

---

## Biodiversity Net Gain Statement

### Guysfield Care Home, Letchworth

Sweco UK Limited  
North Kiln, Felaw Maltings  
46 Felaw Street  
Ipswich, IP2 8PN  
+44 1473 231 100



28.11.2024

Project Reference: 65213299

Document Reference: 65213299-SWE-XX-XX-T-J-0003

Revision: C01

Prepared For: Oliver and Robb Architects LLP

## Status / Revisions

| Rev. | Date     | Reason for issue | Prepared | Reviewed | Approved |
|------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| C01  | 28.11.24 | Planning         | DS       | EB       | JS       |

© Sweco 2024. This document is a Sweco confidential document; it may not be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise disclosed in whole or in part to any third party without our express prior written consent. It should be used by you and the permitted disclosees for the purpose for which it has been submitted and for no other.

This report and its findings should be considered in relation to the terms and conditions proposed and scope of works agreed between Sweco and the client.

Interpretations and recommendations contained in the report represent our professional opinions, which were arrived at in accordance with currently accepted industry practices at the time of reporting and based on current legislation in force at that time.

The copyright in this report and other plans and documents prepared by Sweco is owned by Sweco and no such report, plan or document may be reproduced, published or adapted without their written consent. Complete copies of this report may, however, be made and distributed by the client as an expedient in dealing with matters related to its commission.

This report is prepared and written in the context of the proposals stated in the introduction to this report and should not be used in a differing context. Furthermore, alterations to the initial proposals or changes in conditions on site over time may necessitate an alteration to the report in whole or in part after its submission. Therefore, in the event of any change in proposals or lapse of 12 months or more from the date of the report, the content of the report should not be relied upon unless referred to Sweco for validation and, if necessary, re-appraisal.

Please note that Sweco does not purport to provide specialist legal advice.

Unless stated specifically, drawings and plans are indicative only. As such, the position of features marked on the plans or drawings should not be taken as 100% accurate.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose

This Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Statement has been prepared by Sweco UK Ltd. for Oliver and Robb Architects LLP on behalf of Caring Homes. It relates to the proposed partial demolition and reconstruction of the existing Guysfield Care Home, with refurbishment of the retained section of the structure (hereafter 'the development'). Guysfield Care Home is located at Willian Road, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, SG6 2AD (grid ref.: TL 221 307) (hereafter 'the site').

The site covers an area of ~980 m<sup>2</sup> and is located in Willian village on the south edge of Letchworth, with a residential estate to the north, Letchworth gold club to the west, and a mix of grassland, woodland, arable land, and scattered buildings to the south and east.

The site currently comprises the existing care home building, areas of modified grassland, mixed woodland, scrub, and small mosaics of urban sealed surfaces and ornamental planting areas.

The purpose of this statement is to summarise results of the baseline and post-development habitats and results of the Biodiversity Net Gain calculations undertaken for the development.

## 1.2 Ecological Background

An Ecological Impact Assessment for the site has been produced by Sweco (65213299-SWE-XX-XX-T-J-0001) detailing findings of the UK Habitat Classification survey, preliminary roost assessment and emergence surveys for bats, habitat suitability index assessment and eDNA surveys for great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*), and badger (*Meles meles*) monitoring surveys.

## 2 Methodology

### 2.1 Personnel

This statement was produced by Senior Ecologist Darren Storey MZool (Hons) MSc MCIEEM.

It was reviewed by Senior Ecologist Elliott Burns BSc MSc and approved by Joshua Stafford BSc (Hons) MRSB.

### 2.2 UK Habitat Survey and Habitat Condition Assessment

The site was visited on 28 June 2024 by Darren Storey and Assistant Ecologist Eleanor Unsworth BSc (Hons) to undertake a UK Habitat Classification survey and Habitat Condition Assessments of all habitats on site.

Habitat conditions were assessed against the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment sheets.

### 2.3 Baseline Biodiversity Metric Calculations

Following completion of the habitat condition assessment as set out above, results were entered into the Defra Statutory Metric calculator [1] to compute the baseline biodiversity units of the site. The following data were entered into the calculator tool:

- Broad Habitat.
- Habitat Type (used to determine Distinctiveness).
- Area (ha)<sup>1</sup> OR Length (km)<sup>2</sup>.
- Condition (N/A, Poor, Moderate, Good)<sup>3</sup>.
- Strategic Significance.

These data then provided a calculation of the biodiversity units for each habitat parcel which when summed gives the total biodiversity units of the site as a whole. The formula used is set out below:

$$\text{Baseline Biodiversity Unit} = (\text{Area} \times \text{Distinctiveness} \times \text{Condition}) \times (\text{Strategic Significance})$$

Area habitats (e.g. woodland, grassland), linear habitats (e.g. hedgerows), and riverine habitats (rivers and streams) are calculated separately within the metric.

### 2.4 Post Development Biodiversity Metric Calculations

Areas and lengths of habitats lost, retained, and enhanced were calculated using QGIS based on available site layout and landscaping data (Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer dwg. no. 1304/20.1.A to 1304/20.10.A & 104/20.11.B) (Appendix B).

