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EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY

84-86 LEICESTER ROAD
HINKLEY

A Report to Chilli Property Group

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December 2007

EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY

84-86 LEICESTER ROAD
HINKLEY

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01 OF 02

01 CHILLI PROPERTY GROUP
02 MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL

This report was compiled by

John Polley BSc (Hons) & Lizzie Reffin BSc.

The contents of this report are the responsibility of Middlemarch Environmental Ltd.
It should be noted, that whilst every effort is made to meet the client's brief,
no site investigation can ensure complete assessment
or prediction of the natural environment

Contract Number C101580

~~December 2007~~

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Chilli Property Group commissioned Middlemarch Environmental Ltd on the 5th December 2007 to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey at 84-86 Leicester Road, Hinkley in Leicestershire. Details of the proposed works have not been provided.

To fulfil the above brief to assess the existing ecological interest of the site, a desk study and an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey were undertaken.

The Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was performed on the 11th December 2007.

This report details and provides the following information:

- Desk Study
- Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located at 84-86 Leicester Road, Hinkley, Leicestershire. The National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is SP 435 948. The site is comprised of two residential properties with associated gardens situated in a residential area of Hinkley. The survey area consists of buildings, amenity grassland, mixed scattered trees, dense scrub and standing water.

The site is immediately surrounded by residential housing, with agricultural land and Hinkley Golf Club further east.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 DESK STUDY

A desk study was undertaken to determine the nature conservation designations and protected species that have been recorded within 1 km of the center of the site. This involved contacting statutory and non-statutory organisations. Middlemarch Environmental Ltd assimilated and reviewed the desk study data provided by these organisations.

The consultees for the Desk Study were:

- English Nature (Multi Agency Geographic Information *Magic* Web site for statutory conservation sites)
- Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre.

The data collected from these consultees is discussed in Section 3.

2.2 EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY

To fulfill the brief of undertaking an ecological assessment of the site, an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was conducted (JNCC, 1993). This is a standard technique for classifying and mapping British habitats. The aim is to provide a record of habitats that are likely to be ecologically important. During the Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey, the presence, or potential presence, of protected species was also recorded.

3. DESK STUDY RESULTS

From the details provided by the consultees, relevant ecological data have been reviewed and are summarised below. Details are provided in Appendix 2.

3.1 NATURE CONSERVATION SITES

There are no statutory protected sites within 1 km radius of the site.

There are twelve non-statutory sites within a 1.5 km radius of the site. These are summarised in Table 3.1.

Site	Summary of EcoSite	Approximate Proximity to the Site Boundary
Pond	Grade: Parish Level Description No information provided	420 m West
Lake in former quarry	Designation: Parish Level Description No information provided	500 m North
Hedgerow	Grade: Key Parish Level Description No information provided	780 m North
Semi-improved grassland	Grade: Parish Level Description: No information provided	780 m North
Pond	Grade: Parish Level Description No information provided	880 m North
Pond	Grade: Parish Level Description No information provided	950 m East
Barwell Lane	Grade: Parish Level Description: No information provided	1100m north
Burbage common	Grade: Wildlife Site Description No information provided	1200 m East
Hedgerow	Grade: Parish Level Description No information provided	1200 m North
Mature Ash, Off Barwell Lane	Grade: Wildlife Site Description No information provided	1350 m North
Mature Oak, Off Barwell Lane	Grade: Wildlife Site Description No information provided	1350 m North
Pond	Grade: Parish Level Description: No information provided	1500 m North West
KEY Parish Level: Important locally, due to be resurveyed to update status. Wildlife Site: County designated site		

Table 3.1: Sites present within 1.5 km of the site

3.2 PROTECTED SPECIES

The desk study identified a number of protected species within 1.5 km of the centre of the site. These are summarised in Table 3.2. Some of these species are also listed within the Local BAP and/or as priority species within the UK BAP.

The absence of records should not be taken as confirmation that a species is absent from the search area.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Number of records	Approximate Distance From Site Boundary of Nearest Record	Local BAP	UK BAP	Protection
Arvicola terrestris	European water vole	1	615 m East (4 figure grid reference SP 4495)	✓	✓	WCA Schedule 5 & 6 ECH Annexes IV Bonn Convention Annex II Berne Convention Annex II
Chiroptera	Bats	1	1400 m West 950 m South	✓	✓*	WCA Schedule 5 & 6 ECH Annexes IV Bonn Convention Annex II Berne Convention Annex II
Musmyotis mystacinus	Whiskered bat	1	950 m South	✓		WCA Schedule 5 & 6 ECH Annexes IV Bonn Convention Annex II Berne Convention Annex II
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common pipistrelle	4	95 m South 615 m East (4 figure grid reference SP 4495) 670 m North 950 m South	✓		WCA Schedule 5 & 6 ECH Annexes IV Bonn Convention Annex II Berne Convention Annex II
Plecotus auritus	Brown long eared bat	1	950 m South	✓	✓*	WCA Schedule 5 & 6 ECH Annexes IV Bonn Convention Annex II Berne Convention Annex II

Key
WCA: Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981;
ECH: European Communities Council Directive, Conservation of Habitats
*: Species dependent

Table 3.2 Protected Species within 1.5 km of the Site

4. EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY

The survey was completed on 11th December 2007. The weather conditions at the time of the survey are shown in Table 4.1.

Conditions	Result
Temperature (C)	3
Cloud Cover (%)	10
Precipitation	None
Wind Speed (Beaufort)	F0-1

Table 4.1: Weather conditions at time of survey

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The results of the Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey are presented in Section 4.2. An annotated Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Drawing (Middlemarch Environmental Ltd Drawing Number C101580-01 attached in Appendix 2). This drawing illustrates the location of all the habitat types recorded at the site.

4.2 HABITATS

The following habitat types were recorded at the site (listed in alphabetical order):

- Amenity grassland
- Bare ground
- Buildings
- Dense scrub
- Fence and walls
- Introduced shrubs
- Scattered mixed trees
- Scattered scrub
- Species-poor defunct hedgerow
- Species-poor intact hedgerow
- Standing water

These habitats are outlined below; they are ordered alphabetically, not by ecological importance. The value of each habitat is discussed in Section 5.3.

Amenity grassland

Large areas of amenity grassland were present in the gardens of both properties, species present included perennial rye grass *Lolium perenne*, dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* agg., creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, daisy *Bellis perennis*, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa* subsp. *acetosa*, white clover *Trifolium repens*, greater plantain *Plantago major*, yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, primrose *Primula vulgaris* and poppy *Papaver rhoeas*.

Damp areas of grassland running adjacent to the pond within the garden of property 86 consisted of water cress *Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum* and soft rush *Juncus effusus*.

A compost heap was located along the southern boundary of garden 86 within the amenity grassland.

Bare ground

A large area of bare ground was located within the garden of 84 with smaller patches scattered around the edges of 86. The bare ground consisted of recently exposed soil.

Buildings

Property 86 was two storey brick built structure with a pitched, hipped slate tiled roof. The brick work was rendered in places. Property 84 was two storey brick built building with a pitched slate tiled roof and ornamental ridge tiles. A flat roof extension exists to the rear of property 84.

