# **Technical Note**



PROJECT:	Barnsley West
SUBJECT:	Wintering Bird Survey Addendum
NOTE REF:	001
DRAWINGS:	LD10361/034 Wintering Bird Survey Visit 5 LD10361/035 Wintering Bird Survey Visit 6
DATE:	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
PREPARED BY:	Olivia Satur (Ecologist)
REVIEWED BY:	Tim Palmer (Technical Director)

### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) was commissioned by Strata Sterling Barnsley West to undertake Wintering Bird Surveys (WBS) in support of a proposed mixed use development scheme. The project is located on land west of Barnsley, South Yorkshire, and has a central Ordnance Survey (OS) Grid Reference of SE 31778 07075.
- 1.2 Four WBS surveys have previously been carried out by WA in February and March 2023 (WA, 2023). Another two surveys have now been undertaken (Visit 5 and Visit 6) to cover the beginning of the wintering bird season.
- 1.3 This report aims to provide the results of the October and November 2023 WBS, and to summarise the data collected over the course of the 2023 surveys. Any significant differences in data collected between the previous four surveys and the additional two surveys are discussed.

### 2 METHODS

- 2.1 Transect surveys were carried out based upon and adapted from BTO winter farmland bird survey methodology (Gillings *et al.*, 2008). The survey visits consisted of two transect surveys of the site in October and November 2023, recording all bird species identified by observation or song/call, and counts of numbers within wintering flocks. All birds, passerine and non-passerine species were recorded and mapped.
- 2.2 The surveyor recorded all contacts with birds (either by sight or sound) by walking a pre-designated transect at a steady pace. The positions of the recorded birds were plotted as accurately as possible (to the nearest 10m) on a suitably scaled base map.



Standard BTO codes and symbols were used for mapping species and bird activity, including foraging, flight path and location.

### 3 RESULTS

3.1 Over the six WBS, a total of 48 species were recorded using the Site. Table 1 Below summarises the conservation status of the species recorded.

TOTAL SPECIES	48		
Annex 1 Species	0		
Schedule 1 Protected Species	2		
BoCC 5 Red Listed Species	12		
BoCC 5 Amber Listed Species	15		
BoCC 5 Green Listed Species	19		
BoCC 5 Species Not Assessed (na)			
S41 Species of Principal Importance			
IUCN European Red List species	0		
LBAP species	15		