In order to calculate biodiversity units delivered through habitat creation habitat types and areas were entered into the Statutory Metric calculation tool, with target habitat conditions being set by assessing the highest likely condition possible against relevant condition assessment sheets.

The formula used for calculating biodiversity units of newly created habitats is set out below:

<sup>1</sup> For area habitats drawn as polygons in GIS.

<sup>2</sup> For linear habitats (e.g. hedgerows) drawn as polylines in GIS.

<sup>3</sup> As determined through the Habitat Condition Assessment process, see Appendix A.

*Biodiversity Unit Delivered*

$= \{(Area \times Distinctiveness \times Condition) \times (Difficulty \times Time) \times (Strategic Significance)\} \times Spatial risk$

## 2.5 Trading Rules

Under the Statutory Metric certain trading rules must be met when replacing one habitat type with another. These rules must be met as part of the metric even if delivering a net gain in biodiversity units, due to the need to ensure habitat distinctiveness is maintained. Whether trading standards are met or not is automatically calculated within the metric calculator.

### 3 Results

#### 3.1 Baseline Biodiversity Metric Results

Results of the baseline biodiversity metric calculations for the habitats on are shown in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2. These gives the habitat type, condition, baseline biodiversity metric units, and units lost from the proposed development work.

The site falls within a Green Belt Area and Conservation Area (North Hertfordshire Local Plan [2] Policies SP5 and HE1, respectively. However, these policies make no reference to requirements to conserve or enhance biodiversity, therefore, the site is not considered to fall into any relevant category in any local strategy. The suite is however at the edge of Letchworth Garden City and forms part of a small area of semi-natural habitats (meadow, woodland belts, ponds) between Letchworth to the north and expansive arable land to the south. It is therefore considered to be ecologically desirable and all habitats were set to Medium Strategic Significance (*'Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy'*) within the Biodiversity Metric calculator.

#### 3.2 Post Development Biodiversity Metric Results

Post development habitats are given in Table 3-3 showing retained and (if applicable) enhanced habitats. Table 3-4 and Table 3-5 show newly created habitats, giving the total post-development biodiversity units.

#### 3.3 Trading Rules

Trading rules are currently failed as there is a -0.17 unit deficit in area habitat Low distinctiveness units, which must be compensated for, as well as a -0.48 unit deficit in Low and Very Low distinctiveness hedgerow units.

Table 3-1: Biodiversity Metric Baseline – Area Habitats (on-site).

| Ref.   | Habitat Type                   | Area (Ha) | Distinctiveness | Condition                | Strategic Significance                                             | Trading Rules – Action Required                                            | Biodiversity Units | Area Lost (ha) | Units Lost |
|--------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|
| g4.1   | Modified grassland             | 0.1967    | Low             | Good                     | Medium - Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy | Same distinctiveness or better habitat required $\geq$                     | 1.30               | 0.08           | 0.54       |
| g4.2   | Modified grassland             | 0.1232    | Low             | Poor                     |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.27               | 0.12           | 0.27       |
| h3h.1  | Introduced shrub               | 0.0036    | Low             | Condition Assessment N/A |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.01               | 0.00           | 0.01       |
| B1     | Developed land; sealed surface | 0.0845    | V.Low           | N/A - Other              |                                                                    | Compensation Not Required                                                  | 0.00               | 0.07           | 0.00       |
| u1b6.1 | Developed land; sealed surface | 0.082     | V.Low           | N/A - Other              |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.00               | 0.08           | 0.00       |
| u1d.1  | Vegetated garden               | 0.0578    | Low             | Condition Assessment N/A |                                                                    | Same distinctiveness or better habitat required $\geq$                     | 0.13               | 0.06           | 0.13       |
| u1d.2  | Vegetated garden               | 0.0394    | Low             | Condition Assessment N/A |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.09               | 0.04           | 0.09       |
| w1h5.1 | Other woodland; mixed          | 0.0907    | Medium          | Moderate                 |                                                                    | Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required ( $\geq$ ) | 0.80               | 0.01           | 0.06       |
| w1h5.2 | Other woodland; mixed          | 0.0322    | Medium          | Poor                     |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.14               | 0.01           | 0.03       |
| w1h5.3 | Other woodland; mixed          | 0.1094    | Medium          | Poor                     |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.48               | 0.02           | 0.10       |
| -      | Urban tree <sup>4</sup>        | 0.1018    | Medium          | Moderate                 |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.90               | 0.07           | 0.57       |
| -      | Rural tree <sup>5</sup>        | 0.0163    | Medium          | Good                     |                                                                    |                                                                            | 0.22               | 0.02           | 0.22       |
| Total: |                                |           |                 |                          |                                                                    |                                                                            | 4.32               | 0.57           | 2.01       |

<sup>4</sup> 5 no. non-native pine & cedar trees, 4 medium 1 large.

<sup>5</sup> 4 no. native fruit trees, small.