A number of out buildings were present within the gardens of the two properties such as, sheds, garages and greenhouses.

Dense scrub

An area of dense scrub existed between the two properties. The scrub was comprised of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. holly *Ilex aquifolium*, spotted laurel *Aucuba*

japonica, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, yew *Taxus baccata* and butterfly bush *Buddleia davidii.*

Fences and walls

Wooden panel and mesh fencing bounded the site. Low walls were present within the garden areas. The shell of an old building was present between two greenhouses in the garden of property 86.

Introduced shrubs

Two areas of introduced shrub were present in the gardens of property 86, species present included, snowberry *Symphoricarpos albus*, rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*, lavender *Lavendula angustifolia*, rose *Rosa* sp., rosemary *Rosmarinus officinalis* and mint *Mentha* sp.

Scattered mixed trees

The scattered trees were mainly recorded within the garden of property 86 species present included, apple *Malus* sp., leyland cypress *Cupressocyparis leylandii*, false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and maple *Acer* sp.

The trees were semi mature and in good condition.

Scattered scrub

Scattered scrub was present across the site. The scrub was comprised of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., holly *Ilex aquifolium*, spotted laurel *Aucuba japonica*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, yew *Taxus baccata* and butterfly bush *Buddleia davidii.*

Species-poor defunct hedgerow

Species poor defunct hedgerow formed the southwestern boundary of property 84 this consisted of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna,* holly *Ilex aquifolium* and elder *Sambucus nigra*

Species poor intact hedgerow

Species poor intact hedgerow formed the northeast and southeastern boundaries species present include, yew *Taxus baccata* and privet *Ligustrum* sp.

Standing water

A fish pond was present in the garden of property 86. Canadian waterweed *Elodea Canadensis* and lily *Lilium* sp. were present and the pond had a large population of goldfish.

Three wet ditches were located within the rear garden of property 86. It is understood that these hold water in the winter months and dry out by spring.

5. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

This section provides conclusions drawn from the desk study and field survey.

Middlemarch Environmental Ltd have not been provided with information regarding development works proposed for this site.

5.1 NATURE CONSERVATION SITES

A review of the desk study data revealed that there are no statutory protected sites within 1.5 km of the centre of the proposed development site.

A review of the desk study data revealed that there are twelve non-statutory protected sites within 1 km of the center of the proposed development site. The nearest of these is a pond which is located 420 m west of the site boundary. It is considered that the proposed development will not impact upon this site due to the distance of which the proposed development site is in relation to the pond.

5.2 HABITATS

None of the habitats within the site are ecologically important on a regional, national or county scale. The local significance of these habitats is indicated in Table 5.1 below. The habitats within the site range in ecological value from low to high; the habitats of greatest ecological interest on site are the areas of scattered trees and hedgerows. The ecological value takes the range of species likely to be supported by the habitat and the ease at which it can be recreated into account. For example amenity grassland generally supports a lower range of species than, for example mature trees, and is also more readily recreated so therefore deemed to have a lower ecological value.

Habitat	Ecological Value
Amenity grassland	Low
Bare ground	Low
Building	Low to moderate*
Dense Scrub	Low to moderate
Fence and walls	Low
Introduced Shrub	Low to moderate
Scattered mixed trees	Moderate
Scattered scrub	Low
Species-poor defunct hedgerow	Moderate
Species poor intact hedgerow	Moderate
Standing water	Moderate

* potential to increase in value if a bat roost is found

Table 5.1 Ecological Value of Habitats Identified Within the Site

Amenity grassland

This habitat provides foraging habitats for mammals, hereptofauna and invertebrates but it is generally considered to be of low ecological value as it is common in the local area/contains few species it is easily recreated and limited in extent.

Bare ground

Bare ground supports few species and can be easily recreated, therefore considered to be of low ecological value.

Buildings

The two residential properties contained features suitable to support roosting bats and nesting birds. As such they are considered to be of moderate ecological value increasing in value if a roost or nest is later identified.

The various out buildings (garages, greenhouses and sheds) did not have features present suitable for use by bats as a roost or nesting birds. As such they are considered of no ecological value.

~~Dense scrub~~

Dense scrub provides optimal nesting habitat for birds and provides refuge for small mammals and herpetofauna. The habitat also provides foraging/commuting habitat for bats. As such, dense scrub of this form is considered to be of low to moderate ecological value.

Fences and Walls

The fencing and walls supported little vegetation, and as such these structures are considered to be of low ecological value. The walls were in good condition with no gaps or crevices and no bat potential.

Introduced shrubs

Introduced shrubs provide optimal nesting habitat for birds, refuge for small mammals and herpetofauna and foraging habitat for bats. As such, introduced shrubs are considered to be of low to moderate ecological value.

Scattered mixed trees

Scattered mixed trees offer potential nesting sites for birds. The trees were generally in good condition offering no suitable cracks or crevices for roosting bats. Scattered trees offer foraging habitats for birds and bats, the trees are therefore considered to be of moderate ecological value. The trees were semi-mature and as such would take several years to replace on site.

Scattered scrub

Areas of scattered scrub were present throughout the survey area. Scattered scrub can provide refuges for small mammals, birds and herpetofauna. Due to the low density and structure of the scrub it is considered to be of low ecological value.

Species-poor defunct hedgerow

The hedgerow was located along the southwestern boundary of the site. Hedgerows offer habitat for nesting birds, foraging mammals and refuge for herpetofauna and also provide potential foraging/commuting routes for bats. However due to the short length of this hedgerow section its value for connectivity is reduced. The hedgerow is still considered to be of moderate ecological value.

Species poor intact hedgerow

The hedgerows are located to the northeast and the southeast of the survey area. Hedgerows offer habitat for nesting birds, foraging mammals and refuge for

herpetofauna and also provide potential foraging/commuting routes for bats. However due to the short length of this hedgerow section its value for connectivity is reduced. The hedgerow is still considered to be of moderate ecological value.

Standing water

Three ditches and a fish pond were located within the garden of property 86, it is understood that the two ditches are filled with water during wet periods particularly over the winter months, and are not present between March and September. This habitat is considered to be of low to moderate ecological value.

Summary

Removal of the hedgerow, dense scrub and trees along the boundaries of the site would reduce the connectivity of the area and reduce the foraging areas on site for bats and birds. It is considered that the loss of the amenity grassland should not have significant affect on the ecology of the surrounding area as grassland is well represented locally, however its loss may have some impact if reptiles and amphibians are found to be present within the area. For these reasons, a number of recommendations are made with a view to enabling suitable amelioration to be designed and implemented.

5.3 PROTECTED SPECIES

The desk study identified protected species within 1 km of the site. The field survey identified potential presence and/or suitable habitat of several protected species. These species are discussed below with the legislation detailed within Appendix 3.

Bats

The desk study identified several species of bat, the closest record is 95 m south of the site. The desk study also identified bat roosts within the search area, these can be found in detail in Appendix 1. During the field survey, suitable foraging habitat for bats was identified (scattered trees and hedgerows). It is considered that if the trees or hedgerows are removed during the development this may impact upon foraging bats. The trees present on the site were assessed during the survey and were found to have no features suitable to be utilised as a roost. The main buildings were found to have

many suitable features which could be utilised by bats as a roost. The outbuildings had no features suitable to support a roosting bat.