Table 1: WBS Conservation Status Summary

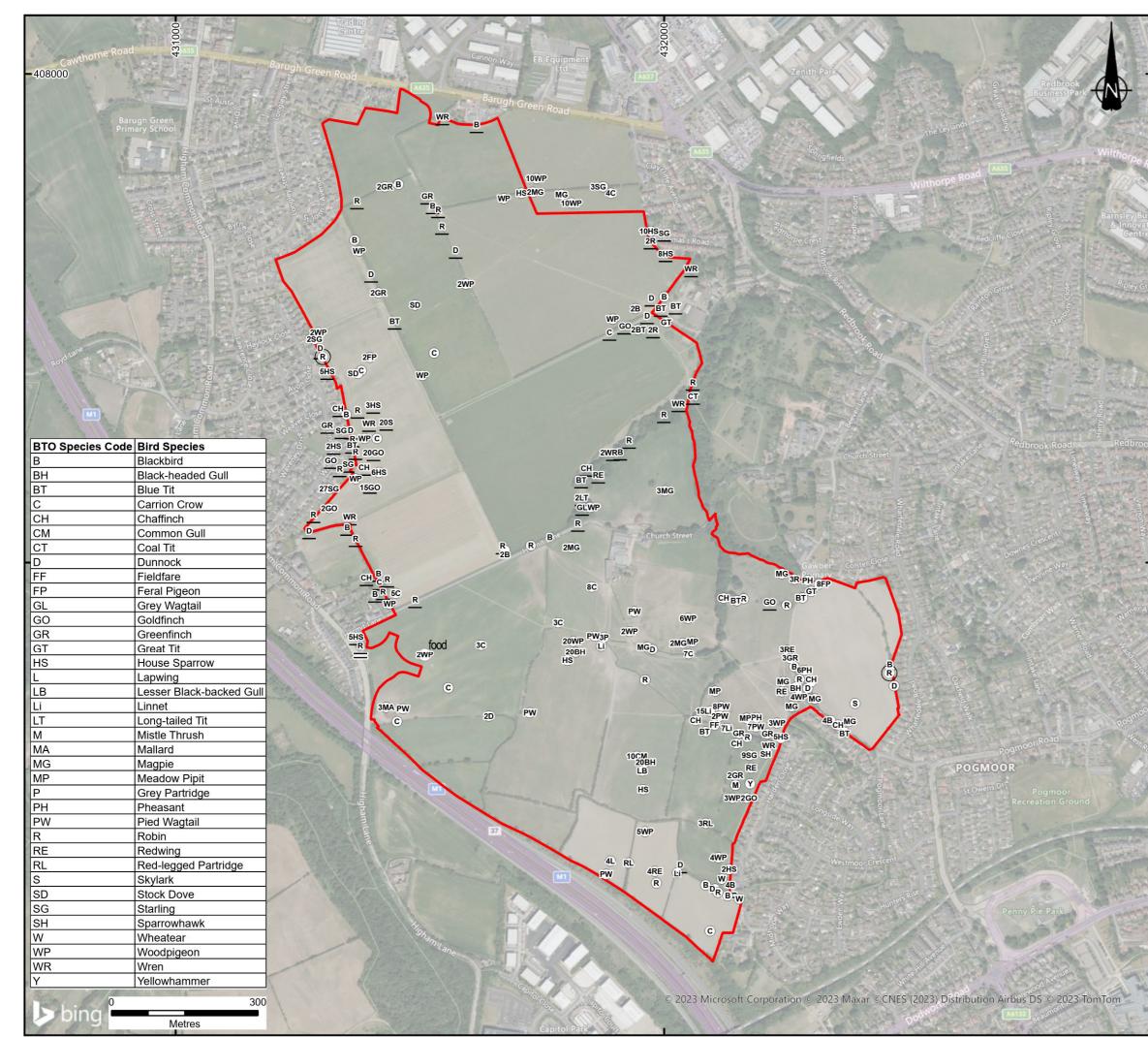
- 3.2 The previous four WBS recorded a total of 42 species using the Site. Additional species recorded during Visit 5 and Visit 6 were lesser black-backed gull *Larus fuscus*, grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*, northern wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* and yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*.
- 3.3 Lesser black-backed gull, northern wheatear and yellowhammer were recorded on Visit 5 only. One lesser black-backed gull was within a flock of common gull *Larus canus* and black-headed gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*, which was recorded on a field towards the south of the Site. Furthermore, during Visit 5, two northern wheatear were recorded on fields in the southern corner of the south, just south of where one individual yellowhammer was observed. Finally, one grey wagtail was recorded close to a stream within the Ancient Woodland to the north of Hermit Lane on both Visit 5 and 6.
- 3.4 As with the previous surveys, the recorded species assemblage is weighted towards those associated with arable habitats. The grassland fields to the south of Hermit Lane support small numbers of lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, with 4 and 15 (Visit 5 and Visit 6 respectively) birds recorded in a tight flock roosting on the recently ploughed land. These birds would be displaced by the development proposals as the winter

