grassland."<sup>47</sup>

12.1.3 Menzies Open Space is considered to have a relatively **high** potential for BNG.

Table 12.1: Menzies Open Space details

Site name	Menzies Open Space
Location	Sandwell Valley, West Bromwich
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	17.83ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Habitat Zone and Core Expansion Zone
Designations	Contains Millpool Colliery Pool SLINC
Historic Environment Area Designations	Site of a windmill located near Hall Green Road at the north east of the site.
Geology	Sedimentary – Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Sandwell Local Site Assessment – Millpool, Colliery Pool. Produced by EcoRecord the Ecological Database for the Black Country and Birmingham on behalf of Sandwell MBC and The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country

12.2.1 Menzies Open Space has 157.40 baseline habitat units with a potential uplift of 42.28 units. See **Table 12.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 12.2: Menzies Open Space Headline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	157.40	
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
	Watercourse Units	0.00	
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	199.69	
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	0.00	
	Habitat Units	42.28	26.86%
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%

- 12.2.2 The site contained areas of amenity grassland which have potential for uplift, however, no interventions were suggested for these habitats to ensure the characteristics of the site are not altered significantly.
- 12.2.3 Areas of 'other neutral grassland' can provide uplift by ensuring suggested enhancements (**Appendix C**) are put in place and managed appropriately.
- 12.2.4 This site contains a pond (non-priority). A visual assessment of the pond was carried out to determine a poor condition. There is potential to create more uplift on this site by improving the condition of the pond from poor to good. If this site is chosen for BNG, a detailed pond survey is recommended to maximise the biodiversity unit uplift at this location.

		Existing area habitats		Distinctiven	ess	Conditio	n	Strategic sign	ifficance		to the section of the	Ecological	Retention category biodiversity value						
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategic significance	Strategie significance	Stratogie Significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost	
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.399	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same incad habitator a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	3.57		0.399	0.00	3.67	0.00	0.00	
z	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	4.143	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	38.12		4.143	0.00	38.12	0.00	0.00	
3	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadlesved	0.126	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	1.16		0.126	0.00	1.16	0.00	0.00	
4	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.439	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (z)	4.04		0.439	0.00	4.04	0.00	0.00	
5	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.179	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,15	Same broad habited or a higher distinctiveness habites required (a)	1.68		0.179	0.00	1.65	0.00	0.00	
6	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.805	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,18	Same broad habitation a higher distinctiveness habitat required (±)	4.68		0.505	0.00	4.65	0.00	0.00	
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.802	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitator a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	7.38		0.802	0.00	7.38	0.00	0.00	
8	Oressland	Other neutral grassland	3.909	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (a)	33.20		3,609	0.00	33.20	0.00	0.00	
9	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.184	Medium	4	Poor	T	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat raquired (r)	0.88		0.184	0.00	0.85	0.00	0.00	
10	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.118	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (z)	0.54		0.118	0.00	0.54	0.00	0.00	
11	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.037	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (a)	0.17		0.037	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	
12	Græsland	Other neutral grassland	0.423	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitar or a higher distinctiveness habitar required (e)	3.89		0.423	0.00	3.89	0.00	0.00	
13	Orassland	Other neutral grassland	0.075	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitator a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	0.35		0.075	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	
14	Oressland	Other neutral grassland	0.161	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitator a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.74		0.161	0.00	0.74	0.00	0.00	
15	Grassland	Modified grassland	1.951	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	4.49	1.951		4.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	
16	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.039	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.18	0.039		0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	
12	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.038	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Some broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	0.17	0.038		0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	
18	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.802	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	7.38	0.802		7.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	

19	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.052	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	0.48	0.052		0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Heathland and shrub	Mixed acrub	0.884	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Some broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	7.86	0.884		7.86	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.043	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (c)	0.40	0.043		0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.107	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,18	Same broad habitator a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	0.98	0.107		0.98	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.034	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	Righ strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	0.08		0.034	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00
24	Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	0.439	Medium	4	Poor	ï	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Some broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (*)	2.02	0.439		2.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	Wetland	Reedbeds	0.884	High	6	Good	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same habital required =	17.68	0.884		17.68	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	1.579	Medium	4	Moderate	z	Location ecologically destrable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	(EF)	Some broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	13.90		1.579	0.00	13.90	0.00	0.00
2.7	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.638	Low	2	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	1.40	0.638		1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00

Figure 12-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Menzies Open Space

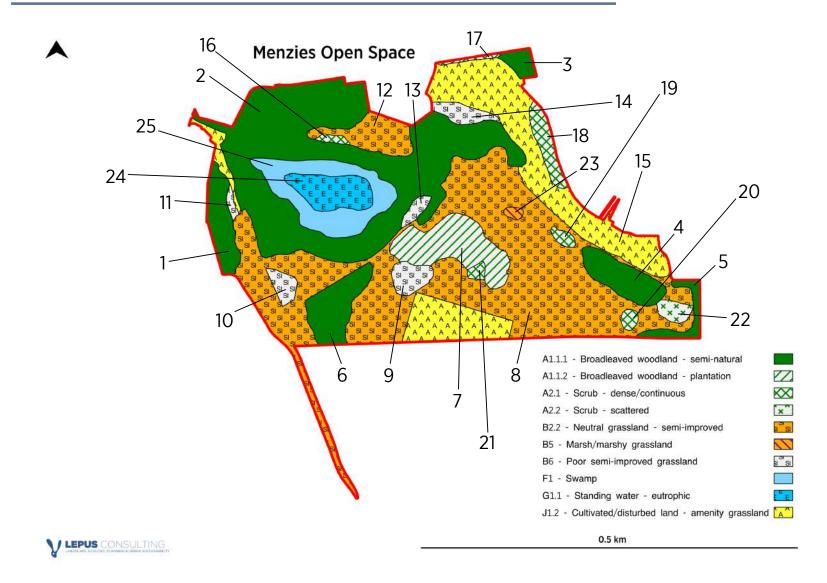


Figure 12-2: Menzies Open Space Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













# 13 Ray Hall Pastoral Land

#### 13.1 Background

- 13.1.1 Ray Hall Pastoral Land comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace containing several fields of pastures divided by hedgerows with trees. Details about the Ray Hall Pastoral Land site are presented in **Table 13.1.**
- 13.1.2 Ray Hall Pastoral Land is considered to have a relatively **high** potential for BNG.

Table 13.1: Ray Hall Pastoral Land details

Site Name	Ray Hall Pastoral Land
Location	Sandwell Valley, West Bromwich
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	11.97ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council (part leased)
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Habitat Zone and Core Landscapes
Designations	Adjacent to Sandwell Valley SLINC
Historic Environment Area Designations	The Tame Valley canal (Area of High Historic Townscape Value) runs along the eastern side of the site
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

There are 87.75 baseline habitat units and 48.05 potential uplift units within the Ray Hall Pastoral Land site. See **Table 13.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool

Table 13.2: Ray Hall Pastoral Land Headline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	87.75	
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
	Watercourse Units	0.00	
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	135.80	
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	0.00	
	Habitat Units	48.05	54.76%
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%

13.2.2 Ray Hall Pastoral Land compromises pockets of poor and moderate 'other neutral grassland' which is divided by woodland and scrub. The grassland and woodland habitats offer the most potential for uplift.

		Existing area habitats		Distinctiveness		Conditio	н.	Strategic sign	ificance		Taper I are a service of a service	Ecological	Retention category biodiversity value						
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hoctarea)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategie significance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance multiplier	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost	
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	2.495	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (z)	22.95		2.495	0.00	22.95	0.00	0.00	
z	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	2.066	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness liabitat required (4)	19.01		2.066	0.00	19.01	0.00	0.00	
3	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.879	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (d)	8.09		0.879	0.00	8.09	0.00	0.00	
4	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	1,572	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	14.46		1.572	0.00	14.46	0.00	0.00	
5	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	2.859	Medium	4	Poor	i	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (ii)	13.18		2.859	0.00	13.15	0.00	8,00	
8	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.146	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	0.67		0.146	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.00	
1	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.705	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	3,24	3	0.705	0.00	3.24	0.00	0.00	
8	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.885	Modium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (4)	4.07		0.885	0.00	4.07	0.00	0.00	
9	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.072	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher districtiveness habitat required (/)	0.33		0.072	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	
10	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0,281	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a lagher distinctiveness habitat segured (t)	1.29		0.281	0.00	1.29	0.00	0.00	
11	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.103	Modium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.47	0,103		0.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Figure 13-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Ray Hall Pastoral Land

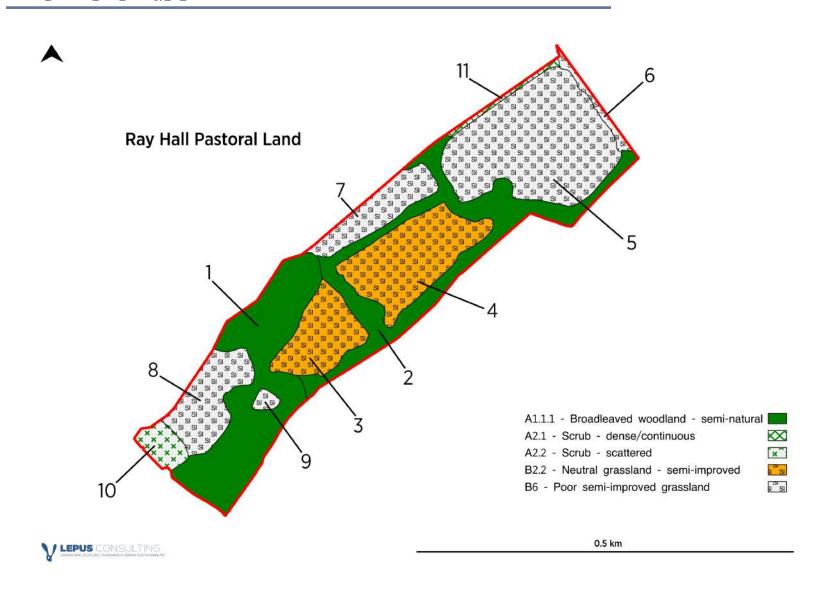


Figure 13-2: Ray Hall Pastoral Land Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map

# 14 Tibbington Open Space AKA The Cracker

#### 14.1 Background

- 14.1.1 Tibbington Open Space comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace containing smaller pockets of open pasture divided by linear heathland and shrub features and natural woodlands. Tibbington Open Space is located in Tipton and comprises an area of 14.83ha. Details about the Tibbington Open Space site are presented in **Table 14.1.**
- 14.1.2 Tibbington Open Space AKA The Cracker is considered to have a relatively **medium** potential for BNG.

Table 14.1: Tibbington Open Space details

Cita Nama	100 11 5
Site Name	Hill House Farm
Location	Tipton
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	14.83ha
Ownership	Managed by either Corporate Property Division/Housing/Parks & Open Spaces Service
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Habitat Zone and Core Expansion Zone
Designations	Princes End Triangle SLINC and SINC
Historic Environment Area Designations	Within an Area of High Historic Landscape Value (AHHLV): covers an area of open green space formed on the site the Tibbington Collieries. The line of an infilled canal and disused railway pass through the AHHLV and Environment Agency LiDAR shows former spoil heaps across the AHHLV.
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

14.2.1 Tibbington Open Space has 90.97 baseline habitat units and a potential 32.91 uplift units. See **Table 14.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 14.2: Tibbington Open Space Headline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	90.97	
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
	Watercourse Units	0.00	
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	123.88	
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	0.00	
	Habitat Units	32.91	36.17%
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%

- 14.2.2 Tibbington Open Space compromises relatively large areas of woodland that offer strong uplift potential through good management techniques. Suggested enhancements can be found in the condition assessment for this site (**Appendix E**).
- 14.2.3 'Other neutral grassland' habitats and the parkland habitat (Ref 25) in the east of the site both provide uplift opportunities through relatively straightforward management techniques that can be found in **Appendix E.**

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		Existing area habitate		Distinctiven	ess	Conditio	100.	Strategic signi	licance			Ecological	Retuntion category biodiversity value					
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hoctares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategie s ignificance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.113	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Barne broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	9.79		1.113	0.00	9,79	0.00	0.00
2	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.423	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	18.81		1.482	0.00	12,51	0.00	0.00
3	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.061	Medium	1040	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	0.45		0.051	0.00	0.45	0.00	0.00
4	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.31	Modium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	111	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	2.73		0.31	0.00	2.73	0.00	9.00
5	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.877	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness babitet required (a)	16.52		1.877	0.00	16.52	0.00	0.00
6	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.246	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (>)	2.16		0.246	0.00	2.16	0.00	0.00
7	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.149	Modium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Bame broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	0.69	0,149		0.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.1	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	0.88	0.1		0.88	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.059	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	311	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	0.52	0.059		0.52	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.288	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	m	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	2.53	0.288		2.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Heathland and shrub	Mixed acrub	0.213	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (s)	1.87	0.213		1.87	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Heatriand and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.055	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	0.25	0.066		0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.125	Modium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	1.10	0.125		1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00

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14	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.037	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	0.17		0,037	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00
15	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.197	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	0.87		0.197	0.00	0.87	0.00	0.00
16	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.232	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1 :-	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (a)	0.98		0.232	0.00	0.98	0.00	0.00
17	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.239	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	1.05		0.239	0.00	1.05	0.00	0.00
18	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.384	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad hebitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	1.56		0.384	0.00	1.56	0.00	8.60
19	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.278	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitar required (a)	1.28		0.278	0.00	1.28	0.00	0.00
20	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.282	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	ii.	Same broad babeat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	1.24		0.282	0.00	1.24	0.00	0,00
21	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.378	Medium	4	Moderate	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	Same broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (a)	3.48		0.378	0.00	3.48	0.00	0.00
22	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.121	Medium	4	Moderate	2.	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1 :	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness babitat required (a)	1.06		0,121	0.00	1.08	0.00	0.00
23	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.036	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	110	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.32		0.036	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.00
24	Grassland	Modified grassland	3.369	Low	2	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	7.41	3.369		7.41	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.33	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	1.45		0.33	0.00	1.45	0.00	0.00
25	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.825	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitar required (a)	7.69		0.828	0.00	7.59	0.00	0,00
2.7	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.021	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad heliant or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	9,39		1.021	0.00	9.39	0.00	0,00
28	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.482	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required >	1.11	0.482		1.11	0.00	0.00	0.00

Figure 14-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Tibbington Open Space

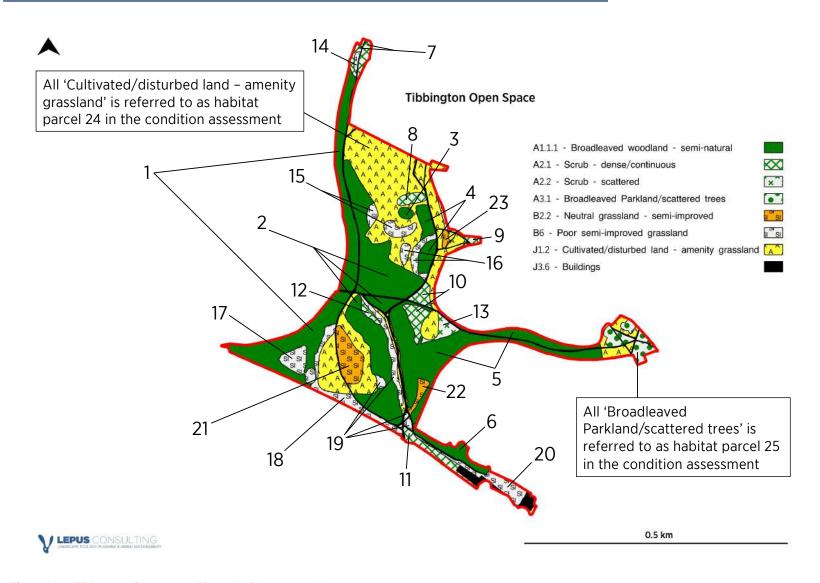


Figure 14-2: Tibbington Open Space Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map

## 15 Tividale Park

#### 15.1 Background

- 15.1.1 Tividale Park comprises large area open spaces used primarily for sporting activities. The site also contains playground equipment. There is a lesser managed area to the north east of the site where 'other neutral grassland', scrub and woodland habitats are present. Details about the Tividale Park site are presented in **Table 15.1.**
- 15.1.2 Tividale Park is considered to have a relatively **medium** potential for BNG.

Table 15.1: Tividale Park details

Site Name	Tividale Park
Location	Oldbury
Typology	Parks and gardens
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	11.62ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Expansion Zone
Designations	None present at this site
Historic Environment Area Designations	None present at this site
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

15.2.1 Tividale Park has the lowest uplift potential of the sites assessed. It has an on-site habitat baseline of 49.65 units and only 10.39 potential uplift units. See **Table 15.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

**Table 15.2**: Tividale Park Habitat Baseline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	49.65	
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
	Watercourse Units	0.00	
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	60.04	
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	0.00	
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	0.00	
	Habitat Units	10.39	20.92%
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%

15.2.2 Tividale Park contains large areas of amenity grassland and hardstanding playground equipment. The nature and conditions of the dominant habitats suggest large amounts of uplift would be viable. However, very few enhancements are recommended to maintain the open space functionality.

	Existing area habitats				oss	Condition		Strategic significance			124-5742-1-2-2-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1	Ecological	Retention category biodiversity value					
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hoctarea)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Stratogic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat	Area retained	Area	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat Ioet	Units lost
1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.183	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Sime broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	1,61		0.183	0.00	1.61	0.00	0.00
2 \	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.173	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	1.82		0.173	0.00	1.82	0.00	0.00
3 \	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.03	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher diminctiveness habitat required (a)	0,13		0.03	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00
4 1	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.506	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher diminutiveness habital required (a)	4,45		0.508	0.00	4.45	0.00	0.00
s	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.681	Modium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (r)	5.73		0.651	0.00	5.73	0.00	0.00
6	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	1.327	Medium.	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habito required (c)	11.68		1.327	0,00	11.68	0.00	0.00
7	Grassland.	Other neutral græsland	0.106	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	(1.1	Same broad habits or a higher distinctiveness habits required (-)	0,47		0.106	0.00	0.47	00,00	0.00
8	Grassland.	Other neutral grassland	0.041	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher duminctiveness habitat required (2)	0.18		0.041	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00
5	Grassland.	Other neutral grassland	0.08	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habital or a higher distinctiveness habital required (c)	0.70		0.08	0.00	0.70	0,00	0.00
10	Grassland.	Other neutral grassland	0.024	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habite required (r)	0.21		0.024	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.00
11	Grassland.	Other neutral grassland	0.038	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habita or a higher distinctiveness habital required (r)	0.33		0.038	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
12	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.541	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitst or a higher distinctiveness habitst required (s)	4.76	0.541		4.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.035	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	0.31	0.035		0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00
14 1	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.084	Medium	4	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	0.37		0.084	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.00
15	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.916	Medium	4	Poor	i	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Sume broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (r)	4.03	0.918		4.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Grassland.	Modified grassland	5.952	Low	2	Poor	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	13.09	5.952		13.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Grassland.	Modified grassland	0.037	Low	Z	Poor	1	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Low Strategic Significance	1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	0.07	0.037		0.07	0.00	0,00	0.00

Figure 15-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Tividale Park

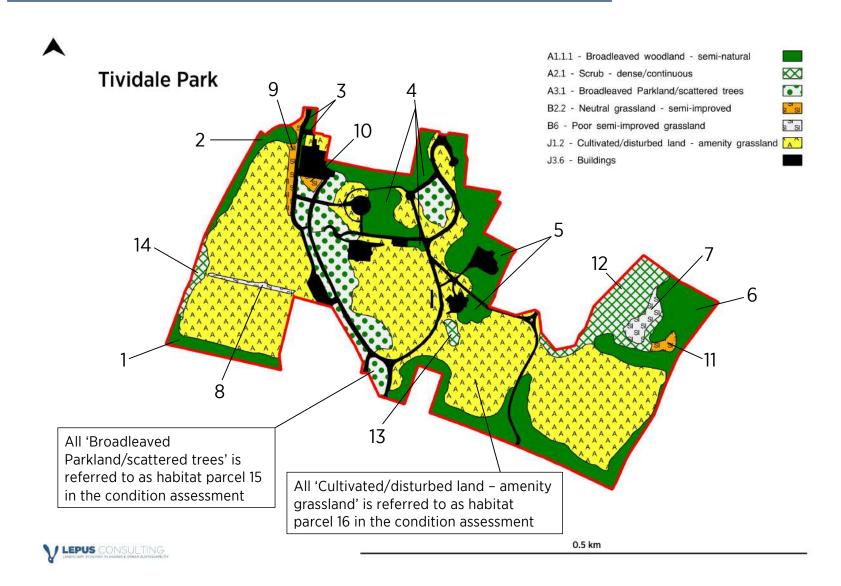


Figure 15-2: Tividale Park Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













### 16 Warrens Hall Park SOS

#### 16.1 Background

- 16.1.1 Warrens Hall Park SOS comprises large areas of parkland disbursed between broadleaved woodland and poor semi-improved grassland habitats. The site is home to a number of eutrophic standing open water bodies, the majority of which are classified as ponds. However, the Dudley canal also runs along south-eastern site boundary. Details about the Warrens Hall Park SOS site are presented in **Table 16.1.**
- 16.1.2 Warrens Hall Park SOS is considered to have a relatively **medium** potential for BNG.

Table 16.1: Warrens Hall Park SOS details

Site Name	Warrens Hall Park SOS
Location	Rowley Regis
Typology	Parks and gardens
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	21.40ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Landscapes and within Core Habitat Zone.
Designations	This site is designated as Warren's Hall Country Park LNR and Warren's Hall Park SLINC.
Historic Environment Area Designations	The site is located within 'Area of High Historic Landscape Value'.
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

#### 16.2 Headline Results

16.2.1 Warrens Hall Park SOS has 211.70 baseline habitat units and an additional 3.94 baseline units from hedgerow and watercourse habitats. See **Table 16.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 16.2: Warrens Hall Park SOS Habitat Baseline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	211.70	
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	2.13	
	Watercourse Units	1.81	
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	238.63	
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	2.13	
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	1.81	
	Habitat Units	26.93	12.72%
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%

- 16.2.2 Uplift at this site is minimal. The large areas of broadleaved woodland and the small hedgerow habitats within the site are already of 'good' condition'. These habitats should be retained.
- 16.2.3 The 'mixed scrub' habitats within this site are small and so the actions that could increase condition score from moderate to good are impractical. For more detail, see **Appendix H**.
- 16.2.4 The modified grassland within the site could be enhanced to create uplift. However, we feel this habitat is essential to the character of the site. Therefore, we are hesitant to suggest drastic interventions which may create uplift.
- 16.2.5 It is important to note that it could be possible to gain biodiversity units from the lake and pond habitats within this site and their surrounding inundation vegetation habitats. However, due to time constraints and the nature of these habitat banks, specific water conditions were not assessed. In order to determine the significance of these habitats in terms of biodiversity uplift, an in-depth water condition assessment and evaluation should be carried out.

		Existing area habitate		Distinctivene	200	Cenditio	m	Strategic sign	sificance			Ecological baseline		2	Setention ca	degory biodi	eraity value	
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hoctares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost
1	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.765	Low	8	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	1.76	0,765		1.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.362	Medium	4	Good	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habilator a higher distinctiveness habitat required (c)	5,00	0.362		5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.071	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness shabitat required (a)	0.65		0.071	0.00	0.65	0.00	0.00
4.	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	4.206	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	19.36		4.208	0.00	19.36	0.00	0.00
5	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.176	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.81		0,176	0.00	0.81	0.00	0.00
6	Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	1,003	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1,18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat sequired (2)	9.23	1.003		9.23	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.085	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Barne broad habitet or a higher distinctiveness habitet required (b)	0.78	0.088		0.78	0,00	0.00	0.00
	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.081	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.19	0.021		0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Wetland	Reedbeds	0.085	High	6	Good	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same habitat required =	1.76	0.085		1.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	10.371	Medium	4	Good	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (x)	143.12	10.371		143.12	0.00	0.00	0,00
11	Woodland and forest	Wood-pasture and parkland	3.157	V.High	8	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Bespoke compensation likely to be required	29.04		3.157	0.00	29.04	0.00	0.00

Figure 16-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Warrens Hall Park

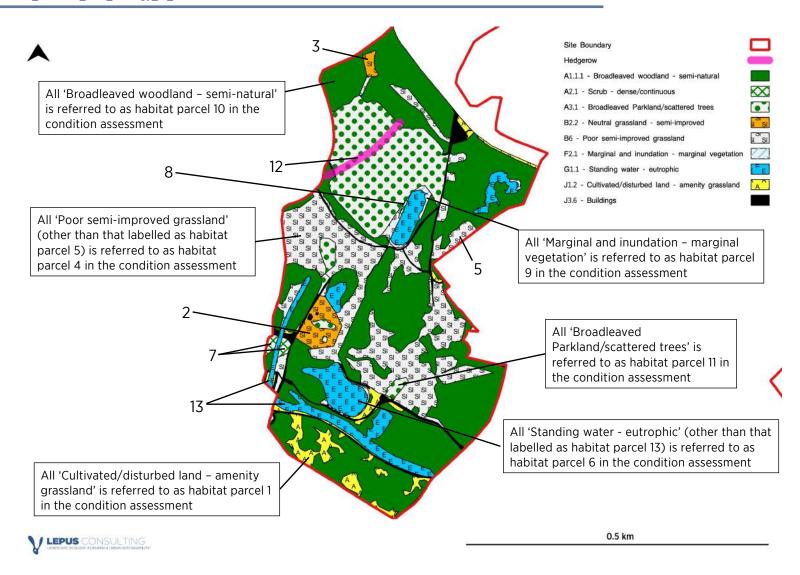


Figure 16-2: Warrens Hall Park Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













## 17 Swan Pool/Priory Wood

#### 17.1 Background

- 17.1.1 Swan Pool/Priory Wood compromises large areas of woodland and dispersed water bodies. Grassland habitats are also present in the middle and the western side of the site. Details about the Swan Pool/Priory Wood site are presented in **Table 17.1.**
- 17.1.2 Swan Pool/Priory Wood is considered to have a relatively **medium** potential for BNG.

Table 17.1: Swan Pool/Priory Wood details

Site Name	Swan Pool/Priory Wood
Location	West Bromwich
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	85.70ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Landscapes and Core Habitat Zone
Designations	This site contains Priory Woods Local Nature Reserve and Priory Woods, Sandwell Valley SINC.
Historic Environment Area Designations	Located within 'Designed Landscape of High Historic Value'.
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

#### 17.2 Headline Results

17.2.1 Swan Pool/Priory Wood is the largest of the ten sites that were visited. Therefore, the 617.98 baseline habitat units were to be expected. This site also has a large uplift potential of 279.10 units. See **Table 17.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 17.2: Swan Pool/Priory Wood Habitat Baseline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	617.98				
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	33.05				
	Watercourse Units	0.00				
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	897.08				
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	33.14				
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	0.00				
	Habitat Units	279.10	45.16%			
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.09	0.28%			
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%			

- 17.2.2 Swan Pool/Priory Wood compromises large areas of broadleaved woodland, all of moderate condition. By improving woodland management at this site to introduce more open space and to improve structure, large amounts of uplift are viable.
- 17.2.3 Towards the centre of the site, poor semi-improved grassland habitats were present which will also provide significant uplift if managed appropriately.
- 17.2.4 It is important to note that it may be possible to gain biodiversity units from the lake and pond habitats within this site. However, due to time constraints and the nature of these habitat banks, specific water conditions were not assessed. In order to determine the significance of these habitats in terms of biodiversity uplift, an in-depth water condition assessment and evaluation should be carried out.

