

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric

Auditing and accounting for biodiversity

Calculation Tool

Version 1.0.4

Open Tool



The Statutory Biodiversity Metric
Start page

Project details			
Planning authority:	North Hertfordshire District Council		
Project name:	Codicote Development		
Applicant:	Howarth Contractors		
Application type:	Full		
Planning application reference:	To be submitted		
Completed by:	Andrew Robinson, BSc (Hons) MSc. Practitioner member of ISEP		
Date of metric completion:	3rd August 2026		
Reviewer:	Maxine Hendy, BSc (Hons) MSc. Qualifying member of CIEEM		
Calculation iteration:	V1		
Planning authority reviewer:			
Date of planning authority review:			
Target % net gain:	10%		
Irreplaceable habitat present at baseline:	No ✓		
Total site area - including irreplaceable habitat area (hectares):	4.08	Irreplaceable habitat site area (hectares):	0.00
Total off-site area - including irreplaceable habitat area (hectares):	N/A	Irreplaceable habitat area off-site (hectares):	N/A

Main menu

Results

Cell style conventions	
	Attention required
	Input error/rules and principles not met
	Use of this cell is not appropriate
	Enter data
	Automatic lookup
	Result

View all

Reset view

On-site baseline map

Insert



On-site baseline map reference number

On-site post intervention map

Insert



On-site post-intervention map reference number

Off-site baseline map

Insert



Off-site baseline map reference number

Off-site post intervention map

Insert



Off-site post-intervention reference number

Area habitats

Hedgerows and lines of trees

Watercourses

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric

Main menu

Tree helper						
Tree size	Number of trees and area (ha) for each condition state					
	Poor	Area	Moderate	Area	Good	Area
Small		0.0000	100	0.4072		0.0000
Medium		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Large		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Very large		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Total	0	0.0000	100	0.4072	0	0.0000

Start here

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On-site baseline

A-1 On-site Area Habitat Baseline

B-1 On-site Hedge Baseline

C-1 On-site Watercourse Baseline

On-site post development

A-2 On-site Area Habitat Creation

A-3 On-site Area Habitat Enhancement

B-2 On-site Hedge Creation

B-3 On-site Hedge Enhancement

C-2 On-site Watercourse Creation

C-3 On-site Watercourse Enhancement

Off-site baseline

D-1 Off-site Area Habitat Baseline

E-1 Off-site Hedge Baseline

F-1 Off-site Watercourse Baseline

Off-site post development

D-2 Off-site Area Habitat Creation

D-3 Off-site Area Habitat Enhancement

E-2 Off-site Hedge Creation

E-3 Off-site Hedge Enhancement

F-2 Off-site Watercourse Creation

F-3 Off-site Watercourse Enhancement

Codicote Development
Headline Results
Scroll down for final results ⚠

Return to
results menu

On-site baseline	Area habitat units	17.91		
	Hedgerow units	0.00		
	Watercourse units	0.00		
On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	14.82		
	Hedgerow units	0.32		
	Watercourse units	0.00		
On-site net change (units & percentage)	Area habitat units	-3.08	-17.22%	On-site net gain is less than target set ⚠ Zero baseline units - % cannot be calculated
	Hedgerow units	0.32	N/A	
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%	

Off-site baseline	Area habitat units	0.00
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00

Off-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	0.00
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00

Off-site net change (units & percentage)	Area habitat units	0.00	0.00%
	Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%

Combined net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	-3.08
	Hedgerow units	0.32
	Watercourse units	0.00

Spatial risk multiplier (SRM) deductions	Area habitat units	0.00
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00

FINAL RESULTS

Total net unit change	Area habitat units	-3.08
	Hedgerow units	0.32

(Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Watercourse units	0.00
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Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	-17.22%	Total net gain achieved is less than target set ▲
	Hedgerow units	N/A	0 baseline units - % cannot be calculated
	Watercourse units	0.00%	

Trading rules satisfied?	No - Check Trading Summaries ▲
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Unit Type	Target	Baseline Units	Units Required	Unit Deficit	
Area habitat units	10.00%	17.91	19.70	4.87	
Hedgerow units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	No additional hedgerow units required to meet target ✓
Watercourse units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	No additional watercourse units required to meet target ✓

Input errors/rule breaks present in metric ▲
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Return to results menu

Trading summary hedgerows

Trading summary watercourses

Trading Summary					
Distinctiveness Group	Trading Rule			Trading Satisfied?	
Very High	Same habitat required – bespoke compensation option Δ			Yes ✓	
High	Same habitat required =			Yes ✓	
Medium	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (≥)			No ▲	
Low	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥			No ▲	

