

LAND AT BARROW HILL QUARRY, EARL SHILTON

Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP)



Client:

AT Contracting & Plant Hire Ltd.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Terms of Reference and Scheme Introduction

- i RammSanderson Ecology Ltd (RS) was commissioned by AT Contracting and Plant Hire Ltd. (the 'Applicant') to produce a Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) to support an application for erection of 21 holiday lodges and associated infrastructure and landscaping (the 'Scheme'), in Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (the 'Site').
- ii This LEMP provides management prescriptions for the creation and management of proposed and retained habitats on the Site. The baseline biodiversity assessments and enhancement prescriptions on Site are included herein and have been undertaken in line with the industry standard good practice principals (CIEEM *et al*, 2016). The enhancements and habitat creation have been developed in line with Applicant and Landscape Architect discussions and have been used to formulate the final masterplan and landscape plans (Appendix 1).
- iii This LEMP forms part of the technical information commissioned by the Applicant in connection with the Scheme and should be considered alongside the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) (RSE_5294_R2_V2_ECIA), the Biodiversity Impact Assessment (BIA) (RSE_5294_BIA_V4R2), and the Construction and Ecological Management Plan (CEMP) (RSE_5294_R3_V1_CEMP).
- iv It is noted that the BIA was produced based on a superseded layout, that differs slightly from the one which was accepted in the planning consent. Despite this, the aforementioned BIA was also accepted. For the purposes of this report, the results of the BIA are reported, noting this caveat, but the management prescriptions are based upon the accepted layout, as shown in Appendix 1.
- v This LEMP has been produced to discharge Condition 10 of planning consent (21/01390/FUL), which is worded as follows:

No development shall take place (including ground works or vegetation clearance) until a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The LEMP shall include the following details:

- A) Description and evaluation of the features to be created/managed
- B) Aims and objectives of management
- C) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives
- D) Prescriptions for management actions
- E) Work schedule
- F) Species/seed mixes to be planted/sown
- G) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures

The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

1.2 The Site and The Scheme

- i The Site (Figure 1) includes all land within the red line boundary of the Scheme. The Site is located on land at the disused Barrow Hill Quarry, to the south-east of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (Central Grid Reference: SP 4876 9715). It is approximately 2.9ha in size.
- ii The habitats on Site mainly comprised dense scrub, with small areas of poor semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal, short ephemeral/perennial vegetation and bare ground. Inland cliffs were present along the northern Site boundary.
- iii The Site is mostly surrounded by arable land, with a large waterbody and the M69 to the south.

- iv The Scheme pertains to the development of 21 single storey holiday lodges and a management building with associated vehicular access, parking, surface water drainage provision, and landscaping. Specifically, there will be four parking spaces per lodge and the management building will be single storey with a terrace area. Main access to the Site will be from Mill Lane, with a new access track through the Site. There will be landscape buffers to parts of the southern boundary and across the Site and there will be new acoustic fencing along the south-eastern corner of the Site.
- v It is understood that the dense scrub on Site will be mostly retained. New habitats are to be created under the Scheme to increase the biodiversity value of the Site.
- vi The Scheme was granted planning permission by Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council in April 2023, subject to 27 conditions, two of which (condition 10 and 15) pertain to ecology.

1.3 Management Objectives and Targets

- i In compiling the LEMP, the following relevant articles of legislation are considered with regard to maximise the local and national benefits in accordance with their targets;
 - The Environment Act (2021)
 - The National Planning Policy Framework (2024)
 - ODPM Circular 06/2005 (retained as Technical Guidance on NPPF 2024)
 - Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan;
 - Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Local Plan (up to 2026).

1.4 Comparison to Policy

- i In reviewing the local policy objectives against the proposed Scheme, the table below identifies where it is considered that the proposals meet these targets and under what criteria.

Table 1: Targets and Objectives Criteria, Compared to Policy

Targets	Objective Criteria	Rationale
Biodiversity Net Gain	Env Act 2021, NPPF 2024, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Local Plan (up to 2026).	The Environmental Act 2021 has targeted 10% biodiversity net gain as a priority. Spatial Objective 10 in the Local Plan relates to biodiversity and aims to “deliver a linked network of green infrastructure, enhancing and protecting the borough’s distinctive landscapes, woodlands... and biodiversity”.
Native planting: Neutral and modified grassland	NPPF 2024	Creating areas of neutral and modified grassland and wildflower meadows will help increase the biodiversity value of the Site by providing habitat for invertebrates and foraging opportunities for a range of species.
Native Planting: Urban Trees	NPPF 2024	The planting of urban trees will provide nesting habitat for birds and roosting habitat for bats when the trees reach maturity.
Native Planting: Mixed Scrub	NPPF 2024	Enhancing the biodiversity value of the Site through mixed scrub provides habitat for terrestrial mammals, herptiles, and invertebrates, and foraging opportunities for a range of species.
Waterbodies	NPPF 2024	Two non-priority ponds are proposed in the eastern and western extents of the Site. These will provide habitat for a range of species including amphibians, reptiles, birds, and invertebrates.
Nesting Birds	NPPF 2024, EC Council Directive on the	The inclusion of bird boxes on Site and the planting of new trees will enhance Site biodiversity by allowing species to become resident of the Site.

Targets	Objective Criteria	Rationale
	Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC	
Roosting Bats	NPPF 2024, The Conservation of Habitats & Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (as amended)	The inclusion of bat boxes on Site and the planting of new trees will enhance Site biodiversity by allowing species to become resident of the Site.
Hedgehogs, Herpetofauna, and Terrestrial Invertebrates	NPPF 2024	The introduction of hedgehog nest boxes, log piles for herpetofauna (reptiles and amphibians) hibernacula, and insect boxes will create nesting opportunities for a variety of species. The provision of small mammal holes within permanent fencing will facilitate hedgehog commuting and foraging across the Site.

1.5 Management Responsibility

- i AT Contracting & Plant Hire Ltd. will appoint a management company who will be responsible for implementing the management plan using its own labour and contractors, under guidance from RammSanderson Ecology Ltd.

2 BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (BIA)

2.1 Biodiversity Impact Assessment

- i Biodiversity Impact Assessment, dated 31/05/2023, of the Scheme was carried out in accordance with the DEFRA Metric Calculation Tool, version 3.1. The existing value of individual habitats on Site was initially calculated by accurately mapping the Site from information collected during the walkover surveys undertaken by RS, and by dividing the land into individual habitat parcels. The distinctiveness, condition, connectivity and strategic significance of these parcels is then assessed and together with the area of each habitat, a value is assigned. A summary of how habitat distinctiveness, condition assessment, connectivity, and strategic significance is determined is detailed within best practice literature.
- ii Once the habitat types have been input into the BIA calculator, along with their area, distinctiveness, condition, connectivity and strategic significance, an overall score in biodiversity units is calculated.

2.2 Baseline Biodiversity Value

- i At the time of survey, the Site comprised predominantly of dense bramble scrub, with small areas of poor semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal, short ephemeral/perennial vegetation, bare ground, and inland cliffs. The baseline habitats on Site are shown in Figure 2. The baseline biodiversity value of the Site is 10.08 habitat units. There were no hedgerows or watercourses recorded on the Site so the baseline value for these features is 0 units.

2.3 Post-Development Biodiversity Value

- i Various iterations of the Biodiversity Metric have been tested prior to production of the final version. The version that was submitted and approved within the planning consent is based on a previous iteration of the final layout (shown in

- ii Figure 6). Although an updated BIA to this final layout has not been conducted, nor requested by the LPA, it is assumed that a 10% net gain score would still be achieved; the final layout contains less lodges than the previous, whilst maintaining similar quantities of habitat creation/retention.
- iii Proposed landscaping on the Site includes sowing of neutral and modified grassland, native tree planting, and the creation of two ponds, mixed scrub, and native hedgerow.
- iv The version of the BIA produced, based on a previous iteration of the layout, shows the proposed habitats in Figure 3. The resulting gain calculations were as follows: :
 - A gain of 1.02 habitat units. This equates to 10.1% gain;
 - A gain of 0.43 hedgerow units. This equates to 100% gain; and,
 - No gain or loss in watercourse units.
- v A screenshot from the DEFRA Metric showing the final scores is presented in Figure 4..