1		Existing area habitats			100	Conditio		Strategic sign	discance			Ecological		Retention category biodiversity value					
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hectares)	D is tinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategio s ignificance	Strategic significance	Strategic Significance	Required Action to Most Trading Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost	
1	Grassland	Modified grassland	1.224	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	2.82	1.224		2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	
20	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	5.593	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	25.73		5.593	0.00	25.73	0.00	0.00	
3	Grassland	Other reutral grassland	8.153	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	37.50		8.153	0.00	37.50	0.00	0.00	
4	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	8.169	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Summe broad habitat or a higher dustractiveness habitat required (a)	37.88		8.169	0.00	37.68	0.00	0.00	
5	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	1.718	Medium	4	Poor	1.	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	7.88		1.712	0.00	7.88	0.00	0.00	
a	Grassland	Other resultal grassland	0.213	Medium	(4)	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (s)	1.96		0.213	0.00	1.96	0.00	0.00	
7	Wetland	Reedbeds	0.869	High	6	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same habitat required =	6.00		0.869	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	
8	Wetland	Reedbeds	0.106	High	6	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same habitat required =	0.72		0.106	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.00	
9	Wetland	Reedbeds	0.13	High	6	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same habitat required =	0.90		0.13	0.00	0.90	0.00	0.00	
10	Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	1.178	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	10.84	1.178		10.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	
11	Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitst)	0.587	Medium	4	Poor	ī	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	2.70	0.587	ų.	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	
12	Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitst)	0.094	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Barne broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	0.86	0.094	<i>(</i> 1	0.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	
13	Lakes	Ornamental lake or pond	8.533	Low	2	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	39.25	8.533		39.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	
14	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	1.422	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (5)	13.08	1.422		13.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	
15	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrab	0.498	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	4.58	0.498	6	4.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	
16	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	2.967	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	37.30	5	2.967	0.00	27.30	0.00	0.00	
17	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	42.576	Medium	4	Moderate	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	391.70		42.576	0.00	391.70	0.00	0.00	
18	Woodland and forest	Wood-pasture and parkland	0,358	V.High	8	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Bespoke compensation likely to be required 3	8.59		0.358	0.00	6.69	0.00	0.00	

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		Existing hedgerow habitats		Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance		Ecological baseline		Retention	ategory b	iodiversity v	alue	
Baseline ref	Hedge number	Hedgerow type	Length (km)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Total hedgerow units	Length retained	Length enhanced	Units retained	Units enhanced	Length lost	Units
1	19	Native hedgerow	0.172	Low	Good	Formally identified in local strategy	Same distinctiveness band or better	1.19	0.172		1.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	20	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.157	High	Good	Formally identified in local strategy	Like for like or better	3.25	0.157		3.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	21	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.905	High	Good	Formally identified in local strategy	Like for like or better	18.73	0.905		18.73	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	22	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.302	High	Good	Formally identified in local strategy	Like for like or better	6.25	0.302		6.25	0,00	0,00	0.00
5	23	Species-rich native hedgerow	0.094	Medium	Good	Formally identified in local strategy	Same distinctiveness band or better	1.30	0.094		1.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	24	Line of trees	0.141	Low	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same distinctiveness band or better	0.65	0.141		0.65	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	25	Line of trees	0.082	Low	Poor	Formally identified in local strategy	Same distinctiveness band or better	0.19		0.082	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.00
8	26	Line of trees	0.325	Low	Moderate	Formally identified in local strategy	Same distinctiveness band or better	1.50	0.325		1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00

Figure 17-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Swan Pool/Priory Wood

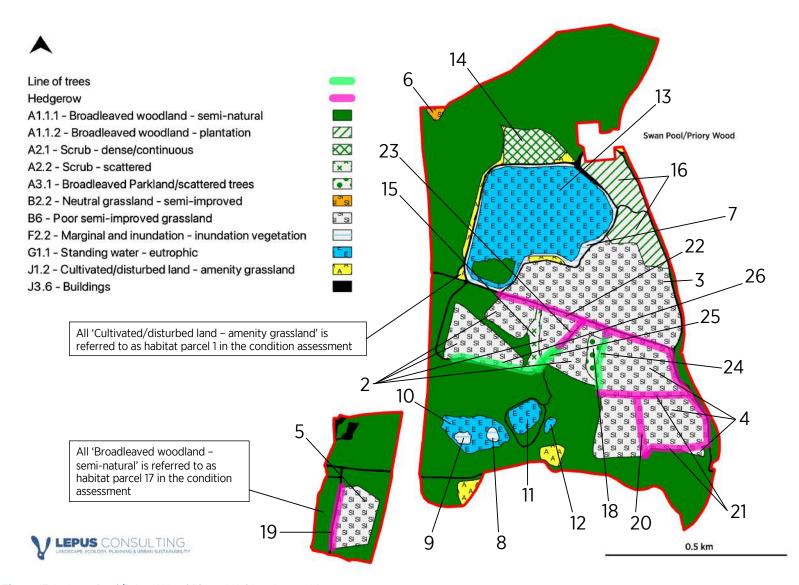
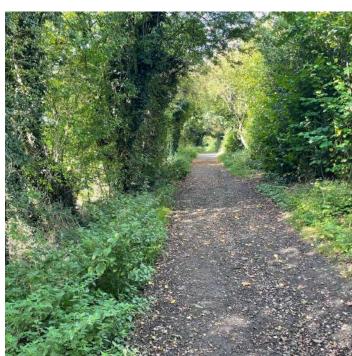


Figure 17-2: Swan Pool/Priory Wood Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













### 18 Sandwell Park Farm

#### 18.1 Background

- 18.1.1 Sandwell Park Farm has an underlying recreational characteristic apparent through it's large areas of amenity grassland; pathways; parking facilities; playground facilities; and fairground attractions. Further detail on the Sandwell Park Farm site is presented in **Table 18.1.**
- 18.1.2 Sandwell Park Farm is considered to have a relatively **medium** potential for BNG.

Table 18.1: Sandwell Park Farm details

Site Name	Sandwell Park Farm
Location	West Bromwich
Typology	Natural and semi-natural greenspace
Accessibility	Unrestricted
Area (ha)	28.85ha
Ownership	Sandwell Council
Local Nature Recovery Network	Located within Core Landscapes  Parts of the site are located within Core Habitat Zone
,	Part of the site is located within Core Expansion Zone 1
Designations	None present at this site
Historic Environment Area Designations	None present at this site
Geology	Sedimentary - Siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone

#### 18.2 Headline Results

18.2.1 Sandwell Park Farm has 56.65 potential uplift units; and increase of 43.35%. See **Table 18.2** for headline results from the Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

Table 18.2: Sandwell Park Farm Habitat Baseline Results - Metric Calculation Tool

	Habitat Units	130.68					
On-site Baseline	Hedgerow Units	30.88					
	Watercourse Units	5.33					
On-site Post-intervention	Habitat Units	bitat Units 187.33					
(Including habitat retention, creation and	Hedgerow Units	30.88					
enhancement)	Watercourse Units	5.33					
	Habitat Units	56.65	43.35%				
On-site Net Change	Hedgerow Units	0.00	0.00%				
	Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%				

- 18.2.2 Sandwell Park Farm contains large areas of amenity grassland and hardstanding playground equipment. The conditions of this habitat suggest large amounts of uplift would be viable. However, very few enhancements are recommended in order to maintain the character and functionality of the site.
- 18.2.3 Uplift at this site comes mainly from improving species diversity within the 'other neutral grassland' habitats as well as improving the condition of the woodland areas from moderate good. Suggested interventions to help achieve this uplift can be found in **Appendix J**: Condition Assessment for Sandwell Park Farm.
- 18.2.4 It should be noted that there is a watercourse present at this site in the form of a stream. It could be possible to gain biodiversity units from this aquatic habitat, however, due to time constraints and the nature of these habitat banks, specific water conditions were not assessed. In order to determine the significance of this habitat in terms of biodiversity uplift, an in-depth water condition assessment and evaluation should be carried out.

W.	Existing area habitats		Distinctivens	nas .	Conditio	m	Strategic sign	nilicance	A.C.	Value 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Ecological	Retention category biodiversity value						
Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategio Significance multiplies	Required Action to Meet Tracking Rules	Total habitat units	Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units multipad	Baseline units	Area habitat lost	Units lost	
Grassland	Modified grassland	8.781	Low	3	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	20.20	8.781		20.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland	Modified grassland	0.694	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.18	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required >	1.60	0.694		1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland	Modified grassland	0.838	Law	3	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	1.93	0.838		1.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland	Modified grassland	0.618	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required a	1.43	0.618		1.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland	Modified grassland	2.555	Low	2	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.16	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	6.88	2.688		5.88	0.00	0.00	0,00	
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.393	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Some broad habitation a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	1.81		0.393	0.00	1.81	0.00	0.00	
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	3.07	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitation a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	14.12		3.07	0.00	14.12	0,00	0.00	
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	0.765	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (3)	3.52		0.765	0.00	3.52	0.00	0.00	
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	1.842	Medium	4	Poor	1	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (a)	8.47		1.842	0.00	8.47	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.148	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (4)	1.38	0.148		1.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	7.386	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Same broad habitut er a higher distinctiveness habitat	67.95		7.386	0.00	67.95	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest	Wood-pasture and parkland	0.132	V.High	8	Moderate	3	Formally identified in local strategy	High strategic significance	1.15	Bespoke compensation likely to be required 3	2.43		0.132	0.00	2.43	0.00	0.00	
	Crassland	Broad Habitat  Crassland  Modified grassland  Grassland  Crassland  Cher neutral grassland  Crassland  Cher neutral grassland  Grassland  Cher neutral grassland  Modified grassland  Cher neutral grassland	Broad Habitat  Habitat Type  Grassland  Grassland  Modified grassland  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.894  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.898  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.818  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.818  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.818  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.818  Grassland  Other neutral grassland	Broad Habitat  Habitat Type  Crassland  Modified grassland  Rocassland  Modified grassland  Crassland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  Crassland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  Crassland  Crassland  Cher neutral grassland  Crassland  Crassland  Cher neutral grassland  Cher neutral grassland	Broad Habitat  Habitat Type  Crassland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  Grassland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  O.894  Low  2  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.898  Low  2  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.898  Low  2  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.818  Low  2  Grassland  Modified grassland  O.518  Low  2  Grassland  Other neutral grassland	Broad Habitat  Habitat Type  Crassland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  Restland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  Modified grassland  Distinctiveness  Restland  Restla	Broad Habitat         Habitat Type         Area (bectares) (bectares)         Distinctiveness         Score         Condition         Score           Crassland         Modified grassland         8.781         Low         2         Poor         1           Grassland         Modified grassland         0.894         Low         2         Poor         1           Grassland         Modified grassland         0.618         Low         2         Poor         1           Grassland         Modified grassland         2.585         Low         2         Poor         1           Grassland         Other neutral grassland         0.383         Medium         4         Poor         1           Grassland         Other neutral grassland         3.07         Medium         4         Poor         1           Grassland         Other neutral grassland         0.763         Medium         4         Poor         1           Grassland         Other neutral grassland         0.763         Medium         4         Poor         1           Grassland         Other neutral grassland         0.763         Medium         4         Poor         1           Grassland         Other neutral grassland         0.763	Broad Habitat  Habitat Type  Crassland  Modified grassland  Modified in local strategy  Modified in local strategy	Broad Habitat   Habitat Type   Area   Distinctiveness   Score   Condition   Score   Stutegic significance   S	Broad Habitat   Habitat Type   Area   Distinctiveness   Score   Condition   Score   Studegic significance   S	Broad Habitat   Habitat Type   Leva   Distinctiveness   Score   Condition   Score   Strategic significance   Significance	Broad Habitat  Habitat Type  Distructiveness Dectures)  Distructiveness Dectures) Distructiveness Dectures) Distructiveness Distructiveness Dectures) Distructiveness Di	Broad Habitat Type   Leas   Determines   Second Habitat Type   Leas   Determines   Second Habitat Type   Determines   Second Habitat Type   Determines   Second Habitat Type   Second Habitat Type   Determines   Second Habitat Type   Second Habitat Type   Determines   Second Habitat Type   Second Habitat Type	Broad Rabitat  Rabitat Type  Area Obstaces Distinctiveness Declares)	Broad Habitat    Ratio   Ratio	Broad Habitat  Broad	Para Rabitat   Rabitat	

Figure 18-1: Habitat Baseline Data for Sandwell Park Farm

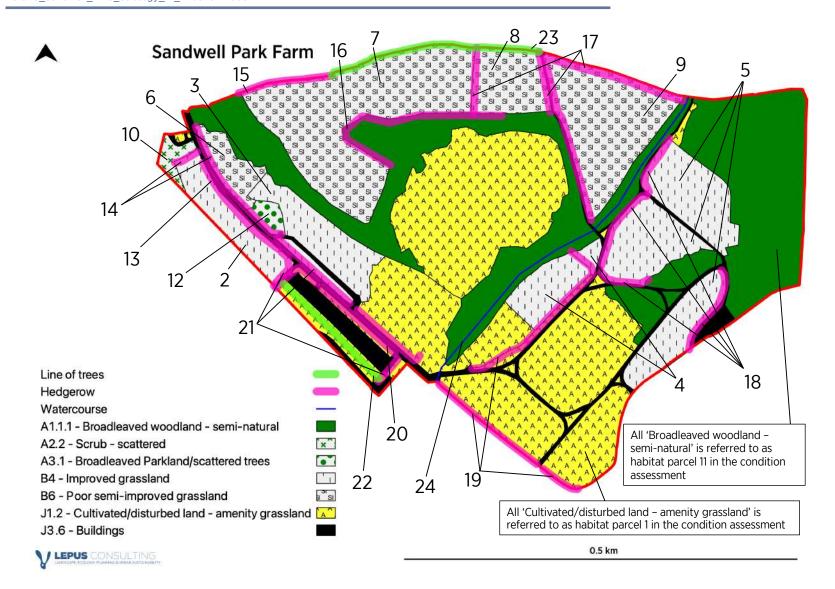
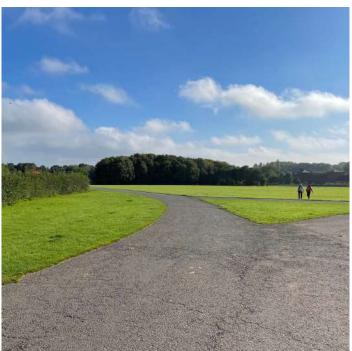


Figure 18-2: Sandwell Park Farm Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map













### 19 Conclusion

#### 19.1 Summary

- 19.1.1 The aim of this study was to identify and undertake an assessment of habitats within councilowned sites in Sandwell to establish their suitability for use as potential habitat banks for the delivery of BNG. No habitat banks have previously been identified in Sandwell.
- 19.1.2 This study has identified ten sites with potential for biodiversity uplift in Sandwell. All BNG calculations have been prepared by professional ecologists using BNG Metric Calculation Tool, Version 4.0.
- 19.1.3 The report includes **low intervention** recommendations for habitat enhancements at each location. All recommendations contained within this report seek to retain existing open access characteristics at each location. A total of some 918.37 units can be derived through a mix of habitat enhancement and diversification of habitat types on site. For example, poor semi-improved grassland can be enhanced to lowland meadow status. Similarly, woodlands that are presently unmanaged can be enhanced to introduce structural diversity and compartmentalisation which will in turn increase overall levels of biodiversity.
- 19.1.4 There are likely to be numerous other ways to maximise biodiversity at any given location through a process of **medium-high intervention**. For example, some of the identified sites contain areas of amenity grassland. Habitat enhancements within areas of amenity grassland may compromise the functionality of these areas as accessible open spaces and would potentially require habitat creation. This is quite distinct from enhancement and there are time and budget implications that require careful consideration by the land management teams at SBC. Nevertheless such activities which could include new ponds or woodlands would again increase available units within the habitat bank.
- 19.1.5 Of all the sites assessed in this study, the sites named 'Swan Pool/Priory Wood', 'Hill House Farm' and 'Forge Farm' have the greatest potential for biodiversity uplift. At these sites, the presence of amenity grassland was found to be minimal and the existing grassland mostly comprised either 'modified grassland' or 'other neutral grassland', most of which was of poor or moderate condition. These sites also contained large areas of broadleaved woodland. The condition of the woodland was mainly moderate or poor. Suggested interventions within each condition assessment will help enhance these habitats and create the desired uplift. The on-site net change (biodiversity uplift units) at each site is summarised in **Table 19.1.**

Table 19.1: Summary of potential biodiversity uplift at identified sites

Site	On-site Net Change (Biodiversity Uplift Units)
Swan Pool/Priory Wood	279.10
Hill House Farm	255.87
Forge Farm	100.29
Hill Farm Bridge Fields	65.90
Sandwell Park Farm	56.65
Ray Hall Pastoral Land	48.05

Menzies Open Space	42.28
Tibbington Open Space	32.91
Warrens Hall Park SOS	26.93
Tividale Park	10.39

#### 19.2 Next steps

- 19.2.1 The report should be shared and discussed with the Council's land managers to explore how the suggested BNG enhancements might be delivered. As stated above, managers may have their own views on what is feasible/appropriate for each site. If the Council wishes Lepus to test alternative land use scenarios, we can provide cost estimates to prepare this work.
- This report does not evaluate feasibility of delivering the enhancements. Nor does it provide costs for the creation and enhancement of habitats. All recommendations are on-site within the boundaries identified for each potential habitat bank. It is possible to merge some of the potential habitat banks in the Sandwell Valley area. Any changes to boundary would need to be re-evaluated with the BNG calculator. This report does not include recommendations for administration of the habitat banks or pricing values for biodiversity units in order to sell them on the open market for development proposals that cannot deliver BNG on site.
- 19.2.3 If any of the sites identified in this study are taken forward as habitat banks, further work is recommended to explore other options for habitat enhancement within a potential habitat bank. For example, this report has not recommended the creation of ponds or other water features since the principal basis for optimising BNG has concentrated on 'quick-wins'.
- 19.2.4 Whilst the exact total of required off-site BNG is not known for the local plan, the option to deliver 918.37 units of BNG is likely to substantially help meet local plan demand for off-site BNG. It would be helpful to forecast likely demand for BNG and perhaps plan to create potential habitat banks that will meet need plus a contingency buffer of say 20%.

# Appendix A: Condition Assessment for Ray Hall

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	09/08/2023	Site name or location	Ray Hall Pastoral Land
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes			

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness)  UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type(s)  Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland  Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland  Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland													
UK Gra	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi assland - Lowland calcareous grassl	tat Type(s) and											
	assland - Lowland dry acid grassland assland - Lowland meadows	1											
Gra	assland - Other lowland acid grassla	nd											
	assland - Other neutral grassland assland - Tall herb communities (H64	(130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded as	s 'Other ne	utral grassi	land'] [Not to	o be confu	sed with th	e Tall forbs	secondary code –
see	UKHab guidance for details.]							J					, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grasslar	nd											
Gra	assland - Upland hay meadows												
Ha	arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian bitat Description	grassianu											
Gra	assland - Other neutral grassland												
ukł	nab – UK Habitat Classification												
		Ray Hall Pastoral Land	On-site o	or off-site	On-site			•					
Sit	e name and location			eference (if									
			relating t survey)	to a wider									
			Habitat p	arcel refere		To.	1-	10				I	
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		3	4	5	6	/	8	9				
			Grid refe			· 	· 					i I	
Co	ndition Assessment Criteria		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC				
-00	Handon Assessment Officeria												Notes (such as
				passed (Ye			1	1					justification)
		n of the habitat type it has been identified as,	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes				Habitat parcels 3, 4, 7, 8 + 9 meet UK
		appearance and composition of the vegetation the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator											Habs grassland
Α		c grassland habitat type are consistently											code g3c7
	present.												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a for non-acid grassland types only.	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	Tor non dold grassiand types only.		No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
			140	140	140	140	140	140	140				
В		the sward is less than 7 cm and at least											
В	insects, birds and small mammals to liv	climates which provide opportunities for we and breed.											
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
С	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a	nd 5%, including localised areas, for											
	example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	O												
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum (including bramble Rubus fruticosus ag												
						ļ							
	Combined cover of species indicative of		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No				
	damage (such as excessive poaching, damaging levels of access, or any other	damage from machinery use or storage, er damaging management activities)											
Ε	accounts for less than 5% of total area												
	If any invasive non-native plant species	s³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA⁴) are											
	present, this criterion is automatically fa												
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types	No	No	No	No	No	No	No			l	
		pecies per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that											
	are characteristic of the habitat type (spannot contribute towards this count).	pecies referenced in Footnote 2 and 4											
F	,												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.												
	•												
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes					
			3	2	0	2	2	2					
Co	ndition Assessment Result	3 Score Ac	a hieved ×/√	<sup>2</sup>	l <sup>v</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<u> </u>					
	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c												
-	sses 5 criteria												
_	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)			<u> </u>		ļ						
Pa	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)			<u> </u>								

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)											
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)										
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)	Yes	Yes								
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Seek to improve the condition of the semi-improved grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes

Foundte 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistleCirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

Footnote 3 - Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

	ondition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type												
UK He	( Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha athland and shrub - Blackthorn sci	ıbitat Type rub											
	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub												
	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru athland and shrub - Hazel scrub	ıb											
	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
Ha	athland and shrub - Willow scrub bitat Description												
Mix	xed scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippopha	e rhamn	oides) - S	Special Ar	eas of Co	nservatio	on (jncc.g	jov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Ray Hall Pastoral Land	On-sit	e or off-s	site	On-site							
Sit	e name and location		Survey	/ reference	ce (if								
			relatin	g to a wi	•								
			Survey	() it parcel i	eference								
			10	11		Τ			Τ		1		_
Lir	mitations (if applicable)												
			0-1-1	· • · · · · · · ·									
			TBC	TBC		Τ	l	l	1	l	I		
Со	ondition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criterio	on passe	d (Yes o	r No)							as
			Yes	No	T	T			T		1	ı	iustification) Habitat parcels
	The corub is a good representation	of the habitat type it has been identified as, based	165	INO									10 and 11
		ts natural range). The appearance and											meet UK Habs
	composition of the vegetation closely											heathland and shrub code	
_	scrub type.												h3d. Habitat
Α	At least 80% of scrub is native, and	there are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> ,											parcel 11 did
	with no single species comprising m	ore than 75% of the cover (except hazel Corylus											not contain at least three
	1	s communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											native woody
	rnamnoides or box Buxus sempervi	irens, which can be up to 100% cover).											species.
			No	No									
	Spedlings sanlings young shrubs a	and mature (or ancient or veteran²) shrubs are all											
В	present.	and mature (or ancient or veterall) shrubs are all											
	There is an all account of	3/ 11 2 2 1 1 2	Yes	Yes									
С		n-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.	r-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
				ļ.,									
	T		No	No									
D	forbs present between the scrub and	ge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or											
	lorse present setween the cords and	a adjacon nasia.											
-			No	No		<u> </u>							
L	There are clearings, glades or rides	present within the scrub, providing sheltered											
Е	edges.												
		Number of criteria passed	2	1									
	ondition Assessment Result (out 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score /	Achieved									
	sses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
Pa	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
Pa	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes		t	1	1	1	1			
_	ggested enhancement intervention				1	•	•	•		•		•	
На	bitat parcel 10 can be improved from	poor to moderate by artificially creating clearings a	and ride	s within th	ne habitat								

	Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type  JK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type(s)														
Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood Woodland and forest - Wet woodland Habitat Description															
Ha	bitat Description														
	ner woodland; broad														
Th		based on the England We	oodland Biodiversity Gro	up (EWBG) Woodland (	Condition	Survey	Method, a	available	here:						
IM eq	uivalent to, nor are t	diversity metric woodland hey comparable with the s poortion of favourable land	scores from the EWBG	condition assessment, b	ecause	the EWB	G assess	sment ha	as been a	adapted	for the bi				
	e name and	Ray Hall Pastoral Land	On-site or off-site	On-site		t parcel i	eference						1		
Liı	nitations (if plicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			ference TBC									
Condition Assessment Criteria															
	licator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score	per indic	ator								Notes (such as justification)
A	Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.	2	3									justinoution
В	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	3	3									
С	Invasive plant species	No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	3	3									
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.	3	3									
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	3	3									
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category <sup>7</sup> .	3	3									
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	only present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	1	2									
Н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3	3									
I	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	1	1									
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland 11.	Two storeys across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	One or less storey across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	1	2									

ĸ	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran	One veteran tree <sup>12</sup>	No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1					
r.	veteran trees	trees12 per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.							
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	1	1					
М	Woodland	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident <sup>14</sup> .	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground 14.	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3					
	Total Score (out of a possible 39		28	31							
Со	Condition Assessment Result Condition Assessment Score		nt Score	Result	Achieve	d					
То	al score >32 (33 to	39)	Good (3)								
То	Total score 26 to 32 Moderate (2)			Yes	Yes						
То	otal score <26 (13 to 25) Poor (1)										
Su	ggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score										

The condition of habitat parcels 1 and 2 could be improved from moderate to good by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the renegerative qualities of the woodland through planting.

# Appendix B: Condition Assessment for Hill Farm Bridge Fields

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	09/08/2023	Site name or location	Hill Farm Bridge Fields
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes	<u> </u>		

	ondition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habit			
	( Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha	abitat Type(s)		
Gr	assland - Modified grassland		ı	T
Sit	te name and location	Hill Farm Bridge Fields	On-site or off-site	On-site
Lir	mitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Gr	id reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	19
На	bitat Description			
Mo	odified grassland			
<u>uk</u>	hab – UK Habitat Classification			
Со	ondition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Α	listed in Footnote 1). Note - this crit	s per m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those erion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.	No	
	Where the vascular plant species pr	esent are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness	No	
В	<u> </u>	of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) e opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	INO	
С	Some scattered scrub (including bra for less than 20% of total grassland	amble Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts area.	No	
	Note - patches of scrub with continuscrub habitat type.	ous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant		
D	•	han 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage e from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of	Yes	

Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens)<sup>2</sup>.

