



BIODIVERSE
CONSULTING

RISCA

**PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL
APPRAISAL**

FOR: LIDL GB

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CLIENT	PROJECT	
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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Biodiverse Consulting Ltd was commissioned to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of land near Commercial Street, Pontymister, Risca West, Newport, NP11 6EE. The Site is proposed to be developed into a retail store with associated infrastructure. This report presents the key ecological constraints and opportunities in relation to the development, as summarised in the table below.

ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR RISCA PROPOSAL	
Designated Sites	One statutory designated site and seven non-statutory designated sites were identified within 1km of the Site. The River Ebbw SINCR is located adjacent to the Site.
Habitats	The majority of the Site consists of urban habitats of negligible value. Scrub habitat present is of Low value.
Bats	The habitats on Site and immediately adjacent to the Site are considered to be of negligible suitability for foraging and commuting bats. No further surveys are required to assess value of the Site for bats.
Birds	Scrub and trees afford limited suitability for nesting and foraging. The adjacent River Ebbw provides good quality foraging habitat to a range of species. The Site is considered to be of local value for birds.
Otter	The terrestrial habitats within the Site offer poor suitability for otter. No activity or signs confirming otter presence were recorded.
Hedgehog	The Site has the potential to support hedgehog with habitats providing some limited suitability for foraging and resting.
Recommendations	Production of Construction Ecological Management Plan Production of a wildlife sensitive lighting scheme



CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
CONTENTS	5
1 INTRODUCTION	6
1.1 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION	6
1.2 REPORT OBJECTIVES	6
1.3 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS	7
2 METHODOLOGY	8
2.1 SURVEY AREA.....	8
2.2 DESK STUDY	9
2.3 FIELD SURVEY.....	9
2.4 LIMITATIONS TO SURVEY.....	10
2.5 ASSESSMENT.....	10
3 RESULTS	11
3.1 DESK STUDY	11
3.2 FIELD SURVEY.....	12
4 RECOMMENDATIONS	18
4.1 POTENTIAL IMPACTS	18
4.2 FURTHER SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT	18
4.3 AVOIDANCE	18
4.4 MITIGATION.....	18
4.5 COMPENSATION/ENHANCEMENT.....	19
APPENDICES	20
APPENDIX A – UKHAB MAP	21
APPENDIX B – TARGET NOTES	22
APPENDIX C – LRC DATA SEARCH	23
APPENDIX D – POLICY AND LEGISLATION.....	31
APPENDIX E – VALUE OF ECOLOGICAL FEATURES.....	34

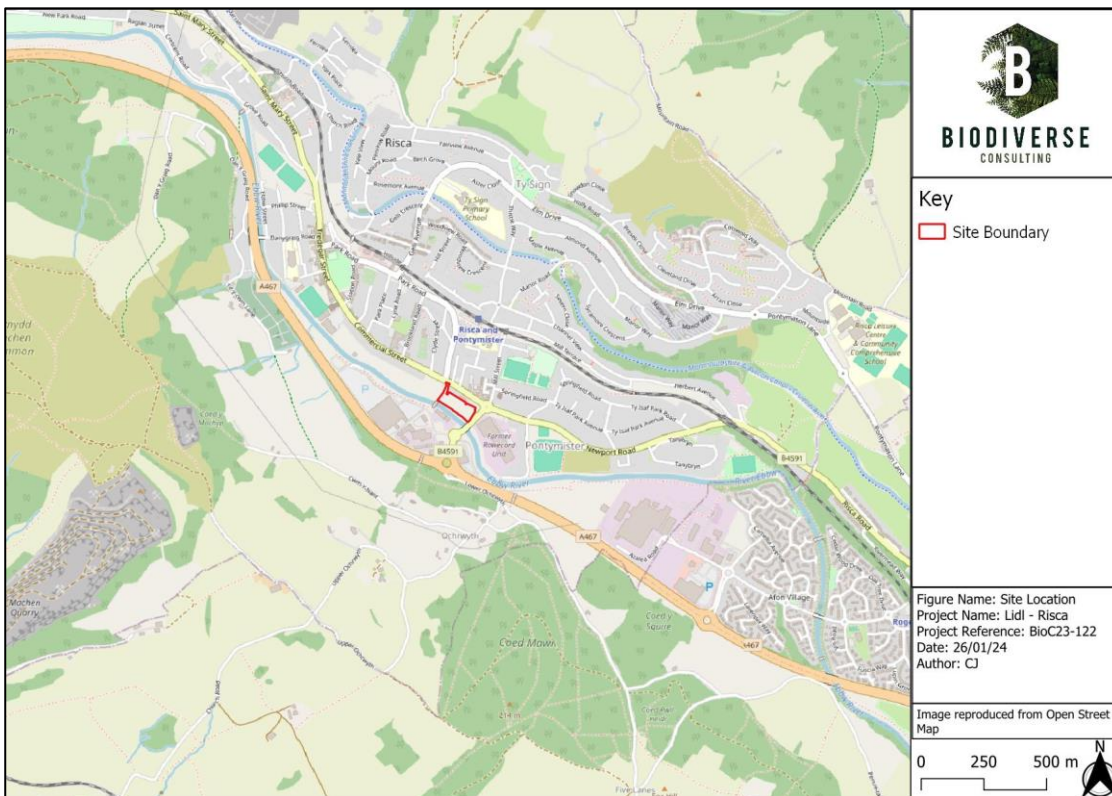


1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

The Site is located near Commercial Street, Pontymister, Risca West, Newport, NP11 6EE at an approximate central grid reference of ST 24404 89868 as illustrated in Figure 1. The ~1.0ha Site currently consists of a construction materials storage compound with scattered areas of boundary scrub. The surrounding area comprises industrial and residential areas, with the River Ebbw flowing northwest to southeast forming the south-western boundary of the Site.

FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION



1.2 REPORT OBJECTIVES

The aim of this report is to determine the potential ecological constraints and opportunities to development. The objectives of this report are to:

- Identify and describe ecological features/receptors that may be present on Site or within an identified Zone of Influence (Zoi).
- Outline potential mitigation, compensation or enhancement measures if required.
- Determine the need for and scope of further surveys.



1.3 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The development proposal comprises a retail store with carpark and associated infrastructure based on current Proposed Setting Out Plan Drawing Number P402 Rev W (see Figure 2).

FIGURE 2: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLANS



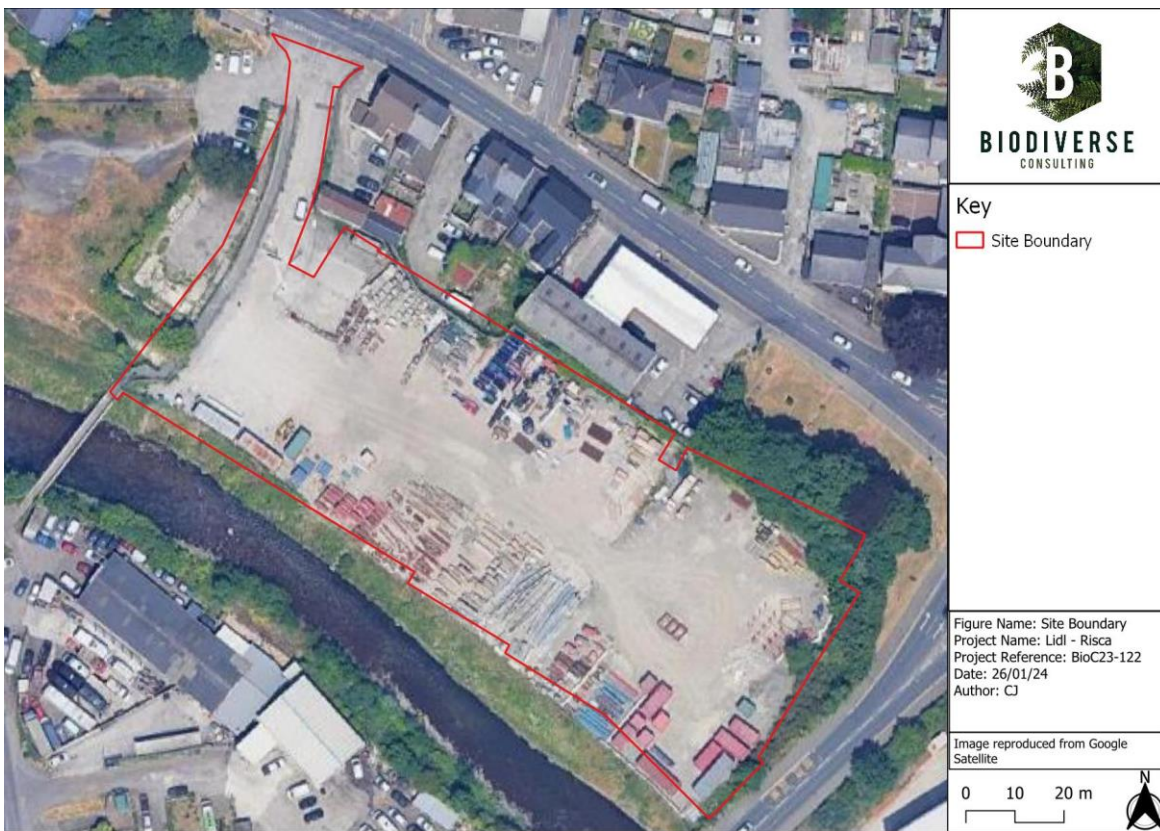


2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 SURVEY AREA

The survey area comprised the 'Site' (Figure 3) and, where access was available, an appropriate buffer.

FIGURE 3: SURVEY AREA





2.2 DESK STUDY

A desk study was undertaken to obtain pre-existing ecological information relevant to the assessment. The desk study included:

- An assessment of aerial imagery and Ordnance Survey mapping.
- A search of the DataMapWales website¹ for all statutory designated sites within 2km and any additional sites outside of this buffer that have the potential to be impacted by the development.
- A request to the Local Record Centre (LRC) for records of non-statutory designated sites within 1km and protected and priority habitats and species within 2km.

2.3 FIELD SURVEY

Table 1 provides a summary of the field surveys undertaken. Full details of each survey are provided in the subsequent sections. All surveys were undertaken by suitably experienced ecologists; full details are available on request.

TABLE 1: SURVEY SUMMARY

SURVEY TYPE	DATE	TEMPERATURE	CLOUD	PRECIPITATION	WIND ²
PEA	04/01/2024	9°C	85%	None	2 BF

2.3.1 Habitats/Protected Species

The Site was subjected to a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) walkover survey during which habitats were assessed in line with the UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) methods³. As part of the survey, the Site was also checked for evidence of protected and priority species, and habitats were assessed for their potential to support them.