Table 3-2: Biodiversity Metric Baseline – Linear Habitats (on-site).

| Ref.   | Habitat Type                       | Length (km) | Distinctiveness | Condition | Strategic Significance                                             | Trading Rules – Action Required     | Biodiversity Units | Length Lost (km) | Units Lost |
|--------|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|
| H1     | Non-native and ornamental hedgerow | 0.2         | V.Low           | Poor      | Medium - Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy | Same distinctiveness band or better | 0.22               | 0.20             | 0.22       |
| H2     | Line of trees                      | 0.4         | Low             | Poor      |                                                                    |                                     | 0.88               | 0.40             | 0.88       |
| Total: |                                    |             |                 |           |                                                                    |                                     | 1.10               | 0.60             | 1.10       |

Table 3-3: Retained / Enhanced habitats – Area Habitats (on-site).

| Ref.          | Habitat Type                   | Area Retained (Ha) | Area Enhanced (ha) | Post-Enhancement                 |                                  |                            | Units Retained | Units Delivered |
|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|               |                                |                    |                    | Enhanced Habitat Type            | Enhanced Habitat Distinctiveness | Enhanced Habitat Condition |                |                 |
| g4.1          | Modified grassland             | 0.00               | 0.1967             | Other neutral grassland          | Medium                           | Good                       | -              | 1.20            |
| w1h5.1        | Other woodland; mixed          | 0.00               | 0.0907             | Lowland mixed deciduous woodland | High                             | Good                       | -              | 0.84            |
| w1h5.2        | Other woodland; mixed          | 0.00               | 0.0322             | Lowland mixed deciduous woodland | High                             | Good                       | -              | 0.16            |
| w1h5.3        | Other woodland; mixed          | 0.00               | 0.1094             | Lowland mixed deciduous woodland | High                             | Good                       | -              | 0.52            |
| B1            | Developed land; sealed surface | 0.0151             | 0.00               | -                                | -                                | -                          | -              | -               |
| -             | Urban tree                     | 0.0366             | 0.00               | -                                | -                                | -                          | 0.57           | -               |
| <b>Total:</b> |                                |                    |                    |                                  |                                  |                            | <b>0.57</b>    | <b>2.71</b>     |

Table 3-4: Created area habitats (on-site).

| Habitat Type                             | Area (Ha)           | Distinctiveness | Target Condition         | Strategic Significance                                             | Time to Target Condition (years) | Creation Advance / Delay (years) | Creation Difficulty | Units Created |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Developed land; sealed surface           | 0.111               | V.Low           | N/A - Other              | Medium - Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy | 0                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.00          |
| Developed land; sealed surface           | 0.1898              | V.Low           | N/A - Other              |                                                                    | 0                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.00          |
| Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface | 0.0163              | V.Low           | N/A - Other              |                                                                    | 0                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.00          |
| Mixed scrub                              | 0.0115              | Medium          | Moderate                 |                                                                    | 5                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.08          |
| Vegetated garden <sup>6</sup>            | 0.1033              | Low             | Condition Assessment N/A |                                                                    | 1                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.22          |
| Ground level planters                    | 0.0012              | Low             | Condition Assessment N/A |                                                                    | 1                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.00          |
| Other woodland; broadleaved              | 0.0456              | Medium          | Moderate                 |                                                                    | 15                               | 0                                | Low                 | 0.24          |
| Urban tree                               | 0.1628 <sup>7</sup> | Medium          | Moderate                 |                                                                    | 27                               | 0                                | Low                 | 0.55          |
| Modified grassland                       | 0.0083              | Low             | Moderate                 |                                                                    | 4                                | 0                                | Low                 | 0.03          |
| Total:                                   |                     |                 |                          |                                                                    |                                  |                                  |                     | 1.12          |

<sup>6</sup> Predominantly non-native ornamental shrubbery, bulb planting, etc.

<sup>7</sup> 40 no. native trees, small.

Table 3-5: Created hedgerow habitats (on-site).

| Habitat Type    | Length (km) | Distinctiveness | Target Condition | Strategic Significance                                             | Time to Target Condition (years) | Creation Advance / Delay (years) | Creation Difficulty | Units Created |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Native hedgerow | 0.144       | Low             | Good             | Medium - Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy | 12                               | Low                              | Low                 | 0.62          |
| Total:          |             |                 |                  |                                                                    |                                  |                                  |                     | 0.62          |

## 4 Conclusions and Recommendations

Biodiversity Metric calculations are summarised in Table 4-1 below. This sets out the total baseline units, units lost, and units retained and created to give the total post-development units and the total net change.

Table 4-1: Biodiversity Metrics summary table.

| Stage                         | Biodiversity Units    |                        |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
|                               | Area Habitats         | Hedgerow Habitats      |
| <b>Baseline</b>               | 4.32                  | 1.10                   |
| <b>Lost</b>                   | 2.01                  | 1.10                   |
| <b>Retained</b>               | 0.32                  | 0.00                   |
| <b>Enhancement</b>            | 1.99                  | 0.00                   |
| <b>Creation</b>               | 1.12                  | 0.62                   |
| <b>Total Post-Development</b> | 4.16                  | 0.62                   |
| <b>Net Change</b>             | <b>-0.17 (-0.88%)</b> | <b>-0.48 (-43.66%)</b> |
| <b>+10% Gain Targets</b>      | <b>4.76</b>           | <b>1.21</b>            |
| <b>Deficit</b>                | <b>0.60</b>           | <b>0.59</b>            |

### 4.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Targets

As the date of the development application is post- 12 February 2024 the Biodiversity Net Gain target is set at the statutory minimum +10% net gain.