3 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

- i In order to achieve a gain in the biodiversity value of the Site, the following habitat creation and subsequent 30-year management plan for created and retained habitats should be adhered to. Annual monitoring for the first seven years, and every five years thereafter under a monitoring plan to last for a total of 30 years, should be undertaken to assess the habitat condition present against proposed target conditions and management will be adapted as required.
- ii It is noted in the several sections of the below management prescriptions that, to achieve desired condition scores, and to encourage native plant species diversity, there should be an absence of Invasive Non Native Species (INNS) within the habitats. Currently, on Site Japanese knotweed (an INNS listed on Schedule 9) has been recorded in several areas. The CEMP (RSE_5294_R3_V1_CEMP) includes management prescriptions for the construction phase which will be implemented with the objective of eradication of this species from the Site. Since this is addressed within this document, it is not detailed further here, however, it is noted that INNS can be difficult to fully eradicate so further eradication measures may be required throughout the monitoring period.

3.1 Neutral Grassland

3.1.1 Grassland Creation

- i Areas of neutral grassland are proposed in the lower footfall areas around the two newly created ponds on Site. It is recommended that these grasslands prioritise wildflowers and are sown with a seed mix, such as Naturescape's 'N5 Long Season Meadow Mix' in drier areas and Naturescape's N8 Waters Edge Meadow Mixture immediately adjacent to the ponds. The grasslands require nine or more grassland species to be classified as neutral grassland.
- ii Wildflower grassland will provide a broad variety of food sources for a diverse range of invertebrates, including lepidopterans and pollinators. This will, in turn, provide an ample food source for insectivores such as bats and hedgehogs.
- iii Where creation of neutral grassland habitat is to take place, the ground will be prepared for planting using a chain harrow. Any existing vegetation will be removed, and the soil raked to break it up, producing a fine, firm layer of soil.
- iv Seeds will be sown during autumn or spring and if there is a dry period, the soil will be watered.
- v The neutral grassland areas were classified as Moderate condition within the Biodiversity Metric. In order to achieve a neutral grassland with Moderate condition, the following criteria must be met:
 - The appearance and composition of the vegetation should closely match the characteristics of the specific grassland habitat type (see UKHab definition). Wildflowers, sedges, and indicator species for the specific grassland habitat type are very clearly and easily visible throughout the sward;
 - Cover of bracken is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble) is less than 5%;
 - There is an absence of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA, 1981); and,
 - Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and physical damage (such as damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access) accounts for less than 5% of total area.

3.1.2 Grassland Management

- i In the first year of establishment with the new seed mix, the grassland will be left to grow until mid to late summer as weed growth will offer shelter to seedlings. A late summer cut will be conducted where the

grass will be cut to a height of 30-50mm and all arisings must be removed from the grassland to reduce and maintain low nutrient levels in order to inhibit the growth of coarse, aggressive grasses and increase diversity. Any residual perennial weeds will be dug out at this stage.

- ii Mowing during or shortly after periods of wet weather will be avoided as this can damage the sward. However, areas of bare ground from disturbance/poaching are a component of habitat regeneration.
- iii In the second year following sowing, the grassland can be left uncut to flower for the majority of the year. A first cut will be undertaken in September to October after flowering plants have had an opportunity to set seed.
- iv The grassland will be mown in varying heights using a mowing regime resulting in at least 20% of the sward at less than 7cm and at least 20% of the sward at more than 7cm. This will allow wildflowers, sedges and indicator species to be visible throughout the sward.
- v Monitoring of the neutral grassland habitats will be undertaken annually for Years 2-5 then every five years, and the cutting regime adapted accordingly, allowing for the varying swards. Due to the potential for ground nesting birds, a cut will not be undertaken between mid-March and August inclusive.
- vi Undesirable weeds, bracken, and scrub will be managed annually by spot hand weeding or cutting.

3.2 Modified Grassland

3.2.1 Grassland Creation

- i Modified grassland will be created at the centre of the Site, surrounded by developed land, holiday lodges, and scrub around the boundaries of the Site.
- ii It is recommended that the grassland is sown with Naturescapes 'N14 Flowering Lawn Mixture' which contains a mix of 80% grasses and 20% wildflowers by weight. The species in this mixture will tolerate close mowing to a height of about 5cm for the majority of the year. If this seed mix is not suitable then a similar mix should be utilised, such as Emorsgate Flowering Lawn mixture.
- iii The required ground will be levelled and a seed bed created by harrowing. Once a seed bed is prepared the seed will be surface sown. The seed will not be incorporated or covered to any depth but rolled to obtain good soil/seed contact. Sowing rates should follow the supplier's recommendation.
- iv The time for sowing must be assessed onsite and determined by the soil conditions. Ideally sowing will take place in autumn or spring but can occur at other times if there is sufficient moisture and warmth.
- v The modified grassland was classified as Moderate condition within the Biodiversity Metric. To achieve Moderate condition, a management plan will implement at least four of the following criteria;
 - A) There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m² present, including at least 2 forbs) Note: this criteria is essential for achieving moderate condition.
 - B) Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm).
 - C) Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area.
 - D) Physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) is evident in less than 5% total grassland area.
 - E) Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas.
 - F) Cover of bracken is less than 20%.
 - G) There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA).

3.2.2 Grassland Management

- vi In good growing conditions (warm soils and adequate rainfall) and during the correct season, the sward is anticipated to establish and require its first management around six to ten weeks from sowing, by which time the sward should have reached around 50mm to 100mm in height. Cutting operations of modified grasslands will comprise:
 - Approximately six to eight cuts will be undertaken when the soil is relatively dry between April to August;
 - Cutting bar will be set to approximately 30-50mm above ground level; and,
 - Litter, debris, stones, and earth clods larger than 50mm in any dimension will be removed prior to each cut.
- vii Long term mowing regimes for modified grasslands will be undertaken to promote healthy and vigorous swards free from disease, discolouration, scorch or wilt, and to present a neat and tidy appearance during the growing season (approximately April to September).
- viii Mowing frequency should be determined by the Site Manager and the formal amenity management of the Site.
- ix Any disturbance/damage to modified grasslands caused by machinery, vehicle, or pedestrian damage will be remedied by the restoration of the seed bed and over-sowing of the prescribed seed mix.
- x Scrub and invasive species encroachment will be limited by regular mowing regimes.

3.3 Trees

3.3.1 Tree Planting

- i A high number of small native trees will be planted across the Site. It is also noted that there will likely be self set trees, which will be allowed to mature over time.
- ii Native species will be used, for example field maple, alder, oak, silver birch, and cherry. All three species are relatively quick growing with limited crown spread so would be beneficial in amenity areas. Ash and elm will be avoided due to prevalence of disease (Ash die-back and Dutch elm disease) in these species.
- iii The planting of fruit trees will also provide good foraging for a variety of fauna including birds and invertebrates.
- iv Other suggested planting of benefit to invertebrates includes willow, hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, and birch.
- v The newly planted trees were classified as Moderate condition within the Biodiversity Metric. To reach Moderate condition the following conditions are required:
 - More than 70% of trees are to be native;
 - The canopy is oversailing vegetation beneath;
 - There is little evidence of damage to the tree by human activities;
 - A management regime should be encouraged to produce microhabitats such as deadwood, cavities, and loose bark.

3.3.2 Tree Management

- vi Once tree planting has been carried out, the following management methods will be adhered to:
 - Removal and replacement of any dead / failed saplings post planting
 - Removal of the protective sheaths once the trees have established;
 - Seek to retain leaf litter beneath trees, to allow it to decompose naturally. If removal is required for aesthetic reasons, composting on Site will be encouraged to provide further habitat areas; and

- New planting may require watering in times of drought and replacement where new stock has failed to take.
- vii The trees will be continually monitored for failure or growth of undesirable species. Spot treatment of herbicides may be required where non-native species occur.