2.3.2 Bats

Survey methods and assessment are based on the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) Good Practice Guidelines⁴. A Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PBRA) determined the value of trees and structures to roosting bats. A more general habitat assessment, based on features within the Site and surrounding landscape, determined the value of the Site to foraging and commuting bats.

¹ DataMapWales available at: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new#/>

² Beaufort wind force scale available at: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/guides/coast-and-sea/beaufort-scale>

³ UKHAB Ltd (2023) The UK Habitats Classification User Manual Version 2 at <http://www.ukhab.org/>

⁴ Collins, J. (ed) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th Edition). Bat Conservation Trust



Roosting, foraging and commuting features were classified as Negligible, Low, Moderate or High. This classification determines the need for and scope of follow-up surveys.

2.4 LIMITATIONS TO SURVEY

The survey was undertaken outside of the optimal botanical survey period; therefore, some plant species may not have been identifiable. This is not considered to have significant limitations on the majority of assessments made within this report due to the common and widespread habitats and species recorded during the survey.

2.5 ASSESSMENT

The PEA surveys may provide sufficient information to accurately determine the value of some features, whereas other features may require further study to allow this. Features for which sufficient information is available at this stage are assigned a value using a geographic frame of reference in line with guidance from the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) (Appendix E).



3 RESULTS

3.1 DESK STUDY

3.1.1 Designated Sites

One statutory designated site was identified within 2km of the Site; a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Seven non-statutory designated sites were identified within 1km of the Site; Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). A summary of statutory designated sites is provided in Table 2.

The SSSI is of national value and the SINCs are of up to district value.

TABLE 2: DESIGNATED SITES

DESIGNATION	SITE NAME	REASON FOR DESIGNATION	DISTANCE FROM SITE
Statutory Designated Sites			
SSSI	Dan y Graig Quarry	Designated for its Geological and Geomorphological Value.	1300m
Non-statutory Designated Sites			
SINC	River Ebbw	Designated for anadromous fish species and otter.	10m
SINC	Ochrwth Grassland	Designated for its species rich neutral grassland with waxcap species present.	590m
SINC	Monmouth to Brecon Canal	Designated for wetland and woodland habitats.	600m
SINC	Coed Mawr West	Designated for its ancient woodland.	600m
SINC	Coed y Mochyn	Designated for woodland and calcareous grassland.	840m
SINC	Mynydd machen	Designated for its acid and calcareous grassland habitats.	950m
SINC	Ty-Sign Meadows	Designated for its species rich neutral grassland.	990m



3.1.2 Priority Habitats

The River Ebbw, which runs adjacent to the south-western boundary of the Site, is designated as priority habitat. There are records of further Priority Habitats within 2km of the Site including: Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures, Lowland Dry Acid Grassland, Upland Calcareous Grassland, Traditional Orchard and Open Mosaic Habitat.

3.1.3 Protected and Priority Species

A summary of recent (2010–present) records of protected, priority or otherwise notable species was provided by the LRC and relevant records are discussed in the results sections below. The full LRC search results are available on request.

3.2 FIELD SURVEY

3.2.1 Habitats

The ~1.0ha Site predominantly contains artificial, sparsely vegetated urban habitats and hardstanding. Pockets of scrub are located within the boundaries of the Site. Detailed accounts of the UKHab habitats are provided below. A map of the UKHab habitats is provided in Appendix A with Target Notes in appendix B.

**IMAGE 1 - ARTIFICIAL
UNVEGETATED UNSEALED
SURFACE**



IMAGE 2 - MIXED SCRUB





IMAGE 3 – SPARSELY VEGETATED URBAN LAND



3.2.1.1 h3h – Mixed Scrub

The Site contained two distinct areas of Mixed Scrub within its boundaries.

S1 – This area is dominated by a mix of young to semi-mature willow *Salix* sp. and gorse with an understory of bramble and ivy *Hedera helix* (see Image 2).

S2 – This area contains Mixed Scrub comprised of bramble and buddleia *Buddleia davidii* with an understory of ivy.

These habitats are considered to be of low value due to their low diversity which supports a range of locally and nationally common species.

3.2.1.2 u1f – Sparsely Vegetated Urban Land

An area of predominantly unvegetated land comprising gravel with building materials being stored on it. The area contains approximately 10% vegetation with early successional species present such as dandelion *Taraxacum* sp. and bryophytes.

This habitat is considered to be of low value due to its low diversity which supports a range of locally and nationally common species.

3.2.1.3 u1b – Developed Land; Sealed Surface & u1c – Artificial Unvegetated; Unsealed Surface

An area of Developed Land; Sealed Surface is present on Site in the form of a concrete/tarmac access track.

This habitat is considered to be of negligible value.



3.2.2 Protected Species

Protected species are afforded a level of legal protection which means that their presence may pose a constraint to development. A summary of relevant legislation and associated species is provided in Appendix C.

The following sections describe the results of the field surveys and an appraisal of desk study data. Species not addressed below are considered extremely unlikely to be present and/or affected by the development and so are scoped out of further assessment.