Yes

F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinu	umis less than 20%.	Yes	
G	There is an absence of invasive nor	n-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).	Yes	
		Essential crit	erion achieved (Yes or No)	No
			Number of criteria passed	4
	ndition Assessment Result (out 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
	sses 6 or 7 criteria including ssing essential criterion A	Good (3)		
	sses 4 or 5 criteria including ssing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
OR		Poor (1)	Yes	
crit	sses 4 - 6 criteria (excluding erion A)			
Su	ggested enhancement intervention			

Seek to create semi-improved grassland. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

#### **Footnotes**

**Footnote 1** – Creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, curled dock *Rumex crispus*, broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, greater plantain *Plantago major*, white clover *Trifolium repens* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distincti	veness)										
Gra	assland - Lowland calcareous grassl assland - Lowland dry acid grassland	and											
Gra	assland - Lowland meadows												
Gra	assland - Other lowland acid grassla assland - Other neutral grassland												
	assland - Tall herb communities (H64 • UKHab guidance for details.]	(130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded a	s 'Other ne	utral grassl	and'] [Not t	o be confu	sed with th	e Tall forbs	secondary code -
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grassla	nd											
Gra	assland - Upland hay meadows arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian												
Hal	bitat Description ner neutral grassland	gracouna											
			Г	Г			1	1	1		1		
JKľ	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Hill Farm Bridge Fields	On-site o	r off-site	On-site								
Sit	e name and location		Survey re	eference (if									
			relating to survey)										
			Habitat p	arcel reference	nce 7	8	9						
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
		Grid refe	rence										
			TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC						
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notoo (auch
				passed (Yes	,		1						Notes (such as justification)
		n of the habitat type it has been identified as, appearance and composition of the vegetation	Yes	No	No	No	No						
	closely matches the characteristics of t	the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator											
A	species listed by UKHab for the specifi present.	c grassland habitat type are consistently											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassland types only.	•											
			No	No	Yes	Yes	No						
		the sward is less than 7 cm and at least											
В	20% is more than 7 cm) creating micro insects, birds and small mammals to live	climates which provide opportunities for we and breed.											
			No	No	Yes	Yes	No						
	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a	nd 5% including localised areas for											
	example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	and 5 /6, morading rocalised areas, for											
			Yes	No	No	No	No						
D	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> ag												
	Openhinad and the Control of the Con	factor and an extended a second and a second	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No						
		damage from machinery use or storage,											
Ε	damaging levels of access, or any other accounts for less than 5% of total area												
	If any invasive non-native plant species	s <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ) are											
	present, this criterion is automatically f												
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types	No	No	No	No	No						
	There are 10 or more vascular plant spare characteristic of the habitat type (s	pecies per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that											
F	cannot contribute towards this count).												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a												
	grassland types only.												
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	Yes	No	No	No	No							
-0													
Со	ndition Assessment Result	3 Score Ach	0 nieved ×/√	3	3	0							
٩c	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	Condition Assessment Score riteria) Good (3)											
	sses 5 criteria												
	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Moderate (2) Poor (1)											
		•			•	•	•		•				

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)											
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)										
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)	Yes									
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F	Poor (1)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Seek to improve the condition of all semi-improved grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes

Foundte 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistleCirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

_	ondition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Ha	abitat Type									
	ubitat Type(s) ne of trees										
	ne of trees – associated with bank	or ditch									
Ec	ologically valuable line of trees										
	ologically valuable line of trees –	associated with bank or ditch									
	abitat Description ne of trees										
-"											
Se	e the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Gu	uide Section 9									
	-	erow Survey Handbook 1. For further	clarifica	tions plea	ase refer t	to the H	andbook	ζ.			
WI	nere ancient and veteran trees are p	resent within the line of trees, see Foo	otnote 2	for stand	ding advic	e.					
		Hill Farm Bridge Fields		e or off-	On-site	)					
			site Survey	,							
Sit	te name and location		refere								
			relatin	_							
				survey)	roforono						
			<b>Habita</b>	18	reference	<del>-</del>		l	T	T	
Li	mitations (if applicable)		''								
	manone (ii applicable)										
			Grid re	eference	_						
			TBC	TBC		T .		T	l		
Co	ondition Assessment Criteria										Notes (such
			Criteri	on passe	ed (Yes o	r No)					as
											iustification)
			Yes	Yes							
Α	At least 70% of trees are native spe	ecies.									
			Yes	Yes							
В	Tree canopy is predominantly continuating up <10% of total area and r	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·									
	making up <10 % or total area and 1	io individual gap being 20 m wide.									
	One or more trees has veteran feat	rures and or natural ecological	No	No							
С	niches for vertebrates and invertebr	<del>-</del>									
	and attached deadwood, cavities, in	vy or loose bark.									
	There is an undisturbed naturally-ve	egetated strip of at least 6 m on both	No	No						1	
D		m farming and other human activities									
	(excluding grazing). Where veteran										
-	areas should follow standing advice	€.	Yes	Yes		<del>                                     </del>		<del>                                     </del>		+	
	At least 95% of the trees are in a he	ealthy condition (deadwood or									
E	veteran features valuable for wildlife	•									
-	little or no evidence of an adverse in	-									
	from livestock or wild animals, pests	s or diseases, or human activity.									
		Number of criteria passed	3	3			1		1	<b>†</b>	
	ondition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score		Achieved	x/√						
	5 criteria)		550107								-
_	sses 5 criteria sses 3 or 4 criteria	Good (3) Moderate (2)	Yes	Yes				1		+	
-	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	. 55	1.00		1	1	1	1	+	
_	ggested enhancement interventio										
_		cological niches for vetebrates and inv	/ertebra	tes but o	verall con	dition w	ould be	unchan	ged.		
Fo	otnotes										

Co	ondition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Typ	e											
Uk	( Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha	abitat Type											
	athland and shrub - Blackthorn sc athland and shrub - Gorse scrub	rub											
1	eathland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	ıh											
	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub												
He	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
He	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
He	athland and shrub - Willow scrub bitat Description												
_	xed scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippopha	e rhamn	oides) - S	Special A	reas of C	onservat	ion (jncc.	gov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Hill Farm Bridge Fields	On-sit	e or off-	sito	On-site	Э						
Sit	e name and location			/ referen									
			relating to a wider survey)										
			_	t parcel	referenc	 ;e							
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Lir	mitations (if applicable)												
										<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
				eference									
			TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC				
Со	ondition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criteri	on passe	ed (Yes o	or No)							as
				_		1	1	_	_	1	1		iustification)
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	The scrub is a good representation	of the habitat type it has been identified as, based											
	on its UKHab description (where in i												
	composition of the vegetation closel												
Α	scrub type.												
	At least 80% of scrub is native, and												
	with no single species comprising m												
	avellana, common juniper Juniperus	s communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											
	rhamnoides or box Buxus sempervi	irens, which can be up to 100% cover).											
		No	No	No	No	No	No	No					
_	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs a												
В	present.												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	There is an absence of invasive nor												
С		o-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.												
			No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	The same has a small described and		110	110	110	100	100	100	100				
D	forbs present between the scrub and	ge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or											
	lords present between the serub and	a adjacent nashat.											
_			.,								-		
		Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Е	There are clearings, glades or rides												
	edges.												
L				1									
		Number of criteria passed	3	2	2	4	4	4	4			1	
	endition Assessment Result (out	Score	Achieved	×/√									
of 5 criteria) Condition Assessment Score				-terneveu									
Passes 5 criteria Good (3)				1				1					
Pa	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes			Yes	Yes	es Yes	Yes	<u> </u>	1	<u> </u>	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria Poor (1)				Yes	Yes								
	ggested enhancement interventior												
		nged from mixed scrub to broadleaved woodland.								managin	g to facili	tate succes	ssion from scrub
to	woodiand nabitat. However, this char	nge of habitat does not satisfy BNG trading rules so	at this	point in ti	ıme we d	io not sug	gest any	intervent	ion.				

-	Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type														
		DODLAND Habitat Type ation (UKHab) Habitat T													
× × × × × × × × ×	Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood Woodland and forest - Wet woodland														
_	Habitat Description														
	Other woodland; broadleaved														
TI		based on the England We	oodland Biodiversity Gro	oup (EWBG) Woodland (	Condition	Survey	Method, a	available	here:						
IN ec	quivalent to, nor are t	diversity metric woodland they comparable with the oportion of favourable land	scores from the EWBG	condition assessment, b d) and Indicator 14 (Size	ecause of wood	the EWB lland), an	G assess d minor o	sment ha changes	as been a	adapted	for the bi				
	ite name and	Hill Farm Bridge Fields	On-site or off-site	On-site	Habita 1	t parcel i	eference 3	4	l	l		1	l	l	
10	cation				Grid re	ference	Ī	L							
	imitations (if oplicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC							
С	ondition Assessme	ent Criteria													Notes (such as
In	dicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)		per indic		lo.	ı	I		ı	ı	I	justification)
Α	Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.	2		2	2							
В	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	3	3	3	3							
С	Invasive plant species	No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	3	3	3	3							
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.	3	2	3	3							
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	3	3	3	3							
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category <sup>7</sup> .	3	3	3	3							
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	2	1	2	2							
Н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3	3	3	3							
	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	11	1		1							
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland 11.	Two storeys across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	One or less storey across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	2	1	2	2							

ĸ	Veteran trees		One veteran tree <sup>12</sup>	No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1	1	1						
ľ	veterali tiees	trees12 per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.										
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	1	1	1	1						
М	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground	total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3	3	3						
	Total Score (out of a possible 39)			30	26	30	30							
Co	ndition Assessment Result Condition Assess		Condition Assessmen	nt Score	Result	Result Achieved								
Tot	otal score >32 (33 to 39) Good (3)		Good (3)											
Tot	tal score 26 to 32		Moderate (2)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		·	·	•		
Tot	tal score <26 (13 to 25) Poor (1)													
Su	Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Enhancement interventions are possible for habitat parcels 1, 2, 3 and 4 by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the renegerative qualities of the woodland through planting. These actions will improve the BNG rating from moderate to good.

# Appendix C: Condition Assessment for Menzies Open Space

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	09/08/2023	Site name or location	Menzies Open Space
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes			

Со	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat	Type (low distinctiveness)											
	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	itat Type(s)											
	assland - Modified grassland bitat Description												
		bitat parcel 23 - marsh/marshy grassland.											
				1								i	
ukr	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Menzies Open Space			On-site								
		Menzies Open Space	On-site or	off-site	On-site								
Site	e name and location		Survey ref relating to survey)										
			• • •										
				rcel refere	nce								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		15	23									
	,												
			Grid refer	ence									
			TBC	TBC									
Co	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criterion	passed (Ye	s or No)								as
			No	No									justification)
	There are 6-8 vaccular plant energies n	per m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those											
		ion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.											
	·	-											
Α		ent are characteristic of medium, high or very high											
		9 or more of these characteristic species per m <sup>2</sup> (excluding ew the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland											
		er distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as											
	medium, high, or very high distinctiven	ness, please use the relevant condition sheet.											
			No	Yes									
В		f the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 ride opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and											
ь	breed.	nde opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and											
	Some scattered scrub (including bram	ble Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub	Yes	Yes									
	accounts for less than 20% of total gra	ssland area.											
С	Nicks and the second se	(many them 000()) arrows the roll by a least of an attenuation of											
	Note - patches of scrub with continuou scrub habitat type.	is (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant											
	cordo ridorida typo.		V	V									
	Physical damage is evident in less tha	n 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage	Yes	Yes									
D		from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels											
	of access, or any other damaging man	agement activities.											
			No	No									
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a	and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a		110									
_	concentration of rabbit warrens)2.												
			Yes	Yes									
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum	is loss than 20%	. 00										
F	Cover of brackers Frendram aquilinum	15 1655 triatri 20 /6.											
			Yes	Yes									
G	There is an absence of invasive non-n	ative plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA).	163	163									
		Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)	No	No									
		Number of criteria passed	4	5									
		Number of Citienta passed											
	ndition Assessment Result (out of riteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achi	ieved ×/√									
	sses 6 or 7 criteria including passing	0 1(0)											
ess	sential criterion A	Good (3)											
Pas	sses 4 or 5 criteria including passing	Madarata (2)											
	sential criterion A	Moderate (2)										<u></u>	
	sses 3 or fewer criteria;		Yes	Yes									
OR	sses 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion	Poor (1)											
A)	3000 O Gillona (excluding Gillenon											<u></u>	
Su	ggested enhancement interventions												
		en it is used for recreational purposes and the condition could no	ot be improv	ved within a	Itering its fu	nctionality.	Seek to ir	nprove ha	bitat parc	el 23. Sv	vard heigh	nt should b	e varied. Specie
aiv	ersity can be ennanced through introdu	ction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.											

Footpotos

Footnote 1 - Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distincti	veness)										
Gr	assland - Lowland calcareous grassl	and											
	assland - Lowland dry acid grassland assland - Lowland meadows	d											
	assland - Other lowland acid grassla assland - Other neutral grassland	nd											
Gr	assland - Tall herb communities (H64	130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded a	s 'Other ne	eutral grass	land'] [Not	o be confu	sed with th	e Tall forbs	secondary code -
Gr	e UKHab guidance for details.] assland - Upland acid grassland												
	assland - Upland calcareous grassla assland - Upland hay meadows	nd											
Sp	arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian bitat Description	grassland											
	ner neutral grassland												
ulel	nab – UK Habitat Classification		1	I	1	I	1			1			1
JIKI	iab – OK Habitat Classification	Menzies Open Space	On-site o	r off-site	On-site	<u>l</u>	1			1			
Sit	e name and location			eference (if									
			relating t survey)	o a wider									
				arcel refere		laa	Iao	140	la a	1			
Lir	nitations (if applicable)		8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
					<u> </u>		<u> </u>			<u></u>			
			Grid refe TBC	rence TBC	ТВС	Твс	ТВС	ТВС	ТВС				
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		1.50	1.55		1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50				
			Criterion	passed (Ye	s or No)	1							Notes (such as
	The grassland is a good correspondation	n of the habitat type it has been identified as,	Yes	No No	No	No	Yes	No	No				justification) Habitat parcels 8
	based on its UKHab description - the a	appearance and composition of the vegetation											and 12 meet UKHabs code g3c5.
		the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator ic grassland habitat type are consistently											Ort labs code goco.
A	present.	, , ,											
		achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassland types only.												
			Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No				
Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least													
В	3 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.												
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
С	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	and 5%, including localised areas, for											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
			165	165	165	165	165	165	165				
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum												
_	(including bramble Rubus fruticosus a	gg.) is less than 5%.											
	Combined cover of species indicative of	of sub-optimal condition and physical	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<u> </u>			
		damage from machinery use or storage,											
E	accounts for less than 5% of total area												
	If any invasive non-native plant specie	s³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA⁴) are											
	present, this criterion is automatically f	ailed.			<u> </u>		<u> </u>			<u></u>			
Αd	ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types	No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
		pecies per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that											
F	are characteristic of the habitat type (s cannot contribute towards this count).	pecies referenced in Footnote 2 and 4											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a	achieving Good condition for non-acid											
	grassland types only.	J											
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No				
		Number of criteria passed Condition Assessment Score	4	2	2	2	3	2	2				
	ndition Assessment Result id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	Score Acl	nieved ×/√										
	sses 5 criteria												
Pa	sses 3 or 4 criteria												
Pa	sses 2 or fewer criteria												

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)										
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)									
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)	Yes				Yes				
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Sward height should be varied and species diversity could be increased through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows. This could improve the current condition of each habitat parcel to good.

Notes

Founder 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or pare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistleCirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

Co	Condition Sheet: POND Habitat Type									
	oitat Type(s)									
	es - Ponds (priority habitat)									
	es - Ponds (non-priority habitat)									
	tes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools	(H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Ter	nporary ponds and pools, us	se Lake condition sheet for						
	nporary lakes]	andition about for Organization and a con-	a laka sanditian ahaat far O	waa waa a dalaa a laka a l						
	tes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this option of the content of t	condition sneet for Ornamental ponds, use	e Lake condition sheet for O	rnamentai iakesj						
	nd (non-priority habitat)									
ukh	ab – UK Habitat Classification									
	ponds (non-priority) - see the Biodiversity	Metric 4.0 Technical Annex 2.								
Site	e name and location	Menzies Open Space	On-site or off-site	On-site						
Lim	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)							
Gri	d reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	24						
Coi	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or	Notes (such as justification)						
Cal	re Criteria - applicable to all ponds (woo	dland <sup>1</sup> and non woodland).	No)	, , ,						
CO	e Criteria - applicable to all porios (woo	diand and non-woodiand):	No							
	The pond is of good water quality, with cleobvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is acce									
В	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate dis surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m fro		No							
С	Less than 10% of the water surface is cover filamentous algae.	ered with duckweed <i>Lemna</i> spp. or	Yes							
D	The pond is not artificially connected to oth or artificial pipework.	ner waterbodies, e.g. agricultural ditches	No							
	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally the dams <sup>2</sup> , pumps or pipework.	nroughout the year. No obvious artificial	No							
F	There is an absence of listed non-native pl	lant and animal species.	Yes							
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish native fish assemblage at low densities.	n. If the pond naturally contains fish, it is a	N/A	In-depth pond study is required to fully assess this criteria.						
Ad	ditional Criteria - must be assessed for a	all non-woodland ponds:								
	must be deceded for t									

Н	Emergent, submerged or floating plants of the pond area which is less than 3 m	(excluding duckweed)⁴ cover at least 50% deep.	N/A	In-depth pond study is required to fully assess this criteria.
I	The pond surface is no more than 50%			
Со	ndition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
Re	sults for woodland ponds which requi	re assessment of 7 core criteria		
Pa	sses 7 criteria	Good (3)		
Pa	sses 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Pa	sses 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Re	sults for non-woodland ponds which			
Pa	sses 9 criteria	Good (3)		
Pa	sses 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Pa	sses 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes	
SII	ggested enhancement interventions to	improve condition score		

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Assessment was carried out using the information present visually while stood on the pond edge. An in-depth pond assessment would need to be carried out to understand aquatic species within the pond as well as pond depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat at present without a more detailed pond condition assessment.

Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habitat.

Footnote 2 - This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian beaver Castor fiber.

**Footnote 3** - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG GB High Impact Species List should be absent: WFD UKTAG (2021) Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level of impact[online]. Available from:

	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Typ												
UK	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha athland and shrub - Blackthorn sc	bitat Type											
ı	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub												
Hea	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	dı											
Hea	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub												
	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
	athland and shrub - Dunes with se athland and shrub - Willow scrub	a buckthorn (H2160)											
	pitat Description												
Pre	dominantly mixed scrub. Habitat par	cel 18 is willow scrub.											
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae	e rhamn	oides) - S	Special A	reas of C	Conservat	ion (jncc.	gov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Menzies Open Space				On-site	e		- 1	1	1	I	
			On-site	e or off-s	site								
Site	name and location		_	referen	•								
			relating	g to a wi	der								
		<del>                                     </del>		t parcel	referenc								
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	1	T	I	1
Lim	nitations (if applicable)												
	,												
			Grid re	ference						1		L.	
			TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC				
Cor	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criterio	on passe	ed (Yes o	or No)							as
				passs									iustification)
			No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	The scrub is a good representation	of the habitat type it has been identified as, based											
	=	its natural range). The appearance and											
	composition of the vegetation closel	ly matches the characteristics of the specific											
	scrub type.												
Α	A.I												
		there are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> , nore than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus</i>											
		s communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											
		irens, which can be up to 100% cover).											
	·												
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
	Coodlings conlings voung charles	and mature (or ancient or veteran²) shrubs are all											
В	present.	the mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all											
	process.												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		-		
	There is an absence of invasive nor	n-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of	165	165	165	165	165	168	168				
		o-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.												
									_				
			No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes				
D	-	ge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or											
	forbs present between the scrub and	d adjacent habitat.											
			No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
_	There are clearings, glades or rides	present within the scrub, providing sheltered											
Ε	edges.												
		Number of criteria passed	1	1	3	3	3	4	4		1		
Cor	ndition Assessment Result (out				1.6		_	_			1		
	5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score /	Achieved	X/√								
Pas	ses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
Pas	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Pas	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes					1		1		
	ggested enhancement intervention												
The	ese scrub habitats are unlikley to be i	improved. Habitat parcels 16 and 17 are small and	domina	ted by br	amble. It	would b	e difficult	to improv	e the cor	dition of	these ha	bitats withou	out changing the
hab	itat type which goes against the BN0	G trading rules. No interventions are suggested.											

Co	ndition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat Type								
Gra We We We We We We	bitat Type(s) assland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM - See the stland - Blanket bog stland - Depression on peat substrates (H7150) stland - Fens (upland and lowland) stland - Lowland raised bog stland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1) stland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures stland - Reedbeds stland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140) bitat Description	Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide.							
Re	edbeds								
Fo	Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS								
	e the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide for Floodplain wetland		h (CFGM). For CFGM	I also see the below:					
	astal and floodplain grazing marsh UK BAP Priority Habitat deso prity Habitat Inventory (England) - data.gov.uk	<u>cription</u>							
	other wetland habitats - see UK Habitat Classification (UKHab):	<u>                                       </u>							
UK	<u>Hab</u>								
Sit	e name and location	Menzies Open Space	On-site or off-site	On-site					
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)						
Gri	d reference		Habitat parcel reference	25					
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)					
Со	re Criteria - must be assessed for all wetland habitat types:		,						
Α	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifical Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good conditions.	ly to maintain water levels as specified above.	Yes						
В	The parcel is a good representation of the wetland habitat type description - as in, the appearance and composition of the veg the specific habitat type.  Indicator species for the specific wetland habitat type <sup>1</sup> listed by	getation closely matches the characteristics of	Yes						
С	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwa with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of p	ater) to the wetland are of good water quality,	No						
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.		Yes						
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.		Yes						
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species <sup>2</sup> (as indicative of sub-optimal condition make up less than 5% of gr	listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species	No						
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for Fen and Purple moor		N1/A						
G	No more than 25% of the habitat area has a continuous cover regeneration.		N/A						
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for <b>Bog</b> habitats only:		NI/A						
Н	Sphagnum moss <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. and cottongrasses <i>Eriophorum</i> spp. are at least Frequent <sup>5</sup> . Cover of ericaceous dwarf shrubs <sup>6</sup> is less than 75%.								
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for <b>Reedbed</b> habitats only	<i>y</i> :							

I	The reedbed has a diverse structure with between 60 and 80° may include open water (at least 10%), species-rich fen and c	Yes		
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for Floodplain wetland n			
J	All ditches recorded within the habitat achieve Good condition Note – do not record ditches which are part of the floodplain v Watercourse module.			
	Esse	ntial criterion achieved (required for Good c	ondition) Yes or No:	Yes
		Numb	er of criteria passed	5
Со	ndition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
	sults for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depre	ession on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic	valley mire [1]	
• P	asses 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.	Good (3)		
OF	asses 3 or 4 core criteria; R asses 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.	Moderate (2)		
• P	asses 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)		
	sults for habitats requiring assessment of 7 criteria - core pitat types except Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and		r habitat type (all	
• P AN • P	asses 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A;	Good (3)	Yes	
OF • P	asses 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; R asses 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Moderate (2)		
• P	asses 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)		
Su	ggested enhancement interventions to improve condition	score		

Wo Wo Wo Wo Wo Wo Wo Wo Wo Thi	Habitat Classification and forest codland and fores	leaved. Habitat parcel 7 is issification.  based on the England Wo	vew woodland duous woodland ds odland odland adleaved ted ods	up (EWBG) Woodland C	Condition	Survey I	Method, a	available	here:					
IMF equ	PORTANT: This bio uivalent to, nor are the	diversity metric woodland ney comparable with the s portion of favourable land	scores from the EWBG	condition assessment, b	ecause	the EWB	G assess	ment ha	s been a	dapted	for the bid			
	e name and ation	Menzies Open Space	On-site or off-site	On-site	Habita 1	t parcel r	eference 3		5	6	7			
	nitations (if plicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		Grid re	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC			
	ndition Assessme			<b>5</b> 44 1.0	Caara.		-4							Notes (such as
Ind	Age	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup>	Poor (1 point)	1	per indic	1	2	1	1	1			justification)
Α	distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
В	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
С	Invasive plant species	No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	3	3	3	3	3	3	ω			
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category <sup>7</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3	ദ			
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	2	2	1	2	1	2	2			
Н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
ı	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		_	
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland 11.	Two storeys across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	One or less storey across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	2	2	1	2	1	2	1			

_													
k	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran	One veteran tree <sup>12</sup>	No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
ľ	veterali trees	trees12 per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.									
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
N	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident <sup>14</sup> .	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
				(out of a possible 39)		30	27	30	27	29	28		
С	ondition Assessment Result Condition Assessment Score			nt Score	Result	Achieve	d						
Т	Total score >32 (33 to 39) Good (3)												
Т	Total score 26 to 32 Moderate (2)			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Т	Total score <26 (13 to 25) Poor (1)												
S	Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score												

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

The condition of each woodland habitat could be improved from moderate to good by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the renegerative qualities of the woodland through planting.

## Appendix D: Condition Assessment for Tividale Park

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	11/08/2023	Site name or location	Tividale Park
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes			

Со	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habit	at Type (low distinctiveness)								
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type(s)										
	assland - Modified grassland e name and location	Tividale Park	On-site or off-site	On-site						
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)							
Gri	id reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	16						
	bitat Description nenity grassland									
	, ,									
	nab – UK Habitat Classification		Criterion passed (Yes or							
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria	2	No)	Notes (such as justification)						
Α	There are 6-8 vascular plant species listed in Footnote 1). <b>Note - this crit</b>	No								
	Where the vascular plant species pr	esent are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness								
В		of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) e opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No							
С	for less than 20% of total grassland	umble Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts area.  ous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant	Yes							
D	_ =	han 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage e from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of agement activities.	Yes							
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	6 and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of	No							
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinu	mis less than 20%.	Yes							
G	There is an absence of invasive non	n-native plant species³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA¹).	Yes							
			erion achieved (Yes or No)							
			Number of criteria passed	4						
of '	ndition Assessment Result (out 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√							
pas	sses 6 or 7 criteria including	Good (3)								
pas	sses 4 or 5 criteria including	Moderate (2)								
OF Pa: crit	sses 4 - 6 criteria (excluding erion A)	Poor (1)	Yes							
	ggested enhancement intervention		and delicated to the second							
		it is used for recreational purposes and the condition could not be imp	roved witnin altering its funct	ionality.						
Fo	otnotes									

Footnote 1 — Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distincti	veness)										
Gr	assland - Lowland calcareous grassl	and											
	assland - Lowland dry acid grassland assland - Lowland meadows												
	assland - Other lowland acid grasslaı assland - Other neutral grassland	nd											
Gr		(130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded a	s 'Other ne	utral grassl	and'] [Not t	o be confu	used with th	e Tall forbs	secondary code -
Gr	assland - Upland acid grassland												
Gr	assland - Upland calcareous grasslar assland - Upland hay meadows												
Sp	arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian bitat Description	grassland											
Oth	ner neutral grassland												
ukl	nab – UK Habitat Classification												
		Tividale Park	On-site o		On-site								
Sit	e name and location			eference (if o a wider									
			survey)	arcel refere	nce								
	nitations (if applicable)		7	8	9	10	11						
_!!	ilitations (ii applicable)												
			Grid refe	rence									
	ndition Accomment Criteria		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC						
50	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such as
			Criterion No	passed (Yes	s or No) Yes	Yes	Yes						justification)
		n of the habitat type it has been identified as, uppearance and composition of the vegetation	INO	INO	res	res	res						
	closely matches the characteristics of t	the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator											
٩	present.	c grassland habitat type are consistently											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassland types only.												
			No	No	No	No	No						
_		the sward is less than 7 cm and at least											
В	20% is more than 7 cm) creating micro insects, birds and small mammals to liv	climates which provide opportunities for we and breed.											
			No	No	No	No	No						
	0	-150/ 1-1 Parks Parks 1-1-1											
С	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	nd 5%, including localised areas, for											
			No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum of the control												
	,	JJ , /vi											
						V.							
	Combined cover of species indicative of	of sub-optimal condition and physical damage from machinery use or storage,	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
_	damaging levels of access, or any other	er damaging management activities)											
Ε	accounts for less than 5% of total area												
	If any invasive non-native plant species present, this criterion is automatically fa	s <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ) are ailed.											
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed												
	There are 10 or more vascular plant or	pecies per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that	No	No	No	No	No						
	are characteristic of the habitat type (s												
F	cannot contribute towards this count).												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.												
	•												
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes						
		1	2	3	3	3							
	ndition Assessment Result	Score Act	nieved x/√										
	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	Good (3)											
	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
Pa	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)												
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)											
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)			Yes	Yes	Yes						
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes									

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Seek to improve the condition of the semi-improved grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes

Foundte 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistleCirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type												
UK	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha athland and shrub - Blackthorn sci	bitat Type											
	athland and shrub - Blackmorn sci athland and shrub - Gorse scrub	ub											
	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub	ıh											
l	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub	io											
	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
	athland and shrub - Willow scrub	a backmorn (H2100)											
Hal	bitat Description												
Mix	red scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae	e rhamne	oides) - S	Special Ar	eas of Co	nservatio	on (jncc.g	ov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Tividale Park				On-site		1		1		1	
		Throad Fall	On-site	or off-	site	0							
Site	e name and location		Survey	referen	ce (if								
-			_	to a wi	•								
			survey										
			Habita	t parcel	reference	)							
			12	13	14								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)			1		1				1	1		
	(			1		1				1	1		
			Grid re	ference				1					
			TBC	TBC	Твс	T T	I	1	T	1	T T	I	
0	andikina Annonoma Onikania												
Col	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criterio	on passe	d (Yes o	r No)							as
													justification)
			Yes	Yes	No								
	The scrub is a good representation of	of the habitat type it has been identified as, based											
	= '	ts natural range). The appearance and											
		y matches the characteristics of the specific											
	scrub type.	,											
Α	· ·												
	At least 80% of scrub is native, and	there are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> ,											
		ore than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus</i>											
		communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											
		rens, which can be up to 100% cover).											
		,,,,,,,,											
					ļ.,								
			No	No	No								
В	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs a	and mature (or ancient or veteran <sup>2</sup> ) shrubs are all											
В	present.												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	-			-		<b> </b>		
	There is an absence of invasive non	-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of	163	163	163								
С		p-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.	. opa. condition make up less than 5/6 th		1		1				1	1		
	3.23.14 00.01.			1		1				1	1		
			Yes	Yes	Yes								
	The ecrub has a well developed - 4-	ge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or		1		1				1	1		
D	forbs present between the scrub and												
	fords present between the scrub and	a adjacent nabitat.											
			Yes	No	No								
	There are clearings, glades or rides	present within the scrub, providing sheltered											
Е	edges.	providing oriotion											
	ougos.												
							ļ	ļ	1				
		Number of criteria passed	4	3	2	1				1	1		
Coi	ndition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score		Achieved	×1√								
	5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	temeved	X/V								
Pas	sses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
Pas	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes	Yes									
	sses 2 or fewer criteria		1	+	Yes	+		<del>                                     </del>	+	1	+		
		Poor (1)			169								
	ggested enhancement intervention		Lloocille	nourses!	and and	monosis	a operation	intoly to	anours -	nodlinas	and sar-!	ingo can	ow and structure
		be improved from poor to moderate by introducing	iocally s	sourced (	seeu and	managing	y appropr	iately to 6	ensure s	euings	anu sapi	ings can gr	ow and structur
OI (	he habitat can improve.												