3.4 Mixed and Bramble Scrub and Native Hedgerow

- i Scrub Creation Mixed scrub will be created on Site, such as in areas of lower footfall around the ponds. Existing areas of bramble scrub will be retained and managed appropriately for long-term viability.
- ii Species composition of the new areas of mixed scrub will include silver birch, hazel, hawthorn, holly, dog rose, and Guelder-rose.
- iii To achieve a Moderate condition for the mixed scrub habitats, the following criteria must be achieved:
 - There needs to be at least three woody species present, with no single one exceeding 75% of coverage;
 - There is a good age range, including seedlings, young shrubs, and mature shrubs; and,
 - There is an absence of invasive species and species indicative of sub-optimal condition should make up <5% of ground cover.
- iv Where any invasive species occur, this will be managed through felling or spot treatment of herbicides.

3.4.1 Hedgerow Creation

- i A native hedgerow will be planted along the northern and western boundaries of the Site.
- ii It will be planted at five plants per linear metre in a double staggered row, and species will include field maple, hazel, hawthorn, holly, crab apple, blackthorn, dog rose, and Guelder-rose.
- iii This will provide foraging opportunities for bats, birds, and hedgerows, along with nesting opportunities for some breeding bird species.
- iv Since this hedgerow was not included within the BIA, there is no required for it to achieve a specified condition score, however, the management prescriptions below are designed to enhance its long term viability.

3.4.2 Scrub/Hedgerow Planting and Management

- v Planting will be conducted in mid-autumn to late winter (November to March), but should be avoided when the ground is frozen or waterlogged, Early management of the scrub and hedgerow will be limited. This will include replacement of dead saplings and removal of protective sheaths once plants are established. After the first 5 years, management could potentially include laying, gapping up and cutting. However, this will be better advised at the 5-year stage when the success of the planting can be reviewed. Management of the hedgerow will be minimal, with traditional management practices such as hand trimming and coppicing undertaken where possible. There will be no scrub or hedgerow management over the period March to August inclusive, to safeguard nesting birds. Initially, to encourage dense and bushy growth, the newly planted scrub and hedgerow would be pruned during winter for the first couple of years.
- vi Long-term management will involve cutting of hedgerows and scrub on a three-year rotation, with only a third of each hedgerow being cut each year. Hedgerows shall be cut using the following methods:
 - Hedgerows will be maintained at an approximate 2m high (where this does not conflict with access, safety or the operational functionality of footways, streetlights, roads and other such built infrastructure – hedgerows to be no less than 1.5m in height and width.).
 - Cutting of hedgerows and scrub shall be undertaken to current best practice arboricultural methods (BS 3998:2012) ensuring clean and neat cut faces with no jagged ends, tears or scars. Wherever possible, tractor mounted rotary saws shall be used over flails;

- Bushy basal growth shall be promoted to enhance screening functionality and biodiversity benefits;
- Remove windblown litter and other rubbish;
- Prune back long stems encroaching on paths and hard surfaces as necessary;
- Control pests and diseases as necessary;
- In the longer term, replace senescent plants or areas of failed plants to specified requirements as necessary to maintain effective canopy cover.

3.5 Waterbodies

3.5.1 Pond Creation

- i Two ponds are to be created within the Scheme, located on the eastern and western extents of the Site. The ponds are to be surrounded by mixed scrub and neutral grassland.
- ii To reach a Moderate condition for the ponds, a management plan will be used to achieve the following criteria:
 - The pond is of a good water quality (where there is no obvious signs of pollution);
 - There is a semi-natural habitat for at least 10m from the pond edge;
 - Less than 10% of the pond is covered with duckweed or filamentous algae;
 - The pond is not artificially stocked with fish;
 - The pond is not connected to other waterbodies; and,
 - There is an absence of invasive non-native species.

3.5.1 Pond Management

- iii For the newly created ponds, the following management regime will be followed.
- iv Bi-annual inspections will be undertaken, with non-native plants removed where necessary including duckweed and filamentous algae (which should not exceed 10%).
- v The pond will be checked for any rubbish or fish presence. Removal through appropriate methods should then be undertaken.
- vi The water levels of the ponds will be allowed to fluctuate naturally and hold water throughout at least one summer in every three years. If the pond has entirely dried out after this time, effort should be made to reinstate the water levels.
- vii Some management may be required to manage shading of the ponds by adjacent habitats.
- viii Where vegetation growth within the pond/SUDs/ditch becomes excessive, or vegetation is dominated by a single species, removal may be required. This should be conducted in the autumn or winter to avoid disturbance to any fauna, such as nesting birds and breeding amphibians. During removal, the aim will be to leave approximately 25% of the emergent vegetation, and it should be ensured that not all of the plants of a single native species are removed. No more than 10% of a pond's marginal plants should be removed in any one year. Plants can be raked out of the pond, or, if more intensive methods are required, these should be employed on a case-by-case basis. Plants raked out should be left at the pond edge overnight to allow any fauna to re-enter the water.
- ix Management of the pond should overall be limited, allowing for natural development.

3.6 Protected Species

3.6.1 Bat Boxes

- i Bat boxes will be positioned on the newly planted trees and the holiday lodges on Site. Where required, these will be cleaned, fixed, and/or replaced. These will be installed so that they are not adjacent to sources of artificial lighting, and are best placed to the peripheries of the Site.
- ii Bat bricks could also be incorporated into the external brickwork of the buildings during construction. The construction of the lodges is not yet known, so it may be more appropriate to incorporate these in to the management building, rather than the lodges themselves.
- iii The Vivara Pro WoodStone Bat Box (Figure 5) can provide summer roosting spaces for bats. It is made from a mix of concrete and wood fibre so is durable and maintains a consistent temperature. It can be attached to walls or trees and will be sited at least 3m from the ground, sheltered from strong winds, and exposed to the sun for part of the day (usually south or south-west). They are best clustered in small groups.
- iv Bat boxes and bat bricks will not be located directly above windows or doors or be obstructed in any way, such as by overhanging branches. It is also recommended that bird nest boxes be placed 1.5m below each bat box, to ensure the birds have somewhere to nest and do not inhabit the bat boxes.
- v Other bat boxes are available, and suitable dimensions are 430mm high x 270mm wide x 140mm deep.

3.6.1 Bird Boxes

- i Bird boxes will be installed around the Site on external walls and suitable trees. Boxes could also be included within the external brickwork and facades of the holiday lodges or management building during construction. Where required, these will be cleaned, fixed, and/or replaced.
- ii Bird boxes could include Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box (Figure 5) which is suitable for common garden birds, such as blue tits. Any bird boxes will be installed above 3m to avoid interference from domestic cats.

3.6.2 Hedgehog Nest Boxes and 'Highways'

- i Hedgehog nest boxes could be installed in secluded areas of the site, for example in areas of dense scrub. An example hedgehog nest box is shown in Figure 5. Where required, these will be cleaned, fixed, and/or replaced.
- ii Where any permanent fencing is to be constructed, small 15x15cm mammal holes will be installed within these fences. 'Hedgehog Highway' signs (available from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society) could be installed above these holes to prevent them being filled in in the future. This will help to maintain their permanency and the connectivity for mammals, such as hedgehogs, to the Site and the surrounding landscape.

3.6.1 Herpetofauna Hibernacula

- i Log piles, rocks and deadwood under dense ground cover could also be created to the peripheries of the Site for herpetofauna hibernacula. These will provide important places for herpetofauna to rest during the day or during cold or dry weather. These will be situated in secluded areas where they are less likely to be disturbed or interfered with.
- ii Hibernacula will be approximately 2m long, a minimum of 0.5m wide, and 1m in height and should comprise log or debris piles with a cap composed of topsoil and a turf covering. An example is shown in Figure 5.