3.2.2.1 Great Crested Newt (GCN) (*Triturus cristatus*)

Six records for GCN were returned within 2km, with all record locations considered to have poor connectivity to the Site.

No waterbodies suitable for breeding GCN were identified on Site or within 500m. Connectivity to the Site from areas of suitable habitat within the local area is considered very poor due to dense urban development to the north and the Ebbw River acting as a natural barrier to the south.

Due to lack of connectivity to suitable breeding habitats this species is considered to be absent from the Site and is scoped out of further assessment.

3.2.2.2 Reptiles

Records for slow worm *Anguis fragilis*, grass snake *Natrix helvetica*, adder *Vipera berus* and common lizard *Zootoca vivipara* were identified in areas considered to have poor connectivity to the Site.

The majority of the Site is considered to provide low suitability habitat for common reptile species due to a lack of vegetation leading to poor foraging resources. The scrub within the Site boundary and the adjacent grassland within the riparian zone could provide limited suitability habitat due to their structural variation.

An area of derelict land to the adjacent northwestern boundary of the Site appears to provide good quality habitat for common reptiles. Connectivity to suitable habitat in the wider landscape is considered to be poor due to dense urban development to the north and the Ebbw River acting as a natural barrier to the south.

It is unlikely that an important assemblage of reptiles is present on Site, and they are therefore scoped out of further assessment, however a precautionary approach will be adopted to safeguard this taxa during construction.



3.2.2.3 Bats

The desk study identified 131 records of the following bat species within 2km of the Site: common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, Nathusius's pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii*, greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, brown long-eared *Plecotus auratus*, western barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus*, Brandt's bat *Myotis brandtii*, Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentoniid*, Whiskered bat *Myotis mystacinus*, Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri*, lesser noctule *Nyctalus leisler* and noctule *Nyctalus noctule*.

A steel footbridge crosses the River Ebbw and contained no Potential Roost Features (PRFs). Trees on Site also contained no PRFs. Therefore, no roosting opportunities are present on Site and suitability for roosting bats is considered negligible.

The Site and the immediate surroundings offer some limited foraging habitat for bats via the on-Site scrub and via the grassland and open water habitats along the adjacent River Ebbw, though the northern boundary of the River Ebbw is devoid of woody species and is, therefore, of limited value to commuting bats.

The habitats on Site and immediately adjacent to the Site are considered to be of negligible suitability to foraging and commuting bats. No further surveys are required to assess value of the Site for bats.

3.2.2.4 Birds

Numerous bird records were returned from within 2km of the Site including Schedule 1 and Red/Amber-Listed⁵ bird species such as kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, swift *Apus apus* and dipper *Cinclus cinclus*.

The Site affords limited suitability for nesting and foraging within the grassland, scrub and trees on Site for a range of locally common species. The River Ebbw provides good quality foraging habitat to a range of riparian species. The Site is considered to provide unsuitable nesting habitat for Schedule 1 species such as kingfisher. Table 3 provides a summary of the bird species recorded on Site during the walkover survey.

Overall, the Site is considered to be of local value for birds and further surveys are not recommended. A precautionary approach to safeguard birds during construction, together with post development compensation measures, is recommended.

⁵ Birds of Conservation Concern 5 (Dec 2021) Summary – [bocc-5-a5-4pp-single-pages.pdf \(bto.org\)](https://www.bto.org/bocc-5-a5-4pp-single-pages.pdf)

**TABLE 3: BIRD SPECIES RECORDED**

SPECIES	COMMENT	CONSERVATION STATUS
Wren	Observed in scrub	Amber listed
Magpie	Observed in tree	Green listed
Cormorant	Multiple resting on bridge off Site.	Green listed

3.2.2.5 Badger (*Meles meles*)

The desk study returned eight recent records from within 2km of the Site, with the closest being 480m to the south on the other side of the River Ebbw.

The majority of habitats within the Site offer limited potential for foraging and sett creation due to the small area of vegetation on Site. Connectivity to areas of suitable habitat within the wider landscape is limited by dense urban development to the north and the River Ebbw to the south. No activity or signs confirming badger presence, such as setts, latrines, footprints or hairs were recorded.

Due to lack of connectivity to suitable habitats this species is considered to be absent from the Site and is scoped out of further assessment.

3.2.2.6 Hazel Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*)

The desk study returned no records within 2km of the Site.

The majority of habitats within the Site offer limited potential for foraging and nesting due to small areas of vegetation. Connectivity to areas of suitable habitat within the wider landscape is very poor due to lack of woodland and hedgerows.

Due to the lack of connectivity to suitable habitats this species is considered to be absent from the Site and is scoped out of further assessment.

3.2.2.7 Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

The desk study returned fourteen recent records within 2km of the Site, with the closest being recorded 490m to the south near to the River Ebbw.

The terrestrial habitats within the Site offer poor suitability for otter due to the small areas of vegetation and high levels of disturbance. The habitats along the River Ebbw are largely unsuitable for otter. The vegetation along the banks was not considered dense enough to offer sufficient cover, and the banks of the river lacked suitable holt or den creation opportunities and were likely to be subject to significant disturbance from human activity.



No activity or signs confirming otter presence, such as spraint, footprints or slides were recorded during the survey.

Overall, the habitats within the Site are considered to be of negligible value to otter and habitats adjacent to the Site are considered to be of local value to otter.

