

# Landscape and Ecological Management Plan

Aylesbury
(Former Range Rover
Dealership),
Buckingham Way,
Aylesbury, HP19 9QH
Ref: P.1647.22

March 2024 (See revision dates below)

Rev	Date	Details
А	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Updates following revised landscape plan

#### **Ascerta**

#### P.1647.22

#### **Landscape and Ecological Management Plan**

of

Aylesbury (Former Range Rover Dealership), Buckingham Way, Aylesbury, HP19 9QH

for

#### **Lidl Great Britain Ltd**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Field Work	Lizzie Atkinson MSc (Hons) CIEEM and Liz Kenyon BSc (Hons)
Document Author	Lizzie Atkinson
Technical Review	Liz Kenyon
Q+A Review	Ciaran Power – Operations Manager

#### Contents

1.0	Introduction	4
1	1.1 Aims and Objectives	
	Site safeguarding	
	Ecological background	
2.0	Aims and objectives of management	7
-	2.1 Ecological trends and constraints that might influence management	7
	2.2 Appropriate biodiversity enhancement features model specifications and location	
	minimum of 2 bird boxes and 2 bat boxes)	
3.0	Appropriate Management Options for Achieving Aims and Objectives	9
0.0		
	General measures	. 9
4.0	Details of Removing Invasive Species	9
<b>5</b> 0	Description and Evaluation of Features to be Managed	10
5.0	Description and Evaluation of Features to be Managed	10
6.0	Prescription of Management Actions and On-going Monitoring and Remedial Measures	12
	Proposed Tree Planting	
	Proposed Grassland	
	Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow	
	Proposed Native Scrub	
	Proposed Planting (Ornamental Shrubs)	
	Prepared Work Schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward	
		0.4
ove	er a thirty-year period)	21
ļ	Annual Maintenance Schedule	21
	Details of the body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan	
	Mechanisms of adaptive management to account for necessary changes in work schedul	
	o achieve the required targets	
	Expected unit progress shown at years 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30 for each habitat	30
	Reporting on year 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30, with biodiversity reconciliation calculations at	
E	each stage	31
9.0	References	32
<u>Ap</u>	<u>pendices</u>	
	pendix 1: Drawing 10946-FPCR-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0001, Detailed Landscape Proposals, Rev	,
<i>P0</i>		
Ap	pendix 2: Drawing P.1647.22.E07 Ascerta Bat and Bird Box Plan	

#### 1.0 Introduction

This Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEcMP) Management and Maintenance Plan (HMMP) has been commissioned by Lidl Great Britain Ltd to form part of the planning submission for the construction of a retail food store, with associate delivery provision and car parking. The LEcMP has been produced to discharge the following condition:

No development shall take place (including demolition, ground works, vegetation clearance) unless and until a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEcMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority to secure on site biodiversity net gains and biodiversity enhancement features. The content of the LEcMP shall include the following.

- a) Description and evaluation of features to be managed.
- b) Ecological trends and constraints on site that might influence management.
- c) Aims and objectives of management which will (without limitation) include the provision of biodiversity net gain within the Site as shown within the Biodiversity Gain Plan Biodiversity impact plan (Ascerta, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023)
- d) Appropriate biodiversity enhancement features model specifications and location (minimum of 2 bird boxes and 2 bat boxes)
- e) Details of removing invasive species
- f) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.
- g) Prescriptions for management actions.
- h) Preparation of a work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a thirty-year period).
- i) Details of the body or organization responsible for implementation of the plan.
- j) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.

The LEcMP shall also include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which the long-term implementation of the plan will be secured by the developer with the management body(ies) responsible for its delivery. The plan shall be for no less than 30 years. The plan shall also set out (where the results from monitoring show that conservation aims and objectives of the LEcMP are not being met) how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved scheme.

Thereafter the development shall be carried out and retained in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure appropriate protection and enhancement of biodiversity, to make appropriate provision for natural habitat within the approved development and to provide a reliable process for implementation and aftercare and to accord with Policy NE1 of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended and the NPPF.

#### 1.1 Aims and Objectives

This LEcMP provides an overview of how habitats will be created and managed following the completion of the Proposed Development, to include the provision of biodiversity net gain within the site (Ascerta report P.1647.22E Ascerta Biodiversity Impact Assessment). It also sets out monitoring proposals for habitats and certain species present on site, method statement for invasive species removals as well as inclusion of biodiversity enhancement features within the site.

It should be noted that the landscape architect/contractor will also advise on specific management of the landscaped areas, whilst adhering to the ecological management activities contained herein.

It may be appropriate for this document to be updated following the completion of detailed landscape design, however the overall extents and types of created habitats, and their constituent ecological value, are unlikely to change.

Proposals for monitoring may also identify issues requiring remedial measures and alterations to the management prescriptions detailed in this document.

#### Site safeguarding

Lidl Great Britain Ltd as the owner and operator of the Proposed Development will be responsible for implementation of this LEcMP. The stated management will be undertaken for 30 years. The implementation of the LEcMP will be secured by way of planning condition and will therefore be binding upon a future operator or occupier of the Proposed Development in the event that Lidl Great Britain Ltd transfers its interest in the Site or ceases to operate the Proposed Development during that 30-year period.

