

# AMBIENTAL

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

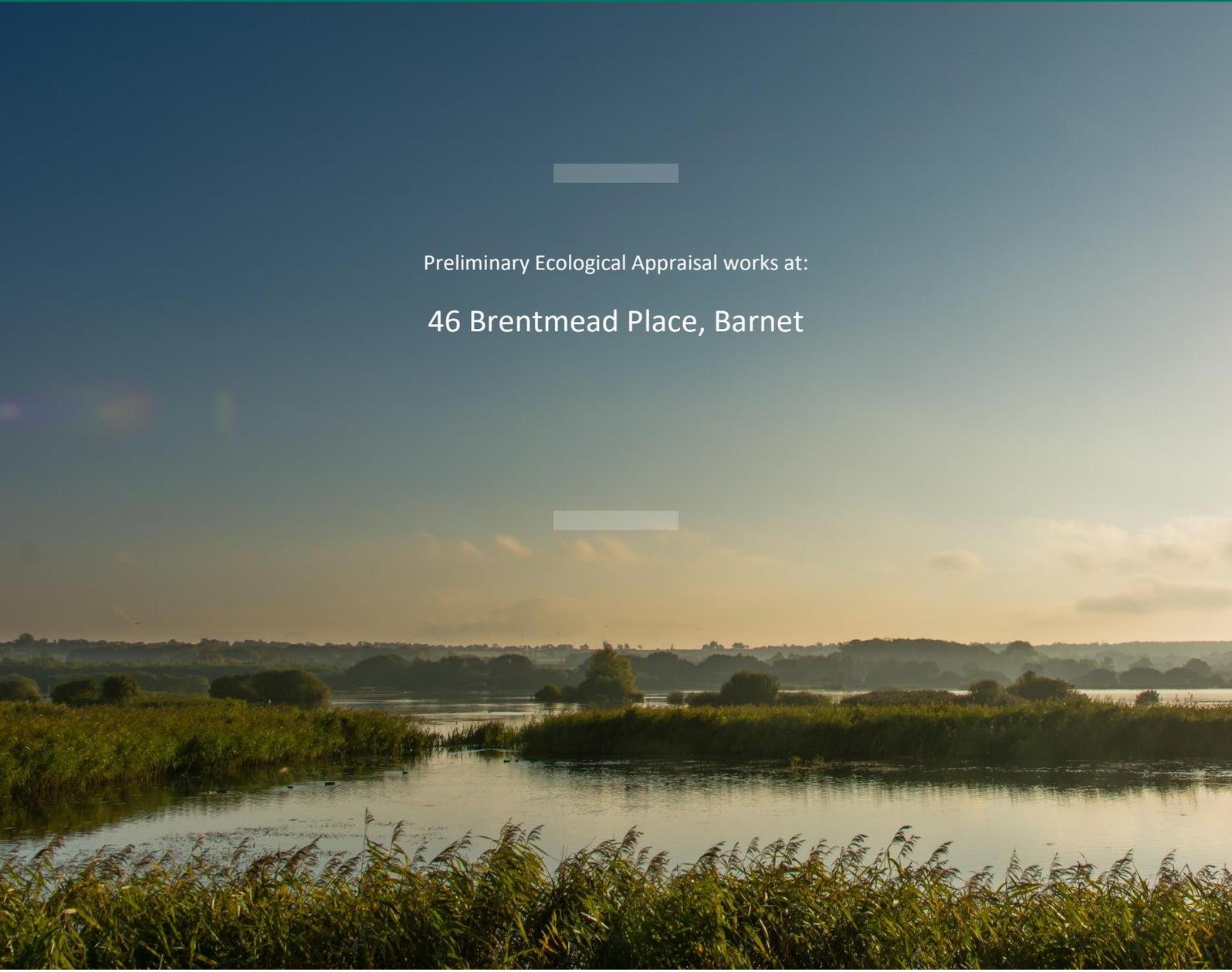
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Preliminary Ecological Appraisal works at:

46 Brentmead Place, Barnet

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Preliminary Ecological Appraisal at:

46 Brentmead Place,

Barnet,

NW11 9LJ

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## Document Issue Record

**Project:** Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

**Prepared for:** Metro Properties LTD

**Reference:** 5575

**Site Location:** 44 – 46 Brentmead Placet, Barnet, NW11 9LJ

Rev	Written By:	Checked By:	Authorised By:	Date:
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## Non-Technical Summary

Phlorum Ltd was commissioned by Ambiental to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal which was carried out at 46 Brentmead Place, Barnet on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 in order to determine whether any ecological constraints could affect the proposed works for the site.

Current proposals are for the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings and landscaping of the back gardens.

The survey area extended over approximately 300 sq. meters.

The main findings of the surveys are as follows:

- The nearest statutory site is Brent Reservoir Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) located 1.5 km to the west of the site. The site contains no supporting features.
- The habitats onsite included hardstanding, continuous scrub/ruderal vegetation, brambles/ruderal vegetation, and individual trees. The River Brent borders the site to the west.
- No further surveys are recommended.
- A precautionary approach to site clearance with regard to breeding birds, badgers, and reptiles should be sufficient to safeguarding these protected species groups.
- Further information on precautionary working practices together with recommended mitigation and enhancement measures are discussed in Section 5.

## 1. Introduction

### Background

- 1.1 Phlorum Ltd has been commissioned by Ambiental to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, to inform the potential ecological constraints of proposed future development of 46 Brentmead Place, Barnet (hereafter referred to as “the site”).
- 1.2 The purpose of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was:
  - to identify the major habitats present;
  - to identify the potential for any legally protected species to be present; and
  - to recommend any additional ecological surveys, if required.
- 1.3 As part of the assessment, a desktop review and a site visit were carried out. The results of which were used to assess the nature conservation importance of the site and the potential of the site to support protected species.
- 1.4 This report has been compiled in accordance with current guidelines (British Standard 42020:2013 Biodiversity. Code of Practice for Planning and Development, 2013 and CIEEM, 2017 and 2018).
- 1.5 It is understood that the proposed development is for construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings, and the landscaping of the back gardens.

### Site Description

- 1.6 The site comprised mainly of gravel hardstanding, continuous scrub with ruderal vegetation and ruderal vegetation with brambles. There are a number of Individual trees around the perimeter of the site.
  - 1.7 The National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is grid reference TQ 23822 88210. The survey area extended over approximately 300 sq. meters.
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## 2. Methodology

### Desk Study & Consultations

- 2.1 The desktop study involved conducting database searches for statutory and non-statutory designated sites, legally protected species and features of interest within a 1km radius of the site. The data search was based on available information provided by the following sources:
- Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL, 2020);
  - Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC, 2020);
  - Ordnance Survey mapping; and
  - Aerial photography.