Very High Distinctiveness					
Habitat group	Group	On-site unit change	Off-site unit change	Project-wide unit change	Unit losses
Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Lowland meadows	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Upland hay meadows	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grasslands	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Blanket bog	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Lowland raised bog	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Oceanic valley mire(1) (D2.1)	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass on peat, clay or chalk	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Very High Distinctiveness Summary	
Very High Distinctiveness Units available to offset lower distinctiveness deficit	0.00
Remaining losses; Like for like not satisfied	0.00

High Distinctiveness					
Habitat group	Group	On-site unit change	Off-site unit change	Project-wide unit change	Losses not yet accounted for
Grassland - Traditional orchards	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430)	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - High alkalinity lakes	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Marl lakes	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Peat lakes	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat)	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Wetland - Reedbeds	Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Felled/Replacement for felled woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Wet woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Coastal lagoons - Coastal lagoons	Coastal lagoons	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock	Rocky shore	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral mud	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral mixed sediments	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Coastal saltmarsh - Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	Coastal saltmarsh	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Features of littoral sediment	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral muddy sand	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

High Distinctiveness Summary	
High Distinctiveness Units available to offset lower distinctiveness deficit	0.00
Remaining losses; Like for like not satisfied	0.00

Medium Distinctiveness					
Habitat group	Group	On-site unit change	Off-site unit change	Project wide unit change	Cumulative broad habitat change
Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.13
Grassland - Other neutral grassland	Grassland	3.13	0.00	3.13	
Grassland - Upland acid grassland	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	-3.46
Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Bramble scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	Heathland and shrub	-3.46	0.00	-3.46	
Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lakes - Reservoirs	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Biodiverse green roof	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Individual trees - Urban tree	Individual trees	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.10
Individual trees - Rural tree	Individual trees	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.48
Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	Woodland and forest	-1.48	0.00	-1.48	
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Littoral coarse sediment	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral sand	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)	Intertidal hard structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	
		-1.72	0.00	-1.72	

Medium Distinctiveness Summary	
Medium Distinctiveness Units available to offset lower distinctiveness deficit	3.22 ✓
Medium Distinctiveness broad habitat losses to be offset by trading up	-4.94 Δ
Medium Distinctiveness Unit deficit (required to meet trading rules)	-4.94 ▲

Low Distinctiveness				
Habitat group	Group	On-site unit change	Off-site unit change	Project wide unit change
Cropland - Cereal crops	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cropland - Horticulture	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cropland - Intensive orchards	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cropland - Non-cereal crops	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cropland - Winter stubble	Cropland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland - Modified grassland	Grassland	-1.68	0.00	-1.68
Grassland - Bracken	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Heathland and shrub - Rhododendron scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond	Lakes	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/ephemeral	Sparsely vegetated land	-0.02	0.00	-0.02
Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs	Sparsely vegetated land	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Bioswale	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Bare ground	Urban	-1.22	0.00	-1.22
Urban - Allotments	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Facade-bound green wall	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Ground based green wall	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Ground level planters	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Other green roof	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Intensive green roof	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Introduced shrub	Urban	0.03	0.00	0.03
Urban - Rain garden	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Actively worked sand pit quarry or open cast mine	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Sustainable drainage system	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Vacant or derelict land	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Vegetated garden	Urban	1.46	0.00	1.46
Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coastal saltmarsh - Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	Coastal saltmarsh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral coarse sediment	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00

Low Distinctiveness Summary	
Units available to offset Low Distinctiveness deficit	-1.72 Δ
Low Distinctiveness net change in units	-1.37 Δ
Cumulative surplus of units	-1.37 ▲

Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mud	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral sand	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral muddy sand	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mixed sediments	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral biogenic reefs	Intertidal sediment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures	Intertidal hard structures	0.00	0.00	0.00
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard structures	Intertidal hard structures	0.00	0.00	0.00
Heathland and shrub - Other sea buckthorn scrub	Heathland and shrub	0.00	0.00	0.00
		-1.37	0.00	-1.37

Project Name: Codicote Development Map Reference:	
A-1 On-Site Habitat Baseline	
Condense / Show Columns	Condense / Show
Main Menu	

Area habitat summary	
Total Net Unit Change	-3.06
Total Net % Change	-17.23%
Trading Rules Satisfied	No - check trading summaries ▲

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Total habitat area	2.96
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4.31

Site Area (Excluding area of individual trees, green walls, intertidal hard structure)	2.71
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M² to hectares conversion tool:	Select a unit	Hectares	M²

Project Name: Codicote Development	Map Reference:
B-2 On-Site Hedge Creation	
Condense / Show Columns	Condense / Show Rows
Main Menu	

Hedgerow summary	
Total Net Unit Change	0.32
Total Net % Change	N/A
Trading Rules Satisfied	Yes ✓

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