

PROJECT:	LD10848
SUBJECT:	Barnsley West Wintering Bird Survey Addendum
NOTE REF:	001
DATE:	15 th January 2023
PREPARED BY:	Olivia Satur (Senior 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 Six WBS surveys have previously been carried out by WA in February, March, October and November 2023. Another two surveys have now been undertaken (Visit 7 and Visit 8) in December 2023 and January 2024, following a request from Barnsley Council's Biodiversity Officer.
- 1.3 This report aims to provide the results of the December and January WBS, and to summarise the data collected over the course of the 2023 surveys. In particular, 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 (each of) December 2023 and January 2024, 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 eight WBS, a total of 51 species were recorded using the Site. Table 1 below summarises the conservation status of the species recorded.

Table 1: WBS Conservation Status Summary

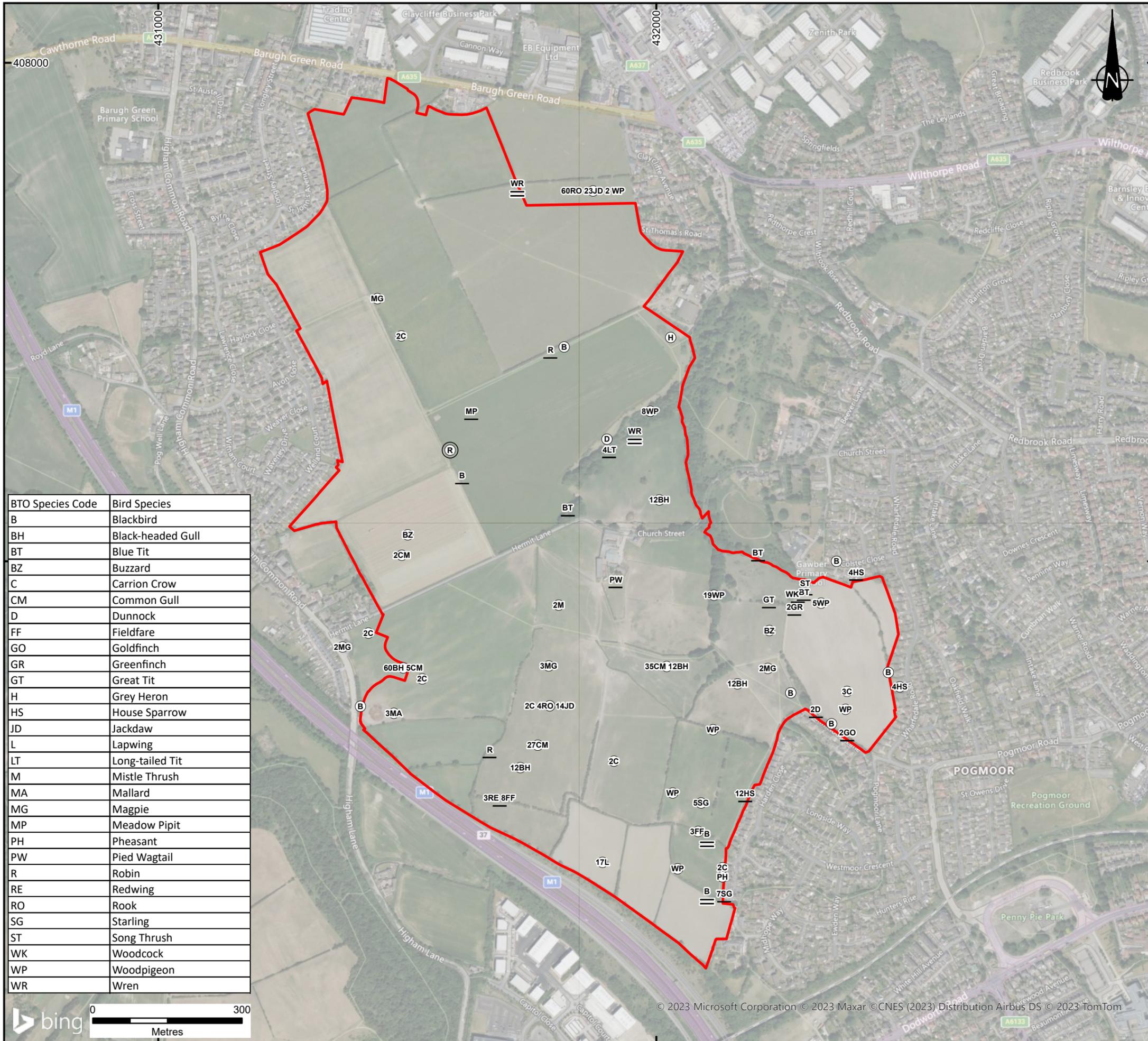
TOTAL SPECIES	51
Annex 1 Species	0
Schedule 1 Protected Species	2
BoCC 5 Red Listed Species	13
BoCC 5 Amber Listed Species	16
BoCC 5 Green Listed Species	20
BoCC 5 Species Not Assessed (na)	2
S41 Species of Principal Importance	12
IUCN European Red List species	0
LBAP species	17