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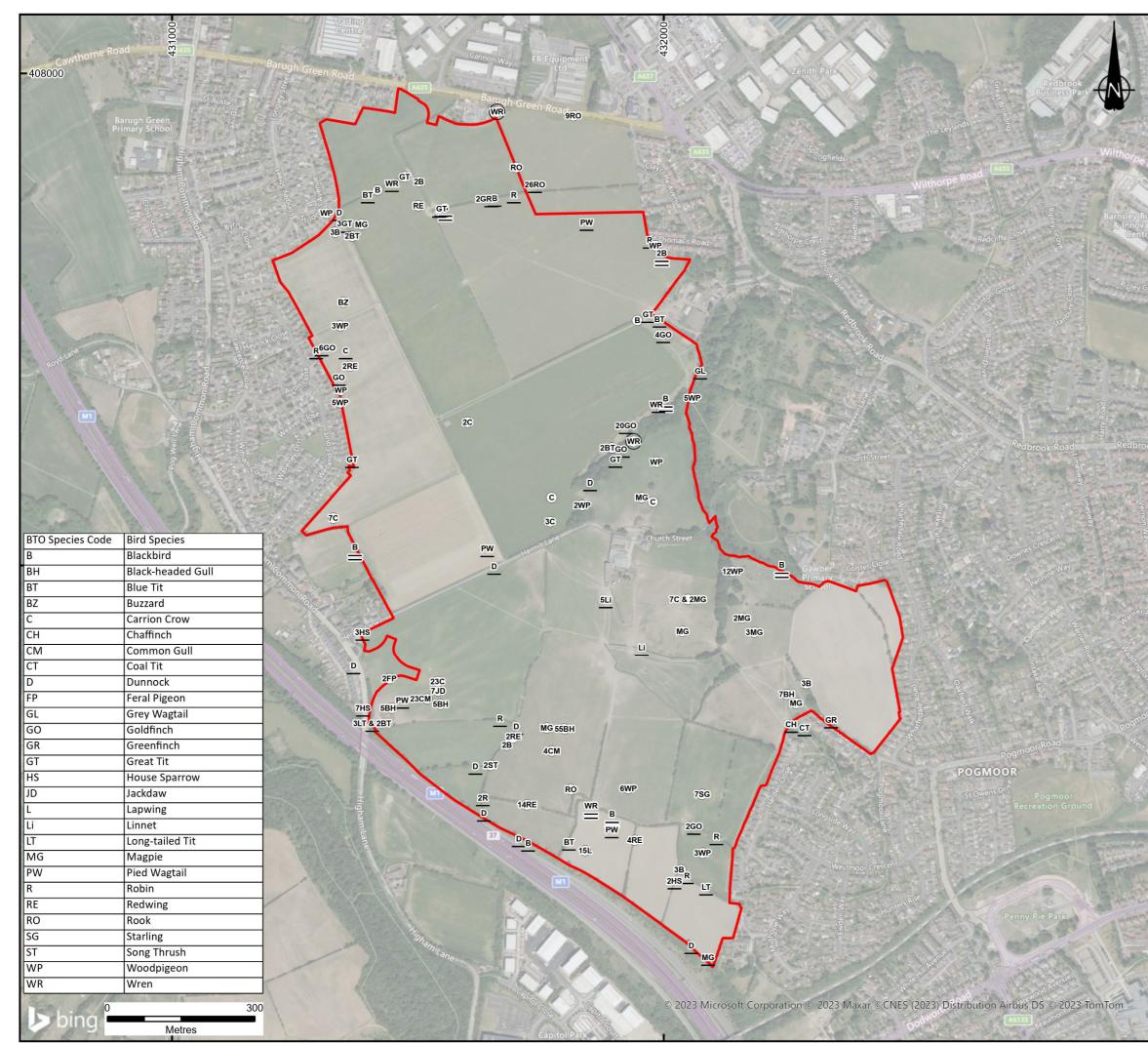
roosting/foraging habitat will be lost and cannot be accommodated elsewhere in the development area.

3.5 The surveys confirm that the previously assessed baseline for wintering birds at no higher than Local level (Fuller, 1980) remains unchanged.



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PROJECT BARNSLEY WEST								
DRAWING TITLE WINTERING BIRD SURVEY VISIT 5 - OCTOBER 2023								
DRG No. LD10361/034				REV				
DRG SIZE A3	SCALE	,500	DATE 01/12/2023					
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