3.6.1 Insect Refugia ('Hotels')

- i Insect 'hotels' will be installed near areas of suitable invertebrate habitat, such as neutral grassland, scrub, and wildflower meadows. These are designed to provide a variety of niches for a diverse spectrum of invertebrates to inhabit and therefore increase the terrestrial invertebrate species diversity on Site.
- ii Insect blocks such as the Vivara Pro Woodstone insect block (Figure 5) could be fixed to newly planted trees on Site. Additionally, the National Trust Apex Insect House (Figure 5) could be hung on external walls. These are an attractive addition to areas of greenspace and provide refuges and nest building opportunities for species such as ladybirds, butterflies, and solitary bees/wasps. Insect hotels will be positioned less than 2m from the ground or placed in sheltered positions amongst vegetation.
- iii A variety of designs should be used to attract a range of invertebrate species.

3.7 Timescales

Table 2: Management Schedule

Feature	Management Prescriptions	Timing	Year 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10-15	16-20	21-25	26-30
Neutral Grassland	Prepare ground in late summer by using a chain harrow	August	x												
	Sow seed mix	Autumn or spring	x												
	Mow neutral grassland in late summer of the first year. In the second year, the grassland can be left uncut for the majority of the year.	First cut in August-September.		x											
	Monitor the neutral grasslands annually for 2-5 years and then every five years, adapting the cutting regime accordingly.	Annually and then every five years	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x
	Undesirable weeds, bracken, and scrub will be managed annually by spot hand weeding or cutting.	Annually	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Modified Grassland	Prepare ground in late summer by using a harrow to create a seed bed.	August	x												
	Sow seed mix	Autumn or spring	x												
	Mow modified grassland regularly during first year of seeding to height of 30-50mm	April-September as required		x											
	Areas of modified grassland will be cut on a more frequent basis to be determined by the management company.	Annually			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Scrub and pernicious weeds such as thistle, docks, and ragwort will be hand pulled or	As required	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

	where this is inadequate, spot treated. Use of herbicides will be kept to a minimum.														
	Monitoring	Summer	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Tree Planting	Planting of stock	November-March (preferably winter months)	x												
	Water newly planted specimens where required until established	As required in first 4 years		x	x	x	x								
	Replacement of failed specimens and tree guards where necessary	November-March (preferably winter months)			x		x								
	Removal of guards when tree is established	As required							x			x			
	Watering in times of drought	During periods of prolonged drought		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Monitoring	Summer		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
	Removal of undesirable species	As required	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Checking for and removal of rubbish	October-February		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mixed Scrub and Native Hedgerow	Planting of stock	November-March (preferably winter months)		x											
	Water newly planted specimens where required until established	As required in first 4 years		x	x	x	x								
	Replacement of failed specimens and tree guards where necessary	November-March (preferably winter months)			x		x								
	Removal of guards when tree is established	As required							x			x			

	Watering in times of drought	During periods of prolonged drought	x	x	x												
	Hedgerow/scrub cutting	September - February	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Monitoring	Summer	x	x	x	x	x										
Waterbodies	Creation of waterbodies, including planting	Creation any time of year, planting in spring	x														
	Aquatic vegetation management (raking out where necessary) and clearance of shading or scrub cover at margins	October-February	x	x	x		x		x		x		x		x		x
	Desilting and clearance of leaf litter	October-February	x	x	x		x		x		x		x		x		x
	Checking fish presence and removal through appropriate methods	October-February	x	x	x		x		x		x		x		x		x
	Checking for and removal of rubbish	October-February	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Protected Species	Installation of bat, bird, and invertebrate boxes (those on trees will be installed once trees have established)	Autumn/winter	x						x								
	Installation of hedgehog nest boxes and herpetofauna hibernacula	Late autumn	x														
	Monitoring – maintenance/replacement as required	Autumn/winter		x	x		x		x		x		x		x		x

3.8 Monitoring

- i The Site will be subject to monitoring by a suitably qualified ecologist to review the habitats and ensure they are meeting the proposed conditions in the BIA metric.
- ii The program of monitoring is provided in Table 3. In addition, the condition of the habitats will be measured against the Metric condition assessment to confirm whether the targeted habitat conditions are likely to be achieved.
- iii Management techniques and the LEMP will be adjusted if necessary to meet the conditions proposed. Monitoring will be undertaken alongside the management of the habitats for the period of 30 years. During these visits, condition assessments will be undertaken in line with the Metric Condition Assessment, including a full species list. The results of each monitoring visit are to be published to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) in a monitoring report including the condition assessments. The monitoring reports will set out whether the habitats are on track to meet their target condition or if changes are needed to the management plan and if so, what those changes are. They will also provide a brief overview of the previous monitoring visit and whether any changes made to the management plan have had the desired effect.
- iv Contingencies and /or remedial action will be identified within the monitoring reports and submitted to the LPA therein. Remedial action must then be undertaken by the management company prior to the next monitoring survey. The next monitoring survey and report will confirm whether the remedial actions have been undertaken as specified and if they have had the desired effect.
- v The monitoring surveys are to be funded by the Client and undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist. Monitoring reports will be sent to the council annually in Years 1-5.

Table 3: Monitoring Schedule

Habitat Type	Monitoring Methods	Monitoring Interval and Timing
Neutral and Modified Grassland	Undertake quadrat sampling to identify the habitat type that is establishing and then number of species per m ² . Estimate percentage of bare ground, bramble, and bracken cover. Collect a botanical species list across grassland to check against target species list.	Annually in Years 1-5 then every five years once established. Surveys to be completed between May and August
Trees	Undertake walkover to identify failed stock. Conduct condition assessment to ensure trees have reached target condition.	Year 5 to replace failed stock if >10% Condition assessments in year 5 and year 10 for all newly planted trees; additional condition assessments in year 27 for moderate condition trees
Waterbodies	Undertake walkover to identify rubbish and fish presence. Annual monitoring of water levels. Annual monitoring to check establishment of aquatic and riparian planting.	Every six months from Years 1-5

4 REFERENCES

- i BS 42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development 2013: The British Standards Institution.
- ii BS 8683 - Process for designing and implementing Biodiversity Net Gain 2021: The British Standards Institution.
- iii CIEEM, CIRIA, IEMA (2016). Biodiversity Net Gain: Good practice principles for development
- iv Department of Communities & Local Government, 2024. National Planning Policy Framework, London: DCLG.
- v Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2023). The Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (draft)
- vi Institute of Environmental Assessment, 1995. Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment. London: E & FN Spon.
- vii Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 06/2005. Government Circular: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and their impact within the planning system. London: ODPM.
- viii RammSanderson, 2021. Land at Barrow Hill Quarry, Earl Shilton. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) (RSE_5294_01_V1).
- ix RammSanderson, 2022. Land at Barrow Hill Quarry, Earl Shilton. Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) (RSE_5294_R2_V1_ECIA).
- x RammSanderson, 2023. Land at Barrow Hill Quarry, Earl Shilton. Biological Impact Assessment (BIA) (RSE_5294_BIA_V4R2).
- xi RammSanderson, 2025. Land at Barrow Hill Quarry, Earl Shilton. Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) (RSE_5294_R3_V1_CEMP).

