



ENVIRONMENT

Premier Group
Former Wombwell School Site
Wombwell
Ecological Impact Assessment

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July 2024

DOCUMENT ISSUE RECORD

Document Number:	FWS-BWB-ZZ-XX-T-EE-0001_Ecological Impact Assessment
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Revision	Date of Issue	Status	Author:	Checked:	Approved:
P01	09/07/2024	S0	Ben McLean BSc (Hons) MCIEEM	Ben McLean BSc (Hons) MCIEEM	Jim MacQueen

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An Ecological Impact Assessment has been produced to provide information on the ecological features present, mitigation measures and enhancement on the Former Wombwell School Site, Wombwell. It has been produced to accompany the Planning Application for six no. residential properties at the Site.

Based on the assessment, the Site does not occur within a European, national or local wildlife site and any development is highly unlikely to have an adverse impact on the conservation interests of such sites located within the wider area.

The Site habitats currently comprise bare ground, modified grassland and other woodland; broadleaved. The Site is bordered by the construction of 235 no. dwellings with roads, parking, landscaping and POS which is currently undergoing on all sides of the Site (Planning Application 2019/0089). Areas of the Site have been impacted by the adjacent development, with areas of bare ground present within the Site.

The Site was considered suitable to provide limited opportunities for a range of species including common birds and hedgehogs, and negligible value for reptiles and great crested newts. There are negligible potential bat roost features within the Site and the Site is also of very low to negligible foraging/roosting value for bats within the Site.

No evidence of badger was recorded during the survey. Badgers can dig new setts at any time and contractors should remain vigilant during Site clearance. In the event that a sett, or potential sett, is found, the contractor must contact a suitably qualified ecologist. If there is a considerable delay before the onset of Site clearance, a re-survey for badgers may be required.

The development will result in the loss of the habitats within the Site. Species may also be impacted during the Site clearance and construction phases including nesting birds and hedgehogs. Therefore, good practice measures including timed vegetation clearance, will be required to mitigate any harm, disturbance or killing of these species.

Recommended enhancement measures include the incorporation of six integrated bat boxes and six integrated bird boxes (i.e. 100% of dwellings), in line with the Barnsley Local Plan; Biodiversity and Geodiversity Consultation Statement Adopted March 2024 (Barnsley Metropolitan Council, 2024). Recommendations for a 'hedgehog highway' are also provided.

A Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan should be produced to provide all details of the enhancement and mitigation measures for the Site.

A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment will be undertaken at the Site and issued as a separate report. The report will detail areas of habitat for retention, enhancement, and recreation and, where necessary, will detail requirements for off-Site compensation. A Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan should be produced to provide all details of the enhancement and mitigation measures.

Overall, with appropriate mitigation and the required 10% Biodiversity Net Gain, the development proposals are considered likely to result in a minor positive impact to the habitats and species.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Instruction

- 1.1 This Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) has been undertaken on behalf of the Premier Group in respect of the Site at the Former Wombwell School Site, Wombwell. It has been produced to accompany the Planning Application for six no. residential properties at the Site.

Site Description

- 1.2 The Site is located at the former Wombwell School at Lundhill Road, Wombwell, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S73 0RB. The Site itself currently comprises bare ground, modified grassland and other woodland; broadleaved. The Site is approximately 0.17 hectares (ha) in extent and is centred on grid reference SE 40284 02327. The land is generally flat and situated approximately between 60 and 64 metres above ordnance datum (m AOD).
- 1.3 The construction of 235 no. dwellings with roads, parking, landscaping and POS is currently undergoing on all sides of the Site (Planning Application 2019/0089). Areas of the Site have been impacted by the adjacent development, with areas of bare ground present within the Site. Images of the Site pre-adjacent development (2021) and during the development (2024) can be seen within **Figure 1.2** and **Figure 1.3** on Page 7.
- 1.4 The location of the Site is shown below in **Figure 1.1**.

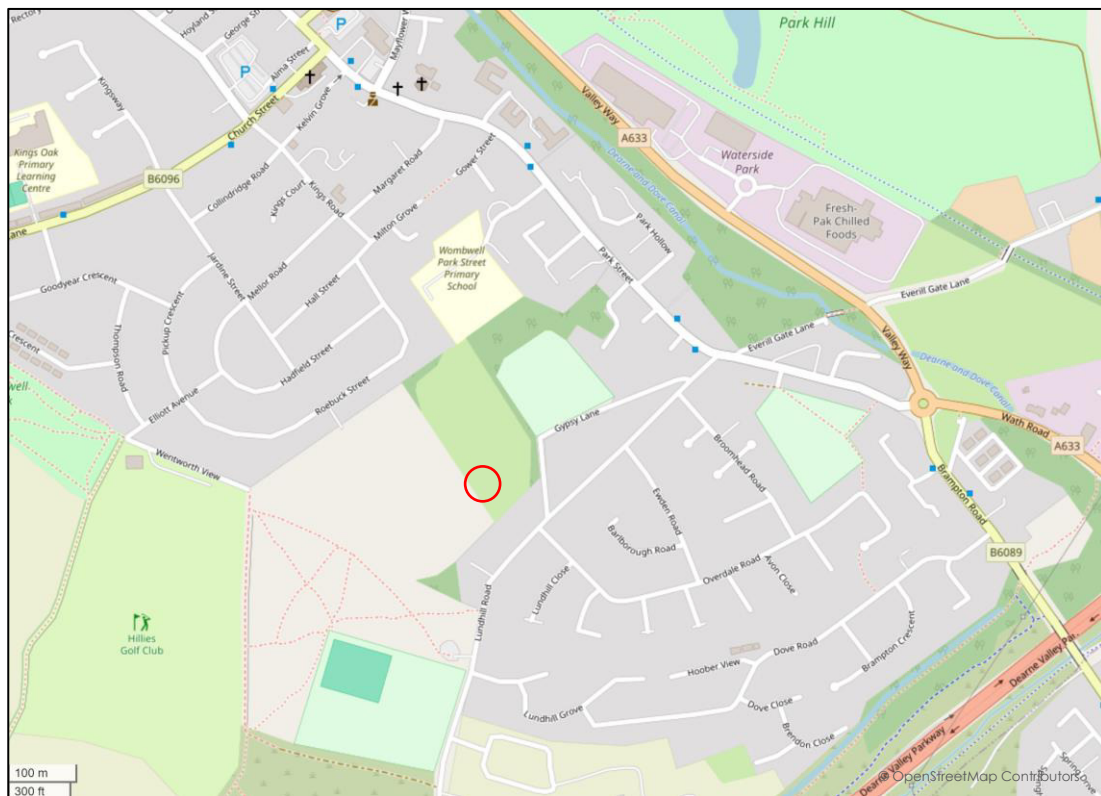


Figure 1.1: Site Location Plan

The Project

- 1.5 Current proposals are for a full planning application for residential development of the Site including the development of six no. dwellings.

