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**STRATA STERLING BARNESLEY WEST**

**BARNESLEY WEST**

**WINTERING BIRD SURVEY REPORT**

**OCTOBER 2023**

**DATE ISSUED:** OCTOBER 2023  
**JOB NUMBER:** LD10361  
**REPORT NUMBER:** APPENDIX 7.5  
**VERSION:** V0.1  
**STATUS:** Final

**STRATA STRATA STERLING BARNESLEY WEST**

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**WINTERING BIRD SURVEY REPORT**

**OCTOBER 2023**

**PREPARED BY:**

Olivia Satur Ecologist



**REVIEWED BY:**

Tim Palmer Technical Director  
(Ecology)



**APPROVED BY:**

Tim Palmer Technical Director  
(Ecology)



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<b>DRAWINGS</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SCALE</b>
LD10361/008	Wintering Bird Survey - Visit 1	1:17,500
LD10361/009	Wintering Bird Survey - Visit 2	1:17,500
LD10361/010	Wintering Bird Survey - Visit 3	1:17,500
LD10361/011	Wintering Bird Survey - Visit 4	1:17,500

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) was commissioned by Strata Sterling Barnsley West to undertake Wintering Bird Surveys (WBS) of a proposed mixed use development scheme. The project is located on land west of Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

Transect surveys were carried out based upon the standardised BTO/JNCC/RSPB Survey & Assessment Steering Group (BSSG, 2022) Common Bird Census survey technique. Surveys consisted of four, weekly visits between February and March 2023 (inclusive). A desktop study was informed by review of existing available information provided by the Barnsley Biological Records Centre/Sheffield Biological Records Centre (BBRC/SBRC), which identified 95 species within 5km of the Site. Previously, a number of breeding bird surveys have been undertaken in support of a similar application during 2018 and 2020 however no wintering birds surveys have been undertaken.

During the surveys, a total of 42 species were recording within the Survey Area, meaning the Site is of at least **Local** value to wintering birds.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) was commissioned by Strata Sterling Barnsley West Ltd to undertake a Wintering Bird Survey (WBS). The purpose of the survey was to determine any constraints relating to wintering birds, in support of a mixed use development project comprising 1560 residential units and a number of commercial buildings. The site is located west of Barnsley, on farmland between the communities of Gawber, Higham, Pogmoor, Redbrook and Barugh Green and immediately north-east of M1 Junction 37 at approximate central Ordnance Survey (OS) Grid Reference of SE 31778 07075.

### **1.2 Development proposals**

1.3 The updated proposed development comprises a mixed-use development to provide up to 1,560 new homes and up to 43 hectares of employment land for Use Class E/B2/B8. In addition, the proposals will provide:

- Part of the Link Road between M1, Junction 37 and the A635, Barugh Green Road (The section from Higham Lane to Barugh Green Road)
- A new primary school
- Small local shops and community facilities
- Strategic areas of greenspace and wildlife corridors

### **1.4 Objectives**

1.4.1 This report provides a baseline evaluation of wintering bird species and species assemblages present within the survey area.

1.4.2 The objective of this survey and report are to:

- Identify all notable wintering bird species present within the site;
- Evaluate the assemblage and highlight notable species and assemblages.

### **1.5 Site Context**

1.5.1 The planning application area comprises a large formerly open cast mine and surrounding land covering approximately 120 hectares. The study site (the Site) includes all land within the Application Site plus an additional surrounding buffer of 50-100m. The Site generally comprises of open pastoral and arable fields, with associated boundary hedgerows, trees and ditches, and areas of semi-natural and ancient woodland. The pasture fields are heavily grazed by horses/ponies.

1.5.2 The site lies 2 km west of Barnsley town centre, on farmland between the communities of Gawber, Higham, Pogmoor, Redbrook and Barugh Green and immediately north-east of Junction 37 of the M1 motorway.

## 1.6 **Quality Assurance**

1.6.1 All bird surveys were undertaken by ornithologists from Wardell Armstrong LLP, who are Full Members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). The wintering bird surveys were undertaken by Tim Palmer MCIEEM who has over 20 years of bird survey experience within a consultancy setting.

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Desk Study**

2.1.1 The desktop study was informed by review of existing available information provided by Barnsley Biological Records Centre / Sheffield Biological Records Centre (BBRC/SBRC).

2.1.2 From the data supplied, wintering bird records were selected as those recorded between the months of October and March, inclusive. Where no specific sighting date was provided, professional judgement and knowledge of species' ecology was used to categorise the record (i.e. wintering, breeding or passage migrant/vagrant).

2.1.3 Only data collected from the last ten years was used for this data set.

### **2.2 General Survey Methodology**

2.2.1 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 four walkovers of the site between February and March, recording all bird species observed or heard, and counts of numbers within wintering flocks. Passerine and non-passerine species were recorded and mapped. Surveys during October and November 2023 are scheduled and will be reported separately via a Technical note to be submitted during the determination process.

2.2.2 A transect route was mapped out prior to the surveys being undertaken, paying particular attention to linear features (such as hedgerows and tree lines) and natural landscape features (such as watercourses, areas of scrub and woodland). The surveys commenced around an hour to two hours after sunrise. All fields were viewed from linear boundaries and all habitat features were surveyed to within 50m where possible. Bird species were identified by direct observation and through species vocalisation.

2.2.3 Bird surveys were scheduled to include variable weather conditions to ensure weather dependant winter bird movements were included within the survey, as bird dispersal can occur during periods of prolonged cold spells or during periods of rapid thaw.

2.2.4 The surveyor recorded all contacts with birds (either by sight or sound) by walking the 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, bird activity, including foraging, flight path and location.

