

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric

Start page

Project details

Planning authority:	North Herts Council		
Project name:	Land Surrounding Burloes Cottages Newmarket Road Royston Hertfordshire		
Applicant:	Vistry Group		
Application type:	Hybrid Application		
Planning application reference:	24/01013/HYA		
Completed by:	Mark Gardiner, FPCR Environment & Design Ltd.		
Date of metric completion:	11.08.25		
Reviewer:	Kurt Goodman, FPCR Environment & Design Ltd.		
Calculation iteration:	Rev H		
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):	14.81	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

Cell style conventions

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

On-site baseline map

Insert

On-site baseline map reference number

Off-site baseline map

Insert

Off-site baseline map reference number

On-site post intervention map

Insert

On-site post-intervention map reference number

Off-site post intervention map

Insert

Off-site post-intervention reference number

Main menu

Results

View all

Reset view

Headline Results

Scroll down for final results ▲

Return to results menu

On-site baseline	Area habitat units	30.54
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	Watercourse units	0.00

On-site post-intervention (including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	26.70
	Hedgerow units	0.32
	Watercourse units	0.00

On-site net change (units & percentage)	Area habitat units	-3.84	-12.59%
	Hedgerow units	0.32	N/A
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%

On-site net gain is less than target set ▲
Zero baseline units - % cannot be calculated

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	-3.84
	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 (including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	-3.84
	Hedgerow units	0.32
	Watercourse units	0.00

Total net % change (including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Area habitat units	-12.59%
	Hedgerow units	N/A
	Watercourse units	0.00%

Total net gain achieved is less than target set ▲

0 baseline units - % cannot be calculated

Trading rules satisfied?	No - Check Trading Summaries ▲
--------------------------	--------------------------------

Unit Type	Target	Baseline Units	Units Required	Unit Deficit
Area habitat units	10.00%	30.54	33.59	6.90
Hedgerow units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00

No additional hedgerow units required to meet target ✓

No additional watercourse units required to meet target ✓

Input errors/rule breaks present in metric ▲

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 (2)	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

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

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	
Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix	Cropland	0.00	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	
Grassland - Other neutral grassland	Grassland	5.11	0.00	5.11	5.11 ✓
Grassland - Upland acid grassland	Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
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	3.26	0.00	3.26	3.26 ✓
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	
Individual trees - Urban tree	Individual trees	3.05	0.00	3.05	3.05 ✓
Individual trees - Rural tree	Individual trees	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Other Scots pine woodland	Woodland and forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Woodland and forest - Other woodland broadleaved	Woodland and forest	-0.26	0.00	-0.26	-0.26 ▲
Woodland and forest - Other woodland mixed	Woodland and forest	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	0.00
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)	Intertidal hard structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	
		11.17	0.00	11.17	

Low Distinctiveness				
Habitat group	Group	On-site unit change	Off-site unit change	Project wide unit change
Cropland - Cereal crops	Cropland	-28.15	0.00	-28.15 ▲
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	4.40	0.00	4.40 ✓
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	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs	Sparsely vegetated land	-0.03	0.00	-0.03 ▲
Urban - Biowale	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Bare ground	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Alcove	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	0.08	0.00	0.08 ✓
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	0.23	0.00	0.23 ✓
Urban - Vacant or derelict land	Urban	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban - Vegetated garden	Urban	8.45	0.00	8.45 ✓
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
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
		-18.01	0.00	-18.01

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

Medium Distinctiveness Summary	
Medium Distinctiveness Units available to offset lower distinctiveness deficit	11.43 ✓
Medium Distinctiveness broad habitat losses to be offset by trading up	-0.26 ▲
Medium Distinctiveness Unit deficit (required to meet trading rules)	-0.26 ▲

Low Distinctiveness Summary	
Units available to offset Low Distinctiveness deficit	11.17 ✓
Low Distinctiveness net change in units	-15.01 ▲
Cumulative surplus of units	-3.84 ▲

Project Name: Land Surrounding Burloes Cottages Newmarket Road Royston

A-1 On-Site Habitat Baseline

Condense / Show Columns

Condense / Show Rows

Main Menu

Area habitat summary	
Total Net Unit Change	-3.84
Total Net % Change	-12.86%
Trading Rules Satisfied	No - check trading summaries A

Existing area habitats					Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Ecological baseline
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable habitat	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance		Total habitat units
1	Cropland	Cereal crops	No	14.0753	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	28.15
2	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	0.2369	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	0.95
3	Sparsely vegetated land	Tall forbs	No	0.0126	Low	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	0.03
4	Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.2758	V Low	N/A - Other	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Compensation Not Required	0.00
5	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	No	0.1473	Medium	Moderate	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	1.18
6	Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	No	0.0597	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required (2)	0.24
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
				Total habitat area	14.81				
				Site Area (Excluding area of individual trees, green walls, intertidal hard structures)	14.81				
								30.54	

Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units retained	Baseline units enhanced	Area habitat lost	Units lost	Bespoke compensation agreed for losses of VHDH or irreplaceable habitat	Comments		
							User comments	Planning authority comments	Habitat reference number
0	0	0.00	0.00	14.08	28.15				
0.1345	0	0.54	0.00	0.10	0.41				
0	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03				
0.2737	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
0.1145	0	0.92	0.00	0.03	0.26				
0.0597	0	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00				
0.58	0.00	1.89	0.00	14.23	28.85				

Total area lost (excluding area of individual trees, green walls and intertidal hard structures)	14.23
--	-------

M² to hectares conversion tool:	Select a unit	Hectares	M²

ame: Land Surrounding Burloes Cottages Newmarket Road Royston Hertfordshire Map Ref
A-2 On-Site Habitat Creation

Condense / Show Columns

Condense / Show Rows

Main Menu

Area habitat summary	
Total Net Unit Change	-3.84
Total Net % Change	-12.69%
Trading Rules Satisfied	No - check trading summaries ▲
Area Check	Area Acceptable ✓

Post intervention habitats															
Ref	Broad Habitat	Proposed habitat	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Temporal multiplier		Difficulty	Habitat units delivered	Comments				
				Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Standard or adjusted time to target condition		Final time to target condition (years)		Final difficulty of creation	User comments	Planning authority comments	Habitat reference number	
1	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.8232	Low	Good	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		7	Low	3.85				
2	Grassland	Modified grassland	0.2846	Low	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		1	Low	0.55				
3	Grassland	Other neutral grassland	1.4831	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		2	Low	5.52				
4	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.4708	Medium	Moderate	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		5	Low	3.15				
5	Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.0292	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		1	Low	0.11				
6	Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	6.6167	V.Low	N/A - Other	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		0	Low	0.00				
7	Urban	Introduced shrub	0.0426	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		1	Low	0.08				
8	Urban	Sustainable drainage system	0.0959	Low	Moderate	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		3	Medium	0.23				
9	Urban	Vegetated garden	4.3791	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		1	Low	8.45				
10	Individual trees	Urban tree	0.0529	Medium	Moderate	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		27	Low	0.16				
11	Individual trees	Urban tree	0.684	Medium	Moderate	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		27	Low	2.09				
12	Individual trees	Urban tree	0.0122	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		10	Low	0.03				
13	Individual trees	Urban tree	0.2728	Medium	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied		10	Low	0.76				
14															
15															
16															
17															
18															
			Total habitat area	15.25								25.00			

land Surrounding Burloes Cottages Newmarket Road Royston Hertfordshire

M

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 ✓

		Proposed habitats		Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Temporal multiplier		Difficulty risk multipliers	Hedge units delivered	Comments		
Ref	New hedge number	Habitat type	Length (km)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Strategic significance	Standard or adjusted time to target condition	Final time to target condition (years)	Final difficulty of creation		User comments	Planning authority comments	Habitat reference number
1		Native hedgerow	0.145	Low	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied	1	Low	0.28			
2		Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	0.045	V.Low	Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Standard time to target condition applied	1	Low	0.04			
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
			0.19							0.32			