_	ndition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type(s)														
		t - Lowland beech and y													
Wo	odland and forest	t - Lowland mixed decid	duous woodland												
		t - Native pine woodland													
		t - Other coniferous wo t - Other Scot's pine wo													
		t - Other woodland; bro													
		t - Other woodland; mix	red												
		t - Upland birchwoods													
		t - Upland mixed ashwo t - Upland oakwood	oods												
	odland and forest														
	bitat Description														
Otl	her woodland; broad	lleaved													
	hab – UK Habitat Cla														
		based on the England Wo	oodland Biodiversity Gro	up (EWBG) Woodland C	Condition	Survey	Method,	<u>available</u>	here:	1	ı	1			I
	oodland Wildlife Tool	•					l		1		l				
		diversity metric woodland hey comparable with the s													
		oportion of favourable land										buiversity	metric, i	ricidaling tri	e removal oi
	e name and	Tividale Park	On-site or off-site	On-site	napitai	parcel i	eterenc 3	e 4	5	6					
loc	ation				L		Ĭ	<u> </u>	Ĭ	Ĭ				<u> </u>	
			Survey reference (if			ference									
	nitations (if		relating to a wider		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC					
ар	plicable)		survey)												
Co	ndition Assessme	ent Criteria				ļ.	1	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		ļ	ļ			
	dicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score	er indic	ator								Notes (such as
IIIC		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	rooi (1 point)	1	14	14	14	14	14	ı	ı	1	1	justification)
Α	Age distribution of	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.		1	1	1	1	1					
_	trees	present.	present.		3	2	2	2	3	2					
	Wild, domestic	No significant browsing	Evidence of significant	Evidence of significant browsing	3	3	3	3	3	3					
В	and feral	damage evident in	browsing pressure is	pressure is present in											
	herbivore damage	woodland <sup>2</sup> .	present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	40% or more of whole											
-	uamage			woodland <sup>2</sup> .	_	0	0	0	2	0					
			Rhododendron Rhododendron		3	3	2	3	3	2					
			ponticum or cherry	Rhododendron or											
С	Invasive plant	No invasive species <sup>3</sup>	laurel Prunus	cherry laurel present,	t,										
ľ	species	present in woodland.	laurocerasus not	or other invasive											
			present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup>	species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.											
			<10% cover.												
		Five or more native	Three to four native	Two or less native	3	3	2	3	3	3					
_	Number of	tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup>	tree or shrub species4	tree or shrub											
D	native tree species		found across	species⁴ across											
	- Peoilea	parcel.	woodland parcel.	woodland parcel.											
	Cover of native	>80% of canopy trees	50 - 80% of canopy	<50% of canopy trees	3	3	3	3	3	3					
Е	tree and shrub	and >80% of	trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are	and <50% of											
	species	understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	native <sup>5</sup> .	understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .											
				<10% or >40% of	3	3	2	3	3	3					
	1	10 - 20% of woodland		<10% or >40% of woodland has areas											
	Onen anasa	has areas of temporary	21 - 40% of woodland	of temporary open											
F	Open space within	open space <sup>6</sup> . Unless woodland is	has areas of	space <sup>6</sup> .											
ľ	woodland	<10ha, in which case 0 -	temporary open	But if woodland <10ha											
	1	20% temporary open	space <sup>6</sup> .	has <10% temporary open space, please											
	1	space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .		see Good category <sup>7</sup> .											
$\vdash$	<del> </del>	A II (I			2	2	1	2	2	1				<del>                                     </del>	
	1	All three classes													
	M	present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter	One or two classes	No classes or											
G	Woodland regeneration	at Breast Height (DBH),	only present in	coppice regrowth											
	regeneration	saplings and seedlings	woodland8.	present in woodland8.											
		or advanced coppice													
L	-	regrowth.	140/ to 050/ to		2	2	2	2	2	2				ļ	
	1	Tree mortality less than	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown	Greater than 25%	3	3	3	3	3	3					
н	Tree health	10%, no pests or	dieback or low-risk	tree mortality and or											
		diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	pest or disease	any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .											
_	1		present <sup>9</sup> .	disease present.	1	1	1	1	1	1				<u> </u>	
	1	Recognisable NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at	Recognisable	No recognisable	[1	[1	1	1	1	[1					
ļ.	Vegetation and	ground layer present,	woodland NVC plant	woodland NVC plant											
<b>'</b>	ground flora	strongly characterised	community10 at	community <sup>10</sup> at											
	1	by ancient woodland	ground layer present.	ground layer present.											
$\vdash$	<u> </u>	flora specialists. Three or more storeys		_	1	1	1	1	1	1				<del>                                     </del>	
	Woodland vertical	across all survey plots,	Two storeys across	One or less storey	ľ	[	]		[						
,	structure	or a complex	all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .											
	1	woodland <sup>11</sup> .				<u> </u>	1	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	l	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	L	<u> </u>

ĸ	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran		No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1					
	Amount of deadwood	trees <sup>12</sup> per hectare.  50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small	present in woodland.  Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities 13.	1	1	1	1	1	1					
IIVI I	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident <sup>14</sup> .	total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3					
			Total Score	(out of a possible 39)	28	28	24	28	28	26					
Co	ndition Assessm	ent Result	<b>Condition Assessmen</b>	nt Score	Result	Achieve	d								
Tot	al score >32 (33 to	39)	Good (3)												
Tot	al score 26 to 32		Moderate (2)		Yes	Yes	L	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Tot	al score <26 (13 to	25)	Poor (1)				Yes								
Sug	ggested enhance	ment interventions to in	prove condition score	•											
	e condition of each nting.	habitat parcel can be impr	roved to good by introduc	cing more deadwood, div	ersifying	g the stru	cture of	the wood	dland and	d enhand	ing the re	enegerativ	e qualitie	es of the wo	oodland through

	ndition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE A ( Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha			
Wo	odland and forest - Wood-pasture			
	bitat Description rkland			
ukl	nab – UK Habitat Classification	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		Tividale Park	0 " " "	On-site
Sit	e name and location		On-site or off-site	
Lir	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Gr	id reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
	Presence of ancient and or veteran t	1	No	
Α	Presence of ancient and or veteran t	rees .		
	NB - this criterion is essential for	achieving Good condition.		
			Yes	
В		ole young, mature or veteran) of open t, to ensure replacement and continuity		
	of tree cohort, veteran characteristic			
	Native earth is present with a variety	of heights, widths, shapes and species	No	
С	compositions - as planted or naturally	established individual plants, or clumps		
	of trees or shrubs <sup>2</sup> .			
	Frequent <sup>3</sup> presence of decaying woo	d providing ecological niches – such as	No	
_	standing, attached and fallen deadwo	od (for example, dead stems, branches		
D	and branch stubs), trees with heart-r limbs. Decay features might be revea			
	bodies.			
	There is no evidence of recent adver	rse impact on tree health by human	Yes	
	activities, livestock, wild animals, pes	ts or diseases (this excludes veteran		
E	features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poachin	g, damage from machinery use or		
	storage, ground compaction, grazing or shading from surrounding trees.	damage to bark and roots, competition		
			No	
	Ground cover comprises open habita	ats, for example grassland or heathland,		
F	which are unimproved or semi-impro	ved (medium distinctiveness or higher).		
			No	
	Ground cover is subject to an appropagate and	oriate management regime providing and invertebrates, which is not being or	No	
G	threatened by infill of trees and scrub	by natural establishment or forestry		
	plantation, native or non-native. See	-ootnote 4 for details.	Vac	
	There is an absence of invasive non-		Yes	
Η	Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>6</sup> ), and species in up less than 5% cover (this excludes	dicative of sub-optimal condition <sup>7</sup> make ancient and veteran trees).		
		,		
Со	ndition Assessment Result (out	Number of criteria passed	Score Achieved ×/√	
	8 criteria) sses 7 or 8 criteria and meets	Condition Assessment Score	Score Acrileved */*	l .
	erion A	Good (3)		
Pa: OF	sses 5 or 6 criteria	Modorato (2)		
	sses 7 criteria but fails criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Pa	sses 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes	
	ggested enhancement intervention			
Ιħ	s nabitat will not be enhanced as it co	uld not be significantly improved within alt	ering its functionality.	

## Appendix E: Condition Assessment for Tibbington Open Space

Survey Cover Sheet												
Date	11/09/2023	Site name or location	Tibbington Open Space									
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG									
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site									
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)										
Notes												

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)  UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type(s)  Grassland - Modified grassland  Tibbington Open Space	On cite or off cite										
assland - Modified grassland Tibbington Open Space On-site											
Tibbington Open Space On-site											
Site name and location	On-site of on-site	On-site									
Limitations (if applicable)	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)										
TBC	Habitat parcel reference	24									
Habitat Description											
Amenity grassland											
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification	Criterion passed (Yes or										
Condition Assessment Criteria	No)	Notes (such as justification)									
There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m² present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.	No										
Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness											
B Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No										
Some scattered scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts for less than 20% of total grassland area.  C  Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant	Yes										
scrub habitat type.											
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.	Yes										
E Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	Yes										
F Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes										
G There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA⁴).	Yes										
Essential crite	erion achieved (Yes or No)	No									
	Number of criteria passed	5									
of 7 criteria)	Score Achieved ×/√										
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A Good (3)											
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A Moderate (2)											
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Yes										
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score											
This habitat will not be enhanced given it is used for recreational purposes and the condition could not be impr	roved within altering its funct	ionality.									
Footnotes											

Footnote 1 — Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

		Type (medium, high and very high distincti	iveness)										
Gra	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi assland - Lowland calcareous grassl	tat Type(s) and											
	assland - Lowland dry acid grassland assland - Lowland meadows	1											
Gra	assland - Other lowland acid grassla	nd											
	assland - Other neutral grassland assland - Tall herb communities (H64	130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded a	s 'Other ne	utral grassi	and'l [Not t	o be confi	used with th	ne Tall forbs	secondary code –
see	e UKHab guidance for details.]	(action of the manual and account most			0.104.4 20		0 0 11 11 11 11	ati ai gi acci		0 00 00		.0 .0	occondary ocus
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grasslaı	nd											
Gra	assland - Upland hay meadows												
	arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian bitat Description	grassland											
Oth	ner neutral grassland												
ukł	nab – UK Habitat Classification				1			I	I				
		Tibbington Open Space	On-site o	or off-site	On-site	1							
Sit	e name and location			eference (if									
			relating (	to a wider									
			Habitat p	arcel refere		1	T	L	T	1- :	I		
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
			Grid refe										
G	ndition Assessment Criteria		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	
C0	ndition Assessment Criteria								<u> </u>				Notes (such as
				passed (Ye									notes (such as justification)
		n of the habitat type it has been identified as,	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
		appearance and composition of the vegetation the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator											
Α	species listed by UKHab for the specifi	ic grassland habitat type are consistently											
	present.												
		achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassland types only.		No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	
			INO	NO	INO	NO	INO	NO	NO	165	INO	NO	
		f the sward is less than 7 cm and at least											
В	insects, birds and small mammals to liv	oclimates which provide opportunities for we and breed.											
			No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	
С	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a	and 5%, including localised areas, for											
	example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .												
			No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
	O												
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum (including bramble Rubus fruticosus ag												
							.,			.,			
	Combined cover of species indicative of		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	damage (such as excessive poaching, damaging levels of access, or any other	damage from machinery use or storage, er damaging management activities)											
Ε	accounts for less than 5% of total area												
	If any invasive non-native plant species	s³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA⁴) are											
	present, this criterion is automatically fa												
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
		pecies per m² present, including forbs that											
	are characteristic of the habitat type (spannot contribute towards this count).	pecies referenced in Footnote 2 and 4											
F	,												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.	achieving Good condition for non-acid											
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
			2	2	2	3	2	1	3	4	3		
Co	ndition Assessment Result	2 Score Ac	l2 hieved ×/√	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	3	<sup>2</sup>	<u> </u>	J	**	3		
	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c												
-	sses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
_	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
Pa	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)			<u> </u>			<u> </u>	<u> </u>				

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)											
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)										
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)								Yes	Yes	Yes
Passes 2 or tewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)	Yes									
Suggested enhancement interventions	to improve condition score										

The condition of each habitat parcel could be improved to good by varying sward height and increasing species diversity. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes

Founder 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or pare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type												
UK	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Haathland and shrub - Blackthorn sci	bitat Type											
	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub												
	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	ıb											
Hea	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub												
Hea	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
Hea	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
Hea	athland and shrub - Willow scrub Ditat Description												
Mix	ed scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae	e rhamn	oides) - S	Special A	reas of C	onservati	ion (jncc.	gov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Tibbington Open Space	0= 0:4:		-:4-	On-site	е						
			On-site	e or off-	site								
Site	name and location		_	referen	•								
				g to a wi	ider								
			survey	t parcel	roforono								
			7	8	a	10	11	12	13	T .	I	I	
l in	nitations (if applicable)		ľ	ľ	٦	10	1	12	10				
	mations (ii applicable)												
			Grid re	ference									
			TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	I	I		
Cor	ndition Assessment Criteria												
					. 1 0/	NI - V							Notes (such
			Criterio	on passe	ed (Yes o	or No)							as justification)
			No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes		Т		[ustilication]
	The coupling a good representation	of the habitet type it has been identified as based											
	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	of the habitat type it has been identified as, based ts natural range). The appearance and											
		y matches the characteristics of the specific											
	scrub type.	y materies the characteristics of the specific											
Α	colum type.												
	At least 80% of scrub is native, and	there are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> ,											
	with no single species comprising m	ore than 75% of the cover (except hazel Corylus											
	avellana, common juniper Juniperus	communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											
	rhamnoides or box Buxus sempervi	rens, which can be up to 100% cover).											
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs a	and mature (or ancient or veteran <sup>2</sup> ) shrubs are all											
В	present.	,											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	There is an absence of invasive non	-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of											
		o-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.												
			No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes				
D		e with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or											
	forbs present between the scrub and	d adjacent habitat.											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
_	There are clearings, glades or rides	present within the scrub, providing sheltered											
Е	edges.	, , , ,											
		Number of criteria passed	2	3	3	4	3	2	4	1	1	<b>†</b>	
Co	ndition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score							1				
	idition Assessment Hesuit (out 5 criteria)	Score /	Achieved										
Passes 5 criteria Good (3)						T							
Passes 3 or 4 criteria Moderate (2)				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1	Yes		1		
	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes	1			-	Yes	+	<del>                                     </del>	1	<del>                                     </del>	
	ggested enhancement intervention		1.00					1.00					
		ged from mixed scrub to broadleaved woodland thr	ough pla	anting of	woodv s	pecies ar	nd manag	ing to fac	ilitate suc	cession	from scri	ub to woodl	and habitat.
		ling rules. Therefore, no intervention is suggested		-			3	<b>J</b>					

	ondition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type ( Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type(s) podland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland													
	K Habitat Classification and forest toodland a	ation (UKHab) Habitat T	ype(s) yew woodland duous woodland ds odland odland odland eadleaved											-
W		t - Upland oakwood	ous											
	abitat Description ther woodland; broad	dleaved												
	<u>khab – UK Habitat Cl</u>	assification based on the England We	and Diadicare its Cas	(FMPC) Mandland	`andition	Cumana	Mathad	a vailable	harai					
	oodland Wildlife Tool		Dodiana Biodiversity Gro	Leving (EVVBG) Woodland C	onalion	Survey	vietriod, a	avallable	nere.					
ec	quivalent to, nor are t	diversity metric woodland hey comparable with the oportion of favourable land	scores from the EWBG	condition assessment, b	ecause	the EWB	G assess	sment ha	as been a	adapted	for the bi			
	te name and cation	Tibbington Open Space	On-site or off-site	On-site	Habita 1	2	eference 3	<b>e</b> 4	5	6				
	mitations (if oplicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		Grid re	ference								
С	ondition Assessme	ent Criteria				Į.			L				ļ	
In	dicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score	per indic	ator							Notes (such as justification)
A	Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.	2	2	1	1	2	1				
В	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
С	Invasive plant species	No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	3	3	3	3	3	3				
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.	3	3	2	2	3	2				
Е	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category <sup>7</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	2	2	1	1	2	1				
Н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
ı	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community 10 at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	1	1	1	1	1	1				
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland 11.	Two storeys across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	One or less storey across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	2	2	1	1	2	1				

_	1		10	10		,							
ĸ	Veteran trees			No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1			
	70101411111000	trees <sup>12</sup> per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.									
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	1	1	1	1	1	1			
М	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground	total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3			
			Total Score	(out of a possible 39)	30	30	26	26	30	26			
Со	ndition Assessme	ent Result	<b>Condition Assessmen</b>	nt Score	Result	Achieve	d						
To	tal score >32 (33 to	39)	Good (3)										
To	tal score 26 to 32		Moderate (2)	•	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
To	tal score <26 (13 to	25)	Poor (1)									,	
Su	ggested enhancer	ment interventions to in	prove condition score										

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

The condition of each woodland habitat could be improved from moderate to good by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the renegerative qualities of the woodland through planting.

UK	Indition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE Ar Habitat Classification (UKHab) Hal Hoodland and forest - Wood-pasture	bitat Type		
	bitat Description			
Pai	rkland			
ukl	nab – UK Habitat Classification			
Sit	e name and location	Tibbington Open Space	On-site or off-site	On-site
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Gri	id reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	25
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Ą	Presence of ancient and or veteran tr		No	
В	Three different life-stages (for exampl grown or pollarded trees <sup>1</sup> are present of tree cohort, veteran characteristics	, to ensure replacement and continuity	No	
С		of heights, widths, shapes and species established individual plants, or clumps	No	
D			No	
E	There is no evidence of recent advers activities, livestock, wild animals, pest features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching storage, ground compaction, grazing or shading from surrounding trees.	s or diseases (this excludes veteran	Yes	
F		ts, for example grassland or heathland, red (medium distinctiveness or higher).	No	
G	Ground cover is subject to an approp structural diversity for vertebrates and threatened by infill of trees and scrub plantation, native or non-native. See F	d invertebrates, which is not being or by natural establishment or forestry	No	
Н	There is an absence of invasive non- Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>5</sup> ), and species inc up less than 5% cover (this excludes	dicative of sub-optimal condition <sup>7</sup> make	Yes	
٥-	undition Assessment Break (	Number of criteria passed	2	
of	ndition Assessment Result (out 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
	sses 7 or 8 criteria and meets erion A	Good (3)		
ЭF	sses 5 or 6 criteria R sses 7 criteria but fails criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Pas	sses 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes	
Su	ggested enhancement intervention		I.	

This habitat could be improved from poor to moderate condition. Surrounding grassland should be managed so that the small sections of amenity grassland develop into a semi-improved habitat. This could be achieved through the addition of locally sourced seed collected from meadows. Scrub species should also be planted and deadwood should be added to the habitat.

## Appendix F: Condition Assessment for Forge Farm

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	23/08/2023	Site name or location	Forge Farm
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes		•	

<u></u>	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habit	et Tune (leur dietinetivenese)		
	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha			
	assland - Modified grassland			
Sit	e name and location	Forge Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
	id reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	20
	bitat Description rsh/marshy grassland			
	, 0			
	nab – UK Habitat Classification		Criterion passed (Yes or	
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		No)	Notes (such as justification)
Α		s per m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those erion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.	No	
	Where the vascular plant species pr	esent are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness		
В		of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) e opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	
С	for less than 20% of total grassland	amble Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts area.  ous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant	Yes	
	scrub habitat type.			
D	_	han 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage e from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of agement activities.	Yes	
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	6 and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of	No	
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinu	mis less than 20%.	Yes	
G	There is an absence of invasive non	n-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).	Yes	
		Essential crit	erion achieved (Yes or No)	No
			Number of criteria passed	4
of '	ndition Assessment Result (out 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
pas	sses 6 or 7 criteria including ssing essential criterion A	Good (3)		
pas	sses 4 or 5 criteria including ssing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
OF Pa	sses 4 - 6 criteria (excluding erion A)	Poor (1)	Yes	
	ggested enhancement intervention			
	ek to improved the condition of the m lected from meadows.	odified grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species d	liversity can be enhanced thr	ough introduction of locally sourced seed
Fo	otnotes			

Footnote 1 — Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distincti	veness)										
Gr	assland - Lowland calcareous grassland assland - Lowland dry acid grassland	and											
Gr	assland - Lowland meadows												
	assland - Other lowland acid grasslar assland - Other neutral grassland	nd											
	assland - Tall herb communities (H64 e UKHab guidance for details.]	(130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded a	s 'Other ne	utral grassl	and'] [Not t	o be confu	sed with th	e Tall forbs	secondary code -
Gr	assland - Upland acid grassland												
Gr	assland - Upland calcareous grasslar assland - Upland hay meadows												
Sp a	arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian bitat Description	grassland											
Gra	assland - Other neutral grassland												
ukl	nab – UK Habitat Classification												
		Forge Farm	On-site o		On-site								
Sit	e name and location			eference (if o a wider									
_			survey) Habitat p	arcel refere	nce								
l ir	nitations (if applicable)		1	2	3	4	5						
			Grid refe		l	l				<u> </u>	l		
۰.	ndition Assessment Criteria		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC						
J0	Haition Assessment Griteria		0.11										Notes (such as
			Criterion Yes	passed (Yes	s or No) Yes	Yes	Yes						justification)
		n of the habitat type it has been identified as, uppearance and composition of the vegetation	res	res	162	162	162						
	closely matches the characteristics of t	the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator											
٩	present.	c grassland habitat type are consistently											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassland types only.												
			No	No	No	No	No						
_		the sward is less than 7 cm and at least											
В	20% is more than 7 cm) creating micro insects, birds and small mammals to liv	climates which provide opportunities for we and breed.											
			No	No	No	No	No						
С	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	nd 5%, including localised areas, for											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum												
	(including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> aç	99., 10 1000 than 0 /0.											
	Combined cover of species indicative of		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	damaging levels of access, or any other												
Ε	accounts for less than 5% of total area	-											
	If any invasive non-native plant species present, this criterion is automatically fa	s <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ) are											
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed												
			No	No	No	No	No						
	are characteristic of the habitat type (s	pecies per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that pecies referenced in Footnote 2 and 4											
F	cannot contribute towards this count).												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.	achieving Good condition for non-acid											
					<u></u>	<u></u>							
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
		No) Number of criteria passed	3	3	3	3	3						
	ndition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score		nieved x/√									
	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	riteria) Good (3)											
	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
⊃a	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of									
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)								
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F	Poor (1)								

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Seek to improved the condition of the semi-improved grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes

Foundte 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistleCirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

		<b>HEDGEROW Habitat Types</b>													
	t Type														
	hedgerow hedgerow	- associated with bank or di	tch												
		with trees													
		with trees - associated with	bank or ditch												
		ve hedgerow	th hart as all t												
		ve hedgerow - associated wi ve hedgerow with trees	ui pank or ditch	ı											
		ve hedgerow with trees - ass	ociated with ba	nk or ditch											
Habita	at Descripti	on													
Native	hedgerow v	vith trees	·									-			
		ty Metric 4.0 User Guide Sections ssigned to one of five functional		and the condition of a he	daerow	ie accae	sad acc	ordina to	the nur	nhar of s	ttribute	e from	thaca t	functions	Laroupe which
		ourable condition' criteria.	i groups (A – L) a	and the condition of a ne	agerow	13 43363	seu acci	or uning to	uie nui	ibei oi e	tti ibute	33 11 0111	1110301	unctione	r groups writeri
Site na	ame and	Forge Farm		On-site or off-site	On-site										
	tions (if			Survey reference (if											
applic	able)			relating to a wider survey)											
Condi	tion Asses	sment Criteria		(Carvey)											
		ibutes, representing key physic	cal characteristics	s are used for this asse	ssment.	This ass	sessmen	t is base	d on the	Hedge	ow Su	rvey H	andboo	k <sup>1</sup> and F	avourable
Conse	rvation Stati	us document <sup>2</sup> . For further clarit	ication please ref	er to the Hedgerow Sur	vey Har	ndbook.									
		ssigned to one of five functiona	I groups (A – E) a	and the condition of a he	dgerow	is asses	sed acco	ording to	the nur	nber of a	ttribute	es from	these t	unctiona	I groups which
		vourable condition' criteria. rable condition attributes													
eage	a avou	rasse containon attributes			Habitat	t parcel	referenc	e							
					15	16	17	18	19						
	utes and	Criteria - the minimum													
functi group	onal ings (A,	requirements for	Criteria descrip	otion		ference									
	and E)	'favourable condition'			TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC						
															Natas (audient
Core ç	groups - ap	plicable to all hedgerow type	es		Criterio	on passe	ed (Yes	or No)							Notes (such as justification)
۸1	Hoight	>1.5 m overnoe alana lancit	The everage bal	abt of woods arouth	Voc	Voc	Voc	Voc	Vac						jastinoation)
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	_	ght of woody growth ase of stem to the top	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
				cluding any bank											
			beneath the hed isolated trees.	lgerow, any gaps or											
			isolated tiees.												
				piced hedgerows are											
				d management and n for up to a maximum											
				indertaken according											
			to good practice												
			A newly planted	hedgerow does not											
			pass this criterior	n (unless it is >1.5 m											
			height).												
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length		th of woody growth widest point of the	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
				ig gaps and isolated											
			trees.												
			Outgrowths (such	h as blackthom Prunus											
			spinosa suckers	) are only included in											
				te when they are >0.5											
			m in height.												
				cut and newly planted											
			hedgerows are in	ndicative of good d pass this criterion for											
			up to a maximum												
B1.	Gap -	Gap between ground and	undertaken acco		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	hedge	base of canopy <0.5 m for	woody compone	nt of the hedgerow,	. 55		. 55	. 55	. 55						
	base	>90% of length		from the ground to the											
			lowest leafy grow	vui.											
				ns to this criterion are											
			acceptable (see Hedgerow Surve												
B2.	Con	Cons make up <400/ of tot-1	_	• •	Voc	Voc	Voc	Voc	Vac						
<b>5</b> ∠.	Gap - hedge	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and		ontal 'gappiness' of the nt of the hedgerow.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	canopy	No canopy gaps >5 m	Gaps are comple	ete breaks in the woody											
	continuity		canopy (no matte	er how small).											
			Access points ar	nd gates contribute to											
			the overall 'gapp	iness' but are not											
			subject to the >5 the typical size o	m criterion (as this is											
			and typical size 0	. a gato j.											
		ı	1		l	ı	1	I	I		ı				

C1.	Undisturbe d ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:  · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow.  Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow.  This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached The indicator species used are nettles  Urtica spp., cleavers Galium aparine	Yes	Yes	No Yes	Yes	Yes						
	enriched perennial vegetation	nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	Unica spp., cleavers Gallum apanne and docks Rumex spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.											
D1.	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>3</sup> ) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website <sup>4</sup> , as well as the BSBI website <sup>5</sup> where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora <sup>6</sup> contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website <sup>7</sup> .	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes.  This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (e.g., excessive hedgerow cutting).	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes						
Additi E1.	onal group Tree class	applicable to hedgerows we have is more than one age- class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient <sup>8</sup> ), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	ith trees only This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.	No	No	No	No	No						
E3.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
The he	edgerow cor	ndition assessment generates a	weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, w	hich is u	sed withi	n the me	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	n the tal	oles belo	w.
Condi	tion catego	ories for hedgerows without	trees											
Categ	ory	Category Requirements		Metric	Score									
Good		No more than 2 failures in total: AND		3										
Moder	ate	fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and 0	more than one functional group (e.g. C2 = Moderate condition).	2										
Poor		Fails a total of more than 4 attri <b>OR</b> <u>Fails both attributes</u> in more that attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 =	an one functional group (e.g. fails Poor condition).	1										
Condi	tion catego	ories for hedgerows with tree	Score achieved:											
<b>Categ</b> Good		Category Requirements No more than 2 failures in total, AND No more than 1 failure in any fu		Metric 3	score									
Moder	ate	No more than 5 failures in total, AND Does not fail both attributes in I		2										

	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes;	
D	OR	4
Poor	Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g. fails	
	attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	
	Score achieved:	15,16,18, 19 = 3. 17 = 2.