### 4.2 Biodiversity Credits

As there will be a deficit of biodiversity units post-development, and there is no other land nearby within the landowner's landholding where additional habitat could be created, the client has committed to seeking to purchase off-site biodiversity credits to make up for the deficit and achieve a +10% net gain. As such, 0.60 units of Low distinctiveness area habitat and 0.59 units of Low distinctiveness hedgerow habitat units will be required.

Based on failed trading rules at the Low distinctiveness level, purchased biodiversity credits should be for any Low distinctiveness area habitat type and any Low distinctiveness hedgerow habitat type.

### 4.3 Document Submission

This assessment report should be submitted to the local planning authority along with the completed Statutory Metric calculator tool (excel) (ref. 65213299-SWE-XX-XX-T-J-0002) as part of the planning application.

Creation and management of the post-development habitats should be guided in detail in a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP). A completed copy of the Biodiversity Gain Plan (BGP) should also be submitted.

The recommendations set out above do not exclude the responsibility for a planning application to consider protection for priority, protected, and notable species that may be present on site. Impacts are assessed within the Ecological Impact Assessment report (ref. 65213299-SWE-XX-XX-T-J-0001). Furthermore, any provision of biodiversity net gain should demonstrate compliance with the Good Practice Principles for Development [3].

## 5 References

- [1] Defra, "Statutory biodiversity metric tools and guides - Statutory biodiversity metric calculation tool," Defra, 06 August 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-biodiversity-metric-tools-and-guides>.
- [2] North Herts Council, "North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011 - 2031," North Herts Council, 2022.
- [3] CIRIA, CIEEM, and IEMA, "Biodiversity Net Gain: Good practice principles for development," 2016.

## **Appendix A – HCA Sheets**

|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Grassland - Modified grassland                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Habitat Description                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| <a href="#">ukhab – UK Habitat Classification</a>                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| On-site or off-site, site name and location                                     | Per report details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Survey date and Surveyor name                    |      | Per report details |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) |      | Per report details |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Limitations (if applicable)                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Habitat parcel reference                         |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | g4.1                                             | g4.2 |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Grid reference                                   |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Condition Assessment Criteria                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Criterion passed (Yes or No)                     |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Notes (such as justification) |  |
| A                                                                               | There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). <b>Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.</b><br><br>Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m <sup>2</sup> (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet. | Y                                                | N    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| B                                                                               | Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Y                                                | N    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| C                                                                               | Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present).<br><br>Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Y                                                | Y    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| D                                                                               | Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Y                                                | Y    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| E                                                                               | Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Y                                                | Y    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| F                                                                               | Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Y                                                | Y    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| G                                                                               | There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Y                                                | Y    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Y                                                | N    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Number of criteria passed                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 7                                                | 5    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)                                 | Condition Assessment Score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Score Achieved x/√                               |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A                  | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Y                                                |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A                  | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                  |      |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |
| Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR<br>Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A) | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                  | Y    |                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                               |  |

| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mow less frequently, leave 10-20% unmown per pass, disturb ground and sow with native seed mix to increase diversity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Footnotes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Footnote 1</b> – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .</p> <p><b>Footnote 2</b> – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.</p> <p><b>Footnote 3</b> – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.</p> <p><b>Footnote 4</b> – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p> |

| Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Habitat Type</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| Native hedgerow<br>Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch<br>Native hedgerow with trees<br>Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch<br>Species-rich native hedgerow<br>Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch<br>Species-rich native hedgerow with trees<br>Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| <b>Habitat Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| <a href="#">ukhab – UK Habitat Classification</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| <b>On-site or off-site, site name and location</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Per report details                                             | <b>Survey date and Surveyor name</b>                            | Per report details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                               |
| <b>Limitations (if applicable)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                | <b>Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)</b>         | Per report details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                               |
| <b>Grid reference</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                | <b>Habitat parcel reference</b>                                 | h2b.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                               |
| <b>Condition Assessment Details</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. Each attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional groups which pass or fail the 'favourable condition' criteria.                                       |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook <sup>1</sup> and Favourable Conservation Status document <sup>2</sup> . For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook.                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| Best practice would be to record the species, age, spacing and other key information about all trees present along a hedgerow within the 'Habitat Description' box, as well as other key features of the hedgerow.                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| <b>Hedgerow favourable condition attributes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D and E)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Criteria - the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition' | Criteria description                                            | Criterion passed (Yes or No)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Notes (such as justification) |
| <b>Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                               |
| A1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Height                                                         | >1.5 m average along length                                     | The average height of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees.<br><br>Newly laid or coppiced hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).<br><br>A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m height).                      | N                             |
| A2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Width                                                          | >1.5 m average along length                                     | The average width of woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees.<br><br>Outgrowths (such as blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> suckers) are only included in the width estimate when they are >0.5 m in height.<br><br>Laid, coppiced, cut and newly planted hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice). | N                             |
| B1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Gap - hedge base                                               | Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length | This is the vertical 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth.<br><br>Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the Hedgerow Survey Handbook).                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Y                             |
| B2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Gap - hedge canopy continuity                                  | Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m      | This is the horizontal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow. Gaps are complete breaks in the woody canopy (no matter how small).<br><br>Access points and gates contribute to the overall 'gappiness' but are not subject to the >5 m criterion (as this is the typical size of a gate).                                                                                                                                                        | Y                             |