Birds

The trees, hedgerows and shrubs present on site may provide suitable nesting habitat for birds.

Although no bird records were identified within the desk study the habitats present on site and within the surrounding area are suitable for several bird species to nest and forage within.

Herpetofauna

The standing water, compost heap, hedgerows, grassland and scrub present on site provide suitable foraging and hibernacula for a variety of amphibians and reptiles.

Although no reptile or amphibian records were identified within the desk study the habitats present on site and within the surrounding area could allow these species to be present.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations are made based on the findings of the field survey.

6.1 NATURE CONSERVATION SITES

No recommendations are made in relation to nature conservation sites.

6.2 HABITATS

Tree Protection

All semi mature trees and hedgerows which are not to be removed should be protected during the proposed works through the erection of fencing in accordance with BS5837 'Guide for Trees in Relation to Construction' prior to bringing any equipment, machinery or materials onto site. This fencing should be maintained until all equipment, machinery and surplus materials have been removed from site. No storage of machinery or materials is to take place within the fenced area. Hedgerows should also be adequately protected during works via construction of fencing approximately 2 m from the hedgerow.

Any trees which are removed should be replaced else where on site using native species which are stocked locally. Lengths of hedgerow removed should also be replaced to that of the same amount. Again species should be sourced locally and be of native species.

6.3 PROTECTED SPECIES

Bats

The site offers suitable foraging habitat for bats and it is considered that if large numbers of trees or vegetation are to be removed then a bat activity survey be undertaken to ensure this does not impact upon bats within the local area.

As bats have also been recorded foraging close to the survey area further surveys of the two main buildings present on site should be undertaken prior to works

commencing to check for roosts. Activity season is weather dependant but generally extends from April to September.

Birds

If any buildings, trees, hedges, scrub or areas of tall vegetation are to be removed, these works should be undertaken outside of the bird-nesting season. The bird-breeding season is weather dependant but generally extends from March to September inclusive. If birds are found to be nesting any works which may affect them would have to be delayed until the young have fledged and the nest has been abandoned naturally.

Herpetofauna

Limited areas of suitable reptile and amphibian habitat have been identified within the site, but given the built up nature of the surrounding area, the potential for the colonisation of the site by reptiles and amphibians is limited. However, the following is recommended:

The compost heap and any brush piles should be dismantled carefully by hand and if reptiles or great crested newts *Triturus cristatus* are found, then all works should stop and an ecologist be contacted for advice. Drainage/destruction of garden ponds should be undertaken in accordance with best ecological practice. Vegetation should be removed carefully and ponds should be drained using pumps fitted with wire mesh screens (<1.5 mm) to prevent any aquatic wildlife being drawn through the pump. If during the course of any works any great crested newts are discovered then works should cease and a suitably qualified ecologist consulted for advice.

REFERENCES

JNCC, (1993). *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A technique for environmental audit* (reprint). Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

***Magic* (2007).** *Site Check Report*. www.magic.gov.uk

Mitchell-Jones and Robertson (2004) *Bat Workers Manual*

Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre (2007)

UK BAP website www.ukbap.org

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 Desk Study Data

APPENDIX 2 Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Drawing
Middlemarch Environmental Drawing No: C101580-01

APPENDIX 3 Relevant Species Legislation

APPENDIX 1

Site Check Report

Report generated on December 19 2007.

You clicked on the point:
Grid Ref: SP435948
Full Grid Ref: 443600 , 294800

The following features have been found within 1,000 metres of your search point:

Ancient Woodland (England)

Theme Name	Wood Name	Grid Reference	Theme ID
ANCIENT & SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND	SHEEPY WOOD	SP447947	1107933

National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (England)

Feature type	Reference date	Update type
BROADLEAVED	310397	

Local Nature Reserves (England)

Reference	Name
1009392	BURBAGE COMMON & WOODS

National Nature Reserves (England)
There are no features within your search area.

Ramsar Sites (England)
There are no features within your search area.

Special Protection Areas (England)
There are no features within your search area.

Special Areas of Conservation (England)
There are no features within your search area.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (England)
There are no features within your search area.

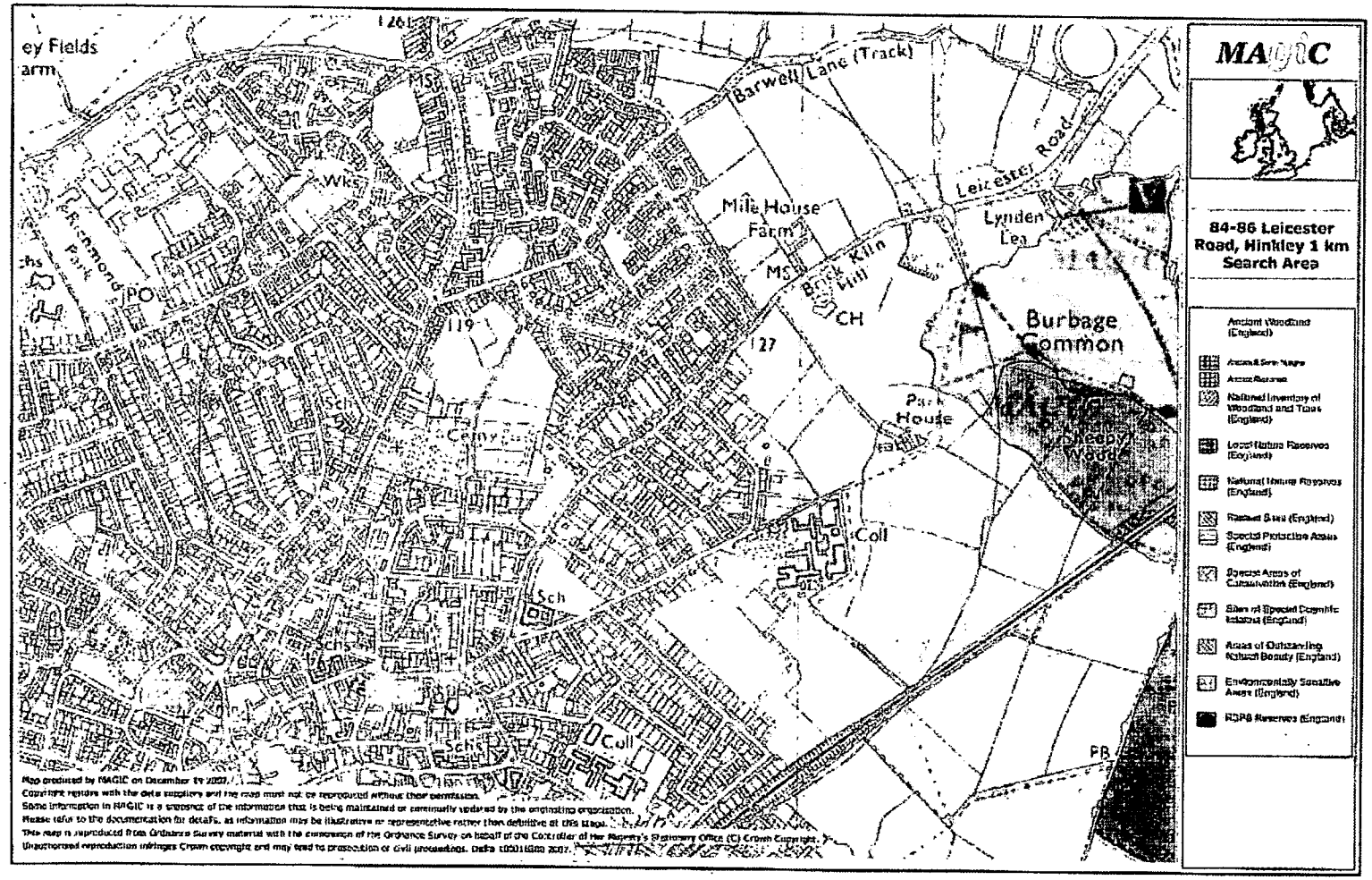
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (England)
There are no features within your search area.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas (England)
There are no features within your search area.