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Given the nature of the land use adjacent to habitat parcel 17, the condition could not be improved to good without an impact on the functionality of nearby land. All hedgerows should therefore be left without intervention.

### Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type

Habitat Type(s)

Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies

Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools]

Lakes - High alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Marl lakes

Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Peat lakes

Lakes - Reservoirs

Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]

UKHab v2, habitat r2b - Other rivers and streams

### See Water Framework Directive:

WFD Lakes typologies description For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and 'Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:

The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see below).

There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment score.

Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at:

http://priorityhab.wpengine.com/contribute/

### The key documents are:

Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF)

Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF)

Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex-III - Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex IV - Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF) Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)

We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' website portal:

Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)

Site name and location	Forge Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	21
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved	
1 Natural	Good (3)	Moderate	
2	Fairly good (2.5)		
3	Moderate (2)		
4	Fairly poor (1.5)		
5 Least natural	Poor (1)		

## Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Assessment was carried out using the information present visually while stood next to the stream at multiple locations across the site. An in-depth rivers and streams assessment would need to be carried out to understand aquatic species within the stream as well as other features such as depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat at present without a more detailed assessment carried out by an accredited river condition assessor.

	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Typ												
UK He:	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha athland and shrub - Blackthorn sc	abitat Type rub											
	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub												
	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	ıb											
Hea	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub												
Hea	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
Hea	athland and shrub - Willow scrub bitat Description												
	ted scrub												
		I=										1	Г
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	<u>Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae</u>	<u>e rhamn</u>	oides) - S	pecial Ar	eas of Co	nservatio	n (jncc.g	ov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Forge Farm	On-site	e or off-s	ite	On-site							
Site	e name and location		_	referenc	•								
			survey	g to a wi	uer								
			-	t parcel r	eference	•							
			12	13	14								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
	, ,,												
			Grid re	ference									
Coi	ndition Assessment Criteria												
			Cuitoui		d (Voo o	« No)							Notes (such
			Criterio	on passe	u (res o	r NO)							as justification)
			Yes	Yes	Yes								lustilication)
	The carrib is a good representation	of the habitet time it has been identified as based											
		of the habitat type it has been identified as, based its natural range). The appearance and											
		y matches the characteristics of the specific											
	scrub type.	y materies the characteristics of the specific											
Α	3,1												
	At least 80% of scrub is native, and	there are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> ,											
		ore than 75% of the cover (except hazel Corylus											
	avellana, common juniper Juniperus	s communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											
	rhamnoides or box Buxus sempervi	irens, which can be up to 100% cover).											
			No	No	No								
	Seedlings sanlings voung shrubs a	and mature (or ancient or veteran²) shrubs are all											
В	present.	and mature (or ancient or votorarr) children are an											
	•												
			Yes	Yes	Yes								
	There is an absence of invasive nor	n-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of	163	163	163								
С		o-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.	,		1									
			No	No	Yes								
_	The scrub has a well-developed edg	ge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or											
D	forbs present between the scrub and	d adjacent habitat.											
			No	Yes	Yes						1		
	There are clearings glades or rides	present within the comple providing shaltered											
Ε	edges.	present within the scrub, providing sheltered											
				-									
		Number of criteria passed	2	3	4								
	ndition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score	Score	Achieved	×/√								
_	5 criteria)												
	sses 5 criteria	Good (3)		<u> </u>		1							
Pas	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		Yes	Yes								
	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Yes										
	ggested enhancement interventior												
Hal	bitat parcel 12 could be improved fro	m poor to moderate condition by artificially introduc	cing clea	ırings, gla	des and	rides to th	e habitat	. Habitat	structure	could al	so be im	proved thro	ough the addition

Habitat parcel 12 could be improved from poor to moderate condition by artificially introducing clearings, glades and rides to the habitat. Habitat structure could also be improved through the addition of seedlings and saplings. Habitat parcel 13 could be changed from mixed scrub to woodland through planting of woody species and managing to facilitate succession from scrub to woodland habitat. However, this change would not satisfy BNG trading rules and so no intervention is suggested at this point in time. Habitat 14 could be enhanced from moderate to good condition. Locally sourced seeds should be planted and managed so that they can develop into seedlings and saplings.

_															
		OODLAND Habitat Type ation (UKHab) Habitat T													
		t - Lowland beech and y													
		t - Lowland mixed decid t - Native pine woodland													
		t - Native pille woodland t - Other coniferous wo													
		t - Other Scot's pine wo													
		t - Other woodland; bro													
		t - Other woodland; mix t - Upland birchwoods	cea												
		t - Upland mixed ashwo	ods												
		t - Upland oakwood													
_	odland and forest	t - Wet woodland													
_	bitat Description ner woodland; broad	lleaved													
ukł	nab – UK Habitat Cla	assification													
Thi	s condition sheet is	based on the England Wo	oodland Biodiversity Gro	up (EWBG) Woodland C	Condition	Survey	Method,	available	here:			1			ı
Wo	odland Wildlife Tool	kit (sylva.org.uk)													
		diversity metric woodland													
		hey comparable with the soportion of favourable land										Duiversity	metric, i	ricidaling tri	e removal of
	· .			On-site											
	e name and	Forge Farm	On-site or off-site	Off-Site	6	parcel i	8	9	10	11				1	
100	ation								Ĺ				<u> </u>		
, .	nikation - ()f		Survey reference (if		Grid re	ference	1	1	1		I				
	nitations (if plicable)		relating to a wider												
ام			survey)												
Со	ndition Assessme	nt Criteria					,	,	,			•			
Ind	licator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score p	er indic	ator								Notes (such as
	Age	Th 1	T 1	01	2	2	2	1	1	2				I	justification)
Α	distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.											
			Evidence of cignificant	Evidence of	3	3	3	3	3	3					
L	Wild, domestic and feral	No significant browsing	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is	significant browsing											
В	herbivore	damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	present in 40% or less	pressure is present in 40% or more of whole											
	damage	woodiand .	of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	woodland <sup>2</sup> .											
			Rhododendron		3	3	3	3	3	3					
			Rhododendron ponticum or cherry	Rhododendron or											
	Invasive plant	No invasive species <sup>3</sup>	laurel Prunus	cherry laurel present,											
С	species	present in woodland.	laurocerasus not	or other invasive											
			present, other	species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.											
			invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.												
		Five or more native	Three to four native	Two or less native	3	3	3	3	1	3					
Ļ	Number of	tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup>	tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup>	tree or shrub											
D	native tree species	found across woodland	found across	species4 across											
		parcel.	woodland parcel.	woodland parcel.											
	Cover of native	>80% of canopy trees	50 - 80% of canopy	<50% of canopy trees	3	3	3	3	3	3					
Е	tree and shrub	and >80% of understory shrubs are	trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are	and <50% of understory shrubs											
L	species	native <sup>5</sup> .	native <sup>5</sup> .	are native <sup>5</sup> .	<u></u>	<u></u>							<u></u>	<u></u>	
		10 20% of woodland		<10% or >40% of	3	3	3	3	1	3		<u> </u>			
1		10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary		woodland has areas											
1	Open space	open space <sup>6</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland	of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .											
F	within	Unless woodland is	has areas of temporary open	But if woodland <10ha											
1	woodland	<10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open	space <sup>6</sup> .	has <10% temporary											
1		space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .		open space, please											
L				see Good category <sup>7</sup> .	0	0	0	0	0					1	
		All three classes			2	2	2	2	2	2					
1		present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ;	One or two classes	No classes or											
G	Woodland	trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH),	only present in	coppice regrowth											
	regeneration	saplings and seedlings	woodland <sup>8</sup> .	present in woodland8.											
		or advanced coppice													
L		regrowth.													
1		Tree mortality less than	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown	Greater than 25%	3	3	3	3	3	3					
н	Tree health	10%, no pests or	dieback or low-risk	tree mortality and or											
1		diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	pest or disease	any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .											
-		Recognisable NVC	present <sup>9</sup> .	alsoase present.	1	1	1	1	1	1			-	1	
1		plant community 10 at	Recognisable	No recognisable	['	['	1	'	'						
ļ	Vegetation and	ground layer present,	woodland NVC plant	woodland NVC plant											
ľ	ground flora	strongly characterised	community 10 at	community <sup>10</sup> at											
1		by ancient woodland flora specialists.	ground layer present.	ground layer present.											
	Woodland	Three or more storeys		One or less storey	2	2	2	1	1	2				1	
J	vertical	across all survey plots,	Two storeys across	across all survey											
	structure	or a complex woodland <sup>11</sup> .	all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	plots <sup>11</sup> .											
_		Journal i													

ĸ	Veteran trees		One veteran tree <sup>12</sup>	No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1			
, ,	veterali tiees	trees12 per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.									
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small continuits.	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	1	1	1	1	1	1			
М	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident <sup>14</sup> .	total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3			
			Total Score	(out of a possible 39)	30	30	30	28	24	30			
Co	ndition Assessme	ent Result	<b>Condition Assessmen</b>	nt Score	Result	Achieve	d						
Tot	tal score >32 (33 to	39)	Good (3)	•			,						
Tot	tal score 26 to 32		Moderate (2)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes			
Tot	tal score <26 (13 to	25)	Poor (1)	•					Yes				
Suc	ggested enhance	ment interventions to im	prove condition score	;									

The condition of each habitat parcel could be improved to good by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the renegerative qualities of the woodland through planting.

## Appendix G: Condition Assessment for Hill House Farm

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	23/08/2023	Site name or location	Hill House Farm
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes			

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat									
	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi assland - Modified grassland	tat Type(s)								
	bitat Description									
Мо	dified grassland									
nkl	nab – UK Habitat Classification			1						
uiti		Hill House Farm	On-site or	off-site	On-site	<u> </u>				
Sit	e name and location		Survey re relating to survey)	ference (if a wider						
			Habitat na	arcel refere	nce					
			14	15	19					
Lin	nitations (if applicable)									
			Grid refer	ence						
			TBC	TBC	TBC					
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion	passed (Ye	s or No)					Notes (such as
						1				justification)
Α	listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criteri Where the vascular plant species pres distinctiveness grassland, or there are those listed in Footnote 1), please revi should instead be classified as a highe	her m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those ion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.  ent are characteristic of medium, high or very high  9 or more of these characteristic species per m <sup>2</sup> (excluding ew the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland or distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as eess, please use the relevant condition sheet.	No	No	No					Habitat parcels 14 and 15 are UKHab v2 habitat c1f5 - annuals horticulture.
В		the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 ide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and	No	No	No					
_	Some scattered scrub (including braml accounts for less than 20% of total gra	ble Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub issland area.	Yes	Yes	Yes					
С	Note - patches of scrub with continuou scrub habitat type.	is (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant								
D		n 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage rom machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels agement activities.	No	No	Yes					
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a concentration of rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a	No	No	Yes					
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum	is less than 20%.	Yes	Yes	Yes					
G	There is an absence of invasive non-n	ative plant species³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA¹).	Yes	Yes	Yes					
		Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)	No	No	No					
		Number of criteria passed	3	3	5					
	ndition Assessment Result (out of criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Ach	ieved ×/√						
Pa	sses 6 or 7 criteria including passing	Good (3)								
ess	sential chienon A	Moderate (2)					 			
OR Pa: A)	sses 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Ha		to improve condition score ble cropland. The condition of these habitats cannot be significa nproved grassland. This can be achieved through a variation in s							oint in time	. Habitat parcel

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distincti	veness)										
Gr	assland - Lowland calcareous grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland assland - Lowland dry acid grassland	and											
Gr	assland - Lowland meadows												
	assland - Other lowland acid grasslar assland - Other neutral grassland	nd											
	assland - Tall herb communities (H64 e UKHab guidance for details.]	(30) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not mee	t the Anne	x 1 definition	should be	recorded a	s 'Other ne	utral grassl	and'] [Not t	o be confu	sed with th	e Tall forbs	secondary code -
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grasslar	nd											
Gr	assland - Upland hay meadows arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian												
Ha	bitat Description assland - other neutral grassland	grassianu											
ale	assianu - otner neutrai grassianu												
			ı	1	,	ı	1	1	1	,			
ukl	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Hill House Farm	On-site o	r off-site	On-site								
Sit	e name and location			eference (if									
			relating t survey)	o a wider									
				arcel refere	nce	10	11	12	13				
Lir	nitations (if applicable)		<b>'</b>	0	9	10	''	12	13				
					<u> </u>								
			Grid refe	rence									
Co	ndition Assessment Criteria												
			Criterion	passed (Yes	s or No)								Notes (such as justification)
	The grassland is a good representation	n of the habitat type it has been identified as,	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No				Justinoution
		appearance and composition of the vegetation the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator											
Ą		c grassland habitat type are consistently											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a for non-acid grassland types only.	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of	the sward is less than 7 cm and at least											
В		climates which provide opportunities for											
	insects, birds and small mammals to in	ve and breed.											
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
С	Cover of bare ground is between 1% a example, rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	nd 5%, including localised areas, for											
	example, rabble trailers.												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
			100	100	100	100	100	100	100				
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum												
	(including bramble Rubus fruticosus aç	gg.) is iess than 5%.											
	Combined cover of species indicative of		Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	damaging levels of access, or any other												
Ε	accounts for less than 5% of total area												
	If any invasive non-native plant species present, this criterion is automatically fa	s <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ) are											
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed												
			No	No	No	No	No	No	No				
	are characteristic of the habitat type (s	pecies per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that pecies referenced in Footnote 2 and 4											
F	cannot contribute towards this count).												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.	achieving Good condition for non-acid											
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a		No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No				
		No) Number of criteria passed	2	1	3	2	3	3	2				
	ndition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score		nieved ×/√									
	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	Good (3)											
	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
Pa	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											

Non-acid grassland types (Result out o										
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)									
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)			Yes		Yes	Yes			
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes		Yes			Yes		

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Seek to improved the condition of the semi-improved grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes

Foundte 1 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas or bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistleCirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local

Footnote 3 - Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

		<b>HEDGEROW Habitat Types</b>													
	t Type														
	hedgerow hedgerow	- associated with bank or di	tch												
		with trees													
Native	hedgerow	with trees - associated with	bank or ditch												
		ve hedgerow	th hard												
		ve hedgerow - associated wi ve hedgerow with trees	ui bank or ditch	ı											
•		ve hedgerow with trees - ass	ociated with ba	nk or ditch											
Habita	at Descripti	on													
Native	hedgrerow	with trees		· <u> </u>	-		-								
0 "	D: !! !														
		ty Metric 4.0 User Guide Sections ssigned to one of five functional		and the condition of a he	daerow	is asses	sed acco	ordina to	the nur	nher of	attribut	es from	these f	unctiona	l groups which
		ourable condition' criteria.	g. 54p5 (7: 2) 4		agoron	.0 00000	000 000	J. G 19 10			u	00 11 0111		u	g. capec.i
		Hill House Farm		On-site or off-site	On-site										
Limita applic	tions (if			Survey reference (if relating to a wider											
аррис	abie)			survey)											
Condi	tion Asses	sment Criteria													
A serie	es of ten attr	ibutes, representing key physic					sessmen	t is base	d on the	e Hedge	erow Su	ırvey H	andboo	k <sup>1</sup> and F	avourable
		us document <sup>2</sup> . For further clarif						andia - 4	41		-44-7 1		46		1
		ssigned to one of five functional ourable condition' criteria.	groups (A – E) a	iriu the condition of a he	ugerow	is asses	sea acco	oraing to	ine nur	nper of	attribut	es trom	ınese f	unctiona	ıı groups which
		rable condition attributes													
					Habitat	parcel	referenc	е							
∧ ++-:L-	utoe and				20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
Attribi functi	utes and onal	Criteria - the minimum	Cuita	-41			L								
group	ings (A,	requirements for 'favourable condition'	Criteria descrip	otion	Grid re	ference		ı	ı	ı					
В, С, Г	o and E)	Januario Odination													
								<u> </u>	<u> </u>						
_															Notes (such as
Core ç	groups - ap	plicable to all hedgerow type	es .		Criteric	n passe	ed (Yes o	or No)							justification)
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average hei	ght of woody growth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
				ase of stem to the top											
				cluding any bank Igerow, any gaps or											
			isolated trees.	.go.ow, any gaps of											
			Name to lat	mined hader											
				piced hedgerows are d management and											
			pass this criterior	n for up to a maximum											
			of four years (if u to good practice)	Indertaken according											
			to good practice)	,											
				hedgerow does not											
			pass this criterior height).	n (unless it is >1.5 m											
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length		th of woody growth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes			
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	estimated at the	widest point of the											
			canopy, excludin trees.	ig gaps and isolated											
				h as blackthorn Prunus											
				) are only included in te when they are >0.5											
			m in height.												
			Loid sensited	out and newly planted											
			hedgerows are in	cut and newly planted ndicative of good											
			management and	d pass this criterion for											
			up to a maximum												
B1.		Gap between ground and		al 'gappiness' of the	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
	hedge base	base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length		nt of the hedgerow, from the ground to the											
		=	lowest leafy grow												
			Certain exception	ns to this criterion are											
			acceptable (see	page 65 of the											
			Hedgerow Surve	y Handbook).					L	<u> </u>					
B2.		Gaps make up <10% of total			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
	hedge canopy	length; and No canopy gaps >5 m		nt of the hedgerow. ete breaks in the woody											
	continuity		canopy (no matte												
			Access points on	nd gates contribute to											
				iness' but are not											
				m criterion (as this is											
			the typical size o	ı a gate).											
			1												
		I	I		l	I	I	l	l	l	l	l			

	Undisturbe d ground and	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow.	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes			
	perennial vegetation	>90% of length:  · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and  · Is present on one side of the	Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be											
		hedgerow (at least).	present along at least one side of the hedgerow.											
			This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached											
	Nutrient- enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	The indicator species used are nettles Urtica spp., cleavers Galium aparine and docks Rumex spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA²) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website <sup>4</sup> , as well as the BSBI website <sup>5</sup> where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora <sup>6</sup> contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website <sup>7</sup> .	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes.  This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (e.g., excessive hedgerow cutting).	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes			
A -1 -1242		o - applicable to hedgerows v	Markova and a											
	Tree class		This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No			
	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
The he											-44 !-			w
	edgerow cor	ndition assessment generates a	weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, w	hich is us	sed withi	n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	n the tal	bies beio	***
Condi	_	ndition assessment generates a		hich is us	sed withi	n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	n the tal	bies beio	
Condi	tion catego			hich is us		n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	the tal	oies beio	<b></b>
	tion catego	ories for hedgerows without	trees			n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	the tal	DIES DEIO	•••
Categ	tion catego	Category Requirements No more than 2 failures in total AND No more than 1 failure in any fi No more than 4 failures in total AND Does not fail both attributes in fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and	trees ; unctional group. ; more than one functional group (e.g. C2 = Moderate condition).	Metric		n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	n the tal	oles belo	
Good	tion catego	Category Requirements No more than 2 failures in total AND No more than 1 failure in any fi No more than 4 failures in total AND Does not fail both attributes in fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and Fails a total of more than 4 attr	trees ; unctional group. ; more than one functional group (e.g. C2 = Moderate condition). ibutes; an one functional group (e.g. fails	Metric 3		n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	n the tal	DIES DEIO	
Good  Moder:	tion category	Category Requirements No more than 2 failures in total AND No more than 1 failures in total AND No more than 1 failures in total AND Does not fail both attributes in fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and Fails a total of more than 4 attr OR Fails both attributes in more than tattributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 =	trees ; unctional group. ; more than one functional group (e.g. C2 = Moderate condition). ibutes; an one functional group (e.g. fails Poor condition).  Score achieved:	Metric:		n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	n the tal	DIES DEIO	
Good  Modern  Poor  Condi	tion category ate	Category Requirements No more than 2 failures in total AND No more than 1 failure in any fi No more than 4 failures in total AND No more than 4 failures in total AND Does not fail both attributes in fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and Fails a total of more than 4 attr OR Fails both attributes in more than 4 thributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 =	trees ; unctional group. ; more than one functional group (e.g. C2 = Moderate condition). ibutes; an one functional group (e.g. fails Poor condition).  Score achieved:	3 2 1	Score	n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	the tal	DIES DEIO	
Good  Moder:	tion category ate	Category Requirements No more than 2 failures in total AND No more than 1 failures in total AND No more than 1 failures in total AND Does not fail both attributes in fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and Fails a total of more than 4 attr OR Fails both attributes in more than tattributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 =	trees ; unctional group. ; more than one functional group (e.g. C2 = Moderate condition). ibutes; an one functional group (e.g. fails Poor condition).  Score achieved:	Metric:	Score	n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out ir	the tal	DIES DEIG	

No more than 5 failures in total;

AND

Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g., fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).

Moderate

Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g. fails attributes A1. A2. B1 and B2 = Poor condition).  Score achieved:   20.21.22.23.25 = 2	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR	_
		1
		20 24 22 22 25 = 2

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Given the nature of the land use adjacent to habitat parcels 20, 21, 23 and 25, the condition could not be improved to good without an impact on the functionality of nearby land. These hedgerows should therefore be left without intervention.

### Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type

Habitat Type(s)

Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies

Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools]

Lakes - High alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Marl lakes

Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Peat lakes

Lakes - Reservoirs

Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]

### Habitat Description

UKHab v2, habitat r2b - Other rivers and streams

### See Water Framework Directive:

WFD Lakes typologies description
For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and 'Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:

For Aquiter led naturally fluctuating waterbodies , Reservoirs and Temporary takes, points and pools see UK Habitat Classification.

### Condition Assessment Criteria

The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see below).

There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment score.

Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at:

http://priorityhab.wpengine.com/contribute/

### The key documents are:

Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF)

Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF)

Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex-III - Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF)
Annex IV - Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF)

Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)

We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' website portal:

Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)

Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England Site name and location	Hill House Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	28
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved	
1 Natural	Good (3)	Moderate	
1 Natural 2	Good (3) Fairly good (2.5)	Moderate	
1 Natural 2 3	` '	Moderate	
1 Natural 2 3 4	Fairly good (2.5)	Moderate	

## Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Assessment was carried out using the information present visually while stood next to the stream at multiple locations across the site. An in-depth rivers and streams assessment would need to be carried out to understand aquatic species within the stream as well as other features such as depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat at present without a more detailed assessment carried out by an accredited river condition assessor.

Со	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Typ	e											
UK	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha	bitat Type											
	athland and shrub - Blackthorn sci	rub											
	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	.h											
	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub	iD											
	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
_	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
He	athland and shrub - Willow scrub	. ,											
	bitat Description												
IVIIX	red scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippopha	e rhamno	oides) - S	pecial Ar	eas of Co	nservatio	n (jncc.g	ov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Hill House Farm	0:4-			On-site							
			On-Site	or off-s	ite								
Site	e name and location		•	referenc	•								
			relating	to a wid	ler								
				parcel re	eference	<u> </u>							
			16	17		T T	I				I		
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
	,												
			Grid re	ference						ı	1	L	
			TBC	TBC									
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criterio	n passe	d (Yes o	r No)							as
													justification)
			Yes	Yes									
	The scrub is a good representation												
	on its UKHab description (where in i	ts natural range). The appearance and											
		y matches the characteristics of the specific											
	scrub type.												
Α	At 1t 000/ -f	ab to ab											
		there are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> , ore than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus</i>											
		s communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae											
	1	rens, which can be up to 100% cover).											
	-												
			No	No									
	Coodlings conlings voung should a	and mature (or ancient or veteror <sup>2</sup> ) shrubs are all											
В	present.	and mature (or ancient or veteran <sup>2</sup> ) shrubs are all											
	procent.												
			Yes	Yes							1		
	There is an absence of invasive non	-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of	165	165									
С		o-optimal condition make up less than 5% of											
	ground cover.												
			ļ										
			No	No									
D	-	e with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or											
	forbs present between the scrub and	d adjacent habitat.											
			No	No									
_	There are clearings, glades or rides	present within the scrub, providing sheltered											
Е	edges.												
		Number of criteria passed	2	2		1							
Cο	ndition Assessment Result (out								I				
	5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	chieved :	×/√								
_	sses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
Pas	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
Pas	Passes 2 or fewer criteria Poor (1) Ye												
	ggested enhancement interventior	. ,		Yes									
		r to moderate condition by artificially introducing cle	earings,	glades ar	d rides t	o the hab	itat. Loca	lly source	d seeds	should a	lso be pl	anted and	managed so tha
	y can develop into seedlings and sap												

	Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type													
	K Habitat Classification and forest toodland a	ation (UKHab) Habitat T t - Lowland beech and y t - Lowland mixed decident - Native pine woodland t - Other coniferous wo t - Other Scot's pine wo t - Other woodland; bro t - Other woodland; bro t - Other woodland; mix t - Upland birchwoods	ype(s) yew woodland duous woodland ds odland odland odland eadleaved											
W		t - Upland mixed ashwo t - Upland oakwood t - Wet woodland	oods											
	abitat Description ther woodland; broad	dleaved												
	khab – UK Habitat Cl													
	nis condition sheet is oodland Wildlife Tool	based on the England We kit (sylva.org.uk)	oodland Biodiversity Gro	oup (EWBG) Woodland (	Condition	Survey	Method, a	available	here:					
ed	IMPORTANT: This biodiversity metric woodland condition assessment must be used to assess woodland being input into the biodiversity metric. The outputs of this condition assessment are not equivalent to, nor are they comparable with the scores from the EWBG condition assessment, because the EWBG assessment has been adapted for the biodiversity metric, including the removal of EWBG Indicator 7 (Proportion of favourable land cover around woodland) and Indicator 14 (Size of woodland), and minor changes to other indicators.													
	te name and cation	Hill House Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site	Habita 1	2	geference 3	e 4	5	6				
	mitations (if oplicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		Grid re	ference								
С	ondition Assessme	ent Criteria	77				L		L					
In	dicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score	per indic	ator							Notes (such as justification)
A	Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.	2	1	2	1	2	2				,
В	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
С	Invasive plant species	No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	3	3	3	3	3	3				
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.	3	1	3	2	3	3				
Е	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category <sup>7</sup> .	3	1	3	3	3	3				
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland <sup>6</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	3	1	3	1	3	2				
Н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3				
	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community 10 at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	1	1	1	1	1	1				
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland 11.	Two storeys across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	One or less storey across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	2	1	2	1	2	2				

ĸ	Veteran trees			No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1			
	70101411 11000	trees12 per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.									
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	1	1	1	1	1	1			
М	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground	total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3	3	3	3	3			
			Total Score	(out of a possible 39)	31	23	31	26	31	30			
Co	Condition Assessment Result Condition Assessment Score			Result	Achieve	d							
Tot	Total score >32 (33 to 39) Good (3)												
Tot	Total score 26 to 32 Moderate (2)			Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				
Tot	Total score <26 (13 to 25) Poor (1)				Yes								
SIL	aggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score												

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Habitat parcel 2 is a young plantation woodland. Condition is likely to improve overtime without significant intervention. All other habitat parcels could be enhanced from moderate to good condition by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the renegerative qualities of the woodland through planting.

	ndition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE Al						
	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Haled Habitat Cla						
	bitat Description						
Pai	kland						
			1	T			
	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Hill House Farm		On-site			
Sit	e name and location		On-site or off-site				
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)				
Gri	d reference	TBC	Habitat parcel reference	18			
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)			
	Presence of ancient and or veteran tr	ees <sup>1</sup> .	N/A				
A	NB - this criterion is essential for a						
			N/A				
В	Three different life-stages (for examp grown or pollarded trees <sup>1</sup> are present of tree cohort, veteran characteristics	, to ensure replacement and continuity					
С		of heights, widths, shapes and species established individual plants, or clumps	N/A				
D			N/A				
E	There is no evidence of recent adver- activities, livestock, wild animals, pesi features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching storage, ground compaction, grazing or shading from surrounding trees.	s or diseases (this excludes veteran	N/A				
F	·	ts, for example grassland or heathland, red (medium distinctiveness or higher).	N/A				
G	Ground cover is subject to an approp structural diversity for vertebrates an threatened by infill of trees and scrub plantation, native or non-native. See F	N/A					
Н	There is an absence of invasive non- Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>6</sup> ), and species inc up less than 5% cover (this excludes	dicative of sub-optimal condition <sup>7</sup> make	N/A				
	lidi A	Number of criteria passed	N/A				
	ndition Assessment Result (out 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√				
	sses 7 or 8 criteria and meets erion A						
Pas OR	sses 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)	N/A				
	asses 4 or fewer criteria Poor (1)						
	asses 4 or fewer criteria Poor (1)						

This habitat was inaccessible from within the site. Using google satellite images, and the best possible view points from within the site, we can assume this habitat parcel is moderate parkland. To assess further, another site visit would have to take place and access sought from the next-door golf club.