## 2.3 Field Data Evaluation

2.3.1 The evaluation of the results has been undertaken using UK bird evaluation and protection criteria, such as Birds of Conservation Concern<sup>1</sup> lists, and Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC 2006) Section 41 'Species of Principal Importance'<sup>2</sup>.

2.3.2 In order to assess the value of the wintering bird assemblage associated with the survey area, the Fuller (1980) criteria in Table 1 were used. These criteria have been used to classify the ornithological interest of >3,000 sites in Britain according to their importance for conservation and provide a standardised approach to classifying ornithological conservation importance.

Table 1: Species Richness Criteria			
Level of Conservation Importance			
Local	County	Regional	National
25-54 species	55-84 species	85-114 species	115+ species

## 2.4 Caveat

2.4.1 Ornithological surveys are influenced by a variety of factors that affect the presence of birds (e.g. season, weather, food availability, species behaviour and disturbance).

2.4.2 The absence of any particular species within the survey area should not be taken as conclusive evidence that the species is not present or that it will not be present in the future. The results of the bird surveys give an indication of the use of the survey area by wintering bird species at the time of survey and provide guidance in impact assessment and predictions of effects.

2.4.3 Standard WBS methodology recommends that up to six surveys be carried out between October and March (inclusive). However due to the timing of commission for these surveys (February 2022) two months of the wintering bird season were sampled via more frequent (weekly) surveys between February and March. The results of the 2023 surveys are considered adequate to inform the baseline together with an assessment of potential use of the site during early winter taken from desk study records. Additional surveys are being undertaken during October/November 2023,

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bto.org/sites/default/files/publications/bocc-5-a5-4pp-single-pages.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

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the results of which will be presented in a Technical Note prior to the determination of the planning application

### 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Desk Study

3.1.1 The records provided by BBRC includes 29 species of which are birds of conservation concern (red and amber listed species) and those protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), Annex 1 threatened bird species of the Birds Directive (2009) and several UK Priority Species. Species of concern in relation to the site are listed below in Table 2, along with any supporting habitat on site.

3.1.2 Records of common and widespread species are not mentioned in table 2 below. Species highlighted in **bold text** were not recorded during the 2023 winter bird surveys although may be of relevance to the assessment, given the presence of supporting habitat on site.

Table 2: Desk Study Species of Concern			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Supporting Winter Habitat on Site	Location of recording
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Arable fields and grassland	Higham Common Road
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Arable fields and grassland	Higham Common road
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Arable fields and grassland	Hermit Lane, Higham Common
<b>Pink-footed goose</b>	<b><i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i></b>	<b>Arable fields and grassland</b>	<b>Higham</b>
Hen harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Arable fields, grassland and marshes	Pogmoor
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Hedgerows, arable fields and shrub	Off Whinby road
<b>Bullfinch</b>	<b><i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i></b>	<b>Arable fields, hedgerows, shrub and grassland</b>	<b>Langford Wood, near Higham</b>
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Hedgerows, buildings	Higham Common Road
Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	Arable fields, hedgerows, grassland	Higham Common Road
<b>Sparrowhawk</b>	<b><i>Accipiter nissus</i></b>	<b>Arable fields, woodland</b>	<b>Higham Common Road</b>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Arable fields, hedgerow, woodland	Higham Common Road
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Arable fields, hedgerow, woodland	Hugset Wood
<b>Merlin</b>	<b><i>Falco columbaris</i></b>	<b>Woodland, arable fields</b>	<b>Silkstone Golf Course</b>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Woodland, arable fields, hedgerow	Higham Common Road

Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Arable fields	Higham Common Road
<b>Blackcap</b>	<b><i>Sylvia atricapilla</i></b>	<b>Woodland and scrub</b>	<b>Barnaby Furnace</b>
<b>Grey wagtail</b>	<b><i>Motacilla cinerea</i></b>	<b>Streams and rivers</b>	<b>Several locations, including Higham.</b>
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Woodland, arable fields	Hugset Wood
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Woodland, hedgerow, arable fields	Wagon Road
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Arable fields (winter)	Higham

### 3.2 Survey results

3.2.1 During the transect survey visits, a total of 42 species were recorded within the survey area. The species recorded, their scientific name and conservation status are provided in Appendix 1. Table 3 below summarises the species and their conservation status. Further detail can be found in Appendix 1. With 38 species the survey area is considered no more than of **Local value** for its wintering bird assemblage. Without the estuarine portion of the survey area, the species richness would be lower.

<b>TOTAL SPECIES</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Annex 1 Species</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Schedule 1 Protected Species</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>BoCC 5 Red Listed Species</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>BoCC 5 Amber Listed Species</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>BoCC 5 Green Listed Species</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>BoCC 5 Species Not Assessed (na)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>S41 Species of Principal Importance</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>IUCN European Red List species</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>LBAP species</b>	<b>12</b>

**Table 3: WBS Species Summary**

3.2.2 The species recorded that are listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 as amended (S1 W&C Act), NERC 2006 s.41 'Priority' species (s.41), BoCC Red or Amber listed and therefore of 'conservation concern', LBAP species or those on the IUCN red list are discussed below.