RSPB Reserves (England)
There are no features within your search area.

To save the report, select "Save As" from the File menu. Give the report a name of your choice and save it in "Web Page, HTML only" format.
You can then open your report using your web browser software.

Print Report | Close Window



file://C:\DOCUME~1\lizzie\LOCALS~1\Temp\K4LSJO51.htm

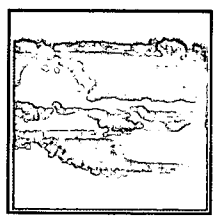
19/12/2007

INSERT LEICESTERSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE CENTRE REPORT

Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre

Leicestershire County Council





Biodiversity Information Services

Report: Desk Study Request: Leicester Road, Hinckley **Job:** 7679

1Km square SP4295, SP4395, SP4294, SP4394

1. Statutory & non-statutory sites. 2. Protected species 3. Notable species

Client: Andrea Powell, Middlemarch Environmental Ltd,
Triumph House, Birmingham Road,
Allesley, Coventry CV5 9AZ

"A Local Records Centre is a not-for-profit service run in partnership for the public benefit, which collects, collates, manages and disseminates information of known quality relating to the wildlife, wildlife sites and habitats of a defined geographical area"

Date: 13/12/07

Holly Hayes, 216 Birstall Road,
Birstall, Leicestershire LE4 4DG
Tel: 0116 267 1950
Fax: 0116 2677112

Making Biodiversity Information Work Harder

Biodiversity Information Report

Addressee		Andrea Powell, Middlemarch Environmental Ltd, Triumph House, Birmingham Road, Allesley, Coventry CV5 9AZ
Coverage.spatial		1Km square SP4295, SP4395, SP4294, SP4394
Coverage.services		1. Statutory & non-statutory sites. 2. Protected species 3. Notable species
Creator	☐	**Darwyn Sumner** **Senior Information Officer** Holly Hayes, 216 Birstall Road, Birstall, Leicestershire, LE4 4DG Tel: 0116 267 0008 Email: dsumner@leics.gov.uk
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Date.issued		13/12/07
Format		Adobe portable document (pdf)
Identifier.job		7679
Identifier.invoice		
Mandate		Biodiversity Information Enquiry
Publisher		Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre
Rights.copyright		Leicestershire County Council
Source		Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre
Status		Version 4.0
Subject		Biodiversity Information Enquiry
Title		Desk Study Request: Leicester Road, Hinckley
Type		Standard

Guidelines to LERC's biodiversity information services

This brief guide to Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre's commercial biodiversity information services is provided as an outline of typical procedures and interpretation.

Procedure

A typical request for biodiversity information will take the following path:

1 Initial request from client in which the individual 1Km squares are listed, together with a list of the biodiversity information required - the following example would be sufficient:

"Grantham Canal species 1Km squares: SK7635, SK7735, SK7835, SK7634, SK7734, SK7834.

a. Statutory & non-statutory sites.

b. Protected species, [BAP], [BoCC], [HSDir], [WCAct],

[c. Key species inventory],

[d. Red Data Book species = IUCN 1994]"

- items in square brackets are optional, their inclusion will increase the time needed to do the job

2 LERC responds with an Authorisation form, usually sent and received back by fax. If we have reason to suppose you are a new client we would also send you a copy of our Charging Policy and Guide to Protected Species legislation.

3 LERC carries out the work within 10 working days (except for larger jobs) and sends it to you electronically (nowadays we are able to produce almost everything as Adobe pdf files.)

4 We send our Estimate to our LCC Finance Department for processing (we do not deal with Invoices directly) and you receive an Invoice from them.

For more complex jobs please consult LERC staff (Elaine Connor or Darwyn Sumner). Our use of GIS means we can produce a better job using the client's own GIS shape files to precisely define the study areas.

Please note that a check on the NBN Gateway (www.searchnbn.net) - where we have placed our sites and species records - may be an informative first step.

Species searches

Reports are created by referencing lists of species which are maintained in groups as follows:

1. Species protected through National & International Legislation

These are taken mainly from the CRoW Act, WCAct & Biodiversity Action Plans and form the core area of interest for legislation.

A. Our **Protected species list** is recommended as the one which provides maximum cover of species designated under various legislation and comprises the following:

- CRoW Act Section 74 species
- BAP species (Habitat Regulations)
- Protection of Badgers Act 1992
- Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (the killing/injuring categories not necessarily present in CRoW or local BAP)
- Species described under the terms of Data Exchange Agreements with regional recording groups (e.g. selected items from KSI)
- KSI species currently being used in Local Wildlife Site criteria (see "Guide to protected species: Policy and Legislation")

We are able to produce additional lists which cover just individual legislation as follows:

1. **The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)** - all species in the region which fall into the UK plan, this will also include species not selected for special attention by Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan; for example it includes The National Forest's BAP species (Adder, Bluebell, Ruddy Darter dragonfly)
2. **Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC)** - the RSPB's Red and Amber species.
3. **Habitats & Species Directive (HSDir)** - see Defra's website www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside
4. **Wildlife & Countryside Act (WCAct)** - this replaces and incorporates previous legislation including the Berne Convention, & the EC Habitats Directive and takes into account all the Schedules within the Countryside & Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 (see www.jncc.gov.uk).
5. **CRoW Act Section 74** - misleading to use on its own as it omits some species in the **Habitats & Species Directive (HSDir)**, the **UK Biodiversity Action Plan** and others.

2. Key species inventory (KSI)

- All the species listed in Lott, 1997
- Additional species groups not listed in the 1997 inventory but published elsewhere (e.g. Bryophytes)
- Additional species added from time to time when species on the various Red lists are discovered in Leicestershire and Rutland
- Any published revision to the Leicestershire & Rutland Key Species Inventory

We are also able to produce KSI lists based on individual groups such as birds, flowering plants, lepidoptera, spiders etc.