Background

- 1.6 The construction of 235 no. dwellings with roads, parking, landscaping and POS is currently undergoing on all sides of the Site (Planning Application 2019/0089). Areas of the Site have been impacted by the adjacent development, with areas of bare ground present within the Site. Based on Google Imagery, some areas of the Site were also bare ground in 2023 (presumably with grass recolonising in areas over the interim period).
- 1.7 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was undertaken as part of the pre-mentioned planning application in 2018 (2019/0089), with the Phase 1 Habitat survey including the 'Site'. Given the impacts from the adjacent works on the Site, the previous survey report has been used to aid the assessment of the Site, and should be read in conjunction with the following document:
- MRB Ecology and Environment (2019). Former Wombwell High School. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal.

Objectives

- 1.8 The purpose of this assessment is:
- To identify and describe all potentially significant ecological effects associated with the Proposed Development;
 - To set out the mitigation measures required to ensure compliance with nature conservation legislation and to address any potentially significant ecological effects;
 - To identify how mitigation measures will/could be secured;
 - To provide an assessment of the significance of any residual effects;
 - To identify appropriate enhancement measures; and
 - To set out the requirements for post-construction monitoring provide a baseline of all ecological considerations and associated impacts relating to the development proposals. This will include mitigation and enhancement as appropriate.

Scope of Works

- 1.9 The ecological appraisal was informed by a desk-based study and a Site survey. The approach to this EclA follows best practice published by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM, 2018 updated 2022) and the British Standards Institution (BSI, 2013). Further details are provided later in this report.

Legislation and Planning Policy

1.10 The following legislation relates to species and habitats that could potentially occur in association with the Site:

- The Environment Act 2021;
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended);
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended);
- The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000;
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006;
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992;
- Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996; and
- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

1.11 Further information on the legislation relevant to this Site is provided in **Appendix 1**.

1.12 Consideration has also been given in this report to relevant National and Local Planning Policy as summarised below.

1.13 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) guides Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) when developing their planning policies and considering planning applications affecting protected habitats, sites and species.

1.14 In respect of the natural environment, the NPPF states under Paragraph 180 that:

“Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- a) Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);*
- b) Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;*
- c) Maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;*
- d) Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;*
- e) Preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water*

quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and

- f) *Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate."*

1.15 The NPPF Paragraph 185 states that:

"To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:

- a) *Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and*
- b) *Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity."*

1.16 The NPPF Paragraph 186 also states that:

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

- a) *if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;*
- b) *development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;*
- c) *development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons⁶⁷ and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and*
- d) *development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate."*

1.17 Through the NPPF and Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act, LPAs have a duty to consider habitats and species listed as being of principal importance for nature conservation in England on Section 41 (S41) of the Act when considering a planning application. In addition, the biodiversity duty of local

planning authorities also covers species and habitats listed in local biodiversity action plans.

- 1.18 Additionally, the current adopted Policy from Barnsley Local Plan (Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, 2019) provides the following guidelines with respect to open spaces and the natural environment:

Policy GI1 Green Infrastructure

“We will protect, maintain, enhance and create an integrated network of connected and multi functional Green Infrastructure assets that:

- *Provides attractive environments where people want to live, work, learn, play, visit and invest;*
- *Meets the environmental, social and economic needs of communities across the borough and the wider City Regions;*
- *Enhances the quality of life for present and future residents and visitors;*
- *Helps to meet the challenge of climate change;*
- *Enhances biodiversity and landscape character;*
- *Improves opportunities for recreation and tourism;*
- *Respects local distinctiveness and historical and cultural heritage;*
- *Maximises potential economic and social benefits; and*
- *Secures and improves linkages between green and blue spaces;*

At a strategic level Barnsley's Green Infrastructure network includes the following corridors which are shown on the Green Infrastructure Diagram:

- *River Dearne Valley Corridor. River Dove Valley Corridor.*
- *River Don Valley Corridor. Dearne Valley Green Heart Corridor.*
- *Historic Landscape Corridor.*

The network of Green Infrastructure will be secured by protecting open space, creating new open spaces as part of new development, and by using developer contributions to create and improve Green Infrastructure.

We have produced a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Barnsley which is informed by the Leeds City Region and South Yorkshire Green Infrastructure Strategies.”

Policy BIO 1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

“Development will be expected to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geological features of the borough by:

- *Protecting and improving habitats, species, sites of ecological value and sites of geological value with particular regard to designated wildlife and geological sites of international, national and local significance, ancient woodland and species and habitats of principal importance identified via Section 41 of the Natural Environment*

& Rural Communities Act 2006 (for list of the species and habitats of principal importance) and in the Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan;

- *Maximising biodiversity and geodiversity opportunities in and around new developments;*
- *Conserving and enhancing the form, local character and distinctiveness of the borough's natural assets such as the river corridors of the Don, the Dearne and Dove as natural floodplains and important strategic wildlife corridors;*
- *Proposals will be expected to have followed the national mitigation hierarchy (avoid, mitigate, compensate) which is used to evaluate the impacts of a development on biodiversity interest;*
- *Protecting ancient and veteran trees where identified; and*
- *Encouraging provision of biodiversity enhancements."*

"Development which may harm a biodiversity or geological feature or habitat, including ancient woodland and aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, will not be permitted unless effective mitigation and/ or compensatory measures can be ensured.