|     |                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |   |  |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|--|
| C1. | Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation | >1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:<br>· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and<br>· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least). | This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow.<br><br>Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow.<br><br>This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached ground etc. can limit available habitat niches. | Y |  |
| C2. | Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation      | Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.                                                                                  | The indicator species used are nettles <i>Urtica</i> spp., cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i> and docks <i>Rumex</i> spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Y |  |
| D1. | Invasive and neophyte species               | >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>3</sup> ) and recently introduced species.            | Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website <sup>4</sup> , as well as the BSBI website <sup>5</sup> where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora' <sup>6</sup> contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website <sup>7</sup> .           | N |  |
| D2. | Current damage                              | >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.                                                                                                         | This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes.<br><br>This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (for example, excessive hedgerow cutting).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | N |  |

#### Additional group - applicable to hedgerows with trees only

|     |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |
|-----|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| E1. | Tree class  | There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient <sup>8</sup> ), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.                      | This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species. |  |  |
| E2. | Tree health | At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity. | This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.                                |  |  |

The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, which is used within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The scores for each are set out in the tables below.

#### Condition categories for hedgerows without trees

| Category        | Category Requirements                                                                                                                                                                             | Metric Score |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Good            | No more than 2 failures in total;<br><b>AND</b><br>No more than 1 failure in any functional group.                                                                                                | 3            |
| Moderate        | No more than 4 failures in total;<br><b>AND</b><br><u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition). | 2            |
| Poor            | Fails a total of more than 4 attributes;<br><b>OR</b><br><u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).       | 1            |
| Score achieved: |                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1            |

#### Condition categories for hedgerows with trees

| Category        | Category Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                 | Metric score |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Good            | No more than 2 failures in total;<br><b>AND</b><br>No more than 1 failure in any functional group.                                                                                                    | 3            |
| Moderate        | No more than 5 failures in total;<br><b>AND</b><br><u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition). | 2            |
| Poor            | Fails a total of more than 5 attributes;<br><b>OR</b><br><u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).           | 1            |
| Score achieved: |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |              |

#### Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Remove and replace with native species-rich hedgerow, manage to meet criteria above.

#### Footnotes

**Footnote 1** – DEFRA (2007) *Hedgerow Survey Handbook. A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK*. [online] Available on: [layout \(hedgelink.org.uk\)](https://hedgelink.org.uk/)

**Footnote 2** – STALEY, J.T. ET AL. (2020) *Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows*. [online] Available on: [Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows - RP2943 \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](https://naturalengland.org.uk/rp2943)

**Footnote 3** – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

**Footnote 4** – CHEFFINGS, C. M. et al. (2005) *The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain*. Species Status 7: 1-116. [online] Available on: [The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain \(Species Status No. 7\) | JNCC Resource Hub](https://jncc.gov.uk/resource-hub/the-vascular-plant-red-data-list-for-great-britain-species-status-no-7)

**Footnote 5** – BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND (BSBI). *Definitions: wild, native or alien?* [online] Available on: [Definitions: wild, native or alien? – Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland \(bsbi.org\)](https://bsbi.org/definitions/wild-native-or-alien)

**Footnote 6** – BSBI and Biological Records Centre (BRC) (2022) *Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora*. [online] Available on: [Acknowledgements | Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora \(brc.ac.uk\)](https://brc.ac.uk/online-atlas-of-the-british-and-irish-flora)

**Footnote 7** – GB NON-NATIVE SPECIES SECRETARIAT (GBNNS) (2022) Available on: [Home » NNS \(nonnativespecies.org\)](https://nonnativespecies.org/)

**Footnote 8** – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from: [Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/101441/ancient_and_native_woodland_and_trees_policy_in_England.pdf)

and

[Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/101441/ancient_and_native_woodland_and_trees_policy_in_England.pdf)

| Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Habitat Types                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
| Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub<br>Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub<br>Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub<br>Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub<br>Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub<br>Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)<br>Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
| Habitat Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
| For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <a href="#">Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>) - Special Areas of Conservation (jncc.gov.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
| For other scrub types see:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <a href="#">ukhab – UK Habitat Classification</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                  |                               |
| On-site or off-site, site name and location                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Per report details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Survey date and Surveyor name                    | Per report details            |
| Limitations (if applicable)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) | Per report details            |
| Grid reference                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Habitat parcel reference                         | h3h.1                         |
| Condition Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Criterion passed (Yes or No)                     | Notes (such as justification) |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range). <sup>1</sup><br>- At least 80% of scrub is native,<br>- There are at least three native woody species <sup>2</sup> ,<br>- No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only in its restricted native range), or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i> , which can be up to 100% cover). | N                                                |                               |
| B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran <sup>3</sup> ) shrubs are all present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | N                                                |                               |
| C                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species <sup>4</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>5</sup> ) and species indicative of suboptimal condition <sup>6</sup> make up less than 5% of ground cover.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | N                                                |                               |
| D                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | N                                                |                               |
| E                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | N                                                |                               |
| Number of criteria passed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  | 0                             |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Condition Assessment Score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Score Achieved<br>x/√                            |                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |              |   |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---|-----|
| Passes 5 criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Good (3)     |   |     |
| Passes 3 or 4 criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Moderate (2) |   |     |
| Passes 2 or fewer criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Poor (1)     | Y |     |
| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |              |   |     |
| Remove cherry laurel, replace with native species.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |              |   |     |
| Footnotes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |              |   |     |
| Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |              |   |     |
| Footnote 2 – Native woody species as defined and listed in the Hedgerow Survey Handbook: DEFRA (2007) <i>Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK</i> . 2nd ed. [online]. Defra, London. PB1195. Available from: Hedgerow Survey Handbook (publishing.service.gov.uk).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |   |     |
| Footnote 3 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran species. Available from:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |              |   |     |
| <a href="https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61222/ancient_and_native_woodland_and_trees_policy_in_England.pdf">Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |              |   | and |
| <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61222/ancient_woodland_ancient_trees_and_veteran_trees_advice_for_making_planning_decisions.pdf">Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |              |   |     |
| Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |              |   |     |
| Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |              |   |     |
| Footnote 6 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type may include: non-native conifers, tree-of-heaven <i>Alianthus altissima</i> , holm oak <i>Quercus ilex</i> , European turkey oak <i>Quercus cerris</i> , cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> , snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos</i> spp., shallon <i>Gaultheria shallon</i> , American skunk cabbage <i>Lysichiton americanus</i> , buddleia <i>Buddleja</i> spp., cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster</i> spp., Spanish bluebell <i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i> and hybrid bluebells <i>Hyacinthoides x massartiana</i> . There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site. |              |   |     |

| Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Habitat Types                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| Line of trees<br>Line of trees – associated with bank or ditch<br>Ecologically valuable line of trees<br>Ecologically valuable line of trees – associated with bank or ditch                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| <i>Please see the separate Individual trees condition sheet for linear blocks and groups of trees in an <u>urban</u> setting. You should only use this Line of trees condition assessment and record this habitat type in <u>rural</u> locations.</i>                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| Habitat Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.<br>This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook <sup>1</sup> . For further clarifications please refer to the Handbook.<br>Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 for standing advice. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| On-site or off-site, site name and location                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Per report details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Survey date and Surveyor name                    | Per report details            |
| Limitations (if applicable)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) | Per report details            |
| Grid reference                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Habitat parcel reference                         | u1d.1                         |
| Condition Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Criterion passed (Yes or No)                     | Notes (such as justification) |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | At least 70% of trees are native species.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | N                                                |                               |
| B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide.                                                                                                                                                | Y                                                |                               |
| C                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.                                                                                          | N                                                |                               |
| D                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice <sup>2</sup> .        | N                                                |                               |
| E                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity. | Y                                                |                               |
| Number of criteria passed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  | 2                             |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Condition Assessment Score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Score Achieved ×/√                               |                               |
| Passes 5 criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                  |                               |
| Passes 3 or 4 criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                  |                               |
| Passes 2 or fewer criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Y                                                |                               |
| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| None applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |
| Footnotes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                  |                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Footnote 1</b> – DEFRA (2007) <i>Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK</i> . 2nd ed [online]. Defra, London. PB1195. Available from: Hedgerow Survey Handbook ( <a href="http://publishing.service.gov.uk">publishing.service.gov.uk</a> ). |  |
| <b>Footnote 2</b> – Where ancient and veteran trees are present, see gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:                                                                                                                                           |  |
| <a href="http://publishing.service.gov.uk">Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                 |  |
| and:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| <a href="http://www.gov.uk">Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                       |  |