3. Red lists and Red Data Book species (RDB)

International Union for the Conservation of Nature & Natural Resources (IUCN 1994) - this organisation replaces the Red Data Book categories, see www.iucn.org

Maps

Maps produced for a single area of study depict the following categories of sites of wildlife interest:

1 Non-statutory sites: Local Wildlife Sites (standard map)

The current evaluation system is termed "Local Wildlife Sites", elsewhere in the country termed "SINCs"or even "SNCIs". The evaluation criteria are published in *Guidelines for the selection of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland* by a partnership including Leicestershire county Council, Leicester City Council, English Nature, Charnwood Wildlife & Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust in 2001 (copies available from this office). Revision 3 of these guidelines is to be published shortly. This system forms the only valid one for local authorities' Local Plans.

The following system is discontinued as a practise but remains on our reports and maps as it still contains valuable data:

2 Non-statutory sites: Phase 1 evaluation (standard map)

An ecological site evaluation system was employed by the Ecology Unit of Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service for a number of years. Many hundreds of Phase 1 habitat surveys were carried out under this system which resulted in the development of a 3-tier categorisation (**Parish, District and County - level sites**) which was used to inform past plans. A good deal of survey information, including species lists, is held at LERC as a result of these surveys and on the whole this material remains in paper form.

The map is a useful guide to sites that have been surveyed and considered important under the original system. This system under which the Parish, District and County level sites were identified has now been discontinued. It has been superseded by a new Local Wildlife Site (LWS) system, which concentrates on evaluating Local Wildlife Sites only. Parish, District and County level sites may still retain some or all of their ecological value and with appropriate management may have improved. They are all classed as potential Local Wildlife Sites (pLWS) and are being resurveyed to establish their current status.

3 Statutory sites and others (standard map)

A map of the Statutory sites (SSSIs etc.) and others (e.g. Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust reserves) are normally included with the above two standard maps unless they obscure other details. Separate maps may be produced on request. Data sheets and formal Citations may be requested from LERC on the statutory areas depicted.

4 Biodiversity Action Plan habitats (on request)

The Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan prioritises 18 "at-risk" habitats in the region. Whilst the current evaluation system for Local Wildlife Sites includes plans to assess all the habitats detailed in the BAP, this work will take some time to complete. Maps depicting the habitats (biotopes) are currently available for the following:

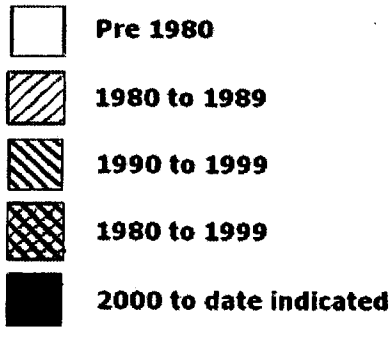
H01: Heath Grassland	H02: Hedgerows	H03: Mature trees
H04: Calcareous grassland	H07: Floodplain wetland	H08: Reedbeds
H16: Roadside verges	H17: Parkland	H18: Broadleaved woodland

These are also available in GIS formats, please request our **Data Use Agreement**.

5 Protected species

As an aid to the interpretation of the protected species lists and in response to requests by customers, these maps were introduced in September 2007 to improve our services. At the moment the production of an up-to-date layer is extremely time consuming so until we are able to develop a rapid system, please note the date on each "Protected species" map. Take care to examine the species lists as species records on these lists after the map's date will not appear on the map.

The map does not distinguish between different species, there is a limit to the amount of information which can be displayed by a single GIS layer on a single map. What the map depicts, as 100Km and 10Km square tiles, is the presence of a Protected species. The shading of the tiles indicates how long ago the records were made:



Site lists

Interpretation of site lists

Site lists are typically presented as follows:

1. **The 1Km square** into which each site occurs
2. **Location name.** This may differ from the Site name if the Site comprises more than one Location (see Reference)
3. Digitised **object** number. This uniquely identifies the digitised polygon and will be seen displayed on maps and on the NBN Gateway (if it is a Local Wildlife Site component)
4. **Grid ref**. The full grid reference - centroid of the location to 6 figures
5. **Status**: The current system of non-statutory Local Wildlife Sites is in this list as "Wildlife Sites", the discontinued system of three tiers (County, District and Parish) serve to indicate that surveys have been carried out in the past and may be obtained from LERC. Items prefixed Hnn are locations that have been flagged as belonging to the habitat which makes up the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plans; this does not automatically mean that they are Local Wildlife Sites but it most certainly means that they are scheduled for survey when time allows.
6. **Reference**: Document references (quoting these will enable us to locate older surveys should you wish further information). The bracketted number is the reference to the Local Wildlife Site.
7. **Area** (hectares)

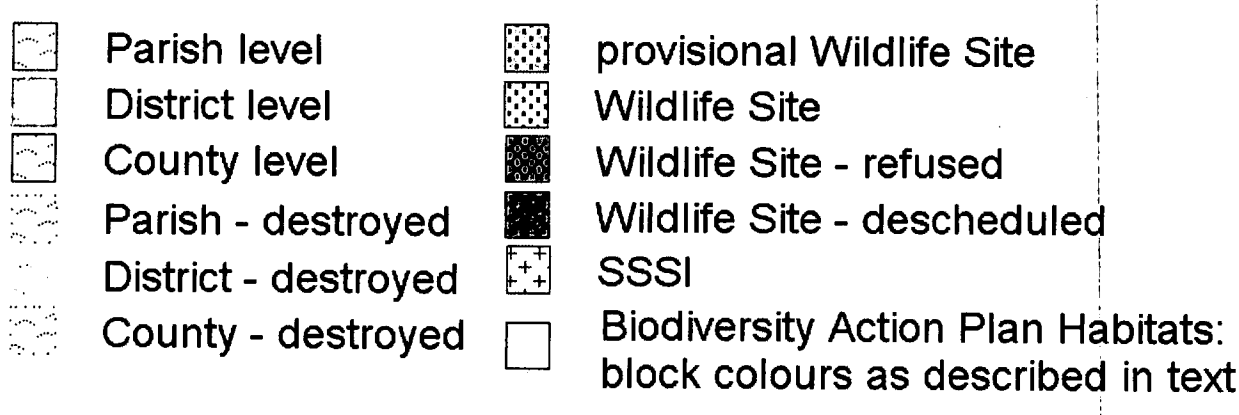
Map locations

1Km	Location name	Object	Grid ref	Status	Reference	Area (ha)
SK5016	Buck Hill, Wood Brook north	00001330	SK506169	Wildlife Site	W5016/2 [25392]	0.02
SK5018	Holywell Wood	00013806	SK506182	Wildlife Site	W5018/2/6 (13611)	6.73
SK5117	Woodland & Wetland (Wood Brook)	00016292	SK519177	Parish level	1212.70.36.029	0.08
SK5017	Burleigh Wood	00017330	SK506176	Wildlife Site	W5018/2/7 (25394)	8.48
SK5017	Charnwood Canal	00017335	SK501175	Parish level	1217.70.36.028	0.93
SK5017	Nanpanton Resevoir	00017340	SK507170	Parish level	1212.70.36.034	3.25
SK4918	Dismantled railway line.	00017345	SK498185	Parish level	1212.70.36.025	1.94
SK5016	Nanpanton Hill	00017350	SK500169	Parish level	1212.70.36.033	3.91
SK5116	Out Woods SSSI	00017355	SK514164	SSSI	1233.20.28.22	63.71
SK4918	Woodland	00017366	SK494182	Parish level	1212.70.36.026	0.35
SK5018	Woodland	00017371	SK500180	Parish level	1212.70.36.027	0.87
SK4818	Home Covert West.	00017376	SK489186	District level	1222.10.52.058	4.16
SK4917	Longcliff Plantation	00017381	SK492170	Parish level	1222.10.82.071	22.17
SK5016	Buck Hill, three outcrops	00023366	SK509168	Parish level	1212.70.22.000	0.52

The list only includes non-statutory locations which have been digitised and are shown on the maps. There may be many more locations within the area searched, particularly those which are popular with amateur recorders (who provide about 80% of our species data) but do not necessarily record to precisely defined polygons or travel in time. The list of species provided elsewhere in this document may therefore refer to sites not listed.