Development which adversely effects a European Site will not be permitted unless there is no alternative option and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI)."



Figure 1.2: Satellite Imagery of the Site (2021 – pre-adjacent development) - Google Imagery



Figure 1.3: Satellite Imagery of the Site (2024 – ongoing adjacent development) - Google Imagery

2. METHODS

Zone of Influence (ZOI)

2.1 The search area for biodiversity information was related to the significance of sites and species and potential zones of influence, as follows:

- 5km around the Site for sites of International Importance (e.g. Special Area of Conservation [SAC], Special Protection Area [SPA], Ramsar site);
- 2km around the Site for sites of National or Regional Importance (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest [SSSI] and Local Nature Reserves [LNR]); and
- 2km around the Site for sites of County Importance (e.g. Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation [SINC]/Wildlife Sites and species records (e.g. protected, UK BAP or notable species).

2.2 The 'zone of influence' for a project is the area over which ecological features may be affected by biophysical changes as a result of the proposed project and associated activities. Ecological or hydrological links may extend this beyond the Site boundaries.

Consultation

2.3 Sheffield Biological Record Centre (SBRC) (also holding records for Barnsley) was contacted to request records of any locally designated sites and/or protected species from the Site and land within a 2 km radius.

2.4 The records were requested on 24th June 2024, paid for on 28th June 2024 (the same day the record centre confirmed costs and provided the payment link), but unfortunately, despite multiple emails to the record centre, the records have not yet been received from SBRC with no correspondence from them during the interim. As such, we are not in receipt of the records from the data centre at this time. An update report will be provided on receipt.

2.5 As such, any notable records noted within the MRB Ecology and Environment PEA (2019) as part of the biological record search have been used for the interim.

2.6 Based on the size of the Site and lack/limited suitable habitat within the Site and immediately adjacent for the associated species, records from South Yorkshire Bat Group and South Yorkshire Badger Group were not considered to be necessary or proportionate.

2.7 In addition, the data sources listed below were also searched to gather additional ecological data of relevance to the project, including the identification of non-designated ecologically sensitive habitats such as vegetation corridors, woodlands, watercourses and standing water.

- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC);
- Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 mapping; and
- Aerial imagery (Google Earth imagery – imagery dated 2002 – 2022).

UK Hab Survey

- 2.8 A Site survey was undertaken on 28th June 2024 by Nick Clayton BSc (Hons) ACIEEM. Nick has extensive experience in survey and site assessment for protected species and is appropriately qualified for the surveys based on the CIEEM competencies for species surveys (CIEEM, 2017). Nick is registered to use Class 1 survey licence for Great Crested Newts (GCN) *Triturus cristatus* and Class 2 survey licence for bats
- 2.9 The visit was completed using UK Hab survey techniques as defined in the standard methodology (UKHab Ltd, 2023).
- 2.10 The aim of the visit was to gather sufficient baseline information on the habitats within the Site in order to allow an interpretation of the ecological value of the land.
- 2.11 In addition, the methodology was extended to include a search for incidental evidence of protected/notable fauna and an assessment of the Site's potential to support protected/notable fauna. Specific consideration was given to the following species:
- Amphibians, including great crested newts (GCN);
 - Badgers *Meles meles*;
 - Bats;
 - Birds;
 - Reptiles; and
 - Priority Species, such as hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*.
- 2.12 Standard methodologies were used where applicable.
- 2.13 Habitats adjacent to the Site were viewed, where possible, from the Site boundaries in order to assess their potential to support protected species that could be utilising the survey Site.

Survey Comments

- 2.14 In line with standard guidance, the results and recommendations within this report are valid for up to two years from the date of survey, assuming there are no significant changes to the survey Site or its immediate surroundings. Updated survey work may be required to support any future planning applications outside of this time period.
- 2.15 The survey was undertaken within the optimal period for habitat surveys (April to October), and it is considered that sufficient botanical information was collected to categorise the habitats and identify potential features of value. Sufficient information was also gathered on protected / notable species in terms of the likelihood of occurrence at the Site (as far as is reasonably possible during any Preliminary Ecological Appraisal survey).
- 2.16 As detailed above, the records were requested on 24th June 2024, paid for on 28th June 2024 (the same day the record centre confirmed costs and provided the payment link), but unfortunately, despite multiple emails to the record centre, the records have not yet

been received from SBRC with no correspondence from them during the interim. As such, we are not in receipt of the records from the data centre at this time. An update report will be provided on receipt.

- 2.17 As such, any records noted within the MRB Ecology and Environment PEA (2019) have been used for the interim. However, given the records from the MRB PEA, and based on the size and location of the Site (located next to a housing development), the update record search is unlikely to provide any significant data that would influence the outcome of this report.

Assessment

- 2.18 The Ecological Impact Assessment has been undertaken following guidelines provided by CIEEM (CIEEM, 2019).
- 2.19 In order to assess the significance of effects, Important Ecological Features that could potentially be affected by the development have been identified and described and the potential effects quantified using a range of parameters (e.g. extent, magnitude and duration).
- 2.20 For the purposes of this assessment, a 'significant effect' is an effect that either supports or undermines biodiversity conservation objectives for 'important ecological features' or for biodiversity in general. Conservation objectives may be specific (e.g. for a designated site) or broad (e.g. national/local nature conservation policy) or more wide-ranging (enhancement of biodiversity) (CIEEM, 2019).
- 2.21 Only where significant effects are predicted have mitigation measures been proposed, although it should be noted that a number of precautionary measures have been included and these are detailed within this document for completeness.
- 2.22 The potential for mitigation and enhancement measures were then considered to avoid, reduce or compensate for any significant adverse effects, where possible.
- 2.23 The current guidelines identify various characteristics that can be used to identify ecological resources or features likely to be important in terms of biodiversity. These include:
- naturalness;
 - animal or plant species, sub-species or varieties that are rare or uncommon, either internationally, nationally or more locally, including those that may be seasonally transient;
 - ecosystems and their component parts, which provide the habitats required by important species, populations and/or assemblages;
 - endemic species or locally distinct sub-populations of a species;
 - habitats that are rare or uncommon;
 - habitats that are effectively irreplaceable;
 - habitat diversity;

- size of habitat or species population;
- habitat connectivity and/or synergistic associations;
- habitats and species in decline;
- rich assemblages of plants and animals;
- large populations of species or concentrations of species considered uncommon or threatened in a wider context;
- plant communities (and their associated animals) that are considered to be typical of valued natural / semi-natural vegetation types, including examples of naturally species-poor communities; and
- species on the edge of their range, particularly where their distribution is changing as a result of global trends and climate change.