## Appendix H: Condition Assessment for Warrens Hall Park SOS

Survey Cover Sheet	Survey Cover Sheet										
Date	09/06/2023	Site name or location	Warren's Hall Park								
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG								
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson	On-site or off-site	On-site								
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)									
Notes											

<u> </u>	ndition Chast. CDACCLAND	ot Tuno (lavy distinctiveness)									
	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habit ( Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha										
	assland - Modified grassland										
Sit	e name and location	Warrens Hall Park	On-site or off-site	On-site							
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)								
	id reference		Habitat parcel reference	1							
	bitat Description enity grassland										
ukl	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Criterion passed (Yes or									
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		No)	Notes (such as justification)							
A		m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those listed in essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.	No								
	Where the vascular plant species preser	nt are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness									
В		the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) apportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No								
С	than 20% of total grassland area.  Note - patches of scrub with continuous	le Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts for less s (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub	Yes								
D		5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include ninery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any	Yes								
Е	Cover of bare ground is between 1% an rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	d 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of	No								
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum	mis less than 20%.	Yes								
G	There is an absence of invasive non-nat	ive plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).	Yes								
		Essential cri	terion achieved (Yes or No)	No							
			Number of criteria passed	4							
	ndition Assessment Result (out 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓								
	sses 6 or 7 criteria including passing ential criterion A	Good (3)									
ess	ses 4 or 5 criteria including passing ential criterion A	Moderate (2)									
OR Pas	Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)  Yes  Poor (1)										
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score											
	The amenity grassland will not be enhanced given it is used for recreational purposes and the condition could not be improved within altering its functionality.										
Fo	Footnotes										

Footnote 1 — Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distinct tat Type(s)	iveness)										
Gra	assland - Lowland calcareous grasslassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	and											
Gra	assland - Lowland meadows assland - Other lowland acid grasslar												
Gra	assland - Other neutral grassland												
	assland - Tall herb communities (H64 Hab guidance for details.]	(30) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not meet the	Annex 1 d	efinition shoul	d be recorde	d as 'Other	neutral grass	sland'] [Not	to be confus	ed with the	Tall forbs s	econdary cod	e – see
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grasslar	nd											
Grassland - Upland hay meadows Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grassland													
Hal	bitat Description er neutral grassland	g-100											
				T	1	1	1	ı					
ıkr	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Warrens Hall Park	On-site o	or off-site	On-site								
Site	e name and location		Survey re	eference (if									
			survey)	o a wider									
			Habitat p	arcel referen	1 <b>ce</b>	5							
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
			Grid refe	rence									
			1616	3									
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (auch
				passed (Yes		1							Notes (such as justification)
	The grassland is a good representation of the	he habitat type it has been identified as,	Yes	Yes	No	Yes							
	based on its UKHab description - the appearance of the special closely matches the characteristics of the special control of the special	arance and composition of the vegetation											
A		rassland habitat type are consistently present.											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a for non-acid grassland types only.	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassiand types only.												
			Yes	Yes	No	No							
	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the												
B more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.													
			No	No	No	No							
	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5	% including localised areas, for example											
	rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	70, including localised areas, for example,											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	No							
D	bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) is less the	s less than 20% and cover of scrub (including han 5%.											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
	(such as excessive poaching, damage from	ab-optimal condition <sup>2</sup> and physical damage machinery use or storage, damaging levels											
Ε	of access, or any other damaging manager total area.	nent activities) accounts for less than 5% of											
	If any invasive non-native plant species <sup>3</sup>	(as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ) are present,											
	this criterion is automatically failed.												
٩d	ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types	Yes	No	No	No							
	There are 10 or more vascular plant specie characteristic of the habitat type (species re	s per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that are											
T.	contribute towards this count).												
		achieving Good condition for non-acid											
	grassland types only.												
Fs	sential criterion for Good condition	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	 	I					
	- Communication for Good Condition 2	No)		103		2							
Со	ndition Assessment Result	Number of criteria passed Condition Assessment Score	Score Ach	ieved ×/√	2	<sup>2</sup>							
٩c	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	riteria)		1									
	ses 5 criteria ses 3 or 4 criteria	Good (3) Moderate (2)											
	ses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											
			•	•	•	•	•	•					

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)											
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)	Yes									
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)		Yes								
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)			Yes	Yes						

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Sward height should be varied and species diversity could be increased through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows. This could improve the current condition of each habitat parcel to good.

Notes
FOOTHOUTE 1 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover.

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local to the

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

Habita	tion sheet: HEDGER t Type	IOW Habitat Types								
	hedgerow hedgerow - associa	ated with bank or ditch								
Native	hedgerow with tree									
Specie	es-rich native hedge	row								
	es-rich native hedge es-rich native hedge	row - associated with bank or ditch row with trees								
Specie Habita	es-rich native hedge at Description	row with trees - associated with bank or ditc	h							
	hedgerow with trees									
		User Guide Section 9.								
	tribute is assigned to or able condition' criteria.	ne of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition	of a hedgerow is assessed acc	ording to the number of attributes from these function	onal groups which pass	or fail the				
Site n	ame and location	Warrens Hall Park		On-site or off-site	On-site					
Limita applic	tions (if able)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)						
иррпо	survey)									
Grid r	eference			Habitat parcel reference	12					
Condi	tion Assessment Cr	iteria								
		senting key physical characteristics are used for this refer to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook.	assessment. This assessment is	based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook 1 a	and Favourable Conserv	ation Status document <sup>2</sup> .				
Each at		ne of five functional groups (A - E) and the condition	of a hedgerow is assessed acc	ording to the number of attributes from these function	onal groups which pass	or fail the				
Hedge	row favourable con									
functi	utes and onal groupings (A,	Criteria - the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition'	Description		Criterion passed	Notes (such as				
	O and E)	to all hedgerow types			(Yes or No)	justification)				
	,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	The average height of woody	growth estimated from base of stem to the top	Yes					
			of the shoots, excluding any l	bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or						
			isolated trees.							
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length		erows are indicative of good management and maximum of four years (if undertaken						
			according to good practice).							
			A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m height).							
			3 /		Yes					
				growth estimated at the widest point of the	165					
			canopy, excluding gaps and i							
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	Outgrowths (such as blacktho in the width estimate when the	orn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> suckers) are only included are are >0.5 m in height.						
				y planted hedgerows are indicative of good						
				iterion for up to a maximum of four years (if						
			undertaken according to good	practice).						
					Yes					
		Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m		s' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and to the lowest leafy growth.						
B1.	Gap - hedge base	for >90% of length	Certain exceptions to this crit	erion are acceptable (see page 65 of the						
			Hedgerow Survey Handbook	).						
<u> </u>					Yes					
			This is the horizont-1 ' '	ess' of the woody component of the						
	a		hedgerow. Gaps are complete	e breaks in the woody canopy (no matter how						
B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m	small).							
				ribute to the overall 'gappiness' but are not (as this is the typical size of a gate).						
	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with  This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base									
C1.	Undisturbed ground and perennial perennial perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:				Yes					
	vegetation	· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at	greater than 1 m in width and	at for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, must be present along at least one side of the						
	N	least). Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of	hedgerow.	e nettles Urtica spp., cleavers Galium aparine						
C2.	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation	soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.		ir presence, either singly or together, does not	Yes					
	CACCCA UR 2070 COVET URICSHOID.				Yes					
				refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK						
L	Invasive and	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species		Archaeophytes count as natives. For s and neophytes see the JNCC website <sup>4</sup> , as well						
D1.	neophyte species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>3</sup> ) as the BSBI website <sup>5</sup> where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora' contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on									
		and recently introduced species.		ee the GB Non-Native Secretariat website 7.						

					Yes	
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is	This criterion addresses dama deterioration in other attribute	ging activities that may have led to or lead to s.		
D2.	Current damage	free of damage caused by human activities.		f pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or actices (e.g., excessive hedgerow cutting).		
Addit	ional group - applic	able to hedgerows with trees only				
		There is more than one age-class (or			No	
E1.	Tree class	morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient <sup>8</sup> ), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.		re are a range of age-classes or morphologies of trees and provide opportunities for different		
E2.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the compromises the survival and	Yes		
		ssment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1	3, which is used within the me	tric. The scores for each are set out in the tables b	elow.	•
		hedgerows without trees				
Categ	ory	Category Requirements	Metric Score			
Good		No more than 2 failures in total; <b>AND</b> No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3			
		No more than 4 failures in total;				
Moder	ate	AND <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (e.g. fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition).	2			
		Fails a total of more than 4 attributes;				
Poor		OR <u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (e.g. fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1			
		Score achieved	:			
Cond	ition categories for	hedgerows with trees				
Categ	ory	Category Requirements	Metric score			
Good		No more than 2 failures in total; <b>AND</b> No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3			
Moder	ate	No more than 5 failures in total;  AND  Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g., fails attributes A1, A2,	2			
		B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).				
		Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR				
Poor		<u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (e.g. fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1			
		Score achieved t interventions to improve condition score	: 3			

### Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type

Habitat Type(s)

Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies

Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools]

Lakes - High alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Marl lakes

Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Peat lakes

Lakes - Reservoirs

Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]

### **Habitat Description**

Canal - UK Habs v2 classification: Rivers and Lakes - Level 4 code rle

### See Water Framework Directive:

WFD Lakes typologies description

For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and 'Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:

UKHab

Condition Assessment Criteria

The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see below).

There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment score.

Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at:

http://priorityhab.wpengine.com/contribute/

### The key documents are:

Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF)

Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF)

Annex II - Physical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex-III - Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF)
Annex IV - Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF)

Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)

We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' website portal:

Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)

Site name and location	Warrens Hall Park	On-site or off-site	On-site
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	13
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved	
1 Natural	Good (3)	Moderate	
2	Fairly good (2.5)		
3	Moderate (2)		
4	Fairly poor (1.5)		
5 Least natural	Poor (1)		

### Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Assessment was carried out using the information present visually while stood on the water's edge. An in-depth water assessment would need to be carried out to understand aquatic species present as well as depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat at present without a more detailed water condition assessment.

Со	Condition Sheet: POND Habitat Type										
	bitat Type(s)										
Lal	kes - Ponds (priority habitat)										
Lal	kes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)										
Lal	kes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (	(H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temp	orary ponds and pools, use Lak	e condition sheet for Temporary							
lak											
	kes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this co	ondition sheet for Ornamental ponds, use Lal	ke condition sheet for Ornament	al lakes]							
	bitat Description										
Por	nds (non-priority habitat)										
	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification										
For	ponds (non-priority) - see the Biodiversity Me										
Sit	e name and location	Warrens Hall Park	On-site or off-site	On-site							
			on site of on site								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)								
Gri	d reference		Habitat parcel reference	6							
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)							
Co	re Criteria - applicable to all ponds (woo	dland <sup>1</sup> and non-woodland):	110)								
	application to all police (i.e.		Yes	Π							
A	The pond is of good water quality, with clear w obvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is accepta	rater (low turbidity) indicating no ble if the pond is grazed by livestock.									
			No								
В	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinct surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from the										
			Yes								
С	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered filamentous algae.	with duckweed Lemna spp. or									
D	The pond is not artificially connected to other vartificial pipework.	waterbodies, e.g. agricultural ditches or	No								
Е	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally through dams <sup>2</sup> , pumps or pipework.	ghout the year. No obvious artificial	Yes								
F	Yes  There is an absence of listed non-native plant and animal species <sup>3</sup> .										
G	native rish assemblage at low densities.										
Ad	ditional Criteria - must be assessed for a	ill non-woodland ponds:									
Н	Emergent, submerged or floating plants (exclude the pond area which is less than 3 m deep.	ling duckweed) <sup>4</sup> cover at least 50% of	N/A								

The pond surface is no more than 50°	% shaded by adjacent trees and scrub.	N/A	
	Number of criteria pas	sed <sup>5</sup>	
Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
Results for woodland ponds which	require assessment of 7 core criteria		
Passes 7 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes	
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Results for non-woodland ponds w	hich require assessment of 9 criteria		
Passes 9 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		

## Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Assessment was carried out using the information present visually while stood on the water's edge. An in-depth water assessment would need to be carried out to understand aquatic species within the pond as well as depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat at present without a more detailed water condition assessment.

Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habitat.

**Footnote 2** – This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian beaver *Castor fiber*.

**Footnote 3** - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG GB High Impact Species List should be absent: WFD UKTAG (2021) Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level of impact[online]. Available from:

Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type													
UK	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha	bitat Type											
	athland and shrub - Blackthorn scr athland and shrub - Gorse scrub	ub											
	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	ıb											
	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub												
	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub athland and shrub - Dunes with sea	a buckthorn (H2160)											
	athland and shrub - Willow scrub bitat Description	a buckfiorii (112100)											
Hea	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae	e rhamno	oides) - Si	oecial Are	eas of Co	nservatio	n (jncc.go	ov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification											
		Warrens Hall Park	On-eite	or off-si	ito	On-site							•
۵.,													
Site	e name and location			referenc to a wid									
			survey										
			Habitat	parcel re	eference								
			7	8									
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
			Grid re	ference									
Co	ndition Assessment Criteria											<u> </u>	Notes (such
			Criterio	n passed	d (Yes oı	r No)							as
					ı	T		ı	1			ı	justification)
			Yes	Yes									
		e habitat type it has been identified as, based on											
	the vegetation closely matches the chara	aral range). The appearance and composition of acteristics of the specific scrub type.											
A	At least 80% of scrub is native, and ther single species comprising more than 75%	re are at least three native woody species 1, with no % of the cover (except hazel Corylus avellana,											
		s, sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> or box											
	Buxus sempervirens, which can be up												
			Yes	Yes									
L	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and m	nature (or ancient or veteran 2) shrubs are all											
В	present.	,											
	Thara is an absance of investive non-noti	ive plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of	Yes	Yes									
С		timal condition 5 make up less than 5% of ground											
	cover.												
-			Yes	Yes						-	-		
	The scrub has a well-developed edge wi	ith scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs	103	105									
D	present between the scrub and adjacent l												
			No	No									
Е	There are clearings glades or rides press	ent within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.											
L	There are elearings, glades of rides press	ent within the serae, providing sherered edges.											
			4	4									
_	u dialo u A a a a a a a a a a a	Number of criteria passed	4	4									
	ndition Assessment Result (out 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	chieved ×/									
	ses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
	ses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes	Yes									
	ses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)								<u> </u>			
	ggested enhancement intervention												
		o introducing clearings, glades or rides would be impract	ctical. Th	erefore, no	intervent	ion is reco	mmended						

	ndition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat Type								
	bitat Type(s) assland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM - See the B	iodiversity Metric 4 0 User Guide							
	Vetland - Blanket bog								
	etland - Depression on peat substrates (H7150)								
	etland - Fens (upland and lowland)								
	etland - Lowland raised bog								
	etland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)								
	etland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures etland - Reedbeds								
	etland - Heedbeds etland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)								
	bitat Description								
Re	edbeds								
Fo	r Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS								
٥,	e the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide for Floodplain wetland	mosais and coastal and floodalain grazing mar	sh (CECM) For CECM	I also soo the holew:					
	, ,	1 0 0	ii (CFGW). FOI CFGW	l also see the below.					
	astal and floodplain grazing marsh UK BAP Priority Habitat desi	<u>cription</u> I							
	ority <u>Habitat Inventory (England) - data.gov.uk</u> other wetland habitats - see UK Habitat Classification (UKHab)								
	Hab								
	e name and location	Warrens Hall Park	On-site or off-site	On-site					
<u> </u>	c name and rocation								
l ir	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider						
	initations (ii applicable)		survey)						
G-	id reference		Habitat parcel	9					
<u> </u>	u rererence		reference						
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)					
Co	re Criteria - must be assessed for <b>all wetland habitat types</b> :		(Tes of No)						
	<b>7,</b>		Yes						
	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year - this co	ould be open water or saturation of soil at							
A	the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to mai								
	Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condi	tion.							
			Yes						
	The parcel is a good representation of the wetland habitat type it has		ics						
В	description - as in, the appearance and composition of the vegetation specific habitat type.	n closely matches the characteristics of the							
	Indicator species for the specific wetland habitat type <sup>1</sup> listed by U	KHah are consistently present							
	indicator species for the specific wedana hadractype — instea by o	Triab are consistently present.	V.						
	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to	the wetland are of good water quality, with	Yes						
C	clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.	, ,							
			Yes						
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.								
			Yes						
Е	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.								
	C								
			Yes						
Б	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species 2 (as liste								
1	indicative of sub-optimal condition 4 make up less than 5% of grou	and cover.							
۸ ۵	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for Fen and Purple moor g	trace and ruch nacture habitate only							
Au	unional Criterion - must be assessed for Terrand Purple moor g	rass and rush pasture habitats only.	N/A	I					
_	No more than 25% of the habitat area has a continuous cover of litte	er (such as dead vegetation) preventing							
G	regeneration.								
A 1	Fig. 10 is a set of the Powel List of								
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for <b>Bog</b> habitats only:		N/A						
	Sphagnum moss Sphagnum spp. and cottongrasses Eriophorum	spp. are at least Frequent <sup>5</sup> . Cover of ericaceous	IV/A						
Η	dwarf shrubs <sup>6</sup> is less than 75%.								
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for <b>Reedbed</b> habitats only:		N/						
	The reedbed has a diverse structure with between 60 and 80% reeds	Phragmites australis. Other areas may	Yes						
I	include open water (at least 10%), species-rich fen and or wet wood	•							
	*								

Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Floodplain wetland mo			
All ditches recorded within the habitat achieve Good condition as as Note – do not record ditches which are part of the floodplain wetland module.			
Esser	ntial criterion achieved (required for Good c		Yes
	Numl	ber of criteria passed	7
Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depres	ssion on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valle	y mire [1] (D2.1)):	
Passes 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 core criteria; OR     Passes 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)		
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 7 criteria - core habitat types except Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic	•	r habitat type (all	
Passes 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A;     AND     Passes additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Good (3)	Yes	
Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; OR Passes 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition	score	<u>'</u>	
No intervention needed.			

	ndition Sheet: WOODLAN										
UK Wo	Habitat Classification (Ul	(Hab) Habitat Type(s)									
		and mixed deciduous woodlar	nd								
Wo	odland and forest - Native	e pine woodlands									
Wo	odland and forest - Other	coniferous woodland									
Wo	Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland										
	odland and forest - Other	•									
	odland and forest - Other	•									
	odland and forest - Uplan										
	odland and forest - Uplan										
	odland and forest - Uplan odland and forest - Wet w										
	oitat Description	MODIFIC									
Oth	er woodland; broadleaved										
	ab – UK Habitat Classificati										
Thi	s condition sheet is based o	n the England Woodland Biodive	ersity Group (EWBG) Wood	dland Condition Survey Met	thod, available	here:					
	odland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva										
this ass	condition assessment are essment has been adapted	metric woodland condition asse not equivalent to, nor are they c I for the biodiversity metric, inclu , and minor changes to other in	omparable with the scores iding the removal of EWBG	from the EWBG condition a Indicator 7 (Proportion of f	assessment, b	ecause the EWBG					
Sit.	name and location	Warrens Hall Park	On site or off site	On-site							
JIL	, maine and location		On-site or off-site								
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		relating to a wider survey)								
	nitations (if applicable)		The state of the s	10							
Gri	,	ria	survey)	- "	12						
Gri	d reference	ria Good (3 points)	survey)	- "	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)					
Gri Co Ind	d reference ndition Assessment Crite	Good (3 points)	survey) Habitat parcel reference		•						
Gri Co Ind A	d reference ndition Assessment Crite icator	Good (3 points)	Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	indicator						
Gri Co Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing	Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of	indicator 2						
Gri Co Ind A B	d reference  ndition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	indicator 2 3						
Gri Co Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in	Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10%	indicator 2 3 3						
Gri Co Ind	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across	Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across	indicator 2 3						

G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	2				
н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% mortality and/or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high- risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3				
ı	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	3				
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots or a complex woodland <sup>11</sup> .	Two storeys across all survey plots 11.	One or less storey across all survey plots 11.	3				
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees <sup>12</sup> per hectare.	One veteran tree <sup>12</sup> per hectare.	No veteran trees <sup>12</sup> present in woodland.	2				
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	2				
М	Woodland disturbance No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident 14.		Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	s than 1 hectare in  l of nutrient chment across odland area and or less a 20% of woodland has damaged  More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground  14.					
Total Score (out of a possible 39) 34  Condition Assessment Result									
	al score >32 (33 to 39)			Good (3)	ocore	Result Achieved			
	al score 26 to 32			Moderate (2)					
_	al score <26 (13 to 25)			Poor (1)					
Su	ggested enhancement inte	erventions to improve condition	on score						
No	No intervention needed.								

Со	Condition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE AND PARKLAND Habitat Type								
	UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland								
	oodland and forest - Wood-pasture bitat Description	and parkland							
	rkland								
۱. u	TKI								
uk	nab – UK Habitat Classification								
Sif	e name and location	Warrens Hall Park	On-site or off-site	On-site					
	e name and location								
Lir	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider						
			survey)						
Gr	id reference		Habitat parcel reference	11					
			Criterion passed (Yes	Notes (such as					
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		or No)	justification)					
		1	No						
Α	Presence of ancient and or veteran tr	ees'.							
, ,	NB - this criterion is essential for a	chieving Good condition.							
	Three different life-stages (for examp	le voung mature or veteran) of open	No						
В		t, to ensure replacement and continuity							
	of tree cohort, veteran characteristics	s and habitat.							
			Yes						
С		of heights, widths, shapes and species established individual plants, or clumps							
	of trees or shrubs <sup>2</sup> .	cotabilotica individual plante, et ciampe							
_			No						
		d providing ecological niches – such as							
D		od (for example, dead stems, branches							
U	and branch stubs), trees with heart-rollimbs. Decay features might be revea								
	bodies.	, ,,							
			No						
	There is no evidence of recent adver- activities, livestock, wild animals, pes		140						
_	features valuable for wildlife).	is of diseases (this excludes veteral)							
Ε	For example, no evidence of poachin	o, ,							
	storage, ground compaction, grazing or shading from surrounding trees.	damage to bark and roots, competition							
	or shading from surrounding trees.		V						
		to Construction of the least to the	Yes						
F		its, for example grassland or heathland, yed (medium distinctiveness or higher).							
	, and the second	3 1,							
	Ground cover is subject to an approp	uriate management regime providing	Yes						
	structural diversity for vertebrates an								
G	threatened by infill of trees and scrub	•							
	plantation, native or non-native. See F	-ootnote 4 for details.							
	There is an absence of invasive non-	nativo plant enocios <sup>5</sup> (as listed on	Yes						
Н		dicative of sub-optimal condition <sup>7</sup> make							
	up less than 5% cover (this excludes	•							
		Number of criteria passed	4						
Со	ndition Assessment Result (out								
of	8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√						
	Passes 7 or 8 criteria and meets criterion A Good (3)								
OF	sses 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)							
	sses 7 criteria but fails criterion A	,							
Pa	sses 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	1						
	ggested enhancement intervention	* *							
		and managed to increase the number of	f life-stages present in the h	abitat. Deadwood could					
	o be added. This would improve the co		- •						
1									

# Appendix I: Condition Assessment for Swan Pool/Priory Wood

Survey Cover Sheet								
Date	15/09/2023	Site name or location	Swan Pool/Priory Wood					
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNg					
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site					
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)						
Notes								

Condition Chart, CDACCI AND Habit	ot Type (law distinctiveness)		
Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habit UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habit			
Grassland - Modified grassland	abitat Type(3)		
Site name and location	Swan Pool/Priory Wood	On-site or off-site	On-site
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	1
Habitat Description			
Amenity grassland			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
	m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those listed in essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.	No	
Where the vascular plant species preser	nt are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness		
		No	
	the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) apportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.		
Some scattered scrub (including bramb than 20% of total grassland area.	le Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts for less	Yes	
	s (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub		
	5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include inery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any	Yes	
E Cover of bare ground is between 1% an rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	d 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of	No	
F Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum	mis less than 20%.	Yes	
G There is an absence of invasive non-nat	ive plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).	Yes	
	Essential crit	terion achieved (Yes or No)	No
		Number of criteria passed	4
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)		
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria;		Yes	
OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion	Poor (1)		
A)	as be improved a small blow assets		
Suggested enhancement intervention		without altories its fti1'	
maunan parcer 1 will no be enhanced given	it is used for recreational purposes and the condition could not be improved	without altering its functionality.	
Footnotes			

Footnote 1 — Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat  Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distinct tat Type(s)	iveness)										
Gr	assland - Lowland calcareous grasslassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	and											
Gr	assland - Lowland meadows assland - Other lowland acid grasslar												
Gr	assland - Other neutral grassland												
	assland - Tall herb communities (H64 Hab guidance for details.]	130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not meet the	e Annex 1 d	efinition shoul	d be recorde	d as 'Other	neutral grass	sland'] [Not	to be confus	sed with the	Tall forbs s	econdary co	le – see
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grasslaı	nd											
Gr	assland - Upland hay meadows arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian												
Ha	bitat Description	grassianu											
υti	ner neutral grassland												
ık	hab – UK Habitat Classification	Swan Pool/Priory Wood			On-site								
Sit	e name and location	Small continuity mode	On-site of	eference (if	on site								
				o a wider									
				arcel refere	nce	I-	L			ı	I	I	
Lir	nitations (if applicable)		2	3	4	5	6						
			Grid refe	rence	1		1			l			
Co	ndition Assessment Criteria												
			Criterion	passed (Ye	s or No)								Notes (such as justification)
			No	No	No	No	Yes						Justilication)
	The grassland is a good representation of the based on its UKHab description - the appearance.	arance and composition of the vegetation											
4	closely matches the characteristics of the s species listed by UKHab for the specific gr	pecific grassland habitat type. Indicator rassland habitat type are consistently present.											
	Note - this criterion is essential for a	achieving Moderate or Good condition											
	for non-acid grassland types only.	•											
			No	No	No	No	No						
	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the	sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is											
В		hich provide opportunities for insects, birds											
	and sman manimals to five and oreed.												
			No	Yes	No	No	No						
2	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5 rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	%, including localised areas, for example,											
	THE STATE OF THE S												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
			1 65	100	103	105	100						
D		s less than 20% and cover of scrub (including											
	bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) is less the	пап 570.											
		ub-optimal condition <sup>2</sup> and physical damage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	of access, or any other damaging managen	machinery use or storage, damaging levels nent activities) accounts for less than 5% of											
Ξ	total area.												
	If any invasive non-native plant species <sup>3</sup> this criterion is automatically failed.	(as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA 4) are present,											
٩d	ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types											
_	There are 10 or more veccular alant a	s per m 2 present including feets that	No	No	No	No	No						
	characteristic of the habitat type (species re	es per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that are eferenced in Footnote 2 and 4 cannot											
F contribute towards this count).													
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.	achieving Good condition for non-acid											
Es	ssential criterion for Good condition a	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or	No	No	No	No	Yes						
		No) Number of criteria passed	2	3	2	2	3						
	ndition Assessment Result id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	Condition Assessment Score	Score Ach	ieved ×/√									
	sses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
_	sses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)											
Pas	sses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											

Non-acid grassland types (Result out o	f 6 criteria)								
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)								
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)					Yes			
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Seek to improve the condition of the semi-improved grassland to good. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows.