3.1.1 The previous six WBS recorded a total of 48 species using the Site. Additional species recorded during Visit 7 and Visit 8 were LBAP bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* and woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*, as well as grey heron *Ardea cinerea*.

3.2 On Visit 8, two bullfinch were recorded calling within hedgerows. One individual woodcock was recorded to the east of the Ancient Woodland on the southern part of the Site on Visit 7. Also, one grey heron was recorded on both Visit 7 and Visit 8 on grassland habitat.

3.3 As with the previous surveys, the recorded species assemblage is weighted towards those associated with arable habitats. The December and January surveys continued to record Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* roosting on a ploughed field to the south of the M1. The surveys also recorded lapwing foraging on saturated grazing pasture to the south of Hermit Lane. A considerably larger number of lapwing were recorded during Visits 7 and 8, with 17 and 52 individuals observed respectively. The results suggest that the site is regularly used by this species over winter, with variable numbers present potentially dependant on local weather conditions. The ploughed and saturated field habitats within which flocks of lapwing were recorded are however transitional, and with their availability being dependant on the rotation of field use and weather.

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- 3.4 Wintering lapwing would be displaced by the development proposals as the winter roosting/foraging habitat will be lost and cannot be accommodated elsewhere in the development area. As such the findings of Visit 7 and Visit 8 support the ES Chapter (WA, 2023) which states that displacement of wintering lapwing will result in a permanent Major adverse impact at a Local level.
 - 3.5 The applicant is willing to explore off-site offsetting that has been recommended by the Biodiversity Officer, to mitigate against impacts to lapwing. This could entail working with external organisations such as Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to provide biodiversity offsetting for the species.
 - 3.6 The surveys confirm that the previously assessed baseline for wintering birds at no higher than Local level (Fuller, 1980) remains unchanged.



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Bird(s) repeatedly calling
- Sighting of Bird(s)
- Calling bird(s)
- Singing bird(s)

Notes:

Boundaries are indicative.

Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.

09/01/2024

Start 0845 End 1237

5/8cc, wind F3 - 6, blustery showers, 11 degrees

BTO Species Code	Bird Species
B	Blackbird
BH	Black-headed Gull
BT	Blue Tit
BZ	Buzzard
C	Carrion Crow
CM	Common Gull
D	Dunnock
FF	Fieldfare
GO	Goldfinch
GR	Greenfinch
GT	Great Tit
H	Grey Heron
HS	House Sparrow
JD	Jackdaw
L	Lapwing
LT	Long-tailed Tit
M	Mistle Thrush
MA	Mallard
MG	Magpie
MP	Meadow Pipit
PH	Pheasant
PW	Pied Wagtail
R	Robin
RE	Redwing
RO	Rook
SG	Starling
ST	Song Thrush
WK	Woodcock
WP	Woodpigeon
WR	Wren