Significance Criteria

2.24 Current guidelines propose the following frame of reference for defining geographic context, which should be adapted to suit local circumstances:

- International and European;
- National;
- Regional;
- Metropolitan, County, vice-county or other local authority-wide area; and
- Local.

3. BASELINE CONDITIONS

Designated Sites

- 3.1 No sites of International Importance (SAC, SPA and Ramsar site) are located within 5 km of the Site.
- 3.2 There is one statutory designated site present within 2 km of the Site boundary.
- 3.3 Dearne Valley Wetlands SSSI is located approximately 620 m north-east from the Site at its closest point, and approximately 1.1 km east of the Site. The 'Dearne Valley Wetland SSSI' comprises a network of 22 wetland, scrub and woodland areas and extends throughout the catchment of the River Don
- 3.4 The Site is within a SSSI risk zone. The development type is included within a risk category but falls below the threshold which requires consideration; residential development of 100 units or more, and as such, requires no further consideration within this assessment.

Non-Statutory Designated Sites

- 3.5 As SBRC had not provided the data search records for the Site at the time of survey, the Local Wildlife Site (LWS) list provided within the Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan (2023) was used to map the known LWS throughout Barnsley. The website provides the list of 53 LWS throughout Barnsley, with a six-figure grid reference provided (100m²) for each one. All 53 grid references were mapped to provide context on their location to the Site.
- 3.6 Based on this, a single LWS was recorded within 2 km of the Site; Wombwell Wood LWS. Wombwell Wood LWS is located approximately 1.5 km west of the Site.
- 3.7 Parkhill Nature Reserve is a former LWS (Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan, 2023), but is now included in Dearne Valley Wetlands SSSI which is detailed within the above Chapter on Designated Sites.
- 3.8 All other LWS appear to be over 2 km from the Site boundary.

Habitats and Botanical Species

Overview

- 3.9 The UK Hab Survey Results Map is provided in **Appendix 2** with accompanying habitat descriptions below. Relevant photographs are shown in **Appendix 3**. Botanical species nomenclature follows Stace (2019).
- 3.10 The Site comprised bare ground, modified grassland and other woodland; broadleaved.
- 3.11 The Site boundaries comprise an active construction Site and access roads.

g4 – Modified Grassland

- 3.12 Modified grassland represents the largest area of the Site and has received heavy impacts from the adjacent development, with the majority of it appearing to be temporarily lost in 2023 based on historic Google Imagery. As such, the species comprise both modified grassland and disturbed grassland species. Species comprised Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus* (D), perennial rye grass *Lolium perenne* (D), Timothy grass *Phleum pratense* (O), broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius* (F), bramble *Rubus fruticosus* (O), cats ear *Hypochaeris radicata* (R), common couch *Elymus repens* (R), white clover *Trifolium repens* (R), spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare* (R), creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* (R), hairy tare *Vicia hirsute* (R), scentless chamomile *Tripleurospermum inodorum* (R), chickweed *Stellaria media* (R), weld *Reseda luteola* (R), lesser trefoil *Trifolium dubium* (R), common vetch *Vicia sativa* (R) and tall fescue *Festuca arundinacea* (R).
- 3.13 The Site had been subject to levels of disturbance, increasing the level of associated species within the grassland. Based on the previously completed Preliminary Ecological Appraisal undertaken in 2018 (MRB Ecology and Environment (2019), this habitat was mainly categorised as amenity grassland, with the western boundary of the Site categorised as poor semi-improved grassland. Both of these habitats were defined with use of the Phase 1 Habitat categories (JNCC, 2010) within the previous report. With use of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool (Defra 2024) which provides a direct Phase 1 Habitat to Metric Habitat translation tool, these habitats would now be categorised as modified grassland based on the UK Habitat classification system. This can also be seen within the Google Earth Satellite imagery, prior to the adjacent works (pre-2023), in comparison to the aerial imagery in 2023 and 2024.

510 – Bare Ground

- 3.14 There are large areas of bare ground within the Site, which have been caused by the adjacent development activities.

w1g – Other Woodland; Broadleaved

- 3.15 A small copse of other woodland; broadleaved is located within the south-west corner of the Site. This woodland has been present within the Site prior to the first aerial imagery on Google Earth in 2002. This was previously part of a larger stretch of woodland, which was removed as part of the adjacent residential development.
- 3.16 This was mapped as broadleaved plantation within the previous Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report (MRB Ecology and Environment, 2019).
- 3.17 The woodland supports young to semi-mature trees. The species mix includes sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, cherry *Prunus avium*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*. The ground storey includes spear thistle (O), common bent *Agrostis capillaris* (R), bramble (O), Yorkshire fog (R), dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* agg. (R), red fescue *Festuca rubra* (O), wood avens *Geum urbanum* (R), creeping soft grass *Holcus mollis* (R) and cleavers *Galium aparine* (O).