*3.2.2.8 West European Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*)*

The Site has the potential to support the priority species hedgehog, with habitats providing some limited suitability for foraging and resting. However, no evidence of this species was found at the time of survey.



4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The development has the potential to adversely impact valuable ecological features and some of these impacts may also constitute legal offences. The broad impacts include:

- Direct harm of animal species
- Disturbance of animal species
- Loss and degradation of valuable habitats
- Loss and degradation of habitats that support protected/priority species.

Impacts can be adequately addressed at this stage and therefore a range of good practice avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures are recommended below.

4.2 FURTHER SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT

No further surveys are necessary to inform the assessment of the potential ecological impacts of the development. A range of good practice avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures are recommended to address ecological impacts and reduce the likelihood of legal offences.

4.3 AVOIDANCE

The following measures should be incorporated into the design of the development, including the construction phase, to avoid and reduce impacts on wildlife:

- Construction Ecological Management Plan (CEcMP) to be produced, to avoid harm to ecological features during Site clearance and construction, particularly the River Ebbw SINC.
- Avoid site clearance works during the nesting bird season (March to August inclusive) unless the Site is checked by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist (SQE) and active nests are confirmed to be absent no later than 48 hours before works commence.
- All construction activities will be programmed to daytime hours to reduce disturbance to sensitive nocturnal species, such as bats and roosting bird species.

4.4 MITIGATION

Mitigation is proposed to reduce the impacts on wildlife that cannot be avoided through design:



- External lighting will be designed in line with BCT guidance⁶ to reduce impacts on bats and a range of other wildlife, including otter and other riparian species, associated with retained and off-Site habitats, particularly the River Ebbw SINC located adjacent to the Site.
- Gaps of at least 13cm x 13cm will be created within boundaries to facilitate movement of hedgehogs and other small animals through the Site.

4.5 COMPENSATION/ENHANCEMENT

Compensation is proposed to address the impacts on habitats which cannot be avoided or mitigated:

- A buffer zone should be created between the River Ebbw SINC and the development by planting up the boundary with a native species rich hedgerow alongside other native vegetation. These created habitats will aim to reduce the impact of light pollution and disturbance on the SINC whilst also enhancing habitat and increasing connectivity within the riparian zone.
- The incorporation of opportunities for roosting bats and nesting birds within the development.

⁶ Bat Conservation Trust (2023) Guidance Note 08/23: Bats and artificial lighting in the UK



APPENDICES




APPENDIX A - UKHAB MAP





APPENDIX B - TARGET NOTES

TARGET NOTE	PHOTO
<p>TN1 – Pile of rubble/spoil that could prove refugia to a range of species.</p>	



