

development spreads and traditional grazing of these areas wanes. If it is not maintained, scrub encroaches and open grassland is reduced. At some of our sites, we have reinstated winter grazing to reduce the dominant grasses and allow flowers to set seed.



Rivers, ponds and wetlands (1) (2) (3) (14) (16) (17)

Watercourses come in all shapes and sizes, providing specific habitats for aquatic life and terrestrial fauna too. Chalk spring-fed streams are particularly valued as the clean water and moderate nutrient levels are ideal for a wealth of plants and invertebrates. Sutton is lucky to have one of the best chalk streams in the London area - the River Wandle. Chalk stream specialities you may see here include stream water-crowfoot and starwort. Like hedgerows and ditches, rivers are key wildlife corridors, linking patches of habitat and allowing wildlife to disperse and maintain healthy populations.

Elsewhere, standing water habitats can provide important over-wintering areas for birds, such as common snipe. Wetland vegetation is often comprised of reedbeds-a declining habitat in Britain and scarce in all but a

All these aquatic habitats provide vital foraging grounds for bats and birds as they support the first life stages of many insects.

In the London Borough of Sutton, a total of 46 sites are designated Conservation (SINCs). Of these, 11 are Local Nature Reserves (LNRs). Many are the result of redevelopment of land, including hospitals and research facilities, whilst others include golf courses, more formal parks

Sutton contains an impressive array of wildlife - over 1500 species! Nationally declining or rare species, such as the small blue butterfly, nvertebrates such as stag beetle and birds including skylark, all make their homes in Sutton. The more familiar blackbird, robin and fox, are

autton's natural character is influenced by its geology. In the southern north-east is dominated by gravels and in the north-west, London Clay. Each creates different soil conditions which support specific flora and

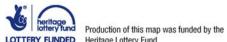
Many of Sutton's wildlife sites have dedicated Friends Groups who help look after them. Could you help take care of your local site?

urban development and reduced demand for wood products, only 12% remains. Areas classed as ancient woodland (under continuous tree cover since at least 1600AD) are rarer still and are highly prized for their unique plantlife. There are remnants of ancient woodland in Sutton, indicated by the

Healthy woodland should contain several layers which provide niche habitats for a range of birds, mammals and insects. Good management will maintain these layers and may involve thinning to reduce competition, or coppicing

Scrub is often found at the edge of woodland or grassland, where a transition between the two is occurring. It is a habitat in its own right, offering shelter and food to birds and small mammals and protecting seedlings from trampling or browsing. Common scrub species you may encounter are









2. Sutton Explorer Map

REV DESCRIPTION SCALE @ A1 19/03/24 SA DA24014 - Langley Court 1:1 Skyline Construction Group PLANNING Sutton Explorer Map DA24014. 303. ARCHITECTURE