Protected / Notable Species

Amphibians

- 3.18 No waterbodies are present within the Site. The only waterbody observed through OS Maps is a single waterbody approximately 400 m south-west of the Site. It is noted that there may be small garden ponds within the adjacent residential gardens that are not visible on mapping.
- 3.19 The terrestrial habitat was considered to be of some value within the woodland, with the remainder of the habitat considered to be of negligible value.
- 3.20 There is no direct access from the Site to the known waterbody, with the new construction activities surrounding the Site being significant barriers to dispersal. In addition, although GCN can travel further, the core habitat is usually up to 50 m from a waterbody and up to 250 m.
- 3.21 Based on the PEA report by MRB Ecology and Environment (2019), the closest waterbodies known to contain GCN were located at grid reference SE 395021, which is approximately 900 m south-west of the Site.
- 3.22 Given the size of the Site, the intervening habitat and the distance between the Site and waterbody (i.e. c. 400 m from the Site), GCN (or other amphibians) are considered highly unlikely to be present within the Site and not considered to be a constraint to the proposed development.
- 3.23 To further support this, a Natural England Rapid Risk Assessment has been produced for the works, with a precautionary approach of assuming GCN presence within the waterbody within 500 m of the Site. The risk assessment identified the proposed works as having a green offence, as seen in Table 3.1 below.
- 3.24 'Green: offence highly unlikely' indicates that the development activities are of such a type, scale and location that it is highly unlikely any offence would be committed should the development proceed.'

Table 3.1 Natural England GCN Rapid Risk Assessment

Component	Likely effect (select one for each component; select the most harmful option if more than one is likely; lists are in order of harm, top to bottom)	Notional offence probability score
Great crested newt breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land within 100m of any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land 100-250m from any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land >250m from any breeding pond(s)	0.1 - 0.5 ha lost or damaged	0.005
Individual great crested newts	No effect	0
	Maximum:	0.005
Rapid risk assessment result:	GREEN: OFFENCE HIGHLY UNLIKELY	

Badgers

- 3.25 No evidence of badgers was found on-Site or on land immediately adjacent including hairs, latrines, footprints or setts. The other broadleaved woodland did provide suitable foraging habitat and sett excavation for badgers, although this is significantly reduced due to the adjacent construction works, but it cannot be ruled out that they may cross the Site periodically.

Bats

- 3.26 No potential roosting features were recorded within the trees on-Site, the trees were young to semi-mature, with no potential roost features formed. There are no structures on Site.
- 3.27 The Site provides very low levels of foraging and commuting potential, both considering its size and adjacent land use and lack of connectivity, and likely light levels from the newly developed and developing estates. The habitats on-Site were unlikely to attract a large abundance of insect prey.

Birds

- 3.28 Blackbird *Turdus merula*, woodpigeon *Columba palumbus* and robin *Erithacus rubecula* were recorded during the Site visit.
- 3.29 The Site offered some opportunities for foraging and breeding birds within the woodland, but an important assemblage was considered highly unlikely due to the size of the Site and immediately bordering habitats.

Invertebrates

- 3.30 Due to the urban nature of the Site, the limited botanical diversity and the absence of a mosaic of habitats, the Site did not offer potential for an important invertebrate assemblage.
- 3.31 The woodland habitat within the Site is considered to provide opportunities for common and widespread species of invertebrates.

Reptiles

- 3.32 The habitats on the Site were considered to be of negligible value to support common reptile species. Due to the urban nature, barriers to dispersal (construction and housing) and size of the Site, there is a very low likelihood of reptiles residing within the Site.
- 3.33 The MRB Ecology and Environment (2019) PEA detailed a record of grass snake at Park Hill Brick Pits Nature Reserve. It is understood that this is over 500 m from the Site.

Other Species

- 3.34 The bordering urbanised habitat is considered to provide sub-optimal habitat for hedgehogs. However, the Site contains suitable habitats to support this species, within the copse of woodland in the Site. This habitat provides both suitable foraging habitats and suitable refuge and hibernation habitats. No evidence of hedgehogs was identified during the survey.
- 3.35 There are no features that are likely to support water voles or otters within the Site or within 30 m thereof i.e., ditches, lakes, streams, ponds etc.
- 3.36 The Site was considered to provide some limited suitable habitat for fox *Vulpes vulpes* and rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*. No evidence of these species was found during the surveys.

Invasive Flora

- 3.37 No Schedule 9 invasive flora species were recorded within the Site during the survey.

4. ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- 4.1 This section identifies the effects on habitats and species during different stages of the development, prior to any mitigation measures. It then details the proposed mitigation and explores the significance of any residual effects.

Designated Sites

Potential Impacts

- 4.2 The proposed development does not occur within a statutory or locally designated wildlife site.
- 4.3 The single statutory designated site, Dearne Valley Wetlands SSSI, is located approximately 620 m north-east from the Site at its closest point, and approximately 1.1 km east of the Site.
- 4.4 Based on the search of LWS within the Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan (2023), a single LWS was recorded within 2 km of the Site; Wombwell Wood LWS. Wombwell Wood LWS is located approximately 1.5 km west of the Site.
- 4.5 Given the above, the Site does not appear to be connected to any statutory or locally designated sites through ecological or hydrological features and as such there is a negligible risk of the development having an adverse impact on the conservation interests of such Sites.

Mitigation

- 4.6 The development is considered to have negligible impacts and therefore no mitigation measures are required.

Residual Impacts

- 4.7 The development is considered to have negligible impacts and therefore no residual effects are predicted.

Habitats

Potential Impacts

- 4.8 The modified grassland and bare ground are considered to be of relatively low ecological value at the Site level only. It is anticipated that all of these habitats will be lost during the development.
- 4.9 The small copse of other broadleaved woodland is of higher ecological value, of medium distinctiveness and considered as being of value at the local level only. Based on the plans for the Site, it is considered that the woodland will be lost during the development.

Mitigation

- 4.10 The proposed development is required to provide a plus 10% Biodiversity Net Gain. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment has been undertaken at the Site and will be issued as a separate report. The report will detail areas of habitat for retention, enhancement and recreation.

Residual Impacts

- 4.11 10% Biodiversity Net Gain will be achieved for the application through off-Site habitat creation, or with use of a habitat bank, and therefore the development is considered to have a positive impact at the local scale on biodiversity.

Protected Species

Amphibians

Potential Impacts

- 4.12 As discussed in Section 3, GCN (and other amphibians) were considered highly unlikely to be present within the Site.
- 4.13 Amphibians are therefore not considered further within this report.