Table 4: Red Listed Species

Common name	Scientific name	Annex 1	Schedule 1	BoCC Red	BoCC Amber	BoCC Green	BoCC Not assessed	S41	Europe Red list	LBAP	22/02/2023	02/03/2023	15/03/2023	21/03/2023
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		1	1							3	5	8	2
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			1						1	7	0	1	3
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			1				1		1	65	53	44	33
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			1				1			0	0	0	3
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			1				1		1	0	7	5	10
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>			1				1		1	2	1	3	3
Lesser Redpoll	<i>Carduelis cabaret</i>			1				1		1	0	0	2	0
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			1						1	1	0	0	1
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			1				1		1	18	5	4	8
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			1				1		1	14	22	16	26

- 3.2.3 Ten BoCC 5 red listed species were found within the survey area. Many of these are also S.41 and LBAP species (see Table 4 above). Moderate numbers of house sparrow were recorded on each survey, mainly within hedgerows forming the boundary of the Site especially along the boundary with Pogmoor and within the off site residential gardens. Starling were also recorded in moderate numbers during each survey, again mainly along the residential properties of Pogmoor which bound the site to the .
- 3.2.4 Small numbers of lapwing were recorded on three out of the four surveys, mainly on the southern half of the Site using the open fields. On the first survey, 18 skylark were recorded within the horse grazed fields and silage fields to the north of Higham Lane. They were also recorded within this habitat on the remaining 3 surveys, but in smaller numbers.
- 3.2.5 Additionally, small numbers of fieldfare and redwing, which is also a Schedule 1 species, were recorded using hedgerow and woodland habitats.
- 3.2.6 Fieldfare, greenfinch, herring gull linnet, lesser redpoll and mistle thrush were all recorded in small numbers in the woodland, pasture and hedgerow habitats across Site.

Table 5: Amber Listed Species

Common name	Scientific name	Annex 1	Schedule 1	BoCC Red	BoCC Amber	BoCC Green	BoCC Not assessed	S41	Europe Red list	LBAP	22/02/2023	02/03/2023	15/03/2023	21/03/2023
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				1						2	0	3	41
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>				1						0	0	1	0
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				1			1		1	10	13	19	17
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				1					1	1	2	1	1
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				1						0	2	0	0
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>				1						19	7	66	11
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>		1		1						17	48	85	54
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				1						8	0	0	0
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>				1						1	3	3	1
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>				1			1		1	3	2	0	4
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>				1						86	54	51	176
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>				1						3	4	8	15

- 3.2.7 Twelve Amber Listed Species were recorded during the surveys.
- 3.2.8 Woodpigeon were recorded in moderately high numbers, with a total of 176 being recorded across the Site on the fourth survey.
- 3.2.9 Moderate numbers of dunnock (also S41 and LBAP), redwing (also Schedule 1), wren, black-headed gull and meadow pipit were also recorded. Dunnock, wren and redwing were recorded within most woodland and hedgerows, and flocks of black-headed gull and meadow pipit were recorded on the grassland fields, the meadow pipit potentially associated with migratory/passage movements to upland breeding habitats.
- 3.2.10 Common gull, kestrel (LBAP), rook, stock dove and song thrush (S41 and LBAP) were all recorded in small numbers in hedgerows and woodland. One pair of mallard were recorded to the south-west of the site during the second survey.

Table 6: Green Listed Species

Common name	Scientific name	Annex 1	Schedule 1	BoCC Red	BoCC Amber	BoCC Green	BoCC Not assessed	S41	Europe Red list	LBAP	22/02/2023	02/03/2023 3	15/03/2023 3	21/03/2023 3
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>					1					14	26	22	32
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					1					16	22	24	32
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>					1					2	2	2	2
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>					1					17	37	55	62
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>					1					6	7	1	1
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					1					0	0	0	1
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>					1					0	0	0	2
Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>					1					6	1	0	0
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>					1					1	0	1	0
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	A1				1				1	0	0	1	0
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>					1					12	20	8	9
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>					1					7	8	12	3
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>					1					4	0	4	8
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					1					10	5	0	0
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>					1					0	10	29	11
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>					1					12	3	2	3
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>					1					13	23	25	20
Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>					1					1	1	0	1



- 3.2.11 Eighteen green listed species were recorded during the surveys.
- 3.2.12 Moderate numbers of blackbird, blue tit, and robin were recorded on each survey, mainly using the hedgerow and woodland habitats on site. Smaller numbers of chaffinch, chiffchaff, goldcrest, goldfinch, great tit, long-tailed tit and treecreeper were also recorded using these habitats.
- 3.2.13 High numbers of carrion crow and magpie were recorded during the surveys, mainly using the open field habitats, but also recorded from hedgerow and woodlands across the site. Smaller numbers of stock dove, feral pigeon, jackdaw and pied wagtail were also recorded within these habitats.
- 3.2.14 On each survey, two buzzards were recorded. On the second survey, 2 were observed on a nest located within a tree towards the south-western boundary, although there was no further evidence of the nest being successfully used as a breeding site.
- 3.2.15 On the third survey, one golden plover, which is also an Annex 1 and LBAP species, was recorded on one of the open grassland fields towards the northern end of the site. This is considered likely to have been a bird returning to upland breeding habitats, on passage. It is unusual to record a single bird as this species habitually flocks during the non-breeding season, suggesting that it may have been injured or disorientated.
- 3.2.16 There was no evidence during the survey period, of large flocks of golden plover or pink footed geese using the site, despite there being records of these species from Higham during the winter, the latter appear to be records of birds flying over the site rather than being evidence of site use. The golden plover records are also mainly associated with flyovers, however there are records from Higham of birds on arable fields dating from 2013 and 2015.

## 4 EVALUATION

### 4.1 Evaluation of Bird Assemblages

4.1.1 In terms of evaluating the survey area for its significance to wintering birds, the following criteria were taken into account:

- A. The occurrence of large or notable population of an individual species, particularly if these comprise a significant proportion (i.e. 1% or more) of the national breeding (or wintering) population;
- B. The species-richness of the bird assemblage of the survey areas (i.e. how many different types of species does the survey area or development area support);
- C. The assemblage of species listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, Annex 1 Birds Directive, NERC listed species, Barnsley LBAP species and species determined to be of either red or amber status in BoCC 5, and therefore of conservation concern; and

#### ***Criteria A***

4.1.2 No wintering populations recorded within the survey area comprised 1% or higher of the national breeding population.