5 FIGURES

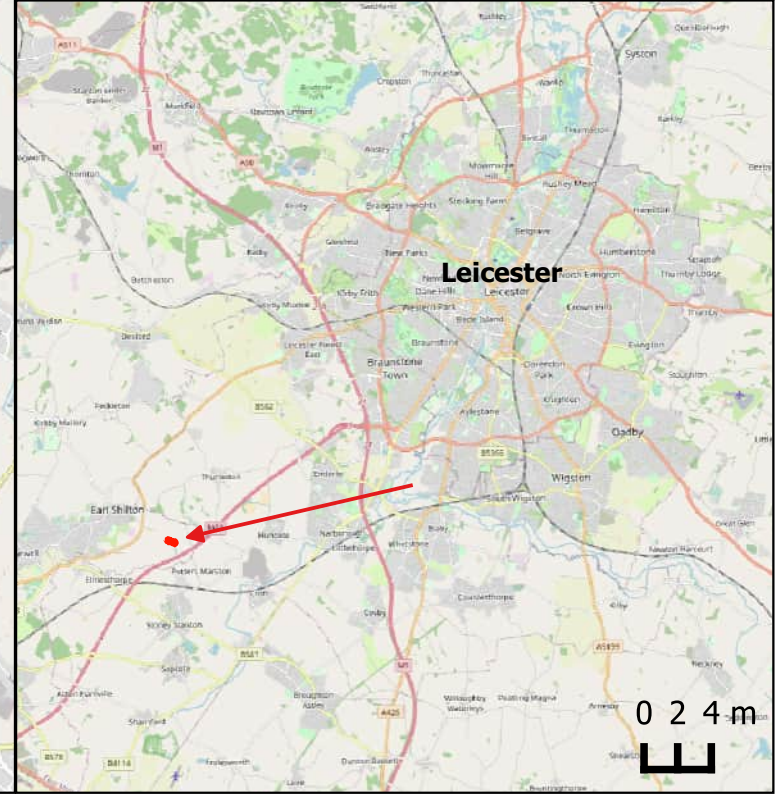
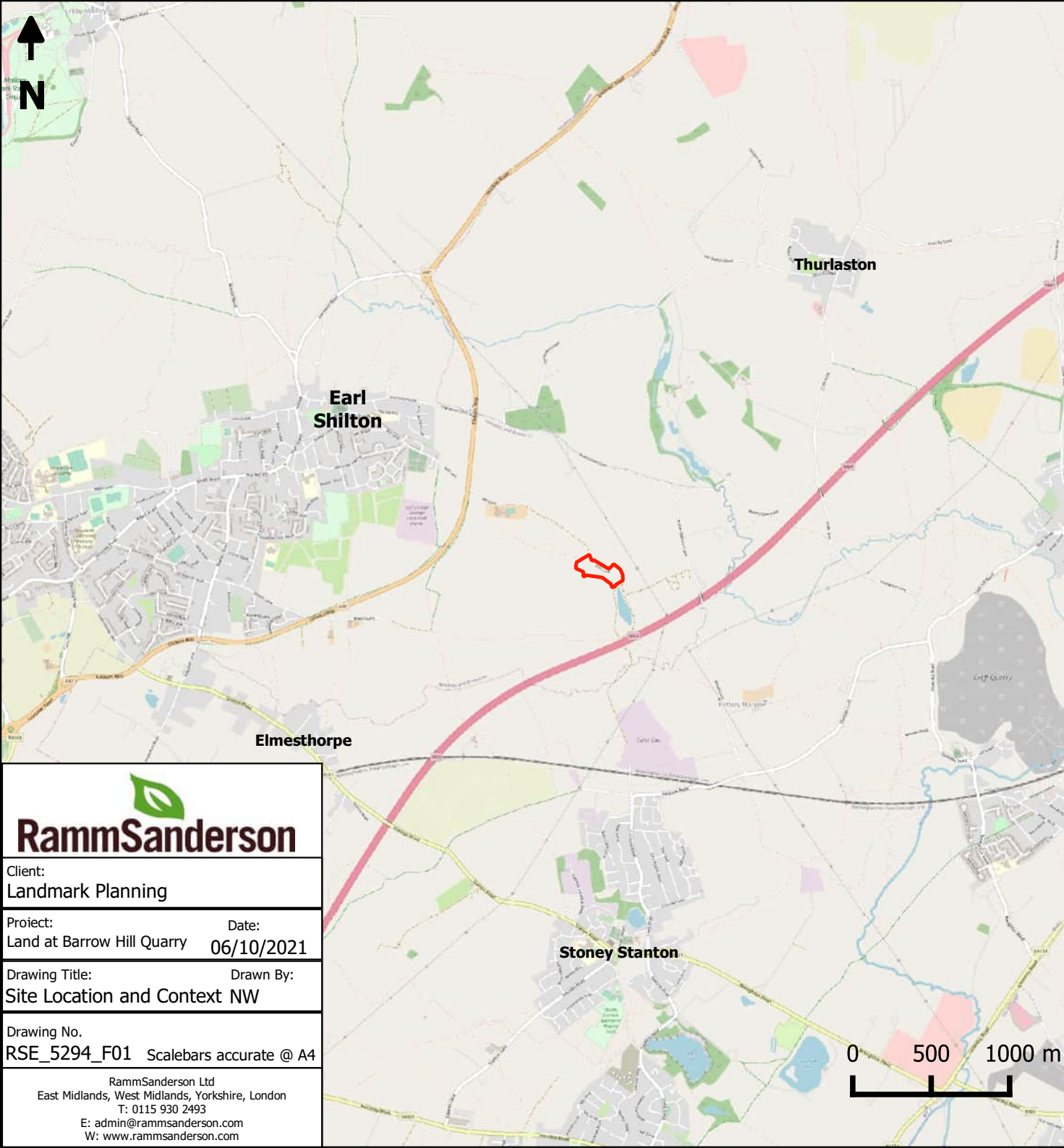
Figure 1: Site Context and Location Plan

Figure 2: Baseline Habitats Plan

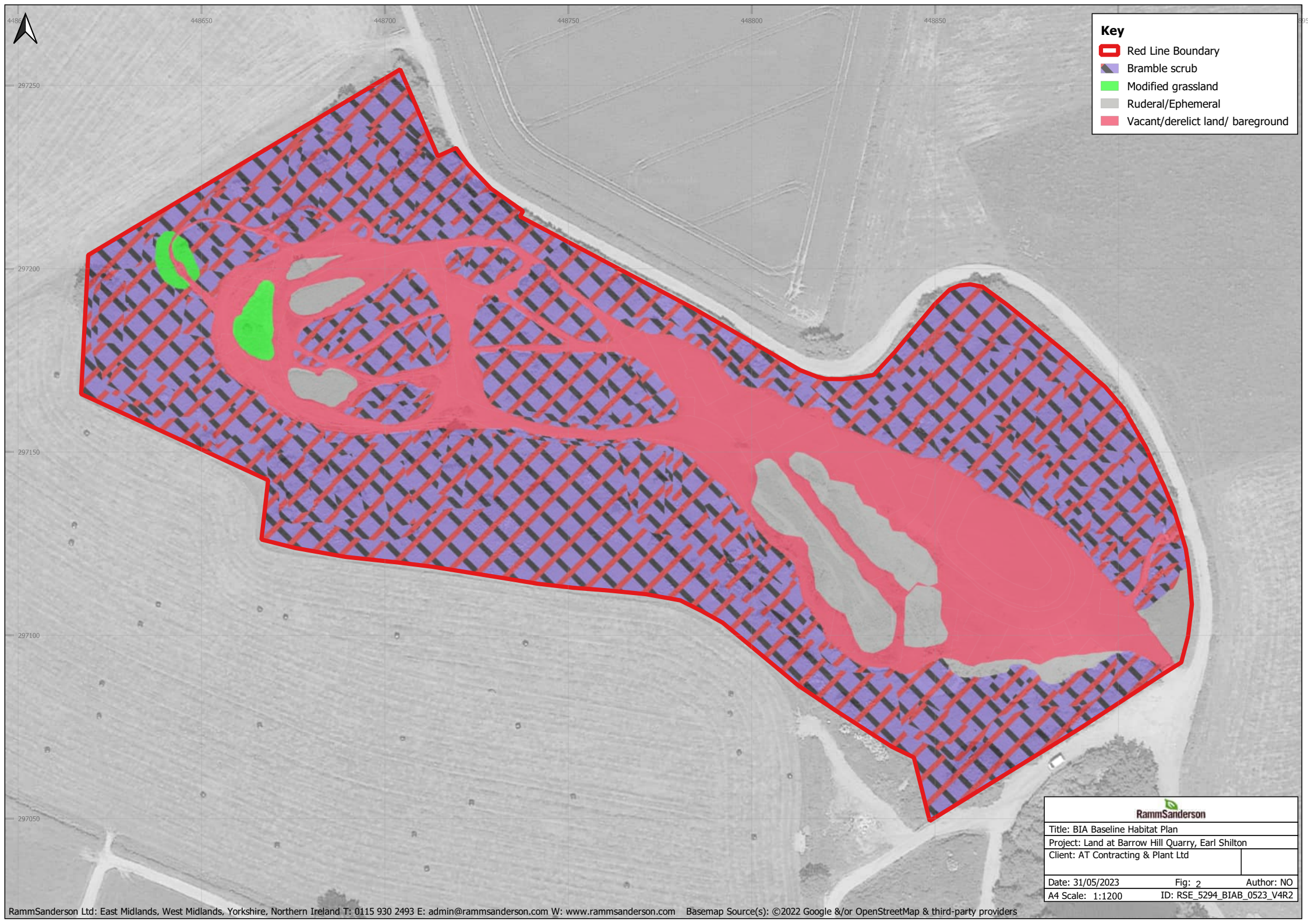
Figure 3: Proposed Habitats Plan

Figure 4: Screenshot of Metric from BIA Result

Figure 5: Examples of bat and bird boxes, hedgehog nest boxes, herpetofauna hibernacula, and insect hotels