APPENDIX C - LRC DATA SEARCH

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
BIRDS	
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>
British Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus gularis</i>
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>
Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>
Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>
Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Sitta europaea caesia	<i>Sitta europaea caesia</i>
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>
Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>
Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>
FISH	
Bullhead	<i>Cottus gobio</i>
European Eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>
BRYOPHYTES	
Cavernous Crystalwort	<i>Riccia cavernosa</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Common Pocket-moss	<i>Fissidens taxifolius</i>
Creeping Feather-moss	<i>Amblystegium serpens</i>
Curled Hook-moss	<i>Palustriella commutata</i>
Delicate Tamarisk-moss	<i>Thuidium delicatulum</i>
Dwarf Feather-moss	<i>Microeurhynchium pumilum</i>
Fragile Fork-moss	<i>Dicranum tauricum</i>
Heterocladium flaccidum	<i>Heterocladium flaccidum</i>
Lesser Striated Feather-moss	<i>Plasteurhynchium striatulum</i>
Pointed-leaved Stubble-moss	<i>Weissia rutilans</i>
Slender Ditrichum	<i>Flexitrichum gracile</i>
Small Hairy Screw-moss	<i>Syntrichia laevipila</i>
Tall Aloe-moss	<i>Aloina ambigua</i>
Top Notchwort	<i>Mesoptychia turbinata</i>
Wall Feather-moss	<i>Rhynchostegium murale</i>
Wall Screw-moss	<i>Tortula muralis</i>
Weissia brachycarpa var. obliqua	<i>Weissia brachycarpa var. obliqua</i>
INVERTEBRATES (INSECT)	
Anomalous	<i>Stilbia anomala</i>
Atypophthalmus inustus	<i>Atypophthalmus inustus</i>
August Thorn	<i>Ennomos quercinaria</i>
Autumnal Rustic	<i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>
Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>
Beaded Chestnut	<i>Agrochola lychnidis</i>
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>
Black-fringed Moss-snipelfly	<i>Ptiolina obscura</i>
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>
Bleached Pug	<i>Eupithecia expallidata</i>
Blomer's Rivulet	<i>Venusia blomeri</i>
Blood-vein	<i>Timandra comae</i>
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>
Brachyopa pilosa	<i>Brachyopa pilosa</i>
Brindled Beauty	<i>Lycia hirtaria</i>
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>
Broom Moth	<i>Ceramica pisi</i>
Broom-tip	<i>Chesias rufata</i>
Brown-spot Pinion	<i>Anchoscelis litura</i>
Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>
Bulrush Veneer	<i>Calamotropha paludella</i>
Centre-barred Sallow	<i>Atethmia centrago</i>
Cinnabar	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>
Cloaked Carpet	<i>Euphyia biangulata</i>
Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>
Common Hawker	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>
Dark Brocade	<i>Mniotype adusta</i>
Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe ferrugata</i>
Dasiops trichosternalis	<i>Dasiops trichosternalis</i>
Deep-brown Dart	<i>Aporophyla lutulenta</i>
Devon Carpet	<i>Lampropteryx otregiata</i>
Dicranomyia aquosa	<i>Dicranomyia aquosa</i>
Dicranomyia lucida	<i>Dicranomyia lucida</i>
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>
Dot Moth	<i>Melanchra persicariae</i>
Double Dart	<i>Graphiphora augur</i>
Dusky Brocade	<i>Apamea remissa</i>
Dusky Thorn	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>
Ear Moth	<i>Amphipoea oculea</i>
Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>
Ernodes articularis	<i>Ernodes articularis</i>
Feathered Gothic	<i>Tholera decimalis</i>
Flounced Chestnut	<i>Anchoscelis helvola</i>
Forester	<i>Adscita statices</i>
Galium Carpet	<i>Epirrhoe galiata</i>
Garden Dart	<i>Euxoa nigricans</i>
Garden Tiger	<i>Arctia caja</i>
Ghost Moth	<i>Hepialus humuli</i>
Golden-ringed Dragonfly	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>
Grass Rivulet	<i>Perizoma albulata</i>
Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>
Green-brindled Crescent	<i>Allophyes oxyacanthae</i>
Grey Dagger	<i>Acronicta psi</i>
Heath Rustic	<i>Xestia agathina</i>
Hedge Rustic	<i>Tholera cespitis</i>
Hill Soldier	<i>Oxycera pardalina</i>
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus britanna</i>
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>
Knot Grass	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>
Lackey	<i>Malacosoma neustria</i>
Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>
Large Wainscot	<i>Rhizedra lutosa</i>
Latticed Heath	<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>
Lesne's Earwig	<i>Forficula lesnei</i>
Limonia trivittata	<i>Limonia trivittata</i>
Little Thorn	<i>Cepphis advenaria</i>
Liverwort Snipefly	<i>Spania nigra</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>
Minor Shoulder-knot	<i>Brachylomia viminalis</i>
Mordellistena neuwaldeggiana	<i>Mordellistena neuwaldeggiana</i>
Mottled Rustic	<i>Caradrina morpheus</i>
Mouse Moth	<i>Amphipyra tragopoginis</i>
Neglected Rustic	<i>Xestia castanea</i>
Northern Drab	<i>Orthosia opima</i>
Oak Hook-tip	<i>Watsonalla binaria</i>
Oak Lutestring	<i>Cymatophorina diluta</i>
Orchesia minor	<i>Orchesia minor</i>
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>
Platypalpus luteolus	<i>Platypalpus luteolus</i>
Plectrocnemia brevis	<i>Plectrocnemia brevis</i>
Polydrusus formosus	<i>Polydrusus formosus</i>
Powdered Quaker	<i>Orthosia gracilis</i>
Pretty Chalk Carpet	<i>Melanthia procellata</i>
Red-tailed (Hill) Cuckoo Bee	<i>Bombus rupestris</i>
Rosy Minor	<i>Litologia literosa</i>
Rosy Rustic	<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>
Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina blanda</i>
Sallow	<i>Cirrhia icteritia</i>
Satin Lutestring	<i>Tetheella fluctuosa</i>
Scallop Shell	<i>Rheumaptera undulata</i>
Scarce Grass-veneer	<i>Crambus pratella</i>
Scarce Yellow Splinter	<i>Lipsothrix nobilis</i>
September Thorn	<i>Ennomos erosaria</i>
Shaded Broad-bar	<i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>
Shoulder-striped Wainscot	<i>Leucania comma</i>
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>
Slender Ground-hopper	<i>Tetrix subulata</i>
Small Emerald	<i>Hemistola chrysoprasaria</i>
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>
Small Phoenix	<i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>
Small Square-spot	<i>Diarsia rubi</i>
Southern Hawker	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>
Southern Yellow Splinter	<i>Lipsothrix nervosa</i>
Speckled Bush-cricket	<i>Leptophyes punctatissima</i>
Spinach	<i>Eulithis mellinata</i>
Streak	<i>Chesias legatella</i>
Suillia dumicola	<i>Suillia dumicola</i>
Swollen-thighed Blood Bee	<i>Sphecodes crassus</i>
Tachyura parvula	<i>Tachyura parvula</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Thaumastoptera calceata	<i>Thaumastoptera calceata</i>
Thyme Pug	<i>Eupithecia distinctaria</i>
Tinodes unicolor	<i>Tinodes unicolor</i>
V-moth	<i>Macaria wauaria</i>
Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
White Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>
White-line Dart	<i>Euxoa tritici</i>
White-marked	<i>Cerastis leucographa</i>
White-speckled Clothes	<i>Nemapogon koenigi</i>
MAMMALS (TERRESTRIAL)	
Bat	<i>Chiroptera</i>
Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis brandtii</i>
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>
Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>
Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>
Eurasian Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>
Eurasian Common Shrew	<i>Sorex araneus</i>
Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>
Eurasian Water Shrew	<i>Neomys fodiens</i>
Greater Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</i>
Hazel Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>
Lesser Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>
Lesser Noctule	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>
Myotis Bat species	<i>Myotis</i>
Nathusius's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>
Natterer's Bat	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>
Noctule Bat	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>
Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>
Pipistrelle Bat species	<i>Pipistrellus</i>
Polecat	<i>Mustela putorius</i>
Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>
West European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>
Western Barbastelle	<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>
Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>
Whiskered/Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus/brandtii</i>
Yellow-necked Mouse	<i>Apodemus flavicollis</i>
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS	
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>
Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix helvetica</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>
Palmate Newt	<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>
Slow-worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>
VASCULAR PLANTS	
Alder Buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus</i>
Alternate Water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum alterniflorum</i>
an Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia tetraquetra</i>
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>
Autumn Gentian	<i>Gentianella amarella</i>
Autumn Lady's-tresses	<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>
Basil Thyme	<i>Clinopodium acinos</i>
Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>
Bird's-nest Orchid	<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>
Black Horehound	<i>Ballota nigra</i>
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>
Butcher's-broom	<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>
Charlock	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
Common Rock-rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>
Common Spotted-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>
Cornflower	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>
Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>
Crested Hair-grass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>
Crowberry agg.	<i>Empetrum nigrum</i>
Dactylorhiza maculata subsp. ericetorum	<i>Dactylorhiza maculata subsp. ericetorum</i>
Dark-red Helleborine	<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>
Dwarf Thistle	<i>Cirsium acaule</i>
Ficaria verna var. bulbifer	<i>Ficaria verna var. bulbifer</i>
Gentianella amarella subsp. amarella	<i>Gentianella amarella subsp. amarella</i>
Grape-hyacinth	<i>Muscari neglectum</i>
Greater Duckweed	<i>Spirodela polyrhiza</i>
Greater Knapweed	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>
Green Field-speedwell	<i>Veronica agrestis</i>
Grey Field-speedwell	<i>Veronica polita</i>
Hairy St John's-wort	<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>
Hairy Violet	<i>Viola hirta</i>
Hawkweed Oxtongue	<i>Picris hieracioides</i>
Heath False-brome	<i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>
Hoary Plantain	<i>Plantago media</i>
Horned Pondweed	<i>Zannichellia palustris</i>
Ivy-leaved Duckweed	<i>Lemna trisulca</i>
Meadow Barley	<i>Hordeum secalinum</i>