Notes
FOOTHOUTE 1 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover.

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local to the

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types Habitat Type															
	t Type hedgerow														
Native	hedgerow	- associated with bank or di	tch												
		with trees													
		with trees - associated with ve hedgerow	bank or ditch												
		ve hedgerow - associated wi	th bank or ditch												
Specie	es-rich nati	ve hedgerow with trees													
		ve hedgerow with trees - ass	ociated with bank or d	itch											
	t Descript		h native badanani with t	22	dan dah										
19 = na	ative neage	row. 20, 21 and 22 = species-ric	on native neagerow with t	rees. 23 = spec	cies-ricn	native n	eagerow								
See the	e Biodiversi	ty Metric 4.0 User Guide Section	n 9.												
Each a	attribute is a	ssigned to one of five functional		condition of a he	dgerow	is asses	sed acc	ording to	the nu	mber of	attribute	es from	these	functiona	al groups which
		vourable condition' criteria.	lo		0										
	ame and itions (if	Swan Pool/Priory Wood		e or off-site reference (if	On-site										
applic				g to a wider											
			survey	()											
		sment Criteria	nal characteristics	od for this	come=1	Thin	200077	at ic b	nd on #	0 H0-1-	ro C	invo: L	andb -	k <sup>1</sup> or a r	avourable
	A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook and Favourable Conservation Status document?. For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook.														
							sed acc	ording to	the nu	mber of	attribute	es from	these	function	al groups which
	Each attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional groups which pass or fail the 'favourable condition' criteria.														
Hedge	Hedgerow favourable condition attributes														
Habitat parcel reference															
	ttributes and Criteria - the minimum														
	unctional requirements for Criteria description Grid reference														
	roupings (A, "favourable condition"														
B, C, D and E)															
Core g	groups - ap	plicable to all hedgerow type	es		Criterio	n passe	ed (Yes	or No)							Notes (such as justification)
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of w		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
			estimated from base of s of the shoots, excluding												
			beneath the hedgerow,												
			isolated trees.												
			Newly laid or coppiced he	edgerows are											
			indicative of good manag												
			pass this criterion for up of four years (if undertake												
			to good practice).												
			A newly planted hedgero	w does not											
			pass this criterion (unless												
			height).												
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	The average width of wo estimated at the widest p		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
			canopy, excluding gaps												
			trees.												
			Outgrowths (such as blace	ckthorn Prunus											
			spinosa suckers) are only	y included in											
			the width estimate when m in height.	tney are >0.5											
			Laid, coppiced, cut and r hedgerows are indicative												
			management and pass t	his criterion for											
			up to a maximum of four												
B1.	Gap -	Gap between ground and	This is the vertical 'gappi	ness' of the	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	hedge base	base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	woody component of the and its distance from the												
		=	lowest leafy growth.												
			Certain exceptions to this	s criterion are											
			acceptable (see page 65	of the											
			Hedgerow Survey Handb												
B2.	Gap - hedge	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and	This is the horizontal 'gap woody component of the		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	canopy	No canopy gaps >5 m	Gaps are complete break												
	continuity		canopy (no matter how s												
			Access points and gates	contribute to											
			the overall 'gappiness' bu	ut are not											
			ion (as this is												
			the typical size of a gate	<i>)</i> ·											
	l	I	I		ı	ı	ı	I	I	1 1			1	ı	I

C2.	d ground and perennial vegetation  Nutrient-enriched perennial	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:  · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).  Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow.  Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow.  This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached  The indicator species used are nettles Urtica spp., cleavers Galium aparine and docks Rumex spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
D1.	Invasive and neophyte	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes).	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	species	species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>3</sup> ) and recently introduced species.	Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website <sup>4</sup> , as well as the BSBI website <sup>5</sup> where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora <sup>6</sup> contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website <sup>7</sup> .											
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes.  This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (e.g., excessive hedgerow cutting).	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
Additi E1.	onal group Tree class	There is more than one age- class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient <sup>8</sup> ), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	ith trees only This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.	N/A	No	No	No	N/A						
E3.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A						
The he	edgerow cor	ndition assessment generates a	weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, who weighting (score)	nich is us	ed withir	n the met	tric. The	scores	for eac	h are s	et out in	the tab	oles belo	w.
Condi Categ		ories for hedgerows without to Category Requirements	trees	Metric	Score									
Good		No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any fu		3	COLE									
Modera	ate	No more than 4 failures in total; <b>AND</b> <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in r fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and 0	more than one functional group (e.g. 22 = Moderate condition).	2										
Poor	Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g. fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).			1										
Condi	tion_cators	ories for hedgerows with tree	Score achieved:	3,3										
Categ		Category Requirements		Metric	score									
Good		No more than 2 failures in total; <b>AND</b> No more than 1 failure in any fu		3										
Modera	ate	No more than 5 failures in total; <b>AND</b> <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in r (e.g., fails attributes A1, A2, B1		2										

Poor	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes;  OR  Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g. fails attributes A1. A2. B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1	
	Score achieved:	3,3,3	
Suggested enha	ncement interventions to improve condition score		
Condtion of all the	hedgerow habitats are good. No intervention is necessary.		

Со	ndition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Ha	bitat Type											
Hal	oitat Type(s)	- 7   7											
	e of trees												
Lin	e of trees – associated with bank	or ditch											
Eco	ologically valuable line of trees												
	ologically valuable line of trees – a	associated with bank or ditch											
	oitat Description												
Lin	e of trees												
Caa	the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide	Santiam 0											
		Survey Handbook <sup>1</sup> . For further clarifi	ications r	Janca rafar	to the He	ndbook							
		t within the line of trees, see Footnote 2			to the Th	indoook.							
	1	Swan Pool/Priory Wood		e or off-	On-site	:							
			site										
Sit.	e name and location		Surve	у									
Oit	name and rocation		refere	nce (if									
relating to a wider survey)													
					ofovono	_							
				t parcel r		е	1	1	T	ı	T	ı	
			24	25	26								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
			Grid re	eference									
Co	ndition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such
			Criteri	on passe	d (Yes c	or No)							as
				о разов	(	,							iustification)
			Yes	Yes	Yes								
Α	At least 70% of trees are native species												
	•												
			Yes	No	Yes								
	Tree canopy is predominantly continuo	us with gaps in canopy cover	105	110	103								
В	making up <10% of total area and no in												
	One or more trees has veteran features	and or natural ecological niches for	No	No	No								
С	vertebrates and invertebrates, such as pr												
	deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.												
	There is an undisturbed naturally-veget	ated strip of at least 6 m on both	No	No	No								
D	sides to protect the line of trees from fa												
ט	(excluding grazing). Where veteran tree	es are present, root protection areas											
	should follow standing advice <sup>2</sup> .												
	At least 95% of the trees are in a health	y andition (dandwood or yeteren	Yes	Yes	Yes								
	features valuable for wildlife are exclude	•											
Е	evidence of an adverse impact on tree h												
	wild animals, pests or diseases, or huma	an activity.											
Ш						ļ							
		Number of criteria passed	3	2	3								
	ndition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	Achieved ×/									
	criteria) ses 5 criteria	Good (3)											
	ses 3 or 4 criteria	Good (3) Moderate (2)	Yes	+	Yes	+				<del>                                     </del>			
_	ses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	100	Yes	103	+				<del>                                     </del>			
	ggested enhancement intervention			103									
	<del>~</del>	condition whereas habitat parcel 25 is of	poor con	dition Dea	dwood o	ould be a	ided to th	ese habi	tats to in	nprove the	condition	n scores el	ightly.
		at this point in time given one of both of								.prove inc	Jonathol	500103 81	.6.111.

Footnotes

Condition Sheet: POND Habitat Type Habitat Type(s)													
Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat)  Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)  Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools, use Lake condition sheet for Temporary lakes]  Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental ponds, use Lake condition sheet for Ornamental lakes]													
Lak	ces - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this co	ondition sheet for Ornamental ponds, us	e Lake con	dition shee	t for Ornar	nental lakes	]						
	bitat Description bitat parcels 10, 11 and 12 are classified as 'pond	d - no priority habitat'. Habitat parcel 13	is classifie	ed as 'ornan	nental lake	' as it is >2h	a.						
ukh	nab – UK Habitat Classification												
For	ponds (non-priority) – see the Biodiversity Me	Swan Pool/Priory Wood	On-site	or off-	On-site								
Site	e name and location		Survey re (if relating	ng to a									
			wider su	rvey)									
			-	parcel refe		Lia	T	ı	ı	T			
			10	11	12	13							
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
			Cuid note			<u> </u>							
			Grid refe	erence		1	I	I	1	I			
Condition Assessment Criteria													
Criterion passed (Yes or No) Notes (suc													Notes (such as
justification)  Core Criteria - applicable to all ponds (woodland <sup>1</sup> and non-woodland):													Jacanicanici,
CO			No	No	Yes	No							Parcels 10, 11 and 13
											had murky water.		
В	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinct surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from th perimeter.		Yes	No	Yes	No							
С	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered filamentous algae.	with duckweed Lemna spp. or	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
D	The pond is not artificially connected to other viditches or artificial pipework.	waterbodies, e.g. agricultural	No	No	No	Yes							
Е	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally througartificial dams <sup>2</sup> , pumps or pipework.	ghout the year. No obvious	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
	artificial dams , pumps of pipework.												
F	There is an absence of listed non-native plant a	nd animal species <sup>3</sup> .	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish. It it is a native fish assemblage at low densities.	the pond naturally contains fish,	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
Ad	ditional Criteria - must be assessed for a	ill non-woodland ponds:							•				
	Emergent, submerged or floating plants (exclude 50% of the pond area which is less than 3 m de		No	No	No	No							
Ι	The pond surface is no more than 50% shaded	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes								
		6	5	6	6								
Co	ndition Assessment Result	Score Ach	nieved ×/✓										
	sults for woodland ponds which require												
	ses 7 criteria	Good (3)											
	ses 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)				1							
	ses 4 or fewer criteria sults for non-woodland ponds which req	Poor (1) uire assessment of 9 criteria											
	ses 9 criteria	Good (3)											
	ses 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes		Yes	Yes							
_	ses 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		Yes		İ							
_	ggested enhancement interventions to in							l					
	essments were carried out using the information		er's edge. A	An in-depth	pond/lake	assessment	would need	to be carr	ried out to g	ain a better	understand	ding of the a	quatic

Assessments were carried out using the information present visually when stood at the water's edge. An in-depth pond/lake assessment would need to be carried out to gain a better understanding of the aquatic species within these habitats as well as water depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat type at present without a more detailed water condition assessment.

Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habitat.

Footnote 2 - This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian beaver Castor fiber.

Footnote 3 - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG GB High Impact Species List should be absent: WFD UKTAG (2021)

Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level of impact Ionlinel. Available from:

	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type												
UK	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha hthland and shrub - Blackthorn sci	bitat Type											
l	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub	, di											
	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	ıb											
Hea	thland and shrub - Hazel scrub												
Hea	thland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
ı	thland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)											
Hea	athland and shrub - Willow scrub bitat Description												
	thland and shrub - Mixed scrub												
	For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippopha	e rhamn	oides) - St	pecial Ar	eas of Co	nservatio	n (incc.a	ov.uk)				
	For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification		0.0007 0,	001017 11		- I COLVAIN	goo.g	<u> </u>				
	For other serub types see.	Swan Pool/Priory Wood				On-site							<u> </u>
		Swall 1 001/1 Hory wood	On-site	e or off-si	te	On-site							
Site	name and location		Survey	reference	e (if								
				g to a wid									
			survey										•
				t parcel re	ference	)							
			14	15									
Lim	itations (if applicable)												
			Grid ro	ference		<u> </u>	L	L		L			
			Giiu ie	referice									-
Cor	ndition Assessment Criteria												
001	idition Assessment Officia			•			•	•		•	•	•	Notes (such
			Criterio	on passed	l (Yes o	r No)							as
			Yes	Yes		T	T T				Ι		justification)
			1 65	1 65									
		e habitat type it has been identified as, based on											
	the vegetation closely matches the chara	ural range). The appearance and composition of											
	the vegetation closely materies the chart	actinistics of the specific serub type.											
A	At least 80% of scrub is native, and then	re are at least three native woody species 1, with no											
		% of the cover (except hazel Corylus avellana,											
		is, sea buckthorn Hippophae rhamnoides or box											
	Buxus sempervirens, which can be u	p to 100% cover).											
			No	No									
_	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and n	nature (or ancient or veteran 2) shrubs are all											
В	present.	,											
		•	Yes	Yes									
		ive plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of											
С	wCA') and species indicative of sub-op cover.	otimal condition 5 make up less than 5% of ground											
	cover.												
			Yes	Yes									
_	The scrub has a well-developed edge wi	ith scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs											
D	present between the scrub and adjacent												
			No	No									
_	TI 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	A SHE ALL THE THE THE											
Е	There are clearings, glades or rides pres	ent within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.											
		Number of criteria passed	3	3									
Cor	ndition Assessment Result (out			1	,								
of 5 criteria)  Condition Assessment Score  Score Achieved ×/✓													
Passes 5 criteria Good (3)													
Passes 3 or 4 criteria Moderate (2) Yes Yes													
Passes 2 or fewer criteria Poor (1)													
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													
-		roduction of clearings, glades or rides is impractical. Lo	cally sou	rced seeds	could be	collected, p	planted an	d managed	l to intro	duce seedl	ings and	saplings. T	his
		but overall condition would remain moderate.						-					

	ndition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat bitat Type(s)	Туре											
Gra	assland - Floodplain wetland mos	aic and CFGM - See the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 U	ser Guide										
	etland - Blanket bog	(17450)											
	etland - Depression on peat substr etland - Fens (upland and lowland)												
	etland - Lowland raised bog												
	etland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2	•											
	etland - Purple moor grass and rus etland - Reedbeds	sh pastures											
We	etland - Transition mires and quak	ing bogs (H7140)											
	bitat Description	ode = marginal and inundation - inundation vegetation	2)										
***	mand - Recubeus (1 nase One Habitat et	ode – marginar and mundation - mundation vegetation	11)										
_	r Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide	for Floodplain wetland mosaic and coastal and flood	lplain graz	ing mar	sh (CFGI	M). For C	FGM al	so see the	below:				
C	astal and floodplain grazing marsh U	K BAP Priority Habitat description	pium grui		, (er e.	1). 1 01 0		l l					
	ority Habitat Inventory (England) - da other wetland habitats - see UK Habi												
	Hab	itat Glassification (OTT lab).											
		Swan Pool/Priory Wood	On-sit	e or off	-site	On-site	:			•	•	1	,
Sit	e name and location		Survey	refere	nce (if								
			relatin	g to a v									
			survey Habita	•	referer	ice							
, ,	nitations (if annliagh)		7	8	9				T				
LIII	nitations (if applicable)												
			Grid re	eference	•	I	l					l	
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		_							_			Notes (such
			Criteri	on pass	ed (Yes	or No)							as
Cor	re Criteria - must be assessed for <b>all w</b>	etland habitat types:											justification)
		e throughout the year - this could be open water	Yes	Yes	Yes								
A	or saturation of soil at the surface. Then	re is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to											
Λ.	maintain water levels as specified abov Note - this criterion is essential for												
	There will enterior to coccinitar to	or domesting dood condition.	No	No	No								Common reeds
		he wetland habitat type it has been identified as,	140	110	140								are present but
В	based on its UKHab description - as in, vegetation closely matches the character	the appearance and composition of the											woody tree and scrub
ь		nd habitat type <sup>1</sup> listed by UKHab are consistently											species are
	present.												dominant.
	The water supplies (groundwater	ce water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of	No	No	No								
С	good water quality, with clear water (lo	ow turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of											
L	pollution.			<u> </u>			<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
			No	No	No								
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are le	ess than 10%.											
			V	W.	V.								
_	Cover of hore grove 1:-14 50/		Yes	Yes	Yes								
Е	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.												
	There is an absence of i	tive plant appeals 2 (ag list-1 S-k-1-1- C C	Yes	Yes	Yes								
F		tive plant species <sup>2</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of ptimal condition <sup>4</sup> make up less than 5% of											
L	ground cover.	<u> </u>	1	L		L						L	
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for	Fen and Purple moor grass and rush pastu	_		D.T.		1						
	No more than 25% of the habitat area h	as a continuous cover of litter (such as dead	N/A	N/A	N/A								
G	vegetation) preventing regeneration.	,											
Ade	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for	Bog habitats only:											
			N/A	N/A	N/A								
Н	Sphagnum moss <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. and Frequent <sup>5</sup> . Cover of ericaceous dwarf s	cottongrasses <i>Eriophorum</i> spp. are at least shrubs <sup>6</sup> is less than 75%.											
Ad	ditional Criterion - must be assessed for	·	No	No	No				Т				Wet woodland
l,	The reedbed has a diverse structure wit	h between 60 and 80% reeds <i>Phragmites</i> en water (at least 10%), species-rich fen and or	INU	INO	110								is the primary
1	wet woodland.	on mater (at reast 10/0), species-fiell tell and of											habitat.
Ad	I ditional Criterion - must be assessed for	Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM only	:		l		İ	1				<u> </u>	

Ditch condition sheet.	achieve Good condition as assessed using the part of the Floodplain wetland mosaic and module.	N/A	N/A	N/A									
Essential criterion achie	eved (required for Good condition) Yes or No:	Yes	Yes	Yes									
	Number of criteria passed	3	3	3									
Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	Achieved										
Results for habitats requiring asses	sment of 6 criteria (Depression on peat substrates (I	H7150) a	and Ocea	nic valley	y mire [1	] (D2.1))	:						
Passes 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.	Good (3)												
Passes 3 or 4 core criteria; OR     Passes 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.	Moderate (2)												
Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)												
Results for habitats requiring asses substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley min	sment of 7 criteria - core criteria and additiona	l criteri	on spe	cified fo	r habita	t type	(all habit	at types e	except De	epression	n on peat		
Passes 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A;  AND Passes additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Good (3)												
Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; OR Passes 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Moderate (2)												
Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Yes	Yes	Yes										
Suggested enhancement intervention													
	tion present visually while stood on the water's edge. A abitat parcels to improve the condition score from poor			assessmei	nt would	need to l	oe carrie	d out in o	rder to su	ıggest h	ow criter	ia C coul	d be

		OODLAND Habitat Type													
		ation (UKHab) Habitat T t - Lowland beech and y													
		t - Lowland mixed decid													
		t - Native pine woodland													
		t - Other coniferous wo t - Other Scot's pine wo													
		t - Other woodland; bro													
		t - Other woodland; mix	red												
		t - Upland birchwoods t - Upland mixed ashwo	ods												
		t - Upland oakwood	ous												
Wo	odland and forest	t - Wet woodland													
	bitat Description														
Otr	ner woodland; broad	fleaved													
	nab – UK Habitat Cla														
		based on the England Wo	oodland Biodiversity Gro	up (EWBG) Woodland (	Condition	Survey	Method, a	available	here:	ľ			1	ı	1
	odland Wildlife Tool		I		·				<u> </u>						
		diversity metric woodland hey comparable with the s													
		pportion of favourable land										odivoroity	11100110, 1	inoluding th	o romovar or
	<u> </u>	Swan Pool/Priory Wood		On-site		t parcel ı									
	e name and ation	2 John Hory Wood	On-site or off-site		16	17	5.5.5.6								
100	auton											L			
, .	-14-41 (16		Survey reference (if		Grid re	ference		T						1	
	nitations (if olicable)		relating to a wider												
aμ	JGabie)		survey)												
Со	ndition Assessme	ent Criteria						1	1				<u> </u>		
	licator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score	er indic	ator								Notes (such as
	Age				2	1									justification)
A	distribution of trees	Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.	One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.											
	Wild, domestic	No significant browsing	Evidence of significant	Evidence of significant browsing	3	3									
В	and feral herbivore damage	damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	pressure is present in 40% or more of whole											
			Rhododendron Rhododendron	woodland <sup>2</sup> .	3	3									
	Invasive plant	No invasive species <sup>3</sup>	ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present,											
С	species	present in woodland.	laurocerasus not	or other invasive											
			present, other	species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.											
			invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.												
	Number of	Five or more native	Three to four native	Two or less native	3	3									
D	native tree	tree or shrub species4	tree or shrub species4	tree or shrub											
ľ	species	found across woodland		species <sup>4</sup> across											
<u></u>		parcel.	woodland parcel.	woodland parcel.										ļ	
	Cover of native	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of	3	3									
E	tree and shrub	understory shrubs are	understory shrubs are	understory shrubs											
	species	native <sup>5</sup> .	native <sup>5</sup> .	are native <sup>5</sup> .	1	1									
		10 - 20% of woodland		woodland has areas											
	Open space	has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	21 - 40% of woodland	of temporary open											
F	within	Unless woodland is	has areas of	space <sup>6</sup> .											
	woodland	<10ha, in which case 0 -	temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary											
		20% temporary open	орасс .	open space, please											
		space is permitted <sup>7</sup> .		see Good category <sup>7</sup> .											
		All three classes			2	2									
		present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ;													
L	Woodland	trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter	One or two classes	No classes or											
G	regeneration	at Breast Height (DBH),	only present in	coppice regrowth											
		saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice	woodland <sup>8</sup> .	present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .											
		regrowth.													
		Troo mortality less the	11% to 25% tree	Greater than 25%	3	3									
		Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or	mortality and or crown	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or											
Н	Tree health	diseases and no crown	dieback or low-risk	any high-risk pest or											
		dieback <sup>9</sup> .	pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	disease present <sup>9</sup> .											
		Recognisable NVC	prodent.		1	1									
		plant community 10 at	Recognisable	No recognisable											
ı	Vegetation and	ground layer present,	woodland NVC plant	woodland NVC plant											
	ground flora	strongly characterised by ancient woodland	community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.											
L		flora specialists.	g. caa .ayor prosont.	g. caa ayor procent.	<u></u>		<u></u>		<u></u>			<u></u>			
	Woodland	Three or more storeys		One or less storey	2	1									
J	vertical	across all survey plots, or a complex	Two storeys across all survey plots <sup>11</sup> .	across all survey											
	structure	woodland <sup>11</sup> .	all survey plots	plots <sup>11</sup> .											
	•					•		•	•	•	•		•	•	

_	_											
k	١,	Votoran troos			No veteran trees <sup>12</sup>	2	1					
			trees <sup>12</sup> per hectare.	per hectare.	present in woodland.							
L	- 1	Amount of deadwood	bu% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stame branch stubs	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	2	1					
М		Woodland	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground	total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .	3	3					
				Total Score	(out of a possible 39)	30	26					
С	on	dition Assessme	nt Result	Condition Assessmer	nt Score	Result	Achieve	d				
Т	ota	al score >32 (33 to	39)	Good (3)								
Т	ota	al score 26 to 32		Moderate (2)		Yes	Yes					
Т	ota	al score <26 (13 to	25)	Poor (1)								
0		waatad aubauaau	ad anhancement interventions to improve condition score									

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

The condition of each woodland habitat could be improved from moderate to good by introducing more deadwood, diversifying the structure of the woodland and enhancing the regenerative qualities of the woodland through planting.

Co	ndition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE A	ND PARKLAND Habitat Type									
Uk	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha	bitat Type									
	odland and forest - Wood-pasture	and parkland									
	bitat Description rkland										
ı a	Klarid										
uk	nab – UK Habitat Classification										
C:4	e name and location	Swan Pool/Priory Wood	0	On-site							
SIL	e name and location		On-site or off-site								
l ir	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider								
	mations (ii applicable)		survey)								
Gr	d reference		Habitat parcel reference	18							
<u> </u>				Natar (auch an							
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)							
			Yes								
Presence of ancient and or veteran trees <sup>1</sup> .											
А	NB - this criterion is essential for a	achieving Good condition.									
	Three different life-stages (for examp	le voung meture er voteren) ef enen	No								
В		t, to ensure replacement and continuity									
	of tree cohort, veteran characteristics										
			NI-								
_		of heights, widths, shapes and species	No								
С	compositions - as planted or naturally of trees or shrubs <sup>2</sup> .	established individual plants, or clumps									
	or trees or strictes .		NI-								
	Frequent <sup>3</sup> presence of decaying woo	d providing ecological niches – such as	No								
	, , ,	od (for example, dead stems, branches									
D	and branch stubs), trees with heart-re										
	limbs. Decay features might be reveal bodies.	lied by certain types of fungal fruiting									
	bodico.										
	There is no evidence of recent adver-	se impact on tree health by human	Yes								
	activities, livestock, wild animals, pes	ts or diseases (this excludes veteran									
Е	features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching	a damage from machinery use or									
		damage to bark and roots, competition									
	or shading from surrounding trees.										
			Yes								
F	Ground cover comprises open habita	its, for example grassland or heathland,									
Г	which are unimproved or semi-improv	ved (medium distinctiveness or higher).									
	Ground cover is subject to an approp	riate management regime providing	Yes								
G	structural diversity for vertebrates an										
	threatened by infill of trees and scrub plantation, native or non-native. See F										
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Yes								
	There is an absence of invasive non-	native plant species <sup>5</sup> (as listed on	res								
Н		dicative of sub-optimal condition <sup>7</sup> make									
	up less than 5% cover (this excludes	ancient and veteran trees).									
		Number of criteria passed	5								
	ndition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√								
	8 criteria) sses 7 or 8 criteria and meets										
	erion A	Good (3)									
Pa	sses 5 or 6 criteria		Yes								
OF		Moderate (2)									
Pa	sses 7 criteria but fails criterion A										
Pa	sses 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)									
	uggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score										
Th	e condition score of this habitat could be	pe increased to good through the addition	of deadwood and native so	rub. Seedlings and							
sa	olings could also be planted and mana	ged to increased the number of life-stage	s present in the habitat.	-							
l											

# Appendix J: Condition Assessment for Sandwell Park Farm

Survey Cover Sheet			
Date	15/09/2023	Site name or location	Sandwell Park Farm
Weather conditions	Good	Project or development name	Sandwell BNG
Surveyor name	Neil Davidson and Vicky Povey	On-site or off-site	On-site
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes		_	

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat												
Gra	Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi assland - Modified grassland	пастуре(в)											
	bitat Description bitat parcel 1 is amenity grassland. Habitat	narcels 2.5 are 'improved' grasslands											
		parceis 2-3 are improved grassiands.								1			
ukh	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Sandwell Park Farm	0"	44 - ''	On-site	1	1			<u> </u>			
			On-site o	r off-site									
Site	e name and location		Survey re relating to survey)	ference (if o a wider									
			Habitat pa	arcel refere	nce								
Lin	nitations (if applicable)		1	2	3	4	5						
			Grid refer	rence		1		l		<u> </u>	l		
Cai	ndition Assessment Criteria												
			Criterion	passed (Ye	s or No)								Notes (such as justification)
			No	No	No	No	No						
		<sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (this may include those listed essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.											
A		re characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness characteristic species per m <sup>2</sup> (excluding those listed in Footnote											
		ion to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high											
	distinctiveness, please use the relevant cor												
			No	No	No	No	No						
	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the	sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm)	140	110	140	110	110						
В		ortunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
	Some scattered scrub (including bramble less than 20% of total grassland area.	Rubus fruticosus agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts for	103	165	105	100	103						
С	-	were then 000/) cover should be electified as the relevant court											
	habitat type.	nore than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub											
	Dhysical damage is evident in less than 50	6 of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include	No	No	No	Yes	Yes						
D	excessive poaching, damage from machine	ery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or											
	any other damaging management activities	s.											
	Cover of hare ground is between 1% and 1	10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of	No	No	No	No	No						
Е	rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .	to, including localised areas (for example, a concentuation of											
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinumi	s less than 20%.											
			V	V	V	V	V						
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native	e plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
		Formatial mission askinood ()(	No	No	No	No	No						
		Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)	3	3	3	4	4						
Ca	ndition Assessment Result (out of	Number of criteria passed	,	3	7	<u> </u>	<u> </u>						
7 с	riteria) ses 6 or 7 criteria including passing	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achi	eved ×/√									
	ential criterion A	Good (3)											
	ses 4 or 5 criteria including passing ential criterion A	Moderate (2)											
	ses 3 or fewer criteria;		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes						
OR Pas	ses 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)											
	ggested enhancement interventions	to improve condition score											
		site would be suitable for large amounts of biodiveristy uplift. However	r, given the	nature of the	site, with am	ible space f	or car parkii	ng, recreation	onal facili	ties and fai	rground ac	tivities, we	

advise no interventions at present. In order to change the condition scores of these habitat parcels, the overall characteristics of the site would have to be altered.