 RammSanderson	
Client: Landmark Planning	
Project: Land at Barrow Hill Quarry	Date: 06/10/2021
Drawing Title: Site Location and Context NW	
Drawing No. RSE_5294_F01 Scalebars accurate @ A4	
RammSanderson Ltd East Midlands, West Midlands, Yorkshire, London T: 0115 930 2493 E: admin@rammsanderson.com W: www.rammsanderson.com	



Key

Red Line Boundary

Bramble scrub

Modified grassland

Ruderal/Ephemeral

Vacant/derelict land/ bareground



Title: BIA Baseline Habitat Plan

Project: Land at Barrow Hill Quarry, Earl Shilton

Client: AT Contracting & Plant Ltd

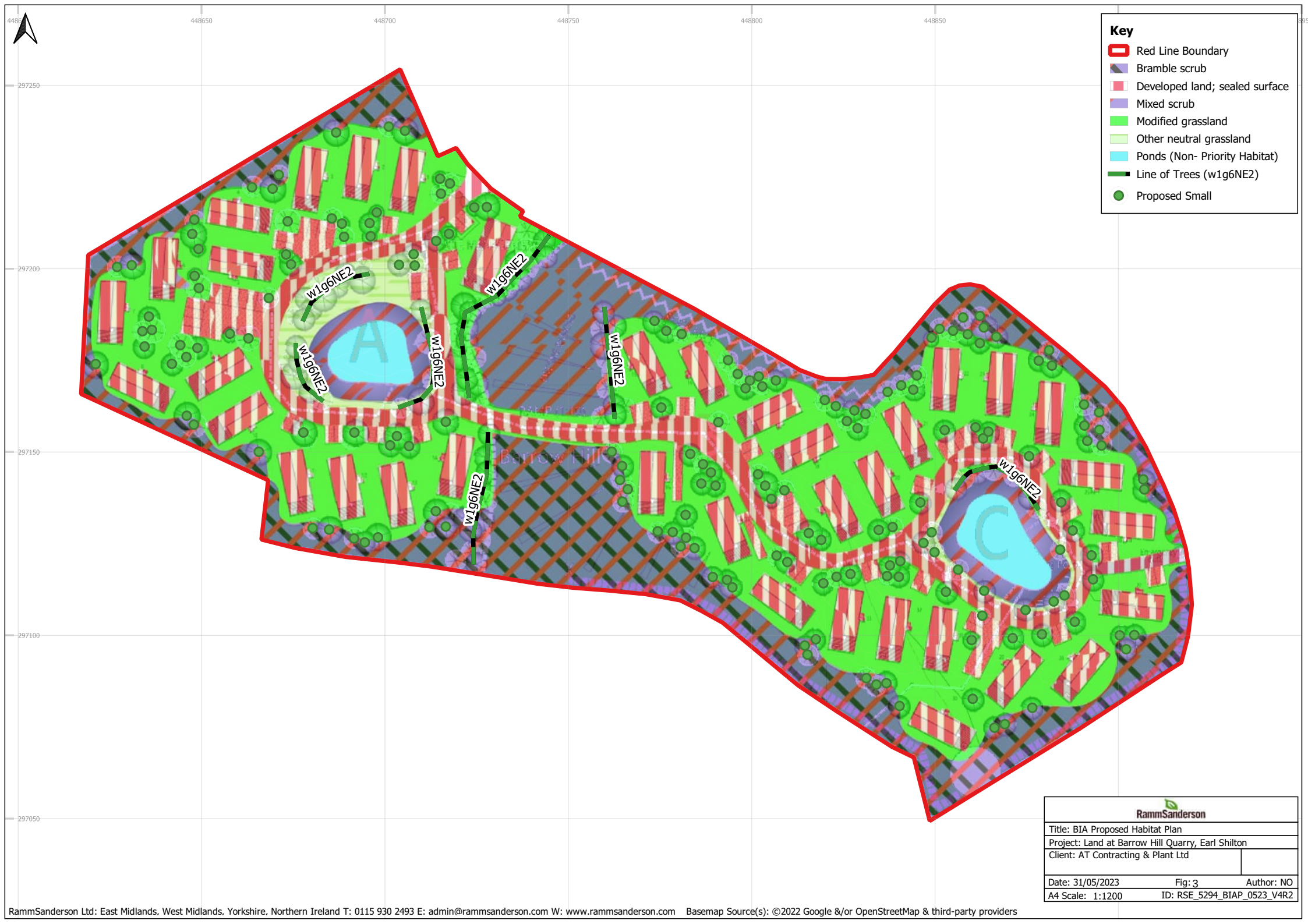
Date: 31/05/2023

Fig: 2

Author: NO

A4 Scale: 1:1200

ID: RSE_5294_BIAB_0523_V4R2



Key

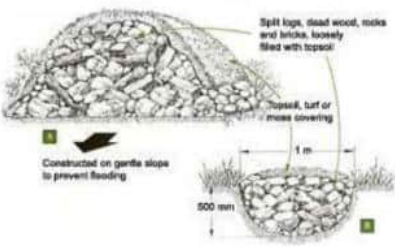
- Red Line Boundary
- Bramble scrub
- Developed land; sealed surface
- Mixed scrub
- Modified grassland
- Other neutral grassland
- Ponds (Non- Priority Habitat)
- Line of Trees (w1g6NE2)
- Proposed Small

RammSanderson		
Title: BIA Proposed Habitat Plan		
Project: Land at Barrow Hill Quarry, Earl Shilton		
Client: AT Contracting & Plant Ltd		
Date: 31/05/2023	Fig: 3	Author: NO
A4 Scale: 1:1200	ID: RSE_5294_BIAP_0523_V4R2	