#### ***Criteria B***

4.1.3 In accordance with the criteria provided by Fuller (1980); with 42 species recorded by the survey, the site is considered to currently support a wintering assemblage of **Local** value.

#### ***Criteria C***

4.1.4 The surveys indicate that the survey area supports a range of wintering Red listed BoCC, Amber listed BoCC, NERC listed and LBAP species considered likely to be of **Local** value.

## **5 DISCUSSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1.1 The 2023 wintering bird survey results confirm that the site supports a limited range of wintering birds. 42 species were recorded over the four survey visits during the period February – March 2023. inclusive. Previously, a number of breeding bird surveys have been undertaken in support of a similar application during 2018 and 2020 however no wintering birds surveys have been undertaken.
- 5.1.2 Based on the survey observations alone, the site is considered to support a Local level assemblage over winter, however the desk study data suggests that a number of other species could also be regularly seen. This illustrates that the surveys represent a snapshot sample of overall activity and not a full inventory, for this reason the evaluation at Local level is expressed as a minimum assessment.
- 5.1.3 Of the notable species not recorded by the surveys, but included in the desk study information it is considered reasonably likely that an additional four species could be present occasionally on site, namely bullfinch, sparrowhawk, blackcap and grey wagtail. Hen harrier, merlin and pink-footed goose are not considered likely to be regularly present on site.
- 5.1.4 The records are weighted towards those species associated with arable habitats. In particular, the grassland fields to the south of Hermit Lane support small numbers of lapwing, and one golden plover was observed on a field to the north of the Site. Fields across the Site support moderate numbers of skylark and meadow pipit.

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## APPENDICES

## **APPENDIX 1: WINTERING BIRD SURVEY SUMMARY**

## Appendix 1: Wintering Bird Survey Summary

Common name	Scientific name	Annex 1	Schedule 1	BoCC Red	BoCC Amber	BoCC Green	BoCC Not assessed	S41	Europe Red list	LBAP	22/02/2023	02/03/2023	15/03/2023	21/03/2023
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>					1					14	26	22	32
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				1						2	0	3	41
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					1					16	22	24	32
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>					1					2	2	2	2
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>					1					17	37	55	62
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>					1					6	7	1	1
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					1					0	0	0	1
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>					1					0	0	0	2
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>				1						0	0	1	0
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				1			1		1	10	13	19	17
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		1	1							3	5	8	2
Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>					1					6	1	0	0
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>					1					1	0	1	0
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	A1				1				1	0	0	1	0

Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>				1					12	20	8	9
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		1					1		7	0	1	3
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				1					7	8	12	3
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		1				1	1		65	53	44	33
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		1				1			0	0	0	3
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>				1					4	0	4	8
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			1				1		1	2	1	1
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		1				1	1		0	7	5	10
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		1				1	1		2	1	3	3
Lesser Redpoll	<i>Carduelis cabaret</i>		1				1	1		0	0	2	0
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				1					10	5	0	0
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			1						0	2	0	0
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>				1					0	10	29	11
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		1					1		1	0	0	1
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>			1						19	7	66	11
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>					1				1	0	1	4
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>				1					12	3	2	3
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				1					13	23	25	20
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	1		1						17	48	85	54
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>					1				0	0	0	1
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			1						8	0	0	0
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		1				1	1		18	5	4	8
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>			1						1	3	3	1
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		1				1	1		14	22	16	26
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			1			1	1		3	2	0	4
Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>				1					1	1	0	1
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			1						86	54	51	176



## **APPENDIX 2: DATA SEARCH RESULTS**

## Appendix 2: Data Search Results

Data Search Species List										Date of Most Recent Recording	Suitable Habitat on Site	
Common name	Scientific name	Annex 1	Schedule 1	BoCC Red	BoCC Amber	BoCC Green	BoCC Not assessed	S41	Europe Red list			LBAP
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>					1					20/11/2022 1	Scrub and tree habitats across site
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					1					23/08/2022 3	Trees in woodland and scattered across site
Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>		1			1					03/11/2022 0	No supporting habitat on site
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>				1			1		1	07/12/2022 2	Woodland, hedgerow and scrub
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>					1					27/09/2022 2	Woodland and mature scattered trees
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>						1				13/03/2022 0	Open grassland and arable fields
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>					1					21/11/2022 0	Hedgerows, trees and scrub
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					1					19/08/2022 0	Summer migrant
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>					1					23/08/2022 0	No supporting habitat
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>					1					22/02/2022 0	Mature trees and scrub

Mealy Redpoll/ Common Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>			1						22/11/2020	Trees and woodland
Common Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		1			1				14/08/2020	No supporting habitat
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>									21/03/2021	No supporting habitat
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			1			1		1	07/05/2020	No supporting habitat
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				1		1		1	13/03/2020	Hedgerows and scrub
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		1	1						19/12/2022	Hedgerows and scrub
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>									02/06/2021	Woodland, mature trees and hedgerows
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>									23/08/2020	No supporting habitat
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	1							1	20/11/2020	Open grassland and arable fields
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>									05/11/2021	No supporting habitat
Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>			1			1			22/04/2020	No supporting habitat
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>									04/01/2022	Woodland
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>									13/03/2020	Woodland and mature scattered trees
Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1			1					23/08/2022	No supporting habitat
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		1		1					19/12/2021	No supporting habitat
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>									24/07/2022	Woodland
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			1					1	01/12/2022	Hedgerow, trees and scrub

Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>			1				1		1	15/05/2020	Arable fields
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				1					1	15/02/2021	No supporting habitat
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	1	1	1				1			28/02/2020	No supporting habitat
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>			1						1	19/08/2022	Buildings at farm / within 50m of boundary
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			1				1		1	01/12/2022	Buildings at farm / within 50m of boundary, hedgerows
Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>										17/12/2021	No supporting habitat
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>										18/10/2018	Buildings, mature woodland and trees
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>										07/12/2022	Mature trees and woodland
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				1					1	26/03/2021	Mature woodland, trees, buildings
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	1	1							1	12/11/2020	River in woodland
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			1				1		1	17/01/2021	Spring-sown cereal and grassland
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				1						02/04/2020	Open grassland and arable fields
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>										17/05/2020	Summer migrant
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>			1				1		1	24/10/2020	Hedgerow and scrub
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>										31/01/2021	No supporting habitat
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>										07/11/2022	Scrub and tree
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>										22/03/2020	Mature trees and woodland

Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>				1					24/09/2021	1	Arable fields and hedgerows
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	1	1	1						07/02/2022	2	Mature woodland and trees
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			1						22/10/2022	2	Trees and scrub
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>					1				22/01/2021	1	Mature woodland
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1	1		1					08/04/2022	2	No supporting habitat
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1	1			1				05/11/2021	1	No supporting habitat
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>						1			16/12/2019	9	Woodland, arable habitats
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>					1				17/01/2021	1	Trees and buildings
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>				1					13/12/2022	2	Open grassland and arable fields
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>					1				25/10/2022	2	Mature woodland and trees
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	1	1			1				10/12/2022	2	Mature woodland and trees
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>						1			02/05/2020	0	Arable fields
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>		1		1					19/12/2022	2	Hedgerows scrub and woodland
Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					1				16/05/2021	8	No supporting habitat
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>			1				1	1	21/04/2020	0	No supporting habitat
Ring-necked Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>						1			06/03/2021	1	Woodland and Trees
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>					1				06/04/2020	0	Hedgerow, woodland, mature trees

<b>Sand Martin</b>	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					1				30/03/2021	No supporting habitat
<b>Siskin</b>	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>					1				29/09/2022	No supporting habitat
<b>Skylark</b>	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			1				1	1	21/10/2021	Open arable and grassland fields
<b>Snipe</b>	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				1				1	09/02/2021	No supporting habitat
<b>Song Thrush</b>	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>				1			1	1	09/04/2022	Trees, woodland and scrub
<b>Sparrowhawk</b>	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				1					24/11/2022	Mature woodland
<b>Stock Dove</b>	<i>Columba oenas</i>				1					04/11/2021	Trees and scrub
<b>Starling</b>	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			1				1	1	02/11/2022	Trees and buildings
<b>Stonechat</b>	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>					1				12/11/2020	No supporting habitat
<b>Swallow</b>	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>					1				29/09/2021	Summer migrant
<b>Swift</b>	<i>Apus apus</i>			1					1	09/07/2022	Summer migrant
<b>Tawny Owl</b>	<i>Strix aluco</i>				1					02/08/2021	Mature woodland
<b>Tree Pipit</b>	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			1				1	1	23/08/2020	No supporting habitat
<b>Tree Sparrow</b>	<i>Passer montanus</i>			1				1	1	14/03/2021	Trees and farm buildings
<b>Treecreeper</b>	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>					1				23/08/2020	Mature woodland
<b>Water Pipit</b>	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>				1					17/12/2021	No supporting habitat
<b>Water Rail</b>	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>					1				26/11/2020	No supporting habitat

<b>Waxwing</b>	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>					1					11/12/2018	No supporting habitat
<b>Northern Wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				1						02/04/2021	No supporting habitat
<b>Whimbrel</b>	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		1	1							09/09/2019	No supporting habitat
<b>White-tailed Eagle</b>	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	1	1		1						28/09/2020	No supporting habitat
<b>Whitethroat</b>	<i>Sylvia communis</i>				1						22/05/2022	Summer migrant
<b>Whooper Swan</b>	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	1	1		1						06/11/2021	No supporting habitat
<b>Willow Tit</b>	<i>Poecile montana</i>			1				1		1	02/10/2022	No supporting habitat
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>				1						23/08/2020	Woodland edge, scrub
<b>Woodcock</b>	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>			1						1	15/12/2022	Woodland
<b>Woodpigeon</b>	<i>Columba palumbus</i>				1						12/11/2022	Woodland, trees and scrub
<b>Wren</b>	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>				1						09/04/2020	Hedgerows and scrub
<b>Yellow Wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla flava</i>			1				1		1	14/09/2020	No supporting habitat
<b>Yellowhammer</b>	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>			1				1		1	26/04/2020	Hedgerows and scrub

### **APPENDIX 3 – SURVEY TIMES AND WEATHER**

### Appendix 3: Survey Times and Weather

Visit Number	Date	Weather	Survey start time	Sunrise/Sunset
Visit 1	24/02/2023	9°C, 5/8 cloud cover, occasional showers, light wind	07:45am	07:00am
Visit 2	02/03/2023	8°C. 8/8 cloud cover , no rain and no wind.	07:50am	06:52am
Visit 3	15/03/2023	1°C. 6/8 cloud cover, light drizzle and no wind.	07:15am	06:21am
Visit 4	22/03/2023	10 °C. 8/8 cloud cover. No rain. Light breeze.	06:58am	06:04am

## **APPENDIX 4 – LEIGSLATION AND POLICY SUMMARY**

#### **Appendix 4: Legislation and Policy**

The European Community Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive) is a framework for the conservation of wild birds in member states. Those bird species listed on Annex 1 of the Birds Directive are subject to special conservation measures through the designation of UK Special Protection Areas (SPA) in order to safeguard important sites within the member states. The species listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive are those in danger of extinction, rare, vulnerable to specific changes in their habitat or requiring particular attention for reasons of the specific nature of their habitat.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (The Habitat Regulations) provides legal protection for UK SPAs. The Habitat Regulations also provide legal protection to wetlands of international importance as designated under the Ramsar Convention. Proposals that are likely to affect a SPA or Ramsar site must address all relevant features that contribute to the integrity of the protected site, whether the proposal lies within or out with of the site. This allows for the protection of qualifying features (i.e. bird species) several kilometres from any development being proposed and is especially pertinent to migratory bird species.