Map legend

The following fill patterns and border colours are used to differentiate the different categories of site on the maps:



Please note that Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats are not normally supplied, those available may be included upon request but please be aware that they may obscure other detail.

References

Lott. D. 1997. *An Inventory of Key Species in Leicestershire and Rutland*. Leicestershire County Council

McPhail, J. 2005. *Protected Species Decisions for Development Control*. Leicestershire County Council

Smith, G., 1997. *Habitats regulations guidance note 1, The Appropriate Assessment (Regulations 48). The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations, 1994*. English Nature

Smith, G., 1997. *Habitats regulations guidance note 2, Review of existing planning permissions and other consents. The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations, 1994*. English Nature

Smith, G., 1997. *Habitats regulations guidance note 3, The Determination of Likely Significant Effect under The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations, 1994*. English Nature

Department of the Environment, 1995. The Habitats Directive: How it will apply in Great Britain. Department of the Environment, The Scottish Office, Joint Nature Conservation Committee

Sumner, D., 2005. *Guide to protected species: Species Policy Legislation*. Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre. Leicestershire County Council.

Sumner, D., 2006. *Charging Policy 2006*. Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre. Leicestershire County Council.

Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre
County Council

Holly Hayes, 216 Birstall Road, Birstall, Leicestershire LE4 4DG
Fax: 0116 267 7112 Tel 0116 267 0010/0008 (Switchboard 0000)

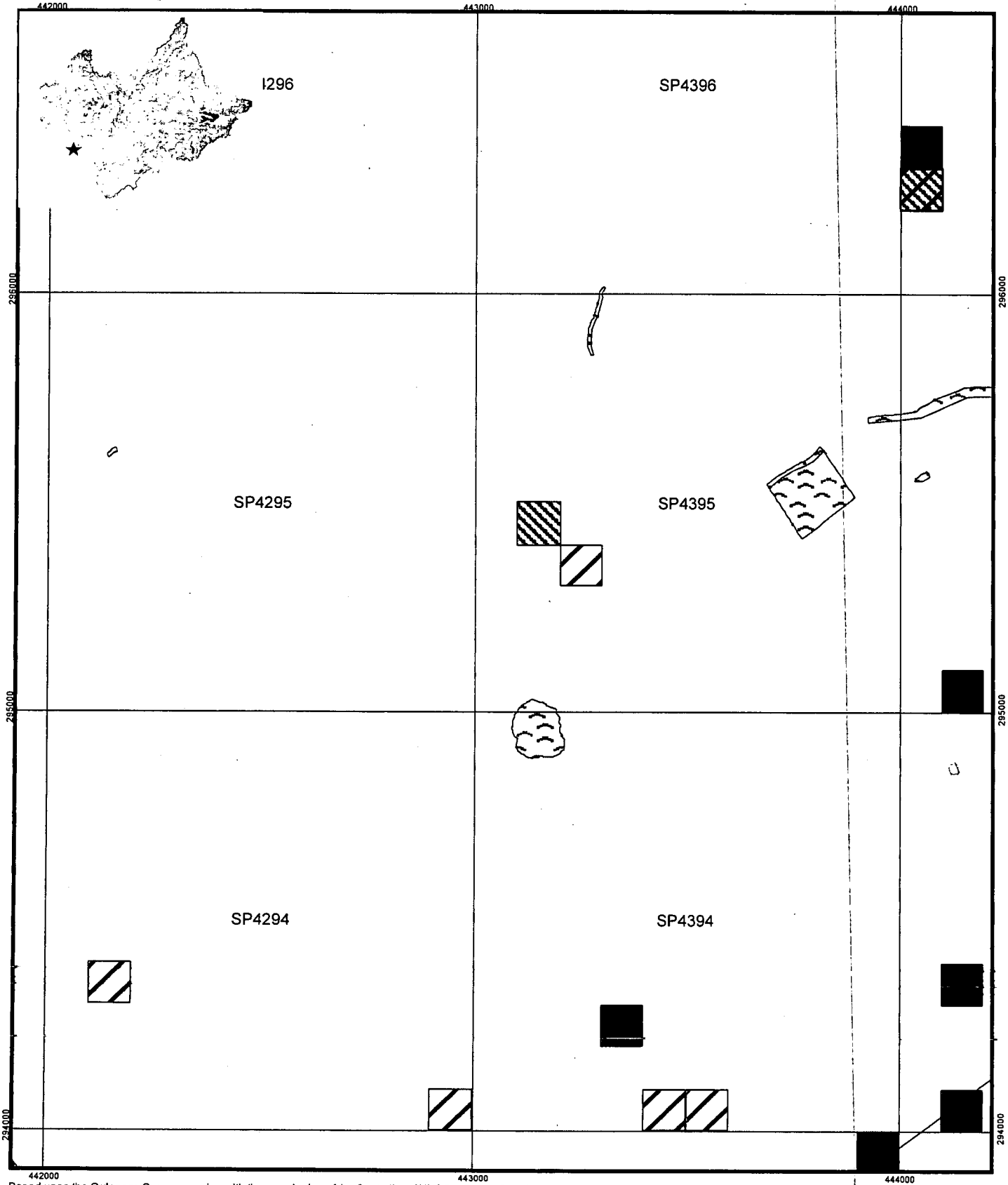
Desk Study Request, Leicester Road, Hinckley **Job: 7679**

Protected species

This map displays the distribution of Protected Species data supplied by 07/Sep/2007. Please check the current lists in this report for more recent data.