Badgers

Potential Impacts

- 4.14 It cannot be ruled out that urbanised badgers may periodically cross the Site and become injured in open excavations during the construction phase. This would be a minor adverse effect at the local level.
- 4.15 In addition, badgers are mobile animals and can excavate setts over short periods of time. Subsequently, potential future setts could be disturbed or destroyed during the construction period. This would be a major adverse effect at the local level.

Mitigation Measures

- 4.16 As a matter of good practice, any trenches dug as part of construction work should be covered over at night, or left with a ramp or sloping end, to prevent mammals from falling in and becoming trapped. Similarly, any pipes over 200 mm in diameter should be capped off at night.
- 4.17 Badgers can dig new setts at any time and contractors should remain vigilant during Site clearance. In the event that a sett, or potential sett, is found, the contractor must contact a suitably qualified ecologist. If there is a considerable delay before the onset of Site clearance, a re-survey for badgers may be required. A licence from Natural England may be required for any works that will impact upon active setts.

Residual Impacts

- 4.18 No residual effects are predicted.

Bats

Potential Impacts

- 4.19 No potential roosts features were recorded within the Site or immediately adjacent to the Site.
- 4.20 Given the size of the Site, the lack of connectivity, bordering habitat use and associated light spill, and lack of diversity within the Site, the habitats within the Site were considered to be of very low to negligible value for foraging and commuting bats.
- 4.21 The loss of the habitats within the Site is considered to of a negligible impact to bats.

Mitigation Measures

- 4.22 As the Site provides negligible value for roosting, foraging and commuting bats, no mitigation measures are required. Enhancements for bats have been provided within Section 5.

Significance of Residual Effects

- 4.23 No significant impacts to bats are envisaged.

Birds

Potential Impacts

- 4.24 The small copse of woodland within the Site was considered to offer some limited suitable nesting and foraging habitat for birds. Therefore, there is the potential for birds to be disturbed or harmed during any vegetation clearance, including ground clearance of these areas. This would be considered a moderate adverse effect at the local level.
- 4.25 Vegetation clearance including ground clearance has the potential to disturb or harm breeding birds, particularly if undertaken during the typical nesting period (March to August).

Mitigation Measures

- 4.26 As all species receive legal protection during nesting, it is advised to conduct vegetation clearance outside of the breeding bird season of March to August (inclusive). Work outside of this period should still be preceded by a nesting bird survey carried out by contractors, as some species can nest all year round. If it is necessary to conduct Site clearance within this period, it should be preceded by a nesting bird check conducted

by an ecologist. Active nests found at any time will remain unaffected until all chicks have fledged.

- 4.27 Enhancements for birds have been provided within Section 5.

Significance of Residual Effects

- 4.28 With the above mitigation measures no significant impacts are envisaged.

Invertebrates

Potential Impacts

- 4.29 As discussed in Section 3, the Site was considered highly unlikely to support an important assemblage of invertebrates due to absence of a mosaic of habitats, bordering land use and size of the Site.

Mitigation Measures

- 4.30 It is considered that new gardens will offer suitable habitats for widespread and common invertebrates.

Significance of Residual Effects

- 4.31 With the above mitigation measures no significant impacts are envisaged.

Reptiles

Potential Impacts

- 4.32 As discussed in Section 3, reptiles were considered highly unlikely to be present within the Site,

- 4.33 Reptiles are therefore not considered further within this report.

Other Species

Potential Impacts

- 4.34 Hedgehogs may use the Site for foraging and sheltering purposes and therefore any Site clearance works have the potential to result in direct harm to this species.

- 4.35 All wild mammals are protected from harm and injury under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. Foxes or rabbits may be present within the area and could occasionally be present on Site on occasion and become injured in open excavations during the construction phase.

Mitigation Measures

- 4.36 Any trenches dug as part of construction work should be covered over at night, or left with a ramp or sloping end, to prevent hedgehogs from falling in and becoming trapped. Similarly, any pipes over 200mm in diameter should be capped off at night.
- 4.37 During the vegetation clearance works any dense scrub or hedgerow areas should be checked by hand for the presence of any hedgehogs immediately prior to the clearance works. If a hedgehog is found, then it should be left in place and an ecologist, or the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) contacted for further advice (BHPS hotline: 01584 890801). Depending on the timings, it may be necessary to transfer the hedgehog to a wildlife rescue i.e. during the winter months hedgehogs will die if disturbed during hibernation and during spring/early summer, hedgehogs with young will abandon their young if disturbed or moved.

Significance of Residual Effects

- 4.38 With the above mitigation measures no significant impacts are envisaged.

Invasive Flora

Potential Impacts

- 4.39 No Schedule 9 plants were recorded within the Site.

Mitigation Measures

- 4.40 As a precaution, site personnel should remain vigilant during the works. In the unlikely event that any Schedule 9 species are observed during works, works should stop on this area immediately and a Suitably Qualified Ecologist should be contacted to confirm species and develop an eradication program where necessary.

Significance of Residual Effects

- 4.41 With the above mitigation measures no significant impacts are envisaged.

5. COMPENSATION AND ENHANCEMENT MEASURES

General

- 5.1 A specific Biodiversity Enhancement and Mitigation Plan (BEMP) should be produced for this phase of the Proposed Development. The BEMP is recommended to detail the mitigation measures outlined in the above section as well as protection measures for the retained habitats, enhancement measures of retained habitats and details of any newly created native habitats. The BEMP should also provide an overview of any habitat management as well as details of species-specific enhancements provided below.

Habitats

- 5.2 A full assessment of the Sites habitats has been undertaken using Natural England's most up to date Biodiversity Metric. The results of this assessment have been provided within a Biodiversity Assessment report. Where net gain cannot be achieved on-Site this should be compensated for off-Site either through off-Site compensation or a financial contribution.

Bats

- 5.3 In line with the Barnsley Local Plan; Biodiversity and Geodiversity Consultation Statement Adopted March 2024 (Barnsley Metropolitan Council, 2024), 100% of all new dwellings require an integrated bat box (i.e. six in total for this project).
- 5.4 These should be positioned as close to the eaves as possible, away from windows (light spill) and not above windows (potential conflicts with droppings on windows/windowpanes). They should be positioned in locations sheltered from strong winds, usually facing south to south-west. Further details as to the types of bat boxes to be used, the siting, maintenance and suppliers should be detailed in the BEMP.