The Wildlife & Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 and the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981 as amended) provide legal protection to all wild birds, their nests and their eggs, making it an offence to intentionally kill or injure any wild bird, damage or destroy an active nest of any wild bird or destroy the eggs of any wild bird. Species listed in Schedule 1 of the Act are also protected by special penalties from reckless or intentional disturbance whilst nest building or at (or near) a nest with eggs or young; or disturbance to dependant young. Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981 as amended), a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species that is resident in or is a visitor to the European Territory of any member state in a wild form.

Section 40 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 imposes a legal duty on Planning Authorities to 'have regard' to the conservation of biodiversity when considering planning applications.

Section 41 of the NERC Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of species and habitats of principal importance for conserving biodiversity in the UK. This does not offer the species any specific protection but helps to highlight the species' importance at a national level. Currently there are 59 bird species listed as being of conservation priority. This list is used by Local Planning Authorities (LPA) to identify the species and habitats that should be afforded priority when applying the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

## DRAWINGS



BTO Species Code	Bird Species
B	Blackbird
BH	Black-headed Gull
BT	Blue Tit
BZ	Buzzard
C	Carrion Crow
CH	Chaffinch
D	Dunnock
FF	Fieldfare
FP	Feral Pigeon
GC	Goldcrest
GO	Goldfinch
GR	Greenfinch
GT	Great Tit
HS	House Sparrow
JD	Jackdaw
K	Kestrel
Li	Linnet
LT	Long-tailed Tit
M	Mistle Thrush
MG	Magpie
MP	Meadow Pipit
PH	Pheasant
PW	Pied Wagtail
R	Robin
RE	Redwing
RO	Rook
S	Skylark
SD	Stock Dove
SG	Starling
ST	Song Thrush
TC	Treecreeper
WP	Woodpigeon
WR	Wren

**KEY**

- Site Boundary
- ♂ Pair of birds
- = 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.  
 Weather conditions 5-8/8 cloud. 9 - 11 C. Light NW breeze.  
 Occasional showers. 24th February 07.45 - 11.30.

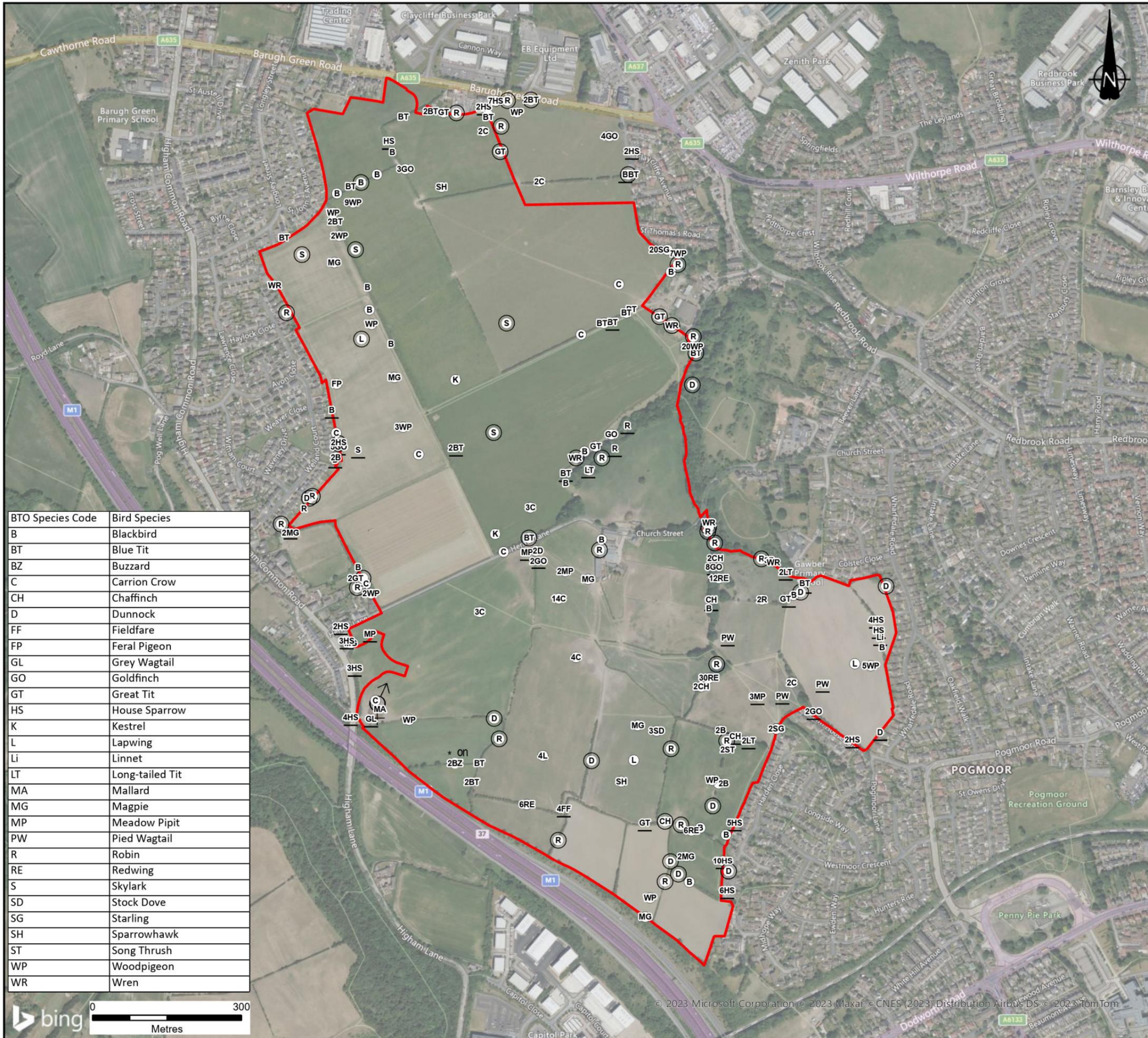
REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED

CLIENT  
**STRATA STERLING BARNSELY WEST LTD**

PROJECT  
**BARNSELY WEST**

DRAWING TITLE  
**WINTERING BIRD SURVEY - VISIT 1**

DRG No.	LD10361/008	REV	A
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:7,500
		DATE	11/10/2023
DRAWN BY	SRW	CHECKED BY	AD
		APPROVED BY	TP



**KEY**

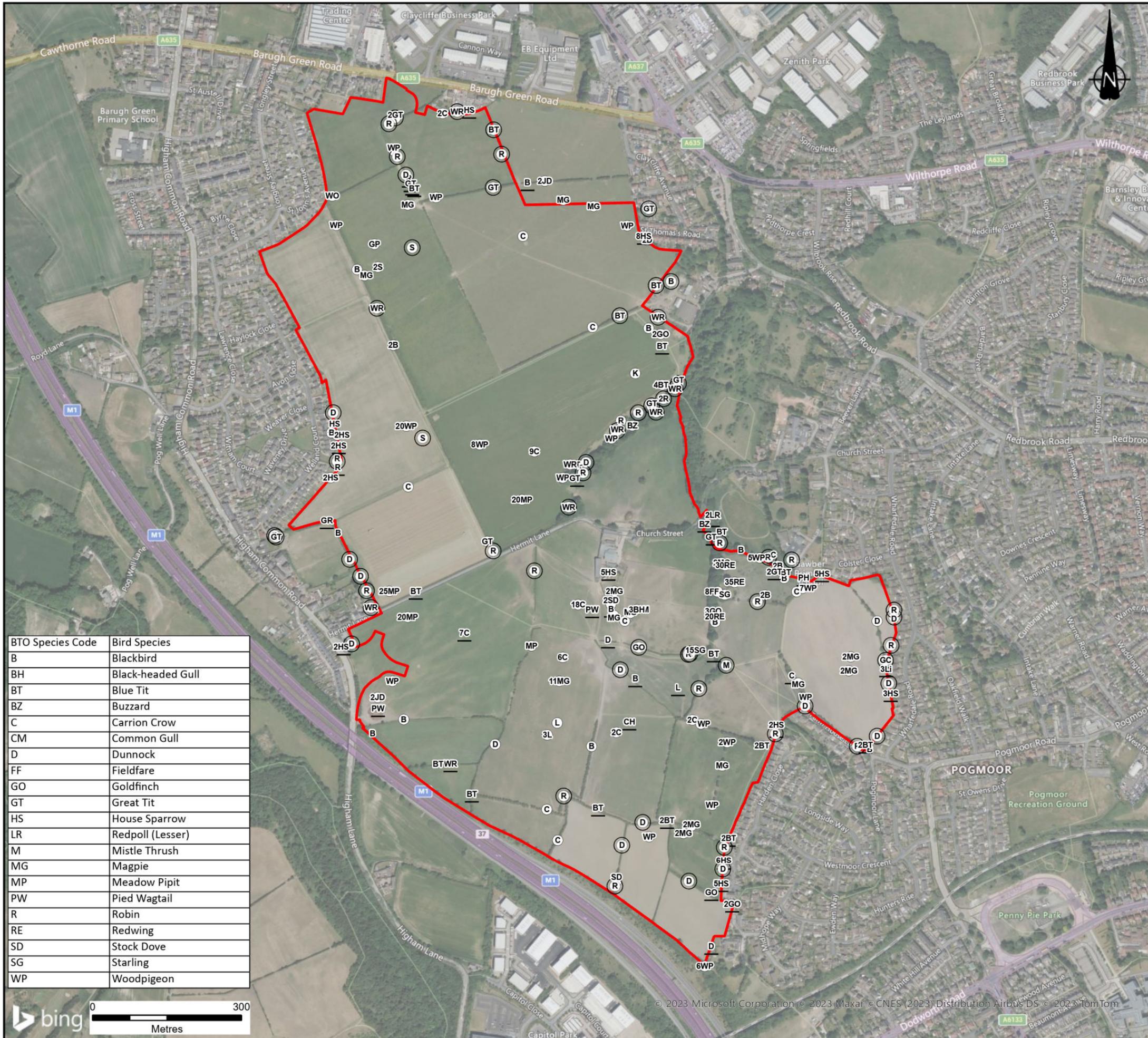
- Site Boundary
- Pair of birds
- Sighting of Bird(s)
- Calling bird(s)
- Bird nest with adult sitting.
- Singing bird(s)

**Notes:**  
 Boundaries are indicative.  
 Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.  
 Weather conditions 02.03.23 Weather 8C, 8/8 cloud. 0 wind. Dry.