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Meadow Brome	<i>Bromus commutatus</i>
Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i>
Mountain Currant	<i>Ribes alpinum</i>
Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea	<i>Lathyrus sylvestris</i>
Narrow-leaved Water-plantain	<i>Alisma lanceolatum</i>
Pyramidal Orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>
Red Hemp-nettle	<i>Galeopsis angustifolia</i>
Rigid Hornwort	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>
River Water-crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus fluitans</i>
Round-leaved Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>
Silene latifolia subsp. alba	<i>Silene latifolia subsp. alba</i>
Slender Sandwort	<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia subsp. leptoclados</i>
Small Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton berchtoldii</i>
Southern Marsh-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>
Sparganium erectum subsp. neglectum	<i>Sparganium erectum subsp. neglectum</i>
Spiked Water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Stinking Hellebore	<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>
Stinking Iris	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>
Stone Parsley	<i>Sison amomum</i>
Thin-spiked Wood-sedge	<i>Carex strigosa</i>
Tree-mallow	<i>Malva arborea</i>
Unbranched Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium emersum</i>
Upright Brome	<i>Bromopsis erecta</i>
Various-leaved Water-starwort	<i>Callitriche platycarpa</i>
Water Chickweed	<i>Myosoton aquaticum</i>
Wayfaring-tree	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>
Welsh Poppy	<i>Mecanopsis cambrica</i>
White Bryony	<i>Bryonia dioica</i>
White Water-lily	<i>Nymphaea alba</i>
Yellow Water-lily	<i>Nuphar lutea</i>
Yellow-rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>
Yellow-wort	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>



APPENDIX D – POLICY AND LEGISLATION

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000⁸ and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006⁹, is the main legislation that protects wildlife in Great Britain and is the mechanism for defining and protecting nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The legislation makes it an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or their eggs or nests (with certain exceptions) and disturb any bird species listed under Schedule 1 to the Act, or its dependent young while it is nesting;
- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection by any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly disturb certain Schedule 5 animal species while they occupy a place used for shelter or protection; and
- Pick or uproot any wild plant listed under Schedule 8 of the Act. Schedule 9, Part II of the Act also lists many species for which it is an offence to plant, or otherwise cause to grow, in the wild. Any material containing Japanese knotweed is also identified as controlled waste under the Environmental Protection Act 1990¹⁰ and must be disposed of properly at licenced landfill according to the Environmental Protection Act (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991¹¹.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017¹² (the ‘Habitat Regulations’), as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019¹³, establish the requirements for protecting sites that are internationally important for threatened habitats and species – the National Site Network – and thus the requirement for a ‘Habitat Regulations Assessment’ of plans or developments with potential to affect them.

⁷ Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69>

⁸ The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents>

⁹ Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

¹⁰ The Environmental Protection Act 1990. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/43/contents>

¹¹ The Environmental Protection Act (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1991/2839/made>

¹² The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents/made>

¹³ The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111179512/contents>



The Habitat Regulations also establish the strict protection of some species – European Protected Species – and make it an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb certain wild animals, and to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of such an animal even if the animal is not present at the time.

Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

The NERC Act 2006⁹ places a duty on local planning authorities to have due regard for biodiversity and nature conservation during their operations, and thus ensures that biodiversity is a key consideration in the planning process. The Act also establishes a list of species and habitats of principal importance ('Priority' Species and Habitats) for the conservation of biodiversity.

The Environment (Wales) Act 2021¹⁴

The Environment Act 2021 provides a framework for environmental protection in the UK. It is a wide-ranging piece of legislation affecting many aspects of the natural environment, including biodiversity. The act sets clear targets to halt the decline in wildlife populations through a legally binding target for species abundance by 2030 and a requirement to increase species populations by 10% by 2042.

Ramsar Convention

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (the 'Ramsar Convention'¹⁵) provides the only international mechanism for protecting internationally important wetlands; such sites are designated as Ramsar sites. It is government policy that Ramsar sites are afforded the same level of protection as sites in the National Site Network and so they are also subject to HRA.

Protection of Badgers Act 1992

Badgers receive strict protection under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992¹⁶, which prohibits the taking, injuring, selling, possessing or killing of badgers and makes it an offence to ill-treat any badger, damage, destroy, disturb or cause a dog to enter a badger sett.

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

The Hedgerow Regulations 1997¹⁷ establishes the legal protection of important countryside hedgerows, principally ancient and species-rich hedgerows. The Hedgerow Regulations also

¹⁴ The Environment Act 2021. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted>

¹⁵ The Ramsar Convention <https://www.ramsar.org/>

¹⁶ Protection of Badgers Act 1992. Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1992/51/contents>

¹⁷ The Hedgerow Regulations 1997. Available from: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1997/1160/contents/made>



provide arrangements for planning authorities to protect important hedgerows in the countryside by controlling their removal through a system of notification.

Planning Policy Wales

Planning Policy Wales¹⁸ sets out the Welsh Government's requirement for the planning system in Wales and in doing so establishes the framework within which local planning authorities can develop their own planning policies.

Biodiversity Action Plans

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) was developed to fulfil the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, to which the UK is a signatory. The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework¹⁹ succeeded the UKBAP and expired in 2019, but the UKBAP priority species and habitats are retained through the NERC Act 2006. Regional and local BAPs have also been developed for species/habitats of nature conservation importance at regional and local levels.

¹⁸ Planning Policy Wales 2021 (edition 11). Available from:

https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf

¹⁹ UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. Available from: <https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/587024ff-864f-4d1d-a669-f38cb448abdc>



APPENDIX E – VALUE OF ECOLOGICAL FEATURES

VALUE	EXAMPLES
International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An internationally designated site or candidate site (SPA, pSPA, SAC, cSAC, pSAC, Ramsar site) or an area which meets the designation criteria for such sites. • Internationally significant and viable areas of a habitat type listed in Annexe 1 of the Habitats Directive, or smaller areas of such habitat, which are essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. • Any regularly occurring, globally threatened species. • A regularly occurring population of an internationally important species, which is threatened or rare in the UK, of uncertain conservation status • A regularly occurring, nationally significant population/number of any internationally important species.
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A nationally designated site (e.g. SSSI, NNR) or a discrete area which meets the published selection criteria for national designation (e.g. SSSI selection guidelines) irrespective of whether or not it has yet been notified. • A viable area of a UK BAP priority habitat, or smaller areas of such habitat which are essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. • A regularly occurring significant number/population of a nationally important species e.g. listed on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). • A regularly occurring population of a nationally important species that is threatened or rare in the county or region. • A feature identified as being of critical importance in the UK BAP.
Regional / County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable areas of key habitat identified in the Regional or County BAP or smaller areas of such a habitat, which are essential to maintain the viability of the larger whole. • Regional/county significant and viable areas of key habitat identified as being of regional value. • A regularly occurring significant population/number of any important species important at a regional/county level. • Any regularly occurring, locally significant population of a species which is listed in a Regional/County Red Data Book or BAP on account of its regional rarity or localisation. • Sites of conservation importance that exceed the district selection criteria but that fall short of SSSI selection guidelines.
City/District/ Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of habitat identified in a District/City/Borough BAP or in the relevant Natural Area profile. • Sites that the designating authority has determined meet the published ecological selection criteria for designation, including Local Nature Reserves selected on District/City/Borough ecological criteria. • Sites/features that are scarce within the District/City/Borough or which appreciably enrich the District/City/Borough habitat resource. • A diverse and/or ecologically valuable hedgerow network.



VALUE	EXAMPLES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A population of a species that is listed in a District/City/Borough BAP because of its rarity in the locality or in the relevant Natural Area profile because of its regional rarity or localisation. • A regularly occurring, locally significant number of a District/City/Borough important species during key phases of its life cycle.
Parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A feature considered scarce within a Parish or which appreciably enriches the Parish resource.
Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas identified in a Local BAP or the relevant natural area profile. • Sites/features which are scarce in the locality or which are considered to appreciably enrich the habitat resource within the local context, e.g. species-rich hedgerows. • Local Nature Reserves selected on Parish/Local ecological criteria. • Significant numbers/population of a locally important species <u>e.g.</u> one which is listed on the Local BAP. • Any species, populations or habitats of local importance.
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitats of moderate to low diversity which support a range of locally and nationally common species, the loss of which can be easily mitigated.



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