Figure 4: Screenshot of Metric from BIA Result

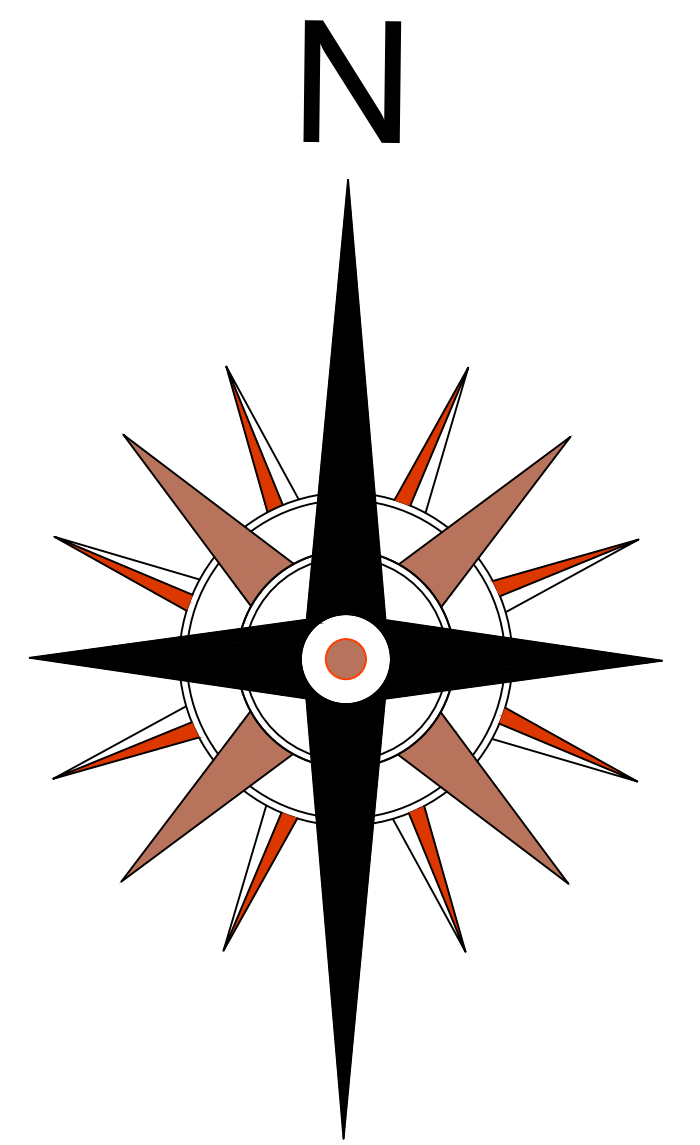
Net project biodiversity units (including all on-site & off-site habitat retention/creation)	<i>Habitat units</i>	1.02
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>	0.43
	<i>River units</i>	0.00
Total project biodiversity % change (including all On-site & Off-site Habitat Creation + Retained Habitats)	<i>Habitat units</i>	10.10%
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>	100.00%
	<i>River units</i>	0.00%

Figure 5: Examples of bat and bird boxes, hedgehog nest boxes, herpetofauna hibernacula, and insect hotels

 © NHBS	 © NHBS	 © NHBS
Vivara Pro Woodstone Bat Box (www.nhbs.com)	Vivara Pro Seville 32mm Woodstone Nest Box (www.wildcare.co.uk)	Example of hedgehog nest box
 © FrogLife 2001		 © NHBS
Example of herpetofauna hibernacula	Vivara Pro Woodstone Insect Block (www.wildcare.co.uk)	National Trust Apex Insect House (www.nhbs.com)

6 APPENDIX 1: APPLICANT PLANS AND DRAWINGS

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Barrow Hill Quarry Earl Shilton

Plans

Scale.	1:500@ A1	Date.	Oct 2021
Dwg No.	1001	Revision.	C

Brook House Consulting

BHC 72 Boston Road
Leicester
LE4 1HB

Landscape indicative only

Tel:- 0116 2169415 E mail:- mail@brookhouseconsulting.com

PLANT SCHEDULE								
SPECIES		Girth	Height	Root	Pot Size	Habit	Breaks	Nos.
TREES								
T1	Acer campestre	10-12cm	3.0-3.5m	br	SS1d			36
T2	Alnus glutinosa	10-12cm	3.0-3.5m	br	SS1d			5
T3	Betula pendula	10-12cm	3.0-3.5m	br	SS1d			14
T4	Prunus avium	10-12cm	3.0-3.5m	br	SS1d			9
T5	Quercus robur	10-12cm	3.0-3.5m	br	SS1d			34

Proposed Native Scrub/Shrub Planting

To be planted within the specified areas shown below. Areas for planting shall be treated with a translocated herbicide such as Glyphosate to clear any existing weeds before planting. After herbicide has taken effect cultivate the area to a coarse tilth 250mm deep. Whips shall then be pit planted, with backfill mixed with 70grams of Enmag slow release fertiliser. Gently firm in by treading. All stock delivered to site shall be of proven British provenance, a certificate shall be provided to the Landscape Architect to prove provenance of plants prior to delivery to site. All to have Tubex Netguard, 60cm high and 150mm diameter, dark green colour. To be fixed to firmly anchored softwood timber stakes using 2no. plastic cable ties. Dip all roots into MycorForce Whip Dip prior to planting. Contact supplier for application details, Tel:English Woodlands Burrow Nursery 01435 862992.

Plant Numbers for Native Planting Areas						
%	Species	NP1			Size	TtIs
60	Corylus avellana	46			1+1 80-100 br	46
20	Salix caprea	15			1+1 80-100 br	15
20	Salix viminalis	15			1+1 80-100 br	15

Tree and Shrub Planting General

Prior to planting topsoil shall be moist, friable and not waterlogged. Carry out planting during suitable weather conditions, do not plant during frozen or windy conditions. Where beds are overgrown with weeds apply herbicide in accordance with manufacturers recommendation. Allow fallow period before cultivation. Container grown plants can be planted at any time of year if ground and weather conditions are favourable. Bare root trees and shrubs can be planted from late October to March. All plants shall be as specified, undamaged, sturdy, healthy and vigorous. They shall be free from pests, diseases, discoloration and physiological disorders. Name, form, dimensions, provenance and other criteria shall be as defined in The National Plant Specification. All plant handling shall be in accordance with HTA 'Handling and Establishing Landscape Plants'. All plants shall be stored in a secure environment and protected from site operations and over exposure to adverse weather conditions. Where topsoil is compacted it shall be broken up to a depth of no less than 350mm into particles of 2-8mm, with the surface left regular and even. Levels shall be 25mm above kerbs and hardstandings and 50mm above adjacent grass areas. Remove all visible weeds, roots and large stones exceeding 30mm. Do not cultivate soil within rootspread of existing trees and shrubs. All plants shall be planted upright or well balanced with best side to front. MycorForce Transplanter shall be spread around the roots of each plant during planting at a rate specified by the supplier.

Topsoil and Subsoil

Do not use subsoil contaminated with bricks, concrete, hardcore, rubbish or other materials that are corrosive, explosive or flammable, hazardous to human or animal life and are detrimental to plant life. Subsoil shall be excavated and or placed to required profiles and levels. When ground conditions are reasonably dry, subsoils shall be loosened to a depth pf 300mm and all stones larger than 50mm shall be removed. Where existing topsoil on site is deficient and requires topping up, all imported topsoil shall be in accordance with BS3882:2015 and with NHBC requirements. Do not use topsoil contaminated with with subsoil, rubbish or other materials that are corrosive, explosive or flammable, hazardous to human or animal life and are detrimental to plant life. Topsoil shall be stored in heaps no higher than 1m and wider than 2m and shall be protected from contamination and compaction. Following spreading, topsoil areas shall be cultivated to suitable depth and tilth when weather is suitably dry and the surface shall be left regular and even, levels shall be 25mm above adjacent kerbs and 50mm above lawns. Any visible weeds, roots and large stones shall be removed. Do not compact topsoil, and ensure a friable texture of separate visible clumps. Recommended depth after settlement: Grass Areas: 100mm / Shrub Areas: 300 to 450mm

Notes

All soft landscape works to be carried out in accordance with the following guidelines:
BS4428:1989 Code of Practice for General Landscape Operations.
BS8545:2014 Trees from Nursery to Independence in the Landscape. Recommendations.
All new planting stock shall comply with the following guidelines;
BS4043:1989 Transplanting root-balled trees
BS3936:1992 Nursery Stock Part 1. Specification for Trees and Shrubs. Follow good modern horticultural practice in any proposed soft landscaping.
Planting compost shall be entirely free of peat. Proprietary products based on composted straw, manure or coir are acceptable, but products based on wood chips or bark shall not be used.

Proposed Native Scrub/Shrub Planting

To be planted within the specified areas shown below. Areas for planting shall be treated with a translocated herbicide such as Glyphosate to clear any existing weeds before planting. After herbicide has taken effect cultivate the area to a coarse tilth 250mm deep. Whips shall then be pit planted, with backfill mixed with 70grams of Enmag slow release fertiliser. Gently firm in by treading. All stock delivered to site shall be of proven British provenance, a certificate shall be provided to the Landscape Architect to prove provenance of plants prior to delivery to site. All to have Tubex Netguard, 60cm high and 150mm diameter, dark green colour. To be fixed to firmly anchored softwood timber stakes using 2no. plastic cable ties. Dip all roots into MycorForce Whip Dip prior to planting. Contact supplier for application details, Tel:English Woodlands Burrow Nursery 01435 862992.