Birds

- 5.5 In line with the Barnsley Local Plan; Biodiversity and Geodiversity Consultation Statement Adopted March 2024 (Barnsley Metropolitan Council, 2024), 100% of all new dwellings require an integrated bird box (i.e. six in total for this project).
- 5.6 Studies have shown that swift bricks will be used by swifts, house sparrows, house martins, blue tits, great tits, starlings and nuthatches (Swift Local Network, 2019) i.e., these bricks are relatively universal for species expected within the local habitat. As such, six of these boxes will be installed within the development, integrated within the new builds.
- 5.7 These should be installed within the north, north-east or west, on a gable below the eaves, ideally at a height of at least 5 m and should offer unobstructed fly-in access. A gap of 2 m should be maintained between the nest boxes.

Hedgehog

- 5.8 To provide new habitats for hedgehogs and other species, it is recommended that a hedgehog friendly layout is achieved through the following provisions:
- 5.9 Creation of a hedgehog 'highway' - any fencing to have 13cm by 13cm holes cut in strategic places to allow hedgehogs and other species to move in and out of the Site. In addition, hedgerows or fencing with gaps at the bottom/railings could be used instead of close board fencing.

6. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

- 6.1 With the mitigation and enhancements outlined within this document, it is considered the with the increase in nesting and bat roosting provision, as well as biodiversity net gain for habitats issued within a separate report, the development would result in an overall positive impact to common and widespread species found locally.

7. SUMMARY

7.1 **Table 7.1** contains a summary of the likely significant effects of the development relating to the construction phase, the completed development and cumulative effects.

Table 7.1: Summary

Receptor	Potential Impact	Significance of Impact Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Residual Effects (including Cumulative Effects)
DESIGNATED SITES				
International, National and Non-statutory Designated Sites	No impacts are predicted	Negligible impacts	Not required	No Impacts
HABITATS				
Modified grassland and other woodland; broadleaved	Loss of habitats to facilitate the development	Adverse effect at the local level	Habitat losses will be addressed as part of the biodiversity net gain assessment for the Site	Predicted to be a positive impact at the local level due to 10% BNG
SPECIES				
Amphibians	Negligible. No ponds within 400 m of the Site, barriers to dispersal, size of Site etc.	Negligible impacts	Not required	No Impacts
Badgers	Potential injury during construction phase. Potential sett excavation in the future.	Minor adverse impact at the local level	Good practice measures during construction	Negligible
Bats	Negligible. Negligible potential roosting features, and very low to negligible foraging and commuting value.	Negligible impacts	New roosting opportunities.	Minor positive impact at the local level

Receptor	Potential Impact	Significance of Impact Without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Residual Effects (including Cumulative Effects)
Birds	Disturbance or harm to nesting birds	Minor impact at the local level	Timing of vegetation clearance to outside of the nesting bird season and replacement / new nesting opportunities	Neutral
Invertebrates	Loss of habitat	Minor impact at the local level	New gardens	Neutral
Reptiles	Negligible. Barriers to dispersal, size of Site etc.	Negligible impacts	Not required	No Impacts
Other Species	Potential injury during construction phase	Minor impact at the local level	Precautionary methods. Good practice measures during construction	Negligible
Invasive Flora	Unlikely. Currently no non-native invasive species recorded within the Site.	Negligible impacts	Good practice measures during construction	Negligible

7.2 Based on the table above, with a BEMP and implementation of the mitigation measures and Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (i.e. providing a 10% biodiversity net gain), the proposed development has the potential for minor positive impacts and gains for biodiversity at the detailed design stage

8. REFERENCES

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Relevant Legislation

The following text provides information on the key legislation, which is applicable to this survey.

The main wildlife legislation relevant in the UK is as follows:

European Legislation

The relevant sections of the EC Directives and international conventions are summarised below:

- EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitat Directive 1992) as amended (92/43/EEC)

The Directive requires Member States to introduce a range of measures including the protection of species listed in the Annexes. The 189 habitats listed in Annex I of the Directive and the 788 species listed in Annex II, are to be protected by means of a network of sites. Once adopted, these are designated by Member States as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and along with Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified under the EC Birds Directive. The Habitats Directive introduces the precautionary principle; that disturbance to the designated sites can only be permitted having ascertained no adverse effect on the integrity of the Site.

- EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive 1979) as amended (79/409/EEC)

The main provisions of the Directive includes; the maintenance of the favorable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range.

- Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)

The Convention imposes legal obligations on contracting parties, protecting over 500 wild plant species and more than 1000 wild animal species.

UK Legislation

The sections of UK legislation considered to be of relevance include:

- The Environment Act 2021

This legislation was revised in response to the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy consultation on 19 December 2023 and sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The Act mandates the requirement of 10% net gains for biodiversity and as such should be the aim of all new developments.

- The Conservation (Natural Habitats, and c.) Regulations 2017 (as amended)

This transposes the Habitats Directive into national law. The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', and the protection of 'European protected species.

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

This consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)

This act strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation.

- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act)

This act formed Natural England which places a duty on all public authorities, including local planning authorities to consider biodiversity. This Act also requires a list of species of habitats composed by the Secretary of State to help provide specific conservation targets. These species are known as Priority Species or Species of Principal Importance (SPI). These habitats are known as Priority habitats or Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI). Both SPI and HPI are listed under Section 41 of this Act. The NPPF also affords protection to these HPI's and SPI's.

- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992

This act affords protection to badgers and their setts including the destruction or obstructing access to a sett.

- Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996

This act provides protection to all wild species of mammal in the UK and is more related to mammal welfare but is directly applicable during any site clearance or other works to a site which could harm mammals.

- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

The regulations require landowners to notify local planning authorities if they want to remove a hedgerow that is over 20 metres long or that joins another hedgerow. The authorities can prohibit the removal of a hedgerow if it is important from archaeological, historical, landscape or wildlife perspectives.