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHKD	APPD

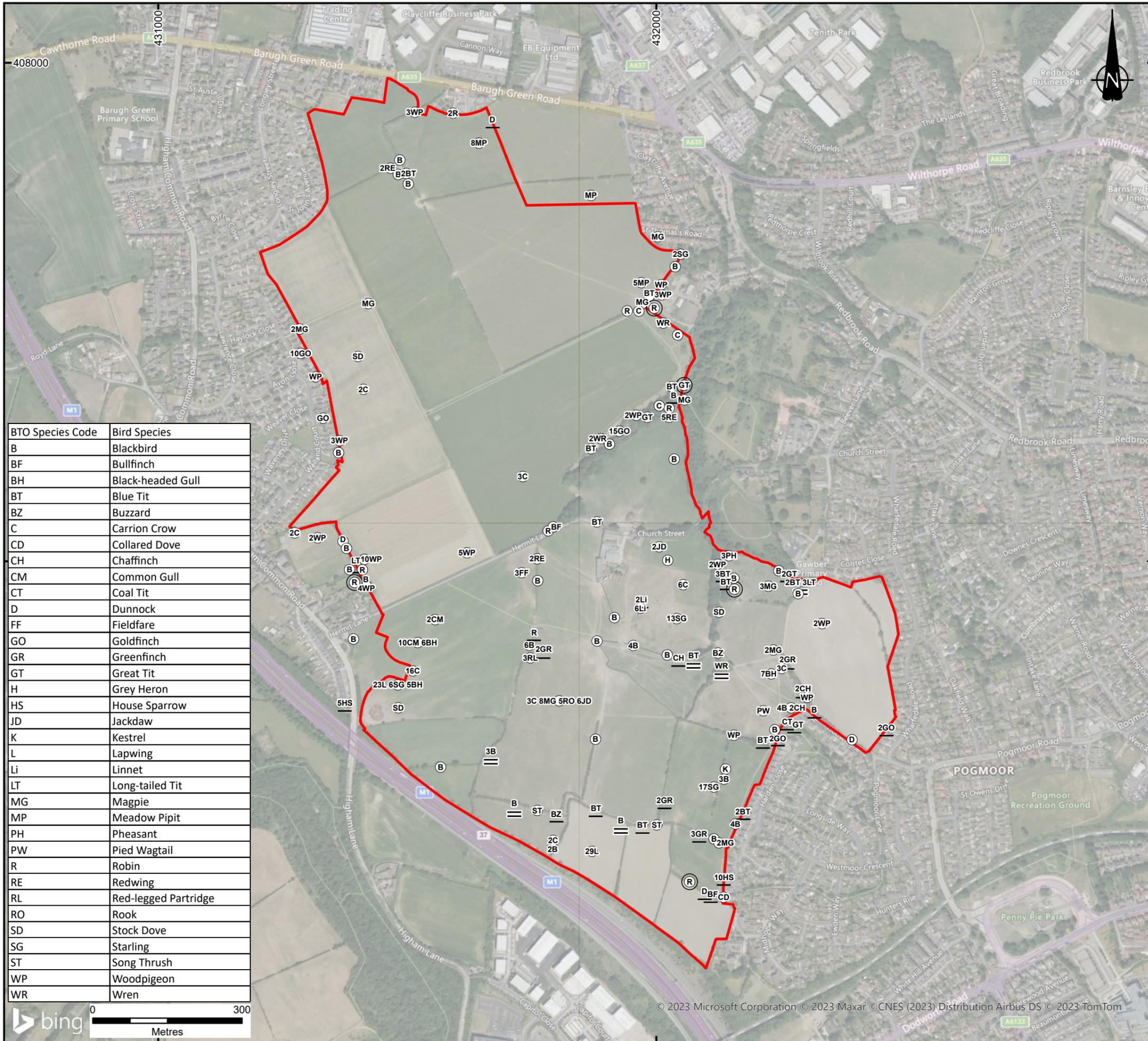
CLIENT
STRATA STERLING BARNESLEY WEST LTD

PROJECT
BARNESLEY WEST

DRAWING TITLE
WINTERING BIRD SURVEY VISIT 7 - DECEMBER 2023

DRG No.	LD10361/036	REV	P01
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:7,500
		DATE	10/01/2024
DRAWN BY	SRW	CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY





BTO Species Code	Bird Species
B	Blackbird
BF	Bullfinch
BH	Black-headed Gull
BT	Blue Tit
BZ	Buzzard
C	Carrion Crow
CD	Collared Dove
CH	Chaffinch
CM	Common Gull
CT	Coal Tit
D	Dunnock
FF	Fieldfare
GO	Goldfinch
GR	Greenfinch
GT	Great Tit
H	Grey Heron
HS	House Sparrow
JD	Jackdaw
K	Kestrel
L	Lapwing
Li	Linnet
LT	Long-tailed Tit
MG	Magpie
MP	Meadow Pipit
PH	Pheasant
PW	Pied Wagtail
R	Robin
RE	Redwing
RL	Red-legged Partridge
RO	Rook
SD	Stock Dove
SG	Starling
ST	Song Thrush
WP	Woodpigeon
WR	Wren

KEY

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Notes:

Boundaries are indicative.
 Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.
 09/01/2024
 Start 0830 End 1014
 4/8cc, light E breeze, dry 2 degrees

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHKD	APPD
CLIENT	STRATA STERLING BARNSELY WEST LTD				
PROJECT	BARNSELY WEST				
DRAWING TITLE	WINTERING BIRD SURVEY VISIT 8 - JANUARY 2024				
DRG No.	LD10361/037	REV	P01		
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:7,500	DATE	09/01/2024
DRAWN BY	SRW	CHECKED BY		APPROVED BY	