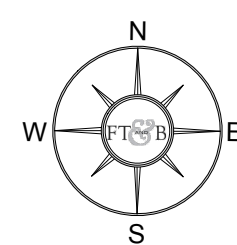


|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| K                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Veteran trees        | Two or more veteran trees <sup>12</sup> per hectare.                                                                                                                                                                 | One veteran tree <sup>12</sup> per hectare.                                                                                                                                                                                   | No veteran trees <sup>12</sup> present in woodland.                                                                                                                                                                     | 1               | 1  | 1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| L                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Amount of deadwood   | 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> . | Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> . | Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities <sup>13</sup> . | 1               | 1  | 1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| M                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Woodland disturbance | No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident <sup>14</sup> .                                                                                                                                                     | Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area, and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .                                                                            | 1 hectare or more of nutrient enrichment, and or 20% or more of woodland area has damaged ground <sup>14</sup> .                                                                                                        | 3               | 3  | 3  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Score (out of a possible 39)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 28              | 21 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Condition Assessment Result                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                      | Condition Assessment Score                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Result Achieved |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total score >32 (33 to 39)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                      | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total score 26 to 32                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                      | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Y               |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total score <26 (13 to 25)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                      | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 | Y  | Y  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Remove non-native Russian vine and cherry laurel. Thin out non-native tree species and, where appropriate, native species to open up canopy and allow ground layer to develop. Seed with native seed mix if required. Plant native saplings in tree guards.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Footnotes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Footnotes below refer to the EWBG woodland condition assessment details: EWBG (No date). <i>Assessing your Woodland's Condition</i> [online]. Available from: <a href="http://www.sylvia.org.uk/Woodland_Wildlife_Toolkit">Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylvia.org.uk)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The woodland condition assessment survey methodology is outlined in the EWBG toolkit. However the criteria on this sheet are those specific to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and must be used when assessing woodland condition.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <p><b>Footnote 1</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 1 for more information. If tree species is not a birch <i>Betula</i> sp., cherry <i>Prunus</i> sp. or <i>Sorbus</i> sp.: 0 - 20 years (Young); 21 - 150 years (Intermediate); and &gt;150 years (Old). For birch, cherry or <i>Sorbus</i> species; 0 - 20 years = Young; 21 - 60 years = Intermediate; &gt;60 years = Old. A recognisable age-class should be a consistent recognisable layer across the woodland or stand being assessed. Presence of a few saplings would not indicate that the woodland has an 'age-class' of young trees.</p> <p><b>Footnote 2</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 2 for more information. Browsing pressure is considered to be significant where &gt;20% of vegetation visible within each survey plot shows damage from any type of browsing pressure listed.</p> <p><b>Footnote 3</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 3 for more information. Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly.</p> <p>Check for the presence of all plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), particularly the following invasive non-native species: American skunk cabbage <i>Lysichiton americanus</i>; Himalayan balsam <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>; Japanese knotweed <i>Reynoutria japonica</i>; cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>; shallon <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>; snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>; variegated yellow archangel <i>Lamium galeobdolon subsp. argentatum</i>; rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>; and tree-of-heaven <i>Ailanthus altissima</i>.</p> <p><b>Footnote 4</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 4 and Table 2 for more information. The number of different native tree or shrub species including young trees and shrubs. A list of commonly found native tree and shrub species is provided in Table 2. Not all species listed are native to all parts of the UK. Note a list of commonly found non-native tree species are also included and should be recorded if present.</p> <p><b>Footnote 5</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 5 and for more information. The abundance of native tree species in upper (&gt;5 m) and understorey (up to 5 m) layers including young trees and shrubs.</p> <p><b>Footnote 6</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 6 for more information. Open space within woodland in this context is temporary open space in which trees can be expected to regenerate (for example, glades, rides, footpaths, areas of clear-fell). This differs from permanent open space where tree regeneration is not possible or desirable (for example, tarmac, buildings, rivers). Area is at least 10 m wide with less than 20% covered by shrubs or trees.</p> <p><b>Footnote 7</b> - Given the increased ratio of edge habitat to woodland where the woodland is &lt;10ha.</p> <p><b>Footnote 8</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 8 for more information. This indicator measures regeneration potential of the woodland by considering three classes: seedlings; saplings; and young trees of 4-7 cm DBH. All three classes would fall in the 'young' category of the 'age distribution of trees' indicator, but the regeneration indicator gathers additional information by considering regeneration potential - if seedlings, saplings and young trees are all present that means natural regeneration processes are happening.</p> <p><b>Footnote 9</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 9 for more information and Table 3 for a list of diseases and pests and their risk level.</p> <p><b>Footnote 10</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 10 directing to NVC key for more information. The 'UKHab to NVC translation table' in the UK Habitat Classification resources may also be useful to assess this.</p> <p><b>Footnote 11</b> - This criterion looks at structural diversity and is useful to understand in conjunction with the age of trees in a woodland. Vertical structure is defined as the number of canopy storeys present. Possible storey values are: 1) Upper; 2) Complex: recorded when the stand is composed of multiple tree heights that cannot easily be stratified into broad height bands (such as upper, middle or lower); 3) Middle; 4) Lower; and 5) Shrub layer. There might be no storeys where the woodland has been felled. See EWBG INDICATOR 11 for more information.</p> <p><b>Footnote 12</b> - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from: <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/344440/ancient_and_native_woodland_and_trees_policy_in_England_publishing_service.gov.uk">Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a> and: <a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/344440/ancient_woodland_ancient_trees_and_veteran_trees_advice_for_making_planning_decisions_-_GOV.UK_(www.gov.uk)">Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>EWBG INDICATOR 12 is the relevant indicator.</p> <p><b>Footnote 13</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 13 for more information. This includes logs, large dead branches on the forest floor and stumps (&lt;1 m tall) &gt;20 cm diameter at narrowest point and &gt;50 cm long. Also includes standing dead trees (&gt;1 m tall) and also deadwood on standing live trees. Diameter is measured at the narrowest point on the stem. Minimum diameter of 20 cm.</p> <p><b>Footnote 14</b> - See EWBG method INDICATOR 15 for more information. Examples of disturbance are: significant nutrient enrichment; soil compaction from trampling, machinery, animal poaching or litter.</p> |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## **Appendix B – Proposed Landscape Plan**



FISHER TOMLIN & BOWYER



**Guysfield Care Home**

Willian Road, Willian, Letchworth

Drawing Details

Title: Planting plan keyl Reference: 1304/20.0

Scale: 1:200@A11 Date: 10th October 2024

74 Sydney Road Wimbledon London SW20 8EF

T +44 (0) 208 542 0683 | E info@fishertomlin.com | W fishertomlin.com

Copyright Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer Limited 2024

ALL DIMENSIONS MUST BE CHECKED ON SITE AND NOT SCALED FROM THIS DRAWING

**Woodland underplanting**

Woodland seed mix in areas where there is moderately developed shade to be composed of 20% native wild flowers and 80% slow growing grasses (by weight) using the approximate proportions outlined below