### Habitat Survey and Assessment

- 2.2 Phlorum Limited carried out an ecological survey of the site on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020. The survey was carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist, Natalie Arscott who has over two years professional experience of undertaking ecological surveys. The weather conditions during the survey were overcast and warm.
- 2.3 The field survey comprised a walkover inspection of the land and habitats present. The survey followed standard Phase 1 survey methodology (JNCC, 2010) and covered all accessible parts of the site, including boundary features. Habitats were described and mapped (Figure 1: Appendix A). A list of plant species was compiled, together with an estimate of abundance made according to the DAFOR scale (Appendix D).
- 2.4 This assessment provides information on the habitats in the survey area and identifies actual or potential presence of legally protected or otherwise notable species/habitats in or immediately adjacent to the site.
- 2.5 Target notes highlighting a particular feature of ecological interest are provided in Appendix B, with associated photographs.
- 2.6 Scientific names are given after the first mention of a species, thereafter, common names only are used. Nomenclature follows Stace (2010) for vascular plant species.

### Protected Species Assessment

- 2.7 The potential for the site to provide habitat for protected species was assessed from field observations in conjunction with results of the desk study. The site was inspected for indications of the presence of protected species including:
- Habitat considered suitable to support widespread reptile species including areas with a scrub/grassland mosaic and potential hibernation sites;
  - On-site ponds offering potential breeding opportunities for great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*) and the presence of suitable terrestrial habitat including hedgerows and rough grassland;
  - The presence of features in, and on trees, indicating potential for roosting bats Chiroptera, including knot and rot holes, loose bark. Secondary evidence of bats including staining, droppings and feeding remains were also looked for;
  - The presence of nesting habitat for breeding birds, including mature trees, dense scrub and hedgerows and direct evidence of bird nesting including bird song, old nests etc.;
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- Habitats considered suitable to support badger (*Meles meles*) setts, and evidence in the form of hair, pathways and latrines;
  - Presence of woodland and or hedgerows providing suitable habitat to support hazel dormice (*Muscardinus avellanarius*); and
  - Riparian habitat supporting suitable features for water voles (*Arvicola amphibius*) and otters (*Lutra lutra*); and the
  - Presence of nationally protected and/or invasive plants.
- 2.8 The potential presence for protected species is categorised as **Negligible, Low, Moderate, High** or **Present**, based on the findings of the field survey and on the evaluation of existing data.
- 2.9 The purpose of this assessment is to identify whether more comprehensive Phase 2 surveys for protected species or mitigation should be recommended.

## Caveat

### Data Search Constraints

- 2.10 It is important to note that, even where data is held, a lack of records for a defined geographical area does not necessarily mean that there is a lack of ecological interest; the area may be simply under-recorded.

### Survey Constraints

- 2.11 Ecological surveys are limited by factors that affect presence of plants and animals such as seasonality. Whilst every effort has been made to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no investigation can ensure the complete characterisation of the environment.
- 2.12 The survey was carried out midway through the growing season and therefore some species may not have been visible above ground or readily identifiable.
- 2.13 The appraisal does not constitute a full botanical survey, or a Phase 2 pre-construction survey that would include accurate GIS mapping for invasive or protected plant species. This survey provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species occurring on the site based on the suitability of the habitat, known distribution of the species in the local area and any direct evidence on the site. It is therefore used as a tool to recommend further protected species surveys (or other species of significant nature conservation interest) if on the basis of the preliminary assessment or during subsequent surveys, it is considered reasonably likely that protected species may be present.
- 2.14 It is however considered that the survey was sufficiently rigorous to assess the ecological value of the site.

### Limitations

- 2.15 This appraisal also does not constitute as a full invasive species survey. All surveys are subject to the conditions on site at the time of the survey. Site surveys are non-intrusive and rely on the visual identification of aboveground growth. If parts of a site are inaccessible then these areas can often not be surveyed, unless they can be viewed from other areas. If any aboveground growth is being managed or has been disturbed or covered, or the below ground growth is dormant, then it may be impossible for us to identify invasive plants in these areas during our non-intrusive survey.
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### 3. Baseline Conditions

#### Aerial Photography and OS Maps

- 3.1 Aerial photographs and OS maps show the site to be bordered to the west by the River Brent. The site is surrounded by domestic dwellings and to the east is North Circular Road. The wider surrounding area is urban.

#### Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites

##### Statutory Sites

- 3.2 The closest statutory designated site is Brent SSSI located 1.5 km to the west. Table 1 provides a list of Statutory sites within 2km of the site.

**Table 1: Non-Statutory Sites within 2km of the sites**

Site Name	Reason for Designation	Area (ha)	Distance from the Site (km)
<b>Brent Reservoir SSSI</b>	Important site for breeding birds.	68	1.5km to the west.
<b>Big Wood LNR</b>	Contains a large collection of wild service trees.	7.3	1.6 km to the east.
<b>Little wood LNR</b>	An important area for breeding birds	1.2	1.6 km to the east.

##### Non-statutory Sites

- 3.6 The closest non-statutory designated site is SINC Princes Park located 620 meters to the east of the site. There are five non-statutory sites within 1km of the site. However, Table 2 provides a list of three closest to the site.

**Table 2: Nearest Non-Statutory Sites**

Site Name	Reason for Designation	Area (ha)	Distance from the Site (km)
<b>Prince's Park</b>	Contains ancient trees, with high ecological value.	1.4	620 m. to the east.
<b>Clitterhouse Playing Fields</b>	Contains ancient hedgerows which provides habitat for a range of birds.	17.2	1 km to the south
<b>Lower Dollis Brook</b>	An important wildlife corridor within an urban environment.	29.3	4.2 km to the north

#### Habitats

##### Site Summary

- 3.7 The site comprised of hardstanding, continuous scrub/ruderal vegetation, brambles/ruderal vegetation and individual trees. The River Brent runs along the western border.
- 3.8 The main habitats recorded within the site are described below. Additional details are shown on the habitat survey plan in Appendix A, and the target notes are listed in Appendix B.

**Hardstanding**

- 3.9 A large section of the site consists of gravel hardstanding, with little vegetation growing from it.

**Continuous Scrub/Ruderal Vegetation**

- 3.10 The hardstanding merges into bramble scrub. This area contains mainly sprawling bramble (*Rubus fruticosus agg.*). Buddleia (*Buddleia davidii*) is spread across the scrubby area and a dominant feature (see TN1).

**Brambles/Ruderal Vegetation**

- 3.11 Interspersed amongst the scrub, are patches of ruderal vegetation, which includes species such as pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*) and common catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) are dotted within the area.

**Individual Trees**

- 3.12 The scattered trees are found mainly around the perimeter of the site. The most prominent are the large tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) (see TN2), and a sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) at TN3. There are more, smaller tree of heaven lining the perimeter of the site.

**Water Bodies**

- 3.13 Although not part of the site, the River Brent runs along immediately along the western site boundary (see TN4). The water way could be assessed from the rear of the site.

**Protected Species**

- 3.14 Legislation relating to the protected species referred to in this section is included in Appendix C.
- 3.15 The following paragraphs detail the suitability of the on-site habitats to support protected species and include information from the data search for protected, rare and otherwise notable species returned within a 1 km radius.