Species-Specific Legislation

Species specific legislation is provided in the following Table:

Species Groups	Legislation	Restrictions
Amphibians, including Great Crested Newt (GCN)	Sch. 5 and Sch. 9 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.	It is an offence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sell; • Transport; • Advertise for sale. For GCN, as above but includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kill; • Injure; • Disturb; • Destroy or obstruct access to any place used for rest or shelter.

Badgers	The Protection of Badgers Act 1992.	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilfully kill, injure, take, or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so; • Possess any dead badger or any part of, or anything derived from, a dead badger; • Intentionally interfere with a sett by disturbing badgers whilst they are occupying a sett, damaging or destroying a sett, causing a dog to enter a sett, or obstructing access to it. <p>A badger sett is defined in the legislation as “any structure or place, which displays signs indicating current use by a badger”.</p>
Bats	<p>Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p> <p>Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).</p>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture (or take) bats; • Deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not); • Disturb roosting bats or obstruct access to their roosts; • Damage or destroy bat roosts.
Birds	<p>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p> <p>Sch. 1 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kill; • Injure; • Take any wild bird, their eggs or nest (with the exception of those on Sch. 2). <p>As above but includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disturbing birds at their nest, or their dependent young.
Reptiles	<p>Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p> <p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.</p>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kill; • Injure; • Sell. <p>For Smooth Snake and Sand Lizard, as above but includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disturb; • Damage; • Destroy or obstruct access to any place used for rest or shelter.
Hedgehogs and Other Mammals	<p>SPI – Section 41 NERC Act.</p> <p>Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996.</p>	Protection from harm, injury intent to harm.

Otter	Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).	It is an offence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture (or take); • Deliberately disturb; • Disturb or obstruct access to their place of rest or shelter; • Damage or destroy place of rest or shelter; • Possess, control or transport alive or dead.
Water Vole	Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).	It is an offence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kill; • Injure; • Take; • Possess or control alive or dead; • Disturb or obstruct access to their place of rest or shelter; • Damage or destroy place of rest or shelter.
Plants	Sch. 8 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Some species are SPI - Section 41 NERC Act.	It is an offence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick; • Uproot; • Trade; • Possess (for trade) any wild plant listed.
Invasive Species (Animal and Plant)	Sch. 9 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).	It is an offence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release of any animal, plant or microorganism not native to the UK; • Sell; • Cause or allow to spread.

Protected Sites

A network of protected sites, at varying levels, have been put in place across the UK. Further details are provided below;

International Importance

- Natura 2000

Natura 2000 is the name of the European Union-wide network of nature conservation-sites established under the EC Habitats and Birds Directives. This network will comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SACs are designated under the EC Habitats Directive. The Directive applies to the UK and the overseas territory of Gibraltar. SACs are areas which have been identified as best representing the range and variety within the European Union of habitats and (non-bird) species listed on Annexes I and II to the Directive. SACs in terrestrial areas and territorial marine waters out to 12 nautical miles are designated under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended).

New and/or amended Habitats Regulations are shortly to be introduced to provide a mechanism for the designation of SACs and SPAs in UK offshore waters (from 12-200 nm).

National Importance

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

The SSSI series has developed since 1949 as the national suite of sites providing statutory protection for the best examples of the UK's flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features. Most SSSIs are privately-owned or managed; others are owned or managed by public bodies or non-government organisations. The SSSIs designation may extend into intertidal areas out to the jurisdictional limit of local authorities, generally Mean Low Water in England and Northern Ireland; Mean Low Water of Spring tides in Scotland. In Wales, the limit is Mean Low Water for SSSIs notified before 2002, and, for more recent notifications, the limit is Lowest Astronomical Tides, where the features of interest extend down to LAT. There is no provision for marine SSSIs beyond low water mark. Originally notified under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, SSSIs have been renotified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Improved provisions for the protection and management of SSSIs were introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (in England and Wales) and the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

Regional/Local Importance

- Wildlife Sites

Local authorities for any given area may designate certain areas as being of local conservation interest. The criteria for inclusion, and the level of protection provided, if any, may vary between areas. Most individual counties have a similar scheme, although they do vary.

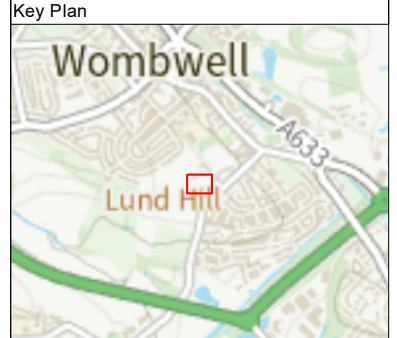
These sites, which may be given various titles such as 'Listed Wildlife Sites' (LWS), 'County Wildlife Sites' (CWS), 'Local Nature Conservation-sites' (LNCS), 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation' (SINCs), or 'Sites of Nature Conservation Importance' (SNICIs), together with statutory designations, are defined in local and structure plans under the Town and Country Planning system and are a material consideration when planning applications are being determined.

Appendix 2: UK Hab Plan



Notes

1. Do not scale this drawing. All dimensions must be checked/ verified on site. If in doubt ask.
2. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all relevant architects, engineers and specialists drawings and specifications.



Legend

	Site boundary (1,724.0m ²)
	g4 - Modified grassland (779.3m ²)
	w1g - Other broadleaved woodland (330.5m ²)
	510 - Bare ground (614.2m ²)

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- Manchester | 0161 233 4260
- Birmingham | 0121 233 3322
- Leeds | 0113 233 8000

Client
PREMIER GROUP

Project Title
FORMER WOMBWELL SCHOOL SITE

Drawing Title
Baseline Habitat Condition Plan

Drawn: Mark Parnell	Reviewed: B. McLean
BWB Ref: -	Date: 02.07.24 Scale@A3: 1:375

Appendix 3: Site Photographs



Photograph 1: Small copse and bare ground – note adjacent new estate and construction activities



Photograph 2: Modified grassland with bare ground and copes to back of the photo



Photograph 3: Modified grassland (note residential development)



Photograph 4: Inside of the copse of other broadleaved woodland