Footnotes
Footnote 1 - Creeping thistle Circium arvense, spear thistle Circium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 - Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

	ndition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habi	Type (medium, high and very high distinct tat Type(s)	iveness)										
Gra	assland - Lowland calcareous grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	and											
Gra	assland - Lowland meadows												
Gra	assland - Other lowland acid grassland assland - Other neutral grassland			o							m u 2 :	â	
	assland - Tall herb communities (H64 Hab guidance for details.]	(130) [Note Tall herb habitat that does not meet the	Annex 1 d	efinition shoul	d be recorde	ed as 'Other	neutral gras	sland'] [Not	to be confus	sed with the	Tall forbs s	econdary co	de – see
	assland - Upland acid grassland assland - Upland calcareous grasslar	nd											
Gra Sp	assland - Upland hay meadows arsely vegetated land - Calaminarian	grassland											
Ha	bitat Description ssland - Other neutral grassland	g-100											
	g												
			1	T	1		1	ı	ı	1	ı		T
JKI	nab – UK Habitat Classification	Sandwell Park Farm	On-site o	or off-site	On-site								
Sit	e name and location		Survey re	eference (if									
			survey)	o a wider									
			Habitat p	arcel referen	8	9	1	l	l	1	1		
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
			Grid refe	rence									
			Gilu reie	Tence .									
Со	ndition Assessment Criteria												
			Criterion	passed (Ye	s or No)								Notes (such as justification)
	The grassland is a good representation of the	he habitat tyne it has been identified as	No	No	No	No							UK Habs v2 classification Level 5
	based on its UKHab description - the appearance	arance and composition of the vegetation											code g3c7. Yorkshire fog was
A	closely matches the characteristics of the s species listed by UKHab for the specific gr	rassland habitat type. Indicator											abundant, but other species in the habitat
		achieving Moderate or Good condition											classification were
	for non-acid grassland types only.												not present.
			No	No	No	No							
	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the	sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is											
В		hich provide opportunities for insects, birds											
	and small manimus to live and oreed.												
			No	Yes	Yes	No							
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5 rabbit warrens <sup>1</sup> .	%, including localised areas, for example,											
	THE STATE OF THE S												
			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
			1 03	103	103	163							
D		s less than 20% and cover of scrub (including											
	bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) is less the	han 5%.											
							<u></u>						
		ab-optimal condition <sup>2</sup> and physical damage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
	(such as excessive poaching, damage from	machinery use or storage, damaging levels nent activities) accounts for less than 5% of											
Е	total area.												
	If any invasive non-native plant species <sup>3</sup> this criterion is automatically failed.	(as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA $^4$ ) are present,											
Ad	this criterion is automatically failed.  ditional Criterion - must be assessed	d for all non-acid grassland types											
			No	No	No	No							
	characteristic of the habitat type (species re	s per m <sup>2</sup> present, including forbs that are eferenced in Footnote 2 and 4 cannot											
F	contribute towards this count).												
	Note - this criterion is essential for a grassland types only.	achieving Good condition for non-acid											
	g. assiana types omy.												
Es	sential criterion for Good condition a	achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or	No	No	No	No							
		No)		3	3	2							
	ndition Assessment Result	Number of criteria passed Condition Assessment Score	Score Ach		]3	<u></u>							
	id Grassland types (Result out of 5 c	·											
	ses 5 criteria ses 3 or 4 criteria	Good (3) Moderate (2)											
	ses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											
					•					1			

Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)										
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)									
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)									
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Each of these habitat parcels could be improved from poor to good condition. Sward height should be varied. Species diversity can be enhanced through introduction of locally sourced seed collected from meadows

Notes
FOOTHOUTE 1 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover.

Footnote 2 - Species indicative of sub-optimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local to the

Footnote 3 — Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

	tion sheet: it Type	HEDGEROW Habitat Types												
Native	hedgerow													
	•	- associated with bank or di	tch											
		with trees with trees - associated with	bank or ditch											
Specie	es-rich nati	ve hedgerow												
		ve hedgerow - associated wi ve hedgerow with trees	tn bank or ditch											
Specie	s-rich nati	ve hedgerow with trees - ass	ociated with bank or ditch											
	t Descripti		acian rich active hadroness 42, 45, 20 ac		!	i a la a 41								
14, 16	and 19 = na	ative neagerow. 17 and 18 = spe	ecies rich native hedgerow. 13, 15, 20 ar	na 21 = s	pecies-r	icn nativ	e neage	ow with	i trees.					
		ty Metric 4.0 User Guide Sections ssigned to one of five functional	on 9. I groups (A – E) and the condition of a he	edaerow	is asses	sed acc	ordina ta	the nu	mber of	attribut	tes fron	n these	functions	al arouns which
		ourable condition' criteria.	. g. cape (/ t = 2) and the condition of a ne	Jugo. o	.0 00000	000 000	or all 19 to		1.50. 0.	atti iba			- Carrottoric	greape milen
	ame and tions (if	Sandwell Park Farm	On-site or off-site Survey reference (if	On-site										
applic			relating to a wider											
Condi	tion Acces	oment Criteria	survey)											
		sment Criteria ibutes, representing key physic	cal characteristics are used for this asse	essment.	This ass	sessmer	nt is base	d on th	e Heda	erow S	urvey l	Handboo	ok <sup>1</sup> and F	avourable
Conse	rvation Stat	us document <sup>2</sup> . For further clarif	ication please refer to the Hedgerow Sur	vey Han	dbook.									
		ssigned to one of five functional vourable condition' criteria.	I groups (A – E) and the condition of a he	edgerow	is asses	sed acc	ording to	the nui	mber of	attribut	es fron	n these	runctiona	a groups which
	Hedgerow favourable condition attributes													
Habitat parcel reference														
	utes and	Criteria - the minimum		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
functi	onal ings (A,	requirements for	Criteria description	Grid re	ference									
	and E)	'favourable condition'												
											•			Notes (such as
Core g	roups - ap	plicable to all hedgerow type	es es es es es es es es es es es es es e	Criterio	n passe	d (Yes	or No)							justification)
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of woody growth	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No		
			estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, excluding any bank											
			beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees.											
			Newly laid or coppiced hedgerows are indicative of good management and											
			pass this criterion for up to a maximum											
			of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).											
			A newly planted hedgerow does not											
			pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m											
A2.	Width	>1 E m avereza alena lenath	height). The average width of woody growth	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No		
AZ.	watn	>1.5 m average along length	estimated at the widest point of the	INO	INO	res	res	res	res	res	INO	INO		
			canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees.											
			Outgrowths (such as blackthorn <i>Prunus</i> spinosa suckers) are only included in											
			the width estimate when they are >0.5 m in height.											
			-											
			Laid, coppiced, cut and newly planted hedgerows are indicative of good											
			management and pass this criterion for											
B1.	Con	Can between ground and	up to a maximum of four years (if	Ves	Ves	Ves	Ven	Ver	Var	Var	Vac	Var		
	Gap - hedge	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for	This is the vertical 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow,	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	base	>90% of length	and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth.											
			Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the											
			Hedgerow Survey Handbook).											
B2.	Gap - hedge	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and	This is the horizontal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	canopy	No canopy gaps >5 m	Gaps are complete breaks in the woody											
	continuity		canopy (no matter how small).											
			Access points and gates contribute to											
			the overall 'gappiness' but are not subject to the >5 m criterion (as this is											
			the typical size of a gate).											
	1	I	I	I	I	I	I	1	1	1	l	1	l	

	Undisturbe d ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:  · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow.  Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow.  This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation,	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No		
			heavily trodden footpaths, poached											
C2.	Nutrient- enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	The indicator species used are nettles Urtica spp., cleavers Galium aparine and docks Rumex spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>3</sup> ) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes).  Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website <sup>4</sup> , as well as the BSBI website <sup>5</sup> where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora <sup>6</sup> contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website <sup>7</sup> .	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes.  This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (e.g., excessive hedgerow cutting).	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No		
	onal group Tree class	There is more than one age- class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient <sup>8</sup> ), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	rith trees only  This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.	No	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No		
E3.														
	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes		
	health	trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.										oles hab	w
The he	health	trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.  weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, w										oles belo	w.
The he	health  edgerow contition categorition	trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.  Indition assessment generates a pries for hedgerows without	subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.  weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, w	hich is us	sed within								oles belo	w.
The he	health  edgerow contition categorition	trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.  Indition assessment generates a cories for hedgerows without Category Requirements  No more than 2 failures in total AND	subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.  weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, we trees		sed within								oles belo	w.
The he	health  dedgerow continuous category	trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.  Indition assessment generates a pries for hedgerows without Category Requirements  No more than 2 failures in total, AND  No more than 4 failures in total, AND  Does not fail both attributes in If fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C	subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.  weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, we trees  unctional group.  more than one functional group (e.g. 22 = Moderate condition).	Metric s	sed within								oles belo	w.
The he Condi Categ	health  dedgerow continuous category	trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.  Indition assessment generates a cories for hedgerows without Category Requirements  No more than 2 failures in total AND  No more than 1 failure in any fundamental failures in total AND  Does not fail both attributes in total AND  Fails a total of more than 4 attrioner	subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.  weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, we trees  unctional group.  The properties of the survival and th	Metric:	sed within								oles belo	w.

Metric score

Condition categories for hedgerows with trees
Category Category Requirements

No more than 2 failures in total;
AND

Moderate

No more than 1 failure in any functional group.

No more than 5 failures in total;

AND

Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g., fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).

	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes;	
D	OR	4
Poor	Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (e.g. fails	ı
	attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	
	Score achieved:	1,3,2,1
		1-1 1

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

All hedgerow habitat parcels are of moderate to good condition other than habitat parcels 13 and 21. Given the need for vehicular access around the site, and the general characteristics of the site, we do not recommend any intervention to the hedgerows at this stage. There is potential for some uplift to be gained through better management of hedgerows. However, this would impact the sites recreational characteristic.

# Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type

Habitat Type(s)

Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies

Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools]

Lakes - High alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Marl lakes

Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes

Lakes - Peat lakes

Lakes - Reservoirs

Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]

## **Habitat Description**

UKHab v2, habitat r2b - Other rivers and streams

### See Water Framework Directive:

WFD Lakes typologies description

For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and 'Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:

<u>UKHab</u>

### Condition Assessment Criteria

The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see below).

There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment score.

Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at:

http://priorityhab.wpengine.com/contribute/

# The key documents are:

Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF)

Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF)

Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex-III - Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF)
Annex IV - Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF)

Annex VI - Further species recording (PDF)

We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' website portal:

Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)

Site name and location	Sandwell Park Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	24
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved	
1 Natural	Good (3)	Moderate	
2	Fairly good (2.5)		
3	Moderate (2)		
4	Fairly poor (1.5)		
5 Least natural	Poor (1)		

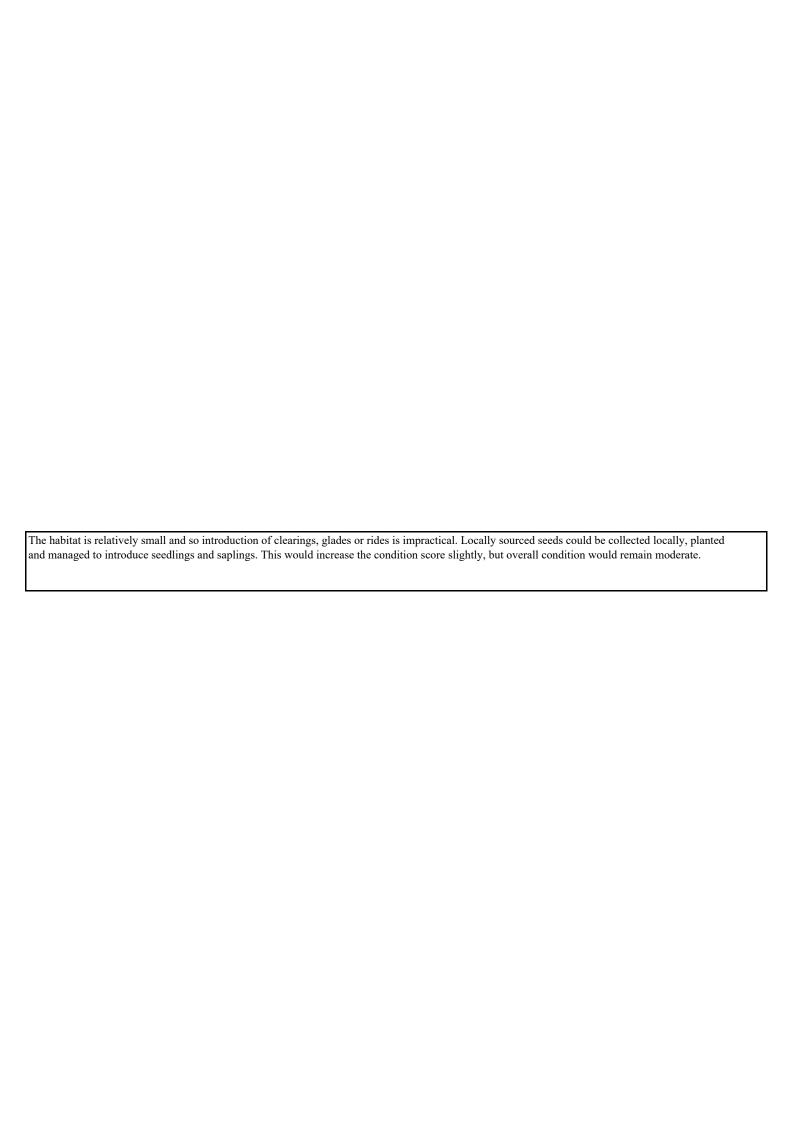
# Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Assessment was carried out using the information present visually while stood next to the stream at multiple locations across the site. An in-depth rivers and streams assessment would need to be carried out to understand aquatic species within the stream as well as other features such as depth. We cannot suggest any interventions to this habitat at present without a more detailed assessment carried out by an accredited river condition assessor.

	ndition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Ha	bitat Type											
	pitat Type(s)												
	e of trees												
	e of trees – associated with bank	or aiten											
	ologically valuable line of trees ologically valuable line of trees – a	accepted with bank or ditab											
	oitat Description	associated with bank of ditch											
	e of trees												
	e of trees – associated with bank or ditcl	n											
	logically valuable line of trees												
Eco	logically valuable line of trees – associa	ited with bank or ditch											
See	the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 User Guide	Section 9.											
Thi	s assessment is based on the Hedgerow	Survey Handbook . For further clarif	ications p	lease refer	to the Ha	ndbook.							
wn	ere ancient and veteran trees are present			ng advice.	I								
		Sandwell Park Farm		e or oπ-	On-site								
			site Survey	,									
Site	e name and location		referer										
			relating	•									
				survey)									
			Habita	t parcel r	eference	•							
			22	23									
Lin	nitations (if applicable)												
			Grid re	eference		<u> </u>	<u> </u>						
			unu ic	1	1	1	I	<u> </u>		1			
Col	ndition Assessment Criteria												
001	idition Assessment officia												Notes (such
			Criterio	on passe	d (Yes o	r No)							as
			Yes	Yes	T	I		Ι	Ι				iustification)
	A+1+ 700/ - £+												
A	At least 70% of trees are native species.	•											
	Tues company is much assistantly continues	no with some in company cover	Yes	Yes									
В	Tree canopy is predominantly continuous making up <10% of total area and no in												
	making up 170/001 total area and no m	anvidum gap being: 5 in wide.											
	0		No	No									
С	One or more trees has veteran features a vertebrates and invertebrates, such as pr												
	deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	reserve of standing and attached											
	<u> </u>	ata distance of at larget Constant hash	NT.	NT.									
	There is an undisturbed naturally-vegets sides to protect the line of trees from far		No	No									
D	(excluding grazing). Where veteran tree												
	should follow standing advice <sup>2</sup> .	1 / 1											
			Yes	Yes									
	At least 95% of the trees are in a health												
Е	features valuable for wildlife are exclude evidence of an adverse impact on tree h												
	wild animals, pests or diseases, or huma												
	wird ainmais, pests of diseases, of nume	an activity.											
		Number of criteria passed	3	3									
	ndition Assessment Result (out	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	chieved ×	I.								
	5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score A	icilicved ^/	1	1	1						
	ses 5 criteria	Good (3)	1				<u> </u>						
	ses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes	Yes			<u> </u>						
	ses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											
	ggested enhancement intervention												
	h habitat parcels are in moderate conditi				condition	n score sl	ightly. R	eaching a	good co	ondition is	not possi	ble at this	point
111 (1	me given one or both sides of the line o	i uces is greatly disturbed by numan int	tervention	•									

Footnotes

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	ndition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Typ Habitat Classification (UKHab) Ha			
Hea	athland and shrub - Blackthorn sc	rub		
Hea	athland and shrub - Gorse scrub			
Hea	athland and shrub - Hawthorn scru	ıb		
Hea	athland and shrub - Hazel scrub			
Hea	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub			
	athland and shrub - Dunes with se	a buckthorn (H2160)		
	athland and shrub - Willow scrub bitat Description			
	athland and shrub - Mixed scrub			
For	Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippopha (jncc.gov.uk)	e rhamnoides) - Specia	Areas of Conservation
For	other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification		
	e name and location	Sandwell Park Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site
Lim	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Gri	d reference		Habitat parcel reference	10
Coi	ndition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
			Yes	
A	its UKHab description (where in its natu the vegetation closely matches the chara- At least 80% of scrub is native, and the single species comprising more than 75	re are at least three native woody species <sup>1</sup> , with no % of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , <i>is</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> or box		
В	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and n present.	nature (or ancient or veteran <sup>2</sup> ) shrubs are all	No	
С	There is an absence of invasive non-nat WCA <sup>4</sup> ) and species indicative of sub-opcover.	ive plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of otimal condition <sup>5</sup> make up less than 5% of ground	Yes	
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge w present between the scrub and adjacent	ith scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs habitat.	Yes	
Е	There are clearings, glades or rides pres	sent within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.	No	
		Num	ber of criteria passed	3
	ndition Assessment Result (out 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
	ses 5 criteria	Good (3)		
Pass	ses 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes	
	ses 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
	ggested enhancement intervention			



	ndition Sheet: WOODLAN					
UK Wo	Habitat Classification (Ul	KHab) Habitat Type(s)				
		and mixed deciduous woodlar				
Wo	odland and forest - Native	e pine woodlands				
Wo	odland and forest - Other	coniferous woodland				
Wo	odland and forest - Other	Scot's pine woodland				
Wo	odland and forest - Other	woodland; broadleaved				
Wo	odland and forest - Other	woodland; mixed				
	odland and forest - Uplan					
	odland and forest - Uplan					
	odland and forest - Uplan					
	odland and forest - Wet work to the contract of the contract o	roodland				
Oth	er woodland; broadleaved					
ukh	<u>ab – UK Habitat Classificati</u>	<u>ion</u>				
This	s condition sheet is based o	on the England Woodland Biodive	ersity Group (EWBG) Wood	dland Condition Survey Met	thod, available	here:
	odland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva			1		
this ass	condition assessment are essment has been adapted	metric woodland condition asse not equivalent to, nor are they c for the biodiversity metric, inclu , and minor changes to other inc	comparable with the scores uding the removal of EWBG	from the EWBG condition a Indicator 7 (Proportion of f	assessment, b	ecause the EWBG
Site	e name and location	Sandwell Park Farm	On-site or off site	On-site		
JILE	manie and iocation		On-site or off-site			
			0 5 775			
Lim	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
	nitations (if applicable)		relating to a wider	11		
Gri	,	ria	relating to a wider survey)			
Gri Co	d reference	ria Good (3 points)	relating to a wider survey)		Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
Gri Col	d reference ndition Assessment Crite	Good (3 points)	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference		•	`
Gri Cor Ind	d reference ndition Assessment Crite icator	Good (3 points)	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of	indicator	`
Gri Cor Ind	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is	indicator 3	`
Gri Cor Ind	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .	indicator 3	`
Gri Cor Ind	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron Photocum	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry	indicator 3	`
Gri Con Ind A	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other	indicator 3	`
Gri Col Ind A	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10%	indicator 3	`
Gri Con Ind A	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other	indicator 3	`
Gri Col Ind A	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.	indicator 3 2	`
Gri Con Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or	indicator 3	`
Gri Con Ind A B	d reference ndition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across	indicator 3 2	`
Gri Cor Ind A B	d reference ndition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.	indicator 3 2 3 3	`
Gri Ind A B	d reference ndition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and	indicator 3 2	`
Gri Con Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species  Number of native tree species  Cover of native tree and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species 3 < 10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species 4 found across woodland parcel.  50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory	indicator 3 2 3 3	`
Gri Con Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species  Number of native tree species	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species 3 < 10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species 4 found across woodland parcel. 50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and	indicator 3 2 3 3	`
Gri Con Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species  Number of native tree species  Cover of native tree and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species 3 < 10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species 4 found across woodland parcel.  50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory	indicator 3 2 3 3	`
Gri Con Ind A B	d reference  Indition Assessment Critericator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species  Number of native tree species  Cover of native tree and	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  10 - 20% of woodland has	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species 3 < 10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species 4 found across woodland parcel. 50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .	3 2 3 3 3	`
Gri Ind A B C	d reference  Indition Assessment Crite icator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species  Number of native tree species  Cover of native tree and shrub species	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species 3 < 10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species 4 found across woodland parcel. 50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native 5.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  <10% or >40% of	3 2 3 3 3	`
Gri Ind A B C	d reference  Indition Assessment Crite Icator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and Invasive plant species  Number of native tree Indition Assessment Crite Icator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and Invasive plant species  Over of native tree and Invasive plant species  Open space within	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel. 50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  <10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha	3 2 3 3 3	`
Gri Coi Ind	d reference  Indition Assessment Crite icator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage  Invasive plant species  Number of native tree species  Cover of native tree and shrub species	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .  Unless woodland is <10ha, in	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes 1 present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland 2.  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species 3 < 10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species 4 found across woodland parcel. 50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native 5.	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  <10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open	3 2 3 3 3	`
Gri Coo Ind A B C E	d reference  Indition Assessment Crite Icator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and Invasive plant species  Number of native tree Indition Assessment Crite Icator  Age distribution of trees  Wild, domestic and Invasive plant species  Over of native tree and Invasive plant species  Open space within	Good (3 points)  Three age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  No significant browsing damage evident in woodland <sup>2</sup> .  No invasive species <sup>3</sup> present in woodland.  Five or more native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel.  >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> .	relating to a wider survey)  Habitat parcel reference  Moderate (2 points)  Two age-classes <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <sup>3</sup> <10% cover.  Three to four native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> found across woodland parcel. 50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary	Poor (1 point)  One age-class <sup>1</sup> present.  Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland <sup>2</sup> .  Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species <sup>3</sup> >10% cover.  Two or less native tree or shrub species <sup>4</sup> across woodland parcel.  <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native <sup>5</sup> .  <10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space <sup>6</sup> . But if woodland <10ha	3 2 3 3 3	`

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G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland <sup>8</sup> ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland <sup>8</sup> .	2	
н	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback <sup>9</sup> .	11% to 25% mortality and/or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present.	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high- risk pest or disease present <sup>9</sup> .	3	
ı	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community <sup>10</sup> at ground layer present.	1	
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots or a complex woodland <sup>11</sup> .	Two storeys across all survey plots 11.	One or less storey across all survey plots 11.	2	
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees <sup>12</sup> per hectare.	One veteran tree <sup>12</sup> per hectare.	No veteran trees <sup>12</sup> present in woodland.	2	
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> .	3	
M	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident <sup>14</sup> .	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground 14.	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground 14.	3	
			ore (out of a possible 39)			
	ndition Assessment Resu	lt	Condition Assessment S	Result Achieved		
	ral score >32 (33 to 39)			Good (3)	Moderate	
	al score 26 to 32			Moderate (2)		
1T-4	1 annua <26 (12 to 25)			ID(1)		i l

Seeds should be collected locally and planted within the woodland. Seedling growth should be effectively managed to ensure saplings develop. This would increase the

Poor (1)

Total score <26 (13 to 25)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

number of age classes present, introduce another storey to the woodland, and increase the classes present.

Condition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE AND PARKLAND Habitat Type				
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type				
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland				
Habitat Description				
Parkland				
				T
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification				
Site name and location		Sandwell Park Farm	On-site or off-site	On-site
Lir	nitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider	
Zimitations (ii applicable)			survey)	
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference	12
Ond reference			•	
Condition Assessment Criteria			Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
			Yes	A veteran beech tree is
	Presence of ancient and or veteran trees <sup>1</sup> .			present.
Α				
	NB - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.			
			No	
	Three different life-stages (for examp	le young, mature or veteran) of open		
В	grown or pollarded trees <sup>1</sup> are present, to ensure replacement and continuity			
	of tree cohort, veteran characteristics and habitat.			
			No	
С	Native scrub is present with a variety of heights, widths, shapes and species compositions - as planted or naturally established individual plants, or clumps			
	lof trees or shrubs <sup>2</sup> .			
	of thees of still abs .			
	Frequent <sup>3</sup> presence of decaying wood providing ecological niches – such as		No	
	standing, attached and fallen deadwood (for example, dead stems, branches			
D	and branch stubs), trees with heart-re			
	limbs. Decay features might be revea	lled by certain types of fungal fruiting		
	bodies.			
			Yes	
	There is no evidence of recent adverse impact on tree health by human activities, livestock, wild animals, pests or diseases (this excludes veteran			
	features valuable for wildlife).			
Е	For example, no evidence of poaching, damage from machinery use or			
	storage, ground compaction, grazing damage to bark and roots, competition			
	or shading from surrounding trees.			
			Yes	
_	Ground cover comprises open habitats, for example grassland or heathland,			
F	which are unimproved or semi-improved (medium distinctiveness or higher).			
	Ground cover is subject to an approp	priate management regime providing	Yes	
	structural diversity for vertebrates and invertebrates, which is not being or			
G	threatened by infill of trees and scrub by natural establishment or forestry			
	plantation, native or non-native. See Footnote 4 for details.			
			Yes	
l	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species <sup>5</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>6</sup> ), and species indicative of sub-optimal condition <sup>7</sup> make up less than 5% cover (this excludes ancient and veteran trees).			
Н				
		Number of criteria passed	5	
Condition Assessment Result (out		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
of 8 criteria) Passes 7 or 8 criteria and meets				
criterion A		Good (3)		
Pa	sses 5 or 6 criteria		Yes	
OR		Moderate (2)		
	sses 7 criteria but fails criterion A	,		
Passes 4 or fewer criteria		D (4)		
		Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score  The condition score of this habitat could be increased to good through the addition of deadwood and native				vruh Soodlings and
saplings could also be planted and managed to increase the number of life-stages present in the habitat.				

# Habitats Regulations Assessments

Sustainability Appraisals

Strategic Environmental Assessments

Landscape Character Assessments

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments

Green Belt Reviews

**Expert Witness** 

**Ecological Impact Assessments** 

Habitat and Ecology Surveys



© Lepus Consulting Ltd

**Eagle Tower** 

Montpellier Drive

Cheltenham

**GL50 1TA** 

T: 01242 525222

E: enquiries@lepusconsulting.com

www.lepusconsulting.com

**CHELTENHAM**