Plant Numbers for Native Planting Areas						
%	Species	NP1			Size	TtIs
10	Betula pendula	20			1+1 80-100 br	20
20	Corylus avellana	40			1+1 80-100 br	40
40	Crataegus monogyna	80			1+1 80-100 br	80
15	Ilex aquifolium	30			1+1 80-100 br	30
5	Rosa canina	10			1+1 80-100 br	10
10	Viburnum opulus	20			1+1 80-100 br	20

Grass seeding to attenuation basin base

Area to base of attenuation area to be seeded with Naturescape N8 Waters Edge Meadow Mixture at a sowing rate 5g/m2. Refer to supplier for ground preparation and seeding instructions.

Wildflower / Grass Mix

Naturescape Long Season Meadow Mix N5 EL1, or equivalent, in accordance with suppliers instructions. Sow at 5g/m2.



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KEY & NOTATION

Site Boundary

Existing Scrub and Brambles

Any self set tree or areas of trees within area of bramble will be retained and managed for their long term retention and viability.

Proposed Tree Planting

Clear and maintain 2m radius within existing scrub areas. Positions may vary dependant on ground conditions and any localised self set trees within the scrub area.

The excavated hole shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the root-ball or container, allowing approximately 500mm clearance. Before planting the sides of the pit shall be broken up and the base dug over to a depth of 150mm to improve drainage. The tree will be planted to the same depth as it was in the nursery. Backfill will be firmed in around the rootball to prevent any air pockets. The pit shall be backfilled with a % mix of good quality topsoil and an non peat based compost. 140gms of Enmag granular slow-release fertiliser shall be incorporated to the fill mixture.

Root Barriers

Where an installed rootball is within 3m of an existing underground service route install protective root barrier with sides vertical and finished 75mm below finished ground level. To be Greenleaf ReRoot 2000 or similar approved.

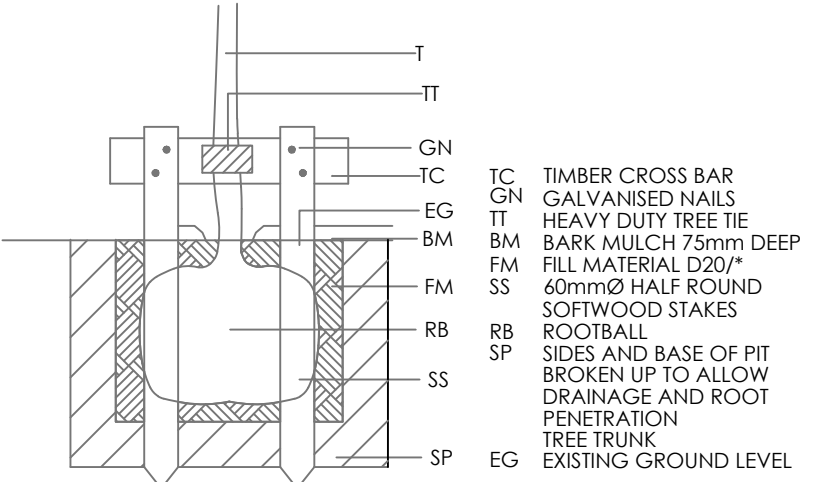
Trees in soft ground

Trees shall be double staked and fixed to horizontal crossbar using rubber strapping, with rubber block positioned between the tree and cross bar. Stakes shall be 60mm diameter treated softwood, driven firmly into ground either side, and not through the rootball, with tree central between the stakes. The above ground height of the stake should be a minimum of a third of the stem high. All trees to receive perforated watering pipes surrounding root ball.

Tree Aftercare

Any necessary formative pruning will be carried out and where appropriate woodchip/bark mulch applied to a depth of 75mm, and to at least the edge of the planting pit. A properly planned maintenance programme should be kept up until successful establishment of the trees. This may include watering when necessary, checking of the support systems, weed control and further mulching.

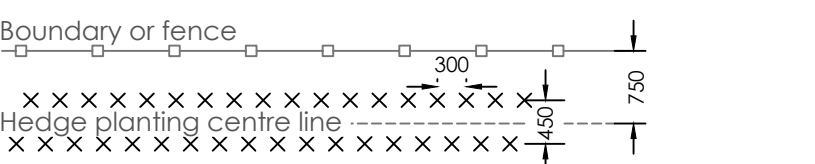
Tree Pit and Staking Detail (NTS)



Proposed Native Hedgerow

To be planted at 5 plants per linear metre in double staggered row. All with spiral rabbit guards and secured with bamboo cane. Plant at 750mm from fence boundary. Areas for planting shall be treated with a translocated herbicide such as Glyphosate to clear any existing weeds before planting, the ground shall be cultivated to a depth of 300mm. Whips shall be pit planted, with backfill mixed with 70grams of Enmag slow release fertiliser. All stock delivered to site shall be of proven British provenance, a certificate shall be provided to the Landscape Architect to prove provenance of plants prior to delivery to site. Dip all roots into MycorForce Whip Dip prior to planting.

Typical Hedge Planting Plan (NTS)



Mix	Native Hedge	NH1			Size	TtIs
10%	Acer campestre	160			1+1 80-100 br	160
10%	Corylus avellana	160			1+1 80-100 br	160
50%	Crataegus monogyna	800			1+1 80-100 br	800
10%	Ilex aquifolium	160			60-90 3L	160
5%	Malus sylvestris	80			1+1 80-100 br	80
5%	Prunus spinosa	80			1+1 80-100 br	80
5%	Rosa canina	80			1+1 40-60 br	80
5%	Viburnum opulus	80			1+1 80-100 br	80

Revisions

Scale: 1:500 @ A1



Project
Barrow Hill Quarry, Mill Lane, Earl Shilton, Leics.

Drawing
Landscape Masterplan

Status
For Planning, Tender & Construction

Date
07.03.2025

Dwg. No.
25.1920.001

Revision
-

Drawn
cjin

Checked
cjin

ISL Associates Ltd, 46 Windsor Street
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T: 01435 611950
E: chris@barrowhillquarry.co.uk
W: www.isl-associates.co.uk



Landscape Architecture Landscape & Visual Assessment Arboriculture Ecology

Site as Existing (Google Earth)



Clover Rich Amenity Grass

Existing grass areas in good condition can be retained. This area of clover rich lawn will be beneficial to bees and other insects. The lawn can be maintained by periodic mowing to prevent the grass species becoming too high or untidy. Once the clover flower season has finished the lawn can be mown as a regular amenity grass. Sow Germinal A4 Low Maintenance seed with addition of 5% Trifolium pretense and 5% Trifolium repens. Sow at 35g/m2.

Amenity Grass Seeding General

Minimum 100mm cultivated topsoil. Topsoil to BS3882:2007. Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture. The seed must be surface sown and can be applied by machine or broadcast by hand. To get an even distribution and avoid running out divide the seed into two or more parts and sow in overlapping sections. Do not incorporate or cover the seed, but firm in with a roll, or by treading, to give good soil/seed contact. Cultivate topsoil to depth of 100mm including all consolidation, rolling, harrowing or raking to achieve a firm, fine tilth suitable for seeding. The seed bed shall be free from unevenness, hollows, depressions and soft areas so that an evenly graded grass surface can be achieved. The seed bed should be evenly graded to finish 25mm above adjoining paving, kerbs etc after settlement. Remove all weeds, and remove stones, grass sods and other debris exceeding 20mm in any dimension and all roots exceeding 15mm diameter or 200mm length. After cultivation and prior to grass seeding, supply, spread and lightly rake into the tilth a granular pre-seeding fertiliser N:P:K ration 10:15:10 at a rate of 60 grammes per m2. Do not apply fertilisers to wild seed areas. Sow according to suppliers instructions.