They will also undertake safeguarding measures such as reinstatement of habitats or installations such as fire, acute pollution or other major damage, and control and removal of dumped materials.

#### **Ecological background**

A walkover survey of the site was conducted on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 by Ascerta when the habitat types and features of ecological interest were identified and mapped in compliance with the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit (*JNCC*, 2010). The survey methods involve the recording and mapping of all habitat types and ecological features present on site, including the identification of the main species present and examination of the potential for any protected species.

The site lies within Alyesbury, approximately one mile north of the town centre. The site is bound by Buckingham Road (A413) to the west, St Clare's RC Catholic Church to the north, residential dwellings and retail outlets to the south and east. The surrounding land use is predominately residential dwellings with pockets of open space. The River Thame Biological Notification Site (BNS) lies approximately 300m north of the site. The site comprises a former car dealership with associated showroom, offices and workshop buildings that have unoccupied for approximately ten years. Hardstanding dominates the site and has become encroached with tall ruderal and short perennial vegetation. Areas of introduced shrubs lie within the western sector of the site and scattered trees are present throughout (Ascerta report P.1647.22, Ecological Impact Assessment, Aylesbury).

#### 2.0 Aims and objectives of management

which will (without limitation) include the provision of biodiversity net gain within the Site as shown within the Biodiversity Gain Plan Biodiversity impact plan (Ascerta, 23rd August 2023, revised April 2024)

The Proposed Development consists of the construction of a retail food store, with associate delivery provision and car parking. New tree planting and formal landscaping will lie to the north and south of the site access road, with native scrub and hedgerow bordering the site and areas of amenity grassland throughout (Drawing number 10946-FPCR-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0001, Detailed Landscape Proposals, Rev P08 Appendix 1).

The target habitat conditions for the site over the next 30 years is shown in table 1 below;

Table 1: Target Habitat Conditions

Phase 1/ UKHab Habitat	Condition (score)	Treatment	Standard Amount of Time (Years) to Reach Target Condition
Grassland – other neutral grassland	Fairly poor	Creation	3
Urban – introduced shrub	Condition assessment N/A	Creation	1
Grassland – modified grassland	Good	Creation	7
Urban – urban tree	Poor	Partially retain/Creation	30
Urban-Developed land; sealed surface	N/A Other	Creation	N/A
Heathland and Shrub – Mixed scrub	Good	Creation	10
Urban – introduced shrub	Good	Creation	1
Native hedgerow	Moderate	Retain and create new sections	5

#### 2.1 Ecological trends and constraints that might influence management

The condition for the proposed urban trees has been assigned as poor, due to the area restrictions for growth, however they will over sail the proposed habitats beneath them, providing a biodiversity richness and a positive contribution to the local ecology by supporting species, such as vertebrates, invertebrates and birds with seasonal forage along with providing habitats for lichens. The mixed native scrub has also been assigned a good condition as a range of species will be present, the area will be free of invasive species and a good natural range will be created through the ongoing management of the habitats. The proposed wildflower planting has been categorised as modified grassland, that will reach a good condition, this is due to the poor soil conditions, and limited planting space available with the area subject to human disturbance (Ascerta report *P.1647.22E Ascerta Biodiversity Impact Assessment*).

## 2.2 Appropriate biodiversity enhancement features model specifications and location (minimum of 2 bird boxes and 2 bat boxes)

The site will be enhanced for species with the addition of wildlife installations, including bat and bird boxes will be distributed within retained trees to the north of the site (see Drawing P.1647.22.E07 Ascerta Bat and Bird Box Plan, Appendix 2).

## 3.0 Appropriate Management Options for Achieving Aims and Objectives

#### **General measures**

Annual checks should be made of the planted areas to confirm overall condition of the planted habitats. The check should be made between May and August as identification of many plants is easier at this time and should be completed by an individual able to identify plant species. The vegetation planted will be checked against landscape plans and associated species lists to check for any failed planting. Failed planting will be replaced by equivalent species, in consultation with landscape specialists. The annual check should also include an inspection of vegetation coverage and presence of invasive species.

Should species composition become dominated by one or very few species, advice will be sought on an appropriate mix to re-plant or otherwise increase the species diversity.

#### 4.0 Details of Removing Invasive Species

Cotoneaster (TN1, drawing P.1647.22.03, Appendix 2) has been identified within the site. The following removal and management measures for the removal of cotoneaster should be followed:

- All cotoneaster should be isolated prior to site clearance. The plant should be fully excavated, including 500cm of earth surrounding the plant to ensure all roots have been removed. This can be done at any time of year; however, it is recommended that the plant should be removed in spring or early summer (April-July) when the plant is in flower and does not have berries. The earth should be shaken off the roots and the entire plant removed from site by a licenced contractor. If berries are present on the plant, the stems should be covered with a strong paper bag to prevent berries falling to the ground during transfer and the plant should be burned to prevent the seeds sowing and establishing further individuals.
- Once all cotoneaster has been cleared from the site, site clearance can begin, provided other ecological issues have been addressed, including the potential presence of breeding birds should the site be cleared between 1st March and 31st August inclusive.
- Cotoneaster spreads by seeds carried by birds and there may be a seed bank on the site. Should new stands of cotoneaster be noted during works these should be removed following this method statement. Cotoneaster could return to the site at any time if other plants are nearby.