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Scale 1:12000



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Compiled 13 December 2007



Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre

Holly Hayes
216 Birstall Road
Birstall LE4 4DG

Protected Species

Selected Designated Species

Date	Location	Grid reference	Species		Recorder
04/08/1988	Bute Close (Bat roost)	SP421943	Chiroptera	Bats	Tony Mitchell-Jones
04/08/1988		SP421943	Vespertilionidae	Vespertilionidae	Tony Mitchell-Jones
08/08/1988		SP4496	Vespertilionidae	Vespertilionidae	Val Hennessy
25/09/1988	Island Close (Bat roost)	SP434947	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	Lucy Eakes
25/09/1988	Island Close (Bat roost)	SP4495	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	Lucy Eakes
29/08/1990		SP432953	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	Jan Dawson
09/06/1993		SP4496	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	Jan Dawson
01/01/1998 - 31/12/1998	Burbage Common	SP4495	Arvicola terrestris	European Water Vole	Bernard Gibney
08/06/2000	Ashby Road, Hinckley	SP431954	Chiroptera	Chiroptera	Ray Cole
30/06/2006	Glenbank (Bat roost)	SP433942	Plecotus auritus	Brown Long-eared Bat	Jenny Harris
30/06/2006	Glenbank (Bat roost)	SP433942	Chiroptera	Chiroptera	Jenny Harris
30/06/2006	Glenbank (Bat roost)	SP433942	Pipistrellus	Pipistrellus	Jenny Harris
30/06/2006	Glenbank (Bat roost)	SP433942	Myotis mystacinus	Whiskered Bat	Jenny Harris

Total number of observations =13

Map locations

1Km	Location name	Object	Grid ref	Status	Reference	Area (ha)
SP4395	Lake, in former quarry	00014252	SP432952	Parish (descheduled)	1408.12.81.116	0.72
SP4295	Pond	00014288	SP421956	Parish level	1408.12.81.128	0.02
SP4395	Hedgerow	00014314	SP437955	Parish level	1408.10.96.002	0.16
SP4395	Semi-improved grassland	00014319	SP437955	Parish level	1408.10.94.001	2.15
SP4395	Hedgerow	00014324	SP432959	Parish level	1408.10.95.010	0.13
SP4394	Pond	00014329	SP431949	Parish level	1408.12.81.118	1.31
SP4495	Barwell Lane	00016318	SP441957	Parish level	1408.10.94.004	0.93
SP4495	Pond	00016323	SP440955	Parish level	1408.10.94.005	0.04
SP4495	Burbage Common	00016328	SP446951	Wildlife Site	SP49/01 25865	26.93
SP4495	Pond	00016362	SP443952	Parish level	1408.12.81.048	0.02
SP4495	Mature Ash, off Barwell Lane	00021875	SP444957	Wildlife Site	SP49/07 [25871]	0.04
SP4495	Mature Oak, off Barwell Lane	00021870	SP443956	Wildlife Site	SP49/06 [25870]	0.04

Leicestershire Environmental Resources Centre
County Council

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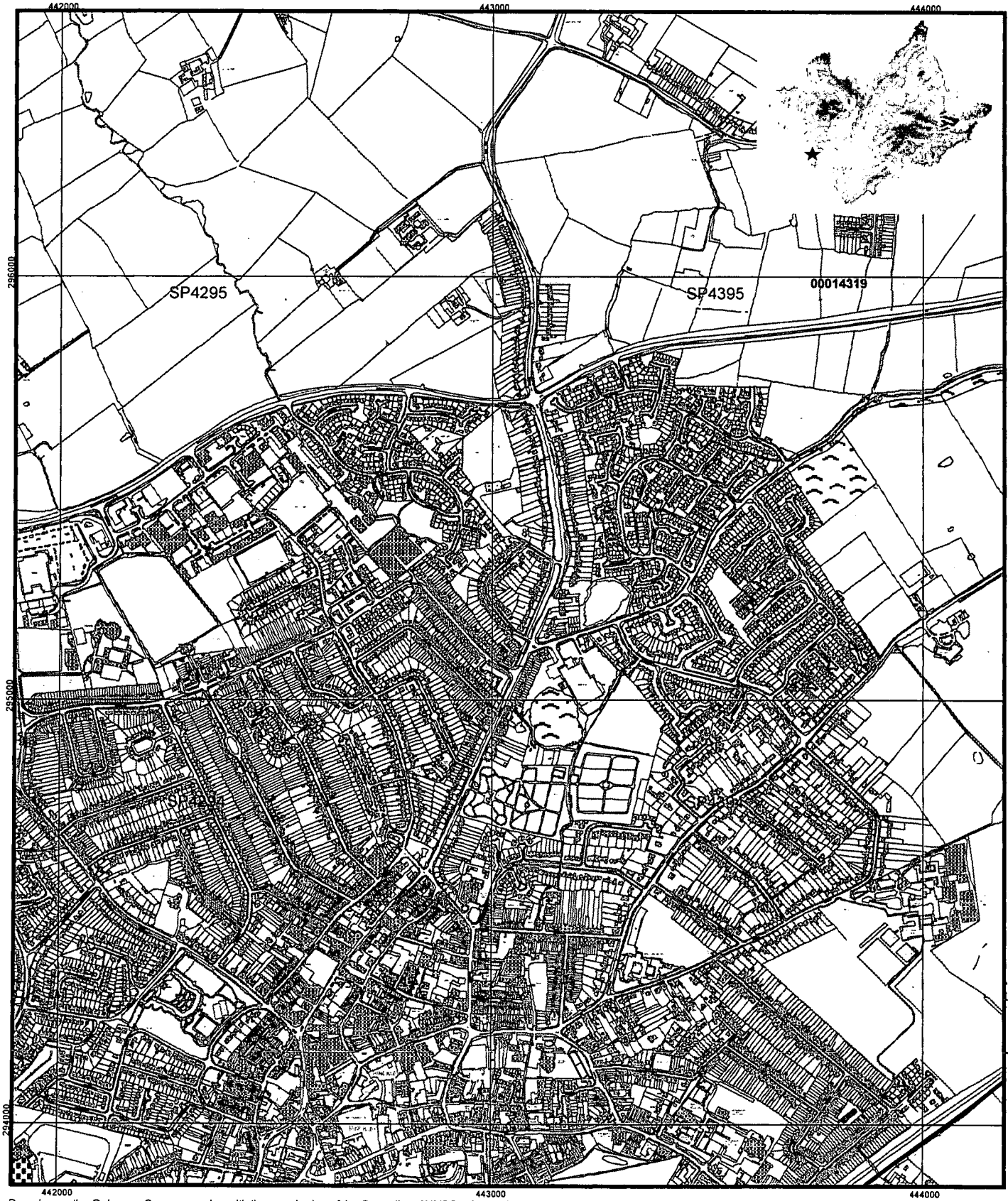
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Ref.: Job 7679