BTO Species Code	Bird Species
B	Blackbird
BT	Blue Tit
BZ	Buzzard
C	Carrion Crow
CH	Chaffinch
D	Dunnock
FF	Fieldfare
FP	Feral Pigeon
GL	Grey Wagtail
GO	Goldfinch
GT	Great Tit
HS	House Sparrow
K	Kestrel
L	Lapwing
Li	Linnet
LT	Long-tailed Tit
MA	Mallard
MG	Magpie
MP	Meadow Pipit
PW	Pied Wagtail
R	Robin
RE	Redwing
S	Skylark
SD	Stock Dove
SG	Starling
SH	Sparrowhawk
ST	Song Thrush
WP	Woodpigeon
WR	Wren

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHKD	APPR
CLIENT	STRATA STERLING BARNSELY WEST LTD				
PROJECT	BARNSELY WEST				
DRAWING TITLE	WINTERING BIRD SURVEY - VISIT 2				
DRG No.	LD10361/009	REV	A		
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:7,500	DATE	11/10/2023
DRAWN BY	SRW	CHECKED BY	AD	APPROVED BY	TP





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
GT	Great Tit
HS	House Sparrow
LR	Redpoll (Lesser)
M	Mistle Thrush
MG	Magpie
MP	Meadow Pipit
PW	Pied Wagtail
R	Robin
RE	Redwing
SD	Stock Dove
SG	Starling
WP	Woodpigeon

**KEY**

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

**Notes:**

Boundaries are indicative.

Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.

Weather conditions 15.03.23  
Start 07:35 1 degrees start 6/8 cc, F0, dry.

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED

CLIENT

**STRATA STERLING BARNSELY WEST LTD**

PROJECT

**BARNSELY WEST**

DRAWING TITLE

**WINTERING BIRD SURVEY - VISIT 3**

DRG No.	LD10361/010	REV	A
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:7,500
		DATE	11/10/2023
DRAWN BY	SRW	CHECKED BY	AD
		APPROVED BY	TP



BTO Species Code	Bird Species
B	Blackbird
BH	Black-headed Gull
BT	Blue Tit
BZ	Buzzard
C	Carrion Crow
CC	Chiffchaff
CD	Collared Dove
CH	Chaffinch
D	Dunnock
FF	Fieldfare
GO	Goldfinch
GR	Greenfinch
GT	Great Tit
HG	Herring Gull
HS	House Sparrow
JD	Jackdaw
K	Kestrel
Li	Linnet
LP	Little Ringed Plover
M	Mistle Thrush
MG	Magpie
MP	Meadow Pipit
PH	Pheasant
PW	Pied Wagtail
R	Robin
RE	Redwing
RL	Red-legged Partridge
S	Skylark
SD	Stock Dove
SG	Starling
ST	Song Thrush
SW	Sedge Warbler
TC	Treecreeper
WP	Woodpigeon
WR	Wren

**KEY**

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

**Notes:**

Boundaries are indicative.  
 Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.  
 22/03/23 10 degrees very light drizzle f1 8/8cc

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED
CLIENT	STRATA STERLING BARNSELY WEST LTD				
PROJECT	BARNSELY WEST				
DRAWING TITLE	WINTERING BIRD SURVEY - VISIT 4				
DRG No.	LD10361/011	REV	A		
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	1:7,500	DATE	11/10/2023
DRAWN BY	SRW	CHECKED BY	AD	APPROVED BY	TP



**STOKE-ON-TRENT**

Sir Henry Doulton House  
Forge Lane  
Etruria  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST1 5BD  
Tel: +44 (0)1782 276 700

**BIRMINGHAM**

Two Devon Way  
Longbridge Technology Park  
Longbridge  
Birmingham  
B31 2TS  
Tel: +44 (0)121 580 0909

**BOLTON**

41-50 Futura Park  
Aspinall Way  
Middlebrook  
Bolton  
BL6 6SU  
Tel: +44 (0)1204 227 227

**BRISTOL**

Desk Lodge  
2 Redcliffe Way  
Bristol  
BS1 6NL  
Tel: +44 (0)117 203 4477

**BURY ST EDMUNDS**

Armstrong House  
Lamdin Road  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk  
IP32 6NU  
Tel: +44 (0)1284 765 210

**CARDIFF**

Tudor House  
16 Cathedral Road  
Cardiff  
CF11 9LJ  
Tel: +44 (0)292 072 9191

**CARLISLE**

Marconi Road  
Burgh Road Industrial Estate  
Carlisle  
Cumbria  
CA2 7NA  
Tel: +44 (0)1228 550 575

**EDINBURGH**

Great Michael House  
14 Links Place  
Edinburgh  
EH6 7EZ  
Tel: +44 (0)131 555 3311

**GLASGOW**

24 St Vincent Place  
Glasgow  
G1 2EU  
Tel: +44 (0)141 428 4499

**LEEDS**

36 Park Row  
Leeds  
LS1 5JL  
Tel: +44 (0)113 831 5533

**LONDON**

Third Floor  
46 Chancery Lane  
London  
WC2A 1JE  
Tel: +44 (0)207 242 3243

**NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE**

City Quadrant  
11 Waterloo Square  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 4DP  
Tel: +44 (0)191 232 0943

**TRURO**

Baldhu House  
Wheal Jane Earth Science Park  
Baldhu  
Truro  
TR3 6EH  
Tel: +44 (0)187 256 0738

**International office:**

**ALMATY**

29/6 Satpaev Avenue  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Office Tower  
Almaty  
Kazakhstan  
050040  
Tel: +7(727) 334 1310