Checks will also be made for colonising flora, particularly non-native invasive species that may become naturally established, such as those listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). If undesirable colonising species are present, they will be managed or removed in accordance with relevant good practise. It should be noted that where species listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act are identified, these species are legally controlled and specialist advice should be sought.

### 5.0 Description and Evaluation of Features to be Managed

Table 2: Preparation schedule for newly created habitats

Habitat type	Objectives	Creation Methods
Other neutral grassland	Primarily for amenity value, management to provide wildlife resources as a secondary benefit.	The ground will be prepared appropriately, with measures taken to reduce soil fertility, such as stripping turf and the top 5 to 10cm of topsoil or deep ploughing the grassland.  A diverse meadow mixture containing native and locally sourced species should be used suited to the soil pH. The optimal time to sow seeds is September/ October, though April/ May are also suitable.
Introduced shrub	Primarily for amenity value, management to provide wildlife resources as a secondary benefit.	Should be planted with non-invasive species of known value to wildlife, such as berry bearing shrubs and species that provide a significant nectar resource.
Native scrub	To provide and established dense scrub area that will provide cover and resources for a range of fauna, notably birds and herptiles.	Planting should proceed in in spring or autumn when there should be good amounts of rainfall but limited risk of frost Utilise a range of native and locally-sourced species To be planted with locally-sourced native species, as well as allowed to naturally colonise To include hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> and common hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> as suitable food plants for the benefit of brown hairstreak butterfly.
Grassland – Modified grassland (Wildflower Meadow seed mix - such as Wildflower Turf - "WFT- Landscape-34")	Primarily for amenity value, management to provide wildlife resources as a secondary benefit.	Will be planted using native grass species of some wildlife value Any wildflowers used should be low-growing species tolerant of regular trampling and mowing.

Habitat type	Objectives	Creation Methods
Urban tree	To create and maintain good structural and species diversity. To promote high invertebrate biomass and diversity.	Trees should be planted in spring or autumn when there should be good amounts of rainfall but limited risk of frost. New trees to be obtained from approved suppliers, to be sturdy and vigorous, free from disease and fully hardened before installation. Measures, such as tree guards, will be required to prevent pest damage. Ensure weeds/competitive grasses are controlled around the base of planted trees. This can be achieved by hand pulling or by the careful and targeted use of glyphosate weed killer. Alternatively, apply a mulch such as wood chip or matts around base of tree. Replace failed planting as required.
Native hedgerows	To create and maintain hedgerows with good structural and species diversity. Management to promote dense and wide hedgerows. To provide less managed habitat around base of hedge as habitat for fauna.	Initial tree care and planting as per above

# 6.0 Prescription of Management Actions and On-going Monitoring and Remedial Measures

Table 3: Existing Trees, Hedgerow and Vegetation - *Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)* 

Existing trees and hedge lines retained	Inspect health and condition of existing trees and hedgerow that are retained on site and specify any applicable management / and any on-going monitoring to ensure trees are safe and to improve / maintain health where necessary.
Replacements	Replace dead or dying trees or gap up gaps in the retained hedgerow with similar species.

Table 4: Existing Trees, Hedgerow and Vegetation - *Establishment Phase (Years* 

#### 3-5)

Existing trees and hedge line retained	Re-inspect as advised in Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2) and specify any applicable management / and any on-going monitoring to ensure trees are safe and to improve / maintain health where necessary. Preliminary recommendations made at the time of the Tree Survey can be found within the Ascerta Report P.1647.22A Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Jan '23.
Replacements	Replace dead or dying trees or gap up gaps in the retained hedgerow with similar species.

#### Table 5: Existing Trees, Hedgerow and Vegetation - Maintenance Phase (Years 6-30)

Existing trees and hedge line retained	Re-inspect as advised in Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2) and specify any applicable management / and any on-going monitoring to ensure trees are safe and to improve / maintain health where necessary. Preliminary recommendations made at the time of the Tree Survey can be found within the Ascerta Report P.1647.22A Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Jan '23.
Replacements	Replace dead or dying trees or gap up gaps in the retained hedgerow with similar species. Until year 7.

#### **Proposed Tree Planting**

#### **Management Objective:**

To ensure new tree planting is managed to provide good health over the long term to retain and enhance its habitat value. To ensure that the health and growth of the trees does not decrease over time due to weed growth around stem, and damage due to vandalism, rubbing of ties, or weather conditions.

Table 6: Proposed Specimen Tree Planting - Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)

Watering	Water regularly to ensure good establishment for first 2 years between April and October, particularly during dry/ hot periods.
Pruning	Undertake formative pruning.
Checking of stakes and ties	Annually check guards, ties, and stakes and adjust / replace if necessary.
Replacing stock	Replace dead / dying stock in winter.
Weed control and topping up mulch	Hand weed around the base of tree three times a year to ensure weed free and top up mulch in year 2.