Section: Hinckley

Leicestershire County Council. Licence number LA 100019271

Scale 1:12000



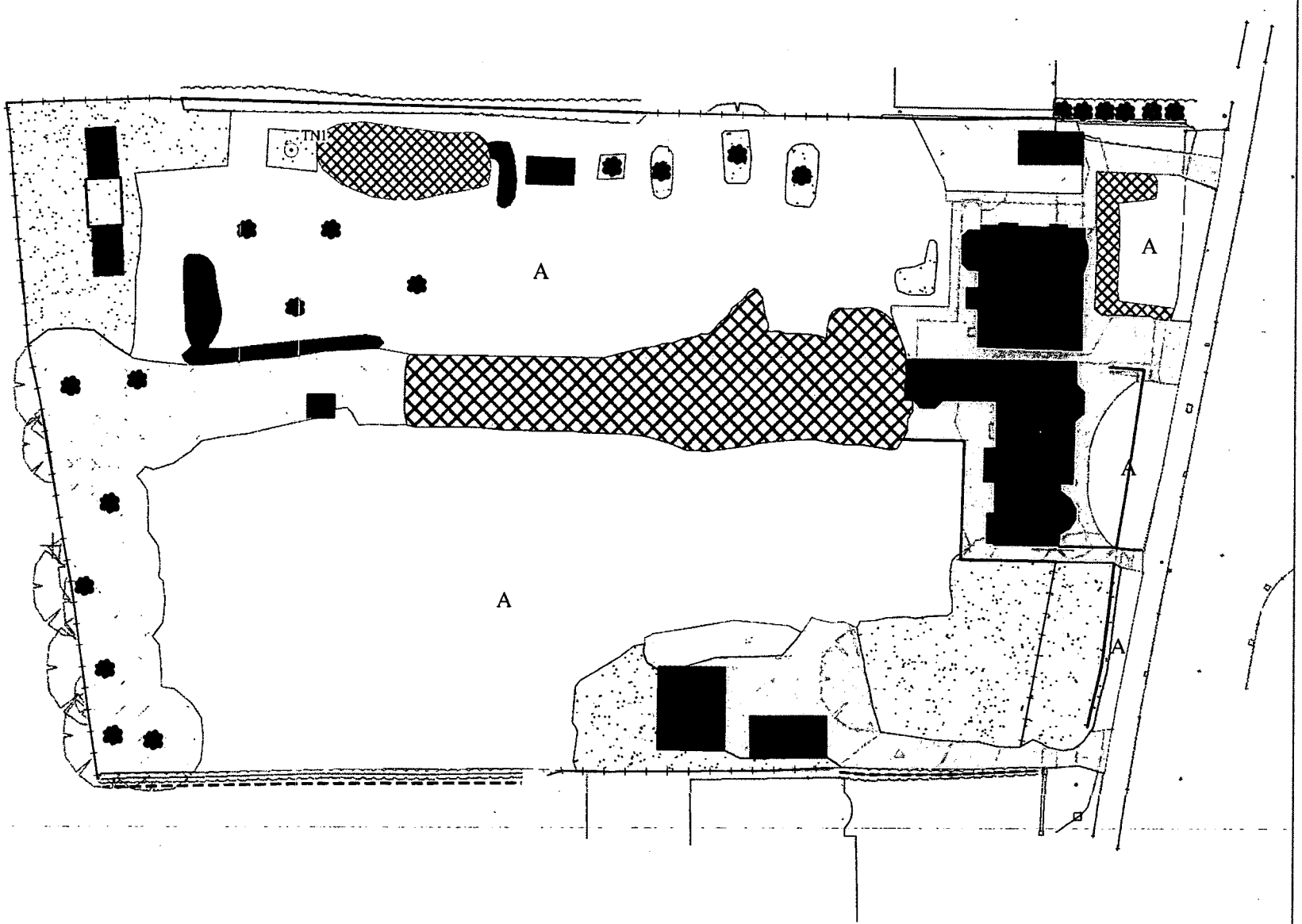
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Target Notes

1- Compost Heap

INSERT MEL DRAWING C101580-01



C101580-01

Legend

- Scattered broadleaved tree
- Scattered coniferous tree
- Target note
- Fence
- Species-poor defunct hedgerow
- Species-poor intact hedgerow
- Wall
- A — Amenity grassland
- Bare ground
- Building
- Dense scrub
- Hardstanding
- Introduced shrub
- Scattered scrub
- Standing water

Target Note

TN1 - Compost heap

Client: Chilli Property Group Ltd	Project: 84-86 Leicester Road, Hinckley
Drawing: Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey	Drawing Number: C101580-01
Revision: 00	Date: January 2008
Scale at A3: Do not scale	Drawn By: LMC
Approved By: JP	Notes:

MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL

Triumph House, Birmingham Road, Allesley, Coventry CV5 9AZ
T:01676 525880 F:01676 521400
E:admin@middlemarch-environmental.com

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APPENDIX 3

Relevant Species Legislation

This section outlines the legal protection for the relevant species . For a definitive interpretation the reader is referred to the original legislation.

Bats

In England, Scotland and Wales all bat species are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA) (as amended), through inclusion in Schedule 5. In England and Wales, this Act has been amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW), which adds an extra offence, makes species offences arrestable, increases the time limits for some prosecutions and increases penalties.

All bats are also included in Schedule 2 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994, which defines 'European protected species of animals'.

The following account represents a simplified summary of the legislation provided by Mitchell-Jones and McLeish (2004). Taken together, the Act, Order and Regulations make it illegal to:

> *intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture (or take) bats;*
> *deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not);*
> *recklessly disturb roosting bats or obstruct access to their roosts;*
> *damage or destroy bat roosts;*
> *possess or transport a bat or any part of a bat, unless acquired legally;*
> *sell (or offer for sale) or exchange bats, or parts of bats.*

The word 'roost' is not used in the legislation, but is used here for simplicity. The actual wording in the legislation is 'any structure or place which any wild animal...uses for shelter or protection' (WCA) or 'breeding site or resting place' (Habitats Regulations). Because bats tend to re-use the same roost after periods of vacancy, legal opinion is that the roost is protected whether or not the bats are present at the time.

Great Crested Newt

The wording in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 is slightly different. Langton *et alia* (2001) make the point that taken together, the Act and the Regulations (following the CROW Act 2000) make it illegal to:

- Intentionally or deliberately capture or kill, or intentionally injure great crested newts.
- Deliberately disturb great crested newts or intentionally or recklessly * disturb them in a place used for shelter or protection.
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place.
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a place used for shelter or protection.
- Possess a great crested newt, or any part of it, unless acquired lawfully.
- Sell, barter, exchange or transport or offer for sale great crested newts or parts of them.

*Reckless offences were added by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, which applies only to England and Wales.

Nesting and nest building birds

Nesting and nest building birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act WCA 1981 (as amended). Some species (listed in Schedule 1 of the WCA) are protected by special penalties.

Subject to the provisions of the act, if any person intentionally –

(a) kills, injures or takes any wild bird;
(b) takes, damages or destroys the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built; or
(c) takes or destroys an egg of any wild bird,

he shall be guilty of an offence.

'Reckless' offences with regard to the disturbance of nesting wild birds included in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act were added by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Reptiles

All of the UK's native reptiles are protected by law. The two rarest species – sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) and smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) benefit from the greatest protection.

Common lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*), slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), adder (*Vipera berus*) and grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended from intentional killing or injuring.

Sand lizard and smooth snake are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994 which together make it illegal to kill, injure, capture, handle or disturb these animals. Places they use for breeding, resting, shelter and protection are protected from being damaged or destroyed. It is also illegal to obstruct these animals from using such areas.

MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL

QUALITY ASSURANCE

TITLE: EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY

84-86 LEICESTER ROAD

HINKLEY

A Report to Chilli Property Group

Contract Number: C101580

Report Number: RT-MME-101580

Revision Number: 0

Description: Final

Date: December 2007

Checked by:

Hannah Roberts
Ecological Consultant

Approved by:

Dr. Philip Fermor
Managing Director