**Reptiles**

- 3.16 The data search returned no records within 1 km of the site within the past 10 years.
- 3.17 During the survey, it was seen the bramble scrub provided significant cover. The hardstanding creates a basking area for reptiles. Small gaps in the fences creates a point of entry to the site. The proximity of the river to the north would allow dispersal by reptiles such as grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*).
- 3.18 Overall, the site was assessed as having a **low** potential to support reptiles.

**Amphibians**

- 3.19 The data search returned no records within 1 km of the site within the last 10 years.
- 3.20 During the survey no water was seen on site. However, the River Brent borders the site and could potentially mean that amphibians use the area to forage. However, the concrete wall at the back of the site significantly reduces the possibility. There are no ponds within 250 or 500 meters of the site. Other than the River Brent at the rear of the site, the nearest area of water is Decoy Brook located approximately 370 meters to the east at its nearest point.
- 3.21 It is considered that the site offers a **negligible** potential for breeding newts and foraging or commuting newts.
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**Bats**

- 3.22 The data search returned one record of Pipistrelle bat within the last 10 years within a 1 km radius. This is more likely to indicate a lack of reporting for this species group, rather than their absence.
- 3.23 During the survey although no potential roosting features were identified on site, the River Brent at the rear of the site creates a potential for commuting and foraging bats. This must be considered with regards to the lighting of the sight. This is further discussed in the Discussion and Recommendation section.
- 3.24 Overall it is considered that the site offers a **negligible** potential for roosting and a **moderate** potential for foraging bats.

**Birds**

- 3.25 Several Red or Amber listed Birds of Conservation Concern<sup>1</sup> (BoCC), and notable<sup>2</sup> bird species were returned by the 1 km data search. These species include: song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*); Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerera*); house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*); and starling (*sturnus vulgaris*)
- 3.26 During the survey no signs of nesting birds were observed. The bramble scrub and ruderal vegetation and trees provide a potential for nesting sites.
- 3.27 Overall it is considered that the site offers a **low** potential for breeding birds.

**Badgers**

- 3.28 Records for this species are kept confidentially and were not returned by the data search.
- 3.29 Although no evidence of badgers was seen during the survey, the dense vegetation on site offered suitable habitat for foraging badgers. Fencing between the properties significantly reduces the connectivity of the site.
- 3.30 No badger activity or signs of badger were observed during the survey. However, despite the hardstanding across the site, the scrub and ruderal vegetation may obscure vegetation runs or a sett itself.
- 3.31 Overall, the site offered a **low** potential for foraging and commuting badgers and a **low** potential for breeding badgers and potential.

**Hazel Dormice**

- 3.32 The data search returned no records of dormice within 1 km of the site within the past 10 years.

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<sup>1</sup> Birds of Conservation Concern status is prioritised into high concern (Red), medium concern (Amber) and low concern (Green) (Eaton et al, 2009). Red-list species are those that are globally threatened according to the IUCN criteria; those whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years; and those that have declined historically and have not shown a substantial recent recovery. Amber-list species are those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe; those whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years; those whose population has declined historically but made a substantial recent recovery; rare breeders; and those with internationally important or localised populations. Green-list species are those that fulfil none of the criteria.

<sup>2</sup> Notable Birds are based on a list of birds that are particularly scarce or vulnerable either at national or a regional level. The majority of these bird species are designated as Schedule 1 species, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), or listed as red or amber-listed BoCC.

- 3.33 The site did not contain vegetation of a density and type that would support breeding dormice. Also, there is little connectivity of habitat for commuting dormice.
- 3.34 The site did not contain the type or density of vegetation that would be suitable for supporting either breeding or commuting dormice.
- 3.35 Overall it was considered that the site offered a **negligible** potential to support breeding dormice.

#### **Water Voles**

- 3.36 The data search returned no records of water vole within 1 km search area in the past 10 years.
- 3.37 There is no water on site. The river adjacent to the site provides a possible habitat for water voles, however a large concrete wall running along the site boundary and lack of vegetation within the water way significantly reduces any chance of this species being present.
- 3.38 Overall it was considered that the site offered a **negligible** potential to support breeding water voles and a **negligible** potential to support commuting and foraging water voles.

#### **Otters**

- 3.39 Reports of otter are not returned by the record centre in this area.
- 3.40 As is the case with water vole the concrete wall at the end of the site blocks all obvious access to the site.
- 3.41 The site did not contain the aquatic habitat or vegetation types that would support breeding, foraging or commuting otters.
- 3.42 Overall, it was considered that the site offered a **negligible** potential to support breeding otters and a **negligible** potential to support commuting otter.

#### **Other Mammals**

- 3.43 One report of West European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) was recorded in the 1 km data search.
- 3.44 The scrub area and brambles could provide suitable foraging and sheltering places for them, although no evidence of hedgehog were observed.
- 3.45 Overall, it was considered that the site offered a **low** potential to support the West European hedgehog.

#### **Stag Beetles**

- 3.46 One report of stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*) was recorded in the 1 km data search.
- 3.47 If there was any deadwood in the scrub area this could be suitable for stag beetles. However, no evidence of stag beetles or suitable dead wood area were identified.
- 3.48 Overall, the site offered **low** potential for stag beetle.

#### **Invasive Plants**

- 3.49 The data search showed records of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurring within the 1 km search area in the past 10 years. These plants are listed as invasive in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 amended). The data search also contained a list of London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI), which as well as Japanese knotweed also includes buddleia and tree of heaven.
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- 3.50 During the survey specimens of buddleia were seen (See Target Note 5 and Photo in appendices A & B), and tree of heaven was seen on site. As stated above these are not on schedule 9, but they are found in the LISI.
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## 4. Evaluation

- 4.1 On the basis of the information available from the habitat survey and desk study, the site has been evaluated in terms of its potential for biodiversity, support of protected species and habitats, and the contribution the area makes as part of the wider landscape. The nature conservation value of the site has been assessed following standard criteria developed by CIEEM (2017 and 2018) and in accordance with BS 24040:2013. This is provided below.
- 4.2 The biodiversity value of protected species within the site is a preliminary evaluation based upon the desk study records, habitat suitability and the conservation status of the species in question. It should be noted that where European Protected Species (EPS) or species of Principle Importance for the Conservation of Biodiversity are present on-site they may be valued at a lower level/scale where it is considered likely that populations would not be of sufficient importance to justify designation at a higher level. However, regardless of their biodiversity value, such species are still subject to national and/or European legislation.
- 4.3 Key aspects of relevant planning policy regarding conservation, including an explanation of species referred to as being of 'Principal Importance for Conservation of Biodiversity' and European Protected Species and habitats, are provided in the Legislation section in Appendix C.

### Geographic Evaluation

#### Features of International Importance

- 4.4 Features of International Importance are principally sites covered by international legislation or conventions. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) implements the Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EC) (Habitats Directive) in England and Wales. The Regulations mainly deal with the protection of sites with certain habitats and populations of species that are important for nature conservation in a European context, i.e. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's) and Special Protection Areas (SPA's).
- 4.5 The site is not subject to any international statutory nature conservation designations. The closest site of International Importance is SAC Epping Forest located 16.9 km to the east. The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this designated site.

#### Features of National Importance

- 4.6 Features of national importance include SSSIs which are designated under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The site is not subject to any national statutory nature conservation designations and it is not considered that any habitats or populations or assemblages of species within the site would meet the criteria for the designation of SSSIs at an appropriate geographic level<sup>3</sup>.
- 4.7 The closest site of national importance for nature conservation is Brent Reservoir SSSI located 1.5 km to the west. The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this statutory designated site.

#### Features of Regional (i.e. Surrey) Importance

- 4.8 The site does not include any features of value at this level neither is it likely to be selected as a SNCI based on the results of the current survey.

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<sup>3</sup> JNCC Guidelines for selection of biological SSSIs (see <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2303#download>).

**Features of District (i.e. East Barnet) Importance**

- 4.9 The site is relatively small and does not support any features that were considered to be of value at this level.

**Features of Local (i.e. Brent Cross) Importance**

- 4.10 The site does not support any features that were considered to be of value at this level.

**Features of Value Immediate Vicinity (c. 250m) of the Project**

- 4.11 The on-site bramble scrub, ruderal vegetation and trees is of value within the immediate vicinity and provides suitable habitat to support protected species including badgers, breeding birds, and reptiles. The fencing between properties, despite having gaps along it and the concrete wall at the rear of the site significantly reduce the potential for the area to be used a wildlife corridor.

**Summary**

- 4.12 Overall on the basis of the survey results and the above criteria, habitats within the site are considered largely to be of ecological value within the immediate vicinity only. The site provides suitable habitat to support several protected species and groups including badgers, breeding birds, and reptiles. However, populations of these are unlikely to be locally significant.

## Local Plan Evaluation

- 4.13 It is considered that the statutory Barnet Local Plan Core Strategy (Adopted 2012) contains the following nature conservation policies relevant to the site. A summary of these policies is provided below. The full text of the relevant policies is contained in the Legislation section in Appendix C and this should also be referred to.

**Barnet Local Plan (Core Strategy) adopted 2012**

- *Policy CS4: Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet*
  - *Appropriate landscaping and planting to address impact on amenity and enable integration of the site with the surrounding environment.*
  - *Policy CS7: Enhancing and protecting open spaces*
  - *maintaining and improving the greening of the environment through the protection of incidental greenspace, trees, hedgerows and watercourses enabling green corridors to link Barnet's rural, urban fringe and urban green spaces.*
  - *Ensuring that development protects existing site ecology and makes the fullest contributions to enhancing biodiversity, both through on-site measures and by contribution to local biodiversity improvements.*
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## 5. Discussion and Recommendations

### Discussion

- 5.1 The survey site is located at 46 Brentmead Place, Barnet. The survey area extended over approximately 300 sq. meters. Habitats to be impacted by the development proposals include gravel hardstanding, bramble scrub, ruderal vegetation and scattered trees. The River Brent borders the site to the west.
- 5.2 Design proposals include the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings and landscaping of the back gardens.
- 5.3 Habitats within the proposed development area were assessed as being of value to wildlife with the local vicinity with potential to support badgers, breeding birds and reptiles. These species may pose a constraint to works.
- 5.4 No further surveys are recommended.
- 5.5 A precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to badger, breeding birds and reptiles is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species groups.
- 5.6 Although no potential roosting features were identified, it is known bats use water courses for commuting and foraging. Therefore, any lighting on the property must not be allowed to spill out over the River Brent at the rear of the site.
- 5.7 Details regarding specific mitigation, including precautionary working practices together with habitat enhancement measures are provided below.
- 5.8 Tree of heaven and buddleia were identified during the survey which can be found on the London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI).

### Recommendations

#### **Bats**

- 5.9 Bats receive protection under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).
- 5.10 Due to the proximity of the site the River Brent, it is recommended that during and post works, efforts are made to stop light spill over the water course. Night-time lighting can affect the habits of bats and can reduce time available for foraging.

#### **Badger**

- 5.11 Badgers receive protection under The Protection of Badgers Act 1992.
  - 5.12 Due to the potential presence of badgers in the area, a series of general precautions are recommended. This will include the following;
  - 5.13 Throughout construction, all on-site contractors must be made aware of the potential presence of badgers in the locality and a tool box talk should be given by a qualified ecologist immediately prior to the start of construction works to discuss the potential for badgers to pass through the site and to provide information on legislation and the ecology of this species.
  - 5.14 All trenches should be covered at night or if this is not possible, ramps must be installed into the trenches to enable badgers to escape should they enter the excavations. All materials must be stored safely and lids securely fitted, particular waste and other potential food sources.
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**Breeding Birds**

- 5.15 The on-site scattered bramble scrub and trees provide suitable nesting habitat for a range of bird species. All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
- 5.16 In order to avoid any potential impact on breeding birds, the clearance of any trees or scrub should be undertaken outside the main bird nesting season which runs from March to August inclusive<sup>4</sup>, with clearance works possible between September and February. Where this is not possible, an ecologist would need to check the vegetation for active nests and signs of bird breeding activity.
- 5.17 In the event that a nest is found, an exclusion zone around the nest would be established. Works would have to cease within this buffer area until the young birds have fledged.

**Reptiles**

- 5.18 All reptiles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
- 5.19 It is considered that if reptiles are present on site then their populations will be low. It is therefore felt that a precautionary approach to vegetation clearance should be sufficient to safeguard this protected species group. This would involve vegetation clearance to be carried out in stages in order to avoid any potential impacts on reptiles. This would be done by clearing the vegetation furthest from the river first, enabling the reptiles to disperse naturally using this watercourse.

**Habitat Enhancement**

- 5.20 New development offers the opportunity for habitat enhancement in accordance with national and local planning policy and some recommendations are included below.

London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI)

- 5.21 Although it is not illegal to have species listed on the LISI on any given site, they should be controlled in an appropriate manner.
- 5.22 We recommend that a member for the Property Care Association Invasive Weed Control Group (PCA IWCG) is contacted to manage the invasive weed.

Bird and Bat Boxes and Bricks

- 5.23 Additional bird nesting and bat roosting provision could be incorporated into new design proposals. These could either be installed on trees or incorporated into the new building design. Some recommendations are made below as a guide.
- 5.24 Bat roosting opportunities could be provided through the installation of boxes on the outside of the walls or remaining trees, such as the Schwegler 2F, or other makes of a similar design, such as Chavenage Bat box. There are a range of bat boxes available and these can be selected to suit the development and bat species in the locality.
- 5.25 Bird boxes could be installed on the walls of the new building or in the remaining trees which could include the following Schwegler bird house or 1B makes, or similar designs from alternative suppliers. If the client is happy for bird boxes to be installed on the walls of the new building then a Schwegler sparrow terrace 1SP could also be used.

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<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that this is the main breeding period. Breeding activity may occur outside this period (depending on the particular species and geographical location of the site) and thus due care and attention should be given when undertaking potentially disturbing works at any time of year.

- 5.26 Further details of the bird and bat boxes are provided in Appendix F.
- 5.27 Bat boxes should be installed at appropriate locations ideally with south-east, south, or south-west facing aspects at least 3m from ground level. Ideally they need to be exposed to 6-8 hours of direct sunlight, but sheltered from strong winds. If installed on the building, these should ideally be positioned directly below the eaves.
- 5.28 Bird Boxes should be located out of prevailing wind, rain, and strong sunlight, ideally with a clear flight path to the entrance. Ideally they should be installed two to four metres from the ground facing north or north-east.

Compensatory Planting

- 5.29 Additional tree and shrub planting could be incorporated into the landscape proposals to compensate for any removal to facilitate the works. Planting should include a high proportion of native species and be of local provenance where possible. These should be carefully selected to ensure they contain species suitable for the area. Some species of known wildlife value are listed in Appendix E.
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## 6. Conclusions

- 6.1 The site survey revealed the following habitats: hardstanding, continuous scrub/ ruderal vegetation, brambles/ruderal vegetation and Individual trees. The River Brent borders the site to the west.
  - 6.2 The site is not subject to any statutory or non-statutory designations. The closest statutory site is Brent Reservoir SSSI located approximately 1.5 km to the west at its closest point and the survey area does not support any features that contribute to the designation of this site.
    - No further surveys are recommended.
  - 6.3 In addition, a precautionary approach to vegetation clearance in respect to badgers breeding birds and reptiles is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species group.
  - 6.4 It has been recommended that the site is enhanced by introducing some compensatory planting and installing bat and bird boxes.
  - 6.5 Tree of heaven and buddleia were identified during the survey. These species are found on the London Invasive Species Initiative and appropriate removal will be required.
  - 6.6 Although no potential roosting features were identified on site, consideration must be taken with regards to lighting, due to the proximity to the River Brent at the rear of the site.
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## Glossary of Terms

<b>BAP</b>	Biodiversity Action Plan
<b>BRC</b>	Biological Records Centre
<b>CIEEM</b>	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
<b>Habitats Directive</b>	Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora
<b>LNR</b>	Local Nature Reserve
<b>LWS</b>	Local Wildlife Site
<b>MAGIC</b>	Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside
<b>NNR</b>	National Nature Reserve
<b>Nomenclature</b>	The system of devising of names for plants
<b>NPPF</b>	National Planning Policy Framework
<b>PEA</b>	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal- formerly referred to as a Phase 1 Habitat Survey
<b>SAC</b>	Special Area of Conservation
<b>SNCI</b>	Site of Nature Conservation Interest
<b>SPA</b>	Special Protection Area
<b>SSSI</b>	Site of Special Scientific Interest

## Figures and Appendices

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Appendix A - Habitat Map



Legend	
	<b>Site Boundary</b>
	<b>Continuous Scrub/Ruderal Vegetation</b> Areas
	<b>Hardstanding</b> Areas
	<b>Brambles/Ruderal Vegetation</b> Areas
	<b>Tree (Approximate Location)</b> Points
	<b>Target Note</b> Points

Figure 1: Brentmead Place Habitat Survey Map

Drawn by: EB  
 On the: 05/08/2020  
 Not to Scale  
 Ref: 10005



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## Appendix B – Target Notes and Photographs

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## Target Notes and Photographs

Photo No.	Feature (Target Note No.)	Photograph of Feature
1	TN1. Bramble scrub with buddleia dispersed throughout.	 <p>14/07/2020 11:03</p>
2	TN2. Tree of heaven is found along the site perimeter.	 <p>14/07/2020 10:37</p>

**3** TN3. A young sycamore is found on the northern site boundary.



**4** TN4. The River Brent is off site running along the western boundary of the property.



## Appendix C – Legislation

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## Legislation

This section contains information pertaining to the legislation and planning policy applicable in Britain. This information is not applicable to Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. Information contained in the following appendix is provided for guidance only.

### Species

The objective of the EC Habitats Directive 5 is to conserve plants and animals which are considered to be rare across Europe. The Directive is transposed into UK law by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (formerly The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) and The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) implements the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and also implements the obligations set out for species protection from the Council Directive 2009/147/EC (formerly 79/409/EEC) on the Conservation of Wild Birds (EC Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

Various amendments have been made since the Wildlife & Countryside Act came into force in 1981. Further details pertaining to alterations of the Act can be found on the following website: [www.opsi.gov.uk](http://www.opsi.gov.uk). Key amendments have been made through the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000) and Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

There are a number of other legislative Acts affording protection to species and habitats. These include:

- Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000;
- Deer Act 1991;
- Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006;
- Protection of Badgers Act 1992; and
- Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996.

### Badgers

Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act (1992), which consolidated and added to the previous Badger Acts of 1973 and 1991. Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- cruelly ill-treat a badger, including use of tongs and digging;
- intentionally or recklessly cause a dog to enter a badger sett;
- intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a badger sett<sup>6</sup> or any part thereof;

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<sup>5</sup> Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora.

<sup>6</sup> A badger sett is defined in the legislation as "*any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger*". This includes seasonally used setts. Natural England (2009) have issued guidance on what is likely to constitute current use of a badger sett: [www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WMLG17\\_tcm6-11815.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WMLG17_tcm6-11815.pdf)

- intentionally or recklessly disturb<sup>7</sup> a badger when it is occupying a badger sett;
- possess or control a dead badger or any part of a badger;
- sell or offers for sale, possesses or has under his control, a live badger; and
- wilfully kill, injure, take, or attempt to kill, injure or take a badger.

A Development Licence will be required from Natural England for any development works affecting an active badger sett, or to disturb badgers while individuals are occupying the sett. Depending on the nature of the works and the specifics of the sett, badgers could be disturbed by work near the sett even if there is no direct interference or damage to the sett itself. Natural England has issued guidelines on what constitutes a licensable activity. There is no provision in law for the capture of badgers for development purposes and therefore it is not possible to obtain a licence to translocate badgers from one area to another.

### **Bats**

Bats are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This act protects individuals from:

- intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level);
- intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
- selling, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

In addition, all species of bat are fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) through their inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

- deliberate killing, injuring or capturing of Schedule 2 species (all bats);
- deliberate disturbance of bat species as to impair their ability:
  1. (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
  2. (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
- deliberate disturbance of bat species as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part thereof.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect a bat roost or for operations likely to result in a level of disturbance which might impair their ability to undertake activities listed above. A licence is required to allow derogation from the relevant legislation but also to enable appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place and monitored.

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<sup>7</sup> For guidance on what constitutes disturbance and other licensing queries, see Natural England (2007) Badgers & Development: A Guide to Best Practice and Licensing. [www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/badgers-dev-guidance\\_tcm6-4057.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/badgers-dev-guidance_tcm6-4057.pdf), Natural England (2009) Interpretation of 'Disturbance' in relation to badgers occupying a sett [www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WMLG16\\_tcm6-11814.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WMLG16_tcm6-11814.pdf), Scottish Natural Heritage (2002) Badgers & Development. [www.snh.org.uk/publications/online/wildlife/badgersanddevelopment/default.asp](http://www.snh.org.uk/publications/online/wildlife/badgersanddevelopment/default.asp) and Countryside Council for Wales (undated) Badgers: A Guide for Developers. [www.ccw.gov.uk](http://www.ccw.gov.uk).

**Breeding Birds**

Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species that is resident in or is a visitor to the European Territory of any member state in a wild state. Game birds, however, are not included in this definition (except for limited parts of the Act). They are covered by the Games Acts, which fully protect them during the closed season.

Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), all birds, their nests and eggs are protected under Sections 1-8 of the Act and it is an offence, with certain exceptions, to:

- intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) kill, injure or take any wild bird;
- intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) take, damage or destroy (or, in Scotland, otherwise interfere with) the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird;
- have in one's possession or control any wild bird, dead or alive, or any part of a wild bird, which has been taken in contravention of the Act;
- have in one's possession or control any egg or part of an egg which has been taken in contravention of the Act;
- use traps or similar items to kill, injure or take wild birds;
- have in one's possession or control any bird (dead or alive) unless registered, and in most cases ringed, in accordance with the Secretary of State's regulations; and
- in Scotland only, intentionally or recklessly obstruct or prevent any wild bird from using its nest.

Certain rare species receive additional special protection under Schedule 1 of the Act and Annex 1 of the European Community Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009/147/EC). This affords them protection against:

- intentional or reckless disturbance while it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young;
- intentional or reckless disturbance of dependent young of such a bird;
- in Scotland only, intentional or reckless disturbance whilst lekking; and
- in Scotland only, intentional or reckless harassment.

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) has a list of birds that are Species of Conservation Concern. These birds are not legally protected but where they are found on site they should be given planning consideration. The criteria for birds listed as amber (medium conservation concern) include:

- historical population decline during 1800-1995, but recovering: population has more than doubled over last 25 years;
  - moderate (25-49%) decline in UK breeding population over last 25 years;
  - moderate (25-49%) contraction of UK breeding range over last 25 years;
  - moderate (25-49%) decline in UK non-breeding population over last 25 years;
  - species with unfavourable conservation status in Europe (Species of conservation Concern);
  - five year mean of breeding pairs in the UK;
  - ≥50% of UK breeding population in 10 or fewer sites;
  - ≥50% of UK non-breeding population in 10 or fewer sites;
  - ≥20% of European breeding population in UK; and
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- ≥20% of NW European (wildfowl), East Atlantic Flyway (waders) or European (others) non breeding populations in UK.

### **Hazel Dormice**

The hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) is fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 through its inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

- deliberate killing, injuring or capturing;
- deliberate disturbance as to impair its ability:
  3. (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
  4. (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
- deliberate disturbance as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part of this species.

The hazel dormouse is also currently protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through its inclusion on Schedule 5. Under this Act, this species is additionally protected from:

- intentional or reckless disturbance;
- intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
- selling, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect dormouse breeding or resting places (N.B. this is usually taken to mean dormouse 'habitat') or for operations likely to result in a level of disturbance which might impair their ability to undertake those activities mentioned above. The licence will allow derogation from the relevant legislation but will also to enable appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place and monitored.

### **Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)**

The following species receive full protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) through their inclusion on Schedule 2.

- sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*);
- smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*);
- natterjack toad (*Epidalea calamita*);
- great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*); and
- pool frog (*Pelophylax lessonae*).

Under this legislation, Regulation 41 prohibits:

- deliberate killing, injuring or capturing of species listed on Schedule 2;
  - deliberate disturbance of any Schedule 2 species as to impair their ability:
    5. (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
    6. (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
-

- deliberate disturbance of any Schedule 2 species as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- deliberate taking or destroying of the eggs of a Schedule 2 species;
- damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part of a species.

With the exception of the pool frog, these species are also currently listed on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this Act, they are additionally protected from:

- intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level);
- intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
- selling, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

Other native species of herpetofauna are protected solely under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). These species include:

- adder (*Vipera berus*);
- grass snake (*Natrix natrix*);
- common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*); and
- slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*).

Under this legislation, for these species it is prohibited under Section 9(1) & (5) to:

- intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) kill or injure these species; or
- sell, offer or expose for sale, possess or transport for purpose of sale these species, or any part thereof.

The following species are listed in respect to Section 9(5) of Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which only affords them protection against sale, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transport for the purpose of sale:

- common frog (*Rana temporaria*);
- common toad (*Bufo bufo*);
- smooth newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*); and
- palmate newt (*L. helveticus*).

### **Water Voles**

The water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) (=terrestris) is fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or take (capture) this species;
- intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection;
- intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles while they are occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection; and
- sell, offer or expose for sale, or have in his possession or transport for the purpose of sale, any live or dead water vole or part of this species.

Where development works are liable to affect habitats known to support water voles, Natural England must be consulted. All alternative design options must have been explored and communicated to

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Natural England in order to demonstrate that works have tried to avoid contravening the legislation e.g. the use of alternative sites, appropriate timing of works to avoid times of the year in which water voles are most vulnerable etc. Conservation licences for the capture and translocation of water voles may be issued by Natural England for the purpose of development activities if it can be shown that the activity has been properly planned and executed and thereby contributes to the conservation of the population.

### **Otters**

Otters (*Lutra lutra*) are fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 through their inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

- deliberate killing, injuring or capturing of otters;
- deliberate disturbance as to impair their ability:
  7. (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
  8. (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
- deliberate disturbance as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part of this species.

Otters also receive protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through their inclusion on Schedule 5. Under this Act, they are additionally protected from:

- intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level);
- intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
- selling, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect breeding or resting places or for activities likely to result in a level of disturbance which might impair their ability to undertake those activities mentioned above. The licence is to allow derogation from the relevant legislation but also to enable appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place and monitored.

### **Wild Mammals**

All wild mammals are protected against intentional acts of cruelty under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- mutilate, kick, beat, nail or otherwise impale, stab, burn, stone, crush, drown, drag or asphyxiate any wild mammal with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering.

To avoid possible contravention of this legislation, due care and attention should be taken when carrying out works that have the potential to impact any wild mammal as described above.

### **Plants**

Wild plants are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which makes it an offence for an 'unauthorised' person to intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) uproot wild plants. An authorised person can be the owner of the land on which the action is taken, or anybody authorised by them.

Some rare plant species also receive full protection under Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This prohibits:

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- intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) picking, uprooting or destruction of any wild Schedule 8 species (or seed or spore attached to any such wild plant in Scotland only); and
- selling, offering or exposing for sale, or possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale, any wild live or dead Schedule 8 plant species or parts.

In addition to the legislation outlined above, several plant species are fully protected under Schedule 5 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Regulation 45 makes it an offence to:

- deliberately pick, collect or destroy a wild Schedule 5 species; and
- be in possession of, or control, transport, sell or exchange any wild live or dead Schedule 5 species or anything derived from it.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect species of plant listed under The Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2017.

### **Invasive Plant Species**

Certain plants are listed on Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in respect to Section 14(2). Species include:

- Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*);
- giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*);
- Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*);
- certain species of rhododendron (*Rhododendron* sp.); and
- certain species of cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster* sp.).

Species listed are non-natives whose establishment or spread in the wild may be detrimental to native wildlife. Inclusion on Part II of Schedule 9 therefore makes it an offence to:

- plant or otherwise cause these species to grow in the wild.

This legislation makes it is an offence to cause species listed to grow in the wild. Therefore, if they are present on site and development activities have the potential to cause the further spread of these species to new areas, it will be necessary to ensure appropriate measures are in place to prevent this.

### Habitats

#### **International Statutory Designations**

- Special Protection Areas (SPAs): Terrestrial SPA's are afforded protection by The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c. Regulations 1994 (as amended) an offshore SPA's are afforded protection under The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007 (as amended). SPAs are designated under the EC Birds Directive (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds). SPAs are areas recognised as important habitat for rare and migratory birds within the European Union (rare birds as listed on Annex I of the Directive).
  - Special Areas of Conservation (SACs): These areas are designated under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora), designated for the habitats and (non-bird) species listed on Annexes I and II to the Directive under the same regulations as detailed for SPA's.
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- Ramsar sites: These areas are wetlands designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (1971). Wetlands can include areas of marsh, fen, water or peatland and may be natural or artificial, permanent or temporary. Ramsar sites are underpinned through prior notification as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and as such receive statutory protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) with further protection provided by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000.

### **National Statutory Designations**

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs): These sites are designated by the countryside agencies (for example Natural England) under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Prior to 1981 these were designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Improved mechanisms for the protection of SSSIs have also been introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (in England and Wales).
- National Nature Reserves: These sites are also designated by the countryside agencies under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

### **Local Statutory Designations**

- 1949 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs): These sites are designated by local authorities under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. These are sites recognised for their wildlife or geological interest at a local level and are managed for nature conservation.

### **Non-Statutory Designations**

- Local Wildlife Sites: Areas of local conservation interest may be designated by local authorities. The terminology for these sites varies depending on the county. They can be called Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI's), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), County Wildlife Sites (CWS), Listed Wildlife Sites (LWS), Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS), Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs). The designation criteria may vary between counties. Local Wildlife Sites are of material consideration when planning applications are being determined.
  - The Hedgerow Regulations 1997: These have been compiled to protect 'important' countryside hedgerows from damage or removal. A hedgerow is considered important if (a) has existed for 30 years or more; and (b) satisfies at least one of the criteria listed in Part II of Schedule 1 of the Regulations. Under the Regulations, it is against the law to remove or destroy certain hedgerows without permission from the local planning authority. Hedgerows covered by these regulations include those on or adjacent to common land, SSSIs (including all terrestrial SACs, NNRs and SPAs), LNRs, land used for agriculture or forestry and land used for the keeping or breeding of horses, ponies or donkeys.
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**National Planning Policy**

- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2019) replaces the former NPPF 2018 and 2012, and the former PPS9 document and emphasises the need for sustainable development. The Framework specifies the need to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity. Identify and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors; and stepping that connect them. Plus partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation. The Framework aims to promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species. In determining a planning application, planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by ensuring that: designated sites are protected from adverse harm; appropriate mitigation or compensation measures are in place where significant harm cannot be avoided; opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments are encouraged; and planning permission is refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats including aged or veteran trees and also ancient woodland.

**Local Planning Policy****Barnet Local Plan (Core strategy adopted 2012)**

9. *We will aim to create successful communities in Barnet by:*
  10. *• seeking to ensure a mix of housing products in the affordable and market sectors to provide choice for all households and enable Barnet residents to progress on a housing journey that can meet the aspirations of home ownership.*
  11. *• seeking to ensure that all new homes are built to Lifetime Homes Standards and that through extending the inclusive design principles embedded in Lifetime Homes we can create Lifetime Neighbourhoods that are welcoming, accessible, and inviting for everyone, regardless of age, or health, or disability.*
  12. *• seeking a range of dwelling sizes and types of housing including family and lifetime homes that meets our identified housing priorities and does not undermine suburban character or local distinctiveness. Policy CS5 on Protecting and enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality places sets out how we will secure high quality design.*
  13. *• seeking a variety of housing related support options that maximise the independence of vulnerable residents including young people, people with disabilities, older people, homeless people and other vulnerable adults.*
  14. *• delivering a minimum affordable housing target of 5,500 new affordable homes by 2025/26 and seeking a boroughwide target of 40% affordable homes on sites capable of accommodating ten or more dwellings.*
  15. *• seeking an appropriate mix of affordable housing of 60% social rented and 40% intermediate for Barnet that will support our objectives of widening home ownership and providing family homes.*
  16. *• on sites which are suitable for the provision of an element of affordable housing, we may exceptionally accept the provision of off-site housing, or a commuted payment instead of such provision.*
  - 17.
  - 18.
  19. *Policy CS7: Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces*
-

- 20.
  21. *In order to maximise the benefits that open spaces can deliver and create a greener Barnet we will work with our partners to improve Barnet's Green Infrastructure. We will create a greener Barnet by: protecting open spaces, including Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land; enhancing open spaces, ensuring positive management of Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land to provide improvements in overall quality and accessibility; ensuring that the character of green spaces of historic significance is protected; meeting increased demand for access to open space and opportunities for physical activity, by tackling deficiencies and under provision through:*
  22. *• securing additional on-site open space or other open space improvements in the identified growth areas including 8 ha of new provision at Brent Cross – Cricklewood, 5.5 ha of new provision at Mill Hill East and 5 ha at Colindale*
  23. *• improving access to open spaces particularly in North and East Finchley and other areas of public open space deficiency identified by Map 10. We will seek to improve provision in these areas of deficiency with the objective of increasing the area of the borough that has access to district and local parks in accordance with the London Plan criteria.*
  24. *• securing improvements to open spaces including provision for children's play, sports facilities and better access arrangements, where opportunities arise, from all developments that create an additional demand for open space. Standards for new provision are set out in DM15 – Green Belt and Open Spaces.*
  25. *• maintaining and improving the greening of the environment through the protection of incidental greenspace, trees, hedgerows and watercourses enabling green corridors to link Barnet's rural, urban fringe and urban green spaces.*
  26. *• protecting existing Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and working with our partners including the London Wildlife Trust to improve protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Barnet.*
  27. *• ensuring that development protects existing site ecology and makes the fullest contributions to enhancing biodiversity, both through on-site measures and by contribution to local biodiversity improvements; and*
  28. *• enhancing local food production through the protection of allotments and support for community food growing including the Mayor's Capital Growth Initiative. In supporting new Green Infrastructure, we will:*
  29. *• set out an approach to improving the network of green spaces within the Green Infrastructure SPD*
  30. *• as part of the All London Green Grid work with neighbouring authorities to establish Area Frameworks as the basis for identification, creation and management of new green spaces as part of:*
  31. *• Lea Valley and Finchley Ridge Green Grid Area • Brent Valley and Barnet Plateau Green Grid Area*
  32. *• reflect the policies and objectives in the Watling Chase Forest Plan when assessing development proposals in the area covered by the Community Forest.*
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Appendix D – Plant Species List

## Plant Species List

Scientific nomenclature follows Stace (2010) for vascular plant species and British Bryological Society (BBS) Special Volume No. 5 *English Names for British Bryophytes* for bryophyte species. Vascular plant common names follow the Botanical Society of the British Isles 2003 list, published on its web site, [www.bsbi.org.uk](http://www.bsbi.org.uk). The plant species list was generated as part of a Phase 1 Habitat survey and does not constitute a full botanical survey.

### Abundance was estimated using the DAFOR scale as follows:

D = dominant, A = abundant, F = frequent, O = occasional, R = rare, L = locally

Key to qualifiers: G=garden origin, P=planted, Y = young, S=seedling or sucker, T=tree, H=hedge, W=water, ? = identification uncertain.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Abundance	Qualifier
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	L	yt
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	A	t
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Buddleia	F	
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous sedge	O	
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Common catsear	L	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	D	

## Appendix E – Suggested Compensatory Planting

## Suggested Compensatory Planting

This section provides a list of plants which are of proven value to wildlife. The list is not exhaustive and merely provides a guide for suggested planting for wildlife value. Planting should be tailored on a site by site basis. The list includes some native and ornamental species however the emphasis should always be on the use of predominantly native species.

N = Native, NN = Non-native.

This list includes species that may be harmful if handled or ingested. Schedule 9 (Part 2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) includes a list of invasive plants, including aquatic species, that should always be avoided in planting schemes.

### Large Shrubs

Hedge veronica/Hebe (*Veronica* spp.) NN

Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) N

Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) N

Rose: dog rose (*Rosa canina*), field rose (*R. arvensis*), burnet rose (*R. pimpinellifolia*) N

California lilac (*Ceanothus* spp.), (*C. arborea*) NN

Wild privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) N

Common holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) N

Barberry (*Berberis* spp.) (*B. darwinii*), (*B. thunbergii*), (*B. x stenophylla*) NN

Daisy Bush (*Olearia* spp.), (*O. x hastii*), (*O. macrodonta*) and (*O. traversii*) NN

Firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea*) NN

Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) N (*C. maxima*) NN

Viburnum (*Viburnum* spp.), wayfaring tree (*V. lantana*) N, guelder rose (*V. opulus*) N, laurustinus (*V. tinus*) E Note: *V. lantana* can become invasive in more open habitats.

Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) N

Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) N

Escallonia (*Escallonia macrantha*) NN

Hardy fuchsia (*Fuchsia magellanica*) NN

Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) N

Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) N

Tutsan (*Hypericum androsaemum*) N

Yew (*Taxus baccata*) N

### Trees

Cherry (*Prunus* spp.), wild cherry (*P. avium*), bird cherry (*P. padus*), domestic plum (*P. domestica*) N or cherry plum (*P. cerasifera*) NN

Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) N

Apple (*Malus* spp.), edible apple (*M. domestica*), crab apple (*M. sylvestris*) N

Pear (*Pyrus* spp.), edible pear (*P. communis*) NN

Reference: 5575

Small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*) N

Silver birch (*Betula pendula*) N

Yew (*Taxus baccata*) N

Black poplar (*Populus nigra*) N

Foxglove tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*) NN

Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) N

### **Climbers**

Jasmine (*Jasminum* spp.), summer jasmine (*J. officinale*), winter jasmine (*J. nodiflorum*) NN

Ivy (*Hedera helix*) N

Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea anomala* ssp. *petiolaris*) NN

Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* spp.) (*L. periclymenum*) N

Clematis (*Clematis* spp.) NN

Hop (*Humulus lupulus*) N

Firethorn (*Pyracantha atalantoides*) NN

### **Bulbs**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) N

Squill species (*Scilla* spp.) N/NN

Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*) N

Winter aconite (*Eranthis hyemalis*) E

Crocus species (*Crocus* spp.) NN

Wild Daffodil (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*) N

Onion species (*Allium* spp.) N/NN. N.B. *Allium triquetrum* (three cornered leek) and *Allium paradoxum* (few-flowered leek) are Schedule 9 invasive plant species.

Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) N

Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*) N

## Appendix F – Bird and Bat Box Designs

## Appendix F - Bird Box Designs

Example	Type	Dimension D x W x H (cm)	Target Species	Location
	<b>Schwegler Nest Box 1B</b>  Hole-fronted 26mm entrance hole	16 x 16 x 23	Multi-purpose, including: blue-, marsh-, coal and crested tit and possibly wren. All other species are prevented from using the nest box due to the smaller entrance hole.	Suitable walls or semi-mature/mature trees and shrubs; attached to a tree trunk or hung from branches. Ideal points include discrete areas away from predators, such as against walls, plant and metal supports.
	<b>Schwegler Bird House</b>  32mm entrance hole	15 x 21 x 33	Multi-purpose, including: great-, blue-, marsh- and coal tit, redstart, nuthatch, pied flycatcher and sparrows.	Fixed to a semi-mature/mature tree trunk, wall or fence using the hanging bracket on the back. Between 1.5 m and 3 m high, and should be sited higher if your area has a particularly high cat population.
	<b>Schwegler Sparrow Terrace 1SP</b>	20 x 43 x 24.5	House sparrow. It may also occasionally attract tits, redstarts and spotted flycatchers.	In an elevated position such as on post/platform within dense shrub/tree planting or on top of lighting columns. Alternatively, they could be attached to the side of a building. The terrace can be fixed on to the surface of a suitable wall or incorporated into the wall. It is suitable for all types of houses in built-up areas, and on industrial and agricultural buildings such as barns, sheds and factories. Due to its weight (15kg), it is not suitable for fences or garden sheds. Ideally place the terrace two metres or more above the ground. Either install on the surface of the wall using the plugs and screws provided, or install directly into the wall. Cleaning is not necessary. The front panel can be removed by turning the screw hook.

## Bat Box Designs

Example	Type	Dimension D x W x H (cm)	Target Species	Location
	<b>2F Schwegler Bat Box (General Purpose) with or without Double Front Panel</b>	16 x 16 x 33	Without panel: Particularly successful with brown long-eared bat. Also used by noctule. With panel: Ideal for crevice-dwelling species: pipistrelles, Myotis species (particularly Daubenton's), Leisler's and serotine.	On trees or buildings and at a height of 3 to 6m. In open sunny positions and in groups of 3 to 5 facing different directions. Please note that once bats have inhabited a roost site they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.
	<b>Chavenage Bat Box</b>	10 x 18 x 38	Small crevice-dwelling bats e.g. pipistrelles.	On trees in gardens or woodland and also on house walls. 2.5 - 5m high on a building, mature tree or vegetation line (trees/tall hedge) or on a feeding/flight route in partial daytime sun. Please note that once bats have inhabited a roost site they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.