Table 7: Proposed Specimen Tree Planting- Establishment Phase (Years 3-5)

Pruning	Undertake formative pruning.
Checking of stakes and ties	Annually check guards, stakes and ties and adjust / replace if necessary. Check stakes and guards are in place and replace where necessary. Remove guards, stakes, and ties by year 5.
Replacing stock	Replace dead / dying stock in winter.
Weed control and topping up mulch	Hand weed around the base of tree three times a year to ensure weed free and top up mulch in year 4.

Table 8: Proposed Specimen Tree Planting- Maturing Phase (Years 6-30)

Pruning	Undertake formative pruning.	
Replacing stock	Replace dead / dying stock in winter until year 7.	

#### **Proposed Grassland**

#### **Management Objective:**

To ensure proposed areas of grass are retained in good health over the long term to retain and enhance its habitat value. To ensure that health of grass does not decrease over time through nutrient build up from arising accumulation of weeds, litter, and leaves.

Table 9: Proposed Grassland - Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)

Amenity grass area	Cut grass throughout the growing season to maintain a neat and tidy appearance, the arisings removed. In drought or wet conditions, mowing will be suspended.
	Clippings shall be removed on day of cutting to prevent nutrient build up.
Control Pernicious Weeds	Spot treat or hand weed pernicious weeds twice a year.

Table 10: Proposed Grassland – Establishment Phase (Years 3-5)

Amenity grass area	Cut grass throughout the growing season to maintain a neat and tidy appearance, the arisings removed. In drought or wet conditions, mowing will be suspended.
	Clippings shall be removed on day of cutting to prevent nutrient build up.
Control Pernicious Weeds	Spot treat or hand weed pernicious weeds twice a year.

Table 11: Proposed Grassland – *Maturing Phase (Years 6-30)* 

Amenity grass area	Mow grass area 14 times a year during growing season, to maintain a sward of approximately 40mm.
	Clippings shall be removed on day of cutting to prevent nutrient build up.
Control Pernicious Weeds	Spot treat or hand weed pernicious weeds twice a year.

#### **Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow**

#### **Management Objective:**

To ensure new mixed native hedgerow planting are managed to retain the character and diversity of the perimeter native mixed scrub. To ensure this is managed in a manner that promotes and retains ecological value. Monitor and enhance biodiversity to ensure flora and fauna continue to thrive.

Table 12: Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow - Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)

Prune Native Mixed Hedgerow Planting	Prune in January / February once a year and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance and allow hedgerows to grow to a height of 2.5m.
Weed control around Native Mixed Hedgerow Planting	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Check Shelter Guards	Check shelter guards, ties, and stakes when watering and replace any that are damaged, vandalised, or removed.
Top up mulch	Top up mulch at year 2. Areas to be spread with a medium grade bark mulch to a settled depth of 75mm.

Table 13: Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow – Establishment Phase (Years 3-5)

Prune Native Mixed Hedgerow Planting	Prune in January / February once a year and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance and allow hedgerows to grow to a height of 2.5m.
Weed control around Native Mixed Hedgerow Planting	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Check Shelter Guards	Check shelter guards, ties, and stakes when watering and replace any that are damaged, vandalised, or removed. Remove all shelter guards between years 3 and 5
Top up mulch	Top up mulch at year 4. Areas to be spread with a medium grade bark mulch to a settled depth of 75mm.

Table 14: Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow – *Maturing Phase (Years 6-30)* 

Prune Native Mixed Hedgerow Planting	Prune in January / February once a year and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance and allow hedgerows to grow to a height of 2.5m.
Weed control around Native Mixed Hedgerow Planting	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.

#### **Proposed Native Scrub**

#### **Management Objective:**

To ensure new native scrub is managed to retain the character and diversity of the area. To ensure this is managed in a manner that promotes and retains ecological value. Monitor and enhance biodiversity to ensure flora and fauna continue to thrive.

Table 15: Proposed Native Scrub - Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)

Prune Native Scrub Planting	Plant division, pruning, staking, irrigation, and dead heading will be carried out as necessary to maintain plant vigour and in accordance with good horticultural practice.  No chemical methods will be used to control pests and diseases. Non-chemical methods may be used in extreme circumstances, otherwise serious infestations will be dealt with by removing diseased plants and replanting at an appropriate time.
Weed control around Native Scrub Planting	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch	All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April. All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.
Replacement stock	Any dead, dying or diseased plants to be replaced with native, nectar-rich, drought tolerant species.

Table 16: Proposed Native Scrub – Establishment Phase (Years 3-5)

Prune Native Scrub Planting	Prune back between November and March once a year and carry out new planting if required. The scrub areas should be cut on rotation, with each area cut approximately 3 times over the lifespan of the array. This will create a mosaic within the scrub areas, with some cut and some mature patches which creates valuable habitat for wildlife.
Weed control around formal hedges	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch	All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April. All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.
Replacement stock	Any dead, dying or diseased plants to be replaced with native, nectar-rich, drought tolerant species.