**20% Wild Flowers**

1.00% Allium ursinum – Ramsons  
2.00% Alliaria petiolata – Garlic Mustard  
0.50% Angelica sylvestris – Wild Angelica  
1.40% Anthriscus sylvestris – Cow Parsley  
0.20% Anem maculatum – Lords-and-Ladies  
4.00% Digitalis purpurea – Foxglove  
0.10% Eupatorium cannabinum – Hemp-agrimony  
0.90% Filipendula ulmaria – Meadowsweet  
1.50% Galium album – Hedge Bedstraw  
0.10% Geum urbanum – Wood Aven  
1.40% Hyacinthoides non-scripta – Bluebell  
0.10% Primula vulgaris – Primrose  
1.00% Prunella vulgaris – Selfheal  
0.40% Ranunculus acris – Meadow Buttercup  
3.00% Silene dioica – Red Campion  
0.20% Teucrium scorodonia – Wood Sage

**80% Grasses**

2.40% Agrostis capillaris – Common Bent (w)  
1.60% Anthoxanthum odoratum – Sweet Vernal-grass (w)  
0.80% Brachypodium sylvaticum – False Brome (w)  
48.00% Cynosurus cristatus – Crested Dogstail  
1.60% Deschampsia cespitosa – Tufted Hair-grass (w)  
19.20% Festuca rubra – Red Fescue  
6.40% Poa nemoralis – Wood Meadow-grass

Woodland seed mix in deeper shaded areas to be composed of 100% wild flowers using the approximate proportions outlined below

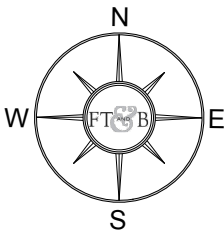
**100% Wild Flowers**

10.00% Alliaria petiolata – Garlic Mustard  
5.00% Allium ursinum – Ramsons  
2.50% Angelica sylvestris – Wild Angelica  
7.00% Anthriscus sylvestris – Cow Parsley  
1.00% Anem maculatum – Lords-and-Ladies  
20.00% Digitalis purpurea – Foxglove  
0.50% Eupatorium cannabinum – Hemp-agrimony  
4.50% Filipendula ulmaria – Meadowsweet  
7.50% Galium album – Hedge Bedstraw  
10.00% Geum urbanum – Wood Aven  
8.00% Hyacinthoides non-scripta – Bluebell  
0.50% Primula vulgaris – Primrose  
5.00% Prunella vulgaris – Selfheal  
2.00% Ranunculus acris – Meadow Buttercup  
15.00% Silene dioica – Red Campion  
1.00% Teucrium scorodonia – Wood Sage

| Boundary shrub planting |               |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Plant                   | Qty           | Size    |
| <b>Specimen Shrubs</b>  |               |         |
| arpinus betulus         | 55            | 3L      |
| Corylus avellana        | 55            | 3L      |
| Crataegus monogyna      | 55            | 3L      |
| Euonymus europaeus      | 55            | 3L      |
| Fagus sylvatica         | 55            | 3L      |
| Ilex aquifolium         | 100           | 3L      |
| Taxus baccata           | 55            | 3L      |
| Viburnum opulus         | 55            | 3L      |
| <b>Hedging</b>          |               |         |
| Taxus baccata           | 210           | 1m      |
| <b>Boundary hedging</b> |               |         |
| Acer campestre          | 155 lin metre | 1m tall |
| Corylus avellana        | 155 lin metre | 1m tall |
| Crataegus monogyna      | 155 lin metre | 1m tall |
| Prunus spinosa          | 155 lin metre | 1m tall |



FISHER TOMLIN & BOWYER



Guysfield Care Home

Willian Road, Willian, Letchworth

Drawing Details

Title: Additional planting plan rev A | Reference: 1304/20.10.A

Scale: 1:200@A11 Date: 20th November 2024

74 Sydney Road Wimbledon London SW20 8EF

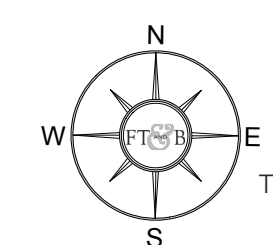
T +44 (0) 208 542 0683 | E info@fishertomlin.com | W fishertomlin.com

Copyright Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer Limited 2024

ALL DIMENSIONS MUST BE CHECKED ON SITE AND NOT SCALED FROM THIS DRAWING



FISHER TOMLIN & BOWYER



**Guysfield Care Home**

Willian Road, Willian, Letchworth

Drawing Details

Title: Tree planting plan rev B | Reference: 1304/20.11.B

Scale: 1:250@A1 | Date: 25th November 2024

74 Sydney Road, Wimbledon, London, SW20 8EF

T +44 (0) 208 542 0683 | E info@fishertomlin.com | W fishertomlin.com

Copyright Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer Limited 2024

ALL DIMENSIONS MUST BE CHECKED ON SITE AND NOT SCALED FROM THIS DRAWING