Table 17: Proposed Native Scrub – *Maturing Phase (Years 6-30)* 

Prune Native Scrub Planting	Prune back between November and March once a year and carry out new planting if required. The scrub areas should be cut on rotation, with each area cut approximately 3 times over the lifespan of the array. This will create a mosaic within the scrub areas, with some cut and some mature patches which creates valuable habitat for wildlife.
Weed control around Native Scrub	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch	All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April. All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.

#### **Proposed Planting (Ornamental Shrubs)**

#### **Management Objective:**

To ensure new proposed planting areas are managed to retain the character and diversity of the area. To ensure this is managed in a manner that promotes and retains ecological value. Monitor and enhance biodiversity to ensure flora and fauna continue to thrive.

Table 18: Proposed Ornamental Shrubs - Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)

Planting, Prune Ornamental Shrubs	Plant division, pruning, staking, irrigation, and dead heading will be carried out as necessary to maintain plant vigour and in accordance with good horticultural practice.
	No chemical methods will be used to control pests and diseases. Non-chemical methods may be used in extreme circumstances, otherwise serious infestations will be dealt with by removing diseased plants and replanting at an appropriate time.
Weed control in planting beds	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch in planting beds	All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April.  All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.
Replacement stock	Any dead, dying or diseased plants to be replaced with native, nectar-rich, drought tolerant species.

Table 19: Proposed Ornamental Shrubs – Establishment Phase (Years 3-5)

Prune Ornamental Shrubs	Prune back or shape plants in November and March annually and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance.
Weed control in planting beds	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch in planting beds	All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April.  All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.

Table 20: Proposed Ornamental Shrubs- *Maturing Phase* (Years 6-30)

Prune Ornamental Shrubs	Prune back or shape plants in November and March annually and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance.
Weed control in planting beds	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch in planting beds	All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April.  All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.

#### **Proposed Native Mixed Species Hedge**

#### **Management Objective:**

To ensure new native mixed species hedges are managed to retain the character and diversity of the area. To ensure this is managed in a manner that promotes and retains ecological value. Monitor and enhance biodiversity to ensure flora and fauna continue to thrive.

Table 21: Proposed native mixed species Hedge - Maintenance Phase (Years 1-2)

Prune back native mixed species hedge	Once the plants are close to the planned height of the hedge, tops to be cut back to a few inches below the ultimate level. This is best done around mid-summer. The hedge should then be trimmed regularly to maintain a square "box" profile of approx. 600mm x 600mm between April and September (one cut per month should suffice).
Weed control around formal hedges	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch	Top up mulch at year 2. Areas to be spread with a medium grade bark mulch to a settled depth of 75mm.

Table 22: Proposed native mixed species Hedge – *Establishment Phase* (*Years 3-5*)

Prune back native mixed species hedge	After a few years the clipped surfaces can become crowded, especially on the top of the hedge. This reduces the ventilation around the shoots; thin out some of these growing shoots every few years, by cutting out some of the main stems about 6-12 inches below the clipped surface of the hedge. The remaining branches will spread out to cover any gaps, while allowing more light and air into the hedge. The exact quantity of shoots to remove is found by trial and error.
Weed control around formal hedges	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.
Top up mulch	Top up mulch at year 2. Areas to be spread with a medium grade bark mulch to a settled depth of 75mm.

Table 23: Proposed native mixed species Hedge - Maturing Phase (Years 6-30)

Prune back native mixed species hedge	After a few years the clipped surfaces can become crowded, especially on the top of the hedge. This reduces the ventilation around the shoots; thin out some of these growing shoots every few years, by cutting out some of the main stems about 6-12 inches below the clipped surface of the hedge. The remaining branches will spread out to cover any gaps, while allowing more light and air into the hedge. The exact quantity of shoots to remove is found by trial and error.
Weed control around formal hedges	Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.

# 7.0 Prepared Work Schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a thirty-year period)

#### **Annual Maintenance Schedule**

The annual schedule summarises the maintenance operations required for the first five years and should be reviewed on an annual basis to allow for any changes that may be required as the site develops and matures.

MONTH	J	F	M	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
OPERATION												
Management of Existing Trees,												
Hedgerow and Vegetation												
Inspect for hazards and deteriorations in health and/ or structural integrity of trees									Х			
Pruning trees			orda			_		_		-		- :
Other works	C	durir	ng in	spe	ctior	ı / ic	dent	ifica	tion	of v	vork	
Replace dead or dying trees or gap up gaps with similar species.											Χ	
Management of Proposed Tree Planting												
Watering				Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ		
Pruning	Χ											
Checking of stakes and ties	Χ						Χ					
Replacing stock											Χ	
Weed control					Χ		Χ		Χ			
Top up mulch circle in years 2 and 4						Χ						
Management of Proposed Grassland												
Cut amenity grass area 14 times a year during growing season, to maintain a sward of approximately 40mm.				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		
Spot treat or hand weed pernicious weeds	•				Χ		Χ		Χ	•		
Management of Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow												
Prune in January / February once a year and carry out new planting in November if required. Maintain a neat appearance and allow hedgerows to grow to a height of 2.5m.	X	X									X	
Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.					Χ		Χ		Χ			
Check shelter guards, ties, and stakes for 3 years.	Χ						Χ					
Remove shelter guards, ties, and stakes at years 3-5						Χ						
Top up mulch at years 2 and 4 only						Χ						

Management of Proposed Native Scrub											
Once the proposed native scrub is close to the planned height, it should be pruned between November to March once a year. and carry out new planting if required. The scrub areas should be cut on rotation, with each area cut approximately 3 times. This will create a mosaic within the scrub areas, with some cut and some mature patches which creates valuable habitat for wildlife.	X	X	X		V	***************************************	V			X	X
Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.					Х		Х		Х		
Top up mulch at years 2 and 4 only						Χ					
Management of Proposed Ornamental Shrubs											
Plant division, pruning, staking, irrigation, and dead heading will be carried out as necessary to maintain plant vigour and in accordance with good horticultural practice.				X	X	X	X	X	X		
No chemical methods will be used to control pests and diseases. Non-chemical methods may be used in extreme circumstances, otherwise serious infestations will be dealt with by removing diseased plants and replanting at an appropriate time.											
Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.					Χ		Χ		Χ		

All beds will be mulched annually during the winter with appropriate organic material. Mulch will be applied to a depth of no less than 50mm by 31 March each year. All dead leaves and stems to be left over winter for hibernating bugs and then to be cut back in early April.  All vegetative waste to then be removed for composting.	X	X	Х					
Any dead, dying or diseased plants to be replaced with native, nectar-rich, drought tolerant species.			Χ				Х	

### Long-Term Management Schedule (Years 6-30)

The ongoing management plan is a guideline for the maturing phase of the site. As mentioned earlier this should be reviewed every 5 years as a minimum to take account of site based ecological changes and amendments to legislation.

YEAR																									
OPERATION	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Management of																									
Existing Trees,																									
Hedgerow and																									
Vegetation. Also,																									
Management of																									
Proposed Mixed																									
Native Hedgerow																									
Monitor and		Annı	ually if	:																					
manage existing			opriate		Х					Х					Х					Х					Х
trees		1	· 																						-
Replace dead or																									
dying trees or gap	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х	Х
up gaps with similar species.																									
Prune Native Mixed																									
Hedgerow Planting	x	x	x	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	x	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	x
to a height of 2.5m	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	_ ^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^
Weed control																									
around Native																									
Mixed Hedgerow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
Planting																									

Management of Proposed Tree Planting																									
Undertake formative pruning.	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	X	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	х	X	х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Replace dead / dying stock in winter until year 7.	х	х																							
Management of Proposed Grassland																									
Cut amenity grass area 14 times a year during growing season, to maintain a sward of approximately 40mm.	x	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	х	x	x	х	х
Spot treat or hand weed pernicious weeds	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	х

Proposed Mixed Native Hedgerow																									
Prune in January / February once a year and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance and allow hedgerows to grow to a height of 2.5m.	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	х	x	х
Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.	x	x	x	x	x	x	х	х	Х	x	x	х	х	x	x	Х	x	х	x	x	х	x	х	x	x

Proposed Native Scrub																									
Once the proposed native scrub is close to the planned height, it should be pruned in January / February once a year. and carry out new planting if required. The scrub areas should be cut on rotation, with each area cut approximately 3 times.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	×	×	×	×	×	X	×	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х
Proposed Ornamental Shrubs																									
Prune back or shape plants in November and March annually and carry out new planting if required. Maintain a neat appearance.	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	x	X	x	х	x	x
Weed control by hand to ensure planting area is weed free.	x	x	x	x	х	х	х	х	х	Х	x	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	x	x	x	х	х	x	х

## 8.0 Details of the body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan

The implementation and monitoring of the site will be undertaken by a suitable management company that have been legally contracted by Lidl Great Britain.

## Mechanisms of adaptive management to account for necessary changes in work schedule to achieve the required targets

Following the completion of the Proposed Development, a programme of monitoring will be undertaken. Primarily this will focus on the habitat creation and enhancement that will be undertaken in the first appropriate season following the receipt of planning permission. This will be no later than within 6 months of development commencing. Habitat creation in areas cleared during the construction phase will be completed within 6 months of completion of development activities. Management will continue for 30 years. This management plan will be subject to periodic review to ensure it remains fit for purpose and if any adaptations of mechanisms are noted to be necessary this will be undertaken by the responsible persons detailed above in 7.0.

### Expected unit progress shown at years 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30 for each habitat

Within year 1, the ornamental planting (introduced shrub) that are included within the landscaping areas adjacent to the car parking area, will reach target condition the following year from being created and they will maintain their condition throughout the lifespan of the habitat. The grassland (other neutral grassland), predominately to the north and partially bordering the site has the standard time to reach its target condition in 3 years and the modified grassland areas (Wildflower Meadow seed mix - such as Wildflower Turf - "WFT-Landscape-34") will reach their target condition in 7 years. Scattered urban trees are also proposed throughout the landscaping and these will reach the target condition in a minimum of 30 years. For newly planted hedgerows the native species hedges will reach the target condition in 5 years and the native species scrub 10 years (see Table 1: Target Habitat Conditions).

To ensure the new planting the above conditions the stated years the prescriptions for each habitat type this report P.1649.22 should be adhered to.

The table below shows the standard time to target condition/years.

Table 24 standard time to target condition/years.

Year Habitat	1	2	5	10	20	30
Grassland  - other neutral grassland				Х		
Urban- Introduced shrub	Х					
Grassland  - modified grassland			Х			
Urban – Urban tree						Х
Native hedgerow			X			
Native scrub				Х		

## Reporting on year 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30, with biodiversity reconciliation calculations at each stage

An audit should be carried out on the habitats within the site on years 1,2,5,10,20 and 30 by the persons responsible in section 7.0. This should include and audit of all planted areas in line with Drawing number 10946-FPCR-ZZ-XX-DR-L-0001, Detailed Landscape Proposals, Rev P08 and Ascerta report *P.1647.22 Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEcMP), Aylesbury (Former Range Rover Dealership)* to ensure that the management proposals and objectives have been met for the site. If any planting has failed it must be replaced in line with the recommendations in the LEcMP. Routine monitoring of the plant stock is also recommended during general maintenance works.

#### 9.0 References

Ascerta report P.1647.22E Ascerta Biodiversity Impact Assessment

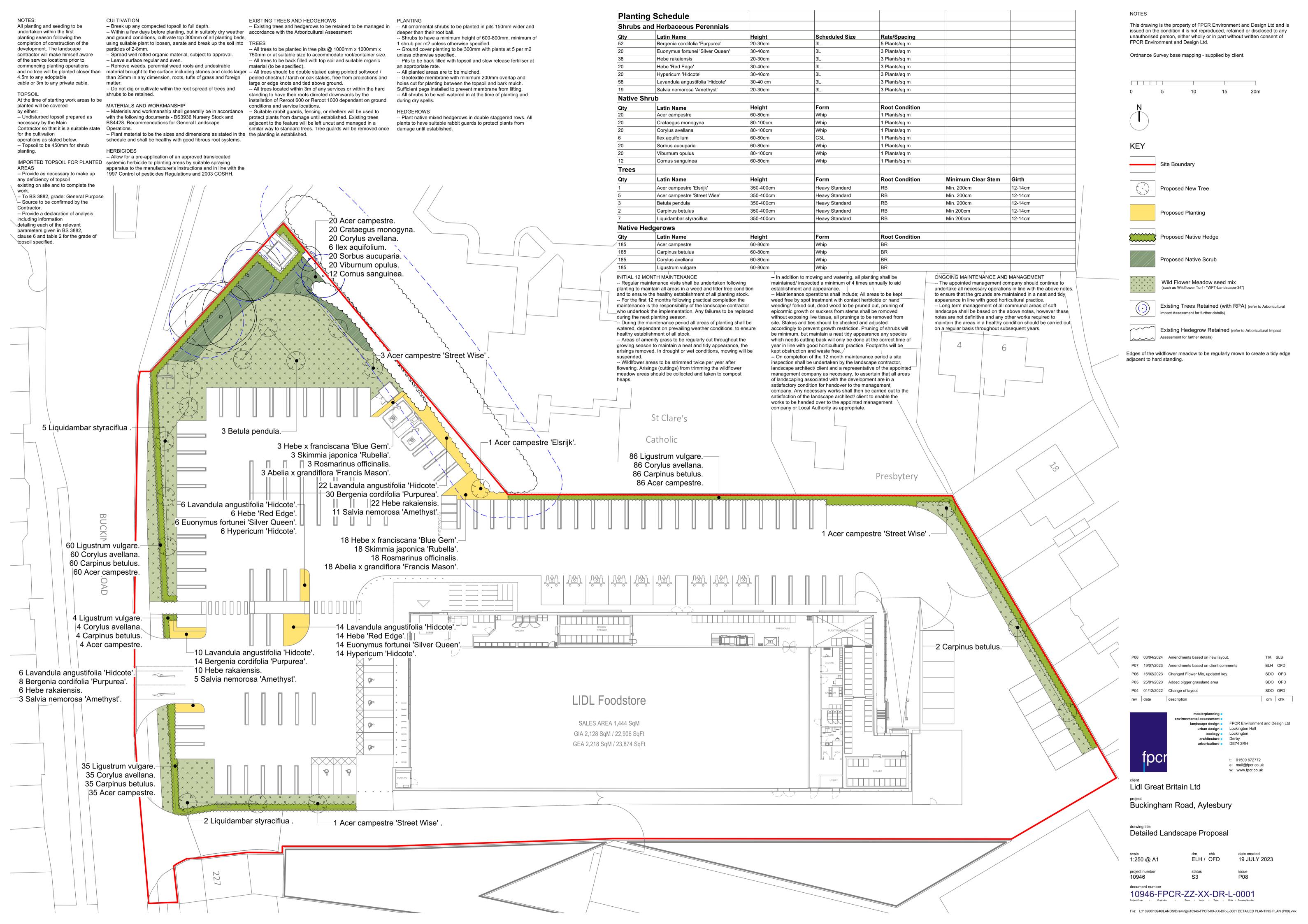
Ascerta report P.1647.22 Ascerta Ecological Impact Assessment

JNCC, (2010). Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit

WSP Bicester Golf Course Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan

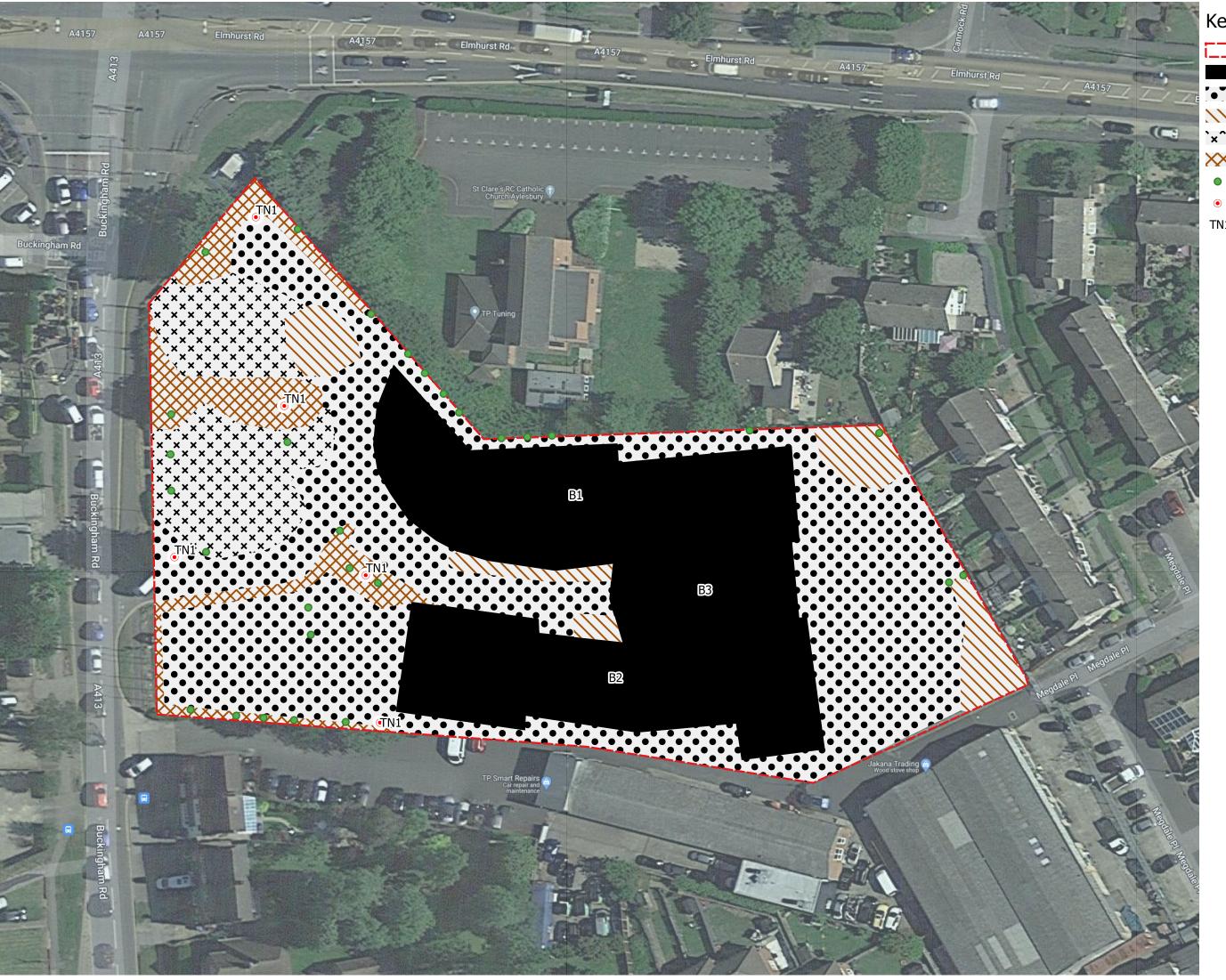


# **Appendix 1**





# Appendix 2



Survey area

J3.6 - Buildings

J4 - Hardstanding

C3.1 - Tall ruderal

`x^: J1.3 - Short perennial

XX J1.4 - Introduced shrub

Scattered trees

Target notes

TN1 - Cotoneaster

DO NOT SCALE.
ALL COORDINATES RELATED TO LOCAL GRID.
LOCATED TO NG BY BEST FIT TO DETAI.
EXTRACTED FROM OS DIGITAL DATA.

© This drawing, including the design and technical information contained on it, is the property of Ascerta. The drawing may only be used for the specific purpos for which it has been intended and may not be reproduced or copied without prior permission.

# **Ascerta**

t: 0845 463 4404 e: Info@landscapetreesecology.com www.landscapetreesecology.com

CLIENT:

Lidl Great Britain Ltd

PROJECT: Aylesbury (Former Range Rover Dealership)

DRAWING TITLE:

Phase One Habitat Survey DRAWING No: P.1647.22.03 SCALE: NTS@A3 DRAWN BY:

DATE: CHK 20/04/2022